



MISSION BELL

Vol. 8, No. 4 / Winter 2019

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

Monterey County Gives Fundraising Campaign

November 7 to December 31, 2019

WE ARE PLEASED to share that our nonprofit has once again been selected for the **Monterey County Gives Campaign**, a collaboration between the Community Foundation for Monterey County, the Monterey Peninsula Foundation and the Monterey County Weekly.

The Monterey County Gives fundraising campaign runs from November 7 through midnight December 31. Donations can be made through our page on the Monterey County Gives website: www.mcgives.com/msa.

As you are evaluating your end of year giving options we hope you will consider making a donation to our campaign. 100% of the donations will go to our project. ■

MONTEREY COUNTY GIVES!
Joining Together for Big Ideas

A Message from Campaign Co-Presidents

SUSAN GILL & ANN BECKETT

As we are approaching the end of this year we are filled with gratitude and sincere appreciation for our local community. When a community comes together we can make amazing things happen and that was certainly the case for our October 5th *Timeless Treasure* dinner, auction and art show event! The generosity and kindness we received before, during and after this special night was amazing.

When we started advertising the event so many people called us from throughout the area and volunteered to give us auction items. It was so touching to get a call, and hear someone say, "I love Mission San Antonio so much, I want to help!" Our volunteer committees went above and beyond and our board did an amazing job selling tickets and gathering auction items. As you will see from the thank you list, so many people helped make this event a huge success. Together we raised over \$112,000 and every dollar raised will be used for the seismic retrofit/restoration effort at Mission San Antonio de Padua.

75 youth and adults entered the art contest and the artwork submitted was amazing! All entries were on display at the *Timeless Treasure* dinner. Event attendees were each given four color coded tickets and they could vote for one poster in each of the four age groups. One of the sweetest stories that happened after the event is about 15 year old art contest winner Noah-Riley Bombardieri. As the winner of the 15-18 year age group he received a \$500.00 cash prize. When we delivered the prize money to him he immediately gave back part of his winnings to the campaign because he had read about our project and wanted to help. It was a wonderful surprise and his generosity is truly appreciated!

Being on the board of directors is a very important commitment and at times has been challenging. Our board, many who have been on the board since the beginning, has continued to persevere year after year for almost 10 years now, never giving up. After all these years it is heartwarming to see so many people still care and want to help. The community's support has given the board new energy and hope that WE WILL complete all five phases of this project and Mission San Antonio will continue to be a place where history and education can inspire the local community and visitors throughout the United States.

Thank you for your ongoing support for The Campaign for the Preservation Mission San Antonio de Padua. We wish you a happy holiday season and look forward to 2020! ■

Thanksgiving, Community and Vision

By Joan Steele, Mission Administrator

AS WE FEEL THE CRISP AIR

NIPPING at us in the frosty mornings, we realize that the end of 2019 is fast approaching. It's been a good year. It's been a good year for Mission San Antonio.

On October 5th the Campaign Board celebrated the numerous milestones achieved thus far in our seismic retrofit. We intend to finish this portion of Phase V's work by the end of the year. This has been made possible through the continued generosity of the Mission Community, both locally and across the country. Many thanks to each and every one of you who have contributed.

Since our last newsletter article, work has continued on Phase V. The seismic and electrical coring nearly complete. Electrical, fire, security, and plumbing upgrades are currently in progress. Most of the ADA compliant upgrades are done. It is still our objective to complete all of this work and get the roof back on by the end of February, 2020. It has been a long, hard and expensive road, but all involved, especially you, our donors, should stand proud at what your efforts and financial support have achieved.

On Saturday, October 12, 2019, we celebrated, with the Board Members of the California Missions Foundation, the grand opening of our library to gallery renovation. Thanks to the continued generosity of the Frances K. and Charles D. Field Foundation, and the coordination of David Bolton, President of the CA Missions Foundation, the transformation of the previous parish library into a beautiful, mission-era reception and gallery room has been realized.



This room (and its lobby area) has been redesigned to aid in transporting the Mission visitor back in time to the 1820's mission era. The furnishings, the paintings, the flooring...careful attention has been paid to every detail. The new gallery/reception room and its lobby are now available to enhance the visitor's authentic Mission experience.

The two dining rooms, kitchen, archives, woodshop and laundry are deep in the midst of their upgrades. Plasterers are busy repairing walls, tile walkways are being adapted for ADA access, the kitchen is preparing for the installation of a new hood and



swamp cooler. Things look a bit dismal with holes in wall and new wiring awaiting their new fixtures, but rest assured that tremendous progress is being made every day. The roofing tiles will begin returning to the roof in the next few weeks. The roof area over the kitchen will take longer due to the necessary improvements in that area.

