Old Town Trolley Tours of San Diego is host to approximately 500 to 1000 guests each day who climb aboard one of the 21 orange and green trolley cars or five amphibious SEAL tour "boats on wheels" for a look at the most interesting attractions in this famous tourist destination. The parent company, Historic Tours of America, was founded in the 1970s by current CEO Chris Belland and two friends in Key West, FL. As it has expanded to six cities across the nation, it has also increased its commitment to environmental protection. Belland spearheaded the company’s environmental movement in Key West in the mid-1980s with clean burning propane vehicles and has since converted the entire trolley fleet to run on propane and "boats on wheels" to run on bio-diesel. The environmental impact of using these alternative fuels results in a reduction of more than 300 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

Norm Niles, San Diego maintenance manager, says that the company wanted to expand its environmental commitment and become more energy efficient in other areas of the operation. Not knowing where to start, Web research led Niles to the ENERGY STAR Small Business Web site where he discovered Putting Energy into Profits: ENERGY STAR Guide for Small Business. “The guide recommends going through your local utility for help and that lighting projects are a good beginning because they are relatively easy and have a major affect on overall energy costs,” says Niles. He had heard a radio advertisement for San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) small business programs, so Old Town Trolley Tours was off and running.

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) developed an energy efficiency plan for Old Town Trolley, which Niles credits with a key role in the success of their program. He says there were three main elements that made the plan ideal. "SDG&E came to our business and did an energy audit. They listened to our concerns and needs and provided solid recommendations. Next, their Small Business Super Saver program provided us with a $3,200 rebate on our lighting retrofit project which covered about one-third of the cost."

Niles says the third element was what really made the project attractive. SDG&E was able to offer on-bill financing. This pro-

Cover Story continued on page 3...
FROM THE CHIEF CONDUCTOR

Worrying about the Future Robs
You of Your Enjoyment of the Now

BY: CHRISTOPHER C. BELLAND
Chief Executive Officer, Historic Tours of America, Inc.

In consideration and worry about something I am expecting to turn out very badly for a friend of mine later today, I have taken off the day from work. As I write this, I am sitting in my home library/office and I am staring at an appropriate painting on the far wall.

I bought it in Cuba a few years ago and it is of two teenage boys boxing. The floor is hard tile and the background wall is faded and mottled, indicating a rather dour, ad hoc setting for a boxing match. They both are wearing blue trunks but the boy on the left has red gloves, to which your eye is drawn. He is in the defensive position with his head ducked down behind his upraised gloves. The boy on the right, a good head taller, has his right arm straight out in a thrown punch that has fallen short. His left hand is cocked back by the side of his head. I am wondering if the boy on the left has seen the opening and will slip in an upper cut. If he misses, the other boy will have him off balance for a left hook to the right side of his head. Something is about to happen. It happened. I’ll never know how it came out.

It occurs to me that life is a great deal like the frozen moment of anticipation in the picture in that it is human nature to project a future over which we have some, little or no control in the now of our lives. It also occurs to me that it is human nature to mentally over “play” what is coming.

If we are anticipating something good like a dinner, a date, a holiday vacation, a weekend of being a couch potato, even a silly plan of what we’re going to do with our lotto winnings, we build up our expectations to a point where the occasion is almost sure not to measure up. On the other hand, and maybe even to a greater extent, when we are anticipating an unpleasant event like going to the dentist, coming home with a bad report card, the consequences of foreclosure, getting the test results from our doctor, asking for something we really don’t think we’ll get, we build these anticipations up to an even larger degree of the expected disappointment or horror to come.

Perhaps it is an irony of human nature that we either set ourselves up for disappointment for the good things or ruin our day (or days) worrying about what might happen because of the bad things. Take it from me, “it” will happen even though that might mean “it” is good ... or bad ... or nothing, in which case it is still one or the other. Putting how you feel today in context of how you will feel next year, or five, or ten years hence is an exercise of the wise.

It is with this in mind that I have come to believe that what we anticipate is never as good or as bad as we believe it will be, in which case it makes more sense to appreciate what is, not what will be. If one is in pain or despair, perhaps projecting that it will pass and things will get better has a place in our mental well being. At the same time, worrying about all the things that may go awry in the future makes no sense at all. If you’re above ground, have a belly full of food and a roof over your head and still worrying, you’re probably overdoing it. Now is usually a pretty sweet place to be. It’s sunrises, being with people you love, doing things about which you are passionate. Don’t miss it by looking ahead into the unknown. Good advice, hard to do.

It may be well to remember the parable of Solomon who sent his chief minister, whom Solomon thought was becoming proud, out on a fool’s errand to find a magic piece of jewelry which had the power to make a happy man sad or a sad man happy. After a fruitless search and on the eve of his deadline, the man went to the last of a hundred places to be told by the proprietor, “Yes, I do in fact have what you seek.” He handed him a ring inscribed, “This too shall pass.”

By the way, I think the kid in the red gloves decked the bigger boy.
gram provided interest-free financing from the utility to cover the cost of the efficiency improvements which was then paid back through the monthly utility bill. SDG&E estimated the savings of installing the new equipment and leveraged that against the loan payment. This meant there was no net effect on the monthly utility bill.

“It meant we were getting the energy savings, had zero up-front costs and interest free financing for a true win-win-win situation,” Niles says. Old Town Trolley also used Energy Star’s Portfolio Manager to measure and track the success of their energy management plan.

“It’s always good to know we have the technical support from ENERGY STAR,” Niles adds, “Not only for products and services, but for helpful tips, including using the natural ventilation and natural lightening in our large buildings and other ideas.”

Old Town Trolley’s success has spawned other equally successful efforts. The Boston location of Old Town Trolley is currently working with their local utility to implement a similar plan. In San Diego, free ENERGY STAR materials were used during employee meetings to discuss what the business had done, but also to educate employees about how easily similar steps can be taken at home.

Old Town Trolley in San Diego became the “energy saving poster business” for the City of San Diego and SDG&E. The company partnered with San Diego’s Small Business Green Financing Program, Clean TECH San Diego and SDG&E to stage an event at Old Town’s location explaining how rebates and on-bill financing made the effort affordable. Old Town Trolley became a model case study for other small businesses. San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders was joined by other business and community leaders and promoted Old Town Trolley as a small business success story and leading example of green business practices. The event was covered by all major news media in San Diego and led to a dramatic spike in calls to SDG&E.

In addition to reduced energy usage and lowering bills, Niles says the lighting quality is much better. “The light is brighter and there aren’t any pockets of shadow. It’s easier on the eyes. It’s also much easier to change 4-foot lights than the original 8-foot fixtures,” Niles jokes.

