

NOTICIAS del PUERTO de MONTEREY

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Monterey's Christmas Angels

For the past 25 years, at Advent, Monterey's Christmas angels have been raised on high above the city's streets to prepare the community for La Noche Buena. Their dusky somewhat sad faces raised in wordless song accompanied by lutes and mandolins, their silver-studded bright raiment catching evening lights, these angels might be fancied to be the very angels of the 18th century mission Christmas Eve plays. These plays, based on old Spanish traditions, were used by the early mission Fathers to instruct the Indians in their care. How else to portray to Indians and Spanish alike the love of God, about the little Jesus, His mother, and the angels? In their wisdom the Fathers let the Indians



devise and decorate the sets for the play about the Holy Family on this night of nights. Especially the angels! The Indians knew the sign of the Acorn Spirit and symbols of Fertility and Rain from their fathers' fathers' gods, so they painted them in bright colors on the angels' wings, crowns, and petticoats. With a blend of native color and reverence they made the Star, Angels, and a glorious Heaven with a ladder for the angels to use, and then brought gifts of corn, or perhaps a blue jay's feather, or a song, for the Baby. Thus was enacted in mission Nativity plays the triumph of the power of love over the Devil.

It was in the spirit of those customs that, in 1955, a talented young Carmel artist, Erica Franke (now Mrs. Barton of New Jersey) created 88 Monterey angels. Commissioned to design unique Christmas decorations that departed from tinselled stereotypes and were in keeping with Monterey's past, Miss Franke was inspired by early California representations of angels done by Indian students of mission Fathers.

For many, her dark-skinned, somewhat primitive angels preserved with integrity the sense of California's early history. Indeed, a naval surgeon, Dr. Richard T. Maxwell, wrote in his "Visit to Monterey in 1842" that paintings he saw in the Carmel mission were used to convert Indians. They depicted Heaven with dancing angels, much like Monterey's, playing guitars and tambourines.

Not all of Monterey's townspeople saw their Christmas angels in the same light. As decorations they became the subject of county-wide controversy. For a decade the angels' fate was argued. At times their demise seemed imminent. Newspaper headlines followed the debate: "Monterey Angels Doomed"; "Monterey Angels to Stay This Year"; "Vote of Confidence for Christmas Angels"; "Angels Safe Another Year". By 1967 they had achieved not only local acceptance but national attention. After 10 years on high, however, some angels were weatherworn and beyond repair and had to be retired. Newly designed ones were approved in 1971, and in deference to some opinions, given lighter faces. Otherwise their design was in keeping with that of the original "choir". At one critical time for the angels, a community group, "Friends of the Angels", led by Mrs. Virginia Fry, refurbished 13 damaged angels and auctioned them to raise funds. These 13 and several others which the Monterey Museum of Art annually displays have become Monterey art treasures. Were Thomas Heywood today writing his "Hierarchy of the Blessed Angels (1635), loyal "Friends" would certainly rank in the highest celestial order the angels they proudly own.

Dorothy Taugher

Annual Report 1979-1980

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School on Monday, September 15, 1980. President Harold Hallett presided. Reports were made to the membership by the President, the Treasurer, and committee chairmen. The following is a summary of Association activities for the past year and plans for 1980-1981.

Total membership as of September 15, 1980 is 2090, an increase of 92 over 1979. Mrs. Ballard was chairman of a successful New Members' party at the Casa Serrano.

Bea Ward is publishing a Newsletter greatly appreciated by Association members. Mrs. Dorothy Taugher has been appointed editor of the *Noticias*.

The Association will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 1981. On January 18, 1981, it will be celebrated by a Golden Anniversary Reception under the chairmanship of Col. James E. Henderson (USA Ret.). The Anniversary year will be highlighted by other events, including the publication of a special collectors' book covering the Association's past 50 years. Mr. Jay Sharp is editor.

The Adobe Tour Committee, under Mrs. Kitty Ragsdale, will open 50 historical buildings for the 1981 tour. Mr. Dave MacAlpine is planning the Merienda. In September 1981 Mr. Kent Seavey will assist in an exhibition of Art on the Monterey Peninsula for the period 1875-1925. Also in September, Mrs. Amelie Elkinton, Association historian, will arrange a California Historical Society Symposium at Asilomar. The 1981 Antique Show and Sale is scheduled for October 2, 3, and 4 at the Monterey Conference Center.

