

# Capitol Clarion

California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

February 2014



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 **1<sup>st</sup> of the month**. Articles can be e-mailed to the Editor at:  
**mdennis1@att.net**

Capitol Clarion CSCMVA Newsletter  
PO Box 19956  
Sacramento, CA 95819

## President's Message

By Alex King

### Happy New Year !!!

I know – New Year's Day was well over a month ago, but a quick look at the recent Board meeting would indicate CSCMVA will be experiencing a full, vibrant and happy year full of interesting activity.

**Governor's Day** in May will be a wonderful opportunity for us to share with the wandering public the intricacies of past Governor's terms in office.

**Election Day** in October will be a great way for us to start visitors thinking about the decisions they will make on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

In the "interims", we are planning "training" programs that may take us from Benicia to the Park; from Historic Room furnishings, by Capitol Curator Koren Benoit, to Historic Room "can and don't do" reminders.

We're looking at how we'll approach a casual gathering of CSCMVA members at a mid-year recognition / social event.

We accomplished some significant achievements last year; this year we are looking at additional efforts to present and highlight the history we share with visitors to California's Capitol.

Last **Clarion** I thanked you all for the support and assistance you provided in my year as President. In January we elected two new Board members from the most recent training class: Julie Mallett and Randall Williams, and the Board asked me to serve again as President. I am honored, and will do my very best this year, but I am really looking forward to input on association business from the newer docents, and their colleagues from our most recent training class.

PLEASE, find an event, or an activity, in which you can help us have a wonderful and fun New Year. Let's have a **Happy New Year**.

~ Alex



### 2014 Board of Directors

**Front (L to R): Bob Dennis, Bob Dreyer, Alex King, Marylin Thompson**

**Back: Randall Williams, Julie Mallett, David Keck, and Christine Tyler**

**Missing from photo: Connie Clark**

### 2013 Board of Directors

Alex King	President
Bob Dreyer	Vice President
Bob Dennis	Treasurer
Marylin Thompson	Secretary
Connie Clark	Member
David Keck	Member
Julie Mallett	Member
Christine Tyler	Member
Randall Williams	Member

## Highlights of the Minutes of the CSCMVA Board Meetings:

**January 10, January 16 and February 5, 2014**  
By Marylin Thompson

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** The following officers for 2014 were elected by unanimous vote: **Alex King**, President; **Bob Dreyer** Vice President; **Bob Dennis**, Treasurer; **Marylin Thompson**, Secretary.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** **Bob Dennis** reported that our overall budget is in very good shape. Net income for January was \$1,279.

**BOOKSTORE:** **Mary Geach** and **Connie Clark** were authorized to approach Renato for design artwork for the DVD "Restoring a Legacy" which chronicles the restoration of the Capitol.

**MEMBERSHIP:** **Mary Geach** reported that as of February 5, there are 89 paid members. Discussion ensued regarding the policy / cost for replacing lost CSCMVA badges / pins for members. Decision was made to charge \$10 to replace the whole badge including name plate; \$7.00 to replace the lost engraved name plate; and \$5.00 to replace an hour pin (exclusive of those with a diamond). A request was received from a member wishing a lifetime membership. It was agreed to grant this request based on verification that the member has fulfilled requirements for that status. It was decided to suspend further requests pending a review of requirements for this membership category.

**MEMORIAL PLAQUE:** Alex would like to prepare a plaque honoring previous CSCMVA members who are now deceased. He requests the help of all members in providing names.

**STATE PARKS REPORT:** **Rachel Martinez** reported that the "2013 Volunteers in Parks" report reflects a total of 12,274 hours of volunteer activity from CSCMVA. She has requested VIP parking passes (to parks in the Capitol District) for qualifying members. Clem Dougherty will be presenting his "Governor's Portraits" training on February 12 for Parks staff. Two new guides have been hired. The Sewing Workshop will be held February 10 – 14 for those volunteers who want to make 1906 or 1911 costumes. **Matt Bellah** is working to tidy up the Volunteer's area of the office. He is seeking ideas for framed date-specific posters for CSCMVA events which are currently stored next to the bookcase.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Annual Meeting** – The Board thanked David Keck and Chris Tyler for a very enjoyable and successful Annual Meeting on January 16.

