



MISSION BELL

Vol. 13, No. 1 / Spring 2024

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

Sharing Your Gifts

AUTHOR, PAULO COELHO, SAYS, "The reward for our work is not what we get, but what we become."

That is a profound thought.

Spring is blooming and everything is infused with new life. This is a good time to review our own lives to see where there is room for new growth.

While you are considering your many talents and gifts, please also consider how you might share them with a very special place that we've all come to cherish...Mission San Antonio de Padua.

We are currently looking for new Campaign Board Members. We are primarily seeking individuals who love the Mission and want to help secure its best future. Board Members work together to spread the word about the Mission; they help tell the story of MSA and explain our future goals, projects, and maintenance and restoration issues. We talk to people; we make connections. Our love for this unique place spills out into our conversations, our relationships and our social media posts.

We are looking for individuals who are willing to reach out to others and invite them to be part of the Mission story by donating to a very worthy cause.

Do you have any prior fundraising experience? Do you enjoy working with people and sharing their experiences? Do you have time to devote to helping us secure funding for future restoration and maintenance needs?

We need you and your unique gifts to continue to honor Mission San Antonio, its history and its future. Please contact us at office@missionsanantonio.net if you are interested in participating with the Campaign Board. ■



"Iron Oak" Donor Appreciation Tree

MISSION DAYS

@ Mission San Antonio de Padua

By Joan Steele, *Mission Administrator*



Los Arribenos de San Francisco

MISSION SAN ANTONIO'S annual fundraising event, Mission Days, took place this year on Saturday, April 6, 2024. As always, this event offered a delightful step backward in time to the mission era. Located in the pristine Valley of the Oaks, snuggled up to the foothills of the Santa Lucia Mountain Range, this event definitely conjures up the feeling

of time travel. Docents in historical garb portrayed soldiers, artisans, vaqueros, musicians and dancers. Mission crafts and activities were demonstrated, including weaving, blacksmithing, adobe brick making, bead crafts, and much more.

Michael Muir, great-grandson of



Michael Muir

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Mission Days continued

America's visionary conservationist, John Muir, also Founder and Director of Access Adventure was also on site. Access Adventure offers outdoor recreation and therapy programs for people with disabilities. They also design and build wheelchair-accessible horse-drawn carriages.

They work with people and horses and draw on the healing power of nature. Based at the Rush Ranch (2070 acres) in Fairfield, CA, part of the Solono Land Trust for open space, this organization works hard to enrich the lives of others as stated in their mission statement:

"Access Adventure is about freedom. When we are not limited by the challenges we face, we are free to challenge our limits. Give wings to the dreams of people living with the challenges of disability."

Michael and his team provided carriage rides for our event and as always, it was our honor to host and work with them for this event.

Members of Los Arribenos de San Francisco and members from Los Californios performed Mission-era Californio music and dance. Consignment artists who work with the Mission Gift Shop were on hand to display and sell their unique original wares.

Sumptuous food was offered by Tacos La Potranca de Jalisco (from King City) and everyone left raving about the wonderful meal!

Max Randolph (of Max Randolph Studios), creator of our



Access Adventure



Los Californios



Captain Jack Swallow's campsite



Yuri Pineda showing her art and helping kids with bead projects

"iron oak" donor appreciation tree, was present to meet and greet the fans of his amazing sculpture located in the Mission garden.

Jim Aceves and his horse, Taza de Mogollon dazzled everyone with their vaqueros demonstrations. CAL Fire was on hand to educate the youth about fire safety and to provide goodwill to the community.

