It’s that
time of year . . .

When the Mission Inn decorates for Festival of Lights!!

That’s right. The Hotel started on August 1, 2019 trimming and styling the bushes and trees, washing windows, planting appropriate flora and stringing lights, many lights, – making all shine-y and bright. This year will be spectacular, stunning, jubilant, and fun filled (when is it not?). The Hotel staff will be working until Friday November 29th to make sure when the switch is thrown all the lights light up in a child’s vision of what a light fantasy should look like.

As docents we need to be aware of the areas where the staff are working (inside and out) to keep our tour guests safe by not endangering their wellbeing as we direct them from place to place so they get the best view of the interesting artifacts and sights around the Hotel. It is also for the Hotel staff safety when they are involved and busy. Please be sure to point out the areas where care is needed.

This year Festival of Lights for the City of Riverside is from November 29, 2019 through January 6, 2020. The vendors, rides, entertainment and etc. sponsored by the City of Riverside will be available until December 31, 2019. After the initial lighting ceremony, the lights turn on at 5:00 pm each evening.

Tickets can now be purchased on-line for our regular tours (all times and days). Remember the cost is $20.00 for each adult (12 and older), $5.00 for children 3-11 until 3:00 pm each day and after 3 pm the prices go to $25.00 for each adult and $10.00 for children. NO DISCOUNTS, VOUCHERS, OR PRIVATE TOURS WILL BE ALLOWED DURING FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS (NOVEMBER 29 THROUGH JANUARY 6). Normal pricing, discounts and tours return January 7, 2020.
The McBurney painting is remarkably accurate historically in other regards as well. Father Serra is depicted saying Mass in a blue-grey habit, after hanging his bells in the sturdy oak tree and ringing them loudly to attract the indigenous people shown seated to the left in the painting. While Father Serra is often seen around the Mission Inn frocked in a brown habit, most notably in the turntable under the Anton Clock-face, the truth is that Father Serra always wore a blue-grey habit in honor of Saint Francis, Patron Saint of the Mission Inn and the founder or the Franciscan Order that bears his name. In 1904, Lucien J. Jerome, III, Order of Friars Minor wrote: “Padre Fray Junipero Serra did not wear a brown habit, which is the one adopted by the Leonine Union of the Friars Minor. He wore the blue [blue/grey] habit, characteristic of the Observative Friars Minor of Mexico, to which branch of the Franciscan family he belonged.”[11]

In 1897, Pope Leo XIII decreed that for the Order of Friars Minor, the order to which Father Serra belonged, the habits should be dyed brown. The decree was aimed at bringing some standardization (uniformity if you will) to the various colored robes worn by different orders and in different locales.[12] This would mean that during most of Frank Miller’s adult lifetime, Franciscan Priests (Brothers of the Order of Friars Minor) would wear a brown habit. And so, it would be understandable that Frank and his contemporaries would assume a Franciscan Brother would properly be depicted in a brown habit. But obviously James McBurney has done his research, Father Serra passed away, as already mentioned, in 1784, long before the 1897 decree of Pope Leo XIII changed the official color from blue-grey to brown.

Of course, no one will ever have time to mention much if any of this information on the tour. (We only have seventy-five minutes remember.) On my tours, if I say anything at all, it may be to sometimes mention that the tree in the McBurney painting figures into local Monterey Bay history much like our own Parent Washington Navel Orange in that souvenir chunks still exist around their respective cities.
Keeping Up with the Friends

By Sue Bartel, Docent and Friends Newsletter Editor

Historic Mission Inn Now Available

The newly reprinted Friends' 50th Anniversary edition of the Historic Mission Inn is now available in the Mission Inn Museum store for $36.00. The book contains numerous colored (and vintage) photographs of inside and outside the Mission Inn, as well as many of its collections. It also relays the history of the landmark hotel beginning with its vision in the mind of founder Frank Miller. The book has a gold seal and is shrink-wrapped for easy gifting and shipping.

