

Capitol Clarion

California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

JULY 2013

President's Message

By Alex King



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

Capitol Clarion CSCMVA Newsletter
PO Box 19956
Sacramento, CA 95819

Listening and Doing: Last month I told you “We’re Listening.” That was a direct reference to the survey in which over 75 of our members expressed their thoughts and suggestions for CSCMVA improvements. This month I can report that not only are we listening, your Board is “Doing.”

As a result of members requesting additional volunteer opportunities, we have asked the Parks folks to add space on the sign up sheets for Senate and Assembly Gallery times and a renewed “Rover” time slot. They have agreed, and the changes are being made. We’re working on refining the WI activity. We’ll be adding some training meetings on the WI, the legislative galleries and probably offering more than one training event in some months. You’ll see elsewhere in this *Clarion* a note from our new Volunteer Coordinator, Rachael Martinez, regarding an improved communication system which we all can use. It will allow us to check in to see if there are open volunteer slots, cancel (if we have to) commitments we’ve made, and generally have a better “handle” on what’s available. We’re doing.

Getting To Know You: An important suggestion brought up in the member survey was increased chances to get to know other members. One great time will be the increased training meetings. We’ll have time to share new information with each other.

An obvious chance to meet others will be the newly named “**Mingle & Munch**” social gathering, **August 8, at the Northridge Country Club**. If you haven’t received your invitation already, it will arrive very soon. The event is scheduled for **4:00 PM to 6:30 PM**, and its sole purpose is to give us all a time to meet others.

Another great time to meet others is to participate in our **Living History** events, like the **Women’s Suffrage Day on October 13**. You don’t have to be an actor – there are many, many other places your skills can be shared. If you haven’t already done so, please sign up to be there with us on Oct. 13th.

We’re listening. We’re doing. We’ll see you soon. ~Alex



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 and 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:

July 3, 2013

By Marylin Thompson

TREASURER'S REPORT: **Bob Dennis** reported that we are on target with income and expenses, but are behind on dispersing allocated funds to State Parks for Museum needs. We await their list. Due to school being out, receipts from the Bookstore were down about \$1,000 for the month.

STATE PARKS REPORT: **Rachel Martinez**, the new volunteer coordinator introduced herself. She enjoys interacting with people and invites volunteers to drop by her desk to get acquainted. (She is located next to the Volunteer Desk.) She will soon have her own phone and will notify us when that is finalized. She is accessed by email at Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov. Her hours are 8:30 – 4:30 Monday through Thursday. Matt Bellah clarified that Rachel is the Parks point of contact for volunteers.

MEMBER SURVEY: **Marylin Thompson** has sorted member survey "comments" into four groups: Scheduling, Training, Social and Miscellaneous. She hopes that the online scheduling capability which is being developed will address some of member concerns. She and Chris Tyler will come back to the board with suggestions regarding other identified issues.

MEMBER WEBSITE: **Randall Williams** has met with Peter Larsen (former Volunteer Coordinator) to work out details of using the website which Peter designed several years ago. It is a separate website, not linked to Parks, but they would host it. A complication has arisen involving its format, so there will be some delay in launching the new site.

AUGUST SOCIAL: The social will be held **Thursday, August 8 from 4:00 – 6:30 PM** at the **Northridge Country Club**. Generous hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be served. Iced tea, coffee and water will be provided, and there will be a no-host bar. Cost will be \$10 for members and \$20 for guests. The club offers ample free parking and an air conditioned room with access to two lovely patios. The estimated cost to CSCMVA, net of registration income, is \$1,200. Marti Dennis, Event Chair, said invitations will be mailed out after the 4th of July holiday, and will request a few words about member and guest interests, their family or some other item to facilitate conversation. This information will be part of nametags that will be used that evening. The social is meant to encourage members to get to know each other while "mingling and munching." Good attendance is anticipated. Marti is very capably assisted by Leslie Cooper, Norma Leopold and Patty Wood.

SUFFRAGE LIVING HISTORY EVENT: **Leslie Cooper** reported that initial letters about the event and soliciting member participation will be sent out July 8. The deadline to sign up is July 31, and

assignments will be made the following week. **Connie Clark** is hoping to have a sewing workshop the second week in August to work on 1911 costumes. Rachel will send out a “save the date” email regarding the workshop. Lynn Cook and Jan Geiger are working with Leslie on this important and fun **October 13** event

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Another **Dust Bowl** exhibit training will be given **July 12 at 10:00**. Rachel will send a notice out to the membership and requests an RSVP if you plan to attend.
- **Folsom Powerhouse**: Alex is arranging for use of their facilities for our **September** Board meeting.
- **August Tour**: Clem will give his tour on “**Governors Who Made a Difference**” while discussing ,as he routinely does, while visiting each portrait. This tour, However, will be in the theater and will use PowerPoint visuals. A new map of locations for all of the governor’s portraits is in the binder at the WI desk.
- Leslie discussed the fact that some volunteers are disappointed in the limited opportunities to accrue hours, especially by working on the WI desk. This issue has been raised several times in the past with no resolution. A lengthy discussion ensued covering many aspects of volunteering, on the WI desk, the historic rooms and events. It was decided to have a subcommittee come back to the Board with some suggestions for possible changes. The committee is composed of Alex, Leslie, David, Chris, and Marylin.

