

Capitol Clarion

California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

February 2015

President's Message By Bob Dreyer



The **Capitol Clarion** is published monthly by the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association.

Marti Dennis, Managing Editor

Bill Geach, Editor Eternal

Deadline for announcements and articles is the **1st of the month.**

Articles can be e-mailed to the Editor at: **mdennis1@att.net**

I would like to start by thanking everyone who attended the Annual Meeting on January 22nd. I have received a large number of positive comments about the venue, the quality of the meal, and the program. As an aside, I do recommend that you try the Iron Grill restaurant as a regular customer. They have a wonderful menu and the Chef does a great job. My thanks also to Alex King and the rest of the Board of Directors for their leadership and devotion to the Association.

This year will go faster than any of us care to think about (each year seems to be shorter than the previous one), and we have a great many things to accomplish. There are our regular living history events in April and October, Museum Day and Camellia Day in February, a Summer Social (or two), and Holiday Christmas trees again next December. In the midst of all that activity, we want to have another training class this summer. Some of the standing committees have also started scheduling their 2015 workshops. On an ongoing basis we provide volunteers at the West Information Desk, in the historic rooms, as rovers and guides, exhibit monitors, and most recently at the North Information Kiosk. This is a lot of activity, and we can only be successful with the continued participation of the entire membership. We are all volunteers and we have all been trained. Each of us is able (perhaps with a little refresher training) to volunteer in any of the jobs we do at the Capitol. I ask you all to come forward and volunteer to be on at least one committee (pick one you think sounds like fun). Please don't wait to be asked, there is always room for another pair of hands and another set of eyes. There is always something to do at the Capitol, so "come on down." You don't need to "be on the schedule," there is always a job for you if you just show up!

Feel free to contact me at any time. E-mail is best, but I do answer my phone if I hear it ring. My contact information is bobdreyer@comcast.net, and (916) 599-6821. I'm looking forward to a productive and fun year and know that with all your help we will be successful.

~ **Bob**

Sunshine Corner:

Since the last issue of the *Clarion*, Get Well wishes have been sent to

Joyce Vinson, Staff Parks employee

Please remember that 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.



Annual Volunteer Luncheon Meeting: January 22, 2015

Minutes by Marylin Thompson

(Photo collage of the event on Page 4)

The annual meeting of CSCMVA was held at The Iron Grill in Sacramento. Special guests were **Assemblyman Ken Cooley; Jillena Hernandez**, Chief of Staff for Mr. Cooley; and Capitol Building Curator **Koren Benoit**. Assemblyman Cooley spoke of his early involvement with the Capitol restoration project, and thanked the association volunteers for their dedication and support of our beautiful capitol building. After a delicious lunch the meeting was called to order by President Alex King.

Prior to more formal program requirements, King related the Association By-laws provision allowing for "Honorary Members" of CSCMVA. In that context, he announced that discussion with Board Members had concluded that **Assemblyman Ken Cooley** should be given Honorary Member status for his long dedication to the restored California State Capitol Building and to **Koren Benoit** for her on-going support of CSCMVA activities and for her preservation and protection of the Capitol Building.

President's Report: **Alex** reviewed our many activities and accomplishments of the past year including our living history and the refurbishments and upgrades to the museum rooms in the form of floor runners, shades and drapes, chairs and counter repair. The year included a summer social event and a number of "field trips" to historic sites in the area. It also included period-appropriate Christmas trees in 3 of the museum rooms. (See full report on page 9)

Treasurer's Report: **Bob Dennis** reported that there has been an upward trend in Bookstore sales and thanked **Mary Geach** for keeping us solvent. We spent approximately \$5,000 on museum enhancements, met all our obligations and do not need to raise dues. Our budget balanced at the end of the year with zero profit and fulfilled our mission as a nonprofit organization.

Nominating Committee: **Bob Dreyer** reported that the three board members whose terms expired at the end of 2014 have agreed to serve another term. They are **Bob Dennis, Marylin Thompson** and **Alex King**. Nominations were requested from the floor. There being none, the report of the Nominating Committee was accepted and nominees were elected unanimously. Back ups were requested, especially for Treasurer, so that someone will be able to carry on with Bob's well-organized system of treasury accounts.

State Parks Report: **Matt Bellah** thanked the volunteers for their many hours of support. "We are the face of the capitol to the public." Matt is working on a Master's Degree at CSUS and was recently asked to review a syllabus on museum management prepared by one of his instructors. He

was dismayed to see that there wasn't any mention of using volunteers and was able to point out their vital role in supporting many institutions.

