Families can have a great time visiting Mission San Juan Capistrano, the Jewel of the California missions. The following are ten exciting things to explore at the Mission this fall.

1. Try out one of Mission's special audio guides. Visitors can enjoy "Voices of the Mission" or go back in time and experience our new "Saved by the Mission Bell: A Child's Journey through California History" audio guide for kids. This new audio guide debuts in late September. Parents and children join Acu, the Mission's Bell Ringer, and students Tommy and Megan who find themselves trapped in California history. They must learn how to ring the Mission bell in order to return to the 21st century. This new tour at $2.00 per child (plus admission) leads children through ten highly engaging stops.

2. Visit the Mission during Living History’s Second Saturdays hosted on the second Saturday each month. During this day the past comes alive as the Mission’s volunteers don their period attire and portray figures from California and San Juan Capistrano history. (Free with admission.)

3. On Tuesdays, free “Touch the Past” Curiosity Carts are available. Mission volunteers provide children with a hands on opportunity to feel and see artifacts from the Mission’s history.

4. Enjoy one of the upcoming, Sunday dance performances designed to highlight the history and beauty of the Mission setting. Duende Flamenco will perform on September 28th and October 5th. All performances are scheduled for 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (Please note that on October 5th the dance performance will only be hosted at 2:00 p.m.) Free with membership.

5. Visit the Mission during its extended hours on the evening of Saturday, October 25th when it hosts its first ever “Movie Night at the Mission,” featuring the film, “Night at the Museum.” Join other Mission members, along with a cast of some of our own local characters. Tickets are $5.00 per person.

Continued on page 5
Executive Director's Message

Paul McCartney once said, “I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity... to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that.”

We just completed a great summer at Orange County's most historic site. Our 2008 Music Under the Stars concert series sold out in record time and netted nearly $100,000 to support the old Mission.

I know that for months prior to the series starting, many in our organization performed double duty. For instance, Carolyn, Rita and a busy selling, concert ticket and tablets while hosting art shows, corporate events, and organizing other festivals. For months on our receptionist, Mary, patiently provided answers to the many questions on "where to park, how to enter the Mission, what to wear, and what to bring."

I shuck when I envision our Human Resource Director, Nancy, working as a concert ticket take, our front gate staff serving double duty as security, and our security serving as guest relations. Of course there is our overworked graphics designer, Marcia, designing just one more poster or flyer to promote the series! Our Accounting Manager, Renée, trying to make sure everyone working that night "got a bite to eat.” Then of course, the whole production is managed by our Events Manager, Sabrina, whose "non stuffy" approach to delivering events is refreshing and keeps us all feeling positive about the new challenges that surface from one concert to the next. (For instance, one visitor fell into our fountain, completely immersed in koi fish and flowers.)

I remember seeing folks from our facilities department, including Craig, Lori, Jaymes, Maria, Jose, Francisco, Jacinto, Deisy, and Alex, working earnestly to keep the site safe and pick up the refuse before it even hit the ground. It takes that kind of spirit to make sure that our celebrations at the Mission don’t leave an unwanted lasting impact.

Then, of course, there are our generous and fun loving supporters, investors, and sponsors. From our "all star" line up of community emcees (who had the chance to share good news in their respective non profit worlds) to the fabulous financial underwriting provided by such folks as Art and Maria Gallindo, Family Classic Cars and then the great Mission photography provided by San Juan Photo and Digital.

We’re fortunate that folks like Mayor Soto, Councilmember Allevato, Councilmember Nielsen, and Councilmember Hebrew from our community support the series too. And finally, our volunteers help make it all happen, selling opportunity tickets, assisting where needed, and ensuring that that our Franciscan hospitality is always present.

Finally, I think of our final concert by the Fab Four, playing my favorite tunes from my favorite band of all time, the Beatles, and think of what Paul McCartney said. I too "like the teamwork.” It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that.

Thank you to those who helped make this summer "just perfect.”

See you on the path,

Michelle Lawrence-Adams
Executive Director, Mission San Juan Capistrano

Belles of California: Four Woman and Their Art ~ October 5 through January 7, 2009

www.missionsjc.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano Women's Guild President Carol Lavy, left, presents a check for $30,000 for preservation to Michelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of the Mission.

