



The INNsider



MISSION INN FOUNDATION & MUSEUM
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Coming Events:

FRANK MILLER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD	MAY 11
CALIFORNIA PRESERVATION CONFERENCE	MAY 12-15
FAMILY VOICES PRESENTATION	MAY 31

A Graduation To Remember

Thanks to the Herculean efforts of Donna Grossman, her daughter, Bess Wening, and the sacrifices made by others, including the members of the Special Events committee, the docents-in-training graduation event taking place on April 13 in the Music room at the Mission Inn was a resounding success! The following awards and recognitions were extended to the recipients:

Museum Assistants:

Carolyn Badger	Jo Kraisosky	JoAnn Moore
Sue Cullen	Carol Krieger	Angela Nevarez
Maria Driver	Valerie Little Hawk	Kathleen Rossi
Linda Essig	Jeanne Marotta	Joyce Sauer
Marilyn Gallagher	Carol Marquez	Gloria Stevens
Judy Hadcox	Joann Martin	Robyne Williams
Joan Hayes	Sheila McMahon	



Jane Morabito accepts Docent of the Year award from incoming chairperson Joyce Lyons.

Special Docent Awards:

Doug Hargis	Marcia Lyons	Joyce Sauer
Pat Holder	Mike McCoy	Robyne Williams

Two Year Pins:

Mary Jo Addison	Kathy Bowman	Nanci Larsen	Merwyn Schwartz
Sally Arrita	Susan Deering	Sharyl Lee	Robyne Williams
Lorraine Beller	Nancy Fiveland	Jo Ann Schwartz	

Graduation (continued)

Five Year Pins:

Judy Bellow
Sue Cullen
John Fisher
Karen Rice
Maren Rusech
Karen Stegmann

Ten Year Pins:

Marianne Cheney
Jean Digatti
Kim Ferguson
Mary Ferrall
Bill Thoele
William Sturman
Nadine Shell

Docent of the Year

Jane Morabito

The ceremony was enjoyed by about 167 attendees, whose warm support contributed to the evening's success. Many read from the printed program which commemorated the contributions of two docents who recently passed away and are respectfully remembered for their service to the Mission Inn Foundation: Michael Hughes and Sharon Yankee.
—Ed.

Happily, our bus arrived at Santa Anita

"I want answers, and I want them now!"

Ever feel like the more you learn about the Mission Inn, the more questions you have?

Or, have you ever heard two conflicting explanations about something that happened here?

We don't claim to have all the answers, but we may know those who have many of them.

Send in your questions to Q & A—the new column about to appear in these pages, dedicated to answering educational and historical issues about the Mission Inn.

(Docent policy questions, of course, continue to be best discussed in person with staff and members of respective committees.)

DOCENT OF THE YEAR:

Jane Morabito

In the March/April 2004 INNsider, I reported on my interviews with Docent of the Year recipients from the first one that was awarded in 1991 through 2003. Almost all of them replied that they were surprised, thrilled and honored. Our current docent of the year, Jane Morabito is no exception. She stated that she was surprised to be nominated and very touched by the letters written by those who had nominated her. She appreciates the award knowing that there were many others that were equally worthy of the honor. Presenting the award to Jane were last years recipients, Donna Grossman and Michele Lufkin. At the ceremony Jane recognized Philippa Jones, the 1997 Docent of the Decade, who encouraged her to take the training to become a docent.

As we all know Jane became Chairperson of the Docent Council in a time of transition. On May 7, 2004 our long time Curator of History, Staff Liaison to the Docent Council and Museum Store Manager, Allene Archibald DuFour retired after working with the Mission Inn Foundation and Museum for 18 years. All in all it was an unusual year with other staff changes and challenges. Part of the resulting smooth transition was the leadership of Jane as Docent Chairperson. When I talked to Jane, she wanted me to be certain to give a big **THANK YOU** to all our dedicated docents who daily continue to make the tours special, to all the docents who serve faithfully as committee chairs and to the docents who serve as members of the various docent committees. It takes everyone to make our Docent program a continuing success.

