



sonoma/petaluma

State Historic Parks Association

Spring 2013


Philip Sales, President, sends along these two updates:

Love Your Park Day at Lagunitas Brewing Company a success.



The February 11 "Love Your Park" event at the Lagunitas Brewing Company raised over \$3000 towards the Petaluma Adobe restoration fund. Over a hundred guests enjoyed food by Lombardi's catering, wine courtesy of Highway 12 Winery, music by "Joyride" and beer (of course) by Lagunitas Brewing Company. Assemblyman Marc Levine attended and was presented with a signed print of the Petaluma Adobe by Try Dunham and a Petaluma Adobe T Shirt. He thanked the Association for their work in keeping the park open. State Parks Superintendent Danita Rodriguez, Vince Anibale and his lovely family and Karen Barrett from State Parks also attended what we hope will become an annual event.

Many thanks to the Volunteer Committee of Jim Carr (and family) for the decorations, Leticia Sotelo for the fabulous desserts and her son and docent Kyle for soliciting donations to the silent auction, Silent Auction coordinator Mark Jane Stolte, Rose Lazzarotto for assisting with food, Greg Stubbs and Bob Vargas for managing the wine sales, Mary Ann Maslowski, Bob Alwitt and Sue Vargas for handling the sales of the silent auction items, Jenny Michaels for selling raffle



tickets, Maxene Spellman for coordinating the volunteers and all the others (my apologies if I have neglected to mention you) who made the night such a success. A special thank you to Tony McGee and Don Chartier at Lagunitas for their hospitality.

Matching Grant Agreement signed

After five months of legislation, discussion and negotiation the State Parks and the S/PSHPA have entered into a Matching Fund agreement whereby the State will match the \$70,000 raised by the Association to keep the Petaluma Adobe open. These matching funds will insure that the park will be open until July 2014. The matching funds are from the \$22 million in "undisclosed funds" in the State Parks budget which were discovered last summer and which subsequently led to the resignation of the then State Parks Director and many of the top management at State Parks. In October, the State Legislative and the Governor approved legislation which requires State Parks to use the funds for various State parks health and safety projects and match "dollar for dollar" funds raised by the the various associations who had rallied to prevent the closure of seventy state parks. I have had the pleasure of meeting with the new **State Parks Director General Anthony Jackson** at a State Parks Foundation who has impressed me with his dedication, openness to new ideas and a willingness to reclaim the trust from the public in the wake of ;last summer's scandal.



Philip Sales. President Sonoma/Petaluma State Historic Parks Association.

SPSHPA Board Members

President: Philip Sales

Vice President: Scott Pace

Treasurer: Marshall West

Secretary: Maxene Spellman

Members at Large:

Bob Alwitt - Membership

Anne Cox - Newsletter

Dave Duplantier

Patrick Garcia

Elizabeth Kane

Mary Ann Maslowski

Greg Stubbs

Yvonne Bowers - Docent Organization

Vince Anibale - State Parks Representative

Sue Vargas - Gift Shop Manager



INDIAN LECTURES at the MISSION

In late January and early February, with the support of the Association and State Parks, three informative and interesting lectures on Indian History were held at the Mission with an average attendance at each of 90 people. Put on by a lecture team consisting of Jackie Barros, Fran Weiner and Yvonne Bowers, the lectures covered the archaeological aspect of the Mission with respect to the Indians (Breck Parkman), the early Indian life of the area (Nick Tipon) and Indian genealogy and cultural resistance (Andrew Galvan and Vincent Medina). The lecture series was able to provide over \$1,200 to the Parks Association. Look for another Indian lecture series in late spring, early summer with new topics and speakers.

Yvonne Bowers
Docent organization Chair

PIANO REFINISHED

Toscano Hotel piano has been beautifully refinished by Pinocchio Furniture. Monies from the Toscano docents account was used to this end. Toscano docents have joined force with State Parks docents.



Successful Landmarks Commission Grant Request

Philip Sales, Jim Carr and Scott Pace collaborated on a successful matching grant request to the Sonoma County Landmarks Commission. The grant amount of \$7,500 will be matched by Association funds to hire renown Historic Preservationist Gil Sanchez to conduct a Building Assessment of the Petaluma Adobe. The final report will include an assessment of the adobe walls, recommendations for renovation, details showing methods of repair and a construction budget. The building assessment is an important step in identifying the condition of the Petaluma Adobe, specify corrective action and provide the amount of funding needed to preserve one of Sonoma County's most important historical structures.

