



The INNsider



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January-April 2010

The young Frank Miller

By Maurice Hodgen

Class of 2001

[A comment I made at the docent education meeting on Jan. 24 prompted a request for more about Miller's early love life. What follows is based on Miller's adolescent diaries, 1873-1877, and conflated from my forthcoming biography, Master of the Mission Inn: Frank A. Miller, a Life.]

For 17-year-old Frank Miller leaving Tomah, Wisconsin, in October 1874 meant leaving behind the first love of his life. He and Mattie Weed had grown into warm adolescent friendship from early 1873. He had declared to his diary "I love Mattie Weed," making hers the only name affectionately recorded from there on. The keen pangs of separation from her in the early months in Riverside slowly eased for him as new demands pressed in and new friendships formed. Their postal devotion to each other waned; in letters she became his



"dear good sister," something more emotionally manageable, safer for a passionate youth of sensitive conscience, one who continued to wrestle with the surges of fantasized desire.

As the Mattie correspondence faltered a Miss Anna Wooster, a boarder with Riverside founder John W. North and his

family, moved into his affections, as did a Miss Ettie Brown, both noted in his diary. These two became his walking and riding companions, conversationalists

With daughter Allis, 1882

who learned dancing together and, for Anna Wooster, a companion at the Lyceum. He recorded his appraisals of Miss Anna: "She is a good noble high-minded woman," Few

girls had achieved such character, he
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FAM at life's end

The Day Frank Miller Died, by Joan H. Hall, Page 5

Questions, books, musicals, schools, and much more

By Steve Spiller

Museum and Collections Manager

The range of questions at the Museum front desk run the gamut from where do we eat to where is the nearest ATM to where can I picnic to where do I park? While some of the questions are relatively simple, others are a challenge. There is no way to anticipate every possible question.

We are collecting/compiling a list of questions in an effort to provide the best possible service to our guests and visitors. We already do a great job. The closing of the city's Visitor Center is an opportunity for us to do our best to meet the needs of the visiting public. We are keeping a clipboard at the Museum front desk to write down the questions. Please take the time to list an questions that will be of help to us – and thanks for your help!

Museum store – We expect to receive copies of *The California Missions: History, Art and Preservation*, the new work published by the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles, before the March 20 lecture by one of the book's authors, Julia G. Costello (see below).

Many of you have seen the beautifully crafted Riverside sterling silver charms and bracelets now on display in the Museum store – definitely “high end” jewelry. The charms are based on the artwork of the late Judy Fields and hand-cast using the “lost wax” process.

Fox Theatre musicals – Tickets at reduced prices are available to docents, volunteers and staff for upcoming musicals at the Fox Performing Arts Center. Jesus Christ Superstar: Saturday, April 3, 2 p.m., \$43; Hairspray: Sunday, April 25, 1 p.m., \$43. Checks should be made out to the

Mission Inn Foundation and turned in to the Museum desk.

California missions – Sunday, March 20, 1 p.m., Galleria. Dr. Julia G. Costello will present a lecture based on the new Getty Conservation Institute book, *The California Missions: History, Art, and Preservation*, of which she is one of three co-authors. The volume contains images of several of the paintings by Henry Chapman Ford that are in the Mission Inn collections. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase at Dr. Costello's lecture.

INNcrowd – The first of the year's INNcrowd series will be held March 25 at Graystones, the former home of one of Riverside's founding families. We appreciate the Mylne family opening up their home for the event. A visit to Graystones on Hawarden Drive is a one-of-a-kind experience. Tickets are available in the Foundation office.

The second event in the INNcrowd series, “Thursday in the Park With Frank,” will be Thursday, June 24, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Stewart's Boathouse, Fairmount Park. The third event, “Stairway to the Stars,” will be Thursday, Sept. 30, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the International Rotunda at the Mission Inn.

Tickets are \$250 for the series or \$100 for an individual event., with proceeds benefiting the Foundation and the Museum.

