

Class of 2018 Graduates, Docents, & Volunteers Honored at Festivities

Article & photos: Sue Bartel

On April 18th, twelve new

Mission Inn Foundation docents graduated in the Grand Parisian Ballroom. After a delectable Italian buffet (complete with tiramisu), and entertainment by the popular *Lookouts*, the annual recognition program began. The ceremony opened with a welcome by the Chair of the Special Events Committee Susan Wasman, and remarks by President of the Board of Trustees Sally Beaty, Executive Director Gina Cavallo Collins, and Chair of the Docent Council Ursula Dubé. The fledging docents were then presented by Director of Education Kanani Hoopai.

2018 Grads: Front row: Kanani Hoopai, Lourdes Paz-Kawaguchi, Betty Fuller, Ruthan Smith, Erica Gillispie, Carla Reay. Back row: Jerry Romero, Toni O'Neill, Teresa Hoffman, Skip Forster, Laura Flores, Deby Anderson, Melissa Brown.



Besides the graduates, veteran docents and volunteers were also recognized. Kanani acknowledged the Youth Ambassadors and Internship Program. Museum Store Manager Rachel Bulteman and Museum Store Assistant Nancee Richardson introduced the Museum Store front desk volunteers. Director of Audience Development & Administration Nanci Larsen awarded service pins to docents who have completed 2, 5, 10, 15, and 20 years in the docent program. Retiring docents and Docent Council members were recognized, and new Council members introduced.

Museum desk volunteers: Front row: Carol Krieger, Jerry Sturmer, Diane Jackson, Pam Olsen, Dottie Smith. Back row: Katie Miller, Sandy Petterson, Linda Ward, Jan Martin, Denise Fleming, Nancy Fiveland, Jean Eiselein, Mary Knox, Kathy Watson.



2 years: Front row: Jim McMurray, Corinne Rodine, Linda Ward, Frank Cattern, Cary Ann Abbott. Back row: Jan Martin, Jeff Lasater, David Koltovich, Judy Lewis, Denise Fleming, Bianca Hamblin, Kim Cunningham.



5 years: Dottie Smith, Pat Ryan, Patti Amburgey, Lois Boatman.



10 years: Roberta Allotta, Nancy Follett, Pat Marlow, Nina Rainbolt.



A surprised and pleased Mary Knox was bestowed the honor of Docent Emeritus. Mary has been a docent for twenty-two years, has volunteered in the Museum for ten years, and has participated in numerous other MIF functions.



15 years: Nanci Larsen.



20 years: Barbara Burns & Jerry Gordon.



DOTY Nominees: Eric Beacham, Karl Heaton, Judith Runyon, Craig Goodwin, Dottie Smith.



Doug Hargis, recipient of the 2017 Docent-of-the-Year award, introduced the nominees for the 2018 honor. By a majority vote of his peers, Karl Heaton was deemed the 2018 Docent-of-the-Year! Karl is a member of the History Research Committee and contributes to the docent training program and MIF programming events.



2017-2018 Docent Council: Front row: Linda Ward, Pat Ryan, Susan Wassman, Jerry Sturmer, Dottie Smith. Back row: Ursula Dubé, Sue Bartel, Judith Runyon, Craig Goodwin, Joyce Lyons, Kim Cunningham, Denise Fleming, Brenda Jackson, Steve Lech.

Curator of History Karen Raines led a moment of silence in memory of two docents who passed away this past year: M. Deane Wylie (class of 2006) and Joanne Hershey (class of 1987).

RIVERSIDE'S HERITAGE HOUSE MUSEUM:

A Glimpse into the Life of a Wealthy Orange Grower in the 1890s

*Article & photos: Sue Bartel - 2018
Mission Inn and Heritage House Docent*

James and Catherine Bettner, along with their two young sons, Robert and Louis, moved from New York



to Riverside in 1879 seeking a healthier climate for James, who suffered from a kidney disease. The family stayed in C.C. Miller's Glenwood Cottages, while they planned their new life. James had a degree in civil engineering and he was an attorney. He began a new career as a "gentleman farmer" when he and

Catherine had a home constructed on 40 acres at Indiana Avenue and Jefferson Street that would become a citrus ranch. The Bettner's prospered with their award-winning oranges until James' death in 1888. Less than three years later, Louis, at age 24, succumbed to tuberculosis. The Bettner's previously lost two other children in early childhood. Louis' death left Catherine with only one child (Robert, grown and married) and unhappy memories, alone in a house where her loved ones had died. In 1891, Catherine deeded the ranch house and ten acres of the orange groves to Robert and his wife Lucy Gilliland Bettner, to live in with their baby daughter Dorothy. She made arrangements to build a 4,000 square foot Victorian mansion for herself on Magnolia Avenue, Riverside's most scenic thoroughfare.

