



CALIFORNIA
MISSIONS
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News

The missions are California's cultural treasures. Working together we can ensure their future.



California Missions Foundation

Summer 2017

CMF GRANT HELPS TO IDENTIFY UNMARKED BURIAL SITE AT OLD MISSION SANTA INES

A major project to determine if there are additional burials outside of the Old Mission Santa Ines walls was recently made possible by a CMF grant. After a two-phase effort that included both ground penetrating radar as well as a trained canine unit, historic burials were indeed discovered just outside of the current Mission cemetery walls and beneath ground where the Mission holds its annual summer Fiesta.

Long-time CMF member and Mission archivist Sheila Benedict has been reviewing the mission's burial records for more than decade and, in all, counted just under 2,000 names that were not marked in the present-day cemetery footprint. Based on her hunch, an institute team specializing in aged human remains was arranged using a grant from the California Missions Foundation.

In the end, a broad burial site, much larger than the current cemetery, was found. Ms. Benedict says that the origins of those buried is unknown, adding that they could be native Chumash, or a combination of Chumash and Spanish soldiers.

Both mission staff and Chumash tribal elders were on-site for the multi-day project. Any future marking or moving of the burials will be done with close approval of the Chumash, said Ms. Benedict.

The Chumash tribal chairman, Kenneth Kahn, told a local newspaper that "he appreciated the great working relationship the tribe and the mission have currently," adding "the Chumash Tribal Elders Council is mostly concerned with protecting the newly confirmed burial site."

"We've always understood that thousands of our people are on site there resting, and we want to make sure that we respect that and that any perimeters are respected as well," Kahn told the newspaper. "We know that a lot of activities take place on the mission grounds, and we want to make sure that there aren't any activities happening on top of the grave sites."







CMF LAUNCHES A STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

By Ty O. Smith
CMF Chairman

On a bright morning in early May, members of the CMF board gathered in San Francisco. They came by car and by plane from all over the state and assembled in an office conference room on the Embarcadero. The purpose of this meeting was to begin the process of creating a strategic plan. Once completed, this plan will guide the activities of CMF for the next three years. For a plan to be truly strategic, it must attend to three distinct, yet interrelated concerns: 1) organizational structure, 2) stakeholder needs and expectations, and 3) measurable goals and objectives.

With these concerns in mind, members of CMF's board engaged in a day-long workshop. The core of this meeting was a SWOT analysis workshop wherein the group contemplated CMF's many strengths and engaged in critical reflection of its weaknesses. The group then explored potential opportunities and grappled with future trends that may threaten CMF's ability to meet its mission. Having gathered this information, the strategic planning committee will soon begin consulting with CMF members and key stakeholders to further this initial analysis.

Another important aspect of this planning process will be the study of similar institutions to get a sense of organizational models and success stories from similar institutions.

CMF can do anything, but it cannot do everything. The strategic planning process allows for an analytical and systematic examination of what CMF is and what it can be. Equipped with this information, the board, its membership, and key stakeholders, can develop specific and measurable goals prioritized to maximize CMF's efficiency and its capacity to meet its mission.

The Strategic Planning Committee expects to complete the planning process and to publish the strategic plan by early fall.



CMF Chairman Ty O. Smith leads the board Strategic Planning session in San Francisco

CMF EXPANDS ITS STUDENT FIELD TRIP PROGRAM "ALL-ABOARD-THE-BUS"

Collaboration with Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation Benefits Students throughout the Central Coast

The California Missions Foundation and the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, operators of the historic Santa Barbara Presidio, are teaming up to bring CMF's "All-Aboard-the-Bus" Field Trip Program to the Central Coast this coming school year.

The collaboration will give third grade students the opportunity to visit the Presidio and learn about early California history and culture. CMF's overall AATB program will also be sending Title 1 fourth graders to Missions Santa Barbara, San Buenaventura, La Purísima, Santa Inés and San Luis Obispo beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

Fourth grade students throughout the state of California study the Missions and California history, and third grade students study 'communities' as part of their Social Studies curriculum.

Last year CMF was able to send more than 4,000 fourth grade students representing 54 schools in Monterey and the greater Los Angeles County. Contributions from several CMF supporters and partner foundations make this program successful.