Congratulations Jane Morabito our Docent of the Year 2005!

Joanne Hershey

THE CURATOR'S CORNER

In case you haven't bumped into me in the museum yet, my name is Wayne Dawson, the new Curator of History. It's a real privilege to work with such a talented group of docents as yourselves; in the short time I've been here (since March 1), I've learned more local history than in the past twenty-five years that I've lived in this area!

Since you already know enough about me from Dauris Slaughter's thorough article in the last letter, I thought that you might want to be kept current about recent developments here at the Foundation. Look in this column each issue for suggestions, announcements and solicitations: this month, we need to hear from all of you with ideas about how to go about recruiting for the upcoming fall season, so please send your thoughts to the INNsider. You can do this by reaching me by phone at (951) 788-9556, or by e-mail at waynedawson@missioninmuseum.com. The same applies to all of you that have any other contributions to make to the newsletter for the benefit of your fellow docents.

By the way, focusing now on docent basics, it has been brought to our attention that we need everyone's help in following the guidelines for occasions when followers are dismissed. If there are four to seven people signed up for a tour, followers automatically join the tour. If there are less guests than this, they still need to linger at the counter for fifteen minutes, because additional guests often arrive late and must be escorted to wherever the tour has progressed to. **Please** check with the person at the desk before making a decision on your own to either leave or dismiss a follower. This will make everything work smoothly and take good care of our guests.

Additionally, Steve Speller would like to mention the following:

A challenge for us at the museum front desk is space (really, the lack of space). Un-

fortunately there is not always room for all the purses. Often the lack of space is not due to number of purses, but the size. Please try to limit the size of purses you bring to the museum. Many thanks.

At the April 6 docent training meeting, the class went over some of the popular misconceptions about the Mission Inn. Many of us know all too well how, despite our best efforts, unintentional mistakes can creep into a presentation. For instance, Steve Lech has mentioned that, in the past, our training information paralleled the following account by Frank Miller when he explained the origins of his family's involvement in the hotel trade. The following is from Miller's autobiographical notes, dictated in the last year of his life, March, 1935 at Laguna Beach. You will notice that he tends to speak of his parents as "the mother" and "the father." These insights are interesting because they reveal a very different attitude toward life than the popular "I am the master of my fate" credo that is so popular in self-help books today.

As a boy, with the mother's help, I grew vegetables in the summer season; I sold them to a Mrs Scholtz. They were a family who had a blacksmith's shop, then a saloon and it grew into and still is an outstanding little hotel now called the Sherman House. I don't know but that was why I developed the Mission Inn much on the same lines. One guest wanted to know why the Mission Inn had seemed to be built piece-meal. I said "I guess the main reason was that I lacked 15 cents of having enough to build it any other way."

. . .As I think of life now, it is pitiful, almost, that the forces that control us are not our own and therefore, of course we can't deserve much credit for the things we do. One morning, the Craig House, a little hotel which stood where the public library now stands, a wooden structure with cleats on the outside and newspaper on the inside, caught fire. All neighbors who were at all near rushed over and with whatever water they had on hand to help put out the fire, (at that time all water was hauled from the brook) but the fire could not be put out.

That morning, my father, in charge of

the work on the canal system, was taking two of the directors of the McLaud and Marten Company building the canal around the system. When they got back they found the hotel burnt down but their baggage safe; there was nothing for us to do but to take them in. The adobe building that still stands, was our home although it was not fully completed.. It had a sort of half-story above for bedrooms, the sloping roof so low that you could bump your head.