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School dedication – Thursday, April 15, 3-5 p.m. The newest middle school in the Riverside Unified School District, in the hills of the Woodcrest neighborhood, will be dedicated in the name of the Mission Inn's founder. We hope that docents, volunteers and staff will attend.

The school chose the macaws to be its mascots – perhaps Napoleon and Joseph(ine) will attend. The school will have a statue of Frank Miller, replica of the one in the Court of the Birds by sculptor Richard Myer, donated by Duane Roberts, owner of the Mission Inn. The statue will stand in the school's office by an Inn mural.

Anne Rice finds inspiration at the Inn

By **Sue Bartel**

Class of 2006

It was a cold and rainy afternoon last Dec. 12, but that didn't deter hundreds of Anne Rice's fans from standing, some for hours, in a line that went around the block at Orange Street and continued on Sixth Street outside the Mission Inn. The bestselling author waited inside, in the fireplace-warmed lobby, to autograph her latest book, "Angel Time."

The novel, released in October, is the first in her new series titled "Songs of the Seraphim". Rice said the Mission Inn sparked her imagination during her first stay there in 2006. Throughout the book are vivid descriptions of the Inn, including the fourth-floor Amistad Suite (also known as the Bridal Suite), where she spent a lot of time while researching and writing the novel, and where most of the action takes place.

Rice has changed her story genre by writing about angels rather than focusing on vampires and witches, as she did in her bestselling "Vampire Chronicles."

Duane and Kelly Roberts invited Rice to do the signing, and honored her with a dedication on one side of the entrance to the Amistad Suite, which also bears a similar honor to Anne Cameron (1887-1951), a Riverside schoolteacher who became a well-known magazine and short-story writer.

On and off the casualty list

We welcome back **Sharla Wright**, store manager (and President of the Friends of the Mission Inn) following her surgery.

Meantime, **Carol Krieger**, docent and former Friends President, is now home, going through rehab and anxious to get on with her life, after the nasty fall in her garden that caused hip and wrist fractures.



Anne Rice at the Mission Inn – Angels, not vampires. *Photo by Sue Bartel*

Dates to remember

March 20, Saturday, 1 p.m., Galleria: California Missions, Dr. Julia Costello

March 25, Thursday, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Graystones, 6190 Hawarden Dr., INN Crowd, "Step Back in Time."

April 3, Saturday, 2 p.m., Fox Performing Arts Center, "Jesus Christ Superstar," special docent tickets.

April 15, Thursday, 3-5 p.m., dedication of Frank Augustus Miller Middle School, 17925 Krameria Ave., Riverside.

April 20, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Music Room, Docent Graduation and Volunteer Recognition, ceremony and reception.

April 25, Sunday, 1 p.m., Fox Performing Arts Center, "Hairspray," special docent tickets.

The young Miller

(Continued From Page 1)

thought, battling in life as hard as she did, alone without immediate family. “Miss Wooster is a true woman . . .”

Frank tested all his friends and associates by their moral worth, what was then called being “clean” and “straight,” something he again and again sought for himself as insistently as he expected it in others in youth and manhood. He didn’t become the goal-directed, achievement-oriented person he was to become by silencing his conscience; my impression is that he transformed the anxiety-producing accusations of unworthy desire from his inner voice into workable ethical patterns to fuel his achievements.

The warmth of attraction for Miss Wooster and Miss Brown diminished, and by year-end both disappear from his diary. In the ascendant however came Annie Eastman, 16, blue-eyed, blonde, and hugely unresponsive to the smitten and relentless Frank.

The one sided attraction survived a year-end but by then a local school teacher, Isabella Hardenberg, had received a group visit with New Year’s greetings and his attention at the final dance of the five-month village Dancing School. Annie Eastman however remained the siren presence in his world, admired at church, observed out riding, invading his dreams. He blamed himself for attraction unrequited: he lacked the needed aura of wealth; he was unworthy of her refinement and resolved to stay away from her until he’d gained social polish. He felt deep disturbing stirrings: “Oh God, keep me Pure and Noble.”

