



THE POPPY PAPER



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

April 2018

Archaeologists' Tour

of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

*By Michael Sampson
Volunteer, Fiber Arts Guild*



The Society for California Archaeology, a nonprofit professional organization, held their annual conference in San Diego on March 8-11, 2018. One of the conference events included a tour for society members, led by Dr. Susan Hector and Michael Sampson, on Sunday afternoon, March 11. Dr. Hector is a Park Volunteer and BOOT Board Member, and Mr. Sampson is a Park Volunteer and a retired State Park archaeologist. Nicole Turner, archaeologist for San Diego Coast District, also participated in the tour. The focus of the tour was a discussion of the various archaeological projects that have been completed in the Park.

At each location, Susan and Michael discussed both the history of the building and the archaeological investigations that occurred at the building site. The tour ended inside the Roberson-Rose Building, so the participants could view the diorama and see the new historic ceramic exhibit prepared by San Diego State University (SDSU) students, under the supervision of Dr. Sarah Elkind, who is also a Park Volunteer. At this point in the tour, participants received a gift donated by BOOT and a goodie bag donated by BOOT President Jeanne Farrell. Susan also passed out BOOT membership forms to each tour participant and shamelessly requested donations for the Park. The tour resulted in \$152 in donations from the tour members. That money will be designated by BOOT for Park cultural programs.

MONTHLY BOOT BOARD MEETINGS

BOOT Board Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday, 1:00 pm, at Café Coyote. Monthly Board Meetings are always open to the public.



Treasurer's Notes

By Deanna Turton

In February, BOOT came out ahead \$1,449.07 after all bills were paid and income from sales and donations was put in the bank. The daily average in the donation boxes was also pretty good for early in the year at \$67.63 a day. At the beginning of this year, I requested that all envelopes from the various guilds be marked either "sales" or "donations," as BOOT has to pay sales taxes on things that we sell. I am pleased to say that the guilds in the *Threads of the Past* location sold \$207.00 worth of goods this month. Bravo ladies!

Expenses over \$300 during February were:

- \$3,596.51 - The Park Store (inventory replacement) Now that businesses have their inventory completed, it is time to order again. One author gave us the remainder of her book inventory...if we came and picked it up!
- \$ 776.19 - Period Attire Bank and Subsidies
- \$ 378.63 - Burros (care and feeding)
- \$ 355.72 - Craft Committee (supplies - mainly fabric and herbs)

Eight other spending categories were under or at \$300.

As of the middle of March, when I am writing this article, I can say that I am about half done with the 990E form for filing data with the Internal Revenue Service. I only have Schedule A left to do, and then I will proceed on to the State form, the form to the Attorney General and the Annual Report for Sacramento. However, after all the balancing is done, the other forms are not too hard...one just has to change how the data is written down on each form.

A New Ceramic Exhibit in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

By Gregg Giacomuzzi, State Park Interpreter I



For the past 12 months, a group of San Diego State University (SDSU) students, from both the Ceramics and History Departments, have been researching and re-creating Majolica pottery for Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. The project began with the students studying potsherds of pottery unearthed from past San Diego Presidio archeological digs. With these sherds in hand and other available resources, the students were able to re-create beautiful reproduction bowls (soperos) and plates. On March 8, 2018 the reproduced ceramics were displayed at the Robinson-Rose Visitor Center. A small reception was held that night, attended by students, faculty and Park staff.

Along with ceramic pieces, three large interpretative panels were developed under the direction of Dr. Sarah Elkind, Professor of History at SDSU and Amy Lew, Old Town San Diego State Curator. The interpretative panels focused on the Majolica pottery process, as well as trade routes used by ship captains to transport ceramics during the 19th century throughout the world. One specific interpretive panel gave special emphasis to Henry Fitch, a well-known San Diego trader. The long-term goal of this project is to incorporate some of these reproduction ceramics in a few of our museums throughout the Park.

