

The Conservation Society of San Antonio
THE PRESERVATION
ADVOCATE



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You Are Invited To Celebrate!

Barbara Johnson, Centennial Chairman

The Conservation Society of San Antonio’s Centennial Celebration planned for March 26 and 27 is now less than a month away. We hope you’re planning to join us for one or both star-studded events kicking off a year-long celebration honoring our organization’s legacy of preservation.

The Centennial Celebration – **Fleurs et Champs: Sowing the Seeds of Conservation for the Next 100 Years** - is a special evening event on Tuesday, March 26 to honor the legacy of the Society and inspire the next generation of preservation leaders. We’re honored to welcome Michele Picaud, the President of the Friends of Notre Dame in Paris, France, as our special guest. His moving address about ‘**The Challenge of Preservation at the Global Scale**’ will inspire us to re-commit to our stated purpose.

Guests will be joined by Society members, community leaders, Mayor Nirenberg and philanthropists for a memorable evening featuring delicious foods, fine wine, music and great conversation at the beautiful Kelso

Center at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. Individual reservations are available at \$300 per person and tables of eight start at \$3,500.

The next night, Picaud returns to center stage, this time at the McNay Art Museum where he will give a riveting lecture about the devastating fire at Notre Dame. The lecture is the second in the Amanda Cartwright Taylor Lecture Series, a bequest made by the late George Sealy.

Picaud will be joined by Alexis Boutrolle, Vice President of Asselin, the French company charged with rebuilding Notre Dame’s iconic spire. **Hint:** Notre Dame’s spire is made of 8,000 individual wooden members weighing a total 400,000 pounds! Join us on Wednesday, March 27th to see an actual part of the spire and hear more of this amazing story!

Reservations are \$50 per person and include a private reception with the speakers afterwards.

Learn more about both events at www.100gala.com and register.

SAVE
the
DATE

MARCH • 26 • 2024

100 THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SAN ANTONIO 1924 - 2024

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kathy Krnavek, President

It was almost 100 years ago, on March 22, 1924, that 13 women led by Rena Maverick Green and Emily Edwards gathered to organize the San Antonio Conservation Society. The enthusiastic group first decided

what its goals would be. They decided that the organization would conserve anything “admirably distinctive of San Antonio” including buildings, documents, pictures and natural beauty. Today we know how successful they were.

It is my great honor to serve as your president in these exciting times. This month we will celebrate our first 100 years and look back with pride on all the Society has accomplished. We saved numerous properties that were slated for destruction or were in a serious state of deterioration. Purchasing the Mission San José granary, the Espada Aqueduct, and Acequia Park were seeds that grew into the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park and ultimately the only World Heritage site in the state of Texas. The Aztec Theater and the Steves Homestead joined other places that gave meaning to the phrase “historical preservation” in San Antonio. The saving of the Woolworth Building was a prime example of our success in working with others.

Over 400 years ago, William Shakespeare wrote in *The Tempest*, “What’s past is prologue.” Today as we look

forward to our second 100 years, those words still ring true. Our purpose and goals remain remarkably similar – “to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty and all that is admirably distinctive to our state.”

The overall environment we work in, however, is not the same and we must adjust to the changing conditions as we move forward. We need more volunteers including those to lead the Society by serving on the Board of Directors and committee chairs to assist us in meeting the goals we set. We need to engage the rising generation to join us in the responsibility of preserving our past. Ask your young relatives, neighbors and friends to join you in activities you enjoy. Preservation of the past has become very expensive and so we must raise more funds to help meet our goals. Whenever we can, we should partner with other organizations and government entities to accomplish projects our Board supports.

Most important is for us to remain positive in what we do to continue to work to attain the purposes that have served the Conservation Society so well in the past and that will guide us in the future. Please let me know your suggestions and ideas on how we can do better. I thank all of you for your service to the Society and your community.

CONSERVATION SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY



INSTITUTE OF TEXAN CULTURES UPDATE

You probably saw a lot of media over the last year regarding “plans” to build new sports stadiums downtown. The talk was of building a fourth home for the Spurs downtown and pairing it with a minor league baseball stadium for the San Antonio Missions. The reports – starting in Summer, continuing in Fall and then re-emerging in February, were largely speculative, with no actual statements from the city, county, Spurs or any other entity with a say in the matter. You may recall similar reports in 2014 and then again in 2017.

In late Fall, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) revealed that it wanted to move the Institute of Texan Cultures collection to a site behind the Crockett Hotel near the Alamo. Conservation Society President Kathy Krnavek and I met with UTSA Vice President Veronica Salazar and new ITC Director Dr. Monica Perales shortly before the announcement, updating them on our nomination of the building to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination was approved unanimously by the State Review Board of the Texas Historical Commission on January 13. We are still awaiting news that it has been forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register.

