TREASURE ISLAND TIDES

NEWS FROM THE TREASURE ISLAND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2016 ISSUE NUMBER SIX

Update: **The New Museum**

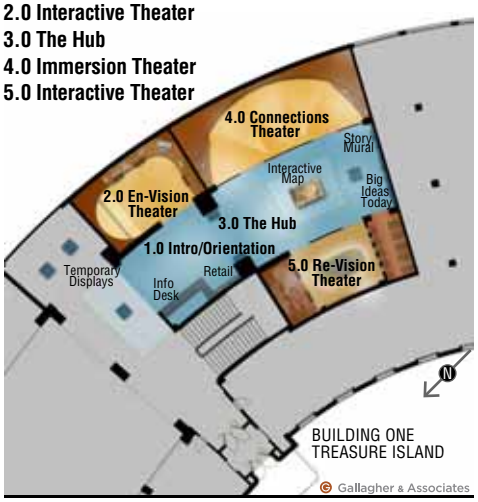
Our vision for the new museum moved forward in 2016 with the help of Gallagher & Associates, an international museum design firm. We plan to build a new facility in one of the wings of Building One adjoining the main lobby.

Designed to draw even casual island visitors into the inspiring heritage and sustainable future of the island, the new museum will educate and entertain with a combination of multimedia theater presentations, artifact displays and multi-sensory experiences. Imagine, for example, walking on a cable of the Bay Bridge under construction, or sitting in the cabin of a Pan Am Clipper as it takes off from the island. The museum will make these experiences a memorable part of a visit to Treasure Island.

The next challenge is to raise the capital to design the exhibits and build the museum, which we hope to open by 2021. If you'd like to help, either with a donation or by getting involved, please call or email us, or contribute on our web site.

EXHIBITION PLAN

1.0 Intro/Orientation
2.0 Interactive Theater
3.0 The Hub
4.0 Immersion Theater
5.0 Interactive Theater



REDEVELOPMENT: **MAGIC CITY 2.0**

The long-awaited development of Treasure Island as San Francisco's newest and most sustainable neighborhood got underway in 2016, with the Treasure Island Museum engaged on several levels.

The island's heritage will live on in new street names evoking the 1939–40 Golden Gate International Exposition and Naval Station Treasure Island. The museum helped the developer choose names which, if approved by the city, will honor artists including Antonio Sotomayor and Helen Phillips and landmarks like Pacifica and the Port of the Trade Winds. Our honorary Board member Zoe Dell Lantis Nutter, pirate theme girl of the GGIE and now 101 years old, visited the future site of Zoe Dell Lantis Lane.

Treasure Island Museum provided content, photos and editing assistance to the developer for permanent wayside exhibits telling the essential stories of Yerba Buena Island and the Bay Bridge. Visitors to Yerba Buena Island's historic "Nimitz House" will learn that Admiral Chester Nimitz lived his last years and died there. Cyclists arriving from Oakland on the newly-opened bike path can read that when the Bay Bridge opened in 1936, it completed America's first transcontinental roadway, the Lincoln Highway, from New York's Times Square to San Francisco's Palace of the Legion of Honor. The signs will be installed on YBI in December 2016

TREASURE ISLAND HONORS ZOE DELL LANTIS NUTTER

TIM is digitizing!

Digitizing the 600-odd objects in our collection will make them accessible and preserve a record for future generations. To meet museum standards, our staff and interns photograph or scan each item, enter it into a database, and assess it for damage, historical importance, and suitability for display. The catalog will facilitate research, collection care, exhibits and loans to other institutions, and eventually online access and exhibits.

EXHIBITS

Our museum footprint morphed considerably during 2016, responding to the flow of technology, donations and island development.

"Wish You Were Here: Postcards from the Golden Gate International Exposition," our highlight exhibit, delighted visitors to the island during the past two years. But with the impending demolition of Building 180, the Navy-era building behind Building One, our large gallery there had to be closed in February 2016.

The complete exhibition remains on our website, and parts of it are in the Room 111 Gallery off the Building One lobby.

"Wish You Were Here" visits the fair through one of the most thorough forms of existing GGIE documentation—thousands of picture postcards. It displays the fair's entertainment, art, architecture and commerce, along with hand-written messages from fair visitors. The exhibit is based on the archives of guest-curator and historian Kathryn Ayres, and borrows several artifacts from TIDA's extensive collection. The exhibition was funded with major support from TIDA and assistance from The Winery SF, Island Creative, the Patrick and Shirley Campbell Foundation, NetTempo Inc., Moulin Studios and others.