The visitors stayed with us that night and for two or three days and that is the way we commenced to keep a hotel. I do not think that any of us purposed or realized that we were entering upon the greatest or the rarest form of a business career. (Pages 1-3)

Steve Lech comments: The problem with this story is that there is a nearly four year gap between these occurrences. Esther Klotz indicates through an older Inn history that Albert White, the hotel's first guest, spent his first night as a guest of the Miller's on November 22, 1876 (Klotz, *The Mission Inn: It's History and Artifacts*, p. 4). The other hotel in question was the Riverside Hotel, owned and operated by Dr. William Craig. This hotel, located at the north-east corner of Seventh and Orange, burned to the ground on the morning of July 14, 1880. The *Riverside Press & Horticulturalist* of July 17, 1880 indicated that:

Craig's Hotel Burned

On Wednesday morning at about 7:30 flames were discovered issuing from the roof of the old Riverside Hotel, kept by Dr. Wm. Craig. When first seen the fire was just starting and a pail of water applied would have checked its spread, but before it could be reached it had gained so much headway that with the facilities for extinguishing fires at hand nothing could be done. Time was given, however, to remove the furniture from the building, but it came out in a greatly damaged condition.

During the excitement some valuable property was feloniously carried away and has not been recovered.

The building was insured in the State Investment Company of San Francisco, Dr. J. P. Greves, agent, for \$1500, and the furniture was insured for \$500. The Company has been notified of the loss.

The hotel was built by Dr. Craig in 1871, when Riverside was in its infancy, and it has been kept by him a great portion of the time since. It will not be rebuilt.

Why? Obviously, the Miller's had started the Glenwood long before Dr. Craig's hotel burned. This begs a question, then - why did the Millers start the Glenwood Hotel in the first place? We know they built a twelve-room house for six people. Perhaps with that many rooms, they simply built the house with the intent of starting a hotel, or at least a guest house. It must be remembered that the Miller family spent at least six months living with Rev. Deere and his wife before starting the Old Adobe. Many people coming to Riverside stayed in the homes of residents back then - perhaps having extra rooms meant being able to offer people a private room and charge them for room and board.

Esther Klotz does mention that this fire left the Glenwood as being Riverside's "best hotel" (Klotz, p. 5). This fact may be the importance of the story - not that the Miller's started the Glenwood because of the fire, but that the Glenwood rose to prominence (and lost some competition) because of the fire.

SAINT CHAD

Some docents pause on the first floor to mention the length and width of the hallway—wide enough for steamer trunks and a whole city block long.

The lace curtains over Orange Street don't show you much but Saint Chad glows at the northwest end. The good saint merits more than being a distant marker, unless, of course, you're timid about iconography.

- The window is late nineteenth century, English, richly romantic and probably the best lit in the hotel.
- We no longer call him the patron saint of Florida elections—people miss the point, having forgotten the connection.

In the window, Saint Chad, an English Catholic bishop in the 7th century, holds a replication of one side of Litchfield cathedral, which he founded.

- Correct the myth: Many churches are named for Saint Chad, but none during his lifetime—tut! tut! All are in great Britain, since 1100 at the earliest.
- Why is the window there? The lighting is perfect; Miller sought decorative, colorful Christian symbolism: architecturally and aesthetically it fits.

Literate docents may read about Saint Chad, and all the other two and three dimensional saints at the Inn, in *The Oxford Book of Saints* by David Farmer (1977), or in *Butler's Lives of the Saints*, by Michael Walsh (1991).

Maurice Hodgen
Docent Class 2001

DOCENT'S DAY AT THE SANTA ANITA RACETRACK

on a bright, sunny day. (Last year we got drenched with showers all day.) As we exited the bus we were told to go to the fourth floor of the grandstand where tables had been reserved for us. Our tables overlooked the beautifully manicured infields and paddocks.

A steward circulated through the area at all times so that we could ask questions. Everyone was so glued to their program trying to pick out a winner that the waiters had a hard time taking our lunch orders. Some of us enjoyed mile-high corned beef sandwiches and carrot cake.

