

LEWIS AND CLARK EXHIBIT • NEW SWALLOWS VIDEO • PRESERVATION NEWS

the
JEWEL
of the Missions

Fall 2010

*Romance of
the Mission*
Benefit Gala Concert
and Dinner



MISSION
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
Est. 1776

Historic Landmark and Museum

ALSO:
BASKET WEAVERS
PROACTIVE CARE FOR SERRA CHAPEL
VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS
WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES

■ Celebrations + Planning = History ■

Executive Director's Message

Celebrations

Mission San Juan Capistrano celebrates its founding and its future at its *Romance of the Mission* benefit gala held each September. This unique event celebrates friends like Gilbert Aguirre, who support preservation. It is because of fundraisers like this that we continue to set new targets.

Planning

The accomplishments that we made this past year pave the way for more history to be made in the coming months. In fact, at this year's *Romance of the Mission* gala, we announced that the Foundation will officially submit plans for the City's review and approval for the construction of a new front entry. The entry project will relocate the present-day gift shop to the front of the Mission, allowing people to shop without having to come in. This new project will allow for much needed preservation in the custom space that would be vacated by the gift shop use.

This building has great meaning and value for the Mission because it dates back to the Mission's founding and is the only all brick building on site constructed in that era.

Yet throngs of visitors over several decades have poured in and out of this quaint two-room space in the South Wing and unknowingly helped to accelerate the wear and tear of what is perceived to be "just a gift shop." The truth is that it once served as a chapel and the home to the Forster family. Out of concern for its future, the Mission Preservation Foundation has recommended ending of this space's use as a gift shop and return it to a more passive, museum space.

The project plans call for a new passageway and gate house to improve access. The project will also generate expanded views of the Mission from various downtown view points. The design team's goal is to provide a building that is complimentary and not a faux Mission stylized design, and design a building that one day will also be history.

We aim to improve safety and access by reducing the number of steps and grade changes, widen sidewalks, and provide a more generous opening and passageway to the front courtyard. Our guests



2010 *Romance of the Mission* benefit gala
(Gilbert G. Aguirre, Mechelle Lawrence-Adams and George O'Connell)

should experience a transition as they pass through from the busy modern world through a new passageway that leads to the oasis-like gardens of the front courtyard.

History

As Director, and Chief Preservation Officer, I am energized by, and of course, concerned about the Mission's future. I know, day to day, and especially in these times, a plan for the Mission's long-term sustainability and preservation is needed to ensure uplifting exhibits, a pristine setting, and its safeguarded artifacts. This project will need to be something of value for the next one hundred years.

We hope that for generations to come the new front doors will open wide to welcome people of all ages.

In order to save history we will need to make history with this new project.

Thank you for your support,

Mechelle Lawrence-Adams
Executive Director
Chief Preservation Officer

■ Proactive Care ■ *For Serra Chapel*

In continuing to proactively care for the Historic Serra Chapel, the Preservation Department recently contracted with the May Painting Conservation Company to carry out preventative maintenance and repairs to the decorative interior wall paintings of the Sanctuary, Entrance Hall, and Sacristy. Since the completion of the Serra Chapel Conservation Project of 2008, some of the decorative finishes within the Chapel had begun to show signs of wear due to continual use as an active Chapel. All methods and materials used during the original 2008 project were once again tested and implemented in accordance with accepted conservation



practices. This project was made possible through the charitable support of Preservation Membership and generous donors.

This is a
dedication to our friend
Mr. Ed Laurie



Ed Laurie

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For more information, go to:
www.missionsjc.com/donations/ralphs

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Please remember Historic Mission San Juan Capistrano in your Planned Giving. Join the Landmarks Club. Membership is your gift to the future of the Mission. 501 (c)(3) ID# 95-1904079 For more information contact Development Manager Barb Beier at 949.234.1323.

MISSION PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

The following individuals lend time, talent, and financial support by serving as Foundation Board members:

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■ Lewis and Clark Comes to the Mission ■

New Exhibit



The "Lewis and Clark Revisited: A Trail in Modern Day" exhibition tour was organized by Greg MacGregor and the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA). CERA is a network of professionally operated museums and cultural organizations that collaborate to create and tour smaller, affordable, high quality exhibitions that enhance civic engagement and human understanding. CERA is supported by generous grants from The James Irvine Foundation and The William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

The Mission Preservation Foundation is pleased to announce its next temporary exhibit "Lewis & Clark Expedition Across America" which will debut this November in the West Wing. An immersive educational experience, this exhibit is a chance for visitors to become the original Corpsmen of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. The exhibit features interactive stops along the trail. Explore animal life and prairies, meet Native American Nations, and face the many challenges the Corps met on their journey.

Also included is **Lewis & Clark Revisited: A Trail in Modern Day**, a photography exhibit. Follow in the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as they searched for the Northwest Passage, in modern day. Starting from the official beginning of the expedition itself in Saint Charles, Missouri, contemporary photographer Greg MacGregor captures important natural landmarks and waterways in the explorers' journey.