Photo by Sue Bartel

Display Cases Updated

The Friends of the Mission Inn's two display cases that reside in the paseo at the Mission Inn have been cleaned and reorganized. The exhibit is dedicated to Friends’ members and their accomplishments. The refurbishment presents new poster boards that debuted at our 50th Anniversary celebration held on May 2 and include photos of some of the art and artifacts at the Mission Inn that have been restored by the Friends. The exhibit is frequently pointed out to tour guests as MIF docents end their tours, and where they relate the Friends work at the Mission Inn.
Descendant Orange Tree Planted

After several years of planning, a three-year-old direct descendant of the living parent navel orange tree was planted in the Spanish Dining Patio at the Mission Inn. Attendees at the May 8 event included hotel executives, Friends of the Mission Inn Board members, Mission Inn Foundation representatives, and Georgios Vidalakis, the UCR Plant Pathologist who supervised the growing and caretaking of the tree.

Honored guest Kelly Roberts, co-owner of The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, was one of the speakers at the event. Mrs. Roberts and Tony Maalouf, General Manager of The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, are shown in the photo with the tree. Friends' board member Carol Krieger accepted a Certificate of Recognition for the Friends signed by Mayor Rusty Bailey commending the Friends for their dedication to the community and their contribution in procuring the historic tree and getting it planted at the hotel. The hotel treated those in attendance with orange juice and orange cupcakes from Casey's Cupcakes shop.

*Kelly Roberts, co-owner of the Mission Inn Hotel and Spa, shown with Tony Maalouf, Hotel General Manager, planting a descendent naval orange tree in the Spanish Courtyard. Photo by Sue Bartel.*
Parent Orange Tree Tented

To protect the historic parent navel orange tree from Citrus Greening Disease, mesh screening was placed to cover it in June. The protective structure was funded by the City of Riverside and private donors. Two neighboring trees, one grapefruit and one orange, both non-historical, were removed from the area to reduce the disease risk. Per Dr. Vidalakis, the City is preparing a proposition to raise funds to develop a Parent Navel Orange Park where the parent tree resides at Magnolia and Arlington Avenues. The plan is to build a permanent pavilion that will better showcase the tree and present the Parent Naval Orange (PNO) tree's history and its importance to Riverside and California.

The Friends' quarterly newsletter, the Messenger, is available in the Mission Inn Museum store. Pick one up to keep abreast of our news including our latest restoration projects and information about our silent film event held annually in the Grand Parisian Ballroom. Joining our organization, for as little as $15.00 per year, requires nothing from you except annual dues and it entitles you to a subscription of the newsletter. Dues help support our restoration projects. A membership form is included on the back of the newsletter.
As brought up at a recent discussion in the Historical Research Committee, we learned that the Mission Inn’s St. Catherine’s Well was named after a woman who resided at the Glenwood Mission Inn while awaiting the completion of her home. This woman was Katherine O'Neil Tootle.

Mrs. Tootle was born 22 June 1844 to James Lawrence O’Neil and Francis McGruden Sublett in Shelbyville, Kentucky. Her parents were what we would consider middle class. Her father was a bank cashier and her mother was the widow of a dry goods store owner. Katherine had 1 stepbrother, 1 stepsister, 2 brothers and 2 sisters. The family moved from Shelbyville, ending up in St. Joseph, Missouri in 1857.

In 1857, St. Joseph was the jumping off point for many who were traveling to the California Gold Fields and other points along the western coast. It had become an important city – businesses moved there, and the population doubled in just a few years.

The O'Neil family became well entrenched in St. Joseph’s society. Katherine and her 2 younger sisters were known socially as the “three Graces,” much sought after for their beauty and manners. Tragedy struck the family in 1865 with the death of their father James O’Neil. Francis decided to supplement the family income by taking in boarders namely 3 young, upcoming gentlemen of business. They were Martin Tootle, William Fairleigh and Thomas Weakly. In time, the 3 “Graces” married the 3 “Boarders”. Katherine, as we know, married Martin Tootle in 1866. That same year Martin Tootle and William Fairleigh partnered in a dry goods store which grew to encompass 3 stories in height and almost a square city block (do these dimensions sound familiar?!?). If this store were started today in Riverside, we would have known it as Harris’s or Gottschalks.

