CALIFORNIA’S FIRST PEOPLE

CELEBRATING THE ACJACHEMEN PEOPLE’S CULTURE AND HISTORY AT MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

SAVE THE DATE
ROMANCE OF THE MISSION GALA 2016

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS 2016
RECORD SELL OUT

PAINTING CONSERVATION
FUNDED BY THE WOMEN’S GUILD

Cover Picture Featuring: Teeter Romero
Executive Director’s Message
The Great Flyover of 2016

In 1940 when composer Leon Rene’s hit song, “When the Swallows Come back to Capistrano” was on the pop charts, little did we know that he would serve as a preservationist by giving the landmark, chapel and museum its very own “theme song.” This song was thereby enjoyed by millions of Americans at the time and propelled their interest in visiting a then-sleepy little California mission where the swallows returned annually. Generations of Americans have since come to visit the Mission merely because of Rene’s song. And we are grateful.

Ever since that time, and for over 70 years, the tradition of welcoming the birds back to the Capistrano mission has been met with the public’s interest and appreciation.

However, as we struggle here to re-introduce the swallows to the Mission under the keen wisdom and scientific guidance of Dr. Charles Brown, we continue to strive to deliver St. Joseph’s Day event as a meaningful one in rain, sun, or political weather storms-no matter what. It is truly with the “no matter what” perspective that the staff, volunteers and supporters of the Mission San Juan Capistrano rise to greet our guests on March 19th – to ensure a day of meaning every year.

This year we decided to do more than usual to celebrate the birds' migratory tradition and decided what fun it would be to schedule a “flyover” of vintage planes flown by American veterans. However, when the big day came, the inaugural flyover was delayed and nearly cancelled due to cloudy conditions. In the moment of the unknown I was reminded that we are not in charge and that despite our firmly set schedule and good intentions we would all need to be flexible.

As a result, the public’s and staff’s anticipation of the coming vintage planes grew immensely after an initial delay at noon to one pm. The worry began to grow even more with a second delay in which the flyover was postponed to 1:30. During this time frame our guests from all over the world stopped me to talk about the flyover, their visit, their interests, and to thank the team for “putting the party on no matter what.” Of course, by the time the great flyover actually happened, we were all greatly relieved.

My experience of working in the shadow of The Song, and in the spirit of tradition reminds me every single year of the power of this place. In 2016 during the moment in which these powerful avian ambassadors flew over our historic bell wall, which was clad in the largest American flag we own, we were all reminded that old places like the Mission San Juan Capistrano have meaning and a purpose long after their origination.

The Mission stood strong that day. While we welcomed home the birds, the faithful, the students, the sick, the healthy, the families, and our veterans – the operative words for us all were “gratitude” and “homecoming”. Gratitude for the place, gratitude that the flyover was well received, and as sense of homecoming for all. Our local veterans and traveling veterans who were guests stood proud as we saluted them as part of our tradition. That too made it all worthwhile.

Yes, the Mission bells rang beautifully as the first ever Great Flyover served to inspire us to ensure this Mission is here for generations to come. With the inspiring memory of the Great Flyover in mind, we thank you for your support.

Mechelle Lawrence Adams
Executive Director, Mission San Juan Capistrano

Dedicated
~ To all the veterans who visit and support the Landmark, Chapel and Museum ~
~ To the memory of composer Leon Rene ~
~ and in memory of the life of Leah Beal (1953-2016) ~
Mission Art Guild
Preserving the Mission’s Historic Art Collection

As part of Mission San Juan Capistrano’s continuing effort to preserve its art collection, two small 19th century paintings began undergoing conservation treatment in March.

Both paintings, pictured below, were part of a 2013 condition assessment generously funded by a grant from the California Missions Foundation to support important art conservation efforts for the Mission’s historic painting collection. They were examined by painting conservators and found to be in fragile condition and in urgent need of conservation due to their loose and flaking paint layers.

The Mission’s Women’s Guild has generously stepped forward to fund the conservation of both paintings. Because of their small size, the paintings are not expected to take long to conserve and are due back at the Mission by summer.

The Mission San Juan Capistrano Art Guild’s purpose is to promote and support the conservation, acquisition, and public’s access and appreciation of the Mission’s fine arts collection. This project will make a total of 31 historic paintings conserved since 2003 with private funds and donations.

