ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT AWARD WINNERS
Inspire Nearly 400 Guests at the 150th Anniversary Celebration and Concert

Nearly 400 guests joined us on August 16th to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Banning Mansion with an old fashioned hoedown commemorating the Rancho-period of the Banning property. What a great night it was, with live music by local favorite “South Bay Country,” line dancing, and a delicious old fashioned BBQ buffet provided by “The Outdoor Grill.”

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 4th annual Phineas Banning Entrepreneurial Spirit Award. This year’s award winners, Alma and Ignacio Ortiz, are the owners of Hojas Tea House in Wilmington. Alma’s emotional acceptance speech visibly moved everyone in the crowd with her touching story of how Phineas Banning and a field trip to The Banning Museum inspired her as a very young child to achieve her dreams.

When You Join/Renew/Upgrade Your Friends of Banning Museum Membership, You Help Encourage Entrepreneurial Spirit in Others!

Through our educational programs, we tell the story of Phineas Banning’s entrepreneurial spirit — inspiring children who have the potential to make a difference in their community, just as Alma and Ignacio have done. Alma shares her thoughts on the importance of the entrepreneurial spirit…

WHAT INSPIRED ME THE MOST ABOUT PHINEAS BANNING
is the courage he had not only to believe in the possibility of something great happening but to have the courage to act on his dream and never give up. I cannot even imagine the obstacles Phineas must have encountered and only he would have known what fears he faced, but I saw in him that no matter what the challenges or obstacles are you cannot forget or ignore what is possible.

Who knows how many of the thousands of schoolchildren who visit us each year are as inspired by Phineas Banning as Alma was? What a remarkable gift you give each time you renew your membership in Friends of Banning Museum or support one of our campaigns. It’s the gift of the future — one that can be brighter because of your generosity!

Brochures Now Available in Spanish!

We are pleased to let you know that our Banning Museum and Improbable Gateway brochures are now available in Spanish as well as English. You can pick up both versions in the Visitor Center at The Banning Museum.
Our hardworking Garden Gloves Committee has done it again! After helping to transform the Howard Rose Garden into a showpiece and keep it photo-perfect, they are undertaking another ambitious project: beautifying the areas in front and on the side of the Stagecoach Barn with a California Native Plant Garden.

This wonderful improvement is being made possible thanks to the Conze Bequest Grant, which was awarded to Friends of Banning Museum by the South Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

What a perfectly appropriate use of land that was so much a part of California history! Thank you to the Garden Gloves Committee for their tremendous effort in spearheading this magnificent project. The project is scheduled to begin on November 10.

Native California Plants to Enhance Museum Grounds

We’re putting out a big SOS to all our members and everyone who loves and appreciates the Banning Residence! We urgently need your help.

Over the years, the wallpaper in the Residence has begun to erode the wall plaster underneath to the point where it is now causing alarming deterioration of the historic structure. To prevent any further damage to the walls, we need to remove the paper, repair the affected plaster, and paint the walls as soon as possible.

This project is estimated to cost $30,000. So far, we have raised $8,000 and have received a matching gift of $10,000 for the project. That means Friends of Banning Museum needs to raise $12,000 more to get the project underway in June 2015.

You can help us Save Our Structure by making a donation today to this vital project. Use the enclosed envelope to send your contribution, and please be sure to write “Wallpaper” on the envelope before you send it, so we know that’s where you intend your contribution to go.

Let’s make sure we can share the inspirational story of Phineas Banning and his entrepreneurial spirit for years to come.

Thanks in advance for answering our SOS.

New FBM President Takes the Gavel

We are pleased to introduce you to the new president of Friends of Banning Museum, PATRICK WILSON. Patrick has served on our Board of Directors since 2003, most recently as vice president, and succeeds our outgoing president, Peter Kunoth.

Patrick has long been a great supporter of Friends of Banning Museum and our mission to Preserve History, Promote Education, and Inspire Entrepreneurial Spirit. The founder and president of Fast Lane Transportation, Inc., Patrick is also very active in the Wilmington community. He is currently serving his 11th year as president of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

Please join us in congratulating Patrick. We’d also like to thank Peter for his hard work, leadership, and guidance during his tenure; he will remain on the Board of Directors as past president.