All members are encouraged to attend the monthly CSCMVA Board meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is on August 7 at 1:00 PM in Room 127.

Sunshine Corner:

Since the last issue of the *Clarion*, wishes for continued recovery were sent to the following three members:

Christianne Culhane
Nancy Murphy
Karen Rea
 and to
Judi Smith – Get well wishes following surgery



Caesar Abate’s daughters have advised CSCMVA that Ceasar has chosen to enter Hospice Care at this time. They encourage us to visit, call and send cards to him at his **new address: 641 Feature Drive #240, Sacramento, CA 95814**

Please contact Scotty Hodges if you know of someone who is ill or in need of encouragement. Scotty can be contacted at hashogg901@yahoo.com or by phone at 707-425-1909.

Summer “Mingle and Munch” Social Thursday August 8



Please join us at the **Northridge Golf Club** for a relaxed social event complete with heavy hors d’oeuvres and a no-host bar. We will socialize in a lovely air conditioned room with patio access. Background live guitar music by Erin Renfree’s husband, Eric, will provide the perfect ambience for conversation. Invitations are in the mail. Please RSVP to Norma Leopold by no later than **July 25**.

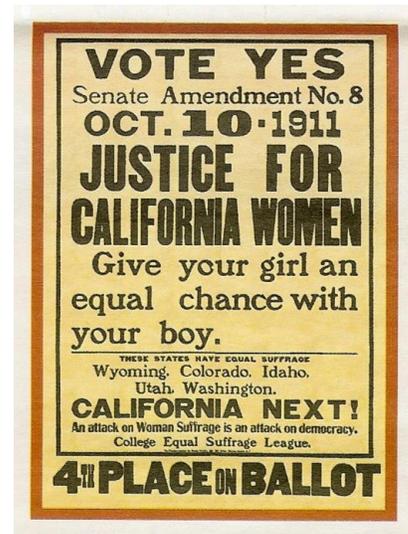
Vote for Women October 13, 2013

By Leslie Cooper

Become a member of CSCMVA's all-star ensemble presenting a living history day which will portray events surrounding the women's right to vote movement in California!

By now you should have received a letter asking you to participate in this "really fun" event. We need a wide variety of participants from actors and actresses to ticket sellers to behind-the-scenes coordinators. This spectacular extravaganza requires a cast of thousands! Sign up now to be part of our award-winning reenactment.

On Sunday October 13th the halls of the Capitol will be ringing with the heated women's suffrage debate. Don't miss it!



Welcome Rachel Martinez, Volunteer Coordinator!



Rachel Martinez

It is a pleasure to introduce Rachel Martinez, the new Volunteer Coordinator for State Parks. Rachel has enthusiastically embraced her new responsibilities, and if you have not had the opportunity to meet her, you surely have received e-mail communications from her. Rachel and her husband are native Sacramentans. In fact, both her maternal and paternal grandparents moved into Sacramento in their late 20s. Rachel was raised in Sacramento, went away to school and chose to return to "good 'ole California."

Rachel and her husband have been married for three years, and she worked most recently for CalPERS. You will have an opportunity to meet Rachel and her husband at our "Mingle and Munch" Summer Social. Rachel's hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. She can be reached by email at Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov. Her brand new phone number is (916) 324-0319.

Scheduling Update

By Rachel Martinez

We are happy to announce three new volunteer opportunities / positions have been created: Assembly and Senate Galleries (on weekends and holidays) and a Rover position. We realize some Volunteers have already implemented the Rover duties into their daily routine, and we are very grateful to have them. For those interested in this activity, we will have a Rover training and WI Desk refresher training, which will include an overview of the Student Registration desk, on a soon-to-be-announced date. To maintain continuity for Volunteers and Staff alike, please contact the Scheduling Desk (916-324-2088) with any scheduling issues (increased / decreased availability, inability to volunteer on a normally scheduled day, willingness to volunteer on an unscheduled day, etc.). Contacting the Scheduling Desk will help ensure all stations within the museum are staffed and open to the public and will lessen daily schedule changes. On that note, if you have an open day and would like to

volunteer (don't be hesitant to come in, we would LOVE to have you!), please check in with the Scheduling Desk when you arrive, and we will be happy to find an open position for you. Again, we are extremely thankful for all the hours, days, years and smiles you contribute; it could not be done without you! Thank you!