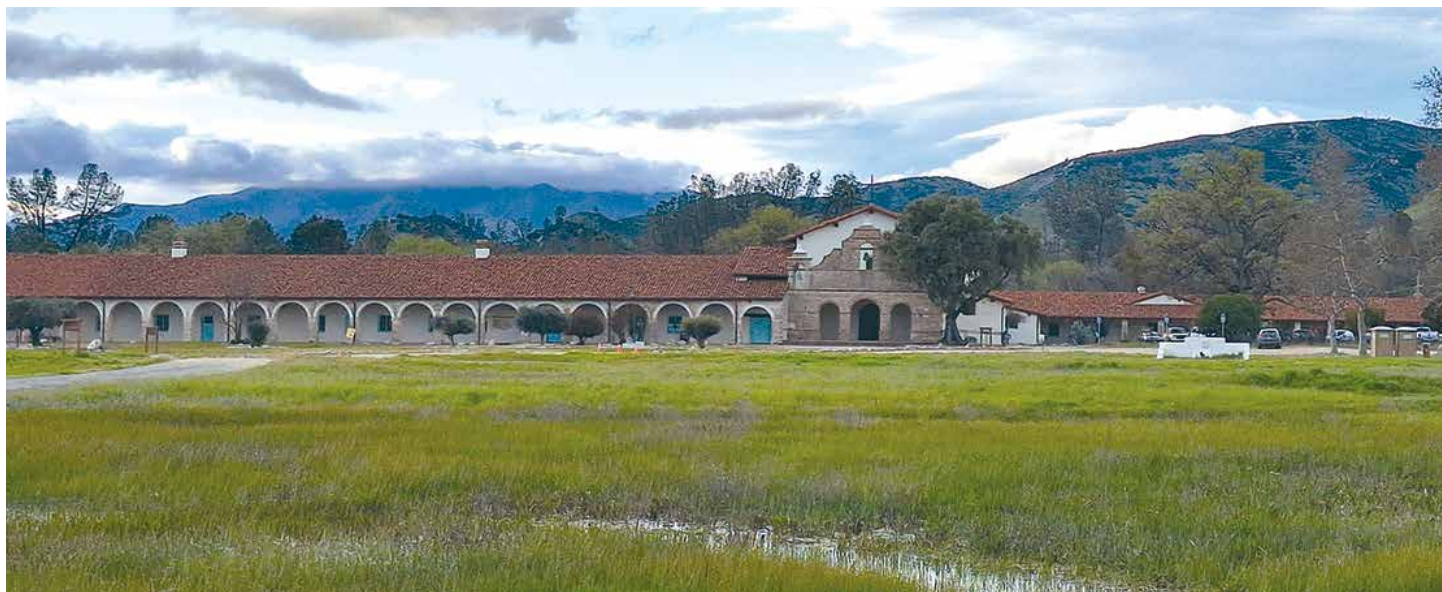
It was an absolutely wonderful day...lots of memories were made! ■



An Access Adventure horse cart tour.

MISSION “MINUTES”...What Have We Been Up To?

By Joan Steele, *Mission Administrator* (April, 2024)



Water, water, everywhere!

WHEN YOU HEAR the California Missions mentioned in conversation, what comes to mind? Do you visualize old Spanish architecture amid the hustle and bustle of modern life and buildings? Many of California's twenty-one Missions do, indeed, exist literally within the city that has grown up around them in the past two-and-a-half centuries. Do you think, “old fashion buildings, old fashion ideas, museum with outdated ideas?”

Mission San Antonio strives to be different...to authentically honor our past, successfully serve the community in the present, and strive to embrace a collaborative, inclusive future.

It doesn't make any sense to save historic buildings unless they can continue to serve the present-day community. At Mission San Antonio we offer a beautiful museum with well-displayed artifacts, enhanced by educational diagrams and models of notable elements found on the Mission grounds. Available walking tour, artwork restoration, Mission water system, and native plants brochures further enhance your Mission visit.

Spring brought not only plenty of water to our Central Coast, but also allowed for a flurry of activity at the Mission.

The wonderful quadrangle garden, honoring the native Salinan People, enjoyed a much-needed refreshment! The hard-working crew from Madrone Landscaping was back for several weeks to help prune the native plants and add new cedar mulch. With the donor tree (our iron oak created by Max Randolph of Max Randolph Studios) as part of the landscape, the garden has both a refreshed and timeless atmosphere. Retreat guests love spending time in the garden, enjoying peace and serenity in a beautiful natural setting!

