

# NEWSLETTER



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#### RLS Club Contacts:

#### General Information:

Ruth Krotzer, email rkrotzercolts@gmail.com

#### Newsletter Editor:

Bob Jaques, email

#### Dues:

#### Maureen Bianchini

RLS Club, 309 Mar Vista Dr. Monterey, CA 93940

#### Treasurer:

Bob Jaques, email bobj83@comcast.net

## President's Message

This year we have surpassed our goals for the club and not only helped keep the Stevenson House successfully open on Saturdays, but we are celebrating a couple of new events.

First, we finally have what we have been wanting for a very long time, our own club website. With the help of club member Patrick Gallagher you can now find us on the web. (www.RLSClubMonterey.org). More about the website is contained in the article on page 3 of this Newsletter.

Second, thanks to tireless member RuthAnn Krotzer we are again celebrating Luis' and Fanny's wedding anniversary in style.

Also, the fun ideas of new and "old" members has inspired the board to fill the calendar with interesting gatherings for the next year. Together we will have fun sharing the timeless thoughts our favourite author has for all of us.

### Membership Dues are Due

Annual dues for membership in the RLS Club are \$10.00. <u>Dues for 2017 need</u> to be received prior to February 1, 2017 in order to maintain your membership in the Club for 2017.

If you are not currently a member but would like to join, or if you are a member but have not paid your dues for 2017, you may do so by mailing your check for \$10.00 made out to "RLS Club" to Maureen Bianchini at 309 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey, CA 93940.

If you have any questions about the status of your dues, please contact Maureen Bianchini by email at bianchini@sonic.net.

### **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

NOVEMBER 12 (SATURDAY) 1:00 PM. UN-BIRTHDAY PARTY AT THE MONTEREY LIBRARY. KEITH DECKER AND "THE FABLES OF RLS."

DECEMBER 9 AND 10 (FRIDAY AND SATURDAY) FROM 5 TO 9 PM. CHRISMAS IN THE ADOBES. THE STEVENSON HOUSE AND ABOUT 20 MORE BUILDINGS WILL BE OPEN AND DECORATED FOR CHRISTMAS. TICKETS FOR THIS EVENT ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MSHPA WEBSITE OR AT THE CUSTOM HOUSE STORE.

FEBRUARY 25, 2017 (SATURDAY). SOCIAL DINNER FOR MEMBERS. MORE INFORMATION LATER.

APRIL 1, 2017 (SATURDAY) 9:30 AM. POINT LOBOS FOR HIKERS AND NON-HIKERS TO LOOK FOR TREASURE ISLAND SCENE LOOK-ALIKES (THOUGH WE'RE PRETTY SURE STEVENSON DIDN'T VISIT THERE). HIKERS MEET AT 9.30 AT THE GATE, PICNICKERS AT 12.30 PM AT HE PARKING LOT FOR THE BIRD ISLAND WALK. BROWN BAG LUNCH.

MAY 20, 2017 (SATURDAY). "TEA IN THE GARDEN" FOR MEMBERS OF MSHPA AND RLS CLUB. MORE INFORMATION LATER.

<u>AUGUST 26, 2017 (SATURDAY).</u> LINDY PEREZ TALK ABOUT CARMEL VALLEY AND THE GOAT RANCH. MORE INFORMATION LATER.

### RLS Weekend Retreat in 2018

Planning ahead for 2018 we are exploring the idea of hosting a weekend focusing on "anything RLS" at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove. This would give our members who come from far away a chance to participate. We are looking at a timeframe of February / March / April 2018.

Ideas put forward are film showings, play readings, discussions, hikes and a sharing of books.

We need feedback from our members as to which month might work best for you and who might be interested in participating and staying at Asilomar. Given enough response we will go ahead with preliminary planning to give us an idea of the cost. Please contact Ruth via email at: rkrotzercolts@gmail.com.

### How Treasure Island Saved My Life

A visitor from England recounted this story to Rosemary Smith, a docent at Stevenson House.

During the bombing of London during the Second World War, BBC broadcast a reading of Treasure Island. Our visitor was a young boy and terribly frightened. He said that he focused on the words and story and that it "saved my life". He later determined to learn all that he could about the life of RLS. That quest brought him to Stevenson House, September 10, 2016.