- **Historic Room Support** – Alex presented an estimate of \$744 for carefully measured black floor runners for the Secretary of State’s Office. The Board approved the expenditure provided the total does not exceed 10% of the estimate.
- **Signage for Matthews murals** – Alex would like to post descriptive signs in front of each of section of the murals (4 total).
- **Tunnel Inventory** – Patty Wood and Diane Rich conducted a thorough inventory of CSCMVA items in the “tunnel.” \$200 will be spent on the purchase of lighter weight tables for CSCMVA events which will replace the heavy ones that are there.
- **Website** – Randall Williams was able to load software for a beta test of the scheduling feature.
- **Publicity** – Alex requested that Marti Dennis include a ‘Help Wanted’ ad in the February Clarion seeking a volunteer to serve as Publicity Chair for CSCMVA events.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- **State Library Grand Re-Opening** – the Board has been invited to attend the opening ceremony on February 11 at 10:00 AM. Alex has scheduled a tour of the new library for volunteers on **February 20**, but space is limited to 15 people. Rachel will send an e-mail requesting volunteers to sign up with her. Future tours will be scheduled.
- **Camellia Day** – Scheduled for Wednesday, **February 26**. Connie Clark and Marita Martin are serving as Chairs.
- **Governor’s Day** – Alex will check city events calendars for potential dates where there won’t be an event conflicts.
- **Admission Day** – Tuesday, September 9.
- **Election Day** – Will be in mid-October; Alex is checking with city’s event calendar for potential conflicts prior to setting a final date.
- **Volunteer Social Event** – There was discussion of possible venues including a more casual environment. Possible date: mid-August. Details TBA.
- **Training Opportunities:** There will be further discussion at the March meeting regarding the scheduling of future training sessions. Effort is a response to include Wednesday AM WI volunteers.

**PRESIDENT’S THANK YOU:** Alex thanked the 2013 Board for a very productive and enjoyable year. Leslie also thanked the Board and membership for making her six years on the Board a great experience.

All members are encouraged to attend the monthly Board of Director’s meetings.  
The next regularly scheduled meeting is **Wednesday, March 5 at 1:00 PM.**

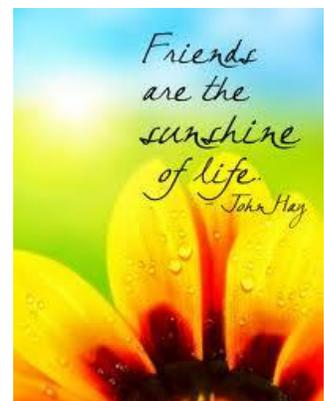
### Sunshine Corner:

Since the last issue of the *Clarion*, cards have been sent to the following members:

**Randall Williams** – With wishes for recovery from a fall and broken ribs

**Earl Boynton** – Congratulations on the mending of a broken leg suffered at the end of 2013

**Lucy Lee** – Thinking of you with best wishes for dealing with long term medical issues



**Ken Butler** – Best wishes for continued recovery from shoulder surgery

**Pat Rodoni** – Thinking of you

**Karen Rea** – Sympathy upon the loss of her brother

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](mailto:hashhogg901@yahoo.com) or by phone at 707- 425 -1909.

## Camellia Pin-On Day: Wednesday, February 26



Event Co-Chairs **Connie Clark** and **Marita Martin** are encouraging volunteers for this annual activity where we provide camellia corsages / boutonnieres to Capitol visitors and staff. The flowers are all hand picked from the Capitol grounds.

Assemblers arrive at **8:30 AM** and Distributors arrive at **9:00 AM**.

The work area is “headquartered” under the west entrance stairs.

Contact either **Connie Clark**, [cclark610@surewest.net](mailto:cclark610@surewest.net) or **Marita Martin** [finnishlady@comcast.net](mailto:finnishlady@comcast.net) with your offer to help if you have not already done so.

## Annual Meeting and Luncheon:

More than sixty CSCMVA members enjoyed the lunch and subsequent **Annual Meeting** at the Casa Garden Restaurant on January 16. Alex provided the President’s Annual Report on the many activities of the Association over 2013. The report appears at the end of this issue of the *Clarion*. Selected photos of the event are included below. Unfortunately the bright windows in the restaurant made it difficult to capture a number of additional photos, including those of award presentations.