Katherine’s happiness was short lived as Martin passed away in 1887. Her life in St. Joseph becomes unclear. What is known is Katherine purchased property now known as the Wyeth-Tootle mansion, a 3 story Gothic-German style castle. This home is now a St. Joseph Museum located at 1100 Charles Street, St. Joseph, MO. History also records she travelled and moved to Riverside, CA in the early 1900’s. Shortly thereafter, her sons moved to Riverside also.

Mrs. Tootle contributed to Riverside society in a variety of ways. 1905 was the year she gathered patriotic women together and organized the Riverside Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). She was a member of the St. Joseph Chapter. When she was elected the first elected regent of the “Aurantia” Chapter, she had to decline due to a mishap with her membership transfer. *Aurantia is the female middle Latin form of the Latin word for Orange*.

As a civic minded woman, Katherine hosted many parties for her grandchildren and provided lodging for many family members and friends from St. Joseph. She loved showing off Riverside. Frank Miller is said to have named the St. Catherine’s Well after this kindhearted civic minded woman. Her long life came to a close in 1917 around the 30th of November. She was visiting in Brentwood, Los Angeles, CA. She is buried in St. Joseph, Missouri.
Do you know where the Mission Inn’s St. Catherine’s well is located? (Below is a hint)

Friends of the Mission Inn
Present a silent 1922 film classic
Rudolph Valentino
in
Blood and Sand
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020
Grand Parisian Ballroom
Mark Herman at the Kimball Organ
Plus free popcorn, coffee and tea
Doors open at noon - film at 1:00 pm

$20 in advance - $25 at the door

TICKETS AT MISSION INN MUSEUM, 3696 MAIN ST., RIVERSIDE
OR
BY MAIL: BLOOD AND SAND, PO BOX 1546, RIVERSIDE 92502

Make checks payable to: Friends of the Mission Inn
Greetings from your Docent Council!

The Docent Council meets the second Monday of each month, except December, at 6:30 pm at the Mission Inn. We welcome all docent to attend the meeting and learn what the council is doing for you! New members to Docent Council are Betty Fuller and Lois Boatman. Both have joined the Recruitment committee.

At our January 13th meeting, we welcomed Jarod Hoogland, the new Executive Director of the MIF and he has some wonderful plans for the Foundation.

Brenda Jackson was voted in as our new Vice-Chair of Docent Council after Katherine Evans, reluctantly, had to resign as Vice-Chair. Brenda is now Chair of the Nominating Committee, accepting applications for Docents to apply to be on Docent Council for the 2020-2023 term, beginning July 1, 2020. We will have 5 vacancies to fill. Deadline to apply is February 29th, so apply now.

Thank you to Jean Eiselein and the Special Events committee for the lovely Docent Holiday party!

Docent Training classes resumed January 7th, 2020. The Docents-In-Training assisted tours during the Festival of Lights, as part of their requirements for graduation. Each one has been partnered with a Mentor from the Mentor committee members. They will be conducting their partial and full tours over the next two months. Graduation is scheduled for April 28th. Patricia Ryan chairs the Mentor committee.

Kim Cunningham is Chair of the Docent of the Year Committee. Now is the time to nominate an docents for this award. The deadline is February 29th.

The Recruitment Committee is investigating an alternative format for applicants for next year’s Meet and Greet. Contact Dottie Smith, chair, with any suggestions you have regarding improving the Meet and Greet.

The Peer Review Committee has been conducting six-month peer reviews of the 2019 graduates and ongoing reviews for other docents. Many thanks to Brenda Jackson, chair, and her committee members for their dedication and time involved with this endeavor.

Thanks to the Continuing Education Committee, chaired by George Pehivanian, for presenting the January 12, 2020 program titled “Toward Peace” featuring Teresa Hanley. It was well attended with several door prizes contributed by Teresa Hankey and Katherine Evans. Thanks to you both.

Docents who need a Leave of Absence from tours, to resign or a retired status should contact any member of the Roster committee. Remember to pay your annual dues and stay current with your tour requirements. That will keep you in active status.

