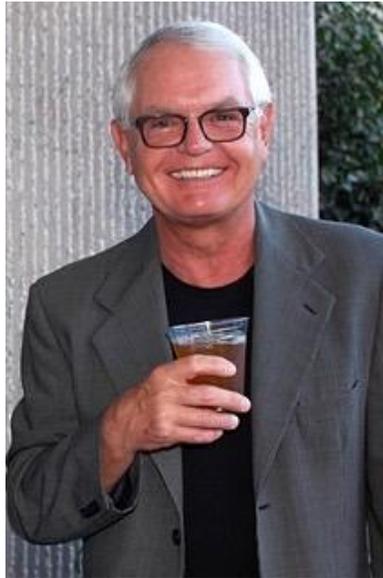




MUSINGS

SUMMER 2017

Museum Service Council



THREE CHEERS FOR MSC MEMBERS!

David Peck, MSC Chair, 2016-2018

As the MSC winds down this busy season, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your service to the museum and take a moment to highlight Council activities and accomplishments to date.

First, MSC members contributed 15% more hours from October 2016 - April 2017 even though in comparison for the same period last year our membership has declined slightly.

In early **October**, a half-day orientation and training session was convened for Steering Committee and Council Support members. The session was well-planned and organized by Dirk Biermann, aided by Linda Blank, Ken Rashid, and Brad Bachtelle; and provided an excellent template for future Council-wide educational efforts.

Then in **November**, the museum acquired Volgistics, an online, comprehensive tool for volunteer program management. See Robert Elmore's informative article describing the easy-to-use hours tracking system, the successful pilot, anticipated October 2017 roll out, and future plans for scheduling, communication and data management.

December brought us Pat Bernardi, Ellyn Zimmerman and their team of elves who injected everyone with joyful holiday spirit at The Classic Club for our annual MSC Holiday Luncheon.

In **January and February**, the Council enjoyed *Mondays at the Museum*, a successful art lecture series. The MSC took advantage of the timing by shifting several general meetings to Mondays so that our short business sessions would precede these enlightening lectures by experts. I hope to pursue this same format next year depending on the museum's continued programming. Patricia Ewoldsen and Dottie Schwartz did a terrific job hosting coffee and pastries beforehand.

March featured our MSC Appreciation Luncheon and we offer special thanks to museum leadership and senior staff for hosting this event in PSAM's colorful lobby and to Eight4Nine for sublime catering. Then there was the Museum Gala.

April was an especially busy month for MSC. The MSC San Diego enrichment tour was carefully curated by Chuck Steinmann and further described in this publication. Next, our annual election of Steering Committee members was held on April 18 with new terms beginning October 1. Congratulations to new members: Chuck Amado, PSAM Ambassador Coordinator; Linda Holden Clode, A+D Center Ambassador Coordinator; Betsey Helie, Palm Desert Ambassador Coordinator; Edie Groesbeck, Orientation Coordinator; and Jack Delaney, Secretary. We are grateful to outgoing members Carl Schwartz, PSAM Ambassador Coordinator; JP Pond and Chuck Steinman, A+D

Center Co-Coordinator; Linda Blank, Palm Desert Ambassador Coordinator; Dirk Biermann, Orientation Coordinator; and Esme Ryan, Secretary. Finally, April 25 launched "MSC Movie Night", another *museum thank you* to volunteers which included beverages, popcorn, and snacks in the Meyerman Sculpture Garden followed by "North by Northwest" on the big screen in Annenberg Theater. A great time was had by all and another event is in the works at The Galen for MSC members during the fall.

At the **May** MSC Steering Committee meeting, two new positions were established, Administrative Coordinator and Education Department Liaison. Please contact me at pecked@aol.com or (760) 216-7809, if you are interested.

And let's not forget during season that MSC members supported countless museum administrative and operational areas and special events including The Big Hair Ball, Art of Shopping, and more. We are all committed to the success of the museum and your dedication demonstrates that!

I raise my glass to toast you for everything that you have done this fiscal year to support Palm Springs Art Museum, the Coachella Valley's premier cultural institution. Enjoy summer fun and wherever your travels may take you. See you all in the fall.



MUSEUM GALA 2017: OUR APPRECIATION TO MSC

Staff of Palm Springs Art Museum join the Museum Associates Council in extending our sincere thanks to MSC members for Special Events -- Barbara Bentley, John Boynton, Viga Dean, Nancy Grisa, Edie Groesbeck, Rosanne Kumins, Donna Lawton, Steve Ross, Gloria Stewart, Kris and Robert Weinshilboum -- who enthusiastically and graciously contributed to the success of Gala 2017: *Embracing the Abstract* with Guest of Honor Trina Turk. What a great evening for almost 400 attendees!

Photo by Maile Vreeken

L-R: Edie Groesbeck, Donna Lawton, Barbara Bentley, Rosanne Kumins

BREAKING NEWS: MUSEUM SUMMER HOURS: June 2 – September 3, 2017

PSAM and A+D Center: *Open Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday: 12 to 8 p.m.; Closed Wednesday and Holidays.*

The Galen: *Open only Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Closed Monday through Thursday and Holidays.*

MSC MUSINGS will be back in mid-September.

NEW AUTOMATED HOURS TRACKING SYSTEM

Robert Elmore, MSC Communications Coordinator

The Museum Service Council is excited to announce that the long-awaited automated system for tracking MSC volunteer hours is underway. The system is called VIC (*Volunteer Information Center*) and is specifically designed to track volunteer hours and other volunteer information for institutions like ours.

Over the past few months, committee members (Abby Cameron, Robert Elmore, Donna Lawton, Margie Norris, David Peck, Debra Preston, Ken Rashid) have met to evaluate the new system and plan for its implementation. In addition, Paul Zibton, Chuck Steinman, and JP Pond reviewed the instructions on how to use the VIC system and provided valuable feedback. Special thanks to all.

The Museum has purchased four iPads for volunteers to use when logging hours on VIC. Two iPads are at the Main Museum (one is near the Guard Control Station and the other is downstairs near the MSC Office), one iPad is at the A+D Center, and one iPad is at The Galen.



Pilot testing was launched at the Museum Store in March, and following that success expanded to the A+D Center in April and The Galen and Muse Café in May. Many of the 50 pilot participants have commented on how easy the VIC screens are to follow.

How does it work? Each MSC member is assigned a 4-digit PIN to enter at the beginning of their volunteer shift and again when their shift has ended. The system calculates the hours volunteered and then automatically adds on travel time to create a total number of volunteer hours to report per shift. Another VIC feature is that instead of using an iPad at a Museum facility, a volunteer can also log their hours from home by downloading a special module to an iPhone, tablet, or home PC.

What's next? Over the summer, MSC members who do not yet have a PIN will receive a personalized e-mail with instructions on how to use VIC. Our goal is to be fully operational by October 2017, thus no more manually logging volunteer hours in those big MSC Binders!

Finally, VIC also has the capability of allowing MSC volunteers to access a calendar of volunteer opportunities and sign up for an available shift. The Galen has agreed to be the pilot test site for this scheduling feature which we plan to test over the summer months. Based on the experiences learned through that pilot, we hope to expand the scheduling feature to other MSC assignments in the fall so stay tuned.

Questions on the new VIC system can be sent to the MSC mailbox: msc@psmuseum.org

ALWAYS CHECK FOR UPDATES & SCHEDULE CHANGES:

<http://www.psmuseum.org/calendar>

THANK YOU FOR CONTACTING msc@psmuseum.org TO UPDATE ANY CHANGE IN YOUR INFORMATION (name, mailing address, email address, telephone number)