AMERICAN ACROPOLIS
THE GREAT STONE CHURCH RUINS

ROMANCE OF THE MISSION
BIG NIGHT IN ORANGE COUNTY

NEW BOARD MEMBER
MISSION PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

ENHANCING EXHIBIT SPACES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME
One of the things that make Mission San Juan Capistrano meaningful is knowing that real people made the 18th century buildings. The vision of Father Junipero Serra, combined with the craftsmanship of the Native Americans, led directly to the construction of the Great Stone Church and the Serra Chapel. One structure stands today as tragic ruins and the other as a testament of faith and California history.

This same energy is manifested by today’s Mission Preservation Foundation. Once again, these caring leaders and their supportive friends gathered on September 14th to celebrate history, raise awareness and funds at the annual Romance of the Mission gala. During the nearly perfect, yet sizzling evening, an anonymous donor offered $100,000 in matching funds to any new gifts given for the Gate House project by November 14, 2012. This person inspired by the majesty of the evening moved deliberately to “save the Mission.”

So it is with this in mind that the human spirit forges ahead in carrying out the Gate House Preservation Project that in 2013 will provide new amenities such as:

1. A safer entry for arriving tour groups including a wider sidewalk on the west side of the Mission. This entry will divert hectic deliveries away from the entrance.

2. A wider public plaza in front of the Mission with shaded benches and bike racks.

3. An inviting entry and ticket area that incorporates the rehabilitation of the original 1919 Gate House.

4. Thoughtful architectural details including hand troweled finishes, hand carved peeler logs, millwork, and meticulous stone treatment reflecting the details of the Great Stone Church.

5. Use of pre-used 1920’s era roof tiles salvaged from a Catholic church that burned to the ground.

6. New hours of operation with the museum store closing one hour after the Mission to allow guests a bit longer to enjoy the landmark and hopefully support local restaurants after visiting.

7. A project that paves the way to preserving and re-interpreting the historic Sala building. This 18th century building is the last of the original spaces needing conservation so that it can serve as more museum space for our visitors.

8. A Mission-operated museum store, with eventual proceeds supporting the Mission in ways that are sorely needed and can’t be funded through donations year after year.

9. A store configuration that allows guests to shop without having to paying admission to do so.

This project will one day be historically significant and will ensure that this Mission, California Landmark #200, has the financial means to ensure its sustainability and meaning long after we are gone.

For our donor’s generosity and commitment, and for the collective efforts and ingenious spirits of the past, the Mission can continue to matter in new and previously unimaginable ways to people living today and to future generations. I am hoping that many of you will consider this, and feel compelled to make a gift to this project - a gift that goes to protecting and enhancing the historic and religious significance of this site forever.

In the end it is always the human spirit that makes the difference.

Mechelle Lawrence-Adams
Executive Director
Chief Preservation Officer
Mission Preservation Foundation Welcomes New Board Member

Don Dorkowski has been named to the Board to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Board member Mike Hagan.

Dorkowski has had a varied and comprehensive professional career and has been an active philanthropist. He simultaneously worked as a high school teacher for 35 years, helped run the family business (Dondee Company LLC) and was a football referee for 44 years, including 25 in the National Football League. He has been a community leader for decades and has been involved with Mission Regional Hospital, Best Friends Animal Society, Homefront America, American Cancer Society, Muscular Dystrophy Association and Juvenile Diabetes, among others.

Mechelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of Mission San Juan Capistrano said, “Don has been a dedicated supporter of Mission San Juan Capistrano. His background is a great fit for our Board, and we are honored to welcome him, and wife Carol as well.”

Dorkowski grew up in Muskegon, Michigan and moved to Southern California in 1956. He graduated from Pius X High School in Downey, Cal State L.A. (BA) and Azusa Pacific University (MA). He lives in Laguna Niguel with wife Carol, and the couple has two children and one grandchild.

Mission Lends Artifacts to Discovery Science Center’s Indiana Jones

To help increase the public’s knowledge of archeological sciences, Mission San Juan Capistrano is lending some of its new and exciting finds to the Discovery Science Center’s new exhibit.