Salazar talked of UTSA’s need to “monetize” the current ITC site, where the 1968 Texas Pavilion/Institute of Texan Cultures building by Caudill, Rowlett & Scott resides. Again, the headlines were similar in 2017 when UTSA began a

Vincent Michael, Executive Director long public process to “study” the ITC and its current home. While many of these reports discuss the building’s obsolescence, UTSA’s own November 2022 inspection of the building by Raba Kistner revealed no flaws – no holes in the roof, no failed systems, just normal wear and tear over 55 years. Almost every item was in Good or Fair condition. The report can be downloaded at <https://texancultures.utsa.edu/>



The UTSA announcement came as no surprise given its stance over the last six years, and it allowed the Conservation Society and other interested supporters to focus on preserving the building. National Register listing means the Texas Pavilion will qualify for Federal investment tax credits of 20% and state tax credits of 25%. This means that a \$50 million rehab of the building would require only \$27.5 million.



On February 21, the University of Texas Board of Regents met in executive session – that means the public is not allowed – and approved some sort of deal with the City of San Antonio for the ITC location. While UTSA has held a series of Task force meetings over the last few years on the future of the Institute of Texan Cultures, they have not hosted a public hearing on the issue in the ten years they have been debating it. They did have online submissions available, but no open hearing. The February 21 “secret” vote – with an agenda notice of less than the required three working days – continued the pattern of not facing the issue head-on.



NIOSA 2024

Lisa Pierce, 4th Vice President/ NIOSA Chairman

A Night In Old San Antonio[®] (NIOSA[®]) is a four-night festival, which celebrates the city's diverse cultural legacy, traditionally held during **Fiesta San Antonio**[®]. NIOSA 2024 will run Tuesday to Friday, April 23-26, 2024, from 5:30

to 10:30 p.m. nightly. It is held in **La Villita Historic Arts Village** in the heart of downtown.

Message from 2024 NIOSA Chairman Lisa Pierce

I'm often asked why I'm dedicating a year of my life to chairing NIOSA, which is way beyond a full-time position. The short answer: like most of the longtime NIOSA volunteers, I love **The Conservation Society of San Antonio** and how it makes our city truly unique. However, what really gets under my skin in a good way, is the reunion every year of all the NIOSA volunteers; we are one huge family! It's like we never have been away from each other, so we pick up where we left off the previous year. And volunteerism is part of my DNA: I began volunteering in the early 2000s with NIOSA and then quickly rose through the ranks, from Booth Chair to Area Chair to overall Vice Chair and now, **THE** Chair of NIOSA and NIOSITAS. I've also been very active in the Society, a Lifetime Member of the Fiesta San Antonio Commission and have been involved in the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo all my life.



My main goals for 2024 NIOSA are to make it so incredible for both our guests and our volunteers that they stay all night, every night, and choose NIOSA over the plethora of other Fiesta activities. Just as important: to elevate how NIOSA supports the Conservation Society and literally every person who lives in San Antonio. Some forget that NIOSA is produced by and solely benefits the Society.

A shout-out to my amazing team that has been with me every step of the way planning NIOSA: my five NIOSA Vice Chairs (Glenda Duffin, Julie Terrell, Jackie Fellers, Erin Angle and

Tisha Smith-Pruski); NIOSA Treasurer Wayne Hartman; my right-hand advisor Patti Zaiontz; and my incredible staff who work way beyond a 40-hour work week: NIOSA Business Manager Fernando Villarreal; Bookkeeper Lisa Schneider, Executive Assistant Mandy Rodriguez; and my NIOSA Warehouse Guys—Mario Gloria and Richard Montemayor.

Important things to know about NIOSA 2024:

- We are thrilled that the incomparable **Mariachi Campanas de America** will play every night in Haymarket
- We will again sell paper coupons for food, drink, souvenirs; no wristbands!



- 155+ food booths will serve NIOSA favorites including Mr. Chicken, Maria's Tortillas, Anticuchos, its signature German sausage, Bongo-K-Bobs, Shypoke Eggs, Beignets, Fried Mushrooms, Yak-i-Tori, Steer on a Stick, Gorditas and Fajitas de Pollo.
- NIOSA will still be held on the grounds of La Villita—our home for 75 years!
- The best discount advance tickets are sold to Conservation Society members, so join up! They only cost \$15 per person — and you will support San Antonio's historic preservation.
- On average, NIOSA gives the Society over \$1 million annually to fund the Society's preservation of historic properties and parks throughout the area, as well as education programs such as the seminars, scholarships, resource library and house museum.
- NIOSA invests well over \$1 million in our community by using local suppliers and paper goods. In addition, NIOSA pays nearly \$1 million to lease La Villita; pay for SAPD security; obtain health, fire and electrical permits; and to donate to the La Villita restorations fund.
- No restaurants or other non-profits produce or sell food at NIOSA. EVERYTHING at NIOSA—including the food—is made and run by our volunteers, many of which second or third generations of a family.