Commemorating the collaboration, from right, SBTHP Executive Director Anne Petersen, SBTHP Director of Programs Kevin McGarry, CMF Director of External Relations Sally Becker, and CMF Executive Director David A. Bolton at the historic Presidio Real de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park.



CMF staff members Sally Becker and Gonzalo Sarmiento at Mission San Gabriel as part of an "All-Aboard-the-Bus" field trip during the recent school year

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB KIDS EXPERIENCE SANTA BARBARA MISSION AND PRESIDIO

100 Youngsters Visit Historic Sites as Part of California Missions Foundation "All-Aboard-the-Bus" Field Trip Program

SANTA BARBARA - Youngsters from the Downtown Boys and Girls Club summer camp program enjoyed a unique day experiencing local history as part of the California Missions Foundation's "All-Aboard-the-Bus" Field Trip Program. One hundred youth toured both the Presidio and Mission as part of the outing. Santa Barbara Airbus generously provided the transportation between both of these historic sites.

"The field trip provided an opportunity for the kids to learn about early California history and see these historic places in person," said David A. Bolton, CMF executive director and a member of the Boys and Girls Club board. "All of the youngsters seemed to enjoy the up-close experience, and the staffs at both the Presidio and Mission were so helpful and knowledgeable. It was a great day for our local youth."

CMF has teamed up with the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic President and officials at Old Mission Santa Barbara to offer this unique summer learning experience.

"We are appreciative of the California Missions Foundation for their assistance in our effort to make Santa Barbara's founding place accessible to all," said Dr. Anne Petersen, SBTHP Executive Director. "The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation is thrilled to host the Boys Club of Santa Barbara at El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park."

Both the Presidio and Old Mission host hundreds of elementary school children throughout the year, and this joint effort is bringing together both of Santa Barbara's oldest historical sites for a unique summer experience.

"Field trips are so important to stimulating our youth, and often we hear reports back from teachers and students alike that their visit to a local Mission or other historical site makes them more motivated to learn about other topics after the field trip," added Bolton. "CMF has had the dream to expand our "All-Aboard-the-Bus" program to Santa Barbara after we moved our Foundation offices here four years ago, and we are so happy to be launching this initiative working together with the Presidio, the Mission and the local Boys and Girls Club.'

The Downtown Boys and Girls Club hosts thousands of kids throughout the year, and its summer camp is popular with many of the local youth. The summer camp includes different 'theme' weeks throughout the summer, and the Wednesday field trip is part of the Boys and Girls Club history week.

"The children learned so much about the history of the Mission and how it was built," said Calvin Mass, operations manager and program director at the Downtown Santa Barbara Boys and Girls Club. "The children learned about the important role the Chumash played in building the Mission. The docents were great and informative. The kids really enjoyed the day."

"We're really excited to successfully launch the 'All-Aboard-the-Bus' summer program in Santa Barbara, and we are looking forward to expanding it throughout the state," said Sally Becker, CMF's director of external relations.

"The kids asked so many questions, and they were able to compare the Presidio Chapel to the Mission Church," said CMF Education Coordinator Gonzalo Sarmiento. "At both sites, the children were engaged by the Docents."

The students ranged in age from 5 to 17.

"I liked the backyard at the Presidio because they can plant a lot of things," said Jacob, set to enter second grade this fall.

"I like how much space the Chapel has - it's the biggest room at the Presidio," added Julian who will also be attending second grade.

"I really liked the Chapel because of the painting on the walls," said Eliana, another soon-to-be second grader. "The colors were made from rocks, plants and dirt."

[Click here to see the Boys & Girls Club "All-Aboard-the-Bus" Field Trip featured on KEYT.](#)



Santa Barbara Boys & Girls Club with CMF at Mission Santa Barbara (above and below)





Boys & Girls Club members and staff visit the Santa Barbara Presidio



Club members with CMF Education Coordinator Gonzalo Sarmiento

PORTION OF EL CAMINO REAL RECEIVES SCENIC ROUTE DESIGNATION

As CMF continues to lead the U.S. effort to seek an UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Corridor designation for El Camino Real de las Californias, a big announcement happened this week as the Gaviota coast section of the Camino has been designated a State Scenic Highway. Dedicated in a ceremony at the Arroyo Hondo Vista Point, this 20-plus mile stretch of the Camino Real de las Californias is one of the last remaining undeveloped portions of more than 600-miles of Caminos that were the main transportation corridors in Alta California from San Diego to Sonoma. Soon the golden poppy signs identifying this stretch of Highway 101 as Scenic will be placed along the route.

