President Susan Beavin and Board Members of the San Antonio Conservation Society held a press conference in Brackenridge Park on January 23 to announce a $300,000, three-year contribution to help restore Pump House #1, the oldest intact industrial structure in San Antonio. President Beavin presented a check to Parks and Recreation Director Xavier Urrutia. Many Board members of the Brackenridge Park Conservancy, led by Society Board Member and Past President Lynn Bobitt, were also in attendance.

Pump House #1 was constructed in 1877 as the first public water system in San Antonio, but few residents signed up and the building and pumps were transferred to George Washington Brackenridge, who later donated the land that became Brackenridge Park. The building has unusually fine architecture for an industrial structure. Large, dressed limestone blocks were used throughout, and the facades feature quoined corners and stone keystone and hoods above the windows, much like you find on contemporary mansions of the 1870s and 1880s. The Pump House is located at the north end of Brackenridge Park and will be restored along with the section of the river flowing in front of it and beneath the steel bridge. The 2017 Bond fund will pay for the rest of the restoration.

A final use for Pump House #1 has not been determined yet, but the Society will be involved with the Parks department on planning the eventual use of the handsome structure. In her comments at the press conference, President Susan Beavin thanked the Presidential Advisory Committee who chose this project. Members of the Presidential Advisory Committee are: Joanna Parrish, Rollette Schreckenghost-Smith, Nancy Avelar, Marcie Ince, Barbara Johnson, Sue Ann Pemberton, Paula Piper, Virginia Nicholas, Lorretta Huddleston, Jill Souter, Inell Schooler, Janet Francis, Loyce Ince, Peggy Penshorn, Janet Dietel and Lynn Bobbitt.
The January General Membership Meeting was held at the new Latino Collection and Research Center of the San Antonio Central Public Library (SAPL). We appreciate Tracey Bennett and Kathy Rhoads of the SAPL Foundation and Emma Hernandez, Jessica Zurita and Regina Villalobos-Perez, library employees, whose assistance made this meeting possible. Lewis Fisher gave a delightful presentation centered around his research for his book Saving San Antonio. It was quite insightful! By having our general membership meetings at various locations, we are educating our membership about the intangible heritage of our unique city. Along these same lines, the Neighborhood Liaison, Steves Events and Membership Opportunities Committees have hosted several successful functions recently to foster community relationships and again, educate the public as to who we are and what we do. Bravo Committees! Please see the following articles from the Chairs of those committees.

**Membership Opportunities Committee**

June Kachtik, Committee Chair

Dr. Daniel Bluestone, Director, Preservation Studies Program at Boston University, spoke about the key shifts in the preservation movement in 1957, using the examples of the Robie House and Penn Station, and credited the San Antonio Conservation Society on its broad approach to adaptation and restoration.

**Neighborhood Liaison Committee**

Paul Ringenbach, Committee Chair

For months, under the leadership of Shanon Miller and Cory Edwards, the City’s Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) has held meetings in an attempt to set up a coalition of San Antonio’s Neighborhood Historic Districts. On February 8th, the Conservation Society hosted a meeting of the Historic Districts Coalition in partnership with OHP. The 35 attendees listened to briefings on issues facing their neighborhoods, Vincent Michael and Chair of the Neighborhood Liaison Committee Paul Ringenbach, joined OHP in advocating strengthening the Coalition. They argued that there were many issues of concern in common with all the neighborhood associations and that together they could form a stronger advocacy voice. Issues such as IDZ zoning, infill design review, STRs, and viewsheds might be mitigated or solved through the cooperation of the Coalition, supported by OHP and the Society. The attendees’ reaction was positive and all agreed that they would continue to meet quarterly at the Society’s River House. The discussions were a new and healthy beginning for the historic neighborhoods.

**Steves Homestead Events Committee**

Shirley Dyer, Committee Chair

The Steves Homestead Events Committee is a new committee for the 2018-2019 year; its purpose is to hold events of interest to our membership and the community at large, complementing our mission of preserving the architecture, natural beauty, and cultural heritage that makes San Antonio unique.

Our first event was held on January 20, 2018, where Dean Norton, Director of Horticulture at Mount Vernon, was the speaker. Before his lecture, a reception was served in the Steves Homestead. A special Thank You goes out to the committee and Barbara Hall, who secured our speaker. The majority of attendees were not members of the San Antonio Conservation Society, which exemplifies the success of our outreach. We look forward to seeing more of you at our future events.

**SACS 2040 & Beyond**

Kathleen Carter, Committee Chair

The Strategic Planning & Implementation Committee has adopted a vision statement: The San Antonio Conservation Society will be a vital partner in the conservation and preservation of the unique cultural, natural and architectural heritage of San Antonio and Bexar County.