Mr. Frank Fulton, Treasurer, reported on the financial status of the Association as of August 31, 1980. Receipts totaled \$92,800, and expenditures were \$84,400. Association savings accounts total approximately \$155,000, an increase over September 1979, resulting mainly from the S.J. Small Estate agency of \$9,500 and from a final Austin De Camp Estate distribution of \$1,200. Association savings accounts hold \$133,000 for the new Maritime Museum fund. This amount represents an increase of \$58,000 during the year, an increase due to allocations from the estates mentioned, from interest, and from earmarking for the Museum fund of almost \$23,000 from 1977, 78, and 79 Antique Show receipts.

In anticipation of unusual Association expenditures for the 1981 Anniversary celebrations, it was voted to increase Association dues by \$5.00 per person, except for Junior and Life members.

Contributions totaling \$5000 from the 1979 Antique Show and 1980 Adobe Tour helped defray unusual expenses incurred primarily at Casa Serrano.

ALLEN KNIGHT MARITIME MUSEUM: Admiral Stone discussed his long-standing desire for the establishment of a re-located Maritime Museum near the waterfront and Heritage Harbor complex. Hopefully this will be realized in 1981. Obstacles to overcome are a 20-year lease and funds to complete the building inside. Preliminary plans are going ahead and meetings being held with Oakland consultants, Dr. and Mrs. Frye, with local architect, Ted Minnis, and with Col. McFarland. It is anticipated that a Maritime Museum of both local and national import will result. Adm. Stone expressed gratitude to the more than 70 active museum volunteers. President Hallett acknowledged we would not have a Maritime Museum were it not for the efforts and dedication of Adm. Stone.

ADOBE TOUR: Mrs. Laura Granito, chairman for 1980, reported that 10 adobes in proximity were opened for a walking tour for 1600 ticket holders. Over 1200 visited the Casa Serrano for tea. Nelle Fry and Kitty Ragsdale provided lovely table arrangements in the adobes. Mrs. Jeanne Graham and committee provided a costume display in the House of Four Winds. Mrs. Granito thanked those who contributed toward the successful tour which netted \$6,354.96 from ticket sales and \$356.00 in donations.

ANTIQUE SHOW and SALE: Mrs. F. Lee Early reported on plans for the 1980 event. For their generous assistance Mrs. Early thanked Nelle Currie, Jack Keller, Richard Gorham, Lewis Scott, Kent Seavey, Bruce Handy, Col. and Mrs. John McCune, and the office staff. The exhibit by Fifty West Coast dealers will be advertised by handsome cards. Pebble Beach Florists will provide flowers. In keeping with the show's theme, "China Trade", Ch'ing dynasty robes and Imari porcelain from Association's collections will be displayed. Mr. John E. Vollmer of the Royal Ontario Museum will lecture on "Textiles and the China Trade", and "Clothed to Rule the Universe: Court Costumes of the Ch'ing Dynasty 1644-1911." Both President Hallett and Mrs. Early expressed special appreciation to Mrs. Tina Peck whose initiation of the first show and sale in 1977 and her subsequent valuable work have laid the groundwork for the 1980 show.

COSTUMES: Mrs. Harry (Jeanne) Graham, chairman, introduced and expressed appreciation to Nancy Stone, Dale Osborne, and Sherry McCormick, who regularly work with her on Tuesdays and Thursdays cataloging items as to fabric, color, and condition and researching dates and identification. In spite of storage and work space problems, the women proceed with their work on what is now a very large and extremely valuable collection. A loan of a Polaroid camera by Frank Fulton aids

cataloging. A Procedure Book for cataloging and conservation techniques has been prepared. Nancy Stone and Jeanne Graham attended Monterey Peninsula College Textile classes. Mrs. Graham visited 18 museums in Chicago, New York, and Washington, D.C. and attended a conservation workshop given by a deYoung Museum conservator. Other societies with costume collections are seeking Monterey's advice and observing our committee's techniques. The committee has provided special displays during the year for: the Adobe Tour; the 1979 Antique Show and Sale; the Watchstanders Party; and Del Monte Hotel's 100th Anniversary Celebration. The committee arranged the display, seen at this 1980 Annual Meeting, of Mexican costumes donated by Mrs. Fulton Freeman, and the Tehuantepec Fiesta dress and the charro "suit of 100 horses". The committee is encouraged by progress on the Cooper-Molera Adobe restoration which it is hoped will provide storage, workshop, and reference library facilities for the costume project.

MERIENDA: Col. Clarkson was commended for his chairmanship of the highly successful 1980 Merienda, Monterey's birthday party.

Gifts 1979-1980

The Association has been the grateful recipient of numerous gifts during the past year.