Hours Pin Presentations: **Rachel Martinez** presented hour award pins to volunteers ranging from 300 to 5,000 hours. If you have not received your hours pin, please see Rachel.

President's Awards: After thanking everyone for their many hours of work during 2014, Alex presented several special awards:

Bob Dennis received the *William Geach Award* for his outstanding job as Treasurer.

Randall Williams received the *Website Wonk Award* for his heroic job on Vicnet.

Richard Granis received the *Fickle Finger of Fate Award* for discovering the broken finger on Isabella's statue.

Jan Forbes and Marylin Thompson received the *Christmas Elf Award* for their Christmas Tree project.

Mary Geach received the *Most Stable and Reliable Member Award* for her many years of excellent work in all areas of the association, most recently in the Bookstore.

Alex then unveiled a large beautiful plaque listing the names of all previous CSCMVA members who are now deceased. It will hang in the Tour Office and is a gift to CSCMVA from Alex.

New Board officers, having been duly elected by the board, were introduced to the membership:

President: **Bob Dreyer**

Treasurer: **Bob Dennis**

V.P.: **PJ Jones**

Secretary: **Marylin Thompson**

Returning board members: **Chris Tyler, David Keck, Connie Clark, Julie Mallett, Alex King**
Alex will also be taking on a new board position as legislative liaison and liaison to the Capitol Historic Commission.

Bob Dreyer then assumed the gavel and thanked Alex for a very active and productive term as president. He presented Alex with a handsome pair of bookends for his library which featured California bear statues.

2015 Hours Awards: Congratulations to each recipient for your dedicated service!

100 hours

Denise Langham

Joy Lehmann

300 hours

Sanmukh Bhakta

PJ Jones

Barbara Kokonas

Ron Lauchner

Julie Mallett

William Monahan

Mary Spitzer

500 hours

Earl Boynton

Marianne Bruening

Julie Lane

Karen Rea

Marylin Thompson

750 hours

Janet Forbes

Ann Fox-Morgan

Sharyn Holland

Barbara Souza

Jamie Treacy

Randall Williams

1000 hours

Bob Dennis

Elizabeth Giordano

Raymond Graetz

Allan Leavitt

Rodney Lukins

Pam Werner

2000 hours

Kay Christensen

3000 hours

Clement Dougherty

David Keck

Bill White

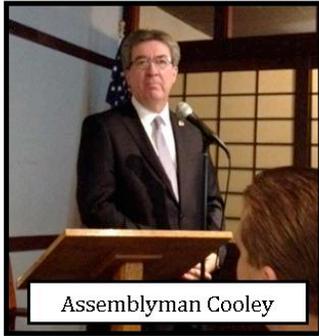
4000 hours

Ellen Holt

5000 hours

Bob Chan

ANNUAL MEETING 2015



Assemblyman Cooley



300 Hours



"CSCMVA Remembers" Plaque



500 Hours



750 Hours



Koren Benoit
(Senate Curator),
Honorary Member



1000 Hours



2000 Hours



5000 Hours (Bob Chan)



"Most Stable & Reliable Member" Award



"Fickle Finger of Fate" Award



"Christmas Elf" Award



William Geach Award



Official "Passing of the Gavel"

Sewing and Hat Workshops: February and March



Ann Rost and **Connie Clark** are facilitating two workshops for those of us interested in making (or completing) costumes for the 1911 living history event. If you have attended these workshops previously, you know they are not only good opportunities to obtain guidance on dress and / or hat design, but they offer a good forum for conversation and advice on specific pattern design and general sewing tips. The Workshop Dates are as follows:

Sewing: Tuesday Feb. 17 through Friday February 20

Hat making: Monday, March 2 through Thursday, March 5

Both workshops will be held in the Stanford Gallery in Old Town Sacramento.

Hours are 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Be sure to bring a sack lunch. Please contact Ann Rost at annrost5@gmail.com or 530-758-3194 or if you are interested in participating in either or both of these workshops.