Library Will Reopen in the Courand House Soon

The library has moved after 49 years of service at the Anton Wulff House, and remains temporarily closed. Please bear with us as we unpack the thousands of resources in our collections at the Society's new headquarters in the Courand House, 1146 S. Alamo Street.

Researchers can still use the library's online catalog and webpages. Our Research Links are organized alphabetically by topic and connect to other online and local resources.

Thank you for your patience in the coming months. We look forward to the library reopening in soon! Please note, the actual date will depend on our progress.



Society Foundation Library - Courand House

2024 NIOSA Medals Now on Sale

The 2024 NIOSA® medals are on sale now! And yes, we did say **Medals** (plural) because there will be three official and oh-so-sought-after NIOSA medals this year. All medals are on sale now (until sold out); two larger medals for \$13 each and the lapel medal for \$6 each at:

- ❖ NIOSA office, 227 S. Presa, weekdays between 9 am & 4 pm - only through April 19
- ❖ During NIOSA in NIOSA souvenir booths, while supplies last
- ❖ Maddie Mac Boutique, 2607 Vance Jackson (for \$15 each)
- ❖ Monarch Trophy Studio website at <https://mtsawards.com/pages/fiesta-medals-san-antonio> - (for \$15 each)

“The inspiration for the 2024 NIOSA medal comes from my favorite symbols of NIOSA: Mexican Folk Art; the signature handmade flowers that line every booth; the downtown skyline you see from most places in NIOSA; the bright vivid colors and excitement that permeates every inch of NIOSA; and the light that our volunteers bring to the event that is as bright and warm as the sun. The talented David Durbin from Monarch Trophy took all those ideas created the 2024 medal,” says Lisa Pierce, NIOSA Chairman and Fourth VP of the Conservation Society of San Antonio. “As for the second medal, many organizations have medals with year bars hanging below them, to signify how

long you have been associated with them. Knowing that many people have been attending or volunteering for decades—and the age-long tradition of people keeping our beer cups as their own way of showing how long they have been attending NIOSA—I created the limited edition medal that features this year's beer cup with 2024 on it....and a hoop so you can hang next year's cup on it, and so on and so on.”



LIVING HISTORY

Monica Savino, Yturri-Edmund Homestead Complex Committee Chair

The Yturri-Edmunds Homestead is the most important property that the Conservation Society owns. I'm biased, but again, I may not be far off.

The Homestead as bequeathed to the Society in 1961 by the last private owner, Ernestine Edmunds a direct descendant of Manuel Yturri de Castillo, is a rare surviving example of historic adobe construction. The house was built in the early 19th century and had two significant additions during that time. The 1996 National Register of Historic Places application documents the House with a 1859 construction date, but a number of documented sources suggest that parts of the house were most likely built earlier. The same is true for the Mill on the Homestead. As "reconstructed", different than "restored," the Mill is historic, but it is also conjecture. Original portions of the limestone foundation show evidence of Spanish Colonial construction methods, but photos and illustrations exist showing various built versions of the Mill over the decades. As deeper questions emerge regarding the House and the Mill, the site, and the Edmunds collection, and as historic research and testing methods change over time, a more complete story for the site is possible. The Yturri-Edmunds Homestead Complex Committee (YE Committee) assists Society staff in overseeing this property and has been hard at work since August 2023 establishing projects that allow us to pursue conservation, research, and social functions. These are all activities that support the Society's Purpose on this most important property.

The YE Homestead has been dormant for a number of years due to the Mission Road Realignment Project and the COVID-19 pandemic. When properties are vacant, they simply do not get the attention they require and the YE is no exception. Maintenance is essential for all structures, old and new, but it is critical that the adobe house be assessed and maintained regularly. The good news is that the Homestead repairs and restoration funded in part by a generous Summerlee Foundation grant continues and will be completed soon. The YE Committee began the fall with a Volunteer Service Day that brought dozens of YE advocates

together. We were Society members, non-members, and neighbors from Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association. Together we removed vines from fences, trimmed trees, removed dozens of volunteer trees and unwanted shrubs from planting beds, and cut down a highly visible yet deceased pecan tree! City Council District 5 Councilwoman Teri Castillo's office responded to our volunteer day notice by providing staffed COSA Solid Waste equipment that morning so we could remove all of the brush debris from the property. This support provided us with a great boost of confidence! We managed to fill much of a City garbage truck with YE brush and branch debris, and we even had the "claw" pick up brush piles and limbs. By the end of the morning we were exhausted, satisfied with our work, and the Homestead was dramatically transformed and ready for our next event. The YE Committee came out in force to make this day happen with our planning and contributions of time. Our successful clean-up was also made possible with close coordination of the Society's Preservation Specialist and Properties Management staff. By day's end, we all benefit from the long disappeared historic site, hidden from public view, that is now visible and nicely framed from both Yellowstone and Mission.