What's Happening at the Mission

Gifts Given in Honor/In Memory From June 1, 2008 to September 1, 2008

In Memory of Dr. Regis L. “Doc” Callaghan

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Dr. Regis L. “Doc” Callaghan

In Memory of Joseph Drey

Ms Kathrynn A. Schmidt

Ms Sally Pendleton

receiving their honorary doctorate degrees

In Honor of Bob and Janet Spidell in Mr and Mrs Wayne Otchis

In Memory of Joseph Drey

Mrs Mechelle Lawrence-Adams

Mr Joe Adams and

In Memory of Joseph Drey

Ms Barbara S. Howard

In Memory of Robert Allison

Mr and Mrs Rudolf Horsch

Ms Kay L. Ferranto

In Memory of Dr. Regis L. “Doc” Callaghan

Ms Elizabeth B. Dull

In Memory of Dr. Regis L. “Doc” Callaghan

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Joseph Drey

In Memory of Fermin De Ramos, Jr. and Sr.

In Memory of Joseph Drey

Mr and Mrs John A. Contreras

In Memory of Joseph Drey

Ms Lyn Adams

From June 1, 2008 to September 1, 2008 Gifts Given in Honor/In Memory (949) 234-1300

Mission San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

26801 Ortega Highway

Mission San Juan Capistrano in the Mission Preservation Society.

Subscriptions are included

Design & Production

Martha Egan, Espresso Advertising

Jane Green, Edmaire

Michelle Lawrence-Adams, Editor

Subscription price is included with membership

in the Mission Preservation Society

National Society of Colonial Dames

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

Carol Lavy, Mission San Juan Capistrano Women’s Guild President

Sunday Dance Performances
September 28 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and October 5 at 2:00 p.m.

Duende Flamenco to perform throughout the Mission grounds, (www.duende-flamenco.com)

Mission to Present “Movie Night at the Mission” Saturday, October 25, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Ben Stiller and Robin Williams comedy “Night at the Museum” will be shown on a big outdoor screen in the Mission’s central courtyard. Guests may bring a lawn chair, blanket and picnic dinner. All are encouraged to arrive in costume. Hot dogs, pizza, popcorn, candy, sodas & water will be available for purchase at the Concession Stand. Movie admission is just $5 per person. Mission Preservation Society members with current membership receive free popcorn by showing their membership card. Proceeds from the ticket sales and concession stand support the Mission’s ongoing preservation efforts.

Costume Contest: Prizes will be awarded for the “Most San Juan Capistrano” costume, the “Best Historical” costume and the “Most Creative” costume. All who compete in the contest will receive a goody bag for their participation.

The Vintage “Farewell to the Swallows” – A Food and Wine Festival Saturday, October 18 from 6 to 10 p.m.

The Vintage “Farewell to the Swallows” is an annual wine and food celebration hosted by the San Juan Capistrano Chamber of Commerce to bid farewell to the famous swallows before they depart to their winter home in Goya, Argentina. Gourmet food and wine will be served from 25 wineries and restaurants. The band, Swing Shift, will perform the entertainment for the evening. Tickets are available by calling (949) 493-4700 or by emailing Natalie Miller at natalie@sanjuanchamber.com. Tickets $75. Table of 10 - $900. Visit www.followtheswallows.com for more information.

Mission San Juan Capistrano Celebrates Founders Day Saturday, Nov. 1, Mission Model Exhibit

Mission San Juan Capistrano celebrates the 232nd anniversary of its founding on Saturday, November 1, 10 a.m. – noon. The morning includes a special reading of the Mission’s Founding Document. Living History Society characters and children from Mission Parish School will ring the historic bells. A birthday cake and lemonade will be served. This year’s event marks the first Mission Model Exhibit. Adults and children are invited to participate in displaying their old or new Mission model designs (from any mission). Please submit your application for the exhibit by going online at www.missionsjc.com on the Mission’s Founder’s Day page. Prizes will be awarded.

Christmas at the Mission Saturday, December 6th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Santa’s craft workshop, carolers, cocoa, empanadas, cookies, Great Stone Church nativity scene, a gingerbread Mission display, St. Nicholas, family portrait photographer, choral groups from various churches, and “Merry-Achi” music by the winning group from Mariachi Festival 2008 - Alina del Sol.

