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Capitol Clarion

California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

December 2013
and
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The Capitol Clarion is published monthly by the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association.

Marti Dennis, Managing Editor

Bill Geach, Eternal Editor

Deadline for announcements and articles is the **1st of the month**. Articles can be e-mailed to the Editor at:
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Capitol Clarion CSCMVA Newsletter
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President's Message By Alex King



Another Year Has Come, and is Going...

Last month I asked "Where Does the Time Go?" Well, it is gone. We are busy with Holiday music in the rotunda which means that soon we will be ringing in the New Year!

Soon after New Year's your current Board will have its final meeting, and all our members will be gathering at our **CSCMVA Annual Meeting** and electing three new Board members. I encourage you all to respond promptly to the Annual Meeting invitation you will receive in the mail later this month -- and attend.

We might have one, or two unusual guests at our meeting, so the mystery might further encourage your attendance!

We all have had fun this year. We have had some sadness, as well, having lost some valuable members. We have experienced some changes and a number of accomplishments including the development of the CSCMVA website, the refinishing of the Treasurer's Office counter, and the purchase of new chairs in both the Governor's suite of museum offices and the 1906 Treasurer's office. And we welcomed Rachel Martinez as the new Volunteer Coordinator! Our contributions, however, are not all finished. Have faith; there is another year ahead in which to actively become involved and accomplish them.

It truly has been an honor serving you as President. I thank you for the opportunity, and I will continue to support the new Board, and all of our members, in our continuing commitment to serve the people of The State of California – the seventh largest economy in the World – in our beautiful Capitol.

~ Alex



2013 Board of Directors

Front (L to R): Marylin Thompson, Bob Dennis, Alex King, David Keck; Back (L to R): Gary Stonehouse, Chris Tyler, Marita Martin, Leslie Cooper, Connie Clark, Bob Dreyer

2013 Board of Directors

Alex King	President
David Keck	Vice President
Bob Dennis	Treasurer
Marylin Thompson	Secretary
Connie Clark	Member
Leslie Cooper	Member
Bob Dreyer	Member
Marita Martin	Member
Christine Tyler	Member
Gary Stonehouse	Past President

CSCMVA Board Meeting Minutes:

December 4, 2013

By Marylin Thompson

TREASURER'S REPORT: **Bob Dennis** reported that our budget is in very good shape. We have not had to draw on reserves, and with one month left in the year, book store sales have almost reached their projected income of \$30,000. Kudos to Mary Geach! We spent \$1,850 on historic room enhancements which upholds our non-profit mission of museum support.

BOOKSTORE: **Mary Geach** reported that book sales for November have been better than expected due to the many new titles that Mary has ordered. Connie Clark and Mary Geach were authorized to proceed with ordering 200 copies of the DVD, "A Legacy Restored," which chronicles the restoration of the Capitol.

MEMBERSHIP: No report.

STATE PARKS REPORT: No formal report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Museum Room Support: The search for appropriate floor mats will continue. Koren Benoit has approved green, grey or a neutral color. Several suggestions were made for safeguarding historic coins in the Treasurer's office. Renato could encase them in a heavy plastic "envelope" or Alex suggested placing them in a lightweight wooden frame – an idea he will research for the January meeting. The Treasurer's Office counter "refreshing" is completed. The search continues for new protective mats / blotters. Discussion ensued about the necessity of replacing two more cane chairs which were

discovered behind doors in the Governor's private office and the 1933 Treasurer's Office. Since they are in good condition and seldom used except for living history events, it was decided to defer any decision about a purchase until 2014.

Costume Closet: **Ann Rost** would like to request that the Board strongly urge the chairmen of living history events to use the Event Timeline which is available in many of the event binders (or upon request from past chairmen). The timeline organizes the logical progression of all facets of the event, allowing time for all those involved to be ready without last minute glitches. It was also strongly recommended that an effort be made to pair a new volunteer with an experienced one to co-chair events in an effort to train more people to take on these tasks. Ann also noted that there will be some purchases to augment the men's clothing supply. [Please see Ann Rost's article later in this **Clarion** issue.]

Holiday Music: David Keck reported that not all ushering slots have been filled for the rotunda music programs. Sign up at the Volunteer Desk. The Volunteer / Staff sing-along is scheduled for Saturday, December 21. A rehearsal, to include the guitar player, will be held prior to December 21. Everyone is encouraged to participate!

NEW BUSINESS:

The **Annual Meeting** will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2014 at Casa Garden. David Keck and Chris Tyler explained that the price is the same as last year, but the menu is slightly different and sounds wonderful. CSCMVA members will pay \$12, and guests will pay the full cost (\$22). A question arose about how to deal with those individuals who make a reservation and do not cancel or attend. Members will have paid \$12 which is approximately half the cost of the meal, but CSCMVA must pay the full cost of the uneaten meal. It was decided that the organizing committee should make a decision as to how to handle expenses associated with individuals who do not cancel in a timely way. Connie Clark volunteered to help David and Chris on this event.

