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# Capitol Clarion

California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association

JULY 2014



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 **1<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

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

Capitol Clarion CSCMVA Newsletter

## President's Message By Alex King

### A Reminder...!

Last month I asked for more of us to step up and add some time as volunteers at our Living History events, our Admission Day event, and in our Historic Rooms. I was serious – we need the additional help!

Please call our Volunteer Coordinator, Rachel Martinez, at 324-0319, and let her know when you'll be available to pitch in and make our CSCMVA events even more successful.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our **Mid-year Social on August 12th** at the "House Kitchen Bar and Grill" at Capitol Mall and 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The location is in sight of the Capitol, and the food is tasty at this Capitol area restaurant gem.

That fun summer event will be followed by California's cake and ice cream **Admissions Day party on September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

In addition to event planning, your Board has been busy with important administrative activities. Randall Williams has completed an ambitious project: programming our **Volgistics** online volunteer activity scheduling. Following his technical efforts, he has developed an informative and straightforward Power Point presentation for members on the "How To's" to sign up for various volunteer assignments. All in good time, as we "go live" with this system on August 1.

Bob Dreyer and his **Standing Rules Committee** have developed some recommendations for changes in that document. Marilyn Thompson developed a **survey of the 2012 membership class** to capture feedback from these newest CSCMVA members. And, last, but surely not least, Mary Geach has continued to manage our **Bookstore** as a profitable enterprise which forms the basis for our budget and our ability to support our Museum activities. We continue with enthusiasm, and we seek the participation of all members!

~ **Alex**



### Introducing a new format:

In this and future issues we will be bringing forward the events, and activities of the organization, as well as our feature articles. Look for those capably written Board Minutes in a new location. We hope this change will capture your interest in our activities and engage your commitment to active participation!

## Volunteer Training: SUTTER'S FORT July 24, 2014 at 10 AM

CSCMVA members have a long-anticipated opportunity to visit Sutter's Fort, on Thursday, July 24.

A few "logistical" items about our visit:

- Our tour will be guided by Steve Beck, Sutter's Fort Guide extraordinaire.
- The tour can accommodate 30 people, so "First Come – First Served." Email Rachel at [Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov) or call her at 916-324-0319 to reserve your place.
- Parking can be a challenge; Sutter's Fort is bounded by "L" Street; "26<sup>th</sup>" Street; "K" Street and "28<sup>th</sup>" Street. There is 4 hour parking on "K" Street, and 2 hour parking on "26<sup>th</sup>", "27<sup>th</sup>" Street (across from the Indian Museum) and "28<sup>th</sup>" Street.
- We are to meet Mr. Beck **at the EAST DOOR of the Fort** (nearest the corner of "K" Street and "28<sup>th</sup>" Street). That IS **NOT** the Main Gate on "L" Street.
- Please try to be prompt – even a little early. We will be guided, as a group, through the EAST DOOR, as the Fort opens at 10 AM.
- The tour will last approximately 1 ½ hours, so we will have plenty of time to get back to our vehicles, if parked in 2 hour parking.



## Volunteer Social: Tuesday, August 12 at 4:30 PM



As we have successfully done in the past, we will be hosting a **Summer Social** for all CSCMVA members and their guests. This year's event will be held on the Capitol Mall at the "House Kitchen Bar and Grill." The site allows us to enjoy each other and some very good food in both the comfort of the air conditioned restaurant and on the adjacent patio. More information will be forthcoming, but be sure to circle **Tuesday August 12 at 4:30** for a fun event. The cost for members is \$10, and guests are \$20.

## PPIE Exhibit -- Moorish Temple

By Alex King

Newspaper columnists frequently make comments like: "There's a local tie." That's true with the PPIE banner showing the Moorish Temple (last banner near the window, on the South wall of the Archives Room.) It shows the Temple exhibit was sponsored by the W.P. Fuller Company.

The W.P. Fuller Company was founded in Sacramento in 1857, as importers of "Paints, Oils, French Window Glass, Brushes, Varnishes, Turpentine, Glue, Gold Leaf, Artists' Materials, etc." In 1862, William Parmer Fuller moved the headquarters of the company to San Francisco, leaving Sacramento as a "branch" of the company.



From its founding in the 1850's, WPF used a Pioneer as their company image (above). The can of Boiled Linseed Oil pictured here, may well have been around during the PPIE in 1914, because their labels were changed in the early 1920s.