Belles of California: Four Woman and their Art – October 5 through January 7, 2009

“Belles of Capistrano” presents paintings by Patricia Araokelian, Barbara Andolsek, Nancy Egan, and Sharon Rawlins. An art reception will be held on Saturday, October 4th 6:00 -8:00 p.m. in the Sieders Barracks Gallery.

Villan & Veranda Fine Art Gallery “Our Land, Our People, Our Mission” exhibition, a display of art curated by Ben Dukh and Aida Ganddini of San Juan Capistrano will be on display through September 29.
**New Exhibit on Display**

Take time to see a mission Indian Basket from the Mission San Juan Capistrano Museum Collection. A new temporary exhibit features basket weaving techniques, materials, and tools in the current display in the South Wing building by the end of September.

**Donations Given in from June 2 to September 1, 2008**

Wenxin Kong  
Mr Richard Kent  
Mr and Mrs John S. Kell  
Ms Margaret Jamison  
Ms Michelle Hribar  
Christine Hooker  
Ms Sandra Heller  
Mr and Mrs David Hagen  
Mr Dennis and Jane Galligani  
Detra Francis  
Ms Kay Flierl  
Mr David Evans  
El Adobe de Capistrano  
Mary and Donald Dougher-Foster  
Mr and Mrs Charles Di Iorio  
Ms Ruth DeNault  
Mr Rick Delanty  
Mr and Mrs Milton Daily  
Mr and Mrs Michael Crawford  
Drs Elba and Gonzalo Covarrubias  
Ms Katie Costello  
Chichi’s Table Talk  
Cedar Creek Inn  
Ms Dorothy Cavanagh  
Mr and Mrs Steven Casselberry  
Ms Dorothy Cavanagh  
Cedar Creek Inn  
Clock’s Time Talk  
Ciao Panta  
Mr John and Patricia Collins  
Mr Kale Costello  
Oso Elba and Guadalupe Carvajal  
Mr and Mrs Leonardo Carvajal  
Mr and Mrs Milton Daily  
Mr Steven Davison  
Mr Rick Delanty  
Mr and Mrs Charles D. Jette  
Marc and Donald Douglas-Foster  
El Albo de Capistrano  
Mr David Staros  
Mr Ray Flory  
Condeco Foster  
Mr Dennis and Jane Galligani  
Mr and Mrs Anthony Goveri  
Mr and Mrs David Hagen  
Mr and Mrs Peter Herkeng  
Ms Sandra Heller  
Mr Ron Hill  
Christian Hooker  
Mr and Mrs Terry Houk  
Ms Michelle Huvrur  
Mr and Mrs Thomas H. Huvrur  
Mr Mille Johnson  
Mr and Mrs Dale Johnston  
Mr and Mrs John S. Kell  
Mr Richard Kell  
Wenxin Kong

**UPDATE: Serra Chapel Conservation Project**

As part of the Serra Chapel Conservation Project’s final stages, four silver chandeliers were recently installed. The new chandeliers are polished silver, carefully selected by the Mission’s pastor, Father Arthur Hokquin. During the conservation of the building, it was determined that the previous light fixtures, installed during the pastorate of Father St. John O’Sullivan, rector of the Mission from 1910-1933, were in need of extensive re-wiring and gave off little light. The new chandeliers were funded by donations from Mission supporters.

The three-year, $1.7 million conservation effort is slated to be completed by the end of 2008. Remaining work includes the installation of a fire suppression system for improved public safety; installation of alarms; upgrades of electrical, fire, and sprinkler lines; and rehabilitation of the sacristy, the private space where priests prepare for mass.

**Preservation Society Memberships Generate $106,000 for Historic Mission**

The Mission Preservation Foundation announces that membership in the Mission Preservation Society has generated a record $106,000 in income for the Mission. This represents a significant increase from the $72,000 in annual funds received five years ago. Memberships are an important source of annual revenue to support Mission preservation efforts.

“As our Board president, Tony Mosio, says, our goal is that everyone will be able to join at a level they can easily afford and show support for Orange County’s only mission,” observed Michelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of the Mission. “At the individual level of $30 per year, this means 8 cents a day and a free audio tour, too.” Today, approximately 7,000 people call themselves members of the Mission.