Sewing Workshop for Women's Suffrage Reenactment:

By Connie Clark



The Historic Reenactment of events surrounding the vote for Women's Suffrage in California is approaching. In preparation for the event, the Costume Committee is holding a workshop to help interested individuals in selecting and creating an authentic 1911 costume. The dates are listed below:

Design and Pattern Review	July 16 at 10:00 AM	Eureka Room (Cafeteria)
Fabric and Pattern Shopping	July 16 at ~12:00 PM	Hi Fashion Fabrics/Hancock Fabrics
Sewing Workshop	Aug 12 – 16, 9 AM – 3 PM	Stanford Room – Old Sac

Please RSVP to Connie Clark at cclark610@surewest.net or 916-486-4112 or to Patty Wood (pjwood09@att.net or 916-967-7931 if you are interested.

In preparation for the event, you might like to Google "Women's Costume 1911" or "Women's Suffrage." For further reference, photos of our previous event are at the Volunteer Desk.

Volunteer Spotlight

By Asleain Scotty Hodges

Meet this remarkably talented lady, **PJ Jones**. She was born in Oakland, California but grew up in Nevada County where she lived until 6 years ago. She retired from the **Nevada County Department of Social Services** where she served for 30 years. After that she lived part-time in Chicago Park with her dad, and was his caregiver until he passed away. The remainder of her time she lived, and continues to live, with her partner Gretchen Jung in the Natomas area.

After graduating from High School, PJ attended Sierra Junior College and **Sacramento State University** where she graduated with a degree in History. In High School she sang with the Chorus and was in Drama. She became involved with the **Nevada Community Players** in 1974 both performing and doing back stage work; worked with the **Foothill Players**; and lastly with **CATS** (Community Asian Theater of the Sierra) which was a great love of hers. She also performed in melodramas with the **Hungry Mule Players** during her Sierra College days.



PJ Jones

PJ learned of the Capitol Volunteer Program when she and Gretchen came to the Capitol the last day of February 2012. She says she had not been to the Capitol for some 20 years. After viewing the Museum rooms and the Women's Suffrage Exhibit, she was inspired and had an idea that there might be a volunteer organization here at the Capitol. She searched on line, located the application, mailed it in, and received a phone call from CSCMVA about the upcoming 2012 training.

Her background in drama prepared PJ for the varied duties of a Capitol Docent. She has acting experience, loves history, and has a family connection that predisposes her, **“My mother was a Historian, and I was raised going places for her research. She wrote 2 books The Chicago Park Connection and the Colfax Connection. My mom wrote numerous articles for the Nevada County Historical Society, and she was the editor of the Colfax Record for over 10 years. (Also) My dad was very involved with the Clampers, an organization which does a lot for preserving history especially in California.”**

PJ really likes being at the Capitol on the weekends, because the Assembly and Senate Galleries can be open which provides a more comprehensive tour. She confesses that she gets nervous about trying to remember all the information that she needs to recall, but she has noticed that people are very grateful for any information that the docent provides. PJ states her rewards are sharing CA history and getting to know her fellow volunteers. She loves meeting new people from all areas of this great state as well as the rest of the United States, and the World.

The first CSCMVA activity in which PJ participated was a Living History Event - the 1906 Election. That was a milestone for her. She says that: **“When Gretchen saw me in costume that Sunday was the first time she had ever seen me in a skirt! I was as Tour Leader. I was also in costume to do Museum Day, and I was a greeter at the last Living History of the 1906 Earthquake.”** PJ would love to have a role in the Women’s Suffrage Day event. She has recently been scheduled for the Information Desk on Tuesday afternoons. She thinks it would be fun to have a Book Club with CSCMVA volunteers reading, recommending books on California History, and then holding related book discussions.

Currently, she is off to Ashland, Oregon and before returning home, she will see both the Oregon and Washington State Capitols. She will also visit the Maryhill Museum of Art in Washington to see their replica of Stonehenge which is dedicated to WWI veterans.

She is a Massage Therapist, likes to read, and both she and Gretchen belong to the Sacramento Walking Sticks Walking Club. They enjoy River Cats games each summer season.

Her final comment was: **“So much to learn, so little time.”** The good news is that the longer one serves as a docent, the more one learns, and comes to appreciate the great treasures in our Capitol. We anticipate that PJ will make this her second career, utilizing her love of history and drama to contribute to the Capitol Museum’s historical events and treasures.

Special Feature: Did You Know About the Manila Galleons...