We learned from our November Open House that there exists a large community that loves the YE Homestead. Many took interest in the knowledge presented by Sue Ann Pemberton (earthen architecture), Kay Hindes (mission lands), and Marlene Richardson (Edmunds House and collection). Because the Homestead property is one of the few large lots in the area with minimal development, we are interested in the land and its relationship with acequias and laterals throughout the labores. Surprisingly, there was great curiosity in the Motor Court. Now serving as the YE Motor Court for parking and future pop-up events, the parcel can continue supporting the activities at the Homestead while we explore it and the typology's history in the area.

Recent tours, site visits, and committee meetings have been helpful to determine possible future uses as each event reveals different constituent groups' interests. For example, what pulls



Yturri-Edmunds House



Yturri-Edmunds Mill



Oge Carriage House



Cristof Postert House

DONATIONS: February 29, 2023 - February 28, 2024



Doric Level

DocuMation

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Dietel

Mrs. Richard C. Traylor

Williamson Foundation

Pillar Level

Mr. David M. Adelman

Mrs. Margie Arnold

Ms. Ann Griffith Ash

Drs. Otis & Maryan Baskin

Mr. & Mrs. Dean Bibles

Mr. Robert T. Buchanan

Mr. Paul Carter

Ms. Leticia Diaz

Frost Bank

Mrs. Sharon Hendricks

Steve & Marty Hixon Fdn

Mrs. Carolyn B. Jackson

Kaliff Insurance

Mr. James Lifshutz

Mr. & Mrs. Scotty Light

Mr. & Mrs Richard Negley

Mr. Joseph Penshorn

Mrs. Camille Rodriguez Brigant

Ms. Kate Ruckman

Mr. Tom Sharp

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shivers

Keystone Level

Alamo Hardwoods, Inc

Mrs. Jeanne Albrecht

Ms. Anne Alexander

Dr. Anna Catherine Armstrong

Ms. Nancy Avellar

Ms. Kathy Babb

Mrs. Magdalena Barrera

Ms. Susan Beavin

Mrs. Cynthia Birdsall

Mrs. Kathleen Carter

Dr. Theresa Casey & Mr. John Lehw

Rep Dr. Philip Cortez

Dr. Gary Cox & Mr. Michael Simon

Ms. Andrea Cram

Mr. William Crow, Jr.

Ms. Rosemarie Q. Donelson

Mrs. Allison Elder

Ms. Cristina Escobedo

Mr. Jeffrey C. Fetzer, FAIA

Ms. Missy Finck

Mr. James R. Garner

Mrs. Lisa Garza

Mr. & Mrs. Joey Groff

Mr. Oliver Gunnels

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Hartmann

Mrs. Caryn Hasslocher

Hollerbach Title Group

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Ince

Mrs. Sandee Johns

Ms. Barbara Johnson

Mrs. Gemma Kennedy

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kinnison, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Kushner

Kuyrkendall & Company, Inc.

Law Office of Serna & Serna

Mr. & Mrs. Sean Lyons

Mr. Jerry Martinez

Ms Whitney McCarthy

Ms. Celeste McEntire

Ms. Roxana McGregor

Ms. Cathey Meyer

Mrs. Shanon Miller

Mission Development Group, LLC.

Ms. Linda Nairn

NRP Group

Mrs. Mary Ann Oliver

Mr. Samuel Panchevre

Mrs. Peggy Penshorn

Mr. Robert Penshorn

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Pfeiffer

Ms. Patricia Pratchett

Ms. Margaret Priesmeyer

The Republic of Texas Restaurant

Ms. Kathy Rhoads

Ms. Marlene Richardson

Mr. Jon Robinson

Mrs. Gretchen Rose

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Sackett

Ms. Monica Savino & Mr. Mark Kusey

Mr. & Mrs. David Schoenert

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schulze

Ms. Rebecca Simmons

Mr. Banks Smith

Mrs. Penelope Smith-Singleton

Ms. Robin Steinhauser

Mr. Ron Stinson

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tamez

Ms. Dru Van Steenberg

Mrs. Virginia Van

Steenberg

Villa Finale Museum & Gardens

Vogt Auction Galleries

Mrs. Penny Wiederhold

The Wood Agency

Mrs. Belinda Molina Yndo



2024 Capital Club

CALLING NIOSA VOLUNTEERS!