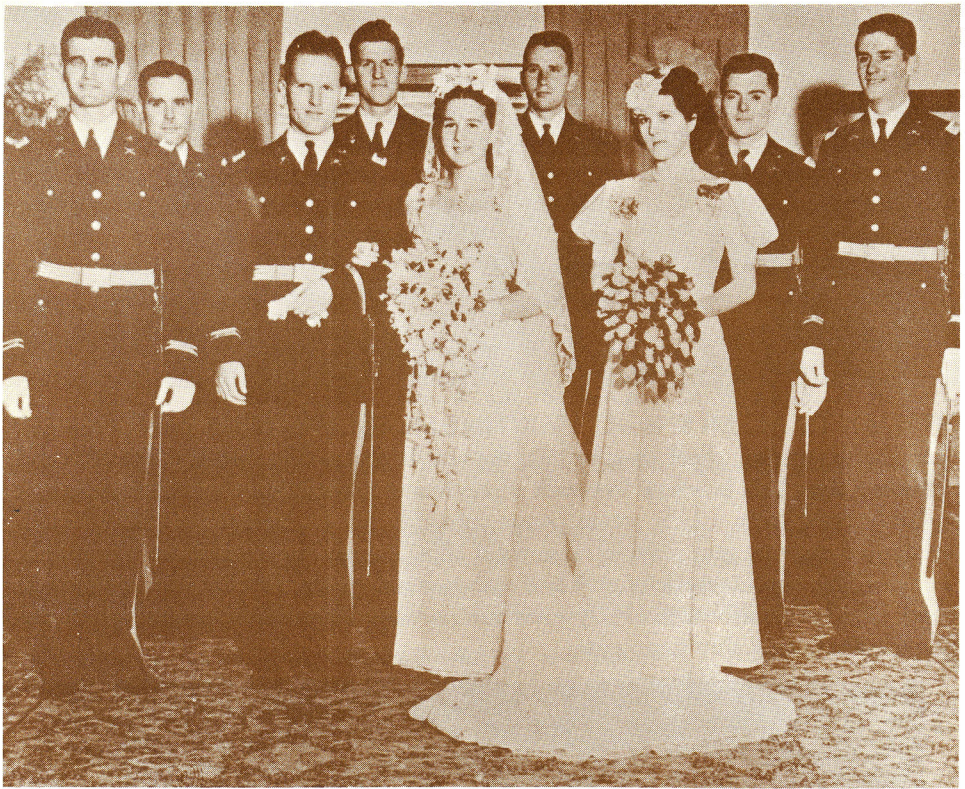
At the Annual meeting President Hallett announced that in memory of Sir Henry J. Downie, the master rebuilder of the Carmel Mission during the 50 years before his death in March, 1980, the Association has received a special gift from Mr. Downie's wife, Mrs. Mabel Downie, and daughter, Miss Miriam Downie. It is the 1841 deed to the Casa Guterrez, dated in Monterey by Joaquin Guterrez for the Adobe still bearing that name. The document was printed on Zamorano Paper and letterhead by California's first press, later sold to Walter Colton at the Advent of the American Period.

The Allen Knight Maritime Museum acknowledges many gifts of nautical interest, documents, and photographs from: the Estate of Marie Morris in Memory of Capt. A.A. Morris; Alan Davis; Mrs. Nello P. Torri; I. B. Hawkins; William Ballard; Mrs. Lemuel Pope; Capt. Harold Heming USN-Ret.; Professor G. R. Giet; Mrs. Stanton C. Babcock; William Wreden; Capt. Keith Taylor USN-Ret.; Harold Abbott; Kent Seavey; George L. Kappes; U.S. Naval Reserve Center; Jay Lynch. The Museum also received on indefinite loan from Mr. Ryan Cooper a binnacle and a rare double steering wheel.

Costumes acquired date from the 1700's to the 1960's. Gifts include an 18th century black lace shawl, an 1800 paisley shawl, other 19th century clothes and accessories, and 20th century clothes, accessories, and memorabilia from 1900 to 1960. The committee has been given a hand vacuum cleaner and manikins. Donors to the costume committee are: Harold Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Ballard, Mrs. Dorothy Brooks, Amelie Elinton, Dale Osborne, Mrs. D. Geduldig, Mrs. James M. Gulas, Mrs. Beatrice Guilfoil, Mrs. Clarence C. Harvey, Jr., Betty Hughes, Mrs. Gordon Holm, I. Magnin, Virginia Land, Sara Mitchell, Mrs. James Moody, Barbara Patchell, Mrs. Jack Sanborn, and Adm. Stone.

