



THE POPPY PAPER



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

June 2018



By Tim Downing, Volunteer Coordinator

As many of you know, we have over 20 living history guilds here in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Most of our guilds are only here a few times a month, putting on living history demonstrations for the Park visitors. The Blacksmithing Guild is one exception, being open four days a week...or, if you want to look at it another way, 16 days a month of living history that our Park visitors get to enjoy! Yes, there are two park staff members in the shop, but there are 24 very active volunteers!

Many of us have seen these men and women working and talking to the Park visitors. However, have you ever really paid attention to what they are working on or making? "Horseshoes" is the number one guess, even from our own volunteers. I will let you in on a little secret, the only horseshoes you will see them "working" on are the ones they clean up to sell in The Park Store. Most of our blacksmiths have never made a horseshoe! The second most often guess is, "whatever they want." In fact, many of them do work on their own projects as they are demonstrating to the Park guests.

If they are not making horseshoes and they are not just making whatever they want, just what are they working on? Projects for the museums and guilds! Our shop is a fully functional blacksmith shop. They have made many of the items for the cooking and soap guilds including utensils, trivets, trammels and cooking irons. You will see these items in use every time these guilds are in the Park. Have you seen the ingenious trivets, candleholders, fat lamps, and Betty lamps in the **Machado y Stewart** and the tienda in **La Casa de Estudillo** museums? Well, all these items were created in the Blacksmith Shop.

What if our blacksmiths do not have the "how to" on making something from the 1800s? Well, here comes the research! Some of the lamps and the whaling items made in the shop needed thorough research. Yes, there was whaling here in San Diego. Whaling was practiced in San Diego, albeit from the shore. Next time you are by the blacksmith shop, look at the harpoon, killing lance and boarding knife. The blacksmiths take great care to fashion all tools and wares authentically with traditional 19th century methods, and the whaling tools are no exception.



Treasurer's Notes

By Deanna Turton

April brought good news to resulting in a profit of \$4,651.61. The daily average in the donation boxes was \$74.67, which was very generous on the part of Park visitors. Additionally, BOOT received a grant of \$3,500.00 from Wells Fargo for assistance with school tours. (In May we received an additional \$4,000 from Wells Fargo for summer events.) Such grants ease the financial burden on BOOT so we can afford to fund other needs in the Park.

Expenses over \$300 were as follows:

- \$2,950.94 - The Park Store (additional inventory)
- \$1,203.00 - State of California (first quarter sales taxes)
- \$ 785.54 - Craft Committee (supplies, mostly fabric)
- \$ 468.75 - July 4th (preparatory expenses)

Plus 13 other spending categories at or below \$300.

And finally, all the tax forms are in the mail. Between now and the middle of June, I will be getting caught up on odds and ends before leaving for Maryland on my annual visit to see our son and his family. This year, we will be adding two basketball tournaments to the schedule: one in South Carolina and one in Tennessee. So, it will be an opportunity to see parts of the country where I have never been. Consequently, there will be NO Treasurer's report in the July issue of *The Poppy Paper*. I will also miss the Park's Historic Fourth of July event...the first time in 30 years. While I am gone, Becky Halliburton will have the checkbook. Please try to submit funding requests before the middle of June to ease the workload on Becky. She will also be lead cashier at the ticket booth this year on July 4th for which I am very grateful.

Annual Report

There will be a copy of the 2017 Annual Report posted on the BOOT bulletin board at the head of the Robinson-Rose Visitors Center stairs. It contains lots of detailed financial information, if you are the sort of person who likes facts and figures and have time to review it.

However, I will give everyone the quick version, just in case you do not have time to review the whole document. I would also be happy to answer any questions. I am usually in the Park on Wednesday mornings, in the garden on Monday mornings, or by special appointment.

Income totals:

- Profit from The Park Store - \$39,026.79
- Total from donations - \$63,119.14
- Total income from events and programs - \$3,979.49
- Total Revenue - \$112,017.69

Expense totals:

- Contributions to California State Parks - \$83,882.88
- Management Expenses - \$13,257.58
- Total Expenses - \$97,140.46

As you can see, by subtraction of Total expenses from Total Revenue, BOOT earned \$14,877.23 in 2017, so it was a good year. A copy of the Federal 990-EZ will also be posted on the Attorney General's website when that agency gets it put up on their website. I expect that will take some time, as the deadline for filing was May 15th.