The Mission Inn run was held on November 9th and 10th. Thank you to all who volunteered. We are reaching the end of the 27th year of the Festival of Lights. Thanks to everything who volunteered and to the retired docents, who stepped in as tour assists.

Let’s give a ‘Bravo’ to Lynette Loveland for the terrific INNsider she put together in September. I’m sure she would appreciate your comments and/or appreciation as well as contributions or article ideas.

Hope to see you at our March 9th Docent Council meeting. All are welcome.

Thank you for your service and love as a docent of the Mission Inn Foundation!

Judith Runyon
Applications for Docent Council Members Being Accepted!

Become a member of the governing and policy-making body of the Docent Association by joining the Docent Council. The Council’s Nominating Committee is looking for 5 new members to join the Council beginning July 1st, 2020. Council members become involved in committee work and interact with a great group of dedicated docents.

The Council consists of 15 voting members who serve a three-year term. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, 6:30 pm, at the Mission Inn. Council members are expected to serve on at least one of the Docent Association Standing Committees: Continuing Education, Docent-of-the-Year, Mentor, Nominating, Roster, Special Events, Recruitment, Peer Review, or Sunshine; or one of the MIF Committees: History Research or Newsletter (The INNsider). This invitation is open to all active and emeritus docents who have at least one year of experience as a docent, and who are in good standing.

Docent Council Application (Appendix F of the Docent Association Policies & Procedures) are available in the Mission Inn Museum or on the MIF website at www.missioninnmuseum.org. Applications must be received at the museum or postmarked by February 29th, 2020 with “attention: nomination committee” written on the envelope. If you have questions, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members: Brenda Jackson (mojacmanor@aol.com), Judith Runyon (jarunyon@sbcglobal.net), or Linda Ward (lcurtisward@sbcglobal.net).

Please consider being a part of the Docent Council . . . participation is a most rewarding experience.

Sincerely,
Brenda Jackson,
Judith Runyon,
Linda Ward
Nominating Committee
A BIT MORE INFORMATION ON THE FRANCISCAN HABIT
(MORE THAN YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW)

By Lynette Loveland, Editor

The Franciscan habit is full of symbolism for those who wear it. The habit is in the shape of a cross or Tau, the same cross shape as carried by St. Francis on his rosary. Pope Innocent III used Ezekiel 9:4-6 to illustrate the use of the Tau. St. Francis loved the symbolism of the cross as the love expressed by Christ for all mankind.

On top of the tunic is a capuche which can cover a Friar’s (men of this order are known as Friar, but the women are just known as Sister) head. Sisters wear a sky-blue mozetta (a short elbow length cape worn over the shoulders fastened at the neck and down the chest) along with a sky-blue veil. The miraculous medal is worn by both sexes on the outer garment over the heart.

The color of the habit is grey-blue. The color grey indicates the course grey clothe which was a symbol of austerity. The light blue shades reference the Marian dimension* and are a reminder of celestial realities.

The habit is cinctured (or girded) by a hemp colored cord with four knots which symbolize the professed vows of obedience, chastity, poverty and unlimited consecration (sacrifice) to the Immaculate. Each knot has five (5) coils as a reminder of the wounds suffered by Christ at his crucifixion. Novices of both sexes were unknotted cords.

Attached to the cord is a rosary or a Franciscan crown, a particular devotion from the Franciscans which contemplates the mysteries of the seven joys of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which are:

The Annunciation.
The Nativity of Jesus.
The Adoration of the Magi.
The Resurrection of Christ.
The Ascension of Christ to Heaven.
The Pentecost or Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Mary.
The Coronation of the Virgin in Heaven.

Finally, the adherents to the order wear brown sandals barefooted as a sign of poverty and penance.

*In Mary, the Immaculate, we find the essence of the Church without distortion. We ourselves must learn from her to become "ecclesial souls," as the Fathers said, so that we too may be able, in accordance with St. Paul's words, to present ourselves "blameless" in the sight of the Lord, as he wanted us from the very beginning (cf. Colossians 1:21; Ephesians 1:4). -Homily, 12-8-05 II Vatican Council, Pope Benedict XVI (Original highlighting by Fr. Jordi Rivero).
Did You Know . . .