The **Nominating Committee** noted that the terms of three current Board Members are expiring. Marti Dennis welcomes the names and brief biographies of three candidates selected by the Nominating Committee for publication in the December / January *Clarion*.

Parks Staff Break Room Water Cooler: OSHA requires that potable water be available in work areas. Until a recent audit, a water cooler with bottled water was in the staff break room, paid for by State Parks. However, the State will no longer pay for water if the water in the building is potable and there are drinking fountains. The Capitol has both potable drinking water and drinking fountains. Some offices in the Capitol choose to form "water clubs," where staff pays a monthly fee, and bottled water is purchased. It was the unanimous consensus of the Board that this is a staff / employee issue and did not fall within the mission of CSCMVA.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Furnishings Tour: Koren Benoit will be happy to lead a tour of the furnishings in the Capitol, similar to her conduct of the art tour. Nothing has been scheduled as of this date.

Website Training: it was suggested that a training meeting be held for the Board on the new CSCMVA website. Randall Williams, who monitors the number of visitors ("hits") to the website, reported that access has been very low. The interactive scheduling feature is still not available. Everything on our end is done and is still waiting for Peter Larsen to integrate Volgistics into the website. Peter is the only IT person for the Capitol District and is stretched very thin. It is frustrating, but we have no choice but to wait. No training is scheduled.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Camellia Day: Connie Clark and Marita Martin volunteered to co-chair the event.

Due to New Year's Day falling on the regularly scheduled Board meeting day, **the next Board meeting will be held on FRIDAY, January 10 at 10:00 AM.** Meeting site to be determined.

Sunshine Corner:

Gratefully, since the last issue of the *Clarion*, we have not learned of any situations prompting CSCMVA outreach to any of our members.

If you know of someone who could use a word of encouragement, comfort, or get well wishes, please contact **Scotty Hodges** who thoughtfully expresses CSCMVA support on behalf of our membership. Scotty can be contacted at hashhogg901@yahoo.com or by phone at 707- 425 -1909.





Holiday Music Program

The Holiday Music Program continues through **December 23** in the Capitol Rotunda and will feature a **CSCMVA Volunteer / Staff Parks Sing-Along on Saturday, December 21**. If you have not had an opportunity to enjoy this musical respite from all the frenetic activities of the holidays, make an effort to be in the Rotunda around noon. You won't be disappointed.

Annual Meeting and Luncheon: January 16, 2014

The Annual Meeting and Luncheon will be held:

Thursday, January 16 at 11:30 AM
Casa Garden Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Road, Sacramento

Website: www.casagardenrestaurant.org



The program for the day includes the election of three new Board members and the annual recognition of volunteer hours, including the awarding of pins. Equally important, this meeting offers all of us the opportunity to enjoy each other in a pleasant social setting.

Invitations to the luncheon and meeting will be mailed out after Christmas, and **RSVPs are required by no later than Thursday, January 9**. The menu choices include Chicken Picatta, served with orzo and topped with a fresh tomato caper relish and a Caesar Salad, or Thai Noodle Salad with Shrimp, cilantro, green onions, bean sprouts, bok choy, peanuts, snow peas and red bell peppers. Both meal choices will be "topped off" with a slice of English Toffee Cake. You will be able to make your menu choice when you RSVP your reservation.

The cost of either meal selection (or a Vegetarian dish if you so desire) is **\$12 for members and \$22 for guests**. CSCMVA is supporting approximately one-half the cost of the meal for each member. If you, or your guest, is unable to attend, please notify either Chris Tyler (ChTyler00@sbcglobal.net or (916) 455-3506), or David Keck (2kecks@att.net or (916) 929-0543)) **before** the event to save the Association the expense of an uneaten meal.

This is a fun and informative event! Be there to share it with your fellow volunteers and to thank your Board for its leadership work this past year!

Candidates for the Board of Directors:

The Nominating Committee, under the leadership of David Keck, Vice President, has recommended a slate of three CSCMVA volunteers for election to the 2014 Board. The candidates are, **Julie Mallett**, **Randall Williams**, and **David Keck**.

In order for members to make an informed decision about future CSCMVA leadership, each of the candidates presented by the Nominating Committee has provided a brief biographical statement.

Julie Mallett: “I was born and raised in Sacramento’s Land Park area. I attended local Catholic schools until college. I graduated from UC Davis with a degree in Consumer Food Science. I also earned a Master’s degree in School Administration from the University of LaVerne. I worked as a secondary education teacher at Del Campo High in the San Juan Unified School District for 35 plus years, mostly specializing in Home Economics. I have been retired from teaching for just over a year. I currently reside in the Tahoe Park area of Sacramento with my husband and two dogs. I enjoy living within the Downtown / Midtown area and taking opportunities to go ‘automobile-free’ whenever possible. I am pleased to give back to my community by volunteering at the Capitol Museum.”



