AVIATION POSTERS
TAKE FLIGHT
AT THE MUSEUM OF SAN DIEGO HISTORY

San Diego Historical Society is proud to present Taking Flight: WWI and WWII Aviation Posters as its most recent exhibition. Containing spectacular examples of material from the collection of Allen Airways Flying Museum, this exhibition features works from one of the largest and most important collection of aviation posters in the United States. Portions of the Allen collection were previously featured in the book Looping the Loop, and an exhibition of the same name circulated by the Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum.

The earlier book and exhibition focused on posters from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, while Taking Flight features later material. On display are a variety of large and colorful posters printed from 1920 through 1950 to promote action movies about aviators and the battle for air superiority during World War I and II, along with multiple call-to-service wartime posters from the same time period. The posters will also be supplemented by select props that appeared in some of the movies. The content of this exhibition presents a historical display of WWI and WWII aviation art through the display of cinematic and service posters.

Taking Flight will be on view at the Museum of San Diego History this summer beginning May 30. While on display, visitors can experience a guided tour of Taking Flight on select dates. As always, admission is free for members. Aviation-themed lectures and public programs will also accompany the exhibition and more information about these programs can be found on our events calendar in this issue (Page 6). Taking Flight is presented with support from the County of San Diego at the recommendation of Supervisor Greg Cox and the Legler Benbough Foundation.

- Nicholas Vega, Director of Exhibitions
The SDHS staff has been hard at work to put in place a dynamic schedule of changing exhibitions for the benefit of our members and visitors to San Diego. The cover story of this issue of The TIMES focuses on Taking Flight: WWI and WWII Aviation Posters. We also have information in this issue about our upcoming fall exhibition San Diego Style which will feature selections from our remarkable costume collection.

I am also pleased to announce that we have entered into an agreement with the Smithsonian Institution’s National Portrait Gallery to bring a wonderful exhibition to SDHS in the spring of next year. Faces of the Frontier: Photographic Portraits from the American West, 1845–1924 will be on view from March 12, 2010 through June 6, 2010. Approximately 100 portraits will be included in the exhibition representing diverse men and women from all walks of life. According to the Smithsonian’s advance press, “Visitors will encounter those who explored, fought over, developed, and represented this vast territory – individuals who contributed to the transformation of this region’s nature and identity.” Californians will be represented by rare works such as a large daguerreotype depicting Andrés Pico, who was the commander of the Californios at the Battle of San Pasqual during the Mexican-American War. Faces of the Frontier will stop at only two venues outside of Washington, D.C.: the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa and San Diego Historical Society.

We are also exploring additional ideas for changing exhibitions featuring the Society’s wonderful collections as well as loan shows. Discussions are underway with potential partners ranging from the Spanish Government to the Oakland Museum of California. In all cases, the objective of our exhibition program will be to present stimulating shows that shed light on the fascinating story of our city, county, and region. I hope you will plan a visit to the Museum of San Diego History soon so that you can enjoy these exciting new exhibitions.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
David M. Kahn
SDHS celebrates its many dedicated volunteers.
L to R: (front row) Dorothy Haven, Barbara Anderson, Kathy Townsend, (back row) David Kahn, Maisie Morris.
The Collections Department has recently received two federal grants that will greatly enhance our ability to care for and preserve our collections into the future.

The first is a Preservation Assistance Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This $6,000 grant will allow San Diego Historical Society to work with the Balboa Arts Conservation Center to develop, test, and implement disaster preparedness and response plans for the Society’s diverse collections. The comprehensive project will include disaster prevention and preparation activities, will plan for possible response and recovery situations and allow us to purchase disaster recovery supplies. The result will not only be a unique and comprehensive disaster plan for the Museum’s three types of collections - objects, photographs, and document archives - but the framework and methodology to keep the plan up to date and relevant.

The second is a Conservation Project Support Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Again working with the Balboa Art Conservation Center, this 15-month grant will allow us to do a comprehensive survey of the conservation needs of all our collections. The first phase will look at the physical space and institutional policies affecting our collections. This phase of the work will be designed to address: institutional goals including staffing; buildings and facilities as they impact collections; climate control and environment including temperature, relative humidity, light, and pest control; collections and collections policies; exhibitions, storage, and emergency preparedness.

