

John Marsh Historic Trust is dedicated to restoring the John Marsh Stone House as a living symbol to future generations.

## JOHN MARSH HISTORIC TRUST NEWSLETTER

October 2012

email: [information@johnmarshhouse.com](mailto:information@johnmarshhouse.com)

MAKE DONATIONS TO:  
JOHN MARSH HISTORIC TRUST  
PO Box 1682 Brentwood, CA  
94513

TELEPHONE  
925-679-5811

### CA State Parks approves structural system

**OCTOBER 2012 ANNUAL GALA AT HANNAH NICOLE VINEYARDS**

#### FUNDRAISING GALA SUCCESS

Hannah Nicole Vineyards hosted 2012 Gala with sponsor Bloomfield Vineyards.

*Continued on Page 2*

#### CA - OR TRAILS GALA SPEAKER

*Continued on Page 2*

#### BOOK SIGNING BY AUTHORS

"Shadows on the Hills" Wm. Mero & "In the Shadow of Diablo" D. Hanel sign books.

*Continued on Page 2*

#### A LETTER FROM JMHT PRESIDENT

Gene Metz, AIA outlines construction progress after approval of steel stud & foam structural system.

*Continued on Page 3*

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

2nd Annual Festival of Trees December 2012

*Continued on Page 4*

#### GENEROUS DONORS OF 2012

Thank YOU for your support to restore the John Marsh House.

*Continued on Page 5*

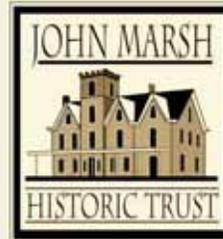
#### CRUISE FOR A CAUSE IN 2013

Join JMHT for a fun, educational John Marsh cruise to Alaska!

*Continued on Page 5*

Become our Fan on **facebook**

[www.facebook.com/jmtrust](http://www.facebook.com/jmtrust)



**Board of Directors:**  
Gene Metz, AIA  
Alexandra Ghiozzi  
Miranda Harmon-Smith  
Patty Bristow  
Kathy Leighton  
Ted Alesna  
Nancy Jameson  
Karen Rarey  
Steve Torgeson



*Visit Alaska & Cruise for a Cause 2013*



*Model of John Marsh Adobe circa 1841*



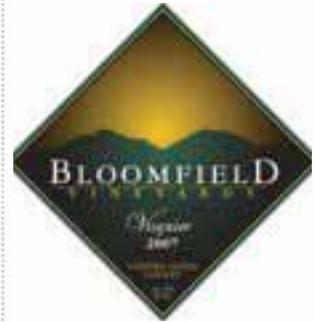
*Marsh House Stairs*

The Dr. John Marsh Stone House was designed by Thomas Boyd, San Francisco Architect





Hannah Nicole Vineyards host of 2012 Gala



2012 Gala Sponsor

## Hannah Nicole Vineyards hosts 2012 “A Taste of California” Gala

By Alexandra Ghiozzi, JMHT

In what has become a lovely tradition, our fall fundraiser took place on October 14, 2012 at Hannah Nicole Vineyards in Brentwood, CA. Guests were treated to a sampling of wines from both Hannah Nicole and Bloomfield Vineyards along with delightful treats. Guest speakers and presentations conveyed the urgent need to raise funds for the further work to stabilize and rehabilitate the John Marsh House. Significant progress has been made over the course of 2012, including the approval of the General Plan, the naming of Marsh Creek State Park and the successful testing of foam and steel stud technology that will, when complete, truly save the Marsh House. Guests learned that with these recent successes, we still have a long way to go towards our ultimate goal of raising approximately \$5 million dollars to fully restore the House. Special guests included a fifth great-grandson of John Marsh and our own William Mero, secretary emeritus of the Trust, signed copies of his new book “Shadows on the Hills”. The book describes detailed stories behind the place names in Contra Costa County. In case you were unable to attend the gala, the book is available at [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com).

Many generous local businesses donated items for both a raffle and silent auction. Items ranged from dinners at local restaurants, over night stays at hotels and even weekend getaways to Lake Tahoe and Stinson Beach. Funds are being

tallied, so stay tuned to our spring newsletter for the final total and a complete list of those who donated. We wish to thank all the generous donors who contributed to our successful event.

For more information on John Marsh and his legacy, please visit [www.johnmarshhouse.com](http://www.johnmarshhouse.com).

### “A Taste of California” Gala Sponsors

- Ameriprise Financial -- Cameron Kossen
- The Allen Family
- Bloomfield Vineyards
- Embassy Suites Hotel, Walnut Creek, CA
- The Ghiozzi Family
- Dan & Jaqueline Hanel
- Hannah Nicole Vineyards
- The Harmon - Smith Family
- Havana Restaurant
- Home Life Senior Care
- The Jameson Family
- The Leighton Family
- Leslie Dawson of Glenn, Dawson, Burak LLP, CPA
- The Metz Family
- The Rarey Family
- REI , Inc.
- The Torgeson Family
- The Craig & Isabel Williams Family

“... a Taste of California...”



