



Photo © Jose Carabines



# PATRONATO

*Mission San Xavier del Bac Summer 2018*

## Bringing our Mission to Maricopa

Do you live or have connections in Maricopa County?

We invite you to help us share the Mission San Xavier restoration story with family, friends, neighbors and colleagues to help us achieve our 2018 goal of tripling the number of Maricopa County residents in our family of supporters.

- Of the more than 5,000 names in our database, just 324 people/families have Maricopa County zip codes.
- Of the almost \$12 million dollars raised to date, less than 5% has come from Maricopa County.

It just makes sense that people throughout our State

connect with the important goal of preserving Mission San Xavier. Here's why:

- It is the oldest European-inspired structure in Arizona.
- It is the first and most enduring symbol of multi-cultural collaboration between the Spanish and the indigenous population.
- It is a State and National treasure and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960.
- In 2015, it was placed on the World Monuments Fund prestigious "Watch List" of most significant endangered cultural buildings in the World.

### *Ways to Help*

- **Spread the word!** Many assume the work at the Mission is done. In truth, it will take another \$15 million to complete the preservation work. And, maintenance of completed work is on-going.
- **Invite us to speak.** Are you a member of a community organization? We have an active Speakers Bureau and would welcome an opportunity to share our restoration story at a meeting or during a special tour of the Mission.
- **Host a house party.** Bring together 30+ people and we will gladly present the Mission and restoration story to your guests.
- **Suggest a tour.** Do you have friends who have never visited the Mission? Tell them about our wonderful docents who share the remarkable story of Mission San Xavier on scheduled tours six days a week.
- **Make a Connection.** Are you connected with leaders in the Phoenix world of philanthropy? Please share with them the Mission story and the ongoing financial needs. Encourage them to meet with us to arrange a visit.

**To our wonderful Southern Arizona donors. We still need you too!**

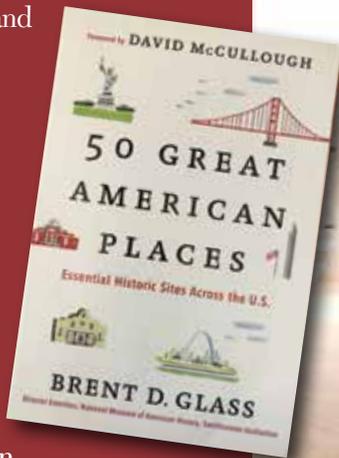
To date 60% of funds raised across time have come from you! We want to thank you for this tremendous contribution. We know you understand the importance of preserving and restoring this Arizona treasure; our White Dove of the Desert.

## Mission San Xavier Makes the Cut!

Planning is underway to bring Brent Glass, the author of "Fifty Great Places," to Phoenix and Tucson in October. Mr. Glass is the former director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. He will talk about his one-of-a-kind guide to the most important cultural and historic sites in the United States and how he made his selections.

You won't be surprised that for his Arizona entry, Mr. Glass selected Mission San Xavier.

Watch for more details later in the year or email us at [info@patronatosanxavier.org](mailto:info@patronatosanxavier.org) to ensure you are on our invitation list.



The four bells in the West Tower

## Conserving Mission Bells

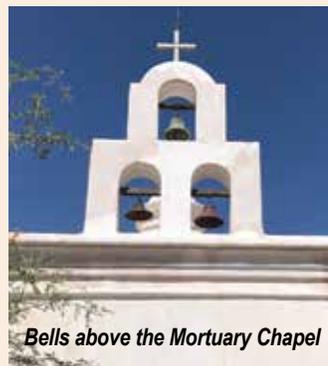
Eight unique bells hang in various locations around the Mission. Three in the belfry are original to the Mission and are thought to have been sand-cast on site more than 200 years ago. Each is inscribed "San Xavier" in reverse. It is unclear whether the artisan did this deliberately or simply forgot to reverse the lettering in the mold for the image to read correctly.

These bells still function as a communication system for the people living in Wa:k. Ring patterns advise villagers that a member of the community has passed; different patterns denote whether the deceased is male or female, and adult or child.

The largest bell is huge and was cast in Philadelphia. Purchased by Bishop

Henry Granjon in the early 20th century, it was added as part of his first restoration activities at the Mission.