Our retreat center is very, very busy! That's definitely a good thing to report, since the daily operating budget of the Mission relies heavily upon the funds

generated from our retreat center. Whether you want to come by yourself, or with an entire group (up to 65 people), you'll need to email the Mission ahead of time to ensure a reservation. (office@missionsanantonio.net)

While the garden restoration was wrapping up, the crew from Sam's Tree 805 was on-site for approximately three weeks performing an excellent job of tree maintenance. This work is not only critical to the health of our trees, but is equally critical to the safety of our visitors and guests.

The plans to restore the pavilion have currently been put on hold, due to the failure to raise enough new cash reserves by

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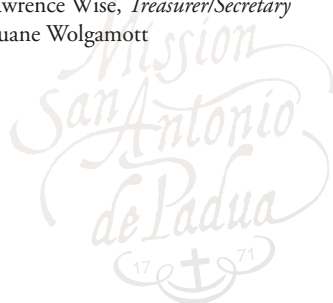
Sam's Tree Service



Mission garden on a frosty Spring morning

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Campaign Contact Information

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PRESERVATION OF MISSION
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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
King City, CA 93930

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MISSION BELL *Spring 2024*

Mission Minutes continued

the end of 2023. We will continue to pursue funding for this important project that would provide both meeting and classroom space for future community events and retreats as well as archeological field schools.

The warming breezes of Spring also enabled the adept team from Chris Ingram Lath and Plaster to return to the Mission for plaster repair and maintenance. For an adobe Mission to remain in optimal condition, this work must be attended to in an on-going manner. As you know, it is much more cost-effective to maintain a building than it is to have to attend to major repairs when you neglect it.

By the time you are reading this newsletter, we will have conducted the surveys necessary for the mayordomo house and original vineyard areas. These surveys



Refreshed garden April 2024

include magnetic soil and ground-penetrating radar surveys. The possible investigation and documentation of this data is unique to Mission San Antonio, since we have eighty-six acres of relatively untouched, underground historic landscape. We will also be employing the services of the Institute of Canine Forensics to ensure that there are no ancient burials in the vineyard and mayordomo house areas. You may remember that we used the services of this firm several years ago to confirm that there

were no burials outside the cemetery walls. All of this information will help us to better understand and accurately interpret our unique Mission history.

Please continue to stand with us as we move into the Mission's future! It has been the collaborative effort of many, many people from across all fifty states that allowed us to complete the mandated seismic retrofit. We still need all of you to continue on in our mission to remain open to the public, enabled and empowered to continue to offer a meaningful, educational, spiritually nourishing Mission experience to future generations. I often like to remind visitors while I am giving them a tour, that "the Mission was built one brick at a time, and it will continue to be saved the same way! Every donation matters!

Won't you please send your donation today to help save another "brick?" Thank you for your generosity and support! ■

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 info@preservemissionsanantonio.org.

**Thank You to
Our 2023 Donors
(Oct. 15 to Dec. 31, 2023)**

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Yannis and Virginia Gelos

**In Memory of
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Yannis and Virginia Gelos

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Elena Ortega

In Memory of John Parolini

Anthony and Louise Tesoriere

**In Memory of Cycil and
Margaret Plaskett**

Patricia E. Hearne

In Memory of Ida Pura

John and Annette Romans

In Memory of Jane Pura

Nick and Stacey Azcona

John and Annette Romans

In Memory of

Lucille Raschella

Allen and MaryAnne Chaney

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In Memory of Diane Sweet

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In Memory of Rick Thorup

Clem and Barbara Richardson

The following individuals
and businesses have
generously donated time
and professional services:

- Armanasco Public Relations, Inc.
- Tim Baldwin, Attorney – Noland Hamerly Etienne & Hoss
- Casey Printing
- Natalie Rava – Hayashi & Wayland Accounting
- The Wecker Group Branding/Design