The program has been successful on so many levels that Old Town Trolley is enthusiastic about continuing their efforts. “We’re planning to participate in the “ENERGY STAR Challenge,” Niles says. “We post environmental information and news on our Web site, and continue to add energy information to our internal newsletter. The CEO writes a bi-weekly column on the environment for his local Chamber of Commerce. There is a video on YouTube of our media event. Most importantly, we have community visibility and “captive audiences” and I think we can help promote energy efficiency with messages to these groups,” Niles concludes.

Old Town Trolley Tours estimates that they are saving approximately 1/3 annually in electrical energy costs for the operation of their tour company. Collaborators: San Diego Gas and Electric Company On-Bill Financing Option Program Small Business Super Saver City of San Diego

Isabella Nodal
KEY WEST, FLORIDA

Nelson Nodal, manager of the Shell Warehouse, and his wife, Allison are now the proud parents of a new baby girl, Isabella. Isabella was born on July 24th. She weighed 7 pounds and 2 ounces, and was 19” long. A shower was held on August 12th to welcome beautiful Isabella to our Tropical Shell & Gift family.
here's a new trolley prowling the streets here in the Ancient City. A trolley like no other. A new specimen of trolley, at least for our small town. We've never had anything like it here and the excitement our CAST is palpable. October 2009 sees the debut of a white trolley, a project years in the making. Charter Rep Luanne Hickey's whoop of delight is still ringing in our ears when she learned that the wedding trolley (Local #8) was finally ready to carry its first guests.

Local #8 had a long journey to this point, starting with being rescued from a corner of barn where it had languished, forgotten and dusty until (as legend has it), one intrepid CAST member suggested painting it white and using for the myriad wedding parties that booked transportation with Old Town Trolley Tours. And so the voyage began, beginning with a trip to Victorian Vehicles. A time went by, #8 would have attention lavished upon it as the trolley was rebuilt and refurbished from the frame up. In 2008, work on the trolley was taken over by OTT St. Augustine. Teams led by Maintenance Manager Jim Freeman and Facilities Manager Andy Laird installed new engine works, completed repainting the vehicle, obtaining new decals, converting the engine to run on propane and refinishing every piece of woodwork on the vehicle. At the CAST meeting held October 8, 2009 the keys were formally presented to General Manager Dave Chatterton. The accompanying photos show just how much time and effort when into Local #8 and the results couldn't be better. Kudos and Thank You to everyone who worked on the trolley! You did a marvelous job and CAST members are already asking when they get to drive.

Local #8 will be pulling double duty as autumn moves on. Wedding guests will ride her by day, with a little Sinatra playing in the background, white tulle draped from the ceiling and delicate green hearts decorating the handrails. But at night, the ghosts come out to play as magnetic decals are switched out, the love songs go silent and the black lights glow into life. With Halloween comes a renewed interests in ghost tours and Old Town Trolley is ready to meet the demand.

Ghosts and Gravestones, an extremely popular tours here in the Old City, had recent undergone a revamping. Our goal was to first and foremost, tell ghost stories. A lot of research went into the choosing of the haunted tales told aboard the Trolley of the Doomed and the most important criteria of their selection are the veracity of the story. All of the stories told onboard are true, and have happened here in St. Augustine over the last 444 years. The highlight of the evening is a visit to the most haunted building in St. Augustine, the Old Jail. The building was erected in 1891 and served as the St. Johns County Jail until 1953. Along the way, the Old Jail developed a reputation as a place of fear, pain and unrest. Our guests enter the Jail with the hopes of encountering one of the spirits of prisoners past. As part of the tour, our guests are able to hear one of the EVP's (Electronic Voice Phenomenon) recorded inside the building. Version 2.0 of the tour debuted on October 1, 2009 and we are very pleased with the results thus far.

In addition to the new Ghosts and Gravestones, Old Town Trolley is offering a first: the ability for our guests to participate in a paranormal investigation in the Old Jail on Friday and Saturday nights. The investigations are presented by the Paranormal Seekers seen on the Telemundo channel. They can accommodate up to 40 guests at once, gathering at the Old Jail at 10pm and seeking ghosts until 2 in the morning. Guests are given the opportunity to learn about the various types of paranormal activity, as well as handle and use the equipment for hunting ghosts. Photography, sound and video recording are all encouraged. You never know what you might find in the Old Jail!

September was a terrific month here in the Old City. Labor Day weekend exceeded all of our ridership expectations. The weather was terrific, the guests were in great moods and the trolleys all kept running (Thank You Jim and Crew!). We finished the month up across the board. And September is supposed to be slow!

All in all, we’ve had a terrific fall so far and are looking forward to continuing good times. We’ve felt the first echelons of cool air. The city is about to start stringing lights for their annual Nights of Lights extravaganza. Old Town Trolley Tours continues to innovate and grow as we move towards the future. Happy Halloween everybody!
fter a July in which we came within 68 riders of the largest single monthly carry in our operations history and despite terrific business during what is generally our “shoulder season” of August and September, we have managed to carve out some time to do some traditionally “off-season” activities like remodeling, training, and the addition of some new depots.

Our fair city is changing into beautiful kaleidoscope of burnt reds, oranges, a rich browns as Savannah turns to the fall season. With the beginning of the October fest’s Weiner Dog Races at Morrell Park this past weekend, we start a flurry of festivals involving a celebration of music, food, and the diversity of Savannah heritage. All the festivals take us into November and the start of our Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley. Joyce Ellis, Groups and Charter Rep, already has a number of groups lined up and ready to go into another record breaking holiday season!

Welcome Aboard!

Due to the great efforts of our Safety/Training Officer- Kenny Gresham, and with the support of our operations folks, our new training class already been tested and put to work. We have welcomed Tony Mancuso, Arthur Fraps, Paul Gaunt, Dale Howe, George Spence, and Mark Williams to our Conductor ranks. As always, these “newbies” have added a shot of fresh energy and a bit of relief to our veterans having made it through the lion’s share of our season. They have also helped our Operations Manager, Brian Strickland and Head Conductor Marcie Covington with the juggling act that is our weekly schedule. Breathing new life and guidance to our Vehicle Maintenance crew is our new Maintenance Manager David Stottlemire. His vast experience running dealership garages and ambulance fleets has energized our mechanic and cleaner staff and has given a new sense of purpose with regard to our precious trolley inventory.