VOLUNTEERS IN THE PARK

By Tim Downing, Volunteer Coordinator

April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month, and here at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park we have many volunteers to appreciate! We have 200 wonderful volunteers here in Old Town, 30 of whom joined our family as new volunteers in 2017. I want to thank EACH of them for the hours they donated last year. The total number of hours was 15,949...a 42% increase from 2016! This is equivalent to 10.6 seasonal staff members or 7.6 permanent staff members.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park has nearly 4 million visitors each year. These visitors experience early San Diego history through the wide range of living history activities, made possible by our volunteers! Our volunteers participated in 15 special events throughout the year, and many helped nearly 10,000 children in our school program! Without each of them and their talents, our living history program would not be what it is.

I would like to give special thanks to our top ten volunteers who have the most hours for 2017.

1. **Steve Van Wormer, Blacksmith and Volunteer of the Year with 745 hours!**
2. Patrick "Patty" Rogers, Blacksmith with 650 hours
3. Dolly Wilson, Period Attire Support with 579 hours
4. Jo Beth Hall, Craft Committee with 532 hours
5. J.B. Alexander, Blacksmith with 522 hours
6. Patt Seitas, Quilting with 476 hours
7. Mary Jones, Park Store with 460 hours
8. Jeana Skinner, YSCM with 453 hours
9. Karen Beery, Interpretive Planning with 369 hours
10. Deanna Turton, Gardening with 347 hours

When you see these volunteers, please give them congratulations for their dedication and the time they have donated to the Park.

Another group I want to say "Thank You" to are the missionaries who are here Monday–Friday, helping in the museums. These young men and women are part of the Young Christian Mission Service (YCMS) from the Church of Latter Day Saints. They have just finished their first year here in the Park, and in that time they have donated 2,179 hours. That is 14% of our volunteer hours with just seven people! By having the YCSM here in the Park, it has allowed us to keep museums open despite staffing shortages. They have also been a great help in the museums while Park staff members conduct the school tour programs.

There is another group of volunteers here in the Park that I think we all overlook. I would really like us all to thank the six families who volunteer in Old Town...the De Jauregui (The DJs), DiNaso, Goodells, Reynolds, Rodrigues and Rodgers families. Every one of these families gives up a lot of their free time to our Park. They add great layers to our living history program, as well. Our Park visitors love seeing the families volunteering together. Each of these families have the same passion and dedication to our Park as all of our volunteers. However, it might be a little more than we think. Why? Well, we all know period attire is expensive. Now, take that number times the number of family members. The children are also growing like weeds and out-growing period attire quickly. These families give us what little free time they have between sports, school, church, theater, musicals, music lessons, jobs and just "tweens" wanting to be teenagers! The dedication these families have for our Park is amazing! Each family contributes in different ways to our living history program. So next time you see these families in the Park, take the time to say "Thank You!"

I am grateful for all of our Park volunteers, and I am happy to work for them and with them!

From the Editor's Desk...

Wow, what a year the Volunteers in the Park had in 2017! So many individuals and families gave much of their time to support Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, and their efforts are certainly appreciated. Thanks to Volunteer Coordinator Tim Downing for keeping everything organized and for giving us an update on their incredible contributions.

Additional thanks go out to two of our “newer” volunteers, Susan Hector and Michael Sampson, for submitting wonderful academic articles in the past several months. Their articles have helped our readers understand the cultural and archaeological significance of our great Park!

And, finally, many thanks to BOOT Treasurer Deanna Turton and Park Interpreter Gregg Giacomuzzi for their monthly contributions to The Poppy Paper. Without all of you, *The Poppy Paper* would not be possible...and I would have nothing to do☺

Happy Reading!

Ruth French, Editor, poppypapereditor@gmail.com

(Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.)

2018 VIP MEETINGS

| Dates/Times | Location | Focus Area |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| April 14, 8:00-10:00 am | Seeley Theater | VIP Appreciation |
| April 24, 8:30-9:30 am | Mc Coy Museum | VIP Training: Interpretation in Old Town |
| May 12, 8:30-9:30 am | Mc Coy Museum | VIP Training: Take Home Messages for our Park Guests |
| June 9, 8:30-9:30 am | Mc Coy Museum | VIP Training: Interacting with our Park Guests |
| July and August | Various Locations | Stage Coach Days |
| September 15, 8:30-9:30 am | Mc Coy Museum | VIP Training: Museums. What we need to know and what is excepted of us. |
| October 13, 5:00-7:00 pm | Seeley Yard | VIP Meeting: Bonfire and Pot Luck |
| November 10, 8:30-9:30 am | Mc Coy Museum | VIP Training: Living History and our Guilds |
| December 1, 8:30-9:30 am | McCoy | VIP Meeting |

Native Plant Landscape Work Party

Saturday, April 14, 9:30 to Noon

All Hands On Deck...the Old Town Landscape Needs Weeders!!!