## A Letter to Friends of John Marsh

from Gene Metz, AIA, President of John Marsh Historic Trust

**“California State Parks staff and the Office of Historic Preservation have now approved the results of the favorable structural testing and foam compatibility.”**

I want to share with you, our Friends and donors, the excitement of the development and testing of a new structural approach to complete the stabilization and begin the rehabilitation of the John Marsh House. Construction will begin this fall to implement this system which will consist of new concrete foundations that must be tied into the existing stone foundations, and a wall of steel studs replacing the brick walls that had to be removed due to deterioration. Steel rods will be drilled into the backside of the fragile exterior stonewalls and fastened onto the steel studs. Unique structural foam will be sprayed on the stones to stabilize them for the drilling and attaching of the steel rods. The foam will also greatly strengthen the stone walls to resist any collapse due to forces such as most earthquakes.

A test panel of this structural system was installed and load tested on a segment of the House wall this past June. The results of the test greatly exceeded the expectations of architects and engineers of our project. An extensive research study to assure the compatibility of the structural/adhesive foam with the existing sandstone of the House has also been completed. California State Parks staff and the Office of Historic Preservation have now approved the results of the favorable structural testing and foam compatibility. We, of the JMHTrust, have encouraged and financed this entire effort to assure an effective means to restore this remarkable House as the centerpiece of the new Marsh Creek State Park. Engineering fees to develop and test the above innovative

construction techniques have been costly. These costs will be justified to assure the saving and restoration of the House and implementation of the Park.

The above construction and related soft costs will be partly funded by a grant from the California Cultural and Historical Endowment, CCHE, with matching funds by the John Marsh Historic Trust through your donations. The State agency, Direct Construction Unit, will provide additional funds and conduct the construction. Previous construction that enclosed the collapsed south wall with temporary stucco and erected temporary steel columns to stabilize the floors was also funded by CCHE and matched by the City of Brentwood. All of this indicates that progress is being made to restore the House. This progress follows the recent establishment of the 3600-acre Marsh Creek State Park, which includes the Marsh House Historic Zone. All the above achievements are significant and will add measurable advantages to the county and the region. These advantages will include pride of accomplishments, historic and cultural education, archeological and environmental preservation and varied recreational activities, much of which will be achieved even before the Park can be officially opened.

We hope you are as excited as we are about the current progress made possible by your personal gifts and that you will continue to support the John Marsh House with your donations via the John Marsh Historic Trust. We are actively searching for additional grant funding. If you know of any grants or

corporate sponsors to join in this worthy project, please contact JMHT via phone or email.

Individual gifts inspire support from grant-making organizations and each gift from you brings the goal of saving the John Marsh House closer to reality. Furthermore, if you can serve on a future fundraising committee, please contact JMHT at 925-679-5811, leave your name and contact information.

Thank you.



*Marsh House Stud & Foam structural stabilization*

## Trust to participate in Brentwood's Second Annual Festival of Trees

### COME BID ON TREE DESIGNED BY JOHN MARSH HISTORIC TRUST

#### Festival of Trees is Around the Corner

By Alexandra Ghiozzi, JMHT

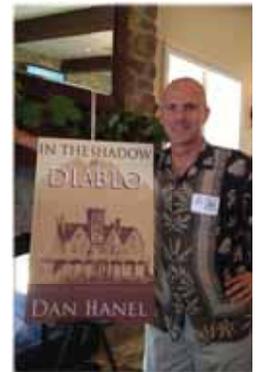
Can you believe it is time to start thinking about the holidays already?! We are so pleased to participate in the second annual Brentwood Festival of Trees, November 30 to December 2, 2012 at the Shadow Lakes Event Center located at 401 W. Country Club Dr. Brentwood, CA.

This year the John Marsh Historic Trust tree will be themed "A Taste of Brentwood" and will feature beautiful ornaments with fruit and agricultural themes. Under our tree this year will be a true bounty of canned and preserved fruits and vegetables, all from the local area. What better way to kick off the holiday season than with a pantry full of healthy foods?

Our very own board members, Patty Bristow, Kathy Leighton and their crew are hard at work organizing and decorating the

tree to be auctioned off at the event. Other festivities during the weekend, will include a wine tasting, teddy bear breakfast and brunch among the trees. It promises to be a beautiful event and will help raise money for the John Marsh Historic Trust as well as numerous Non-Profit organizations serving our community. Stay tuned via [www.johnmarshhouse.com](http://www.johnmarshhouse.com) for further details and tickets.

Harrison Barrett is a Brentwood, California science teacher who is compelled to investigate the sudden and tragic suicide of one of his high school students. Along with colleague Celeste Scott, Harrison finds himself engulfed in the legend of a hidden treasure and entwined with the real-life tale of a distraught son, Charles Marsh, whose father was slain 150 years prior. Past and present are linked as Charles seeks justice and Harrison searches for answers.



#### Local Author Pens Mystery Based on the Marsh Murder

Dan Hanel, a Brentwood high school administrator and author, has just released "In the Shadow of Diablo - Mystery of the Great Stone House."

