



# THE POPPY PAPER



Official Monthly Publication of the  
Boosters of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park  
A Non-Profit Organization

January 2010

## Memorial Bench Project

By Bob Jones

The ten park benches are finished, waterproofed, branded and in use! The **Memorial Bench Project**, a tribute to Martha Rosenberg and Jeanette Marline, culminated in a branding ceremony on Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

Madeleine Marietti, Jeanette's sister and a long-time friend to Martha, joined the BOOT Board, Chuck Ferrell, and Old Town's Blacksmith Todd Caffo to brand the benches. A "JM" and an "MR" brand, which had been created by our very own blacksmith team, were burned into the benches honoring Jeanette and Martha. After branding, the benches were moved to an area surrounding the campfire in the plaza.

Chuck Ferrell and Bob Jones have spent the past few months constructing the benches. They are large, sturdy benches that will last for many, many years as memorials to Jeannette and Martha. The park will utilize the benches as seating during all of our special events. At other times, the benches will be placed around the park to provide a welcome location for visitors to sit, relax, and perhaps reflect on the interesting history of Old Town San Diego.

As **YOU** sit on these benches, please take time to reflect upon the contributions made by Jeanette, Martha and **ALL** of the volunteers who enhance the experiences for the many visitors to Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.



*Chuck Ferrell*



**Martha Rosenberg Brand**



**Jeanette Marline Brand**



*Blacksmith Todd Caffo*

### BOOT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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|                 | Bob Jones  |                |
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## Treasurer's Notes

by Deanna Turton



As I write this article, Christmas is five days away and not all the stockings are hung in preparation for Santa's timely arrival on December 25th....but the gifts are in the mail, the annual holiday letter is written and taken to the post office, and the baking for Holiday in the Park is done. So, it is now time to take a breather in the final countdown of annual preparations and write my final financial report for this year!!!

November was a better month for BOOT in that we came out almost \$1,000 ahead, after all the bills were paid. Thank goodness for excellent sales in the BOOT store and \$499.00 earned in tours, because the daily average in the donation boxes is still going down. Although this is likely a result of the national economy, it is nonetheless strange...because park attendance is larger than last year.

On the expense side of the ledger, the following accounts had expenses over \$200.00:

- **BOOT Store** - \$1653.00 to restock inventory
- **Crafts** - \$283.37 for supplies (Without these dedicated volunteers...commonly known as "elves" at this time of year, the store would not have earned over \$4,000.00. in craft sales from January to the end of November of 2009!)
- **Halloween** - \$281.16 for props and also some supplies for next year.
- **Burros** - \$497.30 for care and feeding of the donkeys.

In preparing the financial report for the BOOT board meeting on Dec.16, I printed out a summary of how much BOOT has earned as of Nov. 30, and how much we spent as of that date. Subsequent to Nov. 30, of course, there is additional income from the BOOT store, tours, and the Holiday in the Park event, as well as expenses for all the usual things. However, as of Nov 20, BOOT had earned \$65,043.63 and spent \$57,254.32. In December, I also wrote a \$4,000.00 check for the PCA account, which the Park uses to fund the blacksmith and donkey program. Given that expense, it is clear that BOOT has earned a bit more than it spent during 2009, while still giving back its income to benefit the Park. This is exactly what a non-profit organization should be doing!!! Thanks to everyone who helped to make BOOT's success a reality!

## President's Notes

by Jeanne Ferrell

### *New Year, New Decade!*

Time to reflect on the past year and focus on the New Year...

This will be the year of strategic alliances and partnerships. It is clear that with the economic problems we are experiencing, we must try new and non-traditional ways to raise money. The BOOT Board is exploring many ways to meet our goals to support the State Park.

This is the perfect time for me to thank the members of the BOOT Board. We have a wonderfully dynamic and diverse Board. This is also a Board that really works by giving their time and money. I want to thank each member for the hours of service and dedication to our mission. The camaraderie of this Board is very special. Thanks to you all. You make life fun!

### **Holiday in the Park/ Las Posadas**

By Mary Jones

Thanks to everyone who helped put on a great event on Saturday, Dec. 12, 2009. Due to the rain, we moved our kids' crafts and food sales into the Wrightington Adobe. This turned out to be an ideal location. We had a crowd the entire afternoon. Our volunteers helped everyone make snowflakes, cornhusk dolls, paper flowers, and cloth dolls. I think we made a lot of new friends for the park.



We added about \$130.00 to our bank with our sales of cookies, fruitcake, and hot cider, as well as some donations for the crafts.

## View from the Porch

By Pat Schook

While reading personal accounts of folks coming West, some phrases kept popping up. They are not so common in conversation today. Do you know what they mean? Try your hand at matching the words or phrases with their meanings:

- |                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. At sixes and sevens | A. One who lived by his wits         |
| 2. Blatherskite        | B. Whiskey                           |
| 3. Burnt ones fingers  | C. To be confused or in disarray     |
| 4. Gewgaws             | D. One who talks too much            |
| 5. Humbuggery          | E. Glitzy items of no monetary value |
| 6. Pikers              | F. Trouble maker                     |
| 7. Hard case           | G. Talk that is designed to deceive  |
| 8. John Barleycorn     | H. Suffered loss through speculation |

ANSWERS: 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-E, 5-G, 6-H, 7-F, 8-B

## Superintendent's Message

by Richard Dennison

Historic Sector Visitor Services Superintendent

Thanks for supporting the Park in 2009. We have a lot to be thankful for as we look back on our memories.