Almost on schedule after about 12 months, in January 1877 Annie became his “sister of golden hair,” a sublimation of passion that would not die but now focused on her nobility of character, occasionally

blurred in upwelling desire. Then her name disappears suddenly and without comment.

Mattie married in far off Wisconsin. He wrote her his congratulations; for himself he wrote: “Mattie Dear girl; I hope her life may be happiness complete. She married A. Schultz.” But she lingered in his affections, the first adolescent love, perhaps more enduring because of their parting. She would remain the love of his adolescent years, whatever his enfoldment in two successful and deeply happy marriages. But Frank

treasured memories of Mattie and often spoke of her until they met again almost 60 years later, the warmth of their first love still glowing. Such seems to be a familiar experience.

Close to that time Isabella Hardenberg visited the Millers at the Adobe. She was one among the local schoolteachers but distinguished enough among them for her teaching and her pupils’ affectionate regard to draw praise in the local paper.



Following a summer absence she returned to Riverside to teach, moved into the Glenwood as a boarder and set him to work on a program of reading and grammar with recitations on alternate nights.

For Miller hers was another kind of friendship, she an age mate winning public approval for professionalism, a contrast to his earlier infatuations and his own work as a day laborer. She displayed the social maturity he’d sought for himself. Though alone in Riverside she controlled her own employment.

Beyond companionship on rides or walks, at dances or Sunday School she privately directed his intellectual life. And perhaps best of all she was in the house and admired by his parents. Their lives would entwine for over a quarter century.

Maurice Hodgen’s biography of Frank Miller is due to be completed in 2011. See his website, www.masterofthemissioninn.com

The day Frank Miller died

By **Joan H. Hall**

Frank Augustus Miller passed away at 12:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 15, 1935. The 78-year-old "Master of the Mission Inn" died in the world-famous hotel he had built. His daughter, Allis Miller Hutchings, and his wife, Marion Clark Miller, were at the bedside. Although Frank Miller had been in poor health for some months, his passing came as a great shock to the community of Riverside and to his many friends around the world. Messages of sympathy poured in from people in every walk of life.

Family members carried out Mr. Miller's wish for a simple, private funeral. It was announced the solemn rites would take place at 4 o'clock Monday, June 17. Mayor E.B. Criddle declared all municipal activities would cease at 4 o'clock as a special tribute to the citizen who devoted much of his life to the "up-building" of the community.

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors and two superior courts adjourned during the hour of the funeral service. The supervisors passed a resolution stating in part:

"This organization places on record its gratitude, respect, and admiration for this man who used his fine qualities and talents so unpretentiously for the furthering of world peace, the results of whose activities have not only done much to make the citizens of Riverside peace-minded, but to make Riverside a center for the dissemination of things pertaining to friendly international relations."

The body lay in state before the funeral rites. Employees of the Mission Inn, many of whom had been with Mr. Miller since the early days of the famous hotel's history, passed by his bier. Throughout the day messages of condolence and sympathy were received by Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Allis Miller Hutchings, Mrs. Alice Richardson, and other members of the Inn household.

The final services were brief and beautiful in their simplicity. The body lay under a mass of flowers before the golden altar of the St. Francis Chapel, lighted only by flickering candles. It was Frank Miller's wish that the service be held in private and in the impressive chapel he had earnestly planned.

Reverend T.C. Hunt, an early pastor of the First

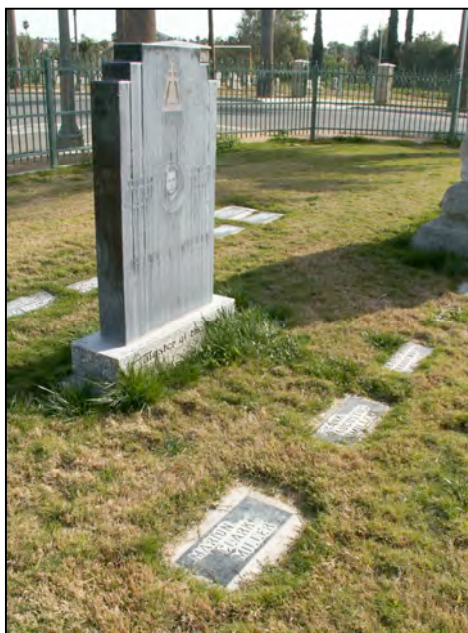
Miller's gravesite in Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery.