Long-term goals include:

1. Documenting needs for up to date office, library, warehouse, operational and meeting space requirements
2. Diversify membership
3. Explore options for different revenue sources to provide consistent income and reduce reliance on any single revenue source
4. Establish effective public relations and communication strategies
5. Evaluate staff requirements to ensure operational needs are met

Committees and staff are taking actions to make the goals a reality.
Gas Station in limbo. First surveyed by the San Antonio Conservation Society in 1983, the 1936 Pure Oil gas station at Nogalitos and Ralph is the last of its kind in San Antonio. Featuring a Tudor Revival Style with sharply pitched roofs, the gas station was one of 30 proposed for landmark designation in 2016, but was pulled at the last minute when the owner requested demolition.

The Conservation Society submitted a Request for Review of Significance, pointing to the architectural and historical significance of the station, which was approved by the Historic and Design Review Commission late last year. When the matter came to City Council in January, Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales asked for a 60-day continuance so that offers to buy the station – which is part of a larger site along the new San Pedro Creek trail – could be evaluated. Inspired by the success of Bliss, Senor Veggie’s, Smoke Shack, Station Café and so many other successful gas station redevelopments, the Society is pressing for a new use for this treasure. While some offers have been made, the final disposition of this rare San Antonio treasure remains in doubt.

Viewsheds on the Horizon

President Susan Beavin, 1st Vice President Patti Zaiontz, and Executive Director Vincent Michael have been serving on the City’s Viewshed Technical Advisory Panel. A viewshed is a form of protecting the iconic view of a landmark or landscape. Currently only the World Heritage missions, including the Alamo chapel, have viewshed protection, and those viewsheds are defined by the front door of each mission. Several sites, including the Navarro Homestead, Municipal Auditorium, Spanish Governor’s Palace, Espada Aqueduct, and the Yturri-Edmunds Home and Mill, were considered eligible in the UDC, but no specific protections were enacted.

The current controversy over a large development adjacent to the Hays Street bridge has brought the issue to a head, and the City has held public input meetings regarding what sites might be covered by viewshed protections. People have suggested iconic views of landmarks such as the Tower Life Building, the Tower of the Americas, the Emily Morgan Hotel, and others be included. The Technical Advisory Panel is working with the City to develop language defining what sites might be eligible and what kinds of viewsheds might be implemented in the future. A variety of models from other cities have been studied and it is hoped that several other viewsheds may be in place this year, although the Hays Street bridge project will not be affected since it is already in process.

Historic Preservation Month

Margaret Priesmeyer’s Historic Preservation Month Committee has put together another exciting event for 2018. On Saturday, May 19, the Society will host three panelists who will discuss the 1930s Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects that transformed San Antonio, from the River Walk and La Villita to Alamo Stadium and Stinson Field. The panelists will be followed by an ensemble performing classic songs from the period by such greats as Cole Porter and Benny Goodman. Author Lewis F. Fisher will discuss the River Walk, author Susan Toomey Frost will present the work of tile artist Ethel Wilson Harris, and former Society President Nancy Avellar will offer an overview of the many WPA projects that still define our historic city.
NIOSA’s 70th birthday celebration April 24th through the 27th is right around the corner – or so it seems for the NIOSA Committee. Contracts are being signed, appliances are being checked and new ones ordered, food bids are being prepared for vendor input, banners are being repaired or replaced, checklists tweaked, and on and on it goes.

After 69 years of producing one of San Antonio’s most popular events, we know what our visitors love…..and you must give the people what they want! Therefore, all your culinary favorites are returning. However, we are excited about the new foods we are introducing this year, including Chips and Queso in Arneson Theatre; Mandarin Screwdrivers, Fried Rice and Pot Stickers in China Town; and Pulled Pork Sandwich in Main Street, to name just a few. Craft beer will no longer be found in Frontier Town, but not to worry; you can still find it in Sauerkraut Bend. We are adding Ranger Creek Mission Trail Ale to….wait for it…..Mission Trail. How clever of them to name a beer just for us (not really), but it does pay homage to our beautiful missions.

We’re excited about the new entertainment being offered this year. New acts include the LaDezz Band in Haymarket; the Mick Hernandez band in Mission Trail; and Bad Banjo Brown jazz band in French Quarter. They will join many longtime entertainment favorites in Mexican Market, Frontier Town and Froggy Bottom, to name a few. Don’t forget to sing along with the Karaoke master (and amateurs) in Clown Alley and a DJ in Main Street. Check the NIOSA website at www.NIOSA.org for an interactive map with all foods, beverages and entertainment, or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NIOSA.NIOSA/.

With all the tasks needing to be completed prior to opening night and with an unbelievable amount of labor involved in putting on a successful four-night event, we are always looking for more volunteers. Do you find yourself having spare time on your hands during the day? Wanting to do your part to preserve San Antonio’s historic treasures? Want to meet some incredible San Antonians—and many charming visitors? Why not volunteer at the Crafters’ Store? No experience or crafting talent necessary, and we will assist with parking.