Calling ALL Volunteers! We need volunteers to help before, during and after NIOSA. We can use your skills and enthusiasm now in the NIOSA office; during staging for the week leading to NIOSA; volunteering in a booth during NIOSA; and after NIOSA as we pack up La Villita. Individuals; groups of volunteers from corporations/companies/non-profits like Scouts; and/or those needing service hours MORE than welcome.....and don't worry, we will offer tools and training. Please contact NIOSA at 210-226-5188 or niosa@niosa.org for more information or visit the website niosa.org/volunteer. FYI: If you have volunteered in the past, please contact your booth or Area Chair for more details.



NIOSA TICKETS

Advance discount entrance tickets for \$20 are available now through April 26th on NIOSA website; handling fee will apply. These e-tickets can be loaded to phone or tablet, or printed. NIOSA leaders strongly recommend that buyers bring a printed e-ticket, as back-up.

- Advance discount entrance tickets for \$20 are available now through April 19 at NIOSA headquarters at 227 S. Presa (at Nueva St.) from 10:00 am - 12 noon and 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. weekdays. No free parking available; cash, checks or credit cards accepted.

- Advance discount entrance tickets will be available March 1 through April 26 for \$20 per person at area H-E-B grocery stores; USAA and some area military bases

- Entrance tickets can be purchased nightly during NIOSA at the gates for \$25 for adults; children 12 and under are free

when accompanied by an adult. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. and close at 10 p.m.; food sales and entertainment continue until 10:30 p.m.

- Members of the Conservation Society get NIOSA tickets for only \$15 per person. Join or renew your membership by March 31, 2024, at saconservation.org to buy member tickets at the lowest ticket price available PLUS the satisfaction that you are supporting the preservation efforts of the Society.

Celebrating its 76th anniversary in 2024, NIOSA is the top fundraiser for historic preservation in the United States—living up to its motto as a “Celebration for Preservation.” It is solely produced by and benefits The Conservation Society of San Antonio, one of the nation’s oldest and most active historic preservation organizations that is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2024.



SPONSORSHIPS:

NIOSA has generous sponsorship packages! We thank these corporations who have already signed up to support NIOSA and the Society through in-kind or cash donations: Silver Eagle Beverages, Bolner’s Fiesta Products, Panda Brothers and Bolner’s Meat Markets. Contact NIOSA Business Manager Fernando Villarreal at 210-226-5188 or FVillarreal@niosa.org if you are interested.



MEMORIALS: IN MEMORY OF...

RON BAUML

James Foster

SALLY BUCHANAN

Janet Francis

CLAIRE GOLDEN

Robert Buchanan
Fred & Maria Pfeiffer
Lynn Osborne Bobbitt
Marcie Ince
Lauri Odness
Nina & David Eisenstat
Paul & Lee Michaels

HILARIO GUARJARDO

Monica Savino & Mark Kusey

LORETTA HUDDLESTON

Barbara Evans Hunter
Jill & Stephen Souter
Fred & Maria Pfeiffer
Kevin Wersterfer
Janet Francis
Margie Arnold
Roy & Mary Rogers

JOAN NEGLEY KELLEHER

Janet Francis

CLIFTON MCNEEL

Janet Francis

JO ANN RHOADS

Leticia Diaz
Jo Ann Andera

Margie Arnold

Susan Beavin
Pamela Potter
Ernest Gamez
Kathy Krnavek
Maria Stevenson-Greene
Paul Ringenbach
Richard & Mari Tamez
Marcie Ince
Martha Sellers Avant
Lynn Herren
Monica Savino & Mark Kusey

OWEN SEIDENBERGER

Margie Arnold
Shirley Dyer

ADAIR SUTHERLAND

Janet Francis

IN HONOR OF

JOHN BLOODSWORTH

Le Club

MARY GUARJARDO

Monica Savino & Mark Kusey

MARGARET LEEDS

Deborah Kanter

DOLORES MICHAEL

Thomas Michael

ELECTED OFFICERS, VOLUNTEERS & STAFF

Janet Francis

Welcome New Members! FEBRUARY 28, 2023- FEBRUARY 29, 2024

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Andrea Alaniz Salazar
David Anderson
Erin Angle
John Baker
Terri Bell
Jane Bockus
Aline Breitreutz
Barbara Briguglio
Antoinette Theresa Cadena
Rose Castro
Alejandra Cavazos
Larry Clark
Ellen Cotton
Kevin Crawford
Laura Davenport
Anthony Delgado
Sarah Dutra
Randi Fass
Roger Flores
Cheryl Flores