Congregational Church of Riverside, returned for the service. A beautiful tribute to Mr. Miller's life and works was paid by Harry Chandler, publisher

of the Los Angeles Times and a close friend of the Mission Inn's master for four decades.

It was appropriate that Miss Marcella Craft, Riverside's celebrated singer, should pay tribute to Mr. Miller in song for he had been her advisor and benefactor. She sang two songs he loved, "My Task" and "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," the latter sung each year in the Mount Rubidoux Easter Sunrise Service. She was accompanied on the organ by Newell Parker, Mission Inn organist.

A part of the service that touched deeply all
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The day Miller died

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those present was the repetition by Dewitt Hutchings, Mr. Miller's son-in-law, of the last verse of Carrie Jacobs Bond's immortal song, "End of a Perfect Day." This was particularly impressive because the song was composed in the Mission Inn by Mrs. Bond and dedicated to Mr. Miller; the verse took on a reverence in its repetition by Mr. Hutchings.

With the simple chapel service over, the body was carried by the pallbearers, all of whom were relatives, employees, or close friends, to a waiting car and the funeral procession slowly made its way to the graveside in Evergreen Cemetery. Pallbearers were Frank Miller Hutchings, grandson; William J. Herbert, veteran employee of the Mission Inn; Frank J. Clark, brother of Mrs. Miller; Professor Ken Nakazawa, Japanese educator of Southern California; Ralph Stewart, a relative of the family; and M.J. Westerfield, Mr. Miller's close friend for many years. There were nine honorary pallbearers, all veteran employees of the Pacific Electric Railway Co. who had worked with Mr. Miller in establishing Riverside's transportation system.

Arrangements had been made by the Inn management for the employees of the hotel to be free during the hour of the funeral so that they might pay their last respects to Mr. Miller.

At the graveside in Evergreen Cemetery, a brief committal service was held. Reverend E.J. Egly, pastor of the Calvary Presbyterian Church of Riverside and chairman of the unique Committee of the Fifty for World Peace through which Mr. Miller accomplished much towards his goal of brotherly love between nations, gave a scripture reading. This was followed by a burial service by Reverend Francis C. Ellis, Mr. Miller's pastor, who repeated Tennyson's immortal "Crossing the Bar" and gave the benediction.

In October 1936, two distinctly different commemorative services were held to honor Frank Miller. Jiuji G. Kasai, a member of

the house of representatives of the Imperial Japanese Diet, arrived in Riverside from Europe en route to Japan. He presided in an impressive service at Miller's grave.

"It was my good fortune to welcome him to Japan in 1929, and to be his guest in Riverside during the Tenth International Olympiad held in Los Angeles in August 1932. I remember with delight my visit with him in the Mission Inn and my climbing to Mount Rubidoux with Mr. Hutchings.

"May his spirit rest in peace on the foothills of Mount Rubidoux in the eternal sunshine of Southern California. May the friendship between the United States and Japan for which he devoted his services be strengthened in years to come."

The following year, on Oct. 10, 1936, a peak in the San Jacinto Mountains was named in honor of Frank Miller. At exactly



8 o'clock powerful flares lighted 21 hilltops across Riverside County. The countywide symbolization of the flame of world friendship was part of a two-day dedication of the peak. A unique feature of the night ceremony was a battery of searchlights at March Field that lighted the sky.

The Miller Peak, with a summit slightly less than 9,500 feet, received three plaques placed on stones at the top of the peak. One was the Rain Cross symbol of the Mission Inn, another an artistic metal scroll with the Boy Scout oath, and one a dedicatory plaque honoring the memory of Frank A. Miller.