Sarah Gilliland, Robert Bettner's mother-in-law, the widow of a wealthy physician, came to Riverside from England in 1885 with her three unmarried daughters—after she'd heard that Riverside had been founded by industrious, educated, and highly-principled easterners, many making it rich by the flourishing citrus horticulture. Sarah built a home on Magnolia Avenue she called "Casa Grande," and one of her hopes came to fruition when her daughter Lucy met and married Robert. The Bettners and the Gillilands were prominent in Riverside soci-

ety. The Gilliland ladies encouraged English tea-times. Robert was a sportsman as well as a notable businessman in citrus and real estate. He enjoyed harness and horse racing and organized the Riverside Polo Club in 1892, the same year he sold the citrus ranch house and built a home on Magnolia Avenue, not far from his mother's new house. He also became the first president of the Board of Directors for the Victoria Tennis Club.

A woman of means and social status, the resilient Catherine Bettner maintained a position of respect in the community, and she continued the successful citrus business began by her husband, after becoming a widow at age 45. She purchased a 1.3 acre lot on Magnolia Avenue from the Riverside Land and Irrigation Company for \$2,500 and commissioned a Los Angeles architect, John A. Walls, to design an ornate and eclectic Queen Anne revival style house. This Victorian type of British architecture was fashionable in the 1880s and 1890s. Catherine planned the large two-story to fit her genteel lifestyle. The two bedrooms, library/office, bathroom, and servant's quarters were upstairs, whereas most of the downstairs was to be used for entertaining. While the house was being built by contractor John Hanlon, Catherine moved into the apartment above the finished carriage house, later to be used by the grounds and stable caretaker. During a walkthrough of the newly constructed house, she discovered the contractor had

not built a separate staircase to her servant's quarters. She insisted one be added—without extra cost. The contractor argued that a second staircase was not in



the house plans, and he said Catherine would have to pay \$3,000 for the alteration, which was extensive. The dispute ended in a lawsuit, and the judge awarded the contractor half of the additional sum he had asked for, bringing the total cost of the house up to \$11,000. The work was completed and Catherine moved into her new home with her male Chinese domestic servant in early 1892.

Her home was one of the most modern at that time. By 1891, houses along Magnolia Avenue, (*The Avenue*) were connected to the city water lines. Catherine was among the first in Riverside to have built-in bathroom facilities. The indoor plumbing system, including a cast iron coal burning water heater installed in the kitchen, provided hot and cold water to the kitchen and bathroom. Catherine had telephone service that connected Riverside to San Bernardino and Los Angeles. Even though the house was piped for chandelier and wall sconce gas lamps, called gasoliers, very little residue from them was found, so it is believed Catherine preferred using candles and kerosene oil lamps, until the light fixtures were converted to electricity in 1906. The six fireplaces throughout the house burned either coal or wood and supplied heat until a gas furnace was placed in the cellar in 1911.

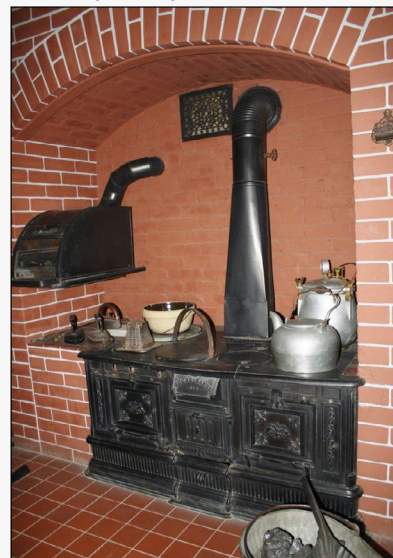
Catherine owned a horse and carriage, however, she frequently rode the streetcar that went up and down Magnolia Avenue. The car was set on rails and pulled by a mule until it was electrified in 1899. Catherine successfully petitioned to have a stop added across the street from her house.