Never Complacent

In order to stay competitive here in Savannah, there is a constant air of vigilance by the Leadegers to maximize every opportunity and remain the innovators in our industry. This means we must stay true to our philosophy in what we do, how we do it and must stay focused on maintaining a sterling image and presentation. This translates to a constant cycle of evaluation and renovation of our fleet and facility. Over the last four years we have restored nearly 100% of our fleet, and will begin that cycle anew next year. This year we start focusing again on our facilities. What started as a beautification project at our Welcome Center has spilled over to other areas of our operation. Operations Manager, Brian Strickland, and the building maintenance crew have been busy beautifying and giving our operational and public areas a new face. The Welcome Center had its landscape updated with an array of beautiful shrubs and flowers that has delighted our incoming guests. The CASTroom and Depot waiting area have scored a “10” with a complete remodeling. It has given the CAST some privacy during training/lunch and “warmed up” the area that our guests wait for their shuttles back to their hotels. We are now proudly the “guest information provider” for the beautiful City Market. We remodeled the old gazebo on St. Julian Street and turned it into a beautiful information booth that stands out as a beacon of hospitality for all visitors. Our new gazebo has improved our presence in City Market and further strengthened our great relations with the business community there. We are already reaping the fruits of our labor with a 30% increase in sales in the City Market area alone.

New Partners

We excitedly welcomed a new partner to the Old Town Trolley Savannah “family” with the opening of the Springhill Suites in Savannah’s Historic District. We are entering into a long awaited relationship with Northpoint Hospitality. They own and operate multiple properties in the Historic District and are expanding their portfolio in the Midtown section of Savannah. We have Ann Brown and Sally Kruger providing top notch concierge services at the Springhill Suites. They are setting a fine example for what Old Town Trolley can do for their guests and company. We look forward to a bright future with them.

We have the competition scrambling with the addition of the Springhill property and the recent additions to our overall operations. We applaud and commend all those CASTmembers who have made this happen!
CHICKEN SALAD

INGREDIENTS
- 8 boneless-skinless chicken breast halves
- 3 stalks celery (chopped)
- ¼ sweet onion (chopped)
- ½ cup lemon juice
- 2 Teaspoons Finely chopped Parsley
- Mayo, salt, pepper, and garlic salt to taste

DIRECTIONS
- Boil chicken breasts, when done cut into cubes and put into large bowl with celery, onions and lemon juice and toss.
- Add parsley, salt, pepper, and garlic salt to taste.
- Blend in Mayo (as needed for desired consistence) and refrigerate until time to serve.

FAMOUS FACES

ASA TIFT
KEY WEST WRECKER AND MERCHANTMAN

Connecticut Yankee Asa Tift is a notable figure from Key West’s storied history of wrecking, the business of salvaging ships which had come to grief on the necklace of coral that surrounds the Florida Keys.

After U. S. Navy Commodore David Porter his anti-piracy departed Key West in the 1800s, merchant Tift purchased Navy warehouses in what is now the popular sunset destination of Mallory Square. He built additional storage buildings to house the material salvaged from wrecked ships and also constructed one of the area’s first icehouses.

Cargo and passengers were removed from foundering ships and brought to Key West. Wrecking courts were established to assign value to the cargo, which was auctioned off. The business of wrecking made Key West the wealthiest city per capita in the entire country.

Tift is best known for his salvage of the Isaac Allerton, which was the largest salvage operation ever undertaken in the Keys. The ship was 137 feet long and weighed 594 tons and was lost in a storm in August of 1856, 15 miles ESE of Key West on Washer Woman Shoals.

Tift’s success in the wrecking industry allowed him to construct the large mansion on Whitehead Street in the mid-1800s. The famed home is now known as the Hemingway House in honor of a later tenant.

Asa Tift and his family took a rebel’s stand during the Civil War and were involved in the construction of a ship destined for the Confederate Navy. After a series of Union victories in Southern states, Tift and his brother Nelson blew the ship up rather than see it in the hands of Northerners.

His life story is the subject of Shipwreck Treasures Museum, located steps away from his warehouses, still in use today.

SHEILA CULLEN
Conch Tour Train Engineer

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The five people I would like to have dinner with are Lucille Ball, George Carlin, Katherine Hepburn, Shirley MacLaine, Marie Laveau, and Nostradamus.

My five favorite movies of all time are The Godfather, Magic, The Shining, Angel Heart, and Interview with a Vampire.

The four foods I refuse to eat are brains, intestines, tongue, and bugs.

Three things I am terrified of are Heights, needles, and natural disasters.

My two favorite books are The Call of the Wild by Jack London and The Way of the Peaceful Warrior by Dan Millman.

The one thing I would do to make the world a better place is to make it so everyone felt safe.

SHARI L. BUTLER
Manager, Simply Savannah

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The one thing I would do to make the world a better place is to make it so everyone felt safe.
n a cloudy and rainy Saturday, September 26; four Old Town Trolley’s rolled from the Washington Post Headquarters to the National Mall. We consider all of our guests to be special here and this may sound like a typical morning for Old Town D.C. However, we had some fairly well known guests aboard that morning. OTT-DC once again provided the transportation to the authors that were participating in the ninth annual National Book Festival on the Mall.

Conductors Sooner Steve, Andrew, Lolita and H.W. (stands for Hard Working) moved more than 100 authors to the event. Sooner Steve was quite impressed with the fact that John Grisham climbed aboard for the trip (he’s still talking about it). Others authors that joined us included James Patterson, Mary Jane Clark, Walter Mosley and Ken Burns to name just a few.

The event was gray and rainy this year but that was no factor for the more than 100,000 people that showed up to see and meet their favorite authors. The Mall was dotted with huge white tents where the authors gave presentation and then sat at signing tables for hours greeting fans. Each tent housed different themes Teens and Children, History and Biography, Fiction and Fantasy, Mysteries and Thrillers, and Poetry and Prose. There was something for everyone, no matter what your literary preferences.

First Lady Laura Bush founded the Festival in 2001. This year President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama were honorary chairs. The event is produced by Library of Congress. In the past we rolled the authors to the Mall from the White House after a breakfast for the participants. This year the authors breakfast was held at the Washington Post Headquarters.

It is an amazing event and OTT-DC proudly participates every year. We often hear that “nobody reads anymore.” Well judging by the size and enthusiasm of the crowd this year (the largest one ever) they are not reading “any less” either.
Happy Anniversary!

