PLANS FOR THE HISTORIC SALA

SERRA CHAPEL
PAINTING DISCOVERY

NINTH BATTLE OF THE MARIACHIS
LARGEST COMPETITION ON THE WEST COAST

NEW MISSION STORE
GRAND OPENING IN JULY

EXPERIENCE ALL CALIFORNIA MISSIONS
HANDS ON LEARNING EXHIBIT
ome watch us in action! Over the last ten years the Foundation and Mission team have been working hard on carrying out privately funded site preservation based on two criteria: public safety needs and historic significance of the item at risk of being lost or already lost.

Taking these two metrics into consideration, we have worked with many professionals to outline prescriptive efforts to stabilize, clean, restore, and repair important site features and buildings. None of this has been easy to do or fund. Together the many contributors of ideas, resources, and talents have applied heart, spirit and sweat equity. These larger projects have been carried out, with many magical, meaningful and emotional discoveries along the way. I can’t even begin to list the “ah ha moments” shared with my staff in the field, the tears of joy at discovering the lost beauty of a painting, and finding unique stories and experiences along the way.

But don’t be fooled... there is still much to be done.

The next few years will focus on art and artifact conservation, walk way improvements, interpretation of the soon to be empty Sala building and upgrading the interpretation of the Soldiers Barracks. There is water damage repairs needed for the Barracks, and the Sacred Garden is calling for care. The fountains need conservation as well. As always, work needs to keep the Mission from looking new, but also ensure that the place remains safe and intact.

In carrying out these projects, we will invite the public to observe, and be a part of our Preservation in Action moments! I am excited about making history accessible by creating moments where we discover together what lies behind a historic painting, what is hidden underneath a painted surface, and what options are available to us as stewards to respectfully care take the site.

Truly, over the last ten years the religious and historic significance of this site has been elevated. Our guests report better understanding the Mission’s history, saying they leave with a fuller, more complete picture of its founding, rise to glory, sale, private ownership, decline and resurrection as a worldwide known destination, yet – there is still more to be done, not only for safety and history’s sake, but for future generations.

On behalf of the Mission Preservation Foundation I hope you can join us from time to time at our Preservation in Action moments, and understand that behind every effort was a generous soul, a competent laborer or professional, and a decision maker that said “let’s do it – let’s save the Mission today.”

As a California fourth grader many years ago, my own visit to the Mission was one of the best days of my life up to that point. It is with that experience in mind that I serve this place and feel privileged to have your support in doing so.

Let’s continue to create a setting at Mission San Juan Capistrano that can be “a best day of the life” of another.

Mechelle Lawrence Adams
Executive Director
Chief Preservation Officer

P.S. Congrats to my daughter, Queen of the Royal Court, Lisa Lawrence on graduation from Mission School!
Plans for the Historic Sala Building

The historic 18th century Sala building has been home to the Mission gift shop for decades. However, as a result of the Gate house Preservation Project’s near completion, the building will be emptied for the first time in decades.

This original mission era building will be available this July for a thorough inspection and evaluation to determine the scope of work involved with an eventual conservation treatment.

The soon to be empty Sala space will be vacated and temporarily used for lectures or classes while funds are raised to eventually carry out the conservation of this critically important and special space. Over its lifespan the Sala has housed priests, the faithful as a Chapel, and served as the private residence of the Forster family who owned the Mission from 1845-1865.

The Mission Preservation Foundation aims to eventually save the Sala, and install an interpretive program befitting its adjoining historically significant building, the Serra Chapel, with interpretation about the Serra Chapel, Father Serra and much more. As a new museum space and as a living place of history, the care and treatment of both the interior and exterior of the Sala will require careful consideration. To get involved, or to make a donation to the Sala Conservation campaign, contact Mechelle Lawrence Adams at (949) 234-1312 or Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323.

Mission Cemetery

A memorial will debut early next year providing the public with more information about the cemetery’s history, information will include Spanish Colonial burial practices, and European disease and Native American population decline. The cemetery will also include a memorial that honors those known and unknown individuals buried in the cemetery (circa 1777-1850).

