



## Event Recap

**THE CALIFORNIA MISSION RIDE:**  
*Our visit to Mission San Antonio de Padua*  
By Leslie Dunton-Downer, Rider and Filmmaker

The California Mission Ride team reached the entrance to Fort Hunter Liggett off Jolon Road around three o'clock in the afternoon on September 13, 2012. The military base's digital panel there registered the time and date, as well as the temperature: 108 degrees Fahrenheit! Humans and horses (plus one thirsty mule!) were very happy to reach the grounds of Mission San Antonio de Padua, where fresh water was enjoyed by all (including the mule!) before camp and corrals were set up for a two-night stay at the mission. A few hours later, we gathered in the mission's church for what has to have been one of the most beautiful and moving celebrations of Mass that any had ever attended. Bishop Garcia presided, and John Warren led the New World Baroque Orchestra to perform exquisite music



California Mission Riders

composed during the Mission Era by the mission's own Fray Juan Bautista Sancho. At the reception that followed in the *Refectorio*, riders and crew had the pleasure of savoring some diabolically delicious desserts with members of the clergy, musicians, and parish-ioners (including some of the dessert-bakers and makers). The next day brought secular activities and lots of documentary filmmaking with an archaeological tour led by Dr. Hoover; exploration of the mission cemetery with Salinan Tribal Council and Elder Susan Latta, and Tribal Edler Shirley Macagni; and conversations with people who have unique ties to the mission, including Tribal Elder and author of *The Ancestors Speak*, Suzanne Pierce Taylor. The day ended with a fiesta that featured live music and plenty of lively conversation over great local food and wine. On the morning of September 15, we were honored to ride from Mission San Antonio toward Mission San Miguel with Command Sergeant Major Mark Martello, who had driven out from Idaho (800 miles!) with his wife Lenny to join CMR



California Mission Ride Team Films at the Mission



Riders set up camp at the Mission

as a special guest rider. As we learned when we interviewed Mark for the documentary film we are making about life at the missions today, Mission San Antonio de Padua has had personal significance for him since he spent a night there with his family before deploying to Afghanistan in 2008. All of us with The California Mission Ride wish to thank Bishop Garcia, Joan Steele, and everyone at the mission for the unforgettable hospitality and kindness that they extended to us and our equine friends (although I'm told that, if I want to include the mule, which I do!, I should say "equid friends"). We all send our best wishes, and we hope we'll see you on the trail in 2013, when the ride continues from Mission San Miguel to Mission San Diego de Alcalá. **For more information on the California Mission Ride visit [thecaliforniamissionride.org](http://thecaliforniamissionride.org)**

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Our Mission—  
Saving A Treasure



Vol. 1, No. 2 / Fall 2012

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

## SAVE THE DATE...

**SPAGHETTI DINNER  
AND CUTTING OF THE ROSES  
at Mission San Antonio de Padua**

January 27, 2013 / 9:00am - 2:00pm

The Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2013 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The event begins with Mass followed by the Annual Cutting of the Roses in the Padre's Garden. You'll find Italian ambiance takes over the Refectory as volunteers cook up tempting pasta dinners with all the trimmings, including salad and garlic bread. Meal tickets are \$10/plate. Crafts, face-painting and a delightful assortment of Gifts from the Garden are also available for sale. It's a fun event the whole family will enjoy! ■

## Geophysics and Archeology at Mission San Antonio

Through a Geophysics Workshop conducted by Dr. Robert Hoover and highlighting the work of Dr. Lewis Somers and David Maki of GeoScan Research/ArcheoPhysics, we are learning more about building sites that predate our Mission church. Further research will commence in the Spring of 2013 and we will make details known as they become available.

Archeology is alive and well at Mission San Antonio as well. This summer the Mission hosted a five-week Archeological Field School out of U.C. Santa Cruz under the direction of Professors Chelsea Blackmore and Sarah Peelo (with UC Davis.) This Mission site is a dream for archeologists as the past has been well protected and well preserved. As Dr. Hoover likes to point out, it's like having precious artifacts in a bank vault, and sometimes we get to take out a withdrawal and share it with the world. The items found will be properly processed and eventually become additions to the Mission Museum display. Be sure to visit and see the newest items. ■

## A Message from Campaign President SUSAN GILL

The Campaign to Preserve Mission San Antonio de Padua Board Members have continued their work of raising funds for the retrofit. Three public events have already been executed since the start of the Campaign, raising valuable necessary funds. While we have gratefully received several generous donations, totaling close to a million in revenue, we still seek major patrons on this project.