SEPTEMBER

22 YEARS
Jeffrey Semeraro, BOS

16 YEARS
Tammy Osterhoudt, CTT

14 YEARS
Pam Guin, TSG

11 YEARS
Alan Church, CTT
Margo Johnson, WDC
Mamerto Juanitez, WDC

10 YEARS
David Mahl, SAN
Thomas Marmion, TSG
Hilda Perez, TSG

8 YEARS
Robert Hunter, SAV
Heidi Stewart, WDC

7 YEARS
Nancy Aspinwall, HTA
James Lamberson Jr., HTA
William McIntyre II, CTT
Zbigniew Pawlowski, CTT

6 YEARS
David Chatterton, STA
John Kerr, TSG
Cynthia Stavely, STA

5 YEARS
Jason Sisco, KW
Steven Varsa, WDC

4 YEARS
James Freeman, STA

3 YEARS
Jessica Hiatt, SAN
Timothy Hisel, SAV
Kathryn Kingsley, BOS
Jonathan Woods, KWAQ

2 YEARS
Laura Baldwin, BOS
Julie Gill, STA
Khurshida Gulyamova, CTT
Walter Hintz, KW

1 YEAR
Laura Butler, SAV
Patrick Deja, KWISM
Jennifer Martinez, SAV
Forest Mason, BOS
Ronald McCain, SAV
Aubrey Otten, TSG
Jennifer Sapp, SAV
Matthew Tielkemeier, KW
William Whiteside Jr., WDC

MAMA’S BOYZ by Jerry Craft

OCTOBER

26 YEARS
Antoinette McPherson, HTA

22 YEARS
Alice Leroux, WDC

18 YEARS
Bruce Dodge, CTT

14 YEARS
Andrew Laird, STA

12 YEARS
Nelson Nodal, TSG

10 YEARS
Vicki Clark, CTT

8 YEARS
Stephanie Monsalvatge, HTA

7 YEARS
Joyce Dahlberg, CTT
Marcus Davila, HTA

6 YEARS
Violeta Mihaylova, CTT

4 YEARS
Michael Anderson, HTA
Ike Lipowitz, WDC
Brenda Middleton, SAV
Duane Parker, WDC

3 YEARS
Joseph Hinde, KW
Cedric Humphrey, KW
Fabienne Michael, TSG
Alice Thompson, STA
Martiza Velasquez, TSG

2 YEARS
Juan Avendaro, KW
Ryan Darrah, HTA
Max Katz, BOS
Stuart Kushner, STA
Patrick Wisniewski, STA

1 YEAR
Vivian Early, SAV
Robert Lutz Jr., CTT
Keith Pinkard, WDC
Joseph Schober, KW
Kelly Woody, KW

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A LITTLE SCARY
BEING A
DONOR?

WELL, THE THOUGHT OF
NOT HAVING ENOUGH
DONORS IS A LOT SCARIER!

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Memories

BY: SARAH EVANS
Operations Manager, Old Town Trolley Tours® of Key West

We just celebrated our 25th Day to Remember. It is one of my favorite events of the year when we pick up our Senior Citizens from around town and treat them to a lunch at the BOQ. The entertainment was phenomenal – the Key West High School Jazz Band really outdid themselves and should probably be booking their own gigs. Commissioner Clayton Lopez had everyone clapping and swinging away as he took control of the microphone with the Blessed Community Choir as his back up and the cards, hand made by the local school children, brought tears to the eyes. It truly was a day to remember for over 100 individuals who helped carve Key West into what it is today.

I am an outsider, a Londoner, but listening to the stories of the island has always been a thrill to me. In Key West, we are all too fortunate to be around the people that were the stories. Our guests on this day may not be able to work an iPhone, send an email or tell you the latest Britney Spears saga but, you know what, they sure can tell some good stories and they do so with a practical humor that is enviable.

We all have memories that are as different and varied as our backgrounds and experiences. None should be more valuable, in my opinion, than those from the times spent with family and friends. Laughter and tears are as refreshing as a cool dip in the Atlantic Ocean on an August day and they are part of the essence of each one of us. These are the guts of our memories, the deep feelings that, no matter how old we get, can never be forgotten.

When I think of my memories, even the not so good ones, they all shaped me to who I am today. It sometimes makes me a little homesick but I remind myself that my actions today will be my memories of tomorrow. Will I remember these times fondly? ARE YOU KIDDING?! I work with the best people, in a great company and we help make vacation memories for thousands. At the end of the day, we don’t remember having a cold, or a rough day at the office but we sure will remember the vacations we spent. We are part of the memories and “Thank you” for that privilege.
The Key West McDonald’s recently celebrated its 40th anniversary with a special guest, Ronald McDonald. While in town, Ronald took a spin aboard the Old Town Trolley.

The Key West High School Jazz Band were a sure hit!

Ms. Laura Bulter parties down with HTA President Ed Swift.

Volunteers from local Scout Group helped serve lunch to over 100 guests.

A group of guests during the celebration.

Bob “The Colonel” Hunter
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Bob “The Colonel” Hunter as the KFC “Colonel” for Labor Day Cookie Program.

FUN PHOTOS

Ronald McDonald Comes to Town
KEY WEST, FLORIDA
from its beginnings in 1992, the Key West Shipwreck Historeum has told the story of Key West’s wreckers: brave men who risked their lives to save the crews and cargo of ships that ran aground on the nearby reefs. Wrecking and salvage was the foundation of Key West’s economy, elevating it to the nation’s richest city per capita by the mid-1800s. The Shipwreck Historeum has celebrated this rich history with a multi-faceted experience that includes storytellers in period costume, audio-visual presentations, and a vast array of artifacts from the 1856 wreck of the Isaac Allerton. The museum itself is a recreation of a 19th Century wreckers’ warehouse, complete with a 65’ lookout tower.

In mid-May of this year, the Shipwreck Historeum changed its name to the Key West Shipwreck Treasures Museum – highlighting recent acquisitions and reflecting the museum’s ongoing transformation. While the museum previously focused almost exclusively on the wrecking era of early Key West, that spectrum has broadened to include nearly 400 years of Florida Keys history; starting with early shipwreck salvage by the Calusa and Tequesta Indians in the 16th Century and continuing up through present day wrecking operations.

Of particular interest to guests is the recent inclusion of relics from Spanish galleons of the 16 and 1700s. One new exhibit explores the 1733 Plate Fleet wherein 19 out of 22 ships of a flotilla carrying tons of treasure wrecked and sank along 80 miles of the Florida Keys coastline. Artifacts recovered from five of these wrecks, ranging from a collection of silver cob coins to carved ivory figurines from the Orient, tell the story of conquest, commerce and the eventual collapse of an empire.

Perhaps the most exciting addition is a spectacular 64-pound silver bar, salvaged from the seemingly cursed treasure of the Nuestra Señora de las Maravillas that sank off the outer banks of the Bahamas in 1656. A storyteller portraying wrecker tycoon Asa Tift regales guests with the mysterious tale of the silver horde, portions of which sank on as many as four different ships! Mr. Tift tells his guests that he lifts this particular bar every day, “…but I wouldn’t take it on my boat!” Guests are encouraged to lift the bar and experience for themselves the weight of the treasure and to think of the thousands of identical bars carried from the New World back to Spain – all the while imagining many more lost at sea, still waiting to be found.