Geri Galleza
Belinda Mora Gavallos
Carrie Gray
Cecilia Gutierrez Venable
Wendy Hetzel
Dwight Hobart
Stewart Horne
Claudia Ibarra
Norma Jaime-Hernandez
Mary Johnson
Mary Jurewicz
Mark Knesal
Paula Kothmann
Christopher Lefelhocz
Sharon Lyerly
Richard Martinez
Claudia Martinez
Doug McMurray
Michael Mecke
Mary-Alice Metwally

Joseph Mlodzianowski
Jacqueline Morales
Jonathan Morales
Elaine Moreno
Jackie Mrazek
Karl Nicholas
Michelle Perez
Thomas Pressly
Tisha Pruski
Jose Ramos
Tina Reck-Guerra
Ronnie Ruth Retzliff
Isabelle Richardson
Denise Richter
Matt Rodriguez
Teresa Rodriguez
Michael Romero
Hector Ruiz
Larry Rye
Lori Sackett

Jeff Sackett
Ernest Salinas
Sandra Salinas
Katherine Sanchez-Rocha
Hilary Saunders
Richard Schiebel
Jessica Schmidt
Araceli Schrantz
Marcella Schroder
Lauren Scott
Jeanette Smallwood
Jerome Stowe
Christine Sykes
Delaney Talley Alford
Kathleen Thacker
Jason Vasquez
Justin Wideman
Elizabeth Ann Wilke
Lynn Yakubik
Ali Yantes

NIOSITA:

For the past 62 years, we have also staged NIOSITAs (private, mini-NIOSAs) in La Villita's historic plazas for conventions, meetings and festivals to raise additional funds. We were the first organization in San Antonio to produce these outdoor festivals for private groups, truly establishing NIOSA as the premiere caterer of "fiestas." The first NIOSITA was held in 1960 after the premiere of "The Alamo" movie starring John Wayne and Richard Widmark—both who attended the NIOSITA! Call NIOSA office if interested. 210-226-5188.



WORLD HERITAGE SYMPOSIUM

"Because cultural identity is at the core of community and national life, it is the foundation of our cultural heritage and its conservation."

-The Declaration of San Antonio (1996)

Last November, World Heritage USA commemorated the 1996 San Antonio Declaration with a three-day symposium entitled "Affirming Cultural Identity: World Heritage in the 21st Century." The San Antonio event featured sessions on the nomination, inscription and management of World Heritage Sites like the San Antonio Missions, with a presentation by former Society President Nancy Avellar. The symposium also explored cultural connections between the U.S. and Mexico and reflect on the progress of preservation.

The 1996 document was a response to the 1994 Nara Document on Authenticity, which marked a significant shift in preservation philosophy and practice. No longer would there be a universal approach to heritage conservation. Each cultural tradition not only produces its own building and own heritage, but it also has its own approach to preservation.

If the Nara document came out of an understanding of heritage that emphasized traditional building practices and other forms of intangible heritage, the San Antonio Declaration reaffirmed the importance of materiality in heritage.

"The comprehensive cultural value of our heritage can be understood only through an objective study of history, the material elements inherent in the tangible heritage, and a

deep understanding of the intangible traditions associated with the tangible patrimony."

What both documents did was set the stage for the 21st century focus on "authenticity" rather than simply material "integrity." Both documents referenced traditional cultural practices and intangible heritage, but the San Antonio Declaration – like the inscription of the Missions 19 years later – acknowledged the confluence of cultural groups in a way found neither in Europe nor Asia. Specifically, the convergence of highly technological societies with nomadic hunter-gatherers is typical of the Americas. Stated simply, the combination of those cultures is the main reason the San Antonio Missions have the outstanding universal value to become a World Heritage Site.

San Antonio has had many important moments in the history of heritage conservation, from the first public preservation project west of the Mississippi to the first historic district (King William) in Texas. This year we will celebrate our Centennial, and we can point to many historic moments over that century, from our first efforts to save Mission San José in 1926 to World Heritage inscription in 2015. The creation of Preservation Action at our Dashiell House in 1974. Promoting the creation of the River Walk in 1929. The first World's Fair to adaptively re-use two dozen historic buildings in 1968. Winning the National Trust's Crowninshield Award in 1977 and hosting its State and Local Partners Initiative. The list is very, very long.