The murder mystery alternates between a local teacher's present day adventure and the historical accounts of the brutal murder of Dr. John Marsh, one of the most important figures in California and United States history.

The journeys of both men are filled with mystery and intrigue, separated by generations but united by a common yearning, a common motive and a common setting – the shadow of Mt. Diablo.

Mr. Hanel graciously donated \$3 from every book sold at the Gala to the John Marsh Historic Trust and he is a strong advocate of restoring the John Marsh House to its former glory. Copies of the book are available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



2nd Annual Festival of Trees Nov 30 - Dec 2, 2012 Brentwood, CA

Image Courtesy of Mary Black



JMHT Festival of Trees

## Generous Donors of 2012

### VAQUERO \$10 - \$25

D. Higuchi  
 C.M. Whitnah  
 M. Marsh Wilson  
 B. Cakebread Koski  
 J. Keller  
 J. Buffo  
 V. Kruse  
 G. & J. Walker  
 E. Pedersen  
 J. Hanson  
 M. Langley Kruse  
 A. Ackerman  
 Mr & Mrs. J. Flanagan  
 T. & E. Espindola  
 K. Hampton  
 R. & K. Yarborough  
 B. & T. Silva  
 L. & B. Ford  
 R. E. Daniel

### DOS VAQUEROS \$30 - \$49

R. Ehling  
 W. & L. Bieber  
 E. & C. Weber  
 W. & J. Robertson  
 K. Munz  
 C. Russell  
 M. L. Kost  
 R. & P. Duba

### PIONEER \$50 - \$99

Dr. & Mrs. J. C. Marsh  
 A. Castellanos  
 R. & J. Bartke  
 H. Peshon  
 R. Krumland  
 P. Broderick  
 Robert Walrond  
 W. Korsinen  
 K. M. Lyddan  
 R. Greene  
 B. & D. Swisher  
 M. Millis  
 E. M. Schrader

### PADRONE \$100 - \$249

T. Nuckols  
 R. Harmon  
 J. Mcfarlan  
 A. Heiser  
 N. F. Swenson  
 R. & K. Wetherell  
 S. Torgeson  
 L. Dawson

### ALCALDE \$250 - \$499

W. Heckrotte  
 H. Krout  
 P. & B. Baldacci Family Foundation

### CAMPANARIO \$500 - \$10,000

M. Thelen, Jr.  
 H. Cahill

### CRUISING FOR A CAUSE 2013

By Alexandra Ghiozzi, JMHT

The John Marsh Historic Trust is going to Alaska! We are planning a fundraising cruise sailing July 9, 2013 from beautiful San Francisco to Alaska's Inside Passage for 10 days. The trip will include guest speakers, team building activities and will raise funds to rehabilitate the John Marsh House.

In 2010, we hosted a similar voyage with 34 lucky passengers and raised over \$2200 for the House. The donated funds come directly from Princess Cruises, there is no additional mark up for the price of the cabin. You go on vacation, pay the same low price as everyone else and help a worthy cause. It is that simple.

Alaska is a must-see destination that offers many fun activities while in port. Ziplining, whitewater rafting, hiking, sport fishing and whale watching are just a small sampling of things to do. While onboard the Grand Princess, guests will enjoy all that Princess is famous for, wonderful food, exceptional service and a truly relaxing getaway from it all.

Prices start at \$1499 per person, children or others sharing a cabin will pay a reduced rate and those who have sailed with Princess before may also qualify for a discount. For full details, please visit [www.cruiseone.com/aghiozzi](http://www.cruiseone.com/aghiozzi) or call CruiseOne Brentwood at (925)240-0932.

We look forward to sailing with you to beautiful Alaska next summer and if you cannot make this trip, but would like to set up a group of your own to benefit the John Marsh Historic Trust, that can be done with as few as 16 people. Contact CruiseOne for further information.

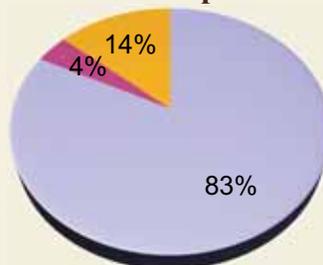


Alaska Cruise Port



“... donated funds come directly from Princess Cruises.... You go on vacation ... and help a worthy cause,”

### 2012 JMHT Expenses to Date



- Construction Payments
- Insurance
- Office/ Newsletter/ Fundraising



FROM: **JOHN MARSH HISTORIC TRUST**  
JOHN MARSH HISTORIC TRUST NEWSLETTER  
PO BOX 1682  
BRENTWOOD, CA 94513

October 2012

Issue No. 02-2012

# John Marsh House



*Don Stirling, AIA surveys the land from John Marsh House window.*

**JOHN MARSH HISTORIC TRUST NEWSLETTER**  
COMPILED BY NANCY JAMESON, JMHT

**FROM:**

John Marsh Historic Trust  
PO Box 1682  
Brentwood, CA 94513

Be a part of history!

Support preservation  
of the Dr. John Marsh  
House with your tax  
deductible contribution  
today via  
PayPal at  
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or by check to  
John Marsh Historic  
Trust