No visit to Key West is complete without a stop at the Shipwreck Treasures Museum, where the fascinating history of the Florida Keys comes to life - bringing with it a true sense of adventure. Stories of shipwrecks and lost treasures stir something deep in our souls; the opportunity to relive those events - to actually touch a piece of that history - is an experience not soon forgotten.

The Last Conch Dinghy
Key West is a fun and fascinating place to visit – especially for history buffs. Being an island of relatively small size (2 miles by 4 miles) you are always within a stone’s throw of historic buildings or the sites of historic events. Many of the names that appear in local history are the same as those of local business owners and community leaders today. Some of the families have been here for many generations and it’s not difficult to find descendents of the people who made the history that shaped our city. This is particularly true of the early wreckers who made their family fortunes from wrecking and salvage: the Currys, the Sweetings, the Roberts, and the Sawyers among others.

At the Key West Shipwreck Treasures Museum, we take great pride and pleasure in telling the story of our city’s growth from a quiet harbor to a maritime metropolis, all in the space of less than 50 years. Many of our exhibits describe the contributions made by early wrecker families and their ancestors’ continuing participation in community development. This connection was wonderfully illustrated by a recent donation to our museum.

Earlier this year, a group of men delivered a small boat to the Key West Shipwreck Treasures Museum. The men were familiar, as several of them (Doug Jones, Ray & Steve Maloney) had salvaged the wreck of the...
Isaac Allerton in 1985, providing the artifacts from that ship displayed throughout our museum. The boat they brought, while small, was too big for any of the building’s doors. After much strategizing, the vessel was finally maneuvered inside through a second-floor window and became part of our permanent collection.

This 14’ boat, known locally as a “Conch Dinghy”, was built in 2008 by Richard C. Sawyer. The Conch Dinghy, or Bahamas Dinghy as it is better known, became the predominant small craft of the Caribbean around 1830. As the wrecking industry and sponging trade grew dramatically toward the mid-1800’s, the demand for small, easily maneuverable watercraft grew with them. The design made its way from the Bahamas to Key West and the Conch Dinghy became a mainstay of the working waterfront here.

This style of dinghy remained popular throughout the Keys up until around World War II following the introduction of the outboard motor and lighter weight aluminum boats.

Richard C. Sawyer was a 4th generation Conch (Key West native) born in 1941. Richard’s great grandfather Richard T. Sawyer, a successful wrecker, built the Sawyer House now standing at 1017 Fleming Street in the early 1860’s. His grandfather on his mother’s side, Benjamin Milton Russell, was born in Hopetown, Abaco in the Bahamas and became a sponge merchant here in Key West - running a warehouse on James Street. Richard’s uncles were spongers and crawfishermen. He grew up near the waterfront, playing on the docks at Caroline Street and over on Garrison Bight where he and his friends admired the small boats anchored there – many of them built by hand – and dreamed of a day when they would each have their own.

In his early 20’s that dream came true. Richard’s first dinghy was hand-crafted by Key West boat-builder Willie Kemp whose fine work was legendary. Kemp, and other great builders like Winer Malone of the Bahamas, used natural bent limbs for the frames or ribs. These “crooks”, as they called them, came from indigenous trees such as Dogwood, Black Mangrove and Cork – prized for their natural curves.

Richard loved the round-bottom wooden dinghies but never imagined that he would build them himself due to the complexity of the process. He did not get serious about building traditional Conch dinghies until his retirement. In Richard’s boats, he used White Oak for the ribs. The planking is “Carvel” style, requiring each individual plank to be fitted to the next, which is very tedious and time consuming.

Richard Sawyer made several of these beautiful boats, helping to preserve the heritage of Key West’s boat-builders and maintain the memories of our city’s maritime origins. In July of 2008, he retraced the route his ancestors travelled and was able to visit with Winer Malone, known in the Bahamas as the “Last Great Dinghy Builder”, in Hopetown, Abaco.

Sadly, the art of boat-building is being slowly lost as the masters of the craft pass away without a new generation eager to carry the torch. We at the Key West Shipwreck Treasures Museum are proud to display Richard’s final contribution to the conservation of Key West’s rich history: the Last Conch Dinghy.
Chris Belland, our CEO, is an advocate for Key West’s environmental movement. He not only serves on the Mayor’s Green Coalition, but he initiated the Love Your Island program and is the environmental columnist for the Key West Citizen.

Now, he’s challenged each HTA company to step up to the plate and put together a “green team,” and when Greg Whipple appointed me Tropical Shell & Gift’s “Green Tsar,” I was happy to accept.

I’d never been motivated to champion a cause, but recently a friend asked me to make phone calls to support Repower Florida. There were 200 names on the list and I plowed through them, an hour here and there between Writer’s Den, bocce league, the homeowner’s association, and preparing for my daughter’s wedding the following week. So, when my friend called again yesterday with another list, I groaned inwardly and said, “I’ll get back with you.”

“Vicki wants me to make more phone calls,” I told my husband, groaning out loud now.

“Tell her you’re too busy,” he suggested.

“I’m too busy to save the planet?” I asked. Next week, I’ll be back on the phone. It’s not that I’m a girl who can’t say ‘no.’ It’s that I think this earth is pretty darn important.

The first meeting of our “green team” is scheduled for October 5th. Some solutions will be no-brainers. Some will require research; for example, coming up with an affordable substitute for those Styrofoam containers we use to transport hot meals to CASTmembers in the field.

If you’re personally trying to be more conscientious, you’ve probably experienced some of the same frustrations I have—like trying to find stuff in the grocery store that isn’t packaged in plastic or eggs that aren’t in Styrofoam cartons. And I always forget my reusable bags, remembering only when I hear the words “paper or plastic,” after I’ve crammed two hundred fifty dollars worth of groceries on the conveyor belt. At this point, I usually ask for paper, but recently I learned that paper bags take more energy to produce than plastic ones. Who knew?

Educating ourselves can seem overwhelming at times and a walk through the local retail stores is enough to make the whole ugly mess of saving the planet seem impossible. It’s one thing to walk out of a convenience store without a fountain drink because the cups are Styrofoam (I always do this), but quite another to find cheese anywhere that’s not wrapped in plastic. Then again, is some plastic better than paper?