The 21 miles designated as 'scenic' is a most pristine section of the El Camino and brings further attention to the Camino Real as a whole. This is the route of Portola in 1769 and de Anza in 1776. It winds its way westward from Goleta to beyond the Gaviota tunnel at the intersection of Highways 1 and 101. It includes grand vistas and unspoiled coastline with hills and arroyos full of biodiversity.

Today there are three State Parks beaches in this short section of the Camino: Gaviota, Refugio and El Capitan. Native American village sites dot the landscape. The Camino originally followed the paths used by Native Californians as trading and communication routes. These trails eventually became El Camino and today are the highways linking our states' towns, people and historic sites.

CMF continues to draw more attention to El Camino Real de las Californias, and the Native trails that preceded it. Hopefully one day it will all receive designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Corridor. The California Missions Foundation continues its strong support of this effort to recognize the important heritage and contributions of both Native Americans and the Spanish to develop the routes of communication and trade in the Californias. The Scenic Highway designation is a great step in that recognition.

CMF ANNUAL REPORT

The California Missions Foundation is pleased to publish the Foundation's 2016 Annual Report. Thank you to everyone that helped to make it a successful year. [Please click here](#) to see a digital version of the 2016 CMF Annual Report.

CALIFORNIA MISSIONS SEEK SUPPORT

CMF Continues its Efforts to Preserve our State's Historic Structures from San Diego to Sonoma

CMF is proud to report that three long-time partner Foundations have again generously contributed to help preserve our California Missions and related historical sites.

Over the summer, CMF is setting its sights on raising important funding for several projects throughout the state. These projects include four for site preservation projects, seven for art conservation, and three for collections care and management.

If you would like to contribute to any of these projects, please contact CMF Executive Director David A. Bolton at (805) 963-1633.

Painting and statue conservation funds are needed by the following missions: San Miguel, Santa Barbara Archive Library, San Luis Rey, San Buenaventura, San Gabriel, San Luis Obispo and La Purisima. The costs range from \$5,200 to \$10,100.

Collections care and management issues are foremost for Missions Carmel (needing \$10,000) and Soledad (just \$800) and the San Diego Presidio (\$10,000).

The three site preservation projects are flooring at San Antonio (\$10,000), and Ground Penetrating Radar studies at Santa Ines (\$5,200) and S.F. Solano at Sonoma (\$1,775).

CMF again thanks all of our Partner Foundations, organizations and individuals that have so generously supported our California Missions and related historic sites.

CMF WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

CMF would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to, and to welcome, three new staff members:

Sally Becker, Director, External Relations

Martha McGettigan Vallejo, Administration

Gonzalo Sarmiento, Education Coordinator

All three will be located at the Foundation's Santa Barbara headquarters.

CMF WEBSITE TO FEATURE NEW MISSIONS, PRESIDIOS AND HISTORIC SITES BLOG SECTION

Open to submissions from CMF members and other followers

CMF is launching a new blog section on the recently-expanded CMF website. This section will be updated regularly, and will include articles and stories about the California Missions and related historical entities, written by our knowledgeable CMF members and other followers of these California treasures and this unique chapter in our history.

We are inviting everyone to submit articles to be published on the website. We will include a wide range of topics, anything from scholarly research to reminiscences of a childhood visit to your favorite mission.

GENERAL VALLEJO MONUMENT DEDICATED IN SOMOMA

By Martha Vallejo McGettigan
Great, great granddaughter of M.G. Vallejo

A momentous event was held on Saturday, June 24 in the Pueblo of Sonoma. In these days of tearing down statues, plaques, and revisionist history - a small group of citizens unveiled a life-sized statue of Sonoma's founder, General M.G. Vallejo, to honor his legacy and celebrate his life.