This partnership brings the “Adventure of Archaeology” a little closer to home for Southern California residents and visitors. The Discovery Science Center’s exhibit “Indiana Jones and the Adventures of Archaeology” will feature authentic artifacts from Orange County’s own archeological treasure, Mission San Juan Capistrano.

The Discovery Science Center Exhibit featuring Mission artifacts opens on October 12, 2012 and runs through April 21, 2013. For more information go to www.discoverycube.org
New Native American Room

Mission San Juan Capistrano has recently updated its Native American Museum and Interpretive Room as a part of its ongoing efforts to improve the storytelling and interpretative value of the Mission’s museum rooms.

Outdated taxidermy attached to the walls, an outdated mural, and large glass cases crowding the room’s gathering space have all been removed. More authentic and relevant artifacts, an interactive station, and props for learning and music have all been added, while creating more space for visiting groups to comfortably engage with the exhibit.

The Mission is dedicated to educating visitors on the historical and religious significance of this historic landmark, including the role of Native Americans in the Mission’s history. The updated museum room provides a more complete representation of the Native Americans in the construction of the Mission. It also focuses on more recent roles that those with Native American heritage have played at the Mission.

Commemorate the Earthquake of 1812

The ruins of the Great Stone Church towering above the gardens of Mission San Juan Capistrano still inspire a sense of awe nearly 200 years after the original building’s collapse. Today it is America’s Acropolis, but in its time (1806-1812) the Great Stone Church was an architectural gem that featured seven stone and mortar domes and a bell tower that could be seen for nine miles and heard even farther. It is the reason that Mission San Juan Capistrano is still known as the “Jewel of the Missions.”

Construction took nine long years to complete (1797 - 1806) and was the result of the labor and craftsmanship of the Native Acjachemen (AH – hawsh – eh – men) people, who served the Mission as its primary congregation. With only six years and three months of use for church services, the Great Stone Church was open for less time than it took to build it when it was destroyed in a devastating earthquake.

On the morning of December 8th, 1812, an earthquake shook the people gathered in the Great Stone Church for an early Mass. The powerful tremors of the estimated 6.9 quake reverberated through the structure, quickly causing it to collapse. Forty lives were lost in this tragic disaster.

This December 8th, 2012 marks the 200-year anniversary of the earthquake that caused the church’s destruction and took the lives of 40 people. In commemoration of those who lost their lives in the earthquake, Mission San Juan Capistrano will host a special mass at the Basilica on December 8th and the historic bells will ring at 10 am.
it was a magical evening for over 400 guests Friday, September 14th, at the 2012 Romance of the Mission. Guests greeted old friends and fellow Mission supporters at the cocktail reception in the front courtyard gardens where they were treated to a view at the progress of the Gate House Preservation Project. The event netted just under $200,000. However, that number is about to change because during this evening an anonymous donor stepped forward to challenge Mission supporters. This donor promised to give up to $100,000 if the community could do the same. The pledge challenge will expire November 14, 2012. Any gift given in any amount will be matched (up to $100,000) by our donor.

Mission Preservation Foundation President, George O’Connell welcomed guests and introduced the evening’s honorary chairs, Jan and Honorable Warren Siegel prior to the concert in the Ruins of the Great Stone Church that featured Davis Gaines who thrilled the audience with his performance.

Mission partner The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel and their Executive Chef, Andres Jimenez received special recognition for the chef’s outstanding creations of extraordinary menus exclusively for the post-concert dinner held in the Central Courtyard. Long time San Juan Capistrano businessman and Mission supporter, Bill Ortega was recognized for his significant commitment to running the Mission’s gift store over the years. Additional major supporters for the evening were Microsemi and Traditional Jewelers. Visit the slideshow of the evening at www.missionsjc.com.

Save the date for the 2013 Romance of the Mission scheduled for Friday, September 20th.