Other Association gifts were received from: Mrs. Robert Stanton, Mrs. Virginia Klemme, and Mrs. Lemuel Pope. Of particular interest is a watercolor in Casa Serrano of Casa Materna, the "Glass House", from Kathryn E. Wait. Also in Casa Serrano are four handsome matching chairs from Florence Moore. The chairs belonged to Mr. and Mrs. James Franklin Moore in the 1890's when they lived in the House of Four Winds.

The Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library received *Romantic California* (Peixotto); *Handbook of North American Indians* (Heiger); *Deck and Port* (Colton); *State Parks of California, 1864 to Present* (Engbeck); *America and Her Almanacs* (Sagendorph); and a book of sheet music from the Estrada family.



1910 WEDDING GOWN: As shown here, it was first worn in the 1910 wedding of Mary Edith Pickering to Lt. Harry G. Ford, and again in 1939, when the Ford's daughter, Frances, married Clarence C. Harvey, Jr. Both weddings were in Monterey. Given by Mrs. Clarence C. Harvey, the gown, veil, shoes, gloves, fan, slippers, invitation, and silver card case, become the Costume Committee's first complete outfit. It is important historically because the picture documents it. The Best Man, next to the Groom, is Lt. Westmoreland who later became Gen. Westmoreland, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

CASA GUTIERREZ: Built on a town lot in 1841 by Joaquin Gutierrez, it is now one of the buildings comprising Monterey Historial Park under the State of California. The original deed of the Casa was recently presented to the Monterey History and Art Association by the family of the late Sir Henry J. Downie.

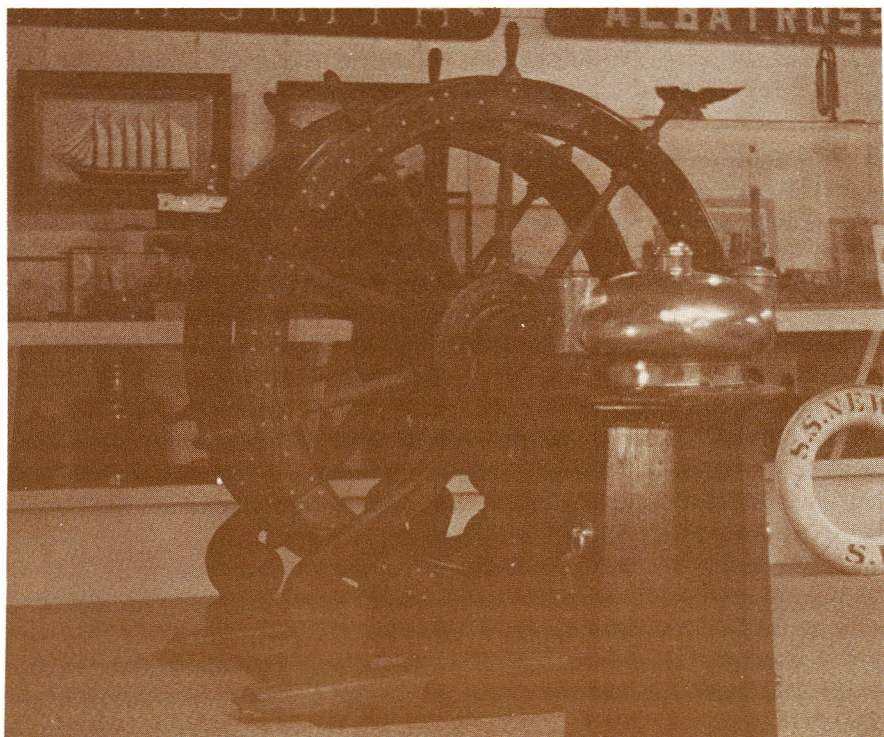
The structure is well preserved and leased for business purposes. Adjoining and sharing a common wall is an adobe built by the daughter of Joaquin Gutierrez before his death in 1872. This adobe, privately owned, still stands.

Joaquin Gutierrez was a cavalry soldier who came to Monterey from Mexico in the 1830's. He married a daughter of the old Escobar family. He and his wife had 15 children.



ON LOAN TO ALLEN KNIGHT MARITIME MUSEUM by MR. RYAN COOPER:
 Rare double steering wheel, used by only the very largest sailing vessels in the 18th and 19th centuries. This is one of five such wheels known to exist in the United States. It probably came from a U.S. steam frigate, possibly the USS Franklin (1854-1919). Mechanical steering gear, developed around 1850, largely superceded double wheels.

The wheel is made of teak and mahogany along the rim, has spokes of locust wood, inlaid decorations, and hollywood dowels. Standing with it is a magnificent brass binnacle encasing a ship's compass.