The monument is on the Sonoma Plaza's northern edge depicting a seated Vallejo facing what was once his home, "Casa Grande." The unveiling marked the 182nd anniversary of the founding of Sonoma. The ceremony included trumpet fanfare, the Hometown Band, greetings, proclamations, a soldado in a Mexican colonial uniform that would have been worn in Sonoma during Vallejo's time, as well as appearances by Vallejo descendants Martha Vallejo McGettigan and Earl Douglass, Jr.

Jim Callahan, a local artist, created the sculpture and Michael Ross was the architect of the beautiful stonework surrounding circle behind the General. The day was dedicated to the late Sheila Cole, whose idea for the monument led to the formation of the General Vallejo Monument Committee, which was formed two years ago and who saw the project to the finish. It was an all volunteer citizens committee that dealt with all the city requirements and fundraising challenges.

The Sonoma Index-Tribune declared, "Gen. Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo will sit in perpetuity on the Plaza's north edge, gazing placidly toward Battery Hill. The keeper of a city's secrets and dreams, he will watch time unfold, his mouth upturned by a small smile. Like other visionaries who came before and will follow, the sum of Vallejo's life has proved far greater than its parts."

This moment in history will live on in recognition of the General's life's efforts.



The Mayor of Sonoma reads Proclamation of Recognition of General M.G. Vallejo



Martha Vallejo McGettigan sitting with her great, great grandfather



Comandante de los Soldados del Real Presidio de Santa Bárbara
David Martinez in 1840 Mexican uniform

2017 CALIFORNIA MISSIONS AND PRESIDIOS AND RELATED SITES EVENTS CALENDAR

Mission San Juan Capistrano has a very full schedule this summer with special activities daily. Please visit their website for details of the many programs www.missionsjc.com

July, 2017

1

4-6 pm Mission San Juan Bautista - Artist's Reception, Photo Exhibition - Craig Alan Huber, platinum and palladium prints of images from the book "The Spirit Within St. Junipero" (Exhibition until Sept. 30)

11 am Mission Dolores - 241st Anniversary of the Founding of San Francisco, Mass and refreshments, Free event

2

12:30 pm Mission Santa Barbara- Treasures Tour, art and behind scenes treasures, reservations and fee required, adults only, call (805) 682-4713 x166

10

9 am - 1 pm El Presidio de Santa Barbara. Archaeology Day Camp

11

6:30-8 pm Mission San Luis Rey - Cooking class with Chef Kaitlin Bandy, reservation and fee required, please call (760) 757-3659 x23

15

Mission San Buenaventura - Feast Day of St. Bonaventure, reception after each Mass, visit www.sanbuenaventuramission.org for details. Free event

15-16

Mission San Diego - Festival of the Bells, 248th Anniversary of the Mission's founding, food, art walk, family fun, games etc. Visit www.missionsandiego.org for event schedule and details

17-22

Mission Carmel, Bach Festival. Concerts in the Basilica. For schedule visit www.carmelmission.org

22

11 am -2 pm - Mission La Purisima SHP- Children's Mission Life Day with children centered interpretation and activities

26

6-9 pm - Mission San Luis Rey - FEAST, food, wine and beer tasting in the gardens. For reservations and fees, visit www.sanluisrey.org

27

7-8:30 pm - Mission Solano at Sonoma - "Isidora Solano, an Indigenous Story" Lecture by Historian April Farnham, suggested donation

29

5:30 to 7:30 pm - Mission Santa Barbara - Drinks at Dusk - Wine, beer and appetizers in the garden in a behind the scenes visit. Tickets online at www.santabarbara.org

August, 2017

1

11 am-3 pm - Mission Carmel - Founder's Day Feast (St. Junipero Serra's feast day) Faith, Family fun and BBQ

2

8 pm - Mission Santa Barbara - Fiesta Pequeña - Colorful folklorico and early California dances and music on the Mission steps to start five days of community celebration of Old Spanish Days. Free event

3

10 am - Mission Santa Barbara, La Misa del Presidente - Festive Mass in the Mission church honoring the Presidente of Old Spanish Days, reception follows in Mission gardens. Free event

10

5:30- 7:30 pm - Mission Santa Barbara - Drinks at Dusk, See July 29th for details

16

10 am Mission Carmel - 5th Annual Carmel Classic - Car show, Blessing, Wine and museum exhibits. For details and costs visit www.carmelmissionclassic.org

25-26

10-4 pm - Mission La Purisima - Mountain Men Encampment demonstrations and tall tales around the campfire

26

11-2 PM - Mission La Purisima - Village Day, Chumash Colonial Life activities

September, 2017

1-3

Mission San Gabriel- Fiesta Three-day celebration with booths music performances and dance. Visit website for details. www.sangabrielmissionfiesta.org

8

5:30-8:30 pm - Mission San Diego - Taste of the Mission, in the mission courtyard: food, wine and beer from San Diego restaurants, wineries and breweries.