Board member and University of Arizona Professor Conservator Nancy Odegard is arranging for a well-respected conservator of metals to participate with others in a workshop on the conservation of bells at the Mission next winter sponsored by the Patronato and Arizona State Museum. Conservators from throughout the country



Bells above the Mortuary Chapel

will learn techniques of conserving bells and other metal items and developing maintenance protocols to ensure the ongoing protection of these important cultural items.

## Thank you, Kathy Hard

Board member Kathy Hard is stepping down from the Board of Directors and joining our Associate Membership so that she and husband Michael can travel and spend more time at their home in Northern Arizona. Kathy joined the Concert Planning Committee more than 20 years ago and has been an integral part of Patronato's Board for many years. She assures us that this decision will not alter her passion and support for the restoration work at Mission San Xavier.

# Convento Beams Tell a Story

Remember Luke Addington and his volunteer work repairing and conserving the historic altar railings with conservators Tim Lewis and Matilde Rubio?

Since then, Luke contracted with Patronato to conserve five historic beams that had been removed from the ceiling in the first Convento room. This room is being conserved as part of the East Tower project. Each beam was badly damaged by termites and other wood-loving insects.

With his knowledge of wood and methods of working wood, Luke determined from the markings on the beams, that the original tools used to craft them were stone or metal adzes and hatchets. In other sections the beams contained evidence of a serious fire that had occurred in the room.

Luke's analysis solved two mysteries. First, the beams are ponderosa pine not mesquite. Second, information from UA's tree ring lab tells us that these beams could not have been repurposed from the first Jesuit chapel for use in the Convento as their age does not fit this timeline.

As Luke points out, "The information contained in these beams could generate several scholarly research papers about life in Mission San Xavier!"

## MUSEUM TO RE-OPEN IN JULY

After being closed for three years, final touches are being made to two rooms

that are part of the Mission Museum footprint.

The rooms themselves will be part of the exhibit with sections of wall left exposed to show the internal

construction of the building. These rooms will be re-installed and ready for re-opening in late July.



*Before preservation*



*Following preservation*

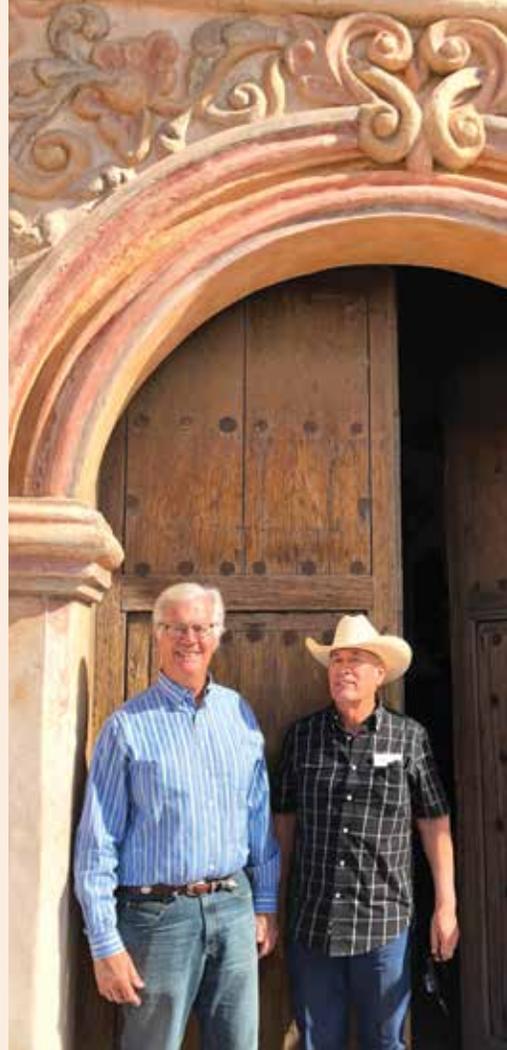
# Board Members Do Double Duty

Two Patronato Board members completed our docent training and now offer regular monthly tours at the Mission. Martin DeSoto was the first. He grew up in the shadow of the Mission and has been an active member of the San Xavier parish his entire life. Martin was part of the second docent training in 2012 and has served as Board member since 2013.

Martin is a descendent of several pioneer families: 1) Jose Maria Comaduran was a garrison captain in Tucson and Tubac, 2) Jose Maria Sosa had a land grant north of Benson on the San Pedro river, 3) Jose Maria Martinez had a land grant in the area that is now San Xavier District, and 4) Manuel Otero and his son, Sabino, had a land grant in Tubac. The Oteros were the cattle kings and the Tubac Golf Course is part of their original hacienda.