The meeting provided the opportunity to recognize our volunteers in a number of ways. The awarding of hourly pins was a significant part of the program. Volunteers receiving awards this year for their dedication of time and effort to CSCMVA activities are listed below. Congratulations to all recipients!!

## *2013 CSCMVA Hourly Pin Awards*

### **100 Hours (13 members):**

Marilyn Clothier	Joanne Hoffman	Patricia Rodoni	Bernadette Hicks
Laurie Dunlap	P.J. Jones	Carolyn Scott	William Monahan
Tricia Esparza	Ron Lauchner	Barbara Smith	Carolyn Martin
Jan Geiger			

### **300 Hours (4 members):**

Mary Anne Armstrong	George MacMurphey	Vicki Walters	Dan Collins
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### **500 Hours (7 members):**

Jan Forbes	Julie Lane	Jerry Kirrene	Anne Just
Ann Fox-Morgan	Chris Tyler	Randall Williams	

### **750 Hours (7 members):**

Carolyn Darneille	Rosemary Kirrene	Rodney Lukins	Elizabeth Giordano
Bob Dennis	Allan Leavitt	Raymond Graetz	

### **1000 Hours (4 members):**

Alexander King	Marti Dennis	Gary Stonehouse	Lou Below
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### **2000 Hours (1 member):**

William White

### **3000 Hours (2 members):**

Robert Dinsfriend	Clement Dougherty
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Special Awards were presented by Alex King. They included the following:

**Eureka Award: “We Have Found It”**

Special Events Director, Choreographer Extraordinaire:	<b>Connie Clark</b>
Step up to the Plate on Short Notice:	<b>P. J. Jones</b>
Special Designer / Furniture Consultant:	<b>Jan Forbes</b>

**William Geach Award: Exemplary and Extraordinary Time Devoted Award**

**Randall Williams** for Website development and management

**Marti Dennis** for newsletter development and publication



We are looking for a member, or members, to help with some important activities of the Association. Please consider the satisfaction of working in one or more of the following opportunities:

- **Publicity:** We need someone to contact local publications to advertise our special events and activities such as the upcoming Governor’s Day in May. This creative responsibility includes working with local print and electronic media (as able) and developing catching flyers to attract attendance at our events.
- **Coordination and Scheduling of Training Opportunities:** We need someone to help identify, schedule and coordinate training opportunities – a couple of which might include “field trips” to the Pardee Mansion or the Capitol in Benecia. Other opportunities include learning about the Capitol historic room furnishings, interpretive aspects of the Capitol Museum and visiting local historical sites or engaging interesting speakers (many of whom are in our midst at the Capitol).
- **Governor’s Day:** We need someone(s) to chair this event in May, and we need a number of additional volunteers to perform acting roles, serve as greeters for the event, help with snacks and lunch and “staff” the tables for book sales, scheduling and ticket distribution.

**Each of these opportunities should not require a huge amount of time, provides a meaningful way to make new friends and share in the success of our events. Members new to any of these tasks will be guided by someone with experience. Contact Alex King at [ahking@att.net](mailto:ahking@att.net)**

## Tour of the State Library: February 20

The State Library reopened this month following extensive restoration. Those interested in a tour of the building should contact Rachel Martinez at [Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov) for one of the 15 spaces in the tour group. The tour will commence at **10:00 AM** on **Thursday, February 20**.

## Trouble with CSCMVA Name Pins?



**Mary Geach** has offered a suggestion to address problems with the nametag which hangs from your Capitol badge. The small round rings that hold the name tag do not always close tightly and thus may cause the name badge to fall from the Capitol pin. Mary suggests a small drop of Crazy Glue, Super Glue or something similar to close the gap in the ring. The glue hardens, the ring is closed and the potential for a lost name tag is significantly reduced. Thanks, Mary, for this idea!

