

TREASURE ISLAND TIDES

NEWS FROM THE TREASURE ISLAND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Building One, Room 111, No. 1 Avenue of the Palms, Treasure Island, San Francisco, California 94130

A LOOK BACK AT THE PAST YEAR

Our 3rd Annual **Treasure Island History Day** on February 21, 2009, and our wonderfully successful **Zoe Dell Day** on May 17, were followed by a membership drive and **Annual Meeting** on June 27. In June and August, we hosted tour buses from Sonoma County on docented tours of our lobby exhibit, our historic buildings, the Bay



Our third annual Treasure Island History day was held in February.

Bridge, and points of interest on the island. The tours included lunches arranged by on-island catering facilities, Job Corps Fine Dining and Wine Valley Catering.

Although we lack the staff to offer regular tours, we always welcome inquiries and will try to accommodate groups that would like a tour of Treasure Island arranged by TIMA. To discuss tours, please contact Anne Schnoebelen [see contact list at bottom of right-hand column].

OUTREACH

Treasure Island hosts numerous special events, giving us an opportunity to educate visitors about the island's rich history. Board members and volunteers staffed booths provided by the **Dragon Boat Festival** on September 26 and 27, the **Treasure**



The Dragon Boat Festival

Island Music Festival on October 17, and the **California State Parks Foundation Birthday Party** on October 25. We also staffed a table aboard the

USS Hornet Museum during their huge celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Hornet's recovery of the Apollo 11 crew.

PRESIDIO TALKS

Many of our supporters attended the *Pacific Unity* lectures on October 1 at the Presidio, featuring TIMA board member Anne Schnoebelen, along with art experts Adriana Williams and Will Maynez.

Many thanks to all of those who made the presentations possible, including Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) Project Manager Peter Summerville and Public Affairs Officer Marianne Thompson, and the exceptionally helpful staff at the Presidio Trust. Also thanks to board member Maureen Bourbin and volunteers Manuel Ezquerro and Zelda Holland for staffing

our information table. We had guests from as far away as Lake Tahoe and Georgia!

PRESIDIO EXHIBIT

Our Presidio talks were held in conjunction with the exhibit *Treasure Island 1939: San Francisco's Pageant of the Pacific*, presented by TIDA. The Treasure Island Museum Association will be mounting a temporary exhibit of selected photographs from that exhibit in our lobby office after the first of the year. For announcements, watch our website, www.treasureislandmuseum.org

We had help at events from a small crew of talented and enthusiastic volunteers including Patty Bruszewski, Manuel Ezquerro, Zelda Holland, Arthur Corbin, and John Underhill. Many thanks to all of them for helping to make our events possible.

ACQUISITIONS

While the museum's collection remains inaccessible, we continue to collect artifacts and memorabilia relating to the island's history, and would appreciate donations.

Recent acquisitions include a four-foot plaster *Pacifica*, broken in two parts, dating from the time of the GGIE, but exact provenance unknown; an

(Continued over...)

December 2009

DEAR FRIENDS:

As 2009 draws to an end, it's a good time to recap the activities of your Treasure Island Museum Association (TIMA) for the year.

It's also time for you to make your remaining **tax-deductible contributions for 2009**, and we hope you'll consider us among your support-worthy causes.

We think that 2010 will be the critical year in our mission to keep the Treasure Island Museum collection on the island, and to bring the Museum back to Building One as the island redevelopment plans move forward. Indications are that the Navy is moving closer to a deal to turn the island over to the City of San Francisco, so we must be ready.

Our first priority is to prove that a restored Treasure Island Museum will be viable. That means funding, and your contributions will not only help us continue our activities, but also demonstrate a base of financial support. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience, or you can donate securely online at treasureislandmuseum.org.

And if you know of any sources for planning grants or potential funding sources down the line, please let us know. [Our contact list appears below.]