The new memorial will feature over 3,000 names which were recorded in the Mission’s burial records by Franciscan priests and will provide access to the Mission’s history, as well as respectively honor the thousands of individuals who built the Mission, and called this place home.
Winners Take Home Big Prizes

Mission San Juan Capistrano held its ninth annual Battle of the Mariachis Festival on Saturday, May 11, where more than 4,000 visitors enjoyed the talented mariachi groups from throughout California that competed for cash prizes before a panel of judges.

The Festival, which was sold out this year for the first time, was made possible with the generous support of the Thomas J. and Erma Jean Tracy Family Foundation and featured daughter Kilian Tracy Ollison as a community judge.

Held in the Mission’s Central Courtyard, festivities began with a welcoming by Mission Executive Director Mechelle Lawrence Adams and the National Anthem performed by the Capistrano Community Mariachi Program. The historic Mission Bells were rung in revelry to mark the start of the Festival.

The event was emceed by Laura Sobrino, who was first dubbed the “Mariachi Queen” in 1995 by Los Angeles Times. In 1996, an NBC national morning show featured a segment on her as a pioneer female mariachi and as a positive role model for the new generation of mariachi musicians. This year marked her fourth appearance as the Festival’s emcee.

JOIN US NEXT YEAR! Saturday, May 10, 2014

2013 Battle of the Mariachis Festival winners were:

First place ($2,000): Mariachi Chula Vista (Director Mark Fogelquist), San Diego

Second place ($1,500): Mariachi Mestizo (Director Juan Morales), Delano, CA

Third place ($1,000): Plaza de la Raza Youth Mariachi Ensemble (Director Ireneo Yanez), Los Angeles

Tom Tracy “Shining Star” Awards ($500): Plaza de la Raza Youth Mariachi Ensemble, trumpet players: Carlos Vidaurre and Edgar Aguilar, Los Angeles

Honorable Mention ($750): Mariachi Juvenil Azteca (Director Guadalupe Gonzalez), San Diego
The Most Romantic Night of the Year

“Romance of the Mission” Benefit Gala

A magical and memorable evening is being hosted by The Mission Preservation Foundation in support of ongoing preservation projects at the Mission on Friday, September 20, 2013.

Orange County’s own Susan Egan, widely known for her role as the original “Belle” in Disney’s Beauty and the Beast, will perform in the ruins of the Great Stone Church following the opening reception in the Mission’s Front Gardens. “I’m honored to be invited to perform at the beautiful Romance of the Mission benefit gala to help celebrate one of our most important historical, cultural and educational centers,” Egan said.

During the event, Honorary Chair and former Mission Preservation Foundation Board Member, Mike Hagan, will be celebrated for his incredible and long term support of the Mission. Over his many years, Mr. Hagan has generously supported the Great Stone Church, Serra Chapel and Gate House Preservation projects.

Post-concert guests will gather in the candlelit Central Courtyard for the Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel specially prepared four-course plated dinner. Additional supporters include Barbara Parker’s LLC, Roberto Coin and Straub Distributing Company. For more information please contact Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323 or email bbeier@missionsjc.com.

Summer Family Fun

Mission San Juan Capistrano offers fun and activities for kids of all ages throughout the summer.

Summer camp programs include a two-week ceramics camp in which students will learn both ceramic hand-building techniques as well as how to throw clay on the wheel. There are two sessions to choose from - Session I is July 8-12 and July 15-19 (SOLD OUT); Session II is July 22-26 and July 29-August 2.

Also available is Adventure Sleepover: Night at the Mission, an overnight campout on the Mission grounds July 12-13.

And every weekday from June 24-August 30 there will be a variety of Crafts for Kids, running 11 a.m.-1 p.m. each day. They include: Mondays -- Lasso/jump rope; Tuesdays -- Miniature adobe brick house; Wednesdays -- Cornhusk dolls/action figures; Thursdays -- Mini-coiled pot; and Fridays -- Arrowhead necklace. Cost is $3 per child; $1 for Mission members.

And for the big kids, don’t forget the Mission’s popular Music Under the Stars summer concert series, featuring live music in the beautiful outdoor setting of the Mission’s central courtyard.