A gift right now has TWICE the impact!
To make a challenge match gift to the Gate House Preservation Project before November 14, 2012 please contact Mechelle Lawrence-Adams at (949) 234-1311 or Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323. A gift of any amount will truly make a difference to the project.

According to Hess-Verdon & Associates, if you are single and have a taxable estate worth more than $1 million, or if you are married with a taxable estate worth more than $2 million, you may benefit from 2012 year-end strategies.

If Congress does not act before the end of the year, certain opportunities for gifting will expire on December 31, 2012, and by default the law will revert to the previous rules beginning January 1, 2013.

Examples of current 2012 Year-End Strategies:
- A grantor retained annuity trust (GRAT)
- A qualified personal residence trust (QPRT)
- Making immediate outright gifts
- Gifting into an irrevocable trust for children or grandchildren
- Annual gifts. When you give assets instead of cash these gifts can also be coordinated with your estate plan to create a very successful strategy.

For more information or estate planning advice from Hess-Verdon & Associates, please contact Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323.
RALPHS is giving up to $3,000,000 to non-profit organizations this year, and with your help, Historic Mission San Juan Capistrano can earn a share of it for preservation. Every time you shop for groceries and swipe your card, the Mission will automatically start earning.

For any other questions contact Mary Jayne Pugh in the Development Department at (949) 234-1325 or mpugh@missionsjc.com or visit www.missionsjc.com/donations/ralphs.php

Adopt-A-Class!

The Mission’s “Adopt-A-Class” scholarship program was spearheaded in 2005 to help low-income students to be able to take part in the fun and learning that a field trip to Mission San Juan Capistrano can provide.

Sadly, fourteen percent of all teachers who applied for Adopt-A-Class scholarship funds school year 2011-2012 were unable to be funded due to lack of available monies. A field trip experience for school year 2012-2013 will average $12 per student with bus or train transportation typically an average of $500 round trip per school.

Your support of the program will make it possible to provide an inspired learning experience to under served fourth grade students who would otherwise not be able to visit the Mission. Contact Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323 or bbeier@missionsjc.com to get involved.

Special admission offer for members to give to their family or friends!

Admission Coupon

2 FOR 1
REGULAR ADULT ADMISSION
Not good with any other offer.
Expires December 31, 2012

$9.00 for 2 admission tickets (an $18 value)
Open Daily, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
26801 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

New Employees

Welcome to Mission San Juan Capistrano

JOIN THE 2012 CLUB

Last Chance!
Details on enclosed envelope

Help us save this historic landmark for generations to come.
Thank You to Our Generous Supporters! (Gifts given from March 18, 2012 - August 10, 2012)

Thank you to our supporters of the historic landmark of Balayad and the community.

We regret any misspelling or errors. Names are published as records indicate.