GETTING THE WORD OUT

If you know of a location (work, school, local hangout?) with a bulletin board or community table where you could place flyers or postcards for our Portal exhibit, or a few TIMA brochures, will you let us know? We will send you distributable information in any format you can use: postcards, flyers that you can print, or an electronic flyer that you can distribute to a community e-bulletin board.



TREASURE
ISLAND
MUSEUM
ASSOCIATION

CONTACTS

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(A LOOK BACK AT THE PAST YEAR... continued)

18-inch plaster medallion featuring a familiar Golden Gate International Exposition logo, provenance also unknown; a set of drawings for an alternate GGIE plan; thirty minutes of original 8mm color footage of the GGIE, filmed by an Oakland schoolteacher, as well as her collection of GGIE brochures and booklets, all in exceptional condition; and a large collection of Treasure Island ephemera from the '80s and '90s, featuring original Treasure Island Museum brochures, articles from *The Masthead* (NavSta Treasure Island newspaper) about the island and the museum. Space prevents us from listing all acquisitions here.

LANDMARK

On November 13, 2009, we passed the first anniversary of the installation of *Treasure Island: Portal to the Pacific*. Originally scheduled to remain in place for just three months, our storytelling exhibit has become a part of Building One for, we hope, a long time to come. It is rare to pass through the lobby without seeing one or more visitors reading and learning about the island's history.



TIMA designed and mounted, "Treasure Island: Portal to the Pacific," an exhibit on island history, in Building One in November 2008.

A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

TREASURE ISLAND HISTORY DAY 2010

Please mark your calendars! Our annual history day will be held on **Saturday, February 27th, 2010, 11:00am–3:00pm**. We plan to make this history day an event celebrating Treasure Island's present as well as its past, with participation from other on-island entities including (tentatively) a chocolatier, a winery, and at least one food service provider.

Our wish list for this event:

- A sound system (microphone, speakers) and someone who can operate it
- A podium
- At least 50 chairs, lent or donated
- Suggestions for corporate sponsors

If you can help with any of these items, please contact Walt Bilofsky and Anne Schnobelen, co-chairs, TIHD Committee [see contact list at the bottom of the right-hand column on page one].

70TH ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER SERIES

Early in 2009, a series of talks, co-sponsored by TIDA and TIMA, was planned. Two of these took place (Zoe Dell Day and the Presidio talks). TIMA is committed to continue to provide historical programming in Building One, but with the city's budget tightening, we have to do it on our own.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We need two things to continue to hold events in

Building One: seating and sound. Chairs must be easy to move and store. Please help us find chairs and a sound system!

SEA SERVICES EXHIBIT

In addition to our temporary *Treasure Island 1939* exhibit, we are planning an exhibition entitled *A Salute to the Sea Services: Bay Area 1910–2010*.

The exhibit plans to highlight the last century of the sea services on Treasure Island and in the area, using a wall-mounted timeline to highlight the most significant events and personalities. Also on display will be photographs, books, uniforms, posters, and other memorabilia. A video component of the exhibit will feature interviews with three people who have fascinating stories to tell related to this subject as well as original footage of sea services personnel on Treasure Island.

We welcome artifacts for donation or loan for this exhibition, and also seek volunteers who would like to assist with the mounting and installation of the exhibition, and docenting after it opens. We would also deeply appreciate hearing from veterans and other visitors to share with us written or oral accounts of their stories.

A Salute to the Sea Services is expected to open Friday, March 26, 2010, housed in Room 111 off the main lobby, and will be open as volunteer staffing permits. For further information, please contact Mimi Manning.



A LONGER GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

It has been twelve years since Naval Station Treasure Island was shut down. In the near future, Treasure Island will be transferred by the Navy to the City of San Francisco. The fate of the Treasure Island Museum collection will be decided by the Navy at that time. Components of that decision may have enormous effects on the fate of the future of TIMA. We are making

every effort to prepare ourselves for that decision. We are committed to the re-establishment of a physical history museum on Treasure Island, whatever the fate of the collection may be.

Your donations will help us accomplish the tasks ahead. See the letter on the right side of page one for details and how you can help.