The "local tie": W. P. Fuller Company was the only supplier of Gold Leaf in the 1860's. The W. P. Fuller Company was the supplier of gold leaf for the new California State Capitol being built between 1860 and 1874.

## Still a Little Confused About the Volume and Issue Date of the *Clarion*?

The recently-formed Archives Committee has been diligently reviewing photos and records maintained by CSCMVA volunteers over the past 35 plus years in order to save what is most important and to develop a systematic storage system. In the process, a number of interesting items have been uncovered – one of which is the history of uninterrupted publication of a CSCMVA newsletter, currently titled the **Capitol Clarion**. We found issues dating back to January 1982. To our knowledge (and as the evidence confirms), that makes this issue of the *Capitol Clarion*: Volume 33, Issue 7!

## A NEW ERA: Hooray for Electronic Volunteer Scheduling!

By Randall Williams

Our association will soon achieve a long-time objective. On **August 1<sup>st</sup>**, we will convert to a system that will enable us to plan and track our commitments at the Capitol Museum from home – or via the World Wide Web. Through the use of the *VicNet* system, we will be able to: schedule ourselves for assignments; record the time that we have volunteered; and track a variety of information regarding our involvement with CSCMVA.

The training that is now occurring is the final step before the launch of our very own **Volunteer Information Center**. Ten of our members have served on a pilot group that has been instrumental in reviewing *VicNet* features and providing recommendations for a *PowerPoint* training module. The first of two training sessions for all members was conducted on July 10<sup>th</sup>, with 17 members in attendance. If the positive response by this class is any indication, the preparations have been well placed. The second class will occur on **Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>**, and attendance will be about the

same as at the first class. That will bring the total to nearly 50 members who are equipped for using *VicNet*, which provides a strong nucleus for enhancing our use of this new association resource.

## Volunteer Opportunities:

We are always looking for eager volunteers for the historic rooms and for new opportunities. The latter include the new position of **“Rover”** and a new possibility under consideration: having volunteers providing visitor information from the **“Information Booth” at the North entrance** of the Capitol. As we all know, visitors have to wend their way to the West Information Desk before they are able to receive an orientation to the Capitol building and information about tours. Please let Alex King know if you are interested in being part of a group of volunteers who are willing to volunteer with regularity at the north entrance to the Capitol and / or serve in the interesting role of “Rover.”



In the following piece, **“Calling All Rovers,”** Leslie Cooper summarizes exactly what a “Rover” does.

“The recently created position of “Rover” in the Capitol Museum needs volunteers. A Rover works in conjunction with the West Information Desk to interact with individual visitors or small groups, answering questions about the historical rooms and giving mini tours of the building when needed. As one might imagine, a Rover is often on the move, assisting visitors outside the first floor rooms and even giving “inside the ropes” tours, interpreting tiles and current legislative offices on the second floor, and describing the unique (and idiosyncratic) features of the Senate and Assembly chambers on the third floor.

“Currently there are only 3 Rovers working on only two days out of the week. This position is interesting – never boring. You can be added to this exclusive group by contacting Volunteer Coordinator Rachel Martinez at [Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Rachel.Martinez@parks.ca.gov)”

## Did You Know....?

By Clem Dougherty

...that the mission and **presidio of San Francisco de Asis** (sic) were established in the same year - **1776** - that our founding fathers were signing the Declaration of Independence on the east coast? Yes, it's true. In an earlier newsletter we left Father Junipero Serra, the first father president of the Missions, and Lieutenant Pedro Fages, the second military governor, in Carmel and Monterey respectively ready to begin the implementation of the mission / presidio program for California. But at higher levels of government in both Mexico and Spain, the attention turned further north to San Francisco Bay. Both Antonio de Bucareli, the new Viceroy in Mexico City, and Jose de Galvez, the new Minister of the Indies in Madrid, were keenly aware of the importance of the new-found San Francisco Bay and took action to eliminate any Russian or English threat to Spanish dominance of the Bay.

The first action for the Spanish was to chart the entire Bay. Accordingly, the Spanish sent Lieutenant Juan Manuel de Ayala aboard the ship *San Carlos* to undertake that task. You may recall in a prior newsletter we stated that the mouth of San Francisco Bay had been discovered from the opposite Contra Costa / Alameda County Shore. Coming by ship from Baja California, Ayala then sent his pilot Jose de Canizares in a smaller boat ahead of him to locate the Bay. Canizares found the entrance and, on August 5, 1775, Canizares was the first European to sail through the entrance to the Bay. Ayala, aboard the *San Carlos*, followed the next day - August 6, 1775. Ayala and the



## Sunshine Corner:

Since the last issue of the **Clarion**, a "Thinking of You" card was sent to:

**Pat Rodoni** who is coping with health issues affecting both her husband and herself

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



The **Volunteer Spotlight** feature will not be published in the months of July and August. Look forward to its return in September!