Camellia Day: Wednesday, February 25

It is that time of year again: an opportunity to make and share camellia corsages crafted from the beautiful camellias on the Capitol grounds. Our visitors, Capitol legislators and Capitol staff look forward to this day when we distribute camellia corsages we have made. **Connie Clark** is co-chairing this event and is looking for volunteers to help with **bow making on Friday, February 13** and on **Camellia Day** itself, **Wednesday February 25**. Please contact Diane Rich if you wish to help with bow making at her home, and contact Connie if you have not already volunteered to help with the crafting and distribution of the beautiful corsages. Diane can be contacted at dfrizrich@yahoo.com or 916-421-1136 if you want to participate in the bow making so that she will know how many to plan for and for directions to her home. Connie can be contacted at cclark610@surewest.net or 916-486-4112.

CA State Honors Memory of Phyllis Davis:

On January 23, 2015, The CA Legislature warmly remembered the memory and contributions of **Phyllis Davis**, recently deceased former employee of the Governor's Office and, more recently, State Parks Tour Guide, for her dignified and diligent service to the Capitol. Her daughter and son-in-law were present, as were a number State Parks employees and CSCMVA volunteers to share in the presentation of a Legislative Resolution of Appreciation.



Earthquake Day: Saturday April 18



Co-Chairs **Scotty Hodges** and **David Keck** are busy planning for our next Living History Event: **Earthquake Day, on Saturday April 18**. This is always an interesting and fun event, as we re-enact Capitol history surrounding the San Francisco disaster of April 20, 1906. There are many roles that need to be filled: actors and actresses, tour guides, publicity / advertising, food coordination and greeters. Please contact Scotty or David with your availability for this event.

Scotty can be contacted at hashhogg901@yahoo.com or by phone at (707) 425-1909, and David can be reached at 2kecks@att.net or (916) 929-0543. Remember the success of these events depends on YOU and your willingness to participate in a meaningful way.

Reminder: CSCMVA Membership Dues are due by February 11

Our esteemed Membership Chair, **Mary Geach**, is diligently processing CSCMVA membership and dues renewals as they are received. Unfortunately, she reports that only about 50% of our membership has responded to date. Please mail Mary your renewal form along with a check for the appropriate membership category as soon as possible.

Emergency Contact Information

Terri Cook and State Parks are asking each of us to complete an “**Emergency Notification**” form. This information will be in safekeeping in order to ensure that every volunteer has contact information on file in case of an emergency while on the Capitol grounds. Rachel will be sending an email requesting the information. Please respond in a timely way to her request.

Hats Off to Mary:

Mary Geach has generously and quietly donated 1,000 copies of the newly reproduced and bound California Coloring Book for sale in the Bookstore. Prior to making her donation, Mary researched several formats for the coloring book which has been a high volume seller in the Bookstore. Mary assured the Board that she wanted to make this donation, and the Board gratefully and humbly accepted her offer. Thank you, Mary!



Christmas Ornament Making:

Following the successful placement of Victorian-decorated Christmas trees in three of the Museum Rooms, the “**Christmas Committee**” (**Marilyn Thompson and Jan Forbes**) have been encouraged to add more decorations for Christmas 2015. In consultation with Koren Benoit, Capitol Curator, they have identified a number of seasonal additions to enhance the 2014 decorations. The Christmas Committee is welcoming new members and new ideas for decorations that will enhance the Museum Rooms for Christmas 2015. Jan is hosting a committee meeting on **Sunday March 8**

from 2 – 4 at her home in West Roseville. All interested CSCMVA volunteers are encouraged to attend to share in this planning activity. Please **RSVP by March 1** to Jan at janForbes@comcast.net (916) 773-1644 or Marylin Thompson at thompsona.m@sbcglobal.net or (530) 666-3748.

Did You Know....

By Clem Dougherty

...that the Church of San Bernardino in the city of Petra on the island of Majorca in the western part of the Mediterranean Sea was the source of naming such California cities as San Diego, San Rafael, and Santa Clara? Yes, it's true. Junipero Serra was born in Petra on the island of Majorca and took the names of statues and side altars from the Church of San Bernardino in Petra to name several missions in California and by extension those cities and even counties took their names from such missions. Such names included the missions of San Diego, San Rafael, San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Juan Bautista, San Francisco Solano, San Buenaventura, San Miquel, and San Gabriel. The foregoing is just one of the many not well known facts about the missions. Other not well known facts are as follows:

The mission period lasted only 65 years (1769 to 1834) and was itself divided into two periods: the initial Spanish period which stretched from 1769 to 1821. Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821, so the subsequent Mexican period went from 1821 to 1834. The missions started in the Spanish period and ended in the Mexican period. It's important to understand this difference, because Spain would support the missions, but Mexico would want to see them terminated.