■ Coming Soon! ■ *Swallows Newsreel*

Just like the old newsreels of the 1930s and 1940s, Mission San Juan Capistrano, under its own "Mission News," has produced its own newsreel to highlight the history of the world-famous Capistrano Swallows and their annual return to the Mission San Juan Capistrano. The newsreel debuts October 23rd and will play as part of the Mission's Official Welcome Film for all visitors to see in the Soldiers Barracks and on the website later this month. The newsreel will highlight the origins of the Mission's legendary bird, as well as the current state of the swallows at the Mission, and all of Orange County.



■ 2010 *Romance of the Mission* ■ Benefit Gala

The 2010 *Romance of the Mission* held on the grounds of historic Mission San Juan Capistrano on September 10 netted \$198,000 and was attended by 431 guests. The Mission Preservation Foundation made a significant public announcement about plans to construct a new entry and gift shop that preserves the 1770's historic building and returns it to museum use. Plans for the preservation project were unveiled during the event.

Mission San Juan Capistrano Landmark Club Member Daisy Funk of Seal Beach won the opportunity drawing which featured a \$15,500.00 custom platinum tanzanite ring donated by Lula Halfacre of Traditional Jewelers.

Save the Date

Next year's *Romance of the Mission* benefit gala is scheduled for Friday, September 16th, 2011.



Photo courtesy of Ann Charlton

2010 Gala Artist, Robin Follman

■ Basket Weavers ■ *Traditions*

Native American traditions are alive and well at Mission San Juan Capistrano thanks to a small group of Native American volunteers who have maintained — and some might say “perfected” — the art of basket weaving. Teeter Marie Olivares Romero, Ellen Sue Olivares and Kim Olivares Leone lead the teaching of the art of basket weaving every first and third Wednesday at the Mission. It has become an integral part of the Mission's efforts to preserve the history and traditions of the area.



Basket Weavers: L-R: “Teeter” Marie Olivares, Kim Olivares Leone, Ellen Sue Olivares

■ Highlighting Volunteer ■ *Julie Janss*

We thank our volunteer Julie Janss for her many hours of dedication this summer at the Mission.

As a Docent, Julie led several tours for Mission visitors and stepped in to help with the summer activities for children, where she assisted with crafts and other hands-on experiences. She also served as a volunteer, supporting efforts for this year's Music Under the Stars concert series. Recently Julie and her husband Rich have become the newest members of the Mission's Landmarks Club.



■ **Welcome** ■
New Employees

*M*ission San Juan Capistrano welcomes John Hodge as Guest Services and Operations Manager.

John will be responsible for the management

and operations of the Mission's admissions gate and guest services. John's background includes management experience at an internationally known destination, retail store, and security firm which will add to the Mission team's base competencies.

Sarah Rock, Education Assistant is now working in the Mission's education programs assisting with classes and other educational activities. She has an educational background in history and experience working with children. She is pursuing her Masters Degree in teaching.

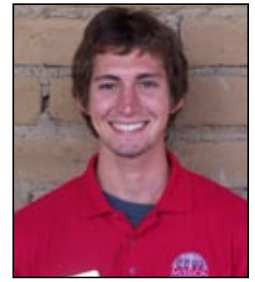
Ethan Ware works as a Security Officer for the Mission campus in the Guest Services Department. He is currently attending Saddleback College pursuing a career in film.



John Hodge



Sarah Rock



Ethan Ware

■ **THANK YOU** ■

To Our Music Under the Stars Supporters

*M*ission San Juan Capistrano's Special Events and Development Team extends a heartfelt thank you to all of the generous supporters of this year's Music Under the Stars summer concert series. As this series continues to grow, we are grateful that with your support, it retains the feeling of a warm and welcoming family gathering. Meals are shared among strangers; smiles and hugs offer greetings; and the dance floors are always full of friends. Your donations of underwriting, silent auction and opportunity drawing gifts, and the purchase of tickets or tables each spring all help preserve the Mission and its atmosphere of Franciscan hospitality for generations to come. And for that, we once again say "thanks."



From the left: Jacqueline Maxwell, Twila Warner, Carole Ettlin as Opportunity Drawing Sellers and the Sign Holders

The following volunteers were most helpful to the Events Department this summer for Music Under the Stars:

Concert Volunteers: Sharon English, Desley Adams, Annabelle Isky, Kari Bracamonte

Tub-Preparing Volunteers: Jim Leone, Carol Lowe, Margo Taylor

There are many rewarding opportunities to become involved and support Mission San Juan Capistrano

For volunteer information please contact Pat March
 (949) 234-1322 or visit www.missionsjc.com

Join the Landmark Club
 Call (949) 234-1323 for membership details

Thank You to Our Generous Supporters!

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Friday • December 4, 2010

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