(Excerpts from the Riverside Daily Press, June 1959-October 1936)

Joan H. Hall is the author of "Through the Doors of the Mission Inn, (Vols. I and II)," "A Citrus Legacy" and "Pursuing Eden," among other works.

A party for Emily

Docents, volunteers and Foundation staff gathered recently to mark a significant milestone for History Curator Emily McEwen on her path to a doctorate in public history at UCR. Emily cuts the cake as Barbara Burns, docent training coordinator, right, looks on. At rear are docent Brightie Dunn and Foundation Executive Director John Worden.



The Docent Council and you: a few questions

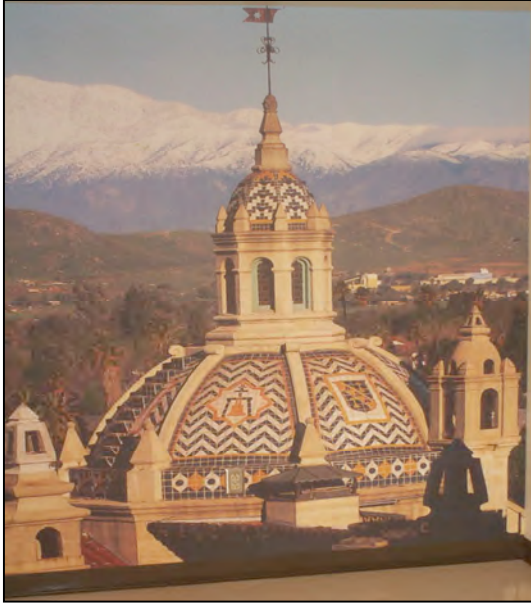
Do you know what the Docent Council is? Or who the members are? Do you know that as a docent you are a member of the Mission Inn Foundation? Our official name is the Docent Association of the Mission Inn Foundation and Museum. Our governing body is the Docent Council, and consists of 15 members who each serve a three-year term.

The Docent Program is regulated by two documents – the Inn Laws (or Bylaws) and Policies and Procedures. The Docent Council updated these documents last year and copies were made available both online and in hard copy from the Museum.

The members of the Council are interested in your input and opinions regarding our program. As you know, the Inn management directs many facets of our tours, including the route, and we need to follow their directions; but if you have an idea or a concern, please pass it on.

The current members of the Docent Council are Chairperson Mel Gutierrez, Vice Chair Ursula Dubé, Secretary Patricia Marlow and Council Members Michele Lufkin, Dauris Slaughter, Merwyn Schwartz, Jo Turner, Chuck Gonzalez, Doug Hargis, Joan Hayes, Kay Beach, Sally Beaty, Sue Bartel, Carolyn Davidson, and ex-officio member Robyn Rogers, immediate past chair.

Please contact any of us with your suggestions and concerns. As we all conduct regular tours, you can talk to us at the Museum, or leave a written note with the staff. To help you get started and to give us an idea of where we are, we have included in this issue a few questions that we invite you to answer. If you need more space, feel free to include another piece of paper. You may include your name or remain anonymous. Please return your answers to the Museum in a sealed envelope by Sunday, March 28.



Where is it?

OK, we're cheating here, because it's unlikely you've seen this particular photo unless you've been in the office of the new Frank A. Miller Middle School in Woodcrest, which opened last August. The formal dedication of the school will be April 15, and in front of this photo mural in the school's office will stand a statue of Frank A. Miller, a replica of the one by sculptor Richard Myer in the Court of the Birds. The new statue is being donated to the school by Mission Inn owners Duane and Kelly Roberts.

MISSION INN FOUNDATION – MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Inn Foundation preserves, interprets and promotes the cultural heritage of the Mission Inn, Riverside, and the surrounding Southern California communities through its museum services, educational programs and outreach activities. The Foundation was formed in 1976 to preserve the public trust in the Mission Inn, a privately owned National Historic Landmark.