## Volunteer Spotlight:

By Asleain "Scotty" Hodges

Prepare to be dazzled as I share the personal history of this Volunteer presented in the first Spotlight of 2014! She is one of the lucky ones who grew up in Pacific Palisades on the Los Angeles beaches. When it was time to choose a college, she opted for **San Diego State University**, because it had a reputation for being a "party school." She loved San Diego so much that she remained in that area for law school at the **University of San Diego**. At that time there was only a 9% female enrollment!



**Laurie Dunlap**

When she sought a position after graduation, she informs me that La Jolla and San Diego law firms actually told her that they did not hire women! So her next step was to move to a place that had to hire her! Hence, the first Attorney position that she found, assisted by the new laws of "Affirmative Action" in 1975, was with the **San Bernardino District Attorney's Office**. There **Laurie Dunlap** spent four years prosecuting cases from DUI's to Murders. Then she moved to Yolo County and served six more years in the **Yolo County District Attorney's Office**. After ten years in public service with low salaries, she decided to make a change aimed at increasing her earnings. So she moved to Sacramento where for the next 26 years, she defended employers against employees who attempted to exaggerate and / or falsify work injuries under the Workers Compensation Law.

Two and a half years ago, she retired, and she now exclaims that she is experiencing the happiest years of her life. She says she doesn't know how she fit in a 50-60 hour work week for 36 years and raised three beautiful, successful children. What she regrets the most though is that work prevented her from spending enough time with them when they were growing up. Now in her retirement time, she regularly visits the kids, and she also takes time to enjoy friends that she has made at the Gold River Racquet Club.

Laurie reports that she met two of our Capitol Docents doing aqua aerobics and became interested in the Capitol. In college, history was her major so California History fits right in with her interests. Laurie followed up and became a Volunteer Docent the summer of 2012. She notes that her best talent as a Docent is to interact easily with people. The years spent in courtroom trial work allows her to feel very comfortable speaking to groups. She also says that she enjoyed the docent training so much that when she completed it; she immediately signed up for the Docent training at the Governor's Mansion. Now, she is dressing up retro and doing regular tours of the Mansion as well. She plays the part of Bernice Brown in the **Mansion Memories Show** where 13 women act out the part of each First Lady who occupied the Mansion.

She labels herself a voracious traveler and has the goal of traveling every month physically and vicariously while listening to others describe their travels. That is another reason that she enjoys talking to Capitol visitors. She says that she is happy if she is able to tell them that she has visited their City because everyone likes to hear that their city is a lovely place. If she has not been to their

City, then she asks questions about it with the hope of visiting there one day. Recently, she met an Irish couple in the Secretary of State's Office and ended up giving them a tour through all the Exhibit Rooms as they told her all about their country and the best places to visit. The result: she and her husband have now booked a trip to Ireland next September with plans to visit certain sites that the couple recommended.

Laurie prefers working in a Museum or Exhibit Room over the West Information Desk simply because she is able to have a more personal conversation with Capitol visitors. She says that she especially enjoys asking the children questions and observing the looks on their faces when she explains the way of life in the Victorian era. During her tenure at the Capitol, Laurie has: participated as an Actor and Tour Leader in several Living History events, earned her 100 Hour Pin; and enjoyed all the ongoing training this past year.

Lastly, folks might be surprised to learn that she took up the piano just 10 months ago, because she now has leisure time and finds it is a relaxing luxury to be able to sit down and play the piano for an hour!

**Did You Know...** will return next month with an interesting article about Don Gaspar de Portola's discovery of Monterey Bay.

## President's Annual Report on the Activities of 2013

By Alex King

Presented at the Annual Meeting January 16, 2014

I don't have the "multi-media capability" of my predecessor – Gary Stonehouse, but that is OK, because I'm not going to relate ALL the activities we accomplished this past year. We all know we did...