Updates at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

By: Gregg Giacomuzzi, State Park Interpreter I

- The contractors have finished the interior work at La Casa de Estudillo. The hope is to open the building, with completed interpretative panels and finished exhibits, by the middle of June.
- Another set of contractors will begin the third phase of ADA enhancements and retrofits throughout the Park in the fall.
- A contract has been awarded to demolish the Old Caltrans building, which is now part of the State Park. The demolition process could take up to one year, and part of Parking Lot F will be closed for use by the contractor.
- The restroom, fifty yards behind the Colorado House, is now open. This restroom was closed for over five years and is open with limited operating hours.
- Bob Jones, Boosters Board Member, has fixed the Old Town Diorama electrical issues in the Robinson-Rose Visitor Center. Repairs included fixing the sound, lighting and wiring in the diorama.
- Amy Lew and Megan Curtis are continuing to work on replacing the interpretative panels in Seeley Stable. They hope to hand the project off to a fabricator very soon.
- For the last few months, Vanessa Jones and I have been updating the Period Attire Vendor List. We hope the list will be done by Halloween.
- A new accessible restroom is being added in Fiesta de Reyes. Construction is currently underway.
- The Boosters of Old Town were awarded a number of grants to support the summer special events.
- Tim Downing has led multiple interpretative training sessions for volunteers during the month of May.
- The adobe demonstration area will soon be moving from Seeley Yard to the empty space next to the Johnson House, behind the covered wagon. Approximately seven years ago, the previous adobe pit was in the same spot, before moving to Seeley Yard.
- The Fourth of July is coming up, and we are looking for people willing to donate pies and cakes for the Cake Walk. If you would like to help with this popular Fourth of July activity, please bring your baked goods to the Robinson-Rose Visitor Center the day before the Fourth.

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.

From the Editor's Desk...

Every month, I wait for the contributors to *The Poppy Paper* to send their articles in. Once the deadline hits, I gather all of the submissions up, lay them out like a bunch of puzzle pieces (in digital form), and “play” with them to figure out how they will fit together into one issue.

After several days of shuffling around the pieces, the hard part comes in. I then have to go to WORK! I need to think about proper spelling, grammar, sentence structure, subject-verb agreement, etc. Sometimes I feel really guilty about changing someone’s words...and hope I don’t hurt any feelings if I do so☺

After a couple of days of that, then I get to have some fun again...looking for pictures and artwork to accompany the pieces. In fact, I have had the front page picture of the blacksmiths saved digitally for some time. Unfortunately, I didn’t receive any photos from the Cinco de Mayo weekend...and the ones that I have are from many years ago. So, PLEASE send me photos of the significant events that are happening in and around Old Town. They may not be used immediately...but, when the right article comes around, the photos add so much!

Get your comfortable shoes, your sunscreen **AND YOUR CAMERAS (phones)** ready...Stagecoach Days is right around the corner!!!

Happy Reading!

Ruth French, Editor, popypapereditor@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
June 9, 8:30-9:30 am	Mc Coy Museum	VIP Training: Interacting with our Park Guests
July and August	Various Locations	Stagecoach Days
September 15, 8:30-9:30 am	Mc Coy Museum	VIP Training: Museums. What we need to know and what is expected 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

Celebrating the West on the Move 2018 Schedule of Stagecoach Days Events

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Times</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 4 th	July 4 th Celebration	11:00am – 4:00pm	Plaza
July 7 th	Games and Amusements	12:00pm – 4:00pm	Plaza
July 14 th	Soldiers and Citizens	12:00pm – 4:00pm	Plaza
July 28 rd	Women of the West	12:00pm – 4:00pm	Plaza
August 4 th	Trades that Shaped the West	12:00pm – 4:00pm	Plaza
August 11 th	Days of the Vaqueros	12:00pm – 4:00pm	Plaza
August 18 th	Twainfest	11:00am – 5:00pm	Plaza

Volunteers in the Park

By Tim Downing, Volunteer Coordinator

I want to thank all the volunteers who braved the crowds to help put on our living history programs for Cinco de Mayo weekend. The park saw record-breaking crowds this year, both May 5th and May 6th. No one can remember a day when as many people were in the Park as on the 5th! Cinco de Mayo weekend is one of the only weekends when we ask for volunteers on a Sunday. I am happy to say that we had a good turnout of volunteers, and were able to offer our fantastic living history programs on Sunday, as well.