Perhaps you’d like to volunteer in the NIOSA office….or maybe you’d like to be in the middle of the action by working in a booth….or help stage our props and get ready for opening night. We have a wide variety of tasks to fit a wide variety of talents. Interested? Call the NIOSA office at 210-226-5188, or email at us niosa@niosa.org and we will gladly match you up with the right activities. It’s great fun and fellowship, and you will get to share news about our great organization and the largest historic preservation fund-raising event in the nation.

Throughout this and past newsletters, you have read about many incredible programs and projects of the Conservation Society. I want to remind everyone who volunteers at NIOSA---and certainly all of you who attend and spend your dollars at our incredible event—that your volunteer and monetary support helps fund a large part of many significant Society programs, such as the Heritage Education Tours, its Community Grants, and its latest phenomenal Tricentennial project—a $300,000 gift to San Antonians and their visitors for the Pump House restoration project, just to name a few. Your support matters.

Writing those words make me so proud of what NIOSA and the Conservation Society does for this city I love; I hope you will consider becoming part of NIOSA or the Society today!

VIVA NIOSA!

2018 Membership Drive Donations

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2018 NIOSA® Medal Honors the 70th Anniversary

Margie Arnold, 4th Vice President, NIOSA® Chairman

I am so excited to show off the 2018 NIOSA Medal that we just unveiled to the world on March 1st! My intent was to commemorate the 70th year of “A Night In Old San Antonio” and to pay homage to the 15 distinctive areas of NIOSA that make our event what it is today. It was a challenge designing the medal—after all, how do you capture NIOSA in three square inches? With “lots of artistic help” from NIOSA Director of Operations Audrey Haake and Monarch Trophy designer David Durbin, I came up with spinning wheel—and then things got fun as we picked the most iconic symbols of the food and fun our event offers. The wheel is nestled in a colorful cascarón that pays tribute to the fact that NIOSA first started selling the eggs in its Mexican Market area in 1959 and are now a NIOSA and Fiesta staple.

Rotate the wheel and have fun identifying which images belong to what area. You can buy the medal now at the NIOSA Crafters’ Store at 218 S. Presa in La Villita; on the NIOSA website at www.niosa.org. You can also buy the medals for $12 at the NIOSA Store at 218 S. Presa in La Villita and on the NIOSA website at www.niosa.org. You can buy the medal now at the NIOSA Crafters' Store in La Villita; www.niosa.org; advance discount tickets are available at the NIOSA Crafters Store in La Villita; H-E-B grocery stores in the greater San Antonio area; Fiesta Store; USAA; Southwest Research; Ft. Sam Houston; Lackland AFB; and Randolph AFB. NOTE: some of these sellers add a service charge.

The best way to get a discount to NIOSA? Join the Conservation Society and you not only support San Antonio’s historic preservation and protect our natural resources, but you also qualify for the discounted price of NIOSA tickets for Society members.

For more information, call 210-226-5188, visit www.niosa.org, email niosa@niosa.org or follow NIOSA on Facebook.

VIVA NIOSA!

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Donors

$5 to $99

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Mr. Killis Almond, FAIA  Mrs. Barbara Flood  Mrs. Helen Jacobs  Ms. Mary Nell Mitchell  Ms. Sydney Spence
Mrs. Michele Baden  Mrs. Rhonda Flores  Mr. Robert Jenkins  Mrs. Linda Murray  Mrs. Mari Tamez
Mrs. Diane Baird-Barger  Mrs. Maureen Gallinger  Miss Rose Jimenez  Miss Anaalis Peace  Mrs. Mary Tarr
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Ms. Karen Davis  Mr. Reagan Houston  Mrs. Margaret McGhee  Mrs. Pat Seyfried  Mrs. Patsy Castanon
Mr. William Dupont  Mrs. Mary Frances Huron  The Advocate Vol. 54 No. 3 Spring 2018 5
2018 Historic Preservation Awards Winners

Please join the San Antonio Conservation Society as they honor the ten winners of their Historic Preservation Awards for the Built Environment and ten special awards for individuals or organizations at a Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, March 28th at the San Antonio Country Club.