### 2014 Board of Directors

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

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

### 2014 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 Meeting:

By Marylin Thompson, Secretary

July 2, 2014

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** **Bob Dennis** reported that our revenue is \$6,000 more than our expenses and suggested spending funds on increased advertising for living history events. A previous vendor for men's coats has gone out of business; Wild West Outfitters (online) is still a possibility to provide additional costuming for male members with these funds.

**BOOKSTORE:** **Mary Geach** reported net income for June was \$3,022 - \$475 more than June 2013. Book shelves are "empty." Children's book and books about California are selling well.

**MEMBERSHIP:** **Mary Geach** reported that she is looking for a new jeweler, as the one she has used for years to make the diamond hour pins is retiring. All membership / hour pins and badges will be moved from Mary's house to the costume closet.

**STATE PARKS REPORT:** **Rachel Martinez** had a number of very large posters used in previous exhibits which Renato no longer needs, and she made available to those in attendance. Chris Tyler and Alex will work on choosing other images to be made into smaller posters which CSCMVA can sell. **Matt Bellah** reported that the lighting in the museum rooms has been improved by installing LED bulbs. He assured the Board, that the lighting level is still safe at "museum level," but it will continue to be monitored. Shutters could also be

opened, but that would change the historic ambiance due to the view of modern events (including cars) through the windows. Matt is working on getting the drapes cleaned and replacing some of the shades. He will also investigate repair work for the tall chair in the 1906 Treasurer's Office with the "Do Not Sit" sign on it.

#### ONGOING BUSINESS:

- **Volgistics / Webpage:** **Randall Williams** reported the switch to online scheduling will occur on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The PC on the Volunteer sign-in desk is shared with Parks, although it is primarily for CSCMVA use. Randall reminded us that even though we will posting our volunteer assignments on the online scheduling system, we will need to continue to sign in at the Volunteer desk for safety and security reasons when we are volunteering in the building.
- **Standing Rules Committee:** **Bob Dreyer** passed out a revision of the Rules with changes noted. It was decided that the dues structure needs to be added. At the suggestion of Bob Dennis, a requirement will be added that a monthly bank statement should be printed and attached to the Treasurer's Report for checks and balances. It was also suggested that the Treasurer have a back-up or apprentice. It was moved and seconded that the suggested changes be made as presented. Final discussion and vote will be at the August meeting..
- **Mid-Year Social Event** will be held August 12 at 4:30 at the House Kitchen and Bar. Members will pay \$10 and guests will be \$20. There will be no refunds for no-shows. Connie moved, and Randall seconded, the fee policy. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- **Election Day:** Sam Bhatka and Patty Wood will co-chair.
- **Rotunda Decorations:** No one has stepped forward to work on this project. Alex will coordinate with the appropriate DGS contact. Matt will work with us on Christmas decorations in the museum rooms.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- **New Member (Class of 2012) Survey:** Marylin reported that 26 surveys were sent out June 19<sup>th</sup> with, to date, about 8 responses. Most comments have been positive. She will send out a reminder this week to non-responders.
- **Marketing Committee:** Alex reported that Ann Fox-Morgan and Carolyn Martin have volunteered to join Barbara Smith and Bernadette Hicks working on this important activity.
- **Sutter's Fort Tour:** Rachel will send out an e-mail with details. The group is limited to 30 people.
- **Training Events:** No updates.
- **North Information Kiosk:** Question raised, should we try to staff this desk? Marti will put an article in the *Clarion* to judge volunteer interest, and further discussion will occur in August.

All members are encouraged to attend the monthly Board of Director's meetings.  
The next regularly scheduled meeting is **Wednesday, August 6 at 1:00 PM.**

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#### Upcoming Events:

**Training: On-line Scheduling**

**Wednesday July 23, 10:00 – 11:30 AM**

**Training: Sutter's Fort**

**Thursday July 24, 10:00 AM**

Board Meeting	Wednesday August 6, 1:00 – 2:00 PM
Summer Social	Tuesday, August 12, 4:30 – 7:00 PM
Training: Historic Rooms Tour	TBA
Admission Day	Tuesday, September 9
Election Day	Saturday, October 18
Training: Capitol Furnishings Tour	TBA

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**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**