For more information about becoming involved in the Art Guild or to give a gift this spring to the museum art conservation fund, please contact Development Director Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323 or by email bbeier@missionsjc.com.

"The Virgin Mary Holding the Infant Jesus,"
19th century, Artist Unknown
Before Conservation, March 2016

"Jesus Looking Over His Shoulder,"
19th Century, Artist Unknown
Before Conservation, March 2016
Celebrating the Acjachemen People’s Culture and History

Did You Know?

Mission San Juan Capistrano celebrates and preserves the Native American or the Acjachemen (Ah-HAWSH-eh-men) people’s history in a variety of ways.

Visitors can experience Native American history by walking the grounds and exploring the following: “Native American” room, the grinding stone, the Padres’ kitchen, the Padres’ sitting room exhibit, Mission Treasures exhibit, Mission Clubhouse, the Rancho room, the Legacy of Saint Serra exhibit and more.

The Native American museum room in the west wing features information about the Acjachemen people’s origins, food hunting and gathering, plant uses, music and ceremony, basketry, village life, the Acjachemen today, and touchable items such as clapper stick instruments and grinding stone.

Mission San Juan Capistrano also highlights Native American history through a wide variety of bell ringing events and traditions. The last full-blooded Acjachemen bell ringer was Jose de Garcia Cruz (1922), or “Acu.” Today’s bell ringers continue to represent the diversity of the Mission’s history. Michael Gastelum and Nathan Banda both of Native American heritage are joined by long time Mission employee Rafael Gutierrez for official bell ringing ceremonies occurring on feast days, festivals and special occasions.

Volunteer basket weavers also provide demonstrations of their basket weaving traditions every first and third Wednesday of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Front Courtyard. Several of the volunteer weavers are of Acjachemen descent.

Our efforts to educate and honor the indigenous people that contributed to the Mission's building will continue to evolve. Our commitment to the preservation of their culture, past and present, will always remain a priority.

Experience Native American history today by visiting Mission San Juan Capistrano open daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Ask for the free “First Peoples” information and history card.

For more information about the contributions of our Native American community visit the Mission and ask for your free “Native American history information card”
The miracle of the “Swallows” of Capistrano takes place each year at Mission San Juan Capistrano, on March 19th, Saint Joseph’s Day, with a grand celebration welcoming visitors from all over the world.

**Did You Know?** Mission San Juan Capistrano, under the leadership of Father St. John O’Sullivan (1874-1933) began celebrating the return of the swallows on St. Joseph’s Day, March 19 in the early 1930s. Coincidentally it was also his birthday. You can read more about the “Legend of the Swallows” online at www.missionsjc.com or pick up your complimentary swallows story at the Mission’s Gate House.

The number of cliff swallows nesting at the Mission has declined gradually over the years as urbanization has given the birds more options to build their nests. As a result, in 2012, swallows expert Dr. Brown called for Phase I, the Vocalization Project, in which recorded courtship calls were played through a speaker on the Mission grounds to lure the cliff swallows that were flying overhead. According to Dr. Brown, evidence suggests the vocalization playbacks occasionally bring in passing cliff swallows that fly over the site but do not stay to nest.

In 2015, Dr. Brown recommended Phase II efforts to increase the stimulus being presented to passing birds. This step necessitated the construction of a replica wall of man-made nests in a colony-like setting similar to one that existed on the Ruins of the Great Stone Church prior to its 1990s stabilization which resulted in the removal of decades-old nests.

On March 19, 2016, Mission San Juan Capistrano unveiled Dr. Brown’s Phase II to a receptive audience. According to Dr. Brown, research has shown that cliff swallows prefer to re-use existing nests where possible, as this saves time and energy in building a nest from scratch. It is hoped that once the birds notice the plaster nests and begin using them, spillover or additional settling birds likely will lead them to build nests on the walls of the ruins of the Great Stone Church. And once nests are built, the artificial wall arch will no longer be needed.

“Dr. Brown’s recommendation is not only an extension of his previous experiment, but also a great opportunity to re-introduce generations to the past when many nests grouped together,” said Mechelle Lawrence Adams, Executive Director of Mission San Juan Capistrano. “This reenactment allows us to show people the extent of what it was like when the swallows were nesting here in abundance.”