The atmosphere was positively electric throughout the grandstands and paddocks. Some of us had the opportunity to visit the paddocks which was a fabulous experience. We actually got to meet and talk to the owners and the trainers and of course we were able to see the horses up close. They are all such sleek, athletic and beautiful animals. Monitors were present everywhere, even in the horse barns so the employees could watch the races from the barns.

There were three exciting photo finishes that day and fortunately, no pile-ups. An ambulance followed each race on the outside edge of the track, just in case of an accident. However one horse did throw his jockey and the horse went around the track all alone with no rider.

We were surprised when Donna Grossman asked Barbara Burns and me to

(continued on next page)

Day at the Races (continued)

present the “Mission Inn Foundation and Museum” plaque to the winner of the seventh race. A steward came to escort us to the “Winner’s Circle”. 28,000 people in the Stands watched us present “*Pleasant Thunder*” a well deserved award. His owners, Howard and Dee Hammer from Washington have been breeding thoroughbred race horses for 38 years.

The races were televised on HRTV and it is assumed that 12 million viewers watched the race. A week after the race, I received a letter from the owners thanking us for the plaque. Other owners and trainers who were present on that day were from Merv Griffin’s Ranch Co. and Claiborne Farms. Claiborne Farms were the breeders of Sea Biscuit.

Ontario Airport is the western hub for transporting horses using a specially designed plane. The horses are carefully secured and a vet travels with them at all times. They transport race horses to Churchill Downs in Kentucky, Hollywood Park in Florida and many other places.

We want to thank Donna Grossman for a wonderful day at the races. We returned from this exciting day very tired but ready to sign up for next year.

Marilyn Measor

Mar-

Do You Have The “Goods” On Someone?

All too often, someone sees one of our docents do something good, nice, or humane for someone else, and it goes unreported. If you have seen this happen, let us know and we’ll recognize their deed inside the INN-sider! (suggested by Joyce Lyons)

RECOGNITION FROM THE TOP

I am thrilled (though not surprised) by the caliber, positive attitude, range of backgrounds, and civic commitment of our new class of docents. The many volunteers who worked hard on the docent graduation and volunteer recognition event did a fantastic job, and as I understand it, Donna Grossman is recovering at an undisclosed location, hopefully sane enough to reflect on the success of the docent events committee.

Everyone should feel good about their contributions that made this year’s training such a success, even during the changes in our staff and the docent training process. Several of the docent committees have an important role in the docent training, including the training committee, and for all of your efforts, please accept our heartfelt thanks.

It occurs to me that I’ve had many changes in my life too over the past year, and I do have a – dare I say, better? – understanding of the hard work it takes to manage change effectively. One of key people I asked to ensure the effective facilitation of the docent training was Judith Hunt. While her official staff title was Docent Training Facilitator, she did much more than that. Judith helped to make sure that the docent training happened the way it should. She worked tirelessly with me to make sure that we had an effective vision and approach to docent training. Judith also documented the process, so that we didn’t have to reinvent the process each year.

Judith, thanks for doing such a great job (and to think that some people were nervous about the docent training this year). We all appreciate the time, passion, and commitment to the docent program. With Warm Regards,
John Worden—Executive Director

ARTHUR BURNETT BENTON:
Architect of Art and Edifice

Arthur Benton was not only an architect of high regard, but additionally, a fascinating writer of prose. He authored a book in 1908 about his love for the Mission Inn and the San Juan Capistrano Mission. It is a book published on full page 11 x 15 folded in half and bound to become 7½" by 11". It is entitled "California Mission Inn ~ Riverside California " and written on an escutcheon. Within there are sketches, pertinent to both edifices, drawn on every page by Wm. Alexander Sharp and copyrighted in 1908 by A.B. Benton. It is a treasure and I am truly fortunate to have met Jane Margison, who offered to share this book. A friend Jane had helped gave her this book as a "thank you," when Jane was a docent at the Mission Inn. When Jane lent it to me, I treated it like gold!!! The following is copied verbatim from the foreword written by Arthur Burnett Benton.