Before this is over, I’ll have at least some of the answers. But here are a few things I know about right now that we can do to decrease our big ol’ “Sasquatch” carbon footprints (and fuel bills):

1. Turn off the lights when you leave a room.
2. Turn off the computer when you’re not using it.
3. Turn off the television anytime. Does it have to be on day and night? Try conversation instead. Even if it’s with your cat. Or try reading. Or drawing. Or writing.
4. Unplug battery chargers, microwaves, anything that incessantly draws power.
5. Replace your old bulbs with Compact Fluorescent ones
6. Do you really need an electric toothbrush? An electric can opener? A hair dryer? Just kidding about the hair dryer, but get rid of unnecessary electrical appliances.
7. Ride your bike or walk to run errands.
8. Multi-task—plan your car trips to save fuel.
9. Carpool or use public transportation.
10. Set your thermostat a degree or two from your usual comfort level. When you are not at home, adjust your thermostat to save energy.
11. Plant a tree, a tomato plant, some fresh herbs.
12. Clean or replace your furnace and AC filters regularly.
13. Drink filtered tap water from a washable glass, not bottled water.
15. Buy and use reusable grocery bags. (And remember to take them in the store with you.)
16. Use cloth dish towels and rags instead of paper towels.
17. Recycle everything you can.
19. Cut up old towels and clothes for rags. Use them instead of paper towels.
20. Get off junk mail lists.

Twenty things we can do to help! And not one of them would be a huge challenge or too expensive. In fact, most of them would save us money. Changing our world is not always going to be this easy, or convenient, but if we all pitch in and do whatever we can, we will make a difference.

LEAH BENNER
Tropical Shell and Gift
### Cast Members of the Month

**Conch Tour Train**

**Boston**

August: Conductor: Andy “Oz” Rhodes • Sales Rep: Andrew Quinney • Supporting: Kat Kingsley  
September: Conductor: Richie “Buzz” Sheridon • Sales Rep: Laura Baldwin • Supporting: Edgard Pluvoise

**Key West**

August: Conductor: Michael Pappas • Sales Rep: Matt Tielkemeier • Supporting: Frank Avendano  
September: Conductor: Michael Pappas • Sales Rep: Matt Tielkemeier • SEALS: Jason Sisco

**San Diego**

August: Conductor: Vidal Sisneros • Sales Rep: David Mahl • Supporting: Kathy Anderson • SEAL: David Mahl  
September: Conductor: Jim Fraley • Sales Rep: Craig Tolson • SEALS: Tyler Hackworth

**Savannah**

August: Conductor: Michael “Little Mickey” Deich • Sales Rep: Jeanene Gresham • Supporting: Jennifer Sapp

**St. Augustine**

August: Conductor: Gail Price • Sales Rep: Donna Smalley • Golden Pickle: Ted Sage  
Supporting: James Gill and Sandy Silver • Historyteller: Bill McComb • Retail: Stephen Mitchell  
September: Conductor: Jay Friend • Sales Rep: Jeannette Demonch-Kiilo • Golden Pickle: Amy Brackett  
Supporting: Pam Reed and Humberto Cabanes • Historyteller: Bill McComb

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### If You Only Knew...

**Venice Sharon**  
Manager, Trolley Stop Gifts

The six people I would like to have dinner with are My father, Rita Hayworth (for my father), Gregory Peck, Dorothy Parker, President Barack Obama, and Steve Martin.  
My five favorite movies of all time are To Kill a Mockingbird, Bringing Up Baby, Bennie and June, Long Hot Summer, and Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil.  
The four foods I refuse to eat are Snails, cottage cheese, burnt popcorn, and pretty much anything I cook.  
Three things I am terrified of are War, things I accidentally say, and things people hear me accidentally say.  
My two favorite books are Innocents Abroad by Mark Twain and Winter of Our Discontent by John Steinbeck.  
The two things I would do to make the world a better place is I would prohibit beige concrete and use inspirational colored concrete only.
United Way of San Diego County’s workplace donors continue to step up campaign contributions in a year that finds many San Diego companies and individuals challenged to make ends meet. “That’s what this campaign and United Way are all about,” said United Way resident & CEO Doug Sawyer. “Together, we can accomplish more than any single group can on its own.”

That point was underscored last Tuesday, September 15, when hundreds of area companies kicked off the official launch of the 2009-2010 United Way/CHAD campaign in Balboa Park’s Hall of Champions by raising more than $1 million.

The new 2009-2010 Campaign Chair, Richard Ledford of Ledford Industries, acting as the evening’s emcee, introduced United Way’s “Pacesetters” -11 local companies that “set the pace” by running their workplace campaigns during the summer months. This is the time of year when hundreds of companies around San Diego begin their workplace campaigns, encouraging employees to contribute through payroll deductions.

It takes many companies, large and small, to build a workplace campaign, and the diversity of San Diego’s involvement in United Way’s campaign was evident during a “best practices” awards ceremony, recognizing exemplary efforts during the 2008-2009 campaign.

The evening’s sponsors were Old Town Trolley & SEAL Tours of San Diego, Solar Turbines, California Bank & Trust, NASSCO, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Kaiser Permanente, Manpower, San Diego County Credit Union, and City of Life. Emcee Ledford acknowledged that recognizing the tremendous efforts of companies and participating employees were the reason for the celebration, “…and not just tonight, but all year round.”

Environmental Green Team

San Diego was recognized nationally by the EPA as their small business 2009 Energy Star award winner. San Diego Trolley & SEAL operation was only 1 of 7 National award winners. “We were recognized for our efforts to reduce energy consumption and our carbon footprint on our environment. We joined efforts with SDG&E in their new lighting efficiency program that enabled us to reduce our electrical consumption by 1/3. We also have an active recycling program for bottles, cans, cardboard, paper, and scrap metals. Our Trolley vehicles are powered by propane and our SEAL vehicles run on bio-diesel”, said Norm Niles, facility manager.

In continuing with our commitment to...
Old Town Trolley & SEAL Tours
Unite with the United Way continued...

being socially and environmentally responsible, San Diego Trolley & SEAL operation has also changed its bottle drinking water program to an in-house tap water filtration system. This change reduces our carbon footprint by reducing fuel consumption and emissions from the drinking water company service vehicles that delivered bottled water to us.

We have also updated our SEAL Tour script to include our continued environmental commitment to a clean bay. We explain to our guests about storm drain issues - the drains are not connected to the sewer system and, therefore, there is no filter to catch the trash and oils that deposit into our bays and oceans. More recently we have added information about the “Pacific Gyre” or “Garbage Patch” in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, twice the size of Texas, and the million tons of debris swirling in the ocean - most of it plastic as it never fully biodegrades leaving “nurdles.” This year, we are outfitting each SEAL vessel with a pole and net to snatch debris out of the Bay - thus giving everyone a great example of what trash can be found in the water and being part of the solution to clean our beautiful bay.