In the upcoming year, as a State-BOOT partnership, we can strive toward continued higher goals of advocacy, fundraising, and outreach for new involvement in the organization. There are many resources and opportunities to help with these, including the upcoming national Association of Partnerships for Public Lands conference in our own Mission Valley this month.

As part of advocacy, cooperating associations, including BOOT, are asked by the California State Parks Foundation to help the "State Parks & Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010," also know as "State Parks Access Pass," to work to get this initiative on the ballot for the November, 2010 election. This proposal would add \$18 to vehicle registrations to provide a steady source of funding for parks to replace diminishing general fund support. The "Access Pass" would allow free access to all State Park Units where a vehicle fee may be charged. Further information is on the California State Park Foundation website at [www.calparks.org](http://www.calparks.org).

As the State and Department budgets are very limited right now, it is important to provide the best operation in the park as a valued getaway and opportunity for the community and other visitors. Refining our existing program quality is the focus - - period attire, volunteers, tours, and museum staffing are some of our goals for the New Year.

**On behalf of the Staff of State Parks, thanks for your support, and best wishes for the New Year!!**



## From the Editor's Desk...

As I was contemplating my Poppy Paper article for the New Year, my initial thought was, "Perhaps a list of the Top 10 New Year's Resolutions would be fun!" After reading several articles with that theme, a common thread ran through them: A desire for self-improvement! Losing weight was nearly always at the top of the list...and certainly on the top of mine! Exercising more, drinking less, stopping smoking, saving money, getting organized, and spending more time with family and friends were also common to each list. However, I was astounded that **IF** any of the lists included "Volunteering" or "Helping Others" – that category always ended up at the **END** of the list!

Throughout centuries - and I believe from the beginning of human time - people have realized that generosity and giving to others is the only way that societies can survive and flourish. Fairy tales from our childhood laud the givers and chastise the stingy ones. Every writer, whether a politician or a humorist (sometimes it's hard to tell the difference), has at one time or another praised the human spirit that gives of oneself for a greater cause. Therefore, "volunteering" does appear to be one of the best methods for self-improvement.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "**Life's most persistent and urgent question is: what are you doing for others?**" The Corporation for National and Community Service honors Dr. King's legacy by asking Americans to make the King Holiday, January 18, 2010, a national day of service. Instead of just one day of service, I suggest a "resolution" to put volunteering at the top of your list every day of the year! I offer the following list of quotes that I hope you find inspirational...and something to consider while chomping on that celery stick or running on the treadmill.

### Happy New Year AND Happy Reading!

[ruthfrench@earthlink.net](mailto:ruthfrench@earthlink.net) - deadline is the 25<sup>th</sup>  
(handwritten deadline the 20<sup>th</sup> - in my volunteer folder)

## 2010 New Year Quotes

He who obtains has little. He who scatters has much.

*Lao-Tzu, Chinese Philosopher, Founder of Taoism (600 BC - ?)*

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

*Aesop, Greek Slave & Fable Author (620 BC - 560 BC)*

I think one's feelings waste themselves in words;  
they ought all to be distilled into actions and into actions which bring results.

*Florence Nightingale, English nurse in Crimean War (1820 - 1910)*

We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.

*Sir Winston Churchill, British Politician (1874-1965)*

You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it's a little thing, do something for others –  
something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.

*Albert Schweitzer, French Philosopher & Physician (1875 - 1965)*

The human contribution is the essential ingredient.

It is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live.

*Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, American Educator, Founder of NRTA (National Retired Teachers Association)  
and AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) (1884-1967)*

I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give.  
I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.

*C.S. Lewis, British Academic, Writer, Christian Apologist (1898-1963)*

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful people could change the world.

Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

*Margaret Mead, American Cultural Anthropologist (1901-1978)*

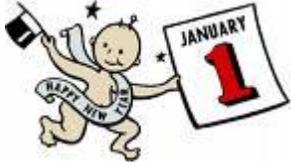
It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.

*Mother Teresa, Albanian-born Roman Catholic Missionary (1910-1997)*

Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.

*John F. Kennedy, 35<sup>th</sup> President of the United States (1917-1963)*

# January 2010

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday | Wednesday                               | Thursday | Friday   | Saturday                             |
|---|---|---------|---|----------|--|--------------------------------------|
|  <h2 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">HAPPY NEW YEAR!</h2> |   |         |   |          |  | 2                                    |
| 3   | 4<br>Garden Group   | 5       | 6                                       | 7        | 8<br>9am - Crafting behind Rob-Rose; Sewing upstairs McCoy | 9                                    |
| 10  | 11<br>Garden Group  | 12      | 13                                      | 14       | 15   | 16<br>10am - VIP Meeting McCoy House |
| 17  | 18<br>Garden Group<br>Martin Luther King, Jr. Bithday Holiday | 19      | 20<br>1pm - BOOT Board Mtg. Café Coyote | 21       | 22   | 23                                   |
| 24  | 25<br>Garden Group  | 26      | 27                                      | 28       | 29   | 30                                   |
| 31  |   |         |   |          |  |                                      |

December

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

Notes:

February

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