Catherine socialized with the Frank Miller family and she was among those who helped them receive their guests at the celebration of the completion of the Glenwood Mission Inn in 1903. For 36 years, Catherine enjoyed her lovely home; entertaining, attending Casa Blanca Tennis Club parties, playing games of whist with friends, and spending summers at Laguna Beach hotels with others from Riverside. In 1928, she passed away after a short illness, at age 82. The pallbearers at her funeral were prominent businessmen, including Frank Miller. A memoriam about

her in the local newspaper stated, "Her home was one of the valley's great gathering places when Riverside was young."

In 1938, after ten years of the house either being vacant or rented, Catherine's only grandchild, Mrs. Dorothy Fullerton, ultimately sold the house, along with many of the decorative items and furnishings, to Daniel and Rena MacDavid, a couple from Long Beach with two teen-age sons. The MacDavid's did some remodeling and fortunately were preservationist-minded while doing so, changing nothing that impaired the integrity of the building. They had a wood paneled and windowed wall removed while converting a sleeping porch into a downstairs bedroom. The wall was stored and replaced during renovation. The converted bedroom is now the Heritage House Museum's gift shop. A small downstairs bathroom that was installed in the butler's pantry has been removed and the pantry restored. The

MacDavid's also added modern kitchen appliances; amazingly leaving the cast iron coal burning stove and warming oven (built into a brick alcove) intact. After living in the house for 30 years, Rena MacDavid sold it to the Riverside Museum Associates (RMA) in 1969. The grand old residence had only been owned by two families in 78 years.



The RMA, a nonprofit support group for the Riverside Metropolitan Museum (RMM), had been on a quest to locate a "Riverside Heritage House," a home built in the 1890s to serve as a public museum representing an era in Riverside—the life and activities of a wealthy orange grower during the booming citrus industry. More than a dozen homes were considered, and the Catherine Bettner residence was selected. Gradually, the house was restored to its original condition beginning with re-roofing and re-painting. The

City of Riverside took over ownership in 1974. Public ownership, it was felt, would make grants easier to obtain, and bring restoration to completion a little sooner. The house opened for tours in 1977.

Some of Catherine Bettner's original belongings remain in the house. The RMA completed decorating and furnishing the house with pieces of the period;



some donated by various Riversiders with late 19th-century homes, and some taken from the RMM's archival collections, including some artifacts that had once belonged to the Frank Miller family. These include a

ram's horn inkwell adorned in sterling silver fittings engraved FAM, for Frank Augustus Miller, and a three-handled pewter trophy cup embossed with a mission bell on one side and the Mission Inn bell wall on the other. The cup is interestingly



inscribed "Glenwood Campanile," campanile being the Italian word for a bell wall. The Mission Inn uses the Spanish word, campanario, for its bell wall. Heritage House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a designated landmark of the City of Riverside. It is located at 8193 Magnolia Avenue and is open to the public September through June for 45-minute docent-led tours on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 12:00 noon to 3:15 p.m. It hosts numerous seasonal events such as a traditional Christmas open house, an ice cream social, and Victorian teas. It remains open during the closure of the RMM. Admission is free; suggested donation is \$5.00. For more information call the Heritage House Museum at 951-689-1333 during open hours; or visit <http://www.riversideca.gov/museum>.

Sources:

Catherine Bettner photo:

Courtesy of the Riverside Metropolitan Museum

Heritage House Docent Training Manual

Heritage House Docent Trainer, Sharon Marvin

Heritage House History File, Riverside Public Library

Riverside Daily Press, March 22, 1928

The San Bernardino Sun, Nov. 20, 1984

QUARTERLY EYE ON EDUCATION

*Article & photo: Kanani Hoopai,
Director of Education*

Spring was another exciting season for our youth education programs. We worked with a new group of students at University Heights Middle School on our Hands On History Community Outreach program. Students learned about their community through photography, research, oral history interviews, and a walking tour of downtown Riverside. MIF docents and board members participated in the program as interviewees, sharing with the students their experiences living and working in the Riverside community. Thank you, Nancy Fiveland, Craig Goodwin, and Ruben Ayala.



This summer, we are again working with eight

classrooms of students in RUSD's AVID Excel and English Language Learners programs. I am delighted to welcome Philip Falcone on board this summer as our Program Instructor, who will lead the program at several middle schools. Philip is a former Youth Ambassador, with experience working in the Mayor's office and the Community Foundation. He is very involved in the community, serving on the board of local museums and on city committees.