San Diego Safety
by Bob Ross; Safety Officer

In mid September we received our long awaited HTA safety audit visit from Bill Meagher, Jim Lamberson, & Rick Williams, a Liberty Mutual Loss Prevention Specialist. We spent two days digging through files, inspecting facilities, & riding tours. It was great to have an outside perspective to help us identify the areas that had fallen through the cracks.

August is the peak time of our busy season and in September we shift gears to get ready for the more experienced traveler, military reunions & charters. The weather stays nice well into November with daytime temperatures in the 70’s. In addition to dealing with the normal day-to-day safety activities, ride-alongs, accidents, code whites, & training, I managed to find time to help out with the SEAL amphibious tours and drive Trolley shuttles when needed.

SEAL Tour Update
by Terri Gaughan-Zorn; SEAL Tour Operations Manager

July is always the biggest month for the SEAL in both ridership and revenue. August is a close second; however, due to the “Labor Day Effect,” we were just below goal in both ridership and revenue. “Labor Day Effect” – Labor Day was in August last year and September this year. Consequently, we were up over last year for September. The SEAL amphibious tour is starting to wind down for the off-season. We had our end-of-season party at the Silvergate Yacht Club as guests of Captain Darrell. It was a great time to share stories of our busy summer and the interesting things that we saw on the bay.

Sales Department
by Carol Harrison; Head Sales Rep

The San Diego summer was a good one for the Sales Department. We continued our new evening Sales Rep program in Old Town from 3:30pm until 8:30pm, Wednesday thru Sunday. Although the trolley tour operation stopped at 5 or 6pm, the evening sales person was still able to sell tickets for the following day with our new marketing promotion “What are your plans for tomorrow?” Our new evening sales rep position proved to be more successful than we had anticipated, out-performing two other sale ticket depots! Our plan is to expand our evening sales position in Old Town for next summer and also add an evening sales rep at our Seaport Village location as well.

Charter Department
by Erica Frost; Charters and Group Sales Manager

August and September were quite busy months for the San Diego group sales department. A lot of the focus has been on our community outreach sponsorships of some very important foundations like Make-a-Wish and United Way. We also have had a strong presence as partners with the Coronado Classic Speed Festival, the Art Walk on the Bay and Make-A-Wish Tuna Challenge events where we had booths at their vendor fairs. Art Walk on the Bay featured our famous “Wheel of Fortune” spin wheel where guests could try their luck at winning a prize, for example a Hometown Pass magnet or Trolley/SEAL pen. Or even the Grand Prize which is a free pass on either tour. The line was so long at times people didn’t even know what they were standing in line for! Good times!

Old Town Trolley & SEAL Tours
Unite with the United Way continued...

Justin Sondgeroth & Kathryn Finnegan at the Omni Hotel Downtown San Diego.

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TRIVIA TEASER

TV INITIALS


2. On what TV series did magician George Oscar Bluth prefer to be known by his initials G.O.B.? a-Arrested Development, b-It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia, c-8 Simple Rules, d-Curb Your Enthusiasm.

3. What was the first name of J.J. Evans, played by Jimmie Walker, on Good Times? a-James, b-John, c-Jefferson, d-Joseph.

4. Who returned to TV with B.L. Stryker, playing an ex-cop from New Orleans who returns home to Palm Beach to retire and live in an old houseboat? a-Burt Reynolds, b-Hal Holbrook, c-Ernest Borgnine, d-David Caruso.

5. What star of the TV shows P.S. I Luv U and B.J. and the Bear also sang the theme songs for the shows? a-Paul Reiser, b-Paul Shaffer, c-Claude Akins, d-Greg Evigan.

6. What was the first name of B.J. Hunnicutt’s wife on M*A*S*H? a-Maggie, b-Peg, c-Carole, d-Connie.


9. Slater, played by Mario Lopez, went by what initials on the teen comedy series Saved by the Bell? a-S.F., b-H.H., c-A.C., d-E.D.

10. What initials were shared by children on the sitcoms Roseanne and Full House? a-B.J., b-C.J., c-D.J., d-E.J.

REAL ESTATE

- CHARGE
- TAPE
- END
- DP
- BANKS
- LS
- BT
- EX
- WR
- RFH
- AUJ
- MAI
- EINO
- TESA
- QUTL
- DEBTP
- KAFY
- JSF
- EVRZOE
- FEXIELQGYAOVR
- DCRVNEZALCLQT
- OHOMEADLROIUY
- PINTSNEYEALES
- BROHDEKCEYENB
- BEYK
- VOCRIDENTO
- TAPPRECIATION
- ILFB
- MARGINHFD
- TTSRDRPGJDFB
- LOAHIIASURVEY
- ERESCROWPNRP

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES, GAMES AND TRIVIA ON PAGE 23

PENCIL TIME SODOKU

To solve a sudoku, you only need logic and patience. No math is required. Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has a number 1 through 9 with only one occurrence of each number.

Each column and row of the large grid must have only one instance of the numbers 1 through 9.

Here’s a tip for playing. We call the 3x3 squares “regions.” With a highlighter, color in all the rows and columns with a 9 in them. Note that in the bottom region of the first column, the only place for a 9 is in the top left square.

This is called scanning. You usually do it with your eyes.

The difficulty rating on this puzzle is easy.
ArtWalk on San Diego Bay returned to Embarcadero Marina Park North on September 12 & 13, 2009 for another successful festival of fine art, music, food and fun. Artists featured painting, sculpture, glasswork, fine jewelry and more. Old Town Trolley San Diego provided shuttle service for this year’s ArtWalk and also participated with a promotional booth and fun Spin-Wheel. As one of the most popular booths at the fair, many took a chance to win ink-pens, magnets or a Grand-prize for a free VIP Trolley or SEAL tour pass.

Boot Camp Challenge
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Curly Chiotras pictured on the left and Frank Cleaver on the right of their Marine Drill Sergeant for the 8th annual Boot Camp Challenge at the Marine Corp Recruit Depot, (MCRD). 4,000 people attended this grueling event which pays tribute to San Diego’s military. Mostly comprised of middle-aged men hurdled over logs, struggled through push-ups, crawled under rope nets and ran a 3 mile loop around the base, as 50 menacing drill sergeants barked orders, “RUN, RUN, RUN! GET OVER THE LOGS”. The event gives civilians a taste of the 13-week boot camp that 19,000 Marines complete at MCRD each year. “We really gained a deeper respect for the Military. I’m really proud of our Marines”.

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SAFETY FIRST

October is Fire Prevention Month

BY: JIM LAMBERSON
National Safety Officer, Historic Tours of America, Inc.