Whenever large events are held, such as Cinco de Mayo, which are put on by groups other than State Parks, it is always wonderful to have our living history programs involved. Every event done in the Park is important and brings visitors and revenue into the Park. Having volunteers and staff do our living history programs during these events is helping to bring the true mission of the Park to our visitors.

Speaking of events, the 4th of July will be here soon, and this means Stagecoach Days! You all will start to see volunteer requests soon.

We are also looking for volunteers who would like to join the cooking guild and the gardening guild. The cooking guild keeps busy with all the summer events and the gardening guild keeps the Park looking beautiful! So, if you are interested in these guilds, please let me know.

Thank you again for everything you all do for our Park! Each of you truly makes a difference to not just the Park, but to our visitors as well.



Annual Descendants Luncheon Saturday, June 23, 2018

By Linda Jacobo

The Descendants of Early San Diego will be celebrating their 36th annual meeting this year on Saturday, June 23 at Café Coyote in Old Town San Diego. This yearly celebration of San Diego's early San Diego pioneers is a favorite gathering by their many descendants, both locally and from afar.

In the past few years, the event has grown by leaps and bounds, creating a much-too-crowded atmosphere. This year we are moving the Descendant's Research Workshop, usually scheduled for the same day as the luncheon, to Sunday, June 24 at the McCoy House inside the Old Town State Historic Park. The date change will allow for more room, both at the luncheon and the workshop. Georgia Callian's popular family history workshop will be available from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. This is a great opportunity to research your local family roots with our extensive collection of books, brochures, documents and photos.

If you haven't attended the event in the past, it's a wonderful opportunity to touch base with other descendants, and possibly meet new cousins. We share family stories, histories and great photos. You can attend one event or both!! Reservations are required for Saturday's luncheon, which tends to fill up early, so let us know soon if you are interested. Email your interest to EarlySanDiego@gmail.com – we will send you details and registration forms.

Boosters of Old Town, Descendants Committee
San Diego State Historic Park
4002 Wallace Street, San Diego, CA 92110



2018 CALPA Conference
Fostering Excellence
Park Leadership in the Golden State
 in collaboration with California State Parks
 October 23 through October 26, 2018

The California League of Parks Associations and California State Parks invites park partners throughout California to join us for a conference focused on providing professional development, training and more for the many partner organizations that work tirelessly to promote, support, enhance and maintain California's 280 state parks. Sessions will be designed for nonprofit professionals, board members, volunteers, community leaders and California State Park staff.

The conference will be held at the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom, CA.
702 Gold Lake Drive
Folsom, CA 95630

Reservations: (800)-808-5253
 Phone: (916) 351-1500
 Fax: (916) 351-1511

Conference room rates are \$95 when reserving for CALPA Conference.

Native Plant Landscape Work Party
2nd Saturday of Every Month - 9:30 to noon

WE NEED YOU! It is seen by more visitors than any other native plant landscape in San Diego. A few die-hard members have tended it for ten years. We hope more CNPS members will come help us and bond with it. After we hit the noon hour, some of us will go for a no-host lunch.

Please come help us grub out unwanted non-native pest plants. Bring water, sun protection, your own gloves and hand tools...or share ours.

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

Questions?
 Kay or Peter

OldTownLandscape@cnpsd.org



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	

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

GRAND ENTERPRISES, LLC



FRED N. GRAND, CHA

President  fgrand@grandenterprisesllc.com
858-967-4055  www.grandenterprisesllc.com

RETAIL (619) 297-2931

el Centro Artesano
Division of Artisan Imports, Inc.

Featuring Hand Crafted Pottery,
Giftware from Mexico
and Wind Chimes

Monica Putland, Mgr. 2637 San Diego Ave.
San Diego, CA 92110

"Located in Old Town State Historic Park"

TAFoya & SON
DEALER IN
POTTERY

Imported & Domestic

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

NWB environmental services, LLC
A CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FIRM

Balboa Park Plaza
3033 5th Ave., Ste. 210
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 546-5196
mtaylor@nwbenvironmental.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

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**



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