By Clem Dougherty
Part I of II

DID YOU KNOW...that on November 30, 1595, a Spanish ship full of treasure by the name of the San Agustin shipwrecked in Drake’s Bay off what is now Marin County? Yes it’s true. The ship was a Manila galleon sailing from the city of Manila in the Philippines across the Pacific to North America and then heading down the California coast to Acapulco in Mexico. The year 1595, the year in which the galleon San Agustin sunk off the Marin County coast, was 174 years before the Spanish began the colonization of California in 1769. From 1572 to 1769 the only regular contact the Spanish had with California was by ships traveling down the California coast once a year between Manila in the Philippines and Acapulco in Mexico. These ships were called the Manila galleons.

You may recall that in the last issue of the Clarion we saw that California got its name from a sixteenth century Spanish novel: Las Sergas de Esplandian and that the conquistador Hernan Cortes conquered Mexico in 1521. The year 1521 was important not only for Mexico but for the

Philippines as well. In the same year Ferdinand Magellan claimed the Philippines for Spain. In 1542 the Philippines were named for the Spanish prince who later became King Philip II of Spain, the son of the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and great-grandson of Ferdinand and Isabella.

Trade between Mexico and the Philippines began in 1572. The Manila galleons were sailing ships dependent upon the prevailing winds to move them along. Ships sailed west from Acapulco in Mexico to Manila in the Philippines in almost a direct line taking advantage of the winds moving from east to west. As you look at this paper, look from right to left (left-west ← right-east) to get a sense of east to west. This journey took approximately 3 months.

Coming back was not so easy. To take advantage of the prevailing winds moving in the opposite direction from west to east, the ships had to first sail from Manila north to the coast off Japan where they met the prevailing winds sailing west to east. As you look at this paper, look from left to right (left-west → right-east) to get a sense of west to east. Then the ships sailed directly west to east across the Pacific to Cape Mendocino off the California coast and then sailed south down the California coast to Acapulco in Mexico. This journey took approximately 6-7 months. At Acapulco the goods destined for Europe were loaded on to mule trains by which they were transported to Mexico City and then to Vera Cruz on the Gulf of Mexico where they were then re-loaded onto ships sailing for Spain.

The wind patterns being discussed herein are in the Pacific Ocean. What is absolutely fascinating is that the same east-west and west-east wind patterns particularly in the summer exist in the Atlantic Ocean as well and in approximately the same latitudinal location in the Atlantic Ocean that they occupy in the Pacific Ocean. In sailing west to the New World Columbus set sail from Seville in southern Spain south-west to the Canary Islands just off the Coast of Africa and then caught the prevailing winds east to west in a line straight to the Caribbean. To get back to Europe, Columbus first had to sail north off the coast of what is now Bermuda and then catch the prevailing winds west to east in a straight line to the Azores and then straight east to the coast off northern Portugal/ Spain and then south to Seville in southern Spain (see Parry, J.H., The Spanish Seaborne Empire, pp. 41 & 44-45; Sale, Kirkpatrick, The Conquest of Paradise, Christopher Columbus and the Columbian Legacy, pp. 7,15,16,22,27,58-59,122,123). Wind was a key element in the discovery of the New World.

Watch for Part II which includes the “dark side” of many of these voyages....

*(Editor's Note: The Special Features column is dedicated to interesting articles about California, our CA State Capitol or visits to other state capitols. CSCMVA members are encouraged to share experiences and/or researched information in this column. For inclusion in the **Clarion**, please send articles to Marti Dennis at mdennis1@att.net)*

Upcoming Events:

Sewing Workshop

Design and Pattern Review
Fabric and Pattern Shopping

Tuesday July 16

10:00 AM Eureka Room (Cafeteria)
~12:00 PM HiFashion Fabrics /
Hancock Fabrics

Training: Governors Portraits

Wednesday August 7, 10:00 AM Theater

CSCMVA Board Meeting:

Wednesday August 7, 1:00 PM in Room 127

Summer Social: Northridge Country Club	Thursday August 8, 4:00 – 6:30 PM
Sewing Workshop:	Monday – Thursday August 12 – 16 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Stanford Room in Old Sacramento
Training: Folsom Powerhouse	Wednesday September 4, 11:00 AM
California Admission Day:	Monday, September 9
Women’s Suffrage Living History:	Sunday, October 13
Capitol Holiday Music:	Daily, December 1 through 23
Annual Meeting & Luncheon:	TBD, January 2014

Watch for future WI Training and Legislative Gallery Training

Volunteer Program website:

<http://capitolmuseum.tem.parks.ca.gov/volunteerprogram>

Capitol Museum website: <http://www.capitolmuseum.ca.gov/>



Volunteer Coordinator: 324-0319

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