- Neill Balanay and Charmaine Tan-Balanay
- In Memory of Fermin Trofeo, Jr.
- Marjorie Ball-In Memory of Violet and James Price
- Nathan Banda and Mikah Sommers
- In Honor of Nathan Banda and Mikah Sommers Ball Ringing: Returned Service Fees
- Barb and Don Beier-In Honor of Della G. Boehmner
- Barb and Don Beier-In Memory of Mary Nichols and Doug Rasmussen
- Sandra Bohn
- In Memory of Fermin Trofeo, Jr. Mary Callaghan-
- In Memory of P.J. Nagle Jo Anne Coupens-
- In Honor of Fr. Paul Grehl Audrey Hart
- In Memory of William J. Hart Rudy and Joy Horsch
- In Memory of Tom Latimer Diana Mayer
- In Honor of Augustin Henri Bertrand Baptism, Frankfurt, Germany 5/5/2012
- Monette Torrilla Whitman and Cossette Torrilla-Strassberg
- In Memory of Fermin Trofeo, Jr. Lourdes Trofeo
- In Memory of Fermin Trofeo, Jr. Anonymous
- In Memory of Fermin Trofeo, Jr. Anonymous-In Honor of the Ant Family
- Francisco Acevedo
- Desley Adams
- Urban Adams
- Advanced Presentation Support Gilbert Aguierre
- Joyce and Paul Alexander Mary and Jim Allen
- Martha and John Altieri
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Angels Baseball
- Aquarium of the Pacific Anne and Bill Aulenbach
- Marian and Albert Ballog
- Laura Baratta
- Barnard Ventures
- Marcy Barr
- Pat and John Bates
- Dianne and Ron Bauer
- Bella Collina Towne and Golf Club Mitzi Birdsell
- Kari Ann Bracamonte
- Bradford Renaissance Portraits Virginia Brady-Benefiel
- Brush Salon cafe Mozart
- California Yellow Cab Camino Real Playhouse
- Frank Cannonito
- Vicky and Michael Carabini
- Ana Castro
- Cedar Creek Inn
- Elene and Robert Chamberlain
- Charisma Salon & Supply
- Alexandra Chebil
- Nora Chhay-Sar
- Chick’s Plumbing
- Ciao Pasta
- Citizens Business Bank
- Glenn Clarke
- Classic Party Rentals
- Diane Clemente
- Cloud Mover Day Spa
- Tammi Cluck
- Janis and Charles Cohen
- Sue and Edmond Connor
- Nevada and Arthur Cook
- Costco Wholesale
- Cottage Home and Garden
- Elba and Gonzalo Covarrubias
- Karen Coyne
- JoAnn and Dick Cramer
- Crevier BMW
- The Cvengros Family
- Dana Point Marina Inn
- Daniel Michael Salon
- Dave and Buster’s
- Marilou and Joseph Davis
- Nancy Davis
- Karen and Mike DeBelli
- Phyllis Detmer
- Margaret Devlin
- Mary and Patrick Dirk
- Discovery Science Center
- Christel and John Dittrich
- Kenneth Donugalski
- Carol and Don Dorkowski
- Doubledtree Guest Suites
- Nancy and William Doyle
- Louise Dubos
- Megan Dukett
- El Adeo de Capistrano
- El Viaje de Portola
- Element Skateboards
- Rachel and Jim Everett
- Frank Ferguson and Miki Ferguson
- Monica Nicole Fernandez
- Maria and Gabriel Ferrucci
- Floral Occasions
- Carolyn and Juan Forster
- Roberta Forster
- Patrina Friede
- Gloria Frielio
- Mary and Walter Frome
- Luis Fuller
- Daisy and James Funk
- Maria and Arturo Galindo
- Janice Witt Galt
- Frank R. Gamble
- Karen and Michael Garza
- Michael Gastelum
- Mary and Robert Gerbrands
- Kathleen Giblin
- Griffin Medical Group
- Patricia Griffin-Koch
- Cris Anthony Guevara
- Pamela Hallan-Gibson and Mark Gibson
- Lee and Charlie Heizman
- Elizabeth and William Henderson
- Amy and Robert Hernandez
- Hess-Verd & Associates
- Derek Hibbert
- Historical Society of San Juan Capistrano
- Hofmann Finn Development Company, Inc.
- Mary Holt
- Hyatt Regency Irvine
- In Service Day Spa
- Theresa and Greg Johnson
- Tanya Johnson
- Margaret Kendall
- Marjorie and Reverend John Knudson
- Pat and Dan Koehler
- Xiao Tang Kong and Hong Lin Du
- L’Hirondelle Restaurant
- La Paz Products
- Laguna Canyon Winery
- Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort and Spa
- Laguna Dance Theater
- Laguna Playhouse
- Alice Lamberger
- Barbara and Robert Lane