Visit the Swallows Reenactment Exhibit while it’s in action for a limited time! Open daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on the east side of the Ruins of the Great Stone Church.
Save the Dates!

Twelfth Annual Battle of the Mariachis · May 14, 2016

Mission San Juan Capistrano will host, with the generous support of The Thomas J. and Erma Jean Tracy Family Foundation, the Twelfth Annual Battle of the Mariachis Festival on Saturday May 14, 2016 in the beautiful Central Courtyard from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Don’t miss this full day of live musical entertainment and great food as Mariachi performers compete for cash prizes before judges. Festival highlights also include: a special performance of the National Anthem, performances by Ballet Folklorico, bilingual marionette shows and more. Cost of general admission to this Signature Event is $15 for adults and seniors (60+) and $6 for children (ages 4-11).

Mission Preservation Society members receive a significant discounted admission rate at $5 for Adults and Seniors; $3 for Children (Ages 4-11). Limited general admission tickets are still available. Advance is purchase recommended. Don’t miss this experience at the historic Mission! Members may buy as many discounted tickets as the number on their membership.

2016 Romance of the Mission
Featuring Clark Beckham
American Idol Season XIV Runner Up

The Mission Preservation Foundation invites you to attend Mission San Juan Capistrano’s Romance of the Mission benefit gala on Friday, September 16, which includes a performance in the Ruins of the Great Stone Church by Clark Beckham, American Idol’s Season XIV runner up. “There’s something very special about being in the Mission,” Beckham said during his first visit to the Mission in February. “No matter what you believe, there’s a spiritual, peaceful potency about the place.” This year’s event celebrates and honors longtime community partner, the Ladies and Gentlemen of The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel.

The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel’s support of the Mission continues again this year as co-hosts of the post-concert, four-course plated candlelight dinner in the Central Courtyard. Proceeds from the evening will go toward the Mission Preservation Foundation’s ongoing preservation efforts.

Underwriting support and individual reservations are now being accepted. Please contact Barb Beier at (949) 234-1323 or email bbeier@missionsjc.com.

SAVE THE DATE!
Romance of the Mission Benefit Gala 2016
Friday, September 16, 2016 · 6:00 p.m.
Honoring the Ladies and Gentlemen of The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel
Featuring Clark Beckham, Performer

American Idol Top Ten and Season XIV Runner Up Clark Beckham
Music Under the Stars 2016 Series Record Sell Out

Mission San Juan Capistrano’s popular summer concert series Music Under the Stars sold out all five concerts in record time this year. It only took 45 minutes to sell out on public sales day.

This summer’s series includes performances:

July 9: The Bee Gees Gold: Bee Gees Tribute (opening act -- Chain Reaction: Classic Motown Hits)
July 23: Surfin’: The Beach Boys Tribute (opening act -- The Surfaris)
August 6: True Willie: America’s Most Authentic Willie Nelson Tribute (opening act -- Fortunate Son: Tribute to John Fogerty and Creedence Clearwater Revival)
August 20: The Fab Four: Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles with “Ed Sullivan” (opening act -- The Mid Centuries: Fifties Rock & Roll)

The Mission is looking for items for the Opportunity Drawing and Silent Auction that take place during the concerts. If you would like to donate an item for the drawing or auction, please call (949) 234-1321 and you may have your business recognized at the concerts. Proceeds from the concerts go to the Mission’s ongoing preservation efforts

The Music Under the Stars 2017 series will be announced later, in November of this year, with ticket sales beginning in February of 2017.
MISSION STORE SPRING BUYS
Open daily 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Mission Members always receive a 10% discount on most merchandise! Become a Member today!

This spring the Mission Store is carrying an assortment of unique, handcrafted jewelry collections from both local and international artists.

Among these collections are the elegant bronze, silver, and brass swallow-themed jewelry by Tara Gasparian and Clement Djossou as well as the colorful work of Ayala Bar, whose heirloom jewelry pieces are comprised of vibrant metals, beads, and crystals. New handcrafted pottery pieces are now also featured among the many beautiful housewares celebrating the Mission's ceramics history.