DOCENT COUNCIL, 2009 – 2010: Mel Gutierrez, Chair; Ursula Dubé, Vice-Chair; Patricia Marlow, Secretary; Michele Lufkin, Dauris Slaughter, Merwyn Schwartz, Jo Turner, Chuck Gonzalez, Doug Hargis, Joan Hayes, Kay Beach, Sally Beaty, Sue Bartel, Carolyn Davidson; Robyn Rogers, Past Chair. **COMMITTEES – CONTINUING EDUCATION:** Robyn Rogers, Chair; Sally Beaty, Jerry Gordon, Doug Hargis, Nanci Larsen, Steve Lech, Joyce Lyons, David St. Pierre, Merwyn Schwartz, Deane Wylie. **DOCENT ROSTER:** Ursula Dubé, Chair; Jacci Barnes, Joan Hayes, Robyn Rogers, Dauris Slaughter, Robyne Williams. **HISTORIAN:** Doug Hargis, Chair; Jacci Barnes, Sue Bartel, Carolyn Davidson. **INN-LAWS/POLICIES & PROCEDURES:** Robyn Rogers, Chair; Jacci Barnes, Sue Bartel, Joan Hayes. **MENTORS:** Merwyn Schwartz, Chair; Sue Bartel, Ursula Dubé, Eleanor Colombo, Mel Gutierrez, Joyce Lyons, Dauris Slaughter, Jo Turner, Robyne Williams. **INNSIDER:** Doug Hargis, Chair; Dauris Slaughter, Deane Wylie, Dan Hantman. **PEER REVIEW:** Dauris Slaughter, Chair; Sue Bartel, Barbara Burns, Jean Digati, Ursula Dubé, Dan Hantman, JoAnn Schwartz, Jo Turner. **RECRUITMENT:** Chuck Gonzalez, Chair; Mariela Anguelov, Doug Hargis, Nancy Kim, Sharyl Lee, Pat Marlow. **SPECIAL EVENTS:** Sue Bartel, Chair; Sally Beaty, Barbara Burns, Gretchen Cheney, Brightie Dunn, Joan Hayes, Joanne Hershey, Michele Lufkin, Joyce Lyons, JoAnn Schwartz, David St. Pierre. **SUNSHINE:** Michelle Lufkin, Chair. **TRAINING:** Jo Turner, Chair; Cora Lee Brown, Jerry Gordon, Steve Lech, Walter Parks, Robyn Rogers, David St. Pierre, Dauris Slaughter; Barbara Burns, coordinator. **MIF STAFF:** John D. Worden, Executive Director; Steve Spiller, Museum & Collections Manager; Emily McEwen, Curator of History; Virginia Fesunoff, Director of Marketing; Nanci Larsen, Director of Audience Development & Administration. **PART-TIME STAFF:** Sharla Wright, Museum Store Manager; Marge Barr, Brianna Barrett, Jennifer Dickerson. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Chuck Krieger, President; Kathy Wright, Executive Vice President; Dell Roberts, Secretary; Bill Carter, Treasurer; John Brown, President-Emeritus; Kathy Allavie, Richard Anderson, Judith Auth, Chuck Beaty, Liz Cunnison, Ann DeWolfe, Charles Field, Teresa Hanley, Amy Harrison, Randall Hord, Brian Jaramillo, Ray Maghroori, Mike Marlatt, Walter Parks, Kerry Pendergast, Janice Penner, Holly Redfern, Kelly Roberts, Bill Rose, Mark Rubin, Ruthan Smith, David St. Pierre, Ofelia Valdez-Yeager, Doug Wible, Bill Wilkman, Mike Gardner, Ex-officio; Jeannene Kelly, Sharla Wright, Ex-officio-Friends of the Mission Inn; Mel Gutierrez, Ex-officio-Docent Council; S. Sue Johnson, Emeritus status; Jonathan O'Neal, Emeritus status.

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