

# SUNLETTER

THE PEOPLE, EVENTS & EXHIBITS OF THE GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

Quarterly Publication

SPRING 2018 Volume 27, No. 1

## From the Director

As this edition of the Sunletter goes to print, I will have been on the job just over three months. I am so very grateful for the warm welcome I have received from the many and various Museum stakeholders and from the community at large. Thank you, all, for making me feel right at home.

I am very pleased and excited by our latest exhibition that opened on February 10, *Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change*. This exhibition is a visual stunner, celebrating spring and the wildflowers that grace the entirety of our state. It also provides a behind-the-scenes peek at the special techniques used to photographically capture the glory and delicacy of nature. More importantly, however, photographers and curators Rob Badger and Nita Winter offer a timely and important look at how the ecosystems that both support and depend on wildflowers are under threat from climate change—irreplaceable habitats that could forever be altered or lost. The Museum has organized a number of public programs throughout the run of the show that will deepen our understanding of this critical issue and suggest ways we can all be pro-active in mitigating the degradation of, and even help restore, places we cherish. You can find a list of *Beauty and the Beast* programs in the Calendar of Events on page 4 and on the Museum's web site.



*Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change* is now on display through June 17.



The newly-acquired portrait of Mascot by Grace Hudson.

I also want to share some other exciting news. Due to the generosity of Nelson and Jane Weller, the Museum was recently able to purchase at auction a lovely portrait of Mascot, Grace and John Hudson's beloved St. Bernard. Heretofore, our collections have included a number of historic photographs of Mascot but only one painting—a sketch in oil that currently hangs in the Person Gallery, where the history of the Carpenter and Hudson families is told. The new Mascot oil has been installed

in the Sun House where it will help us tell a fuller story of Grace and John's domestic life. Thank you again, Nelson and Jane!

—David Burton, *Director*

Thanks to those who have donated toward the Wild Gardens Pavers

- Karen Adair, DG Creative
- Arkin Tilt Architects
- Ann Baker, Ann Baker Landscape Architecture
- Kate & Cam Baker
- Holly Brackmann & Roger Foote
- Cahto Tribe, Laytonville Rancheria
- Phyllis Curtis
- Keila Diehl
- Andy & Judi Finger
- Grace Hudson Museum Staff
- Bob & Suzie Hardie
- Larry & Pat Hartley
- Julie & Kurt Hauser
- George Husaruk & Kit Elliott
- Janet King, Bill Hendricks & Patty Hendricks
- Jim & Babbie Mayfield
- John & Karen Moon
- Lee Parker & Diane Daubeneck
- Jose & Linda Ruiz
- Margot Selleck & Lucy Mason
- Sally Smith & Sherrie Smith-Ferri
- SHN Engineers & Geologists
- Susan Wagner



*Sun House Guild*

**GRACE HUDSON  
MUSEUM & Sun House**

Hours: Wed thru Sat: 10 am – 4:30 pm  
(first Friday of the month til 8:00 pm)  
Sun.: 12 – 4:30 pm. (707) 467-2836  
info@gracehudsonmuseum.org  
www.gracehudsonmuseum.org

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Sherrie Smith-Ferri, CURATOR

Karen Holmes, CURATOR

Kristen Marrow and Diana Thomas,  
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BOARDMEMBERS

# Sun House Rejuvenation Project

Because of the generosity of our Members, Friends, and Supporters, the Sun House recently received a fresh coat of Total Wood Protection (TWP), a stain that safeguards against water damage, UV light, mold and mildew, and wood rot, and also brings out the beauty of the wood. Our thanks to Dunn Right Painting and Kelly-Moore Paints for their respective donations of time and TWP. The next phase is underway as we work on a plan to beautify the landscaping around the Sun House by identifying and restoring many of the plant species historically associated with the property during the years Grace and John Hudson lived there.



Refreshing the trim on the Sun House windows.

## *Special Thanks for Collection Gifts:*

**Keila Diehl** for three wonderful tiny “hobbyist” baskets, imitating Pomo miniatures, from the collection of her parents, Kent and Sheila Diehl of Witherspoon & Postlethwaite Gallery.