The good news is we finally are getting rain, and the natives love it. The bad news is we are finally getting rain, and the weeds love it, too. Please come help us grub out unwanted non-native pest plants. Bring your own gloves and hand tools, or share ours. After we hit the noon hour, some of us will go for a no-host lunch.

The landscape is at the corner of Congress and Taylor Streets. Park for free in the lot off Calhoun Street, walk past the green dumpsters.

Questions? Contact Kay or Peter at OldTownLandscape@cnpsd.org



THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS!



Cold Stone in Old Town San Diego

Jeanne Ferrell
 Cell: (619) 995-0787
 2448 San Diego Avenue
 San Diego, CA 92110
 619-543-9057
 coldstoneotsd@yahoo.com

FIESTA DE REYES
 proudly supports **BOOT!**

Great Mexican Food! Strolling Mariachis!
 Outdoor Dining! Folklorico Dancing!
 19 Unique Shops! Year-Round Events!

619-297-3100 FiestaDeReyes.com



*The Boosters
 are the gems
 of Old Town!*



- Thank you for all that you do for our community -

DISCOVER OLD TOWN
 WALKING MAP & DINING GUIDE
 KAREN SPRING • 619.491.0099 • ALPHABETHOUSE@ATT.NET



TAFOYA & SON
 (DEALER IN)
POTTERY

Imported & Domestic
 Mexican Talavera Pottery.
 Silver Jewelry.
 Art Gallery.
 Mexican Folk Art and Crafts.
 Mexican Dresses.

BOOT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------|
| President: | Jeanne Ferrell | (619) 543-9057 |
| Vice President: | Gary Turton | (619) 222-0047 |
| Secretary: | Linda Jacobo | (619) 602-0009 |
| Treasurer: | Deanna Turton | (619) 222-0047 |
| BOOT Store: | Mary Jones | |
| Historian/Grants: | Bob Wohl | |
| Restoration Spec: | Chuck Ferrell | |
| Web Master: | Bob Jones | |
| Membership: | Susan Hector | |
| Board Members: | Cindy Furlong | |
| | Becky Halliburton | |
| | Tom Young | |
| | ~ ~ ~ | |
| Poppy Paper | Ruth French | |
| Editor: | poppypapereditor@gmail.com | |
| BOOT Website: | http://boostersofoldtown.com/ | |
| Park Website: | www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego | |



BOOSTERS OF OLD TOWN

San Diego State Historic Park
4002 Wallace Street
San Diego, CA 92110

Membership Application or Renewal

- _____ \$20.00 Senior (62 yrs. or older)/Single Student
- _____ \$25.00 Single Supporting Member
- _____ \$30.00 Senior Couple (62 yrs. or older)
- _____ \$40.00 Family (2 or more individuals)
- _____ \$155.00 Life Member (62 yrs. or older)
- _____ \$55.00 Corporate Basic Membership*
(includes window decal and 1 month business card sized ad in *The Poppy Paper*)
- _____ \$130.00 Corporate Enhanced Membership*
(includes window decal and 1 year business card sized ad in *The Poppy Paper*)
- _____ Donation Enclosed (Or Gift in Honor of: _____)

**Corporate applicants only: Please enclose a business card or logo for inclusion in The Poppy Paper.*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE # _____ **EMAIL** _____

TO USE A CHARGE CARD: _____ **VISA** _____ **MasterCard** _____ **Exp Date: Month** _____ **Year** _____

Card Number: _____ **M M Y Y Y Y**
CSC/CVC: _____ **Three numbers**

Signature: _____

Send to: BOOT Membership Committee, 4002 Wallace Street, San Diego, CA 92110