Mission San José



Mission Concepción



Mission San Juan

HUGHES HOUSE SAVED AGAIN

The 1912-13 Hughes House at 312 Courtland was the subject of a strong advocacy effort by the Conservation Society and Tobin Hill Neighborhood Association in 2021 and 2022. We heard the 7,000 square foot home might be sold by the Archdiocese of San Antonio to San Antonio College to expand two adjacent SAC parking lots. The situation was complicated by a 2019 state law that allowed religious institutions to ignore land-use laws like landmarking.

We wrote to the Trustees of San Antonio College asking them not to purchase the house for parking and wrote to the Archbishop asking him to offer the house for sale to a buyer who might want to rehab it. The Conservation Society brought together local chef Andrew Weismann and New York rehabber May Chu to purchase it in 2022. Weissman planned a wine bar, secured zoning for the endeavor, and got the building designated a landmark.

The building was vandalized in early 2023 and shortly later Chu and Weissman put it back on the market. Fortunately, the home was purchased by Ed Byrne and Chad Carey who are following through on the rehab in 2024.

The Hughes House is a great example of Prairie Style influenced design. It also is where Russell Hughes, the young woman who became the nationally famous ethnographic dancer La Meri, was brought up and learned to dance.



ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2025 PUBLICATION AWARDS



The 2025 Publication Awards competition is open to printed books on any aspect of Texas history that supports the Society's stated purpose and has a copyright date of 2022, 2023, or 2024. Anyone may nominate a book, including the author, provided he or she submits a nomination form and two copies of the book. Nomination forms and criteria can be found at: www.saconservation.org/news-events/publication-awards. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, May 17, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.**

PUBLICATION AWARDS – CALL FOR READERS

Do you enjoy reading about Texas history? The library is issuing a call for volunteer readers/evaluators for the 2025 Publication Awards. If you are interested in reading and helping to decide the award winners, please contact Beth Standifird at 210-224-6163 or bstandifird@saconservation.org. More information will be provided to readers in late April. Once the competition is over, readers will be able to choose a favorite book or two to keep from the titles not added to the library collection.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH LECTURE

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 18TH



The Conservation Society of San Antonio is pleased to welcome Professor Emerita Anat Geva who will discuss her book *The Architecture of Modern American Synagogues 1950s-1960s*, (Texas A & M University Press, 2023)

Dr. Geva is a registered architect and longtime professor in Texas A & M's historic preservation program. She worked for years with Dr. David Woodcock of the Center for Heritage Conservation at A & M and served on the Executive Committee of the National Council for Preservation Education. She is also the author of *Sacred Architecture: Faith, Form, and Building Technology; Modernism and American Mid 20-Century Sacred Architecture*; and co-author of *Israel as a Modern Architectural Experimental Lab, 1948-1978*.

The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 11 AM at a location to be announced.

CONSERVATION SOCIETY MOVING DAYS



CAPITAL CLUB RIVER BARGE TOUR



RON BAUML - TRIBUTE

1960 - 2024

Ron Bauml, architect and longtime Properties Restoration Manager for the Conservation Society of San Antonio, passed away on February 13, 2024. A San Antonio native, Ron attended MacArthur High School and received his bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture from Texas A & M University. He worked five years for Marmon & Mok architects in San Antonio before serving as the Society's first Properties Restoration Manager from 1987 to 2020 when he retired. Ron was known for his good humor, love of history and encyclopedic knowledge of South Texas architecture and conservation. Ron was close with the architecture, contracting and craft communities and beloved by his fellow staff members. Ron was "The Man" who knew everything about preservation, leading to a 2020 Community Partner Award from the American Institute of Architects, San Antonio Chapter. We will miss his wonderful sense of humor, kindness and camaraderie. Ron



Baltazar Espinosa and Ron Bauml in front of the Yturri-Edmunds House.

Ron Bauml on the San Antonio River Presa Street Bridge



THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SAN ANTONIO
THE AMANDA CARTWRIGHT TAYLOR LECTURE ENDOWMENT
proudly presents

**"NOTRE DAME DE PARIS:
REBIRTH OF AN INTERNATIONAL TREASURE"**

FEATURED SPEAKER
Michel Picaud, President
The Friends of Notre Dame de Paris



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024
6 PM TO 8:00 PM
MCNAY ART MUSEUM | 6000 N. NEW BRAUNFELS
RSVP REQUIRED | \$50 PER PERSON

For more information about the March 27th lecture, visit www.100gala.com.

Thank you Donors! FEBRUARY 28, 2023- FEBRUARY 29, 2024

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IN JANUARY, THE JR. ASSOCIATES TOURED MISSION CONCEPCIÓN

Join the Junior Associates and see where we go next.
Next meeting will be held May 4th.

Interested in joining or want more info? Email: ja@saconservation.org
or contact the office for more information.