**Peggy Fimbres** for a collection of original correspondence, miscellaneous sketches, and printed illustrations pertaining to Grace Carpenter Hudson.

**Joyce Jordan and Neil Grasso** for their gift of a typescript entitled “VI From the Indians of California” signed by the author, Theodora Kroeber.

**Jen Lyon and the Mendocino County Library (Ukiah Branch)** for the charming book, *The Latest and Later Poems of Anna Morrison Reed*, which originally belonged to Helen Carpenter and was given to the library by A.O. Carpenter.

**Lisa Ray** for even more beautiful small Pomo baskets, including another woven by Laura Somersal along with some by Laura’s niece, Myrtle.

**Richard Seanor** for two lovely miniature Pomo baskets, by master weaver Laura Somersal.

## *Heartfelt Thanks to the Following Donors:*

**George and Ruth Bradford Foundation** to the Grace Hudson Museum Endowment Fund

**Amy Bowen Neel and the Neel Foundation**

**Tom and Melissa Thornhill and the Thornhill Family Foundation**

**Ivy Kanoaulani Richardson** in honor of her Great Aunt Ivy, who was a close friend of Grace Hudson.

**Nelson and Jane Weller** for the Grace Hudson Museum’s Acquisition Fund

## New Patron Membership

Joanne Lanz

## New Supporter Memberships

Brian Barrett

Scott Cratty & Jen Riddell

Virgilia Dakin

Bob & Deb Perkowski

Julie Sawyer & Roger Vincent

## Other New Guild Memberships

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Karin Berstein

Barbara Blake

Lindsay Dailey & Cliff Paulin

Lynne Demele

Keila Diehl

Christina Drukala

Mary Bowen Esenbock

Joaquin & Audrey Espinosa

Patricia Franz

Norma Gibson

Helen Hauk

Stephanie Hoppe

Maggie Kelstrom

Jodi Kyle

Lory Lance

Caro Lorber

Karen Magnuson

Erica Makino

Belinda & Vaughn Mobley

John Myers

Sophie Otis

Jeff Preston

Gail Richards

Yvonne Robertson

Ellen Schoonover

Sally Smith

Kevin Thompkins

Phoenix van Hardenbroek

Jonathan Whipple

Richard Wilson

Kathy Windrem

# From the Sun House Guild President

We're entering 2018 with some changes at the Museum and some exciting times in the coming year. Our long-time director, Sherrie Smith-Ferri, has moved from her position as director to that of curator so that she can focus her attention on the new Wild Gardens and Education Center. Our new director, David Burton, has relocated to Ukiah from Yakima, Washington, where he was interim director at the Yakima Valley Museum. The Guild Board is looking forward to the programs Sherrie will be developing for the new Gardens and is excited about working with our new director.

As a thank you to our members for their continuing support, the Guild started the year with a "Members Only Event" in January. Members had the opportunity to observe Jonah Ward demonstrate his glass art, they were entertained by George Husaruk on the flute, there was a special recognition for Sherrie Smith-Ferri and a welcome for David Burton, plus good food and beverages. Please look for more Member events in the coming year.

The Guild will be sponsoring a fundraiser on April 10th in conjunction with the Ukiah Players Theater. Tickets for the dress rehearsal of "Guys and Dolls" will go on sale in March at the Museum or on the Museum web site, [www.gracehudsonmuseum.org](http://www.gracehudsonmuseum.org). Tickets will be \$25.00 for adults and \$20.00 for under 21. We will be serving appetizers and wine prior to the performance and desserts and coffee at intermission. We always enjoy teaming up with the Ukiah Players Theater and their very talented cast.

On behalf of the Sun House Guild Board, thank you for your continued support.