Members are reminded that the third Wednesday of each month is Membership Appreciation Day at Mission San Juan Capistrano. On this day members receive $5 off a purchase at the Mission’s gift shop (good that day only with a certificate they receive upon entering the grounds). New members also receive $5 off towards any purchase made at the gift shop during the first year of their membership.

**Mission San Juan Capistrano Celebrates Romance**

On September 12 the Mission San Juan Capistrano’s Preservation Foundation hosted its annual “Romance of the Mission” Gala. This year marked the 10th Anniversary of this elegant fundraiser with a record attendance of over 500 guests. This year’s fundraiser incorporated an Irish theme into the celebration in order to honor the memory of Father St. John O’Sullivan, known as the “Great Restorer” of Mission San Juan Capistrano from 1910-1933. The event raised in net proceeds of $344,000. Mr. Gilbert Aguirre helped make the event successful with a $100,000 pledge toward the museum that evening.

“Since its inception, the Foundation has successfully raised funds to save the Great Stone Church, the Serra Chapel, and South Wing building,” stated Michelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of the Mission. “At this time, the Foundation shifts its focus to fundraising to create an improved Museum experience at the Mission. This work will improve the educational experience for the thousands of annual fourth grade students studying California history, and also give us the opportunity to showcase traveling exhibits.”

**Mission Preservation Foundation**

Anthony R. Mosio  
William Covenys  
Wylie A. Atken, Esq  
Peter F. Barson  
Arthur B. Birtcher  
Michael Hagan  
Lala Hallace  
Very Reverend Arthur A. Holquin  
Anne Marie Moiso Leonard  
George O’Connell  
Comme Spenezza  
Gretchen Stroscher Thomas  
E.J. Tracy

**WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION TO OUR ROMANCE 2008 UNDERWITERS**

Gilbert C. Aguirre Family Trust  
The Rito-Carleton, Lagunas Niguel Southern Wine & Spirits hosts a sumptuous meal.  
Bette Aitken and Wylie A. Aitken, Esq.  
Connie and Ron Derkovsky  
Lala Hallace – Traditional Jewelers  
Melinda and Tony Moiso  
Orange County Women’s Gift Shop  
Elise and Charles Kole  
Jim and Warren Siegel  
Jeanne Erna Smith and Juli C. Chalmers Foundation  
Connie and Peter Spennizza  
Gretchen Stroscher Thomas and Kurt Thompson  
Mollie and Myers Sukut  
Gloria M. B. Tracey  
Tracy Broadway  
Dorothy and Wally B. Brandon  
Mary and William Feener – Feener Family Foundation  
Orange County Magazine  
P. Paul and Marti Shreve  
Shine Lighting  
Classic Party Rentals  
Maria and Gabriel Farrar  
Arleen and Michael Hogan  
Anna and Michael Loves  
Marianne and Ray Miller  
Chalino and Randy Robert Stariay  
Madeline and William Waters  
Julie and Peter Bontine  
Nancy and Bill Bontine  
Ann Fumio – In Memory of Tom Fumio  
Karen Carlson & Bonnie and Dick Hill  
Georgeanne and Ted Haines  
Judy and Michael Lions  
Pacific Mercantile Bank  
Dino and Al Rubbeli  
The Ritz-Carlton Floral Design Studio  
Patricia and Christopher Smith  
Madeline Zuckerman Public Relations & Marketing, inc.

**Mission Preservation Foundation oats Preservation Foundation Romance 2008**

Anthony R. Mosio, President, Rito-Carleton, Lagunas Niguel and his wife, Melinda Moiso  
Lala Hallace with daughter, Natalie

**The Mission Preservation Foundation dedicates this issue of the Jewel Newsletter to the Gala Committee who continue to outdo themselves year after year! Thank you for your selfless dedication in putting together a magical evening to preserve and enhance Orange County’s number one historic site, Mission San Juan Capistrano. Gala Committee: Diane Artigoni, Barb Beier, Gala Coordinator, Georgianna Hales, Hazel Sukut, P.D., Madeline Swidden.**
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Preservation News From The Mission