Native Tucsonan Clague Van Slyke, III, also has a life-long, multi-generational connection to San Xavier. Clague's father was the Patronato Board President during the 1990s and Clague has been a Board member since 2013. In 2015, he participated in the docent training, primarily to increase his knowledge about Mission San Xavier. He was, however, quickly inspired to share the incredible story with the Mission's many guests. This year, Clague assumed the duties of Docent Education Coordinator, returning to his roots as a lifelong student of Southwestern history.

If you have interest in becoming a docent, a new training class will be conducted in the Fall. Contact us for details: [info@patronatosanxavier.org](mailto:info@patronatosanxavier.org)



## Night at the Museum

In March, The Patronato and the Arizona State Museum hosted an event at the Museum. Patronato board member and UA Professor and Conservator Nancy Odegaard offered a tour of the Museum's conservation laboratory. Guests enjoyed a lecture by Terrol Johnson, a Tohono O'odham maker of innovative and contemporary baskets, and they explored the newly-opened exhibition of native Kachinas, the Pottery vaults, and the gallery of Native baskets and textiles, which is the newest permanent installation.

## White Dove Campaign Update

We have had a number of people ask "What is happening with the East Tower project and the White Dove Campaign?" The answer is that the work just completed on the museum rooms is all part of the East Tower project. We stabilized the foundations and also strengthened the walls in these rooms. So, to date, about a third of the work on the Tower is complete. The next phase involves scaffolding being erected so that work on the rest of the Tower can be undertaken. We don't want to erect scaffolding to shroud the Tower until we know sufficient funds are available to complete the work in the shortest amount of time. Meanwhile fundraising continues for this specific project. We are preparing a grant and negotiating a substantial gift both of which require us to identify matching funds. We anticipate this will provide the bulk of the money required to complete the Tower.

You can donate directly to the East Tower project at our website: [PatronatoSanXavier.org](http://PatronatoSanXavier.org)



Board President Barbara Peck and Executive Director Miles Green receiving the grant check from the Bishop of Tucson

## Thank you, Catholic Foundation

We appreciate the generosity of the Catholic Foundation for three years of support. In 2016, a Foundation grant helped with the preservation of the “Inmaculada” statue that dominates the uppermost niche on the Retablo Mayor. Last year, grant funds helped stabilize and preserve the altar railings; the Foundation’s grant this year will help fund risk management activities for the East Tower. A more permanent barrier now under construction will keep people away from the Tower’s base and decorative elements will be stabilized until the Tower can be fully repaired.

### **Patronato’s 1783 Society: Planning a Legacy Gift?**

If you intend to support our restoration efforts by including us in your estate plan, please be sure to have your attorney specify that the gift comes to “Patronato San Xavier.” Gifts to “Mission San Xavier” go directly to the Parish and even if “restoration” is mentioned, it will not find its way to us. Please contact us if you need additional information.



**PATRONATO  
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Connect with Patronato via our website  
[www.patronatosanxavier.org](http://www.patronatosanxavier.org)



While you are on our website, click “Contact” and sign up to receive timely email from Patronato with concert information and more.



Find Patronato on Facebook:  
Patronato San Xavier.

Please like the page and share your thoughts and your Mission photos for our Facebook community to enjoy.

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Martin DeSoto, *Secretary*  
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Gerald Swanson

### **Interior Conservators**

Timothy Lewis  
Matilde Rubio  
*Tohono Restorations LLC*  
Patronato intern: Susie Moreno

### **Project Architect**

Robert Vint,  
*Vint & Associates, Architects, Inc.*

### **Project Contractor**

Daniel Morales,  
*Morales Restoration & Builders*

### **Executive Director**

Miles Green

\*deceased



# A Round of Applause for Our 2017 Sponsors

## *Patronato's Christmas at San Xavier*

A big Thank You to all who made our 21st Annual Christmas concert series a financial success. First, to everyone who attended. Thank you! And, to these businesses and families who partnered with us:

### **Corporate Sponsors**

Desert Diamond  
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**Media Sponsor:** Tucson Lifestyle

**Raffle Prizes:** Hamilton Distillers, makers of Whiskey del Bac

Our thanks to those who purchased raffle tickets at the event. The lucky winners: **Jim Quirk** from Tucson and **Frances Chapman** from Green Valley both won gifts of Whiskey del Bac. **Diane Taylor** from Tucson won the framed piece of art "Indian dancers."

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