New Members — 1979-1980

OCTOBER, 1979 — Mr. and Mrs. Philip S. Bigson, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert T. Holbrook, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel A. Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Treaner, Mrs. Betty B. Plank, Mr. and Mrs. Gary F. Ambrosia, Mrs. La Vonne Rae Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Crossley, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Farrel, Mr. and Mrs. James E. Leonard, Mr. and Mrs. James Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Johnson, Mrs. Chester Root, Mr. and Mrs. Northrop Kirk.

NOVEMBER, 1979 — Mr. Joseph Bova, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Cardinali, Mr. and Mrs. B. Cobbey Crisler, Mr. and Mrs. Blakeley Honeyman, Dr. Lois Ellen Lagier, Mrs. Howard Lisle, Mr. and Mrs. Bucky McGeoghagen, Miss Kitty Maguire, Mrs. Richard H. Osborn, Mrs. Frank Vanderhoof.

DECEMBER, 1979 — Mrs. Howard Dabney, Mrs. Martha A. Dimery, Miss Nellis Gilchrist, Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. McKay, III, Mr. and Mrs. Myron McFarland, Mr. John Myszak, Mr. and Mrs. Don Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. John Norcross.

JANUARY, 1980 — Mr. Kenneth Bales, Miss Anne Batchelder, Mr. and Mrs. John C. E. Williams.

FEBRUARY, 1980 — Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Blevens, Mrs. Thelma Carter, Mrs. Esther Eberle, Mr. and Mrs. Arturo Fernandez, Mr. Edwin R. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Lynch, Dr. and Mrs. William G. Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Taylor.

MARCH, 1980 — Mrs. Elise Belenky, Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Day, Ms. Grace Elliot, Lt. Commander and Mrs. Hollis Goddard, Mrs. Clark Potter, Lt. Col. and Mrs. James Stanton.

APRIL, 1980 — Mr. and Mrs. Nick Aliotti, Mrs. Elaine Comfort, Mr. and Mrs. Burton Dake, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Franz Liebman, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lombard, Mrs. Robert S. MacCullough, Mr. and Mrs. Antone Mercurio, Mr. Lou O'Rourke, Miss Mary Preholden, Mrs. Betty Barron, Mr. and Mrs. Luis S. Moore, The Rev. and Mrs. Donald Y. Swain.

MAY, 1980 — Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Arioto, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Auhll, The Rev. Frank Kenneth Barta, Mr. and Mrs. Hector De Smet, Miss Becky De Smet, Miss Jacolene De Smet, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hildreth, Mrs. Pam A. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Mario Pacini, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Peterson, Mrs. J. K. Scales, Mr. and Mrs. Jay M. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander G. Weygers, Mr. Mark White.

JUNE, 1980 — Mr. Les Anderson, Mrs. Vernie Herdine, Mrs. Jeanette Smith, Mr. Montgomery Roach, Mrs. Dorothy F. Taugher, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Lisser, Mr. Archibald Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Jones, Mr. Martin Jefferson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Abbott, Capt. and Mrs. E. M. Fagan.

JULY, 1980 — Capt. and Mrs. James R. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Gaspare Cardinale, Mrs. Marie Baird, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Franco, Mrs. T. A. Work, Mr. and Mrs. William Roach, Mrs. Julia Puleo, Betsy Niesen, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Temple, Capt. and Mrs. A. McCarty Potter, Miss Frances Friscia, Miss Clare Rodgers, Mrs. Charles Muir.

AUGUST, 1980 — Mr. and Mrs. James Flood, Mr. and Mrs. William E. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. William Candy, Laurie J. Doud, Marion J. Doud, Col. and Mrs. B. J. Ambrose, Mr. Barnet Segal.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Lauene Heple, Mr. Elza L. Van Dellen (September 1979); Mrs. Hazel Dittmer, Brig. Gen. Douglas Keeney, Mrs. Marie Morris, Mrs. R.H. Olmsted, Mrs. Clovis York (October 1979); Mr. James Hart (December 1979); Mrs. Mary Kraftzcek (January 1980); Mrs. W. R. Holman, Mrs. E. J. O'Donnell, Mrs. Louis Goldstein, R. Adm. H. Paul Riebe (March 1980); Mrs. F. W. Lawrence, Mrs. Peter Verkuyll (April 1980); Mr. Pierre DeLahaie (June 1980); Helen Wright Robison (July 1980); Mr. Robert Littlefield, Mr. John D. Jernegan (November 1980).

**THE EDITORS
MONTEREY HISTORY
AND ART ASSOCIATION**

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