



MISSION BELL

Vol. 7, No. 2 / Summer 2018

Ring in the News of the Preservation Campaign for Mission San Antonio de Padua

SAVE THE DATE! **Annual Fiesta Celebration**

Sunday, June 10, 2018

New Hours this Year:

10am to 2pm



THE ANNUAL FIESTA at Mission San Antonio de Padua is a fun filled day for all! Beginning with a special Fiesta Mass at 9:00am (there will NOT be an 11:00am Mass this year) followed by a traditional oak-fired barbeque offering your choice of chicken or top sirloin dinners. Dance to live music. Buy a homemade dessert, enjoy a glass of beer or wine, and visit with local artisans whose wares will be on display. Your children will have a great time winning prizes at the game booths.

The Fiesta is free to attend. BBQ meal of top sirloin or chicken is \$12 per plate. This is a real community-oriented family event that's not to be missed!

For more information call **831-385-4478** or visit **www.missionsanantonio.net**

***A Message from President* AL PAROLINI**

It is hard to believe we are halfway through 2018; it always amazes me how quickly time goes by! It is also hard to believe it has been 8 years since the Campaign for the Preservation of Mission San Antonio de Padua began the very important work of raising the funds necessary for the seismic retrofit and the preservation of the structural integrity of the historic and beloved Mission San Antonio.

Since beginning in 2010 we have all experienced many emotions. Moments of jubilation as we raised our first \$3 million and completed phase I, to moments of doubt when we thought we might need to put our work on hold, only to have those doubts removed with an unexpected gift, which helped us continue the work.

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated ALL VOLUNTEER Board of Directors that has allowed us to be able to keep administrative costs low and spend 99.7% of the money raised on the retrofit project. Our Board of Directors, some who have served since 2010, have donated to the campaign each and every year since they joined the board and volunteer countless hours of their time.

I don't know if any of the board members past and present thought we would get this far, of course that was our goal, but raising \$12 million seemed so impossible. During this process there have been many celebrations and also uncertainties, but we continue to persevere! As we continue the Campaign's work of funding the preservation of this historic monument, I am certain that the mandated work required to ensure that this mission remains open will be completed. It's the very aspect of time which is the unknown and right now time is not on our side.

As we stated in a mailing we sent out earlier this year. We need to have \$1.5 million raised in cash and solid pledges by July 1, 2018, as this is the date the contractor has given us in order to begin work again in September. Through April we have received 186 donations and raised \$236,976.77. For this we are grateful! We are at a moment in the campaign where we once again are facing doubt and uncertainty, but our hearts are filled with hope and faith.

There are many ways in which each of us can assist us in our efforts. Make a single donation, monthly donation, or a multi-year pledge. There are still naming opportunities available for the retreat room. We also have the ability to accept property and stocks. In addition, the IRS recently modified its regulations allowing charitable rollovers, permitting the direct donation from your IRA to a charitable organization. If you would like additional information regarding specific information on any of these options, please contact us at 831-386-0599.

We are committed to ensuring that this landmark, an important piece of California's history, is saved, so that visitors can experience this historic treasure and its inspiring serenity for years to come.

Thank you for your continued support! ■

Mission San Antonio Marathon continues...

By Joan Steele, Mission Administrator

IF YOU ARE A RUNNER, a home exerciser, a student preparing for exams or a serious athlete, you know what it means to hit the wall. It's that point where you may feel you've given it your all, but the road before you requires that you dig even deeper and find the reserve you need to complete the race.

This explains a little bit of how we are feeling regarding our seismic retrofit. We've come so far and accomplished so much; but the race is not yet over. We need your continued help to finish the race.

I have had several opportunities recently to explain to visitors and patrons the importance of completing this momentous retrofit/restoration project.

Two hundred and forty-seven years ago, on a hot summer day in July, 1771, Fray Junipero Serra arrived in the Valley of the Oaks. He hung a bell in an oak tree, rang it and prepared to celebrate a Mass, establishing the founding of the third Alta California Mission. When I take a moment to consider the enormous task that confronted him, from the unfamiliar territory far from his Spanish origins, extremely limited resources as well as cultural and language barriers, I am humbled. Our project team often refers to the Mission's current retrofit/restoration project as our one- hundred-year-fix. While raising an additional \$1.5 Million dollars is indeed daunting, it cannot begin to compare to the immensity of the task that Serra embraced. It is our responsibility to sustain the work of hospitality and education that he began in 1771.