The second phase will bring in several outside conservators to survey and assess the conservation needs of individual collections. Specialists will include conservators of textiles, photographs, furniture, paper and fine art. Their work will give us a greater understanding of more specific conservation needs and help us identify conservation priorities.

This information will be used to create a long-range conservation plan that will allow us to set long term goals for the care and conservation of the collections. The $80,875 IMLS grant is the largest one that SDHS has ever received from that federal agency and the first IMLS grant that SDHS has been awarded since 1993. It is one of only 3 grants awarded to California institutions and one of 35 grants awarded nationwide. IMLS’ investment in the Society’s effort to create a long-range conservation plan highlights the importance of the undertaking.

- Victoria Cranner, Director of Collections, Registrar

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**SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board of Trustees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
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**TIMES Production Coordinator** | Jessica Schmidt

**Photos** | Chris Travers

**Graphic Design** | Jennifer Cadam

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**THE TIMES NEWSLETTER**


**POSTMASTER:**

Send address changes to: The TIMES, 1649 El Prado, Ste 3, San Diego CA 92101-1664.
HIGH TECH HIGH STUDENTS
EXPLORE & CREATE

This year, one of our class projects at High Tech High in Point Loma was to create a documentary for our Taco Salad Film Festival. The students partnered up to create ten-minute films about a variety of structures in San Diego. For example, my partner and I made our documentary about the Hotel Del Coronado. Other topics included: the Balboa Theater, the Mission Beach Plunge, the US Grant Hotel, the Marston House, the Cabrillo Bridge, the El Cortez Hotel, and more. Our teacher, Mr. Mark Aguirre wanted us to do archival research instead of simply sitting in front of a computer downloading information.

After the initial research, we wrote scripts, made storyboards, and used technology to create our films. One of the most challenging aspects of the project was researching our subject and then deciding what kind of information was appropriate. The San Diego Historical Society played an important role in our research. Our entire class took a field trip to the Research Library to look at images, documents, maps, and ephemera. Many students returned after that to work on their own time as well. A team of students made another visit to record the historical images that had been selected for our projects.

If it wasn’t for the Research Library and all the information we gathered from it, our films would not have been possible. We are currently working towards presenting our documentaries at the film festival in June. Our class is very thankful for the opportunity that the San Diego Historical Society gave us.
- Angela Kang, 9th grade student

CREATE A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE
BECOME A DOCENT

San Diego Historical Society's mission is to help people of all ages learn about, and appreciate, our rich regional history. One of the many ways we work towards this goal is by offering docent-guided tours of our museums in Balboa Park and Presidio Park. If you have an interest in continuing to learn about San Diego's history and a desire to give back to your community, then becoming a docent at the San Diego Historical Society might be the perfect opportunity for you!

We are currently accepting applications for a new class of docents at both the Museum of San Diego History and the Serra Museum. Docents form an essential part of the San Diego Historical Society's Education Department. They share the history of the region with visitors of all ages, including guests from around the world. They facilitate interactive tours for school groups in order to spark students' imaginations and stimulate their curiosity. By making history come alive, SDHS docents play a vital role in offering visitors a memorable and unique experience at our museums. Full training is provided. To learn more about the docent program, or to apply, please visit www.sandiegohistory.org/volunteer_opportunities or call (619) 232-6203 ext.128. Supporters like you help to fulfill San Diego Historical Society's mission and bring our city's history to life.
- Marinta Skupin, Director of Education
HISTORY HAPPENINGS AT SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In rows: (Top 1, 3 & 4) San Diego NOW takes a look at contemporary issues in our community. 1) L to R: Jason M.B. Wells, Dr. Salvador Espinosa, Hon. Bob Filner, Justin Akers Chacon discuss the new border crossing at Otay Mesa East. Photo by Vivian Valdivia. 2) Administrative volunteer Virginia Hastings wins tickets to a local casino. (Middle) 3) L to R: Roger Showley, Dr. Dean Nelson, Dr. Diane Borden talk about the future of journalism. 4) L to R: Moderator Colin Parent, Carol Lam, Ruben Navarrette Jr, Kevin Keenan and Michal Belkinap. A diverse panel present a debate on civil liberties. (Bottom) 5 & 6) The Thursday Club held its monthly meeting in the Museum of San Diego History. L to R: Gaye Macy, Janet McKeown, Suzanne Pettigrew, Jan Baldauf, Dee Van Horne, Beth Finster and Yvonne Larsen.
PROGRAMMING & EVENTS
SUMMER 2009