From the point of view of the Viceroy in Mexico City, the purpose of colonizing California was a military one, that is, to prevent the Russians from expanding into California. The basic institution in the Viceroy's eyes was the presidio, the fort. And there were four of them located at San Diego, Santa Barbara, Monterey, and San Francisco respectively. The Spanish divided the California coast into four presidio districts into which they placed 21 missions beginning at San Diego and going north to Sonoma (Mission San Francisco Solano) at the top of San Francisco Bay.

The missions were not established all at once but over a 54 year period. They were not built in an orderly fashion going from south to north. They were built checkerboard fashion: San Diego first, San Carlos Borromeo (Carmel) second, San Antonio (near King City today) third, San Gabriel (near Los Angeles today) fourth, and so on. The missions were never more than 100 miles from the coast. That meant that most of California and most of California's Indians were outside the mission system. Since the location of the missions depended upon several factors such as the availability of water and the existence of arable soil, the fact that some of these missions were only a day's journey apart was more a product of happenstance than of actual design.

Father Serra founded only 9 of the missions from 1769 to 1782. Serra died in 1784. Father Fermin de Lasuen, one of Serra's successors, founded another 9 missions from 1786 to 1797. The remaining three missions were established later between 1804 and 1823 with the last to be San Francisco Solano established at Sonoma in 1823. The headquarters of the missions for most of the mission period was Mission San Carlos Borromeo (Carmel), and both Serra and Lasuen are buried at Carmel Mission today.

The international boundary line existing between the United States and Mexico today and located between San Diego and Tijuana was the original boundary line established between the Franciscan missions of Alta California and the Dominican missions of Baja California.

Los Angeles was never a mission. It was a pueblo (a town), one of three the Spanish would build: Los Angeles, San Jose, Villa de Branciforte (near Santa Cruz). The original name of Los Angeles does not translate into “the City of Angels” as the American media loves to say. The original name of the pueblo was “El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora, la Reina de Los Angeles, del Rio de Porciuncala” which translates: “The Town of Our Lady, the Queen of the Angels, next to the River of Porciuncala,” (Porciuncala being a Franciscan church in Italy). In other words Los Angeles was a town named in honor of the Virgin Mary, the Queen of the Angels.

Volunteer Spotlight

By Asleain “Scotty” Hodges

When I think of this volunteer, I just think “what a lady!” She is poised, confident, charmingly diplomatic, and always has a smile! She was the very first volunteer that I met at the Capitol. Some family members and I came up in 2005 to pay our respects to Representative Robert Matsui when he lay in state at the Capitol. After paying our respects, I suggested that we take a little tour as my relatives had never visited the Capitol before. So we stopped by the Tour Office where I spied the notice that volunteers were needed. I inquired about the docent training and Patty Wood just happened to be there and very graciously informed me about the CSCMVA. She took my name and contact information and assured me that they would notify me when it was time for the new class to begin.



Patty Wood

For a combined total of approximately 35 years, Patty worked for both the Department of the Air Force and the Department of the Army spending the majority of her professional career in the area of Human Resources. In 2002, when she fully retired, she felt that her contact base needed to be expanded, as she and her husband had been residing outside of the United States – in Europe – for the majority of the previous seven years. She recalls that in 1982, she toured the Capitol when it reopened and at that time she told her husband she wanted to volunteer there when she finally retired. So in October of 2002, upon her retirement, she did just that.

What a focus for the Association that she followed through, because she certainly has been, and continues to be, a very active participant in Volunteer life at the Capitol. Her background and skills are a perfect fit for the docent position. She has the ability to talk with our visitors from all parts of the world and make them feel right at home. Being a part of the Capitol is a real reward for Patty.

To list all of Patty’s awards and contributions would take several pages, but a “general sampling” of her activities will demonstrate how energetic and dedicated she is. Since becoming a member in 2002, Patty has earned the Poppy Award, a Letter of Appreciation, been a member of the Board of Directors and served for two terms, has chaired or co-chaired the Earthquake Living History Event a number of times, chaired or co-chaired Governor’s Day, Election Day and Admission Day; worked on Camellia Day, Museum Day, the Annual Meeting and luncheons, and organized and helped manage new volunteer classes. She is a member of the Costume Closet committee, participated in the Christmas Volunteer Choral Group and regularly attends the Board meetings providing historical information and offering suggestions for future activities.