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Wenxin Kong
Mr Richard Kent
Mr and Mrs Dale Johnston
Mr Mike Johnson
Ms Margaret Jamison
Mr David Hutchins
Ms Michelle Hribar
Christine Hooker
Mr Ron Hill
Mr and Mrs Peter Haverkamp
Mr and Mrs Anthony Grisanti
Detra Francis
Ms Candace Foster
Mr David Evans
El Adobe de Capistrano
Mary and Donald Dougher Foster
Mr and Mrs Charles Di Iorio
Ms Ruth DeNault
Mr Rick Delanty
Mr Kevin Davidson
Mr and Mrs Milton Daily
Chichi’s Table Talk
Cedar Creek Inn
Ms Judith Cameron
Mr Donald L. Busche
Mr Howard Brief
Mr Ray Bohon
Mr Dennis Bean
Mr and Mrs Michael Barth
Ms Kirsten Anderson
Mr and Mrs Andrew Knudsen
Mary and Donald Dougher Foster
Mr and Mrs Steven Casselberry
Ms Dorothy Castro
Cedar Creek Inn
Chuck’s Table Talk
Ciao Ponto
Mr and Mrs Patricia Collins
Mr Kate Costell
Des Elise and Gustavo Casemur
Mr and Mrs Richard Castaneda
Mr and Mrs Mili Daily
Mr Serbia Davison
Mr Rick Delanty
Mrs and Mrs Lee Directus
Mr and Mrs Charles D. Eliot
Marc and Donald Dougher-Foster
El Alde de Capistrano
Mr David Evans
Mr Ray Flier
Mr Condoleeza Foster
Mr Dennis and Anne Gallignani
Mr and Mrs Anthony Grisanti
Mr and Mrs David Hagen
Mr and Mrs Peter Herkogang
Ms Sandra Heller
Ron Hill
Christine Hocker
Mr and Mrs Terry Hocken
Mr Michelle Hirsch
Mr and Mrs Steven Hsiao
Mr and Mrs Mike Johnson
Mr Mille Johnson
Mr and Mrs Dale Johnston
Mr and Mrs John S. Kill
Mr Richard Kool
Wessong Kong
Mr Greg La Rock
Wes and Catherine Lancaster
Mr and Mrs Edward Lohbuch
Mr and Mrs Jim Leonard
Mr and Mrs James L. Madron
Mr and Mrs Gordon Mann
Emet Martin
Mr Georgios Magan
Mr and Mrs Andrew Mink
Mary and Donald Dougher Foster
Mr Anthony Natali
Mr Craig Madsen
Mr and Mrs Floyd Neldens
Mr and Mrs Jerome Nogueras
Mr and Mrs Mark Nielsen
Mr Alan Newell
Mr and Mrs George O’Connell
Mr and Mrs Robert Ohlson
Mr Eduardo Ordinaca
Mr Marinos Perdikis
Mr Rick Delanty
Mr Ginger Perez
Mr and Mrs Kathy Pereira
Mr and Mrs Don Pitchford
Mr and Mrs Walter Flanagram
Charlie Parker
Mr Jeff Quinlan
Ramos House Cafe
Mr Michael and Linda Ray
Mr Judith Reuter
Mr Dorothy Routhman
Mrs and Mrs Jim Routhman
Mr and Mrs John Reigh
Mr Jason Royal
BS Journal
Mr and Mrs Carolina Sanchez
Sardine’s Restaurant
Renate Schell
Mr and Mrs Jeff Sewell
Mr and Mrs Tom Sewell
Mr Albert Steckel
Mr and Mrs Vincent Stevens
Sandoval’s Steakhouse
Sang Foo
Mr and Mrs Kong Tang
The Islanders, Clothing for Men
Mr John Thorn
Donations Given in from June 2 to September 1, 2008
Docents Receive Kids Choice Awards!
Mission San Juan Capistrano honored 10 docents with “Kids Choice Docent Awards” in recognition of their outstanding talents as guides leading 4th-grade students on tours of the Mission grounds. Those receiving awards were Venus Francoschi, Lee Heizman, Joan hillier, Tanja Johnson, Lloyd Leflanc, Beth Moorhead, Dennis Ryan, Bea Torres, Dee White, and Jerry White. To receive the award, recipients must receive specific mention in students’ field trip evaluations. Docent tours are available for groups over the summer; for information, visit www.missionsjc.com or call (949) 234-1322.

