

ALUMNI eNEWSLETTER

No. 20

November 2020

The Alumni Association is now in our membership renewal period. On Oct. 26th, our Membership Secretary, Sara Durkacs, sent information on renewing your Alumni Association membership for 2021. In order to reduce mailing expenses and the volunteer time and effort required to process postal mail renewals and donations, we strongly encourage use of the PayPal and credit card options.

It's easy to [renew](#) online [via our PayPal portal](#). Just click on the "donate" button and follow the instructions to pay with your credit card or PayPal account. If you encounter any problems, please try a different browser. You can also use the enclosed membership form to renew and return it to Sara. You can call her with your credit card info at 718-499-8254 after 5 pm, EST.

When renewing your membership before 12/31, please consider making an additional donation to the Buttrick Challenge to help us reach our \$100,000 goal. **Donations to the Buttrick Challenge must be received by 12/31/2020 in order to qualify for the matching grant.**

So far, we have received about \$94,000 in donations to the Buttrick Challenge all of which will be matched dollar-for-dollar by Jim Buttrick to establish an endowment fund to primarily provide student scholarships to the summer schools for years to come.

For the summer schools in 2017, 2018, and 2019, the Alumni Association was able to provide about \$72,500 in scholarships to some 31 Summer Schools students who otherwise might not have been able to attend. In 2020, the Alumni Board also authorized a donation of \$16,000 to help the Summer Schools cover some of their fixed costs during this pandemic year.

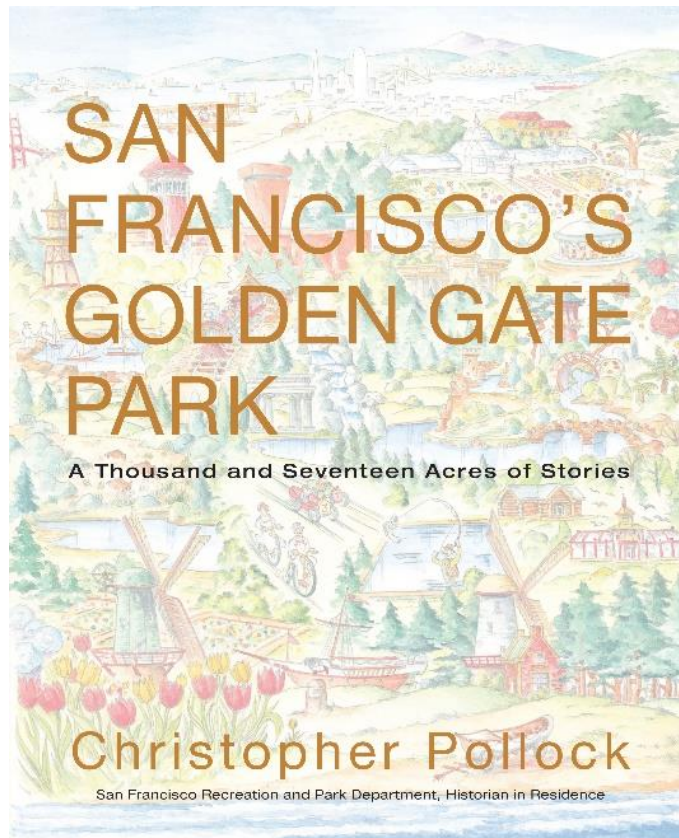
Your faithful support of the Alumni Association and its primary mission to raise funds for student scholarships is greatly appreciated. The contributions of over 75 individuals, couples, and organizations to our Buttrick Challenge is a tribute to your faithful and generous support of our organization. **THANK YOU!**



Alumni News



Christopher Pollock (Newport 2005, London 2011, Midlands Tour 2014, and Northern Ireland Tour 2018), who is Historian in Residence for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, has just authored a significantly updated version of his 2001 book ***San Francisco's Golden Gate Park: A Thousand and Seventeen Acres of Stories***. The 150-page book is a history of all the park's many features including buildings, meadows, lakes, gates and the like, including the cultural events that go along with them. Additionally, many sidebars address various aspects of contextual background and related facets. The book was released this past summer by San Francisco based publisher Norfolk Press.



In a Nov. 7, 2020 article in the *New York Times* reporting on the long-planned renovation of the sunken plaza and the underground shopping concourse surrounding it, **Sibyl McCormac Groff** (London 1982 and Newport 2005), known for her [Christmastime tours around Rockefeller Center](#), said she did not fault its owners. “Sometimes we have to do these things to move forward,” she said. Ms. Groff even suggested that the pandemic might be a good time to get the work done, since the number of visitors is down. “And hopefully the tourists will come back.”



Photo: Brooke Slezak

In a Nov. 17, 2020 article, the *New York Times* reported on the restoration of the Chandler Farm at Winterthur built in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. **Thomas Jayne** (London 1984) a graduate of the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture has credited that program as a major source of inspiration for his *pro bono* work redecorating the interior. See the full article at:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/17/realestate/winterthur-du-pont-museum-house.html?auth=login-email&login=email&referringSource=articleShare>



From the NYT by James Schneck

<p>ENNUI 2021 APPEAL LEVELS</p> <p>\$55 INDIVIDUAL</p> <p>\$100 HOUSEHOLD</p> <p>\$125 SUPPORTER*</p> <p>\$300 SPONSOR*</p> <p>\$600 BENEFACTOR*</p> <p>\$30 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL</p> <p><i>*Members at this level and above will be acknowledged in our E-Newsletter</i></p> <p>RENEW ONLINE</p> <p>YOUR MEMBERSHIP VALID THROUGH: 12/31/2021</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP LEVEL _____</p> <p>DUES AMOUNT \$ _____</p> <p>+ SCHOLARSHIP FUND AMOUNT \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LONDON</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CHICAGO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PROF. RICHARD GUY WILSON Newport Scholarship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> GWEN KOCH Memorial Newport Scholarship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DUCHSCHER Memorial Scholarship endorsed by Sibyl McCormac Groff and John Martine</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL</p> <p>+ BUTTRICK CHALLENGE \$ _____</p> <p>= TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____</p>		
<p>PAYMENT METHOD</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check payable to ALUMNI ASSOCIATION enclosed. Check # _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge my credit card: <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard</p> <p>RENEW ONLINE</p>	<p>CONTACT</p> <p>DAVID LAMDIN 1515 KIRKWOOD RD ARLINGTON, VA 22201-5233</p>		
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Email dalamdin@aol.com	Phone		

