VOLUNTEERS ARE ON A MISSION TO BRING SAN JUAN HISTORY TO LIFE!

Have you ever wondered about those people you see around the Mission with the black hats and various red & black attire?

These are our Mission San Juan Docents. Docents make California history alive for thousands of students and adult visitors each year. If you love history, have a natural curiosity and enjoy sharing with others, this may be a volunteer position for you!

The Mission Docent Society is comprised of individuals with a strong sense of history, the importance of remembering it, and the ability to share it with others. Michele Lawrence, 28 year member, and former Director at Mission San Juan Capistrano said: "Docents have the opportunity to change a student's perspective from one that thinks history is boring to one that views history as interesting. As I still remember my 4th grade field trip to this mission, it inspired me to care about history. Unfortunately, history isn't always an easy subject. The docents and hope that we can attract more interesting people who want to make a difference through docent work." Docents have a passion for history, people, and many of them become good friends as a result the Mission brings these special people together and ends up enriching the volunteer's life as well.

The Mission San Juan Capistrano Docent Society has been in existence for 27 years and has membership more than 100. The purpose of the Society is to educate and inform the visitors about the history of Mission San Juan Capistrano.

Docents are asked to become active members of the Mission’s volunteer community and conduct monthly tours and attend monthly meetings. As a society, the docents visit surrounding historical sites, participate in fundraising projects, and often assist with special projects.

Women’s Guild

The Guild was founded in 1993 and has grown to a current membership of 65 women. The Guild’s goals are to assist in the preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of the Mission, to provide financial support to the Mission, and to promote the Mission to the public. The Guild also provides a leadership team that works on behalf of the Mission to promote its mission and goals. The Guild has been a key factor in the preservation of the Mission and its historic site.

Gardening Angels

Thanks to the efforts of the Gardening Angels, the Mission San Juan Capistrano is a beautiful and serene place. Their hard work and dedication help keep the grounds clean and green and contribute to the overall beauty of the Mission. Their efforts ensure that the Mission is a welcoming and peaceful place for visitors to enjoy.

Artifacts Council

Exhibition, education, conservation, preservation and acquisitions are the goals of Mission San Juan Capistrano Artifacts Council. These volunteers share a deep appreciation for history, creative arts, design, construction and exhibit space development. Members are also involved in seeking historically appropriate acquisitions and in funding the endeavors. The Artifacts Council assist in special projects supporting the Mission’s museum and interpretation.

To make a difference, please contact Pat March, Volunteer Program Administrator at (949) 324-1320 to request more information about volunteer opportunities.