For more information call (949) 234-1300 or go to missionsjc.com.
New Mission Store  

Grand Opening

The Mission Store will open to the public on Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. Mission Preservation Society Members are invited to a “Members Only Preview Opening” on Thursday, July 11, 2103 and Friday, July 12, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Net proceeds from purchases at the Mission Store help protect the religious and historic significance of Mission San Juan Capistrano, and further educational programs, exhibits and preservation efforts. The Mission Store promotes local, national and international artisans. All “active” members receive a 10% discount on most merchandise. Thank you for supporting California’s historic landmark #200 and museum by visiting the new store.

The store will be operated by Mission staff and open daily 10:00 a.m.to 6:00 p.m. beginning July 13th.

Limited Time Offer

MISSION MEMBERS RECEIVE

10% OFF

ON MOST MERCHANDISE

Every $40 spent in store also receives a $2 off coupon for general admission to the Mission.
Every $80 spent in store receives a free general admission pass to the Mission.
Offer good through August 31, 2013

New Employees  
Welcome to the Mission

Tyler Rodman,  
Guest Services

Kara Stephenson,  
Mission Store Manager & Buyer

Julio Martinez,  
Services Technician

Jessenia Torres,  
Guest Services

Bernard Reyes,  
Security Officer
SAVE MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
by shopping at the New Mission Store

Featuring:
Vibrant Home Décor
Earthy Home Décor
Paper & Kids Products
Jewelry & Accessories
and much more!

The Mission Store features many handmade items from around the world.
In a never before attempted public preservation effort, Mission San Juan Capistrano Museum staff and conservators carried out an investigative process uncovering artwork that has been hidden in the Serra Chapel for the last 40 years.

The original painting, which is one in a series of historic paintings that came from Mexico to Mission San Juan Capistrano in the early 1800s, was uncovered Thursday, May 30th and said to be in relatively good condition, according to Mission Museum Registrar Jennifer Ring.

The painting, “The Crucifixion,” had been covered since 1973 by a replica painting because the original was in poor condition from years of exposure to harsh environment, movement and neglect, and the cost to restore the painting was too steep.

With the private donation given by a generous Mission supporter, the Mission was able to contract the services of Susan Brown Painting Conservators and display Art Installation Services to perform the conservation effort in front of about 50 volunteers, parishioners and visitors.

“We had no idea what to expect, this was a completely organic process and the results were breathtaking,” said Mechelle Lawrence Adams, Executive Director of Mission San Juan Capistrano. “We are now inspired to do more!”

The painting will remain on display in the Serra Chapel for the public to view. The next step is to raise preservation dollars to repair, clean and conserve the painting for proper hanging and repairs. The painting that covered the historic painting is also in need of cleaning.

For more information about making a donation to conserve this painting, contact Mechelle Lawrence Adams directly at (949) 234-1300.

Watch: To view more photos from the discovery, visit the Mission’s official blog at missionsjc.tumblr.com and watch the YouTube video of the original painting’s unveiling.

To stay up to date on current preservation projects, please visit our website at missionsjc.com
Original Mission Bells

In May, Preservation staff completed necessary stabilization repairs to the display structure housing the original Mission bells located in the footprint of the bell tower of the Ruins of the Great Stone Church.

The interpretive exhibit installed in 2004 to display the historic bells had begun to show signs of wear and the support beam holding these original historic bells was beginning to fatigue and sag.

Preservation staff determined that the replacement of the support beam was necessary to ensure the continued public accessibility to these original mission bells. The preservation efforts also provided the opportunity to document and clean the historic bells and refurbish the display structure.

Project highlights included:

1) Lifting historic bells weighing about 500 pounds in order to replace the wood support beam that holds them.
2) Inspecting the integrity of the bells, and cleaning as necessary. Documenting any changes in conditions since the last inspection.
3) Repainting the supporting steel frame.
4) Installing new leather straps around the wires holding the bells in place.

This project is funded through the generous support of Mission Preservation Society memberships.

For more information on current preservation projects or how to become a Mission Member and be involved, please visit our website at missionsjc.com.

Hands On All California Missions

Our new interactive exhibit for students, parents, and teachers studying all 21 of California Missions will open this fall.