Celebrating Mission Volunteers
Mission San Juan Capistrano salutes the efforts of the top opportunity drawing sellers for each of the 2008 Music Under the Stars summer concerts. The top ticket sellers include:

Alturas Concert
Delia Ramirez and Mitzi Birdsell

The Surf City All-Stars
Mitzi Birdsell and Patsy Williams

Derek Bordeaux
Patti Goft and Sue Butler

Jumping Jack Fish
Cheryl Bartocelli and Rita Gibby-Granard

Hot August Night and Phil Shane
Hilda Bayhi and Joyce Koenig

The Fab Four
Rita Gibby-Granard and Mitzi Birdsell

Opportunity drawing tickets for the 2008 season generated $19,952 this season. Congratulations and thank you to all of our volunteers and staff who helped.

Saved By the Mission Bell!
Children’s Audio Tour Now Available
Mission San Juan Capistrano now offers a student audio tour, “Saved by the Mission Bell: A Child’s Journey through California History.” Children will delight in the story of Acu, the Mission bell ringer, who gets misplaced in history, and seeks the help of two modern-day 4th graders, Megan and Tommy, to return to his time in 1915. Along the way, the trio meet characters from the Mission’s past who open the children’s eyes to appreciate the change and challenges facing the Mission since its founding. “Saved by the Mission Bell” is humorous and imaginative, it was designed to engage students of all ages.

“Saved by the Mission Bell” is a 45-minute audio-guided adventure written and produced by Antenna Audio, in conjunction with the Mission staff. This same partnership produced the original “Voices of the Mission” audio tour in 2007, which is now available in English, Spanish, French, and German. The children’s tour is available in English and Spanish. Antenna Audio is renowned for its excellence in producing interpretive audio guides for museums and historic sites. The cost for the tour is $2 per student, teacher or chaperone, in addition to the discounted group rate admission price or general admission. For more information call (949) 234-1300 or visit www.missionsjc.com.

Experience Family at the Mission
(Continued from page 1)

8 Join the Mission on Founders Day for its 232th birthday on Saturday, November 1st – Mission models created by fourth grade students (past and present) will be displayed. Visit the Mission’s official website for entry forms. Free birthday cake will be offered during the event. Students from the Mission Parish School will present the founding document. Children can enjoy the Mission’s wearable and interactive activity booklet the, “Passport to the Mission Bell,” designed to engage students of all ages.

9 On Saturday, December 6th, venture out to see the City’s official Christmas Tree Lighting Program in the Historic Town Center Park and afterward walk over to the Mission to enjoy the free Santa’s workshop, carolers, hot cocoa, and a gingerbread Mission Model display. The Mission presents performing headline, “Merry-Achi Alma Del So,” as it kicks off the holiday season. Family portraits, a nativity scene in the Great Stone Church, and the Mission’s own St. Nicholas will also be featured. Choral groups from local churches also join in the celebration. There’s plenty to do, and life time memories are just waiting to be made. Make your own family history and experience Orange County’s only mission this fall.

8 First Place Award National Award Winning Cook Book Call (949) 234-1322 or order at www.missionsjc.com. $18.95 plus tax and shipping when applicable.
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- Hilda Bayhi and Joyce Koenig

The Fab Four
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Opportunity drawing tickets for the 2008 season generated $319,852 this season. Congratulations and thank you to all of our volunteers and staff who helped.

Achajemen Indian Basket Weaving Demonstrations
Mission San Juan Capistrano hosts Achajemen Indian basket weavers on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The basket weavers gather near the entrance to the Mission and demonstrate weaving in the style of their ancestors. The activity is free with paid admission, and for members of the Mission Preservation Society.

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There’s plenty to do, and life time memories are just waiting to be made. Make your own family history and experience Orange County’s only mission this fall.

Welcome New Employees!
Alex Fonce De Leon, Environmental Science Technician
Scott Young, Security Officer
Christine Shook, Museum Assistant

CELEBRATING COMMUNITIES
2 for 1 Fridays
Residents of the following communities may host a second person for FREE with ID.

Friday, October 3
- Laguna Hills
- Aliso Viejo

Friday, November 7
- Rancho Santa Margarita
- Foothill Ranch
- Las Flores

Friday, December 5
- Laguna Woods
Paul McCartney once said, “I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity... to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that.”

We just completed a great summer at Orange County’s most historic site. Our 2008 Music Under the Stars concert series sold out in record time and netted nearly $100,000 to support the old Mission.