—Lucille Mirata, *Sun House Guild President*

## The Grace Hudson Museum & The Ukiah Players Theater

team up to bring you a sneak preview of

### Guys and Dolls

Dress Rehearsal • Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Adults \$25 • Under 21 \$20

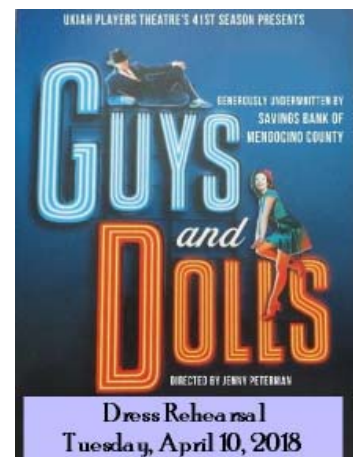
includes

6 PM: Appetizers & Wine or Soft Drink

7 PM: Dress Rehearsal

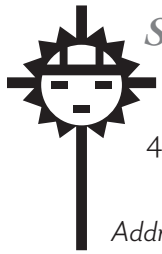
Intermission: Dessert and Coffee

1041 Low Gap Road, Ukiah



All proceeds to benefit the Grace Hudson Museum & Sun House

Set in Damon Runyon's mythical New York City, *Guys and Dolls* is an oddball romantic comedy. Gambler Nathan Detroit tries to find the cash to set up the biggest craps game in town while the authorities breathe down his neck; meanwhile, his girlfriend and nightclub performer, Adelaide, laments that they've been engaged for fourteen years. Nathan turns to fellow gambler, Sky Masterson, for the dough, and Sky ends up chasing the straight-laced missionary, Sarah Brown, as a result. *Guys and Dolls* takes us from the heart of Times Square to the cafes of Havana, Cuba, and even into the sewers of New York City, but eventually everyone ends up right where they belong.



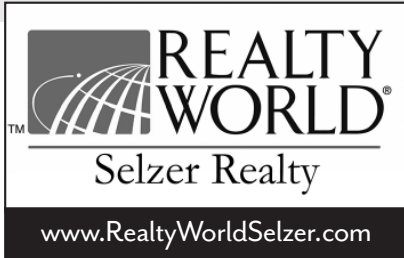
*Sun House Guild*

GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

431 South Main Street • Ukiah, California 95482

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info@gracehudsonmuseum.org to receive  
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mailed paper version.

## Grace Hudson Museum Calendar of Events

*More information on each of the following events can be found on the Museum's web site at [gracehudsonmuseum.org](http://gracehudsonmuseum.org).*

February 10–June 17, 2018,

### ***Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change***

Stunning images by photographers Rob Badger and Nita Winter explore the beauty of the state's many flower-bearing ecosystems while raising awareness of threats these natural habitats face from climate change.

Sunday, March 25 and Saturday, April 21,  
10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

### **Wildflower Walks at Low Gap Park, Ukiah**

Organized by the Sanhedrin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. Meet at the corner of the park by the tennis courts. Free.

Sunday, April 22, 2:00–3:30 p.m.,

### ***Beauty and the Beast* Presentation by Rob Badger and Nita Winter**

Celebrate Earth Day with this illustrated talk by the curators and photographers of *Beauty and the Beast*. They will cover the inspiration for their work, their photographic methods, and how the state's landscapes are changing. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, May 12, 2:00–3:30 p.m.,

### **Climate Change, Species Extinction & Citizen Science**

Shelly E. Ryan, of The Climate Reality Project, and journalist and author Mary Ellen Hannibal, discuss the intertwined issues of climate change and species extinction. Ms. Hannibal will sign copies of her award-winning book *Citizen Science: Searching for Heroes and Hope in an Age of Extinction*. Free with Museum admission.

Sunday, June 3, 2:00–3:30 p.m.

### **Native Pollinators & Wildflowers**

Entomologist Jan O. Washburn explores the ways climate change is impacting native insects and the plants they pollinate. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, June 16, 2:00–3:00 p.m.,

### **The Dean of Wildflowers**

Historian Dot Brovarney reflects on the life and legacy of Ukiah botanist and horticulturalist Carl Purdy (1861–1945), known as “The Dean of Wildflowers.”

April 6, May 4, June 1, 5:00–8:00 p.m.,

### **First Fridays**

The Museum is open and free on First Fridays. Check the web site for information on entertainment and activities.

June 30–September 30, 2018

### ***Our People, Our Land, Our Images***

Our next exhibition.