### **RLS Club Website**

A new website has been established for the Club, now on-line at <u>rlsclubmonterey.org</u>. The site will provide an introduction to the Club and to the Stevenson House, Club upcoming events and news, links to other sites, and articles and features as they become available. Please provide content and suggestions for content to Patrick at <u>patrick3d@me.com</u>.

It is anticipated that the Club's newsletter files will be archived on the site.

### RLS Club of Monterey Board Members

President: Monica Hudson 66 Highway 1 Carmel, CA 93923	Treasurer: Bob Jaques 83 Via Encanto Monterey, CA 93940	
238-3374 monicahudson@gmail	375-0517 bobj83@comcast.net	
Membership:		
Rosemary Smith and 122 Hacienda Carmel Carmel, CA 93953 625-7622 hesmith@comcast.net	Patrick Gallagher 716 Rosemont Avenue Pacific Grove, CA 93950 (408)483-9366 wpgallagher.home@gm	
Ruth Krotzer 3001 Jean Street Marina, CA 93933 601-1894 rkrotzercolts@gmail.com	Edna Barker 1076 Haviland Street Seaside, CA 93955 333-6917 ukedna@gmail.com	
Keith Decker 920-4562 actordecker@yahoo.com	Bende Kelly 22670 Gallant Fox Rd, Monterey. 93940 649-1750 bendekelly@sbcglobal.net	

### Robert Louis Stevenson's Monterey-1879

Kris Quist-- Monterey State Historic Park Curator recently located images of Monterey during the 1800's. On Oct. 19th we were enlightened to see numerous slides when Keith Decker presented them with interjected essays and pertinent material regarding Robert Louis Stevenson's time in Monterey and the area. It was fun to ponder being alive in 1879 and visiting the Carmel Mission, Carmel Valley goat ranch, Pacific Grove lighthouse and Methodist Retreat, in Monterey where the streets were "economically paved with sea sand", and Jules Simoneau's French Restaurant, and the Bohemian Saloon were popular gathering places. And speaking of movies..."The Pirates of the Caribbean" is about our awesome revered RLS although he hasn't been recognized for it. Thanks Keith for another fascinating, educational experience!!!

#### **New Members**

Welcome to new members: Sharon Sieve, Dottie Weishert, Linda Magistro, Andrea Renzali, Chuck and Sheryl Bancroft, Janet Brewster, Rabbi Rita and Lee Herchhorn, Ian Bernstein, Doris Schroeder, Basil Weir, Stan Jesse, Marsha Gallegos, Joyce Burnside, and Leticia Ruffie. We're glad you're part of our Club!!!

#### **Keith Decker**

How many of us have been fortunate enough to work at a profession we loved for 50 years? Enter "Stage Left"--- Keith Decker!!! The RLS Club was excited to present a Certificate of Achievement for 50 Years of Exceptional Acting to Keith at our annual dinner Sept. 24th. Besides RLS portrayals, Keith has also starred as Long John Silver, Howard Hughes, Sherlock Holmes and numerous other characters. Keith was also given a basket of "goodies" which included a recording of his outstanding performance of "RLS From Saranac to the South Seas" given August 27th at the Stevenson House. Keith shared that his acting career began 5 decades ago when a Pacific Grove High School Drama teacher heard him read....the rest is history. He will be appearing at the Gentrain Society at MPC on October 19th at 1:30 pm with a program entitled "Robert Louis Stevenson's Monterey". This will include a slide-illustrated talk on RLS's in Monterey during a notably pivotal time. He'll give a reading Nov. 12th at 1:00 pm at our annual "Unbirthday" celebration at the Monterey Library. And don't miss seeing him in "The Nutcracker" at Carmel's Sunset Theatre on Dec. 14th at 2 pm. Feel free to e-mail Keith regarding his schedule of great events at: <a href="mailto:actordecker@aol.com">actordecker@aol.com</a>.

# Annual Meeting of the R.L.S. Club of Monterey September 24, 2016

Nineteen members of the Club met at 5:00 p.m. at Hacienda Carmel for drinks, dinner, good conversation and election of officers for 2017.

The following slate of officers was proposed and elected: Monica Hudson-Chair, Bob Jaques-Purser, Bende Kelly – Scribbler, Patrick Gallagher – Website, Ruth Krotzer – Events, Keith Decker, Edna Barker, Rosemary Smith – members at large.

Members shared their favorite quotes, some printed and placed on the tables. Keith Decker was awarded a certificate of achievement for his fifty years as an actor of note and contributor of programs for the Club. Stories of Samoa were shared by our two Samoan members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.