The Mission Store has also acquired one of the first Saint Junipero Serra statues produced since last September’s canonization of the California missions founder. The statue is of Saint Serra crossing the ocean bearing in his hands a cross and a miniature model of the Mission, cold-cast in bronze.

Did You Know? Net proceeds from the Mission Store help protect the religious and historic significance of Mission San Juan Capistrano, and further educational programs, exhibits and preservation efforts. Thank you for supporting historic landmark #200.
I Heart OC Giving Day
April 27 - April 28
6:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Mission San Juan Capistrano is participating in the 2016 I Heart OC Giving Day hosted by the Orange County Community Foundation.

The Orange County Community Foundation is super-charging local giving by hosting the second annual I Heart OC Giving Day from 6:00 a.m. April 27 through noon April 28, 2016. It is 30 hours to give where your heart lives, here at historic Mission San Juan Capistrano. Donations are secure, tax-deductible and will be accepted on iheartoc.org only.

The goal of I Heart OC Giving Day is to inspire the community to come together with extra-mile giving in support of the exemplary work of local non-profits. In 2016, the Foundation aims to exceed last year’s results, and will once again provide a bonus fund of prizes to grow the impact of donations made for Giving Day.

To donate! Go online to: iheartoc.org/npo/mission-san-juan-capistrano-foundation
Join the Mission’s Relay for Life Team

As many know, Mission San Juan Capistrano is home to St. Peregrine’s Chapel, a place of prayer and peace dedicated to the patron saint of cancer. In honor of all those who have battled cancer and seek hope and inspiration, the Mission will host its first ever “Relay for Life” Mission Members Relay Team to support the American Cancer Society.

The Relay for Life event will be held on Saturday, June 11, through Sunday, June 12, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. (Saturday) – 10:00 a.m. (Sunday) at the San Juan Capistrano Sports Park.

Team members will receive a special Mission Relay for Life Team t-shirt. Sign up online today at missionsjc.com/relayforlife or call Christine Robinson at (949) 234-1321 for more information.

Help the Mission! Shop Ralphs & Amazon

Ralphs is donating up to $2,500,000 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. Sign up today at missionsjc.com/donations/ralphs.php

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organizations selected by their customers.

Shop today at smile.amazon.com and select Mission San Juan Capistrano in the pick your own charitable organization field.

For questions, contact Mary Jayne Pugh in the Development Department at (949) 234-1325 or mpugh@missionsjc.com.

New Employees

Welcome to the Mission Work Family

Chad Belmont, Security Coordinator

Jonathon Duarte, Environmental Services Technician

Andrew Edwards, Mission Store Inventory Lead Clerk/Sales Associate

Arlene Rodriguez, Mission Store Inventory Lead

Andrea Villamar, Mission Store Lead Sales Associate

For employment opportunities: Visit our website at www.missionsjc.com/about/jobs
Thank You to Our Generous 2016 Club Members!

Leah Beal  
In Memory of Neil & Noreen McCann

James Bedner  
In Memory of  
Violet Norma Allison Bedner

James Bedner  
In Memory of Percy & Lupe Allison

Barb and Don Beier  
In Memory of Della G. Boehner

Arlene Castillo and Lucy Castillo  
In Memory of David Castillo

Pasquale Di Paolo  
In Memory of my mother,  
Maria Di Paolo

Patricia Dooley  
In Memory of Joseph G. Dooley

Wesley Drazil  
In Memory of Beth Drazil

Eleonor and Joe Fuertes  
In Memory of Juliano Palis

Lois and Jerry Giddens  
In Memory of Chuck Kaminskas

Audrey Hart  
In Memory of William J. Hart

Michael J. Horak  
In Honor of  
Eden and George O’Connell

Maureen & Gary Lynam  
In Honor of  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Saint-Aubin

Mission San Juan Capistrano  
Women’s Guild  
In Memory of Ricky Johnson

Lois O’Donoghue  
In Memory of Janet & Frank J. Bader

Anthony Panzica  
In Memory of Jackie Panzica

Stewart Smith  
In Memory of Neil & Noreen McCann

Sue Thompson  
In Memory of Charles Kaminskas

Teress and Jim Weber  
In Memory of Rose Tometich

John T. Westland  
In Memory of Ed Laurie

Dolores Yorba  
In Memory of Michael J. Yorba

Margaret Yorba  
In Memory of Bernando Yorba

Laurie and James Allen

Anonymous

Sharon Applegarth

Anne and Bil Aulenbach

Sherry Bahrami

Bruce Beers

Debra and Dwayne Bellow

Lorell Bertolone

Best Western Capistrano Inn

Kathryn Bickle

Kimberly and Michael Bogert

Mercedes & Joseph Borsellino

Bristol Farms

Bryan Krueger Enterprises, Inc.