June
Wednesday, June 10, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
HISTORIC PLACES: CELEBRATING THE ARCHITECTURE OF LLOYD RUOCO
Please Note: Reservations are required by Monday, June 8, 2009.

Sunday, June 14, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
“COME FLY WITH ME” FAMILY DAY: HOT AIR BALLOONS

Monday, June 15, 10:00am – 11:00am
HISTORY FOR HALF PINTS: PATRIOTIC PARTY
Please Note: Space is limited. Reservations are requested.

Saturday, June 20, 2:00pm – 4:00pm
RESEARCH LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES OPEN HOUSE: AVIATION HISTORY IN SAN DIEGO

Thursday, June 25, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
SAN DIEGO NOW: PANEL DISCUSSION ON CONTEMPORARY SAN DIEGO ISSUES
Please note: Reservations are required. Call for program description.

Saturday, June 27, 1:00pm – 3:00pm
LUCKY LADY AND VICTORY GIRL: HISTORY OF MILITARY FIGHTER PLANE NOSE ART

Sunday, June 28, 9:00am – 5:00pm
COACH TRIP: MUSEUM OF JURASSIC TECHNOLOGY, LOS ANGELES
Please Note: Reservations are required by Friday, June 26, 2009.

July
Thursday, July 2, 8:30am – 5:00pm
COACH TRIP: FURNITURE DESIGNER, SAM MALOOF HOME TOUR AND FURNITURE EXHIBITION AT RIVERSIDE MUSEUM OF ART
Please Note: Reservations are required by Friday, June 26, 2009.

Sunday, July 12, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
“COME FLY WITH ME” FAMILY DAY: TRAINING TO BE A WWII AVIATOR

Thursday, July 16, 11:00am – 4:00pm
SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, July 20, 10:00am – 11:00am
HISTORY FOR HALF PINTS: BUM THE DOG BIRTHDAY BASH
Please Note: Space is limited. Reservations are requested.

Saturday, July 25, 10:00am – 3:00pm
COACH TRIP: GILLESPIE AIRFIELD

Thursday, July 30, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
SAN DIEGO NOW: PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON CONTEMPORARY SAN DIEGO ISSUES
Please note: Reservations are requested. Call for program description.

August
Sunday, August 9, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
“COME FLY WITH ME” FAMILY DAY: SECRET CODES AND ESPIONAGE

Thursday, August 13, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
LECTURE AND RECEPTION: “LILIAN J. RICE: HOW THE GHOST OF YOU CLINGS” WITH AUTHOR, DIANE WELCH
Please Note: Space is limited. Reservations are requested.

Monday, August 17, 10:00am – 11:00am
HISTORY FOR HALF PINTS: DESERT MORNING PROGRAM
Please Note: Space is limited. Reservations are requested.

Thursday, August 20, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
SAN DIEGO NOW: PANEL DISCUSSION ON CONTEMPORARY SAN DIEGO ISSUES
Please note: Reservations are requested. Call for program description.

Wednesday, August 26, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Please Note: Seating is limited. Early reservations are required.

Saturday, August 29, 2:00pm – 4:00pm
RESEARCH LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES OPEN HOUSE

September
Saturday, September 12, 8:00am – 5:00pm
COACH TRIP: POMPEII AND THE ROMAN VILLA AT THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART
Please Note: Reservations are required by Tuesday, August 25, 2009.

