



## **Madeline Swinden Joins the Mission Preservation Foundation Board**

*SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, February 18, 2009* – Mission San Juan Capistrano is pleased to announce that Mrs. Madeline Swinden has accepted an invitation to serve on the Board of Directors of the Mission Preservation Foundation.

Mrs. Swinden is a long-time supporter of Orange County's only mission, serving as co-founder of the *Friends of the Mission* in 1997. She was also a founding chair with Mrs. Joan Irvine Smith, her mother-in-law, of the annual Mission Benefit Gala fundraiser.

Tony Moiso, president of the Board, remarked, "Madeline has volunteered her time and talent for so many years at the Mission, it makes good sense to invite her to serve as a board member. It is obvious that she has a special place in her heart for the Mission because she is a dedicated Mission volunteer, committed to its preservation and understands that it takes everyone to save the Mission. I'm happy to have the opportunity to work alongside her on the Board to make the Mission an even better place."

Mrs. Swinden commented, "I am honored by the invitation to join the Mission's Board of Directors. The Mission is an important monument of our Spanish heritage and it is imperative that we preserve it for future generations."

Mrs. Swinden is President Emeritus and a board member of Research Associates at the University of California, Irvine. She has chaired many events at UCI, as well as assisted with many other charitable organizations in Southern California. She serves on the Board of Kidworks in Santa Ana and the Crystal Cove Alliance in Laguna Beach. She heads the Community Outreach Advisory Board for the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation and public outreach for The Irvine Museum.

A native Californian, Mrs. Swinden attended the University of Southern California. As a graduate of the Gemological Institute of America, she pursued a jewelry career spanning 35 years, much of it at Tiffany & Company. An expert in fine gems, she enjoys designing jewelry, a passion she now shares with private clients as well as family and friends.

Mrs. Swinden resides with James Irvine Swinden, her husband, and their 16-year-old son in Laguna Beach. They enjoy family time, playing tennis, skiing and traveling.

Mechelle Lawrence-Adams, the Mission's Executive Director, remarked, "Our Foundation board is growing during these difficult times and willing to take on new ideas and programming to ensure the Mission stands strong for generations to come. The addition of Madeline Swinden is a great opportunity and recognizes her efforts to already make the Mission the best possible historic site in Orange County. I am looking forward to working closely with her as we realize the goals of the Mission Preservation Foundation."

*Mission San Juan Capistrano is open 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. **The Mission operations are funded by gate admissions – preservation work is funded by grants and fundraising efforts.** To reach the Mission, take I-5 to the Ortega Highway exit to San Juan Capistrano. Admission: \$9 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 children ages 3-11, and under 3 free. Price includes self-guided, digital audio tour. Information: (949) 234-1300. Mission address: 26801 Ortega Hwy., San Juan Capistrano. Website: [www.missionsjc.com](http://www.missionsjc.com).*

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