YTURRI-EDMUND HOMESTEAD (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

one individual through the site is slightly different than how others will wander the site. The former might be impressed by the collection and the Yturri-Edmunds family as they were direct descendants of Canary Islanders and of the original land grantee, Manuel Yturri de Castillo. Whereas, the latter group of visitors may contemplate how the Homestead and Mill came to be 200 years earlier. Furthermore, several see possibilities for use as a presentation and symposium location.

Looking forward to this spring, the YE Committee continues its efforts highlighting the unique qualities of the property including its strategic location at the confluences of the San Antonio River, Mission Hike and Bike Trail, Mission Trails, and Roosevelt Avenue. Our work that began in the fall to update and reassess the collection inventory will continue with the intention of applying conservation methods to the collection where possible and determining which research and archaeological projects should be pursued to update the property's place in a larger regional history. We must further our understanding of what we have at the YE Homestead. To date, no owners including the Society have ever commissioned archaeological research on the property, and the prospect of doing so now holds promise to reveal new information. Considering the YE Homestead is a rich repository of many histories for so many, applying modern research methods to the land, the people, the earthen architecture, and the relationship with the missions will yield a range of topics to share with our supporters and the public. We can be guided by recent research conducted by other entities while our findings will fill historic gaps for all. Upon additional consideration, the Yturri-Edmunds Homestead is surely the most important property that the Conservation Society owns. Lucky for us.

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS, OFFICERS, AND DIRECTORS

INTERESTED IN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP?

If you are an "Associate" member of the Conservation Society for at least one year and would like to become an "Active" member, nomination forms are due to the Society office by **9:00 am on Monday, April 22nd**. Active members are voting members and may hold office on the Conservation Society's Board of Directors. Active Member Nominations require the signature support of two active members.

SOCIETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee is accepting recommendations of individuals who are interested in being an integral part of the Conservation Society by service on the Board of Directors as either an Officer or Director. Officers elected by the Board of Directors must have had at least one year of Board membership within the past five years before taking office. Directors elected by the membership must have been Active Members for at least one year or the major portion thereof. Forms for your recommendation must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by **9:00 am on Monday, April 22nd**. Active Members, please watch for your packet which will be mailed soon.

Please refer to the Society Bylaws for more information. For additional questions, please call the office at 210.224.6163. To access governing documents for the Society, visit www.saconservation.org under "Governing Documents". The newly amended San Antonio Conservation Society Foundation Bylaws can also be accessed here.

The Preservation Advocate is published by The Conservation Society of San Antonio.

Send letters, articles, or comments to: conserve@saconservation.org.

Submission deadline for the Summer Newsletter is Friday, June 21, 2024.

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.



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WE HAVE MOVED TO:

THE COURAND HOUSE

1146 S. Alamo Street
San Antonio, TX 78210-1178

The Society's new home was designed for the Courand family in a NeoClassical style in 1906 by prominent San Antonio architect Leo M. J. Dielmann. Dielmann was especially known for his church and school designs, including the recently demolished Beacon Hill School, the chapels at Our Lady of the Lake and Fort Sam Houston, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fredericksburg, and the Fairmount Hotel, which the Society helped save in 1985.

SAVE THE DATES !

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:30 pm

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The Betty Kelso Center, San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Pl, San Antonio, TX 78209

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm

THE AMANDA CARTWRIGHT TAYLOR LECTURE

ENDOWMENT

Michel Picaud: "Notre Dame de Paris: Rebirth Of An International Treasure"

McNay Art Museum

6000 N. New Braunfels, San Antonio, TX 78209

Sunday, March 31, 2024

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DEADLINE

Contact the Society office for more info

Monday, April 22 & Saturday, April 27, 2024

JUNIOR ASSOCIATES ACTIVITY

Information on Junior Associate Calendar

April 23, 2024 - April 26, 2024

A NIGHT IN OLD SAN ANTONIO

La Villita

Friday, April 26 2024

FIESTA FRIDAY - STAFF HOLIDAY

Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 2:00 pm

JUNIOR ASSOCIATES MEETING

Information on Junior Associate Calendar

Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 11 am

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

Professor Emerita Anat Geva: The Architecture of Modern American Synagogues

Location TBD

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 5:30 pm

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Board of Directors Election

NEISD Community Learning Center

8750 Tesoro Drive, Room 217, San Antonio, TX 78217

Monday, May 27, 2024

MEMORIAL DAY - STAFF HOLIDAY

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:30 pm

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MEMBER RECOGNITION & INSTALLATION OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

San Antonio River Authority

100 E Guenther St, San Antonio, TX 78204

Thursday, July 4, 2024

4TH OF JULY - STAFF HOLIDAY