Sara Durkacs
Membership Secretary
 Alumni Association of the VSA Summer Schools
 529 8th St Apt 4B
 Brooklyn, NY 11215

718-499-8254 (mobile)

BUTTRICK CHALLENGE DONORS

\$20,000 and above

Mary Anne Hunting
Anonymous in Memory of Bill Dane

\$10,000 to \$19,999

John Freed Administrative Trust; Don Merrill, Trustee

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Nancy and Fred Golden (2)
Robert Chapman and Frances Sinofsky (2)

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Gretchen Redden

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Charles Robertson III
Robert Rettig
Joan K. Wells
Sibyl Groff in memory of Richard Reutlinger and Bill Dane
John Martine, AIA
Kristine Steensma
David Lamdin (2)
William D Grasse and Emily Haldeman

\$500 to \$999

Richard Tuck and Neale Grasham
Hank Dunlop
Sara Durkacs
Members of the Washington DC Chapter of the VSA (2)
Jennifer Trotoux
Christopher Forbes
Roger Scharmer (2)

\$100 to \$499

Richard Merrill
Candace Volz (2)
Peter Trippi
Nancy Evans Hays IMO Gavin Stamp
Nancy Kilpatrick
Suzanne and Larry Cavazos
Sergei Troubetzkoy
William Ayers
Jane Severance
Jan-Paul Malocsay (2)
Darrell Lemke and Maryellen Trautman

Kerrill Rubman
Hank Dunlop
William and Patricia Eldredge
Phyllis Quinn
Cynthia Casey (3)
Laura Macaluso
Warren Ashworth
Susan Wagg
Phyllis Quinn
John McHugh and Janet Self
John McHugh and Janet Self via
The Henry Lyman Greer Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Mary Findlay
Janet Geiser
John Simonelli
Ian and Margaret Berke
Wilson Stiles
Jeanne Solensky
Lamar Lentz (2)
Christopher Pollock
Matthew and Jolene Dessert
Donna Ann Harris
Whitney W White
William Hines
Morgan and Megan Pierce

Up to \$99

Jennifer Mary Wood
Laura Parrish
Marilyn C. Scott
Alessandra Merrill
Margaret Starr (2)
Duane Myers
Suzi Barbee
Dale Wheary
Anne-Taylor Cahill
Margaret Starr
John Faust
Judith Martorelli in memory of Dudley Brown
Theodore Sawruk

Pledges to the JIM BUTTRICK CHALLENGE GRANT

Robert Esposito

Contributor list July 1, 2018 through November 15, 2020. Every effort is made to accurately report all donations. However, errors and omissions may occur. If you see an error, please bring it to our attention so that a correction can be made in future listings.

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUMMER SCHOOLS
Officers, Directors, and Committees as of January 1, 2020**

The Alumni Association acknowledges the following individuals for their service to our organization:

President and Acting Treasurer **David Lamdin** dalamdin@aol.com

Vice President **Bob Chapman**

Corresponding Secretary **Jeanne Solensky**

Membership Secretary **Sara Durkacs**

Director **John A. Martine**

Director **James Russiello**

Director **Armon White**

Director **Elizabeth A. Milnarik-Taylor**

Director **William Cullum**

Finance Committee: **James Buttrick**
 Sibyl McCormac Groff
 David Lamdin

Nominating Committee: **Travis Brock Kennedy, Chair**
 David Vespa
 James Russiello

Study Tours Committee: **John Martine, Chair**

Social Media Committee: **James Russiello**

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION of the VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUMMER SCHOOLS

\$100,000 BUTTRICK CHALLENGE GRANT

The Alumni Association is very excited to announce the creation of an Endowment Fund to support the VSA Summer Schools. We received a very generous matching grant from Jim Buttrick (Newport 1999, London 2000). Jim will donate a total of up to \$100,000 to match dollar-for-dollar donations large or small to the Endowment Fund. These donations must be “new” money received before December 31, 2020. The Endowment Funds will be separately invested for the long term with a small percentage of the value of the fund used each year as needed for summer schools scholarships and operations.

As a supporter of the VSA, you understand the importance that the Schools have played in the lives of those fortunate enough to attend. Students consistently report on how the schools have enriched their lives with the connections made, the first-rate lecturers, and a broadened appreciation of the built environment. The Endowment Fund will provide an ongoing income stream to make the Summer Schools stronger and be our legacy for future Victorians. Please consider a generous contribution.

For additional information contact: David Lamdin 703-243-2350 dalamdin@aol.com



Prof. Richard Guy Wilson with students at the Newport Summer School

Please complete and return the form below to help meet the Buttrick Challenge

I, _____, am including a check for \$_____ payable to the “**Alumni Association**”. Memo: for the Buttrick Challenge Grant. **AND/OR**

I, _____, pledge \$_____ to the Alumni Association for the Buttrick Challenge Grant to be paid before December 31, 2020.

Send to: **Alumni Association, VSA**
24 Wilkins Ave 1st Floor
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

As a 501 c (3) organizations, donations to the Alumni Association are deductible as provided by law.