While we are thrilled to be so close to the end of the stabilization phase, we are realistically looking at 2020-2021 for the completion of the entire stabilization/restoration and preservation Five-Phase project.

Due to the generosity of all of you, and many others, we are now facing a future knowing that structurally we are safe, sound, accessible and able to remain open to the public. That's wonderful to realize!

Mission San Antonio de Padua stands unique among the Alta California Missions in its authenticity, primarily due to the lack of encroachment by current civilization. It's location, snugly tucked against the foothills of the Santa Lucia Mountain Range, surrounded by undeveloped, natural land, helps the visitors and guests take a deep breath and relax. The hoot of owls, the cry of the coyotes, the bugling of the Tule elk, all echo of a slower time.

Continued on next page



*Photos: Left and above:
The Frances K. and Charles D. Field Gallery
and Reception room commemorates the
Mission era. Our sincere appreciation to the
Field Family and the California Missions
Foundation for making this dream a reality.*

View of the northeast portion of the facility, currently undergoing stabilization and restoration.

Thanksgiving, Community and Vision continued

There are many points of view from which to view the historic Mission era. We aspire to share these stories in a responsible, compassionate and historically documented fashion, thus empowering the visitor to form their own unique opinions and appreciate their own individual experience of the Mission site. Our precious heritage does not stop with the Mission Church and the rest of the facilities. No, it extends to include the unique, largely undisturbed historical below-ground landscape. This landscape teaches us not only of the Mission era Community but also of the Salinan People's history on the site long before the arrival of the Spanish Franciscans. Correct interpretation and necessary preservation of this history is critical to the telling of the whole story of Mission San Antonio de Padua.

Our focus, as we enter the new year will be to ensure that all of the tremendous work that has been accomplished here in the past five years, at great expense, is NOT allowed to slip back into decline and disrepair! We owe it to the donor of each and every dollar given to this project to carefully negotiate the aspects of the work, spend wisely and protect the end result. We take our responsibility very seriously. Your Project Team is now working with the Sibbett Corporation to navigate the process of correctly storing, interpreting and presenting artifacts, especially those which are in danger of eroding or simply falling apart due to exposure of time and the elements.

We also realize, as I am sure you do, that buildings need constant maintenance and upkeep to stay in their best form. The Mission will be no different. As we move forward, we will begin to talk about setting up an Endowment Fund which will provide funds to keep up with all the maintenance demands that will keep this Mission looking pristine for the next hundred years. We are uniquely positioned in time to be able to stabilize and restore Mission San Antonio and to provide protection for it for future generations to enjoy.

Once again, I thank each of you for your generous participation. I humbly ask that you stick with us as we take the steps necessary to secure the preservation of our artifacts, to provide a historically-correct interpretation of the site and to preserve the historic landscape from the erosion of time and the elements. Please help us to ensure the Mission's ability to facilitate both individual and community involvement and interaction for many, many generations to come. Happy Holidays to you and your families and may you enjoy a prosperous and joyous New Year! ■

The Timeless Treasure Dinner Auction and Art Show



▲ Karen Nichols
& Eileen Bennett



▲ Daniel &
Leigh Butler



▲ Art Contest



▲ Howard &
Alice Wilson



▲ Art Contest ▶



◀ Art Contest

Thank You!

The Campaign for the Preservation of Mission San Antonio de Padua's Timeless Treasure dinner, auction and art show event raised over \$112,000. A sincere thank you to all of our event sponsors, committees, donors, and 250 attendees who helped make this event a huge success!!



The ART Contest Winners

Thank You to the 75 youth and adult entrants who participated in the Mission San Antonio themed art contest and to the following businesses for being a pick up/drop off location for the posters: **Access Publishing, Armanasco Public Relations, Inc., Casey Printing, Hayashi & Wayland, Mission San Antonio de Padua, and Rio Farms.** The posters were judged by the people who attended the **Timeless Treasure** dinner, auction and art show event. One winner from each age group was selected. The following individuals created the winning posters.



TOP LEFT: 5-11 age group
Joni Ferreira

Atascadero / \$100 Amazon gift card
BOTTOM LEFT: 15-18 age group
Noah-Riley Bombardieri
Paso Robles / \$500 cash prize

TOP RIGHT: 12-14 age group
Luna Catalaá

Salinas / \$250 Amazon gift
BOTTOM RIGHT: 19 and older
Frances Bengtson
Soledad / \$500 cash prize

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MISSION BELL Winter 2019



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