**Lynn Ford Craftsman Award**
Joe Ramos, Master Carpenter

**Amanda Cartwright Taylor Award**
Lewis S. Fisher, AIA
Lewis F. Fisher, Author

**Bruce MacDougal Award for Young Preservationist**
Allison Chambers, AIA

**Texas Preservation Hero Award**
King William Association
Bob Comeaux
Carolyn Chipman Evans

Harold Kempfer*
Jean Heide
Professor William Dupont

*A deceased

**Awards for the Built Environment**

Herff-Rozelle Farm
Maverick Building Apartments
VIA Centro Plaza/Washington Hotel
Landmark Inn State Historic Site
San Antonio River Walk Capital Improvements
Hotel Emma/Pearl Brewhouse Engine Rooms & Cellars
Hangar 9, Brooks Air Force Base
2340 South Presa
Malvina Nelson House

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**Wednesday, March 28, 2018**
San Antonio Country Club
4100 N. New Braunfels Ave.
6:30 p.m.: Cocktails
7:30 p.m.: Dinner & Awards Presentation

Advance Ticket Purchase Required
Tickets are $94/Person
Go to www.saconservation.org/awards,
Email conserve@saconservation.org,
Call 210.224.6163
Must Purchase by Friday, March 16, 2018
Limited Seating, Public Invited
The Preservation Advocate is published by the San Antonio Conservation Society. Send letters, articles, or comments to: conserve@saconservation.org. Submission deadline for the Summer Newsletter is Friday, May 11, 2018.

The purpose for which the San Antonio Conservation Society was formed is to preserve and encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty and all that is admirable and distinctive to our State; and by such physical and cultural preservation to keep the history of Texas legible and intact, to educate the public, especially the youth of today and tomorrow with knowledge of our inherited regional values.

Publications Committee
Terry Schoenert, Chair; Susan Beavin, Ex Officio; Rosanna Luke, Staff Support

2018 Capital Club

Corinthian
$10,000+ Level
Mr. Stephen Cavender
Glazer’s
GLI Distributing, Inc.

Ionic
$5,000 Level
Valero Energy Foundation

Doric
$2,500 Level
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Dietel
Mr. Patrick Williamson

Pillar
$1,000 Level
Mr. Steve Hixon
Mrs. Joan Kelleher
Dr. John D. Murphy, Jr.

Keystone
$500 Level

Ms. Anne Alexander
Ms. Susan Beavin
Dr. Diane Biery
Mrs. Cynthia Birdsell
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Doherty
Ms. Rosemarie Q. Donelson
Ms. Allison Elder
Mr. Jeffrey C. Fetzer, FAIA
Ms. Claire Golden
Mr. & Mrs. Joey Groff
Mr. Curtis Gunn, Jr.
Mrs. Caryn Hasslocher

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Leatrice Bauml
Susan Beavin
Stuart Johnson
Marlene Richardson

In Memory of Sally Buchanan
Irene M. Kissling

In Memory of Lola Whitaker
Mel & Nancy Ingalls

In Honor of Susan Beavin
Julie Wilkinson

Welcome New Associate Members

Mr. Pedro Ayala
Mrs. Mary Briscoe-Cushman
Mr. Kirk Bruni
Mr. Andrew Milton Calloway
Mr. Carlos Castaneda
Ms. Elsa De Leon
Ms. Erin Kate Dooley
Ms. Marisa Escobedo
Ms. Elle Farias
Miss Jennifer Garza

Mrs. Olivia Gomez
Ms. Jo Harrington
Mrs. Melissa Hoelscher
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Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schulze
Mr. Banks Smith
Mrs. Mary West Traaylor
Ms. Dru Van Steenberg
Mrs. Virginia Van Steenberg

Ms. Diana Selwyn
Mr. John Smetzer
Mrs. Leslie Smetzer
Mrs. Jessica Sotello
Mrs. Beth Standifird
Ms. Sylvia Tamez
Mrs. Robin Terrazas
Dr. Nora Walker
Ms. Trish Zinsmeister

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Become an Active Member

Attention Associate Members: If you have been an associate member of the Conservation Society for at least one year and are interested in becoming an active member, nominations are due on Monday, April 23. Nominations require the support of two active members. Active members are able to vote and hold office within the Conservation Society. Learn more at www.saconservation.org under our membership page.

Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 pm**: Historic Preservation Awards
  - San Antonio Country Club
- **Sunday, April 15, 2:00 - 4:00 pm**: Junior Associates Meeting
  - NIOSA Store, La Villita
- **Monday, April 23, 9 am**: New Member Applications Due, Wulff House
- **Tuesday, April 24 - Friday, April 27**: NIOSA
  - La Villita
- **Tuesday, April 24, 5:30 pm - 10:30 pm**: By Invitation Only:
  - Kings Garden Party
- **Friday, April 27, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm**: Battle of Flowers
  - Conservation Society Offices Closed
- **Saturday, April 28**: Junior Associates Event
  - King William Fair Parade
- **Saturday, May 12**: Hunt for History:
  - Scavenger Hunt in Brackenridge Park
- **Sunday, May 20, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**: Junior Associates Meeting
  - River House
- **Wednesday, May 23, 5:30 - 7:30 pm**: General Membership Meeting
  - Location TBD