Jim Carr, Board member

COSTUME
BANK
REORGANIZATION



Philip Sales asked me to serve as the Chair of a Committee to evaluate/reduce inventory of costumes located in both Uncle Salvador's room and upstairs in the Chalet at the Vallejo Home. Many of these clothing items are seldom, if ever used by docents and, as such, a more manageable costume bank is desirable. A better location for the costumes was also needed due to the heat and bat damage in the Swiss Chalet and water damage in Uncle Salvador's room.

A committee comprised of S/PSHPA board member Mary Ann Maslowski and State Park docents Carol Lavaroni, Amy Southwick, Marie-Therese Denning and S/PSHPA docent liaison Yvonne Bowers and myself set to work to cull costumes in both Uncle Salvador's room and the Swiss Chalet that were either not representative of the historic period our docents interpret or were too small or just plain worn and tired looking. Mary Ann Maslowski and I took a number of such costumes to a vintage clothing store in Santa Rosa and were able to sell some of them for \$50. Other pieces were dropped off at the Church Mouse.

Currently, Yvonne Bowers and I are in the process of creating an inventory of saved costumes. It's a time consuming job as no inventory has ever been compiled to my knowledge. Once completed though, the costumes will be moved to their new home upstairs in the Barracks (thanks to State Park Supervising Ranger Vince Anibale and State Park Aide Philip Herrschaft for clearing out a small room to make space for the costumes) so that repairs can be made to the ceiling and roof in Uncle Salvador's room. This re-organization will make it easier for our docents to borrow clean, beautiful period-appropriate costumes to wear for park events.

Frances Weiner, Costume Committee

Good News!

Added benefit for members from one of our Business Partners! Massage Envy, with locations in Sonoma and Santa Rosa, will now give a complimentary facial in addition to a one hour complimentary massage when you show your 2013 S/PSHPA membership card. For full information about member benefits from our Business Partners go to our website, sonomaparks.org, and click on Support Us. Please keep your membership up to date. If you receive a renewal reminder it means that your 12 month membership period is about to end. After a couple more reminders you will be dropped from the membership roll. Then you will no longer receive information about local Historic Parks Association and State Historic Parks activities nor receive member benefits. And we will miss your support. It is easier than ever to renew: just go to the website, sonomaparks.org, click on Support Us, and pay your dues through Paypal.



Docent Meeting
March 9th,
statistician Bob
Alwitt presented
some interesting
information on
2012 and 2011
docent tours.
2012 was the year
when the Toscano
(legacy) docents
and Park docents
were brought under
the same
roof. Sixteen
Toscano docents
joined fifty-three
active Park
docents midyear so
the statistics for
Toscano docents
cover only the
second half of
2012. In that
half year they
gave almost 400
hours of tours to
more than 5,000
visitors! Park
docents provided
1,200 tour hours
to almost 16,000
visitors. The tour
hours were
about the same as
in 2011 but
visitors count was
up 10%. As usual,
the Mission
was the most
popular site with
9,200 visitors
during the year.
The Barracks
showed the biggest
increase in
visitors: from
3,300 in 2011 to
4,200 in 2012,
even though the
tours offered were
reduced from 185
hours to 156
hours. Our
dedicated docents
continue to
provide valuable
interpretive and
historical
perspective to our
tourist and local
visitors.

The Mission
of the California
Department of Parks
and Recreation is to
provide the health,
inspiration, and
education of the
people of California
by helping to
preserve the State's
extraordinary
biological diversity,
protecting its most
valued natural and
cultural resources,
and creating
opportunities for
high-quality outdoor
recreation.

Sonoma/Petaluma State Historic Parks Association
P. O. Box 1702
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2012-13 Spring Newsletter

Become a member of SPSHPA

To pay by credit card please go to
www.sonomaparks.org/Support
Or, print and fill out this form and send with your check
to SPSHPA, PO Box1702
Sonoma, CA 95475

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Membership levels:

\$30 ___ Individual/family

\$60 ___ Business Sponsor

\$100 ___ Business Majordomo

\$500 ___ Business Patron

I would like to help in these activities:

(Please underline your interest)

Barracks Store, Gardening, Living History Re-enactor,
Craft demonstration, Chapel Concert Assistant, Special
Events Greeter, Public Relations, Website service

Other _____

2013 Business Members

In Sonoma:

Bear Moon Clothing Company
Barracks Gift Store
Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Store
Massage Envy
Readers Books
Sonoma Wine Hardware
Sonoma Wine Shop & Bodega

In Petaluma:

Far West Trading Company
Petaluma Art Supply
Petaluma Pie Company
Sonoma Coast Surf Shop
The Bus Stop