What new information can I possibly offer to you today about the status of work at the Mission?

Although the seismic work was placed on temporary hold in the fall due to lack of funds we are finishing up work that we started before the hold. With the help of our wonderful volunteers, we have been sprucing up the mission grounds.

Pete, our painter, continues to refresh the face of the Mission's interior. The entire retreat center now wears a warm welcoming coat of Swiss Coffee white. Sean, Billy and Andy are working in tandem, weed-whacking, mowing and clearing brush to provide



Padre's Garden in full bloom.



Conference Room, newly refurbished, still awaiting fan installation.



fire safety as the weather begins to heat up in earnest. Babette, Susan and Shari have the rose garden looking amazing! California poppies, irises and hundreds of roses are in full bloom. Authentic Mission grape cuttings (from the original Mallorcan stock) are potted and leafing out, ready to put into your own home garden.

Ceiling fans are being installed in our retreat center conference room and the room will be re-opened to serve retreat groups in the next few weeks. Our nine-room Mission Museum also boasts a delightful facelift, including a new lighting system, updated signage and refreshed displays.

The installation of the new comprehensive fire safety system is complete and has passed County inspection. This, in conjunction with our state-of-the-art security system provides our visitors and guests with a sense of protection, safety and peace of mind.

We are also in the process of addressing additional site-safety concerns. We have removed the cattle guard that for several decades delineated the entrance onto Mission property. Other civil work around the Mission

grounds is also being taken care of.

That brings you up-to-date on work we are in the midst of completing. If you are reading this update, your concern regarding this Mission's future is already established. Perhaps you've already given financially to our Campaign. If so, please accept our gratitude in allowing us to get this far in the project. Maybe, however, you've been waiting for that specific time when you could know for sure that your donation would provide vital support to the success of the project.

That time would be NOW!

The longer it takes us to raise the money... the longer it takes us to re-start the construction ...the more money it is going to cost! If we fail to complete this project, the Mission will close to the public and future generations will lose a precious historic treasure that offers a glimpse into our Californian beginning.

Please help! ■

Preserve Your Family Name

Naming Opportunities Available at Mission San Antonio

PRESERVE YOUR PLACE IN HISTORY

Donate \$25,000 towards the stabilization/restoration of Mission San Antonio's retreat facilities and have a **retreat room** dedicated to the memory of yourself, your family, or anyone else you choose to honor. Limited spaces available – **ACT NOW!** Join us in saving history while becoming part of the Mission's history for future generations. What a wonderful way to weave your family name into the colorful tapestry of the San Antonio Valley story!



Total Pledge: ☐ \$25,000 (1 room) ☐ \$50,000 (2 rooms) ☐ \$75,000 (3 rooms) ☐ \$100,000 (4 rooms)

Initial Payment Enclosed \$_____ Please bill me ☐ Monthly ☐ Bi-yearly ☐ Yearly (up to 5-yr. pledges)

Payment Method: ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

CSC# _____ (Last 3 digits in signature area on back of your card)

☐ Gift given in Memory of _____

☐ Gift given in Honor of _____

Mr. & Mrs. / Ms. / Mrs. / Mr. / Dr. / other _____
CIRCLE ONE

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to:

Campaign for the Preservation of Mission San Antonio de Padua, P. O. Box 450, King City, CA 93930

The foundation is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID#274012100. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Thank you for your generous support!

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Founded by Fra Junipero Serra Circa 1771

**Our Mission—
Saving A Timeless
Treasure**

CAMPAIGN FOR THE PRESERVATION
OF MISSION SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA
Post Office Box 450
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MISSION BELL Summer 2018

Mission Days Celebration



HUNDREDS OF GUESTS attended the annual Mission Days celebration on April 7. The event featured historical re-enactors in costumes, mission era food and activities, horse drawn wagon rides, and dancing. Thank you to the event sponsors and to all who attended this fun fundraising event! ■



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Your Donation
is Greatly
Appreciated

The content for the newsletter is put together by volunteers. If you would like to contribute to a future edition or see a correction, please contact Elizabeth Diaz at 831-386-0599 / info@preservemissionsanantonio.org.