Teachers, students and their parents will be invited to experience a variety of hands-on activities, specifically designed to enhance the education for those studying any one of the 21 California Missions.

After seriously considering input from teachers, students and parents, our Education Team decided to create a unique hands on experience that everyone will enjoy and learn about history from.

Stay tuned for the center’s opening date!

Relax in peaceful and stunning gardens in bloom this summer.
~ FREE Wi-fi ~

Photo courtesy Malinda Sheetz
New! Text Alerts
Sign up Now!
Mission San Juan Capistrano will start a new text alert program just for members! Members who enroll in the text program will receive text messages on their mobile phones. The messages will include special discounts on merchandise offered by the new Mission Store, exclusive invites to preview events or exhibits before the public, and first-to-know information about exciting preservation efforts and more. This program is not automatic for members, each member must sign up and authorize. If you are interested in signing up for this program, please email Barb Beier at bbeier@missionsjc.com with your phone number.

Join the 2013 Club
Save this Historic Landmark
Help save this historic landmark for our future generations! Become a part of the 2013 Club by donating:
- $20.13
- $20.13 a month for 12 months
- $213
- $2,013
Make a difference by using the enclosed envelope to send your gift in today. Donations can also be made online at missionsjc.com/store/store.

Exclusive Offers
Mission Members Only

15% OFF
All food purchases at the Vintage Steakhouse (excluding beer and wine) from now until August 31, 2013. Please present membership card at time of order.

26701 Verdugo Street, San Juan Capistrano, CA
(949) 661-3400
www.thevintagesteakhouse.com

15% OFF
All food purchases at El Maguey (excluding beer, sangria and margaritas) from now until August 31, 2013. Please present membership card at time of order.

31481 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, CA
949-493-8681
www.elmagueysanjuan.com

15% OFF
All food purchases at The Mission Grill (excluding beer and wine) from now until August 31, 2013. Please present membership card at time of order.

31721 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, CA
949-240-8055
www.missiongrillsjc.com

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
Thank You to Our Generous Supporters and 2013 Club Members!  
(Gifts given from March 14, 2013 - May 15, 2013)

Lauren and Hector Aguilar  
In Memory of Emilio Aguilar  
Mary Callaghan  
In Memory of Mrs. Ann Foley  
Michael A. Esposito  
In Memory of Antoinette Esposito  
Janice Witt Galt  
In Memory of Herman R. Witt  
Lisa and Robert Ohlund  
In Honor of Mechelle Lawrence  
Adams and the Mission Staff  
Ashley and Andre Rodrigue  
In Honor of Verdel Yorba  
Victoria and William Thornton  
In Honor of Stephanie McDaniels  
Anonymous  
Advanced Presentation Support  
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Barbara Wilson  
Al C. Young

We welcome gifts for any special project. IRS 501(c)(3) ID# 33-0833283 and #95-1904079

THANK YOU TO OUR DOCENTS!  
For making the Mission special and enhancing the experience for so many students.

THANK YOU TO OUR GARDENING ANGELS AND O’CONNELL LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE  
For helping to maintain the beauty of the Mission gardens.

GOOD NEWS!  
Mission San Juan Capistrano was recognized with a 2013 Certificate of Excellence on behalf of Trip Advisor.

Limited Time Offer  
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
$5 OFF MEMBERSHIP  
Not good with any other offer.  
Expires July 31, 2013

When you renew your membership in July at the Mission Gate House.

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

PLEASE CONSIDER THE MISSION IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING  
JOIN THE LANDMARKS CLUB!
JOIN THE 2013 CLUB

Calendar

Crafts for Kids
June 24 - August 30
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Music Under the Stars Summer Concerts
July 6, July 20, August 3, August 17 & August 31 • 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Ceramics Clay Camp (2 Week Session)
Session I: July 8 - 12 & July 15 - 19
Session II: July 22 - 26 & July 29 - August 2
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Adventure Sleepover: Night at the Mission
Friday, July 12 through Saturday, July 13

Mission Store Grand Opening
Saturday, July 13
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Panning for Gold & 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.

For Discounts, Tickets & Information
Event Hotline (949) 234-1315 or www.missionsjc.com