May marked the close of another year of Youth Ambassadors. Congratulations to our graduating seniors: Hashim, Stef, Olivia, Hailey, Brian, Kobe, Steven, Ben, and Caroline!

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING EVENT: *The Women of the Mission Inn Performance*

Article: Karen Raines, Curator of History

Photo: Doug Hargis

On April 14th, six women of the Mission Inn came to the Mission Inn Museum, and they came in style! On that Saturday afternoon, approximately 30 people arrived to experience the MIF costumed docents presenting as women important to the Mission Inn's history. The performers wrote their own scripts, created their own costumes, and embodied some of the women who helped make the Mission Inn a success then and now.

Dorothy White, filling in on three-day's notice, was Allis Miller Hutchings (with assistance from Suzy Clem). The innkeeper's daughter, who became the innkeeper in her own right, discussed her family and her love of the one-of-a-kind hotel her parents built. Like her father, the Mission Inn was Allis' life's work.

Robyn Rogers captured Marion Clark Miller's shy reserve and profound love for Papa, her nickname for husband Frank Miller. Detailing the widespread opposition to her marriage to Frank, Marion said, "In actual fact I was neither uneducated, nor unworthy." No, she wasn't.

Decked out in her leather aviator's jacket, Judith Runyon recounted Amelia Earhart's successful,

legendary, and all too short aviation career. Earhart visited the Mission Inn three times: 1928, 1929, and 1936, when she took the well-known photograph with Dewitt Hutchings and the Mission Inn macaws.

In a stunning white wig and a matching flowy dress, Joyce Lyons portrayed the talented songwriter Carrie Jacobs-Bond, who famously wrote "A Perfect Day" while a guest at the Mission Inn. For years the Millers had the song played on the carillon at sunset.



Sue Bartel, Dorothy White, Robyn Rogers, Joyce Lyons, Sally Beaty, Judith Runyon

Mission Inn Foundation Board President Sally Beaty per-

formed as Pulitzer Prize winning author Zona Gale. Did you know Zona married for the first time at the age of 54 to a man she'd admired as a child?

Sue Bartel finished the program assuming the persona of May Spiller, capturing the first docent's irreverence, exuberance, and love of life. Sue wore her own May Spiller inspired hat but left the whiskey and cigarettes at home. Four of May's hats, a dress and matching cardigan, a pair of gloves, and a half-used bottle of perfume can be found in the Museum's latest exhibit.

New Docent Training To Begin

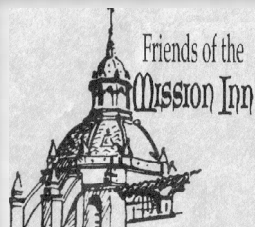
The Mission Inn Foundation is currently recruiting candidates for 2018-2019 docent training. Based on past applicants, most hear about this great opportunity by word-of-mouth through friends and acquaintances, and as tour guests at the Mission Inn. Please help us spread the word to your friends and tour guests!

If you know anyone who may be interested, please

encourage them to visit our website: <http://missioninnmuseum.org/join/volunteer/docents/> to complete an application online, or to download an application form. Applications are also available at the Mission Inn Museum. For more information, they may call the Museum at 951-788-9556.

Application deadline: July 31st

Docent Recruitment Committee



Friends of the Mission Inn Active with Fundraiser & Annual Meeting

Articles: Karen Raines and Sue Bartel
Photos: Karl Healton and Sue Bartel

On April 28th, the Friends of the Mission Inn welcomed a crowd of 240 to its annual silent film screening fundraiser. Per tradition, the event took place in the Mission Inn's Grand Parisian Ballroom. Renowned organist Bob Salisbury created an original score for Buster Keaton's *Our Hospitality* (1923) and performed it live on the hotel's 1903 Kimball pipe organ. This annual fundraiser goes to support preservation projects of the art and artifacts at the Mission Inn. The Friends most recent project was the cleaning of the eighteenth-century Rayas retablo in the St. Francis of Assisi Chapel.

The Friends 49th Annual Meeting was held in the Renaissance Salon at the Mission Inn on June 2nd.



Sue Bartel

After enjoying a delicious continental breakfast, the guests watched a short video titled *A Glimpse of the Past*, a history of the Mission Inn Hotel by John Guin, courtesy of and introduced by Evie Guin. The group was then entertained by Mission Inn docent Sue Bartel who assumed the persona of May Spiller, tell-

ing the flamboyant first docent's life story and revelations of her 28 years conducting tours at the Mission Inn until she was retired at age 90. Sue then described the five women in Frank Miller's life who inspired and influenced him. They were his mother, Mary Ann; sister, Alice; daughter, Allis; and his two wives, Isabella and Marion, for whom he gave full credit for his success in life.