I know that for months prior to the series starting, many in our organization performed double duty. For instance, Carolyn and Rita were busy selling, concert tickets and tables while hosting art shows, corporate events, and organizing other festivals. For months our receptionist, Mary, patiently provided answers to the many questions on “where to park, how to enter the Mission, what to wear, and what to bring.”

I chuckle when I envision our Human Resource Director, Nancy, working as a concert ticket taker, our front gate staff serving double duty as security, and our security serving as guest relations. Of course there is our overworked graphics designer, Marcia, designing just one more poster or flyer to promote the series! Our Accounting Manager, Bennie, trying to make sure everyone working that night “got a bite to eat.” Then of course, the whole production is managed by our Events Manager, Sabrina, whose “non stuffy” approach to delivering events is refreshing and keeps us all feeling positive about the new challenges that surface from one concert to the next. (For instance, one visitor fell into our fountain, completely immersed in koi fish and flowers!)

I remember seeing folks from our facilities department, including Craig, Lori, Jaymes, Maria, Jose, Francisco, Jacinto, Deisy, and Alex, working earnestly to keep the site safe and pick up the refuse before it even hit the ground! It takes that kind of spirit to make sure that our celebrations at the Mission don’t leave an unwanted lasting impact.

There, of course, are our generous and fun loving supporters, investors, and sponsors. From our “all star” line up of community emcees (who had the chance to share good news in their respective non profit worlds) to the fabulous financial underwriting provided by such folks as Art and Maria Gallindo, Family Classic Cars and then the great Mission photography provided by San Juan Photo and Digital.

We’re fortunate that folk like Mayor Soto, Councilmember Allevato, Councilmember Nielsen, and Councilmember Hebar from our community support the series too. And finally, our volunteers help make it all happen, selling opportunity tickets, assisting where needed, and ensuring that that our Franciscan hospitality is always present.

Finally, I think of our final concert by the Fab Four, playing my favorite tunes from my favorite band of all time, the Beatles, and think of what Paul McCartney said. I too “like the team spirit.” It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that.”

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who helped make this summer “just perfect.”

See you on the path,

Michelle Lawrence-Adams
Executive Director, Mission San Juan Capistrano

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Mission San Juan Capistrano
Women's Guild President Carol Law, left, presented a check for $30,000 for preservation to Michelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of the Mission.
Experience Family at Mission San Juan Capistrano

Families can have a great time visiting Mission San Juan Capistrano, the Jewel of the California missions. The following are ten exciting things to explore at the Mission this fall.

1. Try out one of Mission's special audio guides. Visitors can enjoy “Voices of the Mission” or go back in time and experience our new “Saved by the Mission Bell: A Child’s Journey through California History” audio guide for kids. This new audio guide debuts in late September. Parents and children join Acu, the Mission’s Bell Ringer, and students Tommy and Megan who find themselves trapped in California history. They must learn how to ring the Mission bell in order to return to the 21st century. This new tour at $2.00 per child (plus admission) leads children through ten highly engaging stops.

2. Visit the Mission during Living History’s Second Saturdays hosted on the second Saturday each month. During this day the past comes alive as the Mission’s volunteers don their period attire and portray figures from California and San Juan Capistrano history. (Free with admission.)

3. On Tuesdays, free “Touch the Past” Curiosity Carts are available. Mission volunteers provide children with a hands on opportunity to feel and see artifacts from the Mission’s history.

4. Enjoy one of the upcoming, Sunday dance performances designed to highlight the history and beauty of the Mission setting. Duende Flamenco, will perform on September 28th and October 5th. All performances are scheduled for 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (Please note that on October 5th the dance performance will only be hosted at 2:00 p.m.) Free with membership.

5. Stroll the museum rooms to view the artifacts and art exhibits. Two exhibits are scheduled in the Barracks Gallery including “Our Land, Our People, Our Mission”, on display until September 29th, and “Belles of Capistrano: Four Women and Their Art” on display October 5th through the end of the year.

6. Visit the Mission during its extended hours on the evening of Saturday, October 25th when it hosts its first ever “Movie Night at the Mission,” featuring the film, “Night at the Museum.” Join other Mission members, along with a cast of some of our own local characters. Tickets are $5.00 per person.

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