Patty is also a regular volunteer at Stanford Mansion activities. It is amazing that she can accomplish all these activities – providing leadership in most of them – while she pursues her love of travel and avidly follows regional major sport teams: the Sacramento Kings, the San Francisco Giants and the San Francisco 49ers. She cultivates and maintains a beautiful garden, loves to sew, enjoys cake decorating, reading and cooking. And finally, she is proud of the fact that she was born

in Bowlegs Oklahoma and is a “card-carrying member of the Cherokee Indian tribe.” As I said in the introduction, “what a lady!”

President Alex King’s Report of 2014:

Presented at the Annual Meeting January 22, 2015

Events of 2014: All incredibly important activities to continue the viability and visibility of the contributions of the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association.

Camellia Corsage Day
Governors’ Day
Admission Day
Election Day
Holiday Music in the Rotunda

THE CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL MUSEUM VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION – THE CSCMVA – is YOUR ASSOCIATION! YOU HAVE HELPED ME TO REPORT THE FOLLOWING:

Elected two new members to the Board: **Julie Mallett & Randall Williams**

Re-elected **David Keck** to the Board

Completed the Historic Room Furnishings Project begun in 2013, with

- The resurfacing of the Treasurer’s Office Counter;
- Adding new volunteer chairs in historic rooms,
- Completing the installation of carpet runners in the Secretary of State’s Office
- Cleaning of the drapes in the Governor’s Office
- Placement of new window blinds in the Governor’s Anteroom and the Secretary of State’s Office
- Assisted with improving lighting in the Historic Rooms
- Completed an inventory of CSCMVA materials in the famous tunnel
- Archives Committee review and categorizing CSCMVA documents, and
- Started some on-going discussions of decorations in the rotunda

Implemented VicNet – the CSCMVA Website on-line and electronic recording of hours and scheduling of volunteer service by day and time

One of our Board members, **Randall Williams**, found it necessary to reduce his time commitment to CSCMVA and, as a result, we appointed a new Board member, **PJ Jones**, to complete his term

Made some revisions to the Standing Rules

Received, from a friend, a marble artifact of the original Capitol Building, and entrusted it to Koren Benoit, Capitol Curator, for short-term safe keeping.

Bookstore sales continued, under the supervision of **Mary Geach & Sheri Routh**, and kept us solvent.

Created the new “**Rover**” activity for members to facilitate impromptu building tours for visitors

Opened the staffing of the **North Entrance Information Booth**

Assisted Rick Levin with some of his **PORTS Program presentations**

Continued to meet with the **Historic Capitol Commission** to keep them up-to-speed with activities of the Volunteer Association

... and maybe, the *piece de resistance* ... we placed “period appropriate” Christmas Trees in three of the Historic Rooms for the first time in over fifteen years!

AND, possibly most importantly, we have all met wonderful new visitors, new friends and even a family member in our volunteer efforts to welcome folks to the California State Capitol.

We also found time to learn more and have some fun, outside the Building, for “Training”

- We visited the grand re-opening of the Stanley Mosk State Courts and Library Building
- We toured the State Parks new Archives Building at McClellan
- We visited the Effie Yeaw Nature Center
- We visited Sutter’s Fort, and...
- We enjoyed a very successful Summer Social at a Capitol Mall location

It has been a busy year!

~ Alex

Editor’s Note About Board Minutes:

Regrettably, due to a lack of space in this issue of the Clarion, the Minutes of the Board meetings that Marilyn Thompson has recorded for both the **January 7** and **February 4** Board meetings are not printed herein. They are available, however, on the CSCMVA website. Please go to that site: <http://portal.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict/CapitolMuseum/CapitolMuseumVolunteers> to review the actions of the Board during the months of January and February 2015. Thank you for your patience.

Upcoming Events:

- CSCMVA Membership Renewal: Wednesday, February 11**
- Camellia Day Bow Making: Friday, February 13**
- Sewing Workshop: Tuesday February 17 – Friday February 20**
- Camellia Corsage Day: Wednesday, February 25**
- Hat Making Workshop: Monday March 2 – Thursday March 5**
- Board of Director’s Mtg.: Wednesday, March 4**
- Christmas Committee Mtg: Sunday, March 8**
- Governors’ Day: Saturday, April 18**
- New Members Class: July / August 2015**
- Admissions Day: Wednesday, September 9**
- Womens’ Suffrage Day: Saturday, October 17**

To Use the Capitol Museum website, below: Copy the address to your web browser and then save the website to your list of "Favorites" or "Bookmark" it.

<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