Each year the Museum/Store produce a new Mission Inn Foundation Ornament? Can you decide which year which ornament was introduced? Hint – None of the ornaments are dated anywhere on the item itself.

Is Your Collection Complete?
So why would Frank Miller have included a St. Catherine’s Well on the Mission Inn grounds? The legend of such wells stems from the story of St. Catherine of Alexandria, a virgin martyr. She was purported to be the daughter of a prominent Alexandrian family. It is said she was very devoted to learned studies and spent much time in the famed Library of Alexandria where she learned about Christianity. Her conversion was after her vision of Mary and the Holy Child.

When Emperor Maxentius of Rome (c.306-312 CE) began persecuting Christians, she confronted the Emperor, rebuking him. When he tried to defend his gods, she confounded not only the Emperor but also his philosophers and other learned men. In fact, she converted the philosophers to Christianity! This so infuriated the Emperor; he had the philosophers and everyone she converted burned alive. Consequently, the Emperor tried to seduce the young Catherine by offering her a crown as his consort. Catherine refused. He had her beaten and imprisoned.

During her imprisonment, the Empress Valeria Maximilla visited her curious to see what all the fuss was about. After they conversed, the Empress and several hundred soldiers were converted!! Poor Emperor – Catherine was very persuasive. The Emperor had them all beheaded. He saved a worse torture for Catherine; she was to be killed by being tied to a spiked wheel which shattered when the soldiers attempted to bind her. The Emperor finally had enough. He beheaded Catherine.

Upon Catherine’s death, the legend states, a white milky substance flowed from her veins instead of blood. The angels carried her to Mt. Sinai where a drop of this mysterious fluid spilled on the ground. A well sprung up on this desert spot. Water from this well is purported to have miraculous healing powers. In 527 CE, Emperor Justinian of Rome built a fortified monastery encompassing not only the well but also Moses’s burning bush.

Butler’s Lives of the Saints, written in the 1750’s, proposes an alternative explanation of the “angels transported her to Mt. Sinai” story. The monks of Sinai carried Catherine’s body to their monastery. These monks wear a habit known in the Eastern Monasticism as the “Angelical Habit.” It is to show their Heavenly purity. Those wearing the habit were anciently called “angels.”

Today, St. Catherine is venerated as one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers. These young ladies were virgins who died defending their virginity.

In keeping with the ‘mission’ illusion Mr. Miller was trying to portray, I’m sure the legend of a desert well with healing waters was just too much of a temptation for him to not include it. Also, the wonderful Katherine O’Neil Tootle residing at the Glenwood Mission Inn was a perfect personification of the saint with whom she shared her name. A perfect match in Frank’s eyes.

The rest, as they say, is history.
I wish to thank Sue Bartel for the updates from the Friends of the Mission Inn. This is one of the organizations we are proud to work with. They are responsible for restoring many of the artifacts we point out on our tours (Anton Clock, just one example). Their next project will be the restoration of the figures on the turn table of the Anton Clock as the figures are having problems staying upright and keeping their clothes on (even when they are not rotating)!!! Be sure to support their fundraisers – we all benefit from their efforts!

Many thanks to Cleda Givens-Black who asked the vital question – “Was this Katherine Tootle made a saint? Is that why Frank Miller named the well after her?” I love how the docents get to the heart of the matter and express just what they want to know.

Keep reading and looking for more in-depth information (more than you ever really wanted or needed although you will be a whiz at Trivial Pursuit!).

As always, you can reach me at innsider@missioninnmuseum.org or just leave a note at the front desk of the Museum and Gift Shop (I’m there every Wednesday, all day).

Lynette

H. Just Kidding – Not issued by the Foundation
I. 2019   J. 2017

Answers to Ornament Quiz: A. 2011   B. 2015

Did you figure out where the well is?

Near the front entrance across from the Macaw’s cage.