Jerry Butler and Rafael Valladares

June Capistrano

Casa Flores

Barbara Caserly

Joy Chang

Mary Cordes

Jo Anne Coupins

Creme De La Creme

Ivy and Mike Damon

James Davidson

Daun and Glenn Dunlap

Marcia D. Escobar

Ron Fceorz

Floral Occasions

Carolyn and Juan Forster

Kathy and Pat Forster

Laura Freese

Barbara and Francisco Garcia-Guzman

Alice Gastlous

Diana and James Golightly

Pearl Joy Gonzales

Jonathan Hess and Vicki Zublitski

LeAnne and Chuck Hofmann

Carolann and Doug Holmberg

Joy and Rudy Horsch

Kristine and Mark Howlett

In-N-Out Burger

Benjamin Ingco

Richard Jahnke

Tricia and Frank Jaksh

Michelle Kelly

Michael Kilroy

Linda Klein

Marjorie and Reverend John Knudson

L’Hirondelle Restaurant

LaForge Family

La Purisima Church

Shirley C. Lashmet

Laura Seeley Studio

Tina Lee

Lohrbach Studio

Sunita and Alwin Lutz

Johanna Mak

Pat March

The McCormack Family

Mamie and Wayne Mertes

Kimberly & Christopher Middleton

Mission Commercial Properties

Arillyn Moran-Lawrence

National Society of the
Daughters of the American Revolution

Mary and Jack Norberg

Hien and Haig Papaian

Shelley and Anthony Patrizio

Ann and Carlos Perez

Janice and Martin Pickett

PRP Wine International, Inc.

Ralph’s Grocery Company

Reflections Interior Designs

Amrita Roda and Charles Alegado

Kate and Sam Roth

Linda and Catherine Ruddy

Mary Ruthkoski

Hans Scharer and Shirley Bodkin

Michele and August Schraven

Carol and Stuart Seldon

Shafer Plumbing Contractors

Yoshiko and Joseph Shakal

Grace and Junior Shaver

Shine Lighting, Inc.

Signature Party Rentals

Nancy and Paul St. Pierre

Stella’s Restaurant

Stifel Financial

Mary Susa

Sybil Salon Services

Charlotte and Lloyd Takahashi

The Benevity Community Impact Fund

The Nicholas Endowment

Julia Thielman

Thomas J. and Erma Jean Tracy

Family Foundation

Margaret Thomas

Barbara Thompson

Vicki L. Thompson

Michele and Christopher Townsend

Penny & Don Tryon

Laura and Bob U’Ren

Villa San Clemente, LLC

Carolyn and Phil Wallace

Carol and James Weling

Wells Fargo Foundation

Sharon Wiggins and Sue Daily

Wildflower Linens

Cindy and Colonel James Williams

Sandra and Jim Williams

We regret any misspelling or errors.  
Names are published as records indicate.
Visit our Mission Store!  
**a local landmark shopping experience**

Mission Members receive a 10% discount on most merchandise

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**CALENDAR**

**I Heart OC Giving Day**
Wednesday, April 27 - Thursday, April 28
6:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

**Twelfth Annual Battle of the Mariachis**
Saturday • May 14, 2016
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Stretch & Strength Class Series**
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Music Under the Stars 2016 Summer Concert Series**
June 25 - August 20, 2016
5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

**Summer Crafts for Kids**
July 4 - August 26, 2016
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Ceramics Camp 2016**
Session I: July 11 - July 22, 2016
Session II: July 25 - August 5, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Register online at www.missionsjc.com

**Adventure Sleepover: Night at the Mission 2016**
Friday, July 15 - Saturday, July 16, 2016
Register online at www.missionsjc.com

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