

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Festive Historic Dance Event Celebrates the end of the Harvest Season and Welcomes Autumn at Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park

You are invited to the Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park on Saturday, October 3, 2015. Come to welcome autumn's arrival as they did in 1840's by experiencing the dance and music of a "*Fandango*". The *fandango* was not only a dance but also the name given to an informal dancing party.

Holding a *fandango* during autumn was a tradition at General Mariano Vallejo's *Rancho de Petaluma*, now Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park. It was held to honor the toil of the end of the harvest and the *matanza*, the slaughtering season. The cattle of the *rancho* were used to produce the mainstays of early California's economy, cattle hides and tallow. The *fandango* also celebrated the work of Native Americans, Mexicans, and *Californios* who operated Vallejo's successful enterprise.

Dances of the 1840's will be performed and taught by dancers from the Baile de California and Yesteryears dance troupes of California. Hear the spirit of Mexican California's *rancho* era come alive in the joyful dancing music of the past. Join in the fun and learn the dance steps of the times. Light refreshments will be served.

The event is from noon to 4pm. Admission for adults (age 17 and older) is \$3.00, children (age 6 to 16) are \$2.00 and ages 5 and under enter free. Visitors should dress appropriately for being out of doors. For the safety and comfort of all visitors, please do not bring dogs. Live farm animals onsite.

Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park is located at 3325 Adobe Road, Petaluma. Highway 101 northbound or southbound travelers can follow the cream and brown colored "State Historic Park" signs from Highway 101 at Highway 116 (East), to the intersection of Casa Grande and Adobe Roads. The park is located on Adobe Road between Casa Grande and Frates Roads. For more detailed directions please visit www.petalumaadobe.com

California State Parks supports equal access. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact: Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park at (707) 762-4871.

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