Our present challenge is to secure an additional five and a half million dollars in the next twelve months to be able to begin the actual seismic retrofit work of **Phase I**, the Mission church, on schedule to begin in May, 2013.

Faith, hard work and a persevering spirit committed to illuminating Mission San Antonio's enriching story to an increasingly larger community are absolute requirements for our ultimate project success. It will take time, money and the continual investment of responsible people with vision to raise the funds.

It remains a monumental task – a task that offers numerous opportunities for individuals and groups to become a critical part of something bigger than themselves. It is a mission that allows people to put their fingerprints onto a jewel from the past while preserving it and passing it on to the generations of the future.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us through your generous funding in this exceedingly worthwhile project. ■

## Event Fundraiser A Huge Success

Our BBQ Fundraising Event held on September 14th was a huge success thanks to the donations and help of so many wonderful volunteers. Many thanks to the following: Ray Reussner provided the music in the church. Randy & Terry Handley and Rich Casey provided the music at the picnic grounds. Bob Martin donated and cooked the beans, Rosa Pacheco donated the fruit salad and salsa, Margaret Duflock and Susan Gill donated the chicken. The chicken was cooked by Billy Booker and his crew - Mike Hardoy, Peter Guidici, Jason Soares, Chris Zanetta and Cody Hood. Many commented that it was the best chicken they had ever tasted! The desserts were donated

by Sabrina Botta from Sweets & Treats and members of the Parish, the coffee from the Firehouse Coffee in King City. Lynn's Too! donated water and soda and the wine tasting was courtesy of Marin Vineyards. Many thanks to the volunteers from the Parish who helped serve and clean up. We hope we didn't forget anyone! There were so many helpers. We appreciate all the kindness and work from the many that were at the event. Thank you also to all the people who were unable to attend the event and sent in donations. We truly appreciate your support. This fundraising event raised a total of \$30,000.00! Thank you!!! ■





## Mission San Antonio Project Update

Time certainly flies when one focuses on an extensive project such as the seismic retrofitting of an important National Historic Site – in this case, one of the largest of the Missions of Alta California – Mission San Antonio de Padua. It is hard to believe how quickly the summer went. So much has happened we'd like to once again update you on the restoration progress.

It is, the generous funding provided by many private and family held Foundations, all gifted through the California Missions Foundation's grant process and the many private donations given to the Campaign to Preserve Mission San



Antonio de Padua that has allowed the work to continue. In our Summer 2012 newsletter, we described the work that had been done in the removal of the outdated, cost-prohibitive diesel powered boiler and the asbestos abatement that followed. During the past six months we have moved steadily forward on this aspect of the project. The conception and consequent engineering design of a pair of highly efficient, propane-fueled boilers intended to work in tandem was finalized. Monterey County permits were acquired and the installation of this new heating system is in process. The plumbing portion is almost complete and the electrician is running on schedule. We should have the heat warming the walls of the church, and the bodies of the visitors and guests just as the weather begins to cool.

The land survey has continued to progress to include the entire historical site of the Mission property. Incorporating fastidious detail, this survey will provide invaluable reference points not only for the initial seismic retrofit but also will continue to provide important historical markers for future conservation and archeological research efforts.



*Newly arrived boiler*

The generation of schematics for the entire retrofit/restoration project has been a major focus. These plans, along with an additional report on potential impact to sensitive archeological sites and guidelines for minimizing disturbance, have been evaluated and approved by the Historical Review Board of Monterey County. Additional details for the retrofit/restoration of the entire complex, as well as the efforts to achieve ADA compliancy, are being added in preparation for assessment in upcoming public hearings before the Monterey County Planning Commission in seeking the necessary permits to proceed in this project.

The native Salinan Tribal members have secured a separate grant to help restore the integrity of the adobe cemetery wall that



*Birds eye view of how the loggia rafters pocket into the church walls*

surrounds the remains of their ancestors. Working in unison, the parish and the Salinan people strive to honor those who built this Mission and this project will continue into future phases as we work towards signage that will list the names of those individuals who rest unto eternity upon the Mission grounds. ■

## Thank You to Our Donors

The Campaign for the Preservation of Mission San Antonio de Padua extends our sincere and grateful appreciation to the following individuals, foundations and companies for their belief in ***“Saving a timeless treasure”*** and generous support.

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