Geraldine Knatz Joins FBM Board

Please join us in welcoming GERALDINE KNATZ, Ph.D. to the Friends of Banning Museum Board of Directors. Dr. Knatz retired as executive director of the Port of Los Angeles and is currently a professor of the practice of policy and engineering at the USC Price School of Public Policy and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering. She earned both her M.S. and her Ph.D. at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Knatz has a special affinity for The Banning Museum and a long history of involvement with this local treasure. She became a docent in the early 1980s and is still a member of our Volunteer team at the Museum.
DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that a tete-a-tete is a small, s-shaped sofa designed so that the parties sitting on it could converse with each other face-to-face?

The photograph above circa 1886, taken by Phineas Banning’s son Joseph Brent Banning, shows the tete-a-tete that was in the Banning Residence when Joseph and his wife, Katharine, lived here.

We’re very excited that the tete-a-tete has been repaired and is now on display at The Banning Museum! The photo to the right shows the repaired piece in the Living Room, where it was originally photographed. You’ll enjoy seeing it on your next visit. Just imagine…what might people have talked about on this soft tete-a-tete in Joseph Brent Banning’s day? And what would it be like to have one in your own living room today? Forget texting…your guests could actually talk!

Help Friends of Banning Museum Every Time You Shop!

Ralphs Community Contribution Program and Food 4 Less Community Rewards Program are helping non-profit organizations.

To find out how to register your Ralphs rewards Card or Food 4 Less Community Rewards card, visit our website, www.thebanningmuseum.org, and click on “Support/Contribute.” When you sign up, remember to select Friends of Banning Museum as your non-profit of choice! (If you don’t have access to our website or need more information about enrolling, please give us a call at (310) 548-2005.)

If you are registering your Food 4 Less Community Rewards card at checkout in the store, you will need the barcode provided here. Simply cut it out along the dotted lines and take it with you when you register.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR RALPHS COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM ENROLLEES:

If you previously enrolled in the Ralphs Community Contribution Program through August 31, 2014, you will need to re-register to continue your participation. So re-enroll, and thanks for helping Friends of Banning Museum!
The festive holidays are just around the corner, and that means Victorian Christmas will soon arrive at The Banning Museum. Immerse yourself in the holiday spirit at:

**Victorian Christmas Luncheon**
**Friday, December 5, 2014 • 11:30 a.m.**
This very popular event features a lovely plated lunch, holiday entertainment, and a preview of the Banning Residence decorated in its holiday splendor. **HURRY! Seating is limited and this event is almost sold out. Call (310) 548-2005 right away for reservations.** FBM Members: $85 • Non-members: $95

**Victorian Christmas Weekend Celebration**
**Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7, 2014 • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
An enchanting holiday festival awaits you, with entertainment, refreshments, children’s crafts, self-guided tours of the Museum, craft and local food vendors, a visit from jolly St. Nick, and horse-drawn trolley rides. We’ll also be unveiling the beautiful replica of Phineas Banning’s first stagecoach! Event admission is FREE to the public. **For more information on Victorian Christmas events, please call us at (310) 548-2005 or visit our website at www.thebanningmuseum.org.**

**Sponsors:**

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**Victorian Christmas is about to roll in**

We’re eagerly anticipating delivery of our new stagecoach before Victorian Christmas! The coach is a direct replica of Phineas Banning’s first coach. It will be yellow and have a Concord-style body, with Banning & Co. over a panel above the doors called the “header board.” It will be housed in the historic Stagecoach Barn at The Banning Museum and integrated into our educational programs.

Plan to join us at **Victorian Christmas December 6 and 7** and get a first-hand look at this marvelous coach!

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**Celebrate the Holidays at Terranea Resort**

At Victorian Christmas, enter our opportunity drawing for a chance to win an exclusive holiday package at beautiful Terranea Resort in Rancho Palos Verdes.