

BOOK SIGNING BY TRACI PARENT

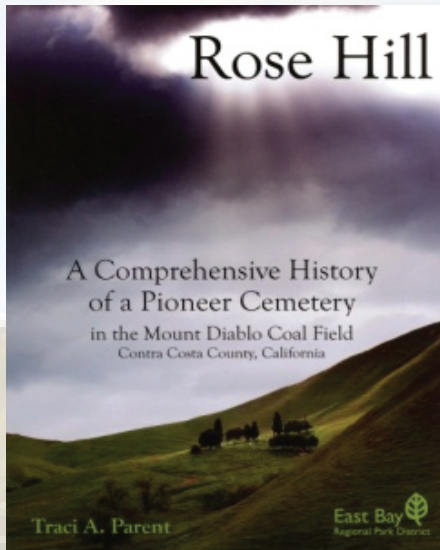


Saturday, September 28th
1 to 3 pm



Traci Parent has been documenting gravesites and researching the individuals buried in historic Rose Hill Cemetery for over 30 years. She is the retired Supervising Naturalist at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, one of over 65 East Bay Regional Parks. Parent is a board member and past president of the Contra Costa County Historical Society. She co-authored the book *Images of America-Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve*.

In June 2008, Parent received the Scholastic/Authorship Award from the Conference of California Historical Societies for her research and documentation for the book, *Rose Hill-A Comprehensive History of a Pioneer Cemetery in the Mount Diablo Coal Field*. In June 2012, she received the Harriette M. Forbes Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Gravestone Studies for her outstanding contribution to the field of gravestone studies.



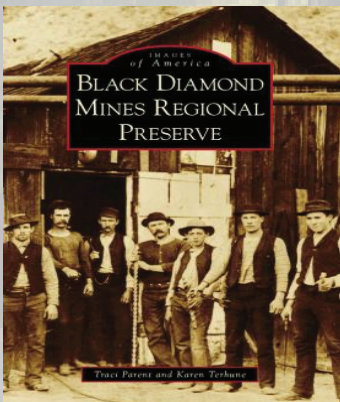
BLACK DIAMOND PRESENTATION: 1 PM TO 2 PM

ROSE HILL PRESENTATION: 2 PM TO 3 PM

Park/Book Information

From the 1860s to the turn of the 20th century, Black Diamond was the site of California's largest coal-producing region. Known as the Mount Diablo Coal Field, the area once boasted the five thriving communities of Nortonville, Somersville, Stewartville, West Hartley, and Judsonville. Rose Hill Cemetery was created in the early 1860s and served as a Protestant burial ground for nearly 250 coal field families.

With the decline of coal mining some residents turned to ranching. Later rich deposits of sand were mined for glass and foundry use. In 1973, the East Bay Regional Park District acquired the land. Today visitors to Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, located 45 miles east of San Francisco, can explore miles of trails, tour the Hazel-Atlas silica sand mine, and visit historic Rose Hill Cemetery.



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