More displays A purple ticket booth with golden dome, from the Midwinter Fair of 1894, now guards the Building One lobby near our Room 111 Gallery. Inside the gallery, two newly donated display cases enable us to exhibit GGIE memorabilia. Additional GGIE material and objects from the Navy years are displayed in two more cases at the TIDA office during regular weekday business hours. These much-appreciated museum fixtures came from the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society when it left the Old Mint building.

Donations to Our Collection

Sally Rand's Nude Ranch was a memorable attraction for many Golden Gate International Exposition visitors. *Phyliss Irvine*, whose grandfather worked as an animal handler for the ranch, donated his collection of candid photographs, including 30 rare behind-the-scenes images and some signed by Sally herself.

Joyce Yuki Gallagher donated a booklet commemorating the **Japan Pavilion**. The bilingual booklet features greetings from the President of the GGIE and the Japanese representative to the fair, and photographs of the interior of the pavilion.

The GGIE was founded by San Francisco's **Junior Chamber of Commerce**. Its president, *Truman Richards Young*, was a GGIE director. His daughter, Barbara Young Brown, donated about 100 of his documents and pictures.

DONATIONS CONTINUED > > > > > > > > > > > >>

Outreach
On and Off the Island

After three years and 29 monthly lectures, our successful "Little Island, Big Ideas" series is on sabbatical as we focus on planning and fundraising for the new museum.

Presentations about the past, present, and future of Treasure Island covered topics including history of the islands, San Francisco world's fairs, naval history, Treasure Island during the Vietnam War, current island activities, redevelopment and island sustainability. Speakers included university professors, museum directors, authors of both fiction and non-fiction, and Navy and aviation historians. We videotaped most of the programs for future educational programs and volunteer training.

We plan to resume the series next year and welcome suggestions for speakers and topics.

Meanwhile, we still bring our stories to people on and off the island. We offer walking and bus tours of the island to groups large and small; see our website for information.

VICE PRESIDENT MIMI MANNING PRESENTS A TREASURE HUNT PRIZE AT HISTORY DAYS

Thousands of San Franciscans learn about the island from our annual booth at San Francisco History Days at the Old Mint, where *Vice President Anne Schnoebelen* lectured this year. She has recently addressed San Francisco Heritage, the Sacramento Art Deco Society and the San Francisco History Association.

WEBSITE AND OFFICE

New Website treasureislandmuseum.org has had a facelift and a new internal structure that helps us bring you updated information. Our Memory Book, with some 500 personal recollections of experiences on the island through the years, is still there for you to visit and add to.

Our office expanded in the Building One basement, thanks to space provided by TIDA. We now have ample room for meetings, workspace, and storage for our collection. The move was made much easier with the help of our Job Corps interns and students from the island's charter high school.

Our People

TIM welcomes new Office and Collections Manager *Brianna Jilson*. A recent graduate of the University of San Francisco's new Museum Studies program, she studied collections management, museum law, and non-profit financial management. Originally from upstate New York, Brianna has a background in anthropology and archaeology. She has initiated many new projects at the museum, including digitizing and cataloging the collection and working with interns. Brianna also gives tours of the island.

John Stewart, whose company manages the rental housing on Treasure Island, joined our Advisory Council. He visited the GGIE as a boy, and his long business and public service career has been dedicated to affordable housing.

Students and Interns Young people seeking professional museum and office experience find it at the museum. Interns *Elijah Glovier*, *Michael Thompson*, and *Beauchamp Baker* from Treasure Island's Job Corps Office Administration Program worked with Brianna on projects including data entry, event assistance, and office organization.

Graduate student interns from the University of San Francisco's new Museum Studies program help the museum as they develop their professional skills. *Morgan Schlesinger* contributed to our cataloging project, and got hands-on experience designing, labeling, and installing a display in the TIDA office.

Anneveig Bugge worked on the catalog project and is designing a new exhibit.

OFFICE AND COLLECTIONS MANAGER BRIANNA JILSON PREPARES AN OBJECT FOR CATALOGING

Anneveig says, "I love exploring and preserving history. Creating an exhibit at TIM taught me how much I enjoy working with artifacts and project management. Now I'm determined to stick with this work after I graduate."

We are proud to provide our interns with the opportunity to polish their professional skills while offering invaluable assistance to us.

In Memoriam

The Treasure Island Museum lost a valued friend and Board member, *George Reilly*, in February 2015. A lawyer, family man and Marine colonel, George served the museum for decades with insightful strategic thinking and passionate dedication. He is missed.

We also miss *Jim Barringer*, attorney, outdoorsman and Board member since 2013, who passed away last June.

Donations CONTINUED > > > > > > > > > > > >>

Pan Am Clippers An anonymous donor provided a collection of photos and other paper items from a Pan Am pilot who flew for the airline from 1940 until the 1970s.

Donating your items from Treasure and Yerba Buena Islands will preserve them and may create a tax deduction. Visit our website.

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