Sunday, September 13, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
“COME FLY WITH ME” FAMILY DAY: BUILDING A FIGHTER PLANE

Monday, September 21, 10:00am – 11:00am
HISTORY FOR HALF PINTS: APPLES, APPLES, APPLES
Please Note: Space is limited. Reservations are required.

Thursday, September 24, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
SAN DIEGO NOW: PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON CONTEMPORARY SAN DIEGO ISSUES
Please note: Reservations are requested. Call for program description.

Program is presented in conjunction with the exhibition, Taking Flight: WWI and WWII Aviation Posters.

For more information about our events or to make a reservation, call (619) 232-6203 ext.129 or visit www.sandiegohistory.org/calendar.

All locations are Museum of San Diego History unless otherwise noted.
SDHS EMPLOYEES REACH PROFESSIONAL MILESTONES

In today’s business world where a couple of years with an organization are considered a long time, milestones such as the following are rare and much appreciated.

Carol Myers, Photo Archivist for the San Diego Historical Society, completed 20 years of service in September 2006 for which she was recognized this year.

On April 22, 2009 Chris Travers arrived at her 10 year milestone with the Society. Chris is the Director of the Booth Historical Photograph Archives.

Also in our collections department is Jane Kenealy, Archivist for the San Diego Historical Society. This year marks her 6th year as an employee with the San Diego Historical Society.

Thank you to Carol, Chris and Jane for your years of dedication and congratulations to the Collections department for being an essential piece of the San Diego Historical Society.

- Aurora Sandoval, Business Manager

SAN DIEGO STYLE MAKES ITS DEBUT THIS FALL

The Costume Council was founded in September 1989 to help San Diego Historical Society share our remarkable costume collection with the public and to help guarantee the collection’s preservation for future generations. Modeled on similar organizations at the Chicago History Museum, the LA County Museum of Art, and Houston Museum of Fine Arts, the Costume Council has raised funds to improve storage, conserve individual garments, and underwrite both exhibitions and programs.

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, the Costume Council will be hosting a gala and exhibition later this fall. On September 17th, the Costume Council will present the gala, Fabulous Fashions: San Diego Style. The gala will take place at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park and will feature a one-time display of outfits loaned by 200 San Diego women. The benefit will serve as a prelude to the October opening of the exhibition San Diego Style. The six-month exhibition will feature stunning examples of high fashion from the Society’s renowned costume collection. Tim Long, Curator of Costume at the Chicago Historical Society, will serve as Guest Curator. Don’t miss either the benefit or the exhibition opening. For more information, call (619) 232-6203 ext.103 or email sdhsmembership@sandiegohistory.org.

San Diego Historical Society recently hosted a luncheon for our volunteers in celebration of their hard work and dedication to the Society. Volunteers from every department were in attendance including archival, administrative and front desk volunteers and Serra Museum docents. As a non-profit, volunteers are essential to help San Diego Historical Society achieve its mission. Thanks to the following community partners who helped to make this event so special: Barona Band of Mission Indians, Café In The Park, The Reuben H Fleet Science Center, Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation, Hornblower Cruises & Events, La Posta Casino, Landmark Theatres, Old Globe Theater, San Diego Air & Space Museum, San Diego Model Railroad Museum, San Diego Museum of Man, San Diego Symphony Orchestra, San Diego Zoo, SeaWorld San Diego, Sycuan Resort & Casino, Viejas Casino & Turf Club, Volunteer San Diego, XLNC1 104.9 FM and Ranch Catering.
Get ready for summer and the historic Del Mar Races!

Great products have arrived in our museum store and members always get 10% off!
Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 5pm
(619) 232-6203 ext.113 or sdhsstore@sandiegohistory.org

Make your Celebration Historic

Planning a wedding or a special event?
The Museum of San Diego History and the Junipero Serra Museum are available for your special occasion. Have a memorable event for you and your guests at our beautiful and historic locations.

Please contact Tam Joslin, Event Coordinator at 619-232-6203 ext 109 or email her at tom_joslin@sandiegohistory.org to assist you.
www.sandiegohistory.org

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