FOREWORD

In Riverside, in California, in the lovely valley of the Santa Ana, there is an Hotel whose praises is in many travelers' mouths, & whose guests return from near & far, year by year, with gladness that its welcome still holds.

A generation ago, when Riverside was but a name, Judge Miller built of the red clay of the plain the "old Adobe" & opened the "Glenwood Tavern". There he & his children after him have taught many guests to say, ~ "I take mine ease in mine Inn" ~ after such pleasant fashion as Old Jack Falstaff did never dream ~ Ease is hard to find in these hurried noisy times, & we do not much expect it in great inns; so when one is found where comfort is ~ joined to hospitality & to these restful quietude; where conveniences of a town are at the door, but with its ~ clamours softened by wide lawns; where great trees do grow & birds sing; whose guests are guests in truth & not for gain only; it may not be otherwise than ~ well beloved of travelers ~

But not alone for its hospitality, its restfulness, its old time architecture is the Glenwood known. Of what ever has made for the betterment of River-

side, whether of social or civic life, this Inn has been the center. Mine Host of the Inn, Frank Miller, has had no small part in making his town one of the best anywhere. The building of highways, of public buildings & of schools; the planting of trees, the making of public parks, - have been with him a life occupation; now, in his prime, love for old California ways has so found expression in his Inn, that, as has been truly said, "the State of California is in his debt for adding so much to its assets". ~

The Mission Inn is making history; therefore I have thought it not unfitting to link it in story with the old time mission days which have been its inspiration.

Signed by Arthur Burnett Benton
Los Angeles 1908

Mr. Benton describes the Inn in the vast virgin land of Riverside thusly:

"Between the mountain's mighty feet
There lies the town but scarcely seen
So deep embowered in foliage green
Pepper & palms & gum-wood tall,
Dark cypress rows, - aliving wall -
And round about on every side
The orange orchards stretching wide."

He writes of the Santa Ana's streams, Mount Rubidoux, Mission Inn arches, the campanario, President Roosevelt transplanting the parent orange tree, and Father Serra. He also tells of Fra. Gorgonio, a ruddy loving giant, who led of the great monastery in San Juan Capistrano so long ago. He told of Gorgonio's wonderful Indian cook...Antonio and the tale of Balaam his burro. This wonderful and fascinating 97-year-old book was a joy to behold.

Well, it certainly changed!!! *Go figure!!!*

Dauris Slaughter

MEET VIRGINIA FESUNOFF

Director of Marketing

By Dauris Slaughter

When one opens the door to the Foundation office, the first person one sees is Virginia at the top of the stairs with a welcoming smile on her face. She has worked for the Foundation for one year and volunteered three and a half years before being offered the position of Director of Marketing. In her short time in her position, Virginia has made it obvious what a valuable addition she has become to the Foundation.

As Director of Marketing, Virginia handles an amazing array of fascinating tasks including: press releases for the Museum and Mission Inn Foundation; coordinating special events, i.e.: The Mission Inn Run; Frank Miller Civic Achievement Awards; Frank Miller Club Dinner; operating the Bookstore for the California Preservation Foundation Conference (which will be in May); and working on the "Hands On History" program (for which the Museum received a government grant) that will be connected to the Mission Inn Museum website. A lot of hard work is being put into this project to make it happen.

Virginia also helps the Foundation with their technical needs. She is a voracious reader. If she doesn't know how to fix something, she looks it up on the Internet and discovers how to accomplish her task!!! Virginia is a valuable, talented jack-of-all-trades: she has taken slides from the Foundation collection and scanned them for a Power Point presentation that was used in this year's docent training, (she even ran the projector!) In addition, she often troubleshoots computer problems for the office.

On being asked what enticed her to become a photographer, she shared that her father was an amateur photographer and her grandmother an accomplished painter: therefore, it was inevitable she would become a photographer, especially since she has had an extensive education in this field. Virginia has attended college at SF State University, the Academy of Arts College San Francisco, Cal State SB, and interned at CMP. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Art. While interning at CMP, Virginia created web sites from pictures found in the Keystone Mast Collection (a collection of stereograms).