- Mechelle Lawrence-Adams and Joe Adams
- Lolo Boutique
- London Hair Studio
- Louise and Robert Lopina
- Lorin Backe Photography
- Carol and Robert Lowe
- Mahé
- Kathleen C. Mahler Grosz
- Marie Callender’s Restaurant & Bakery
- Judy and Nick Martin
- Sonia Martinez
- Catherine McCarthy
- Sue McClanahan
- McDonald’s of San Juan Capistrano
- McKeehan Environmental Consultants
- Melanie’s Hallmark
- Dushan Milinovich
- Marianne and Raymond Miller
- Denise and Richard Miniskey
- Cynthia and David Mirsky
- Mission Basilica School
- Melinda and Anthony Moiso
- Mollie’s Famous Cafe
- Monex Precious Metals
- Montego Restaurant, Bar and Catering
- Beth and Gary Moorehead
- Arilyn Moran-Lawrence
- MSIC Women’s Guild
- Wendy and Michael Mulvihill
- Marybelle and Paul Musco
- Patrick Newton
- Marianne Nunes
- O’Connell Family Foundation Trust
- Charlotte Off
- Addie Ogden
- Ortega Equestrian Center
- Ortega’s Mission Gift Shops, Inc.
- Kim Oviatt
- Pacific Symphony
- Partners Bank of California
- Pamela Peery
- Ann and Carlos Perez
- Kathy and Sam Perricone
- John and Bruce Pitterger
- Plant Depot
- Polo Cleaners
- Pretend City Children’s Museum
- Doug Prices
- Prime Building Inc.
- Adriane and Michael Puntoriero
- Linda and William Purcell
- Rainbow Sandals
- Ralph’s Grocery Company
- Ramos House Cafe
- Claudia and Robert Redwitz
- Regency Theater Jo Remillard
- Renaissance Club Sport
- Residence Inn San Juan Capistrano
- Resurrected Salon
- Christine Robinson
- Amrita G. Roda
- Ruby’s Diner
- Cindy and Cliff Russell
- San Diego Zoo Global
- San Juan Hills Golf Club
- San Juan Pilates & Spinning
- Sarducci’s Restaurant
- Shirley Sauvageau
- Bonnie and Carl Schulklin
- Margaret Serences
- Dorothy and John Shea
- Donald Sheridan
- Shine Lighting, Inc.
- Jan and Warren Siegel
- Anonymous
- Jenifer Smith
- Joan Irvine Smith
- Sara Snoy and Don Scare
- John Sorenson, North American Health Care, Inc.
- South Coast Repertory
- Connie and Peter Spenuzza
- Lisa and Craig Springer
- Gordon Stefenhagen
- Richard and Alison Stein
- Tracie and Brian Sullivan
- Sundried Tomato of Capistrano
- Surfside Pizza
- Swallows Inn
- Swallows Inn Foundation
- Tea House on Los Rios
- Tennis Friends
- The Ceramics Studio
- The Children’s Museum at La Habra
- The Coach House
- The Coffee Importers
- The Harbor Grill
- The Huntington
- The Massage Associates
- The Olde Ship British Pub & Restaurant
- The Vintage Steakhouse
- Thomas J. and Erma Jean Tracy Family Foundation
- Ellen and Les Thomas
- Thomas J. Tracy Family Foundation
- Tracy Industries, Inc.
- Penny and Don Tryon
- Karen and Luis Tungol
- Universal Studios Hollywood
- Donna and Gary Urban
- Vito’s Pizza and Italian Ristorante
- Marjorie and Jay Warren
- Mary Anne and Claude Weatherwax
- Teress and Jim Weber
- Wildflower Linens
- Elisabeth Willbach
- Barbara J. Williams
- Patricia Wyman
- Linda York
- Rosa and Jaime Zavala
- Zoomars Petting Zoo

FALL 2012 | THE JEWEL 6
Christmas at the Mission  
December 1 • 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Day of Remembrance Bell Ringing  
Earthquake of 1812  
December 8 • 10:00 a.m.

Winter Break Fun Crafts for Kids  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
December 17 - January 8

Panning for Gold  
Weekends • 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Adobe Brick Making  
Weekends • 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Koi Fish Feeding  
Daily • 12:45 p.m.

Curiosity Carts (Hands-On Learning)  
Tuesdays & Thursdays • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Native American Basket Weaving  
Wednesdays • 1st & 3rd of each month  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.