Randall Williams: “At this early stage in my volunteer experience at our picturesque Capitol among invigorating colleagues, I want to emphasize my growing enthusiasm in this enterprise. When I discovered this volunteer opportunity at the California State Capitol Museum site, I was not yet aware of the treasures to be found as a member of this Association. It is rewarding to experience the public’s delight with the Capitol, to be enlightened with training sessions and to build positive relationships with an impressively gifted membership. Having been a volunteer in communities through my career, I have a growing and abiding respect for the extent to which the CSCMVA ‘drills down’ in the commitment to its mission.”



“2013 has been a memorable and pleasant year for me. Margaret and I celebrated our 50th anniversary in August which afforded us an opportunity to reflect on our life together. After completing a brief military tour of duty, I completed my undergraduate studies in southern California and launched a fulfilling banking career. Margaret and I were blessed with the birth of a daughter and son. Finding Sacramento in 1980 remains a highlight for us. Career pursuits remained rewarding, graduate study was completed at UC Davis, our children’s activities and interests have been supported, and friendships have multiplied. Our children remain in the general area, and we enjoy spoiling (and being spoiled by) our four grandchildren.

“It would be an honor and a privilege to serve on the board of this exemplary organization.”

David Keck: “I am a native Sacramentan, grew up in Hagginwood and still live on the same street where my parents lived. I am a graduate of Grant Union High School and Sacramento State College where I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in French. I have two teaching credentials. I have served as a Commissioner on the Sacramento City / County Human Rights Commission and, in March 1975 I was elected to the North Sacramento School Board of Education, where I served three terms. I have taught Driver Training courses as well as English as a Second Language and subsequently taught U.S. and World History, as well as Western Civilization.”



“I am an avid reader and enjoyed a massive back yard landscaping project. I have traveled to Europe with student groups and enjoy introducing Capitol visitors to the treasures within the building. I have enjoyed my term on the CSCMVA Board and my recent responsibilities as Vice President. Away from the Capitol and its activities, my wife and I take special pleasure in our two grandsons.”

News from the Costume Closet:

By Ann Rost

The Costume Committee has met to review our costume needs. We hear complaints about the men's stiff uncomfortable collars at every Living History event. Therefore, we would like to recommend to the men who wear them to go to the **Gentleman's Emporium** on the internet

<http://www.gentlemansemporium.com/gentlemans.php> and order a soft collar of your own. Look for either a **Detachable Cotton Collar – Banker's, #001571** or the **Detachable Cotton Collar – Wing Tip, #001573**; both are correct for our time period. The cost is approximately \$8.00 plus shipping, and both styles come in standard shirt sizes. The soft collar attaches to our shirts just like the stiff ones. Another alternative would be to buy a white tuxedo shirt with a wing collar. The **Tuxedo Den** sells tuxedo shirts, and some department stores do as well.



Volunteer Spotlight and Did You Know...

Editor's Note: The Volunteer Spotlight and Did You Know... features are not included this month. In lieu of these regular columns, there is a brief photographic presentation of some of the "2013 Year's Events in Review..." Both regular features will appear in the February issue.

The 2013 Year's Events in Review:

January: Annual Meeting



Thanks to the 2012 Board



Welcoming the 2013 Board

February: Camellia Day



March: Farewell to Volunteer Coordinator Shelly Reimers



April: 1906 Earthquake Day Living History



June: Special Guest at CSCMVA Board Meeting



At the invitation of Alex King, Senator Jean Fuller addresses the CSCMVA Board Meeting

July: Welcoming Rachel Martinez as Volunteer Coordinator and Launching the CSCMVA Website



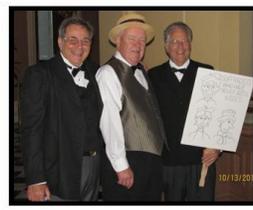
August: Mingle and Munch Social Event – Northridge Country Club



September: Celebrating the 163rd Anniversary of CA's Admission to Statehood



October : Women's Suffrage Living History



Upcoming Events:

Holiday Music in the Rotunda:	Daily through December 23, Noon
CSCMVA Holiday Sing Along:	Saturday December 21 at 12 Noon
January Board Meeting:	Friday, January 10, 2014 at 10 AM
Last Day to RSVP for Annual Meeting	Thursday, January 9, 2014
Annual Meeting & Luncheon:	Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 11:30 AM

**Please note the next issue of the *Clarion* will be published in early February 2014.
Happy Holidays, everyone!**

Capitol Museum website:

<http://portal.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict/CapitolMuseum/CapitolMuseumVolunteers>

**Volunteer Coordinator: 324-0319
Rachel Martinez**

Tour Guide Office: 324-0333

Scheduler's Desk: 324-2088

Capitol Tours daily 9 am – 4 pm, closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day