Camellia Pin ON Day --- Museum Day --- 1906 Earthquake Day --- Admission Day Cake & Ice Cream --- Women's Suffrage Event --- Capitol Holiday Music

But --- We ALSO did some new things:

- We **surveyed** our members for their thoughts on CSCMVA activities
- We **visited Folsom Powerhouse**, to find out where the electricity came from to light the Capitol
- We did a **WI Refresher Course** to bring people up to date on WI issues
- We did a **legislative gallery training** to help our members be more comfortable telling visitors about the legislative process
- We "**Mingled and Munched**" to give ourselves a social opportunity to get to know each other
- We asked **Clem Dougherty** to share his knowledge about some of our more colorful **Governors**
- We asked – **Koren Benoit** – to share some of her **knowledge of the art in the Capitol** (By the way, she's also promised to give us some training on the furnishings in the Building, this coming year. )
- We **purchased some new chairs**, for the Historic Rooms, for use by volunteers and Parks folks
- We're close to **purchasing some new carpet runners** for the Secretary of State's Office
- We became more **involved with the Historic Capitol Commission**
- We opened lines of conversation with the **Joint Rules Committee**

- We even learned new, and valuable, information about that dark painting in Room 127, called “**Artist’s Reverie.**” For those of you who don’t know about that painting – I encourage you to attend our monthly Board Meetings.

AND while I am encouraging you to attend your monthly Board meetings, I remember asking you all --- early last year -- to speak up about your thoughts and ideas for improvements. PLEASE DO. This is your organization, and we have the privilege of serving in the most important building in the State of California. Your thoughts and ideas and suggestions are valuable for the building that is the state house for the 7<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the World.

HOURS: While we all look back at the previous year, it would also be appropriate to recognize that all of us – every member – has contributed to a service to our State that should be recognized.... **The California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association contributed 12, 662 hours to the public that visits our Capitol.** Give yourselves a round of applause.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT of the “SHADOW ORGANIZATION” – “SHADOW LEADERSHIP”**

These are individuals who have received special awards in the past, but we need to continue to recognize the contributions of **Mary Geach, Patty Woods, Diane Rich, Ann Rost, Judi Smith, Lynn Cook, Scotty Hodges, Pat Butler, and Sheri Routh.**

**Missed any: it’s because they are still “shadows”**

We lost a couple of members this year: **Christiane Culhane** and **Cesear Abate** who will be missed.

#### **EUREKA AWARDS: We Have Found It, Awards:**

**Special Events Director, Choreographer Extraordinaire: Connie Clark**

**Step Up To the Plate, On Short Notice: P. J. Jones**

**Special Designer / Furniture Consultant: Jan Forbes**

#### **WILLIAM GEACH AWARD:**

**Exemplary & Extraordinary “Time Devoted” Award:**

Brought our **Website** on-line -- agreed to be our on-going WebMaster -- and keep us “in the loop”  
**Randall Williams**

We have one of the best Organization **Newsletters** in the State of California. We have a newsletter editor that slaves over every edition, and improves it, and edits it, making the submissions to her even better than we thought we gave her....:

**Marti Dennis**

#### **THANK THE 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

<b>Vice President</b>	<b>David Keck</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bob Dennis</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Marilyn Thompson</b>
<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Connie Clark, Bob Dreyer, Christine Tyler and</b>
<b>Retiring Board Members</b>	<b>Leslie Cooper and Marita Martin</b>

## Name the Capital District Newsletter:

Dana Jones, District Superintendent, has announced plans for the creation of a Capital District Newsletter, and we are invited to submit potential names for this new communication piece. The letter is planned to share news about the great things that are happening in the Capital District. It will be published on a quarterly basis, distributed electronically to all staff, volunteers, headquarters and partners. Hard copies will also be available.

**Suggestions for naming the newsletter are welcomed, and the winner will receive a \$50 gift card of their choice for submitting the winning name.** Entries must be submitted to newsletter editor Cara Randall at [Cara.Randall@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Cara.Randall@parks.ca.gov) and must be received by February 20. If the winning name is submitted by multiple people, the first person submitting the entry will be declared the winner. Competition is open to all staff, volunteers and partners.

## Upcoming Events:

<b>Training: Tour of the State Library</b>	<b>Thursday February 20, 10 AM</b>
<b>Camellia Pin On Day</b>	<b>Wednesday February 26, 8:30 AM</b>
<b>March Board Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday March 5, 1 PM</b>
<b>Governor's Day</b>	<b>Sunday, May 4</b>
<b>Summer Social</b>	<b>TBA in mid-August</b>
<b>Admission Day</b>	<b>Tuesday September 9</b>
<b>Election Day</b>	<b>Saturday October 18</b>

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### 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**