May Spiller

Officers of the Friends' Board for 2018-2019 were elected. They are: President, Sharla Wright; Vice President, Beth Ballantyne; Secretary, Penny Boydston; Treasurer, Joyce Hoopai; Membership, Carol Krieger; Meeting Coordinator, Dauris Slaughter; Special Events, Mary Jean Comadena and Eileen Curtis; Restoration Co-Chairs, Evie Guin and Carol Krieger; Historian, Sharla Wright; Newsletter, Doug Hargis and Dorothy White; Facebook, Karen Raines; Member-at-Large, Karl Healton; and Ex-Officio Mission Inn Foundation, Gina Cavallo Collins.



Evie Guin

A Packed House Honors Gordon Bourns

Article: Danielle Trynoski
Director of Marketing and Development



Incoming Board President Gary Christmas, Board President Sally Beaty, and Gordon Bourns.

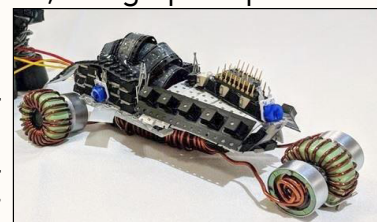
On June 6th, over 200 members of the community gathered in the Grand Parisian Ballroom for the 2018 Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award (FMCAA). This annual award recognizes a community leader who carries on the tradition of Frank Miller's commitment to Riverside and its citizens. With Miller's life achievements

in mind, the Mission Inn Foundation selected Gordon Bourns as this year's honoree.

Bourns is an active participant in community affairs including Chairman of the Riverside Police Department Foundation Board, member of the Board of the UC Riverside Foundation, Chairman of the Board of Advisors for the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering at UCR, Board of Visitors at CBU, and

School Board for the Woodcrest Christian School System. He is a champion of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education, serving as the Vice President of STEP, a consortium of Inland Southern California educators, business leaders and government officials, whose annual two-day STEP conference piques the interest of 5,000 K-12 students in STEM careers.

Charming table centerpieces were created by Ramona High School students under the guidance of Arts teacher Jenny Pietro, using spare parts from the Bourns factory. You can obtain a complete catalog of all 24 centerpieces at the Museum store. The sold-out event resulted in over \$50,000 raised for the Foundation's educational programs!



One of the table centerpieces

UPCOMING EVENTS

ART TOURS AT THE MISSION INN

The first Saturday of every month enjoy a rare opportunity to view masterful works of art with a specially trained Art Tour docent.

9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. February through August

Upcoming dates: July 7th and August 4th, 2018

Fee charged and Reservation required:

call MI Museum - 951-788-9556

or email Karen Raines - raines@missioninnmuseum.org.



Under the Stars Dinner and Tour

Sunday thru Thursday, May thru mid-November

Dinner 5:30 p.m. — Tour 7:30 p.m. — \$63⁰⁰ per person

Indulge in a delightful dinner at the Mission Inn Restaurant.

After dinner, meet your docent in the Mission Inn lobby to experience an enchanting tour of the Inn's special guest suites, including the 4th floor. Hotel package also available.

For more information, or to make required reservation, please call 951-341-6767.

MIF's Free Public Lecture Series

Saturday, July 21st, 2018

2:00 p.m. — Room TBA

Lecture by Barbara Burns on the life story of Alice Miller Richardson (Aunt Alice)

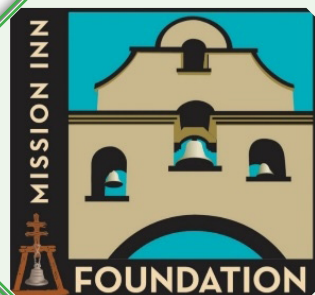
RSVP by calling 951-788-9556



Mission Inn Foundation Lecture Series presents



**ALICE MILLER
RICHARDSON**
with Barbara Burns
July 21, 2018 2:00 p.m.



Save the Date: Docent and Volunteer Retreat

Saturday, September 15th — 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

or

Tuesday, September 18th — 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join MIF staff for informational speakers, discussions, and activities

Riverside Public Library - Main Branch — Lunch Provided — Details TBA