The first one was of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and another on early California steam trains. She became pregnant during her senior year in college and since expecting mothers are not advised to work in the school labs, CSUSB arranged for her to serve an internship by working on the UCR Photography Museum web site.

Because she now had three children and needed a larger home, Virginia and her husband, Vincent, purchased a historic home on Mission Inn Avenue towards Mount Rubidoux. They decided that bringing the home back to its original state would be a great family challenge. The previous owner said there was a picture of the house somewhere at the Mission Inn. By taking pictures and categorizing artifacts at the Museum, she was privy to the archives, but did not find the picture of their home at that time. However, she unexpectedly found it when working on ballet production, the Nutcracker Tea, for her daughter. While standing in the Ramona Court, she saw a black and white window scene; to her total amazement she found her home imprinted on the back of this beautiful window with the silhouette shining through. **Eureka!!!**

Needless to say, they are now members of the Old Riverside Foundation and the Riverside Renovator Organization. They are still happily (at times) working on their renovation and doing the major restoration themselves, such as the refinishing woodwork, replacing windows, electrical wiring, plastering, and refinishing the floors. Their home is 102 year old and was the first home built on their block and is considered a Four-Square model. At this point in time, she and Vincent are painting the inside of their home and working on the baseboards and waiting the outside painter. (We all know what that is like!)

When they are not restoring their house, they are restoring their Airstream trailer. (Virginia has already restored the flooring and cabinetry.) They also belong to a Vintage Airstream Club. They are an outdoors family; thus a vacation is camping, canoeing and fishing. They have three children, Alexandra-18 years; Natalia- 14; and Mikhail who is five years. Love those names!!!

Her goal in life is to raise her children to adulthood to become independent and productive adults. She is certainly a terrific role model for her children to become self-sufficient. It was fascinating learning about Virginia's background. What a coup having her on the Foundation Staff!!

The Generation Exhibit Comes To The Mission Inn Museum

The Generation Exhibit unveiled in the Museum's Glenwood Gallery on Thursday, March 14, with an impressive attendance of about eighty-five, including participating students from La Sierra High School, their parents, teachers, and a number of public notables, including his honor the mayor, Ron Loveridge. Bold posters displaying the student's photographic skills and oral interviews investigating the experience of immigration and acculturation to America were hung in the gallery, and repeated on dramatic banners draped in the public library and the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Besides the posters and banners, the students involved in the project had their work expanded in greater detail and published in a book. A video of the students working on their assignment continues to play in the Glenwood Gallery, where it will accompany the posters until mid-May. You are all invited to drop by and enjoy the results of this exhibit funded by the California Council for the Humanities and the James Irvine Foundation.

Many collaborated on Generation, including Foundation members John Worden, Executive Director, Vicki Kelly, Educational Curator, and Wayne Dawson, History Curator.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your membership support is essential to our purpose of preserving the unique collections of the Mission Inn and helping others to learn about this extraordinary site. We invite you to join us in supporting this historic landmark. Please remember that members are entitled to a free museum publication and a 10% savings on Museum Store purchases. We ask that all volunteers with the Mission Inn Foundation & Museum maintain a current membership. **We will continue to mail the INNSider to active docents and volunteers.** Membership is for a year from renewal date - \$15.00. Please send your check payable to the Mission Inn Foundation, 3696 Main Street, Riverside 92501. **Questions about your membership status? Call Virginia, (951) 781-8241** Also please review your mailing label for accuracy. Include any necessary changes. **THANK YOU!**

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Mission Inn Foundation Mission Statement

The Mission Inn Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the public trust in the Mission Inn, a privately-owned National Historic Landmark hotel in Riverside, California. The Foundation interprets and promotes the cultural and social significance of the Inn and its collection within the context of local, regional and national history.

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