



# Millennium Minutes

*A Newsletter from the Balboa Park Millennium Society  
Spring 2003*

*Volume 7*

## Welcome to Millennium Musings!

### Where are the kiosks?

The design is complete, the technology is in place and the prototype has been showcased. Our exciting, long overdue Kiosk Project to give accurate up to date information to Park visitors just needs funding.

Park visitations number between 12 and 14 million annually, yet less than 5% of those folks find their way to the central Visitors Center in the House of Hospitality. The Balboa Park Master Plan calls for information kiosks to be placed at entrances and in areas which experience heavy pedestrian traffic in the Park.

The kiosks will use touch screen and wireless technology to tell visitors where they are, the location and hours of operation of each institution and attraction, how to get to their desired destination, and what special programs are currently featured. The kiosks will be designed and built on special concrete pads to be completely accessible to disabled visitors.

Because of severe budget constraints, a matching Park and Recreation grant is no longer available and the Millennium Society must now fund the total project. We have received pledges from donors for the final funding, but we must have the foundation in place to qualify.

Please give us your financial support and any recommendations you may have for corporate or foundation funding sources. Up to 15% of each kiosk area may be used for sponsorship recognition.

More than ever before, it will be necessary for us, as dedicated supporters of our Park, to take the leadership reins and guarantee the future of Balboa Park.

Many thanks for your support!

*Betty Peabody, President*

### Thank you for your generous contributions To the Kiosk Project Fund

The Dr. Seuss Fund of the  
San Diego Foundation

Philip M. Klauber

Milton and Nancy Stratford

Walton Family Foundation

### Second Annual Awards Luncheon A Success

What a pleasure to honor two such deserving people as Pauline Des Granges and Phil Klauber at the Second Annual Millennium Society Awards Luncheon. Their contributions to Balboa Park and the community as a whole are legion, but it was our pleasure to see them receive recognition from the City and County of San Diego and the State of California for their outstanding careers and volunteer efforts.

*Continued on page 2*

**Welcome  
To our new BPMS members**

**Emerito**

Charles and Roberta Cheyney

**Centurions**

Tony and Carol Beres

Casey and Kathy Blitt

Donald and Ramona Bush

Agatha Freedman

Shelby and Tom Goad

David and Nancy Barlow James

Kay North

Ernie and Pat Peterson

Jerrie and Jim Schmidt

John and Mary Lou Shoemaker

Jim and Mary Kay Waters

In their exquisite kimonos, Kaneko Bishop and her hostess committee beautifully complemented the setting and efficiently escorted guests to their tables.

Millennium Society Board member and Special Projects Chair John Wadas, consultant Rick Sparhawk, Balboa Park's Div Brasted, and the design team Alejandro Reyes of Televideo and David Preciado of Estrada Land Planning demonstrated a sneak preview of the future of the Park with a prototype of the Information Kiosks for those attending.

Again the support of the Balboa Park staff was invaluable in making the luncheon a success. BPMS also thanks Bonnie Wright for providing valuable staff support for the luncheon and the San Diego Community College District for their assistance.

Thank you, all!

If we inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name, please call us. Memberships and donations (listed on page 3) were received August 10, 2002 through March 3, 2003. For information about BPMS membership or to request a membership brochure, please call us at (619) 235-5907. BPMS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

**Awards Luncheon** *Continued from page one*

The Balboa Park Club was transformed into an orchid garden, the Sheraton Hotel presented an elegant repast and 400 of you came to pay tribute to our honored guests and support the Millennium Society.

Chairman Jim Hughes, with co-chairs Barbara Brown and Theresa Wulf, organized and presented a memorable event for our members and their guests. Jim, (responsible for the orchids) narrated a superb video on Balboa Park with a brief history of the Park and highlights of Millennium Society sponsored improvements. BPMS thanks Jim and videographer Philippe La Moise for their hard work on the film.

***A Special Thank You To***

Esther J. Burnham

Florence M. Callagy

Danah H. Fayman

Thompson and Jane Fetter

Richard and Winolyn Knoth

Nancy Barlow James

Marjorie Mitchell

Frank and Evelyn Najera

Dr. and Mrs. John Paul

Susan Randerson

F.N. Spiess for Sarah Spiess

Stanley Steemer

Robert and Patricia Whalen

Allan and Beverly Zukor

***For your donations in honor of  
Pauline Des Granges and Philip Klauber***

***And to***

City of San Diego Park and

Recreation Department

Hughes Heritage Plaza

The Dr. Seuss Foundation

Regional Transportation Center

Union Bank of California

***For your sponsorship of  
The Millennium Awards Luncheon***

***Thank you to the following  
BPMS Members  
For their sustaining donations***

Esther J. Burnham  
Albert and Dorothy Frost  
Fred and Betty Hage  
Phil Klauber  
Joseph E. Jessop, Jr.  
Louis C. Murillo  
Homer and Betty Peabody  
George Rahe, Jr.  
Anne F. Ratner  
Don and Jeannete Yeckel  
*With a matching donation from  
Merrill Lynch and Co. Foundation*

**And to**

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Phillips  
*For their donation in memory of  
Inge Dickens,  
Balboa Park Cultural Programs Director*

## **THE BALBOA PARK PROGRAM**

The Balboa Park Program, in which all 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the San Diego Unified School District spend a week in Balboa Park, is severely threatened by prospective cuts in the city's budget. This program, as well as complementary programs that send 4<sup>th</sup> graders to Old Town and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to Camp Palomar, was considered for curtailment or elimination when the school board trustees reviewed the 2002-2003 budget in January but was given a reprieve through the end of the school year. It appears certain that even more severe cuts will be needed in the budget for the 2003-2004 school year, so these programs will soon be under threat again.

The stated mission of the Balboa Park Program is to support integration in our schools by teaching all fifth graders about the unique historical, biological, and cultural resources of Balboa Park, in a program which models and encourages respect, understanding and

appreciation for individual and cultural diversity. Many students' first experience with the rich cultural and educational resources of our city's museums occurs during their time in this program. Every student visits and studies the collections in several of the museums in the Park. Many of these children receive free or reduced cost school lunches and would not be able to attend the zoo or museums without this program. Countless students encourage their families to return to a favorite museum, and San Diego adults often remember their experiences in the Balboa Park Program for their entire lives.

Pat Meredith, the Director of the Balboa Park Program, has asked the Millennium Society to encourage our members to do anything they can to support the continuation of the program.

*Don Yeckel, BPMS Treasurer*

## **Technology Report**

We are delighted that Technology Committee member Richard Graff has updated our website. Visit us at [www.BPMSociety.org](http://www.BPMSociety.org) and you will find photos of the Millennium Awards Luncheon. Additionally, you can now email us at [info@bpmsociety.org](mailto:info@bpmsociety.org).

Unfortunately, Committee member Gus Martinez has been sent overseas. We wish you the very best, Gus, and a speedy and safe return. Thank you for your service.

## **Partnering with Park and Recreation**

The Balboa Park Millennium Society continues to appreciate the tremendous cooperation and support of the entire San Diego Park and Recreation Department staff in our ongoing projects and programs for Balboa Park.

*Watch for the second edition of  
the Balboa Park Resource Directory  
to be published this spring.*