9

11-2 pm - Mission La Purisima - Harvest Mission Life Day. Enjoy traditional harvest activities, stomping grapes, threshing wheat, etc.

15

Mission San Juan Capistrano - Romance of the Mission Benefit Gala. Visit website for tickets and details www.missionsjc.com

24

11-4 pm - Carmel Mission - Fiesta - Food, fun and festivities

San Miguel - Fiesta, Live music, games, raffle, food etc.

October, 2017

1

Mission Soledad - Annual Fiesta - music, arts, live auction, grape stomp and delicious ribs. Call for tickets (831) 678-2586

5

6-9 pm Mission Carmel - Taste of Carmel - Bohemian culture and wine tasting at the Mission

Dates to be Announced: 6-9 pm - Mission La Purisima - Candlelight Tours

November, 2017

4

11-2 pm - Mission La Purisima- Village Days - colonial life demonstrations and activities

Dates to be Announced - Mission San Antonio - Evening in the Garden, Live Music, candlelight, wine and food in the courtyard gardens.

30 (and Dec 1)

11-4 pm - Mission Carmel - Tour of Homes

December, 2017

1

Carmel Mission Home Tours - see above

6:45 pm - Mission San Buenaventura - Christmas Tree Lighting with the Pastor, Mayor and Santa Claus. Figueroa Plaza and Mission Park, activities for children

2

5:30-8 pm - Mission San Juan Capistrano - Christmas at the Mission, snow, carolers, Mariachis, Choirs, Nativity scene, food and shopping.

8

12 noon and 7 pm - Mission La Purisima - Founding Day Remembrance, Mass at noon and a concert at 7 pm.

7 pm - El Presidio de Santa Barbara - Una Noche de las Posadas. Free event. Please visit sbthp.org for details.

12

5 am - Mission San Buenaventura - Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day, Mariachis at dawn followed by mass at 5:30 am followed by Menudo breakfast. Also 6 pm mass and reception. Free event

16

2-4 pm - Mission La Purisima - Las Posadas - Traditional songs as Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem

23

6 pm - Mission San Jose - Las Posadas which has gone from the Mission to different nearby community locations for 9 evenings, ends at the Mission with carols and piñatas.

CMF OFFERS PLANNED GIVING

For more information, please contact CMF's Executive Director David A. Bolton at 805.963.1633.

CMF OFFERS STOCK DONATION OPTION

The California Missions Foundation is pleased to offer a new way to show your support, by donating stock. When you donate stock to CMF you will not be responsible for paying taxes on said stock, however you will still receive full tax credit for the amount of the stock on the day you contribute. To donate please have your broker call UBS Financial Services at (201) 352-6300, with the following information:

Account Name: California Missions Foundation
DTCC Clearing Number: 0221
Account #: XN04920

As always please call Executive Director David A. Bolton at the CMF office with any questions at (805) 963-1633.

You can help us to preserve California's historic missions and all their cultural treasures!
Please call our office at (805) 963-1633 to donate by credit card, or click the button below to [donate via PayPal!](#)



About California Missions Foundation

Nothing defines California's heritage as significantly or emotionally as do the 21 missions that were founded along the coast from San Diego to Sonoma. Their beauty, stature, and character underlie the formation of California. All 21 missions are California Historical Landmarks; many have also been designated National Historic Landmarks. The missions are among the most popular tourist destinations in the state, attracting millions of visitors each year.

Founded in 1998, the California Missions Foundation was established with the objective of preserving and protecting the missions. The Foundation is the only statewide organization dedicated to the long-term preservation and restoration needs of all California missions and their associated historic and cultural resources for public benefit.

Visit us online at www.californiamissionsfoundation.org.



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