What is Cooking, Your House or Dinner?

The National Fire Protection Association has revealed that 40 percent of home fires have their source in the kitchen. Cooking is the primary culprit, causing about 146,000 fires, 480 deaths, and 4,600 injuries in 2005. So much for dinner.

The NFPA adds that unattended fires were the main cause. Next are combustible stuff standing too close to a heat or fire source and cooking gadgets left turned on. Most of the fires start between 5 PM to 7 PM, with the numbers peaking during the bigger holidays, particularly Thanksgiving. Not something to be grateful for.

To ensure a safe, hearty and delicious meal, the NFPA also serves up these cooking tips:

1. Never leave the kitchen when you’re cooking. But if you have to, turn off your cooking equipment, even if you’re just going to be away for just a short time.
2. Use a timer when you simmer, bake, roast or boil food.
3. Be alert. Don’t drink and cook. Also, be wary when you’re tired, especially after a hard day’s work.
4. Keep combustible stuff away from the fire: potholders, food packaging, curtains, wooden utensils, etc.
5. Clean your cooking equipment regularly.

Check out the National Safety Council website for more safety tips and news at www.nsc.org.

In recognition of National Fire Safety Month, please follow these handy Fire-Prevention Tips.

1. Know the three elements that start a fire
   Fuel, oxygen and heat are the essential ingredients. Take one out of the equation and no blaze.
2. Types of fires, which are classified according to fuel.
   - Class A: Ordinary solid combustibles such as wood, paper and cloth
   - Class B: Liquids, gases (kerosene, propane, grease)
   - Class C: Electrical fires
   - Class D: Combustible metals (magnesium, sodium, titanium, potassium)

Only Class A fires can be put out with water. It may work for some Class B fires, but not for any in Classes C and D.

3. Know how to use a fire extinguisher:
   P.A.S.S
   - Pull and twist the pin
   - Aim the hose at the bottom of the fire
   - Squeeze the trigger
   - Sweep back and forth
4. R.A.C.E to safety
   Dealing safely with a fire involves Rescue, sounding the Alarm, Confining the fire and Evacuating individuals.

5. Fight or Flight Fire is the most common type of emergency a home or business may face. A critical decision in planning for this emergency situation is whether or not you should fight a fire with a portable fire extinguisher. Use these guidelines to help you decide.

Characteristics of fires that CAN BE extinguished with portable fire extinguishers

- The fire is limited to original materials ignited.
- It is contained in a wastebasket or other receptacle.
- The flames are no higher than the firefighter’s head.
- The fire has not depleted the oxygen in the room.
- Smoke may be gathering on the ceiling but visibility is good.
- There is a clear evacuation path behind the firefighter as he/she uses the extinguisher.

Characteristics of Fires that SHOULD NOT BE Extinguished with Portable Fire Extinguishers

- The fire involves flammable solvents and has spread over more than 60 square feet.
- It cannot be reached from a standing position.
- It is partially hidden behind a wall or ceiling.
- The fire cannot be fought without respiratory protection.
- The radiated heat is easily felt on exposed skin making it difficult to approach to within 10 or 15 feet.
- Smoke is filling the room very quickly causing decreased visibility.
- Fire, heat or smoke may block the evacuation path.

Remember, when in doubt of your abilities to fight a fire, call 911 to report the fire. Don’t wait, a delay in calling for help only adds to the possible loss of life and the extent of property.

Source: Coastal Training Technologies

Underwriters Laboratories Urges Homeowners to Identify ‘Hot Spots’

Recognizing “hot spots” in your home can help reduce burn hazards, according to experts at Underwriters Laboratories in Northbrook, IL. As
October is Fire Prevention Month Continued...

part of Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 4-10), UL offered safety tips for various rooms in the home, aimed at reducing the 2.4 million burn injuries reported every year.

Kitchen:
- If children must be in the kitchen while parents are cooking, they should be kept at least 3 feet from the stove.
- Cook on back burners and never leave a pot on a stove within reach of a child.

Bathroom:
- Set your water heater to 120° F or lower.
- Test bath water before your child enters the tub. At a safe temperature, an adult should be able to place his or her arm in the water for 30 seconds without discomfort.

Family Room:
- Blow out candles before leaving a room. Be mindful of children or pets running in areas where lit candles are present.
- Cover electrical outlets so children are not tempted to stick fingers or toys in the sockets.


H1N1 (Swine Flu) Update

Surgical masks almost as effective as respirators in flu prevention: study

The use of surgical masks is nearly as effective as N95 respirators in preventing the spread of influenza to health care workers, according to a study from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

As part of the study, researchers conducted a trial involving 446 nurses at eight Ontario hospitals. The nurses were divided into two groups – one using a surgical mask and the other using an N95 respirator when dealing with patients with influenza. After approximately three months, 23.6 percent of nurses in the surgical mask group and 22.9 percent of nurses in the respirator group contracted the flu – a difference deemed not statistically significant.

The study’s conclusion runs counter to recommendations health agencies have given in the past, most recently the Institute of Medicine, which recommended health care workers who may be exposed to the H1N1 virus use fit-tested N95 respirators.

NIH: H1N1 possibly more powerful than seasonal flu

Preliminary results from a study conducted on ferrets suggest the H1N1 flu virus may develop more quickly and severely, and transmit more easily, than the seasonal flu, the National Institutes of Health has found.

As part of the study, researchers at the University of Maryland in College Park inoculated ferrets with the 2009 H1N1 virus, in addition to either the seasonal H1N1 or the H3N2 virus. The infected animals only transmitted the H1N1 virus to uninfected ferrets – not either strain of the seasonal flu.

"These new data, while preliminary, underscore the need for vaccinating against both seasonal influenza and the 2009 H1N1 influenza this fall and winter," said Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Move over Cher

KEY WEST, FLORIDA

Long time CASTmember Joe Moyer modeled his new hairpiece in the trolley barn, just in time for Halloween.

Member of the Year Award

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

Stacey Jackson, Dave Chatterton, Cindy Stavely accept the St. John’s Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year Award.
here on the balmy island of Key West we eagerly await the onset of cooler fall weather. It was a long, steamy summer here in paradise; but one blessedly free from what the Chamber of Commerce refers to as “significant wind incidents.”

October is a huge party month here, and many CASTmembers spend much of their free time planning their costumes for the grown-up version of Halloween, our famed fantasy Fest. The arrival of so many visitors for the popular event triples the population on our small island, and forces a day-and-half long cancellation of our tours. With our main street, Duval, closed to vehicles, and traffic at a near stand-still on every Old Town street, threading 65-foot long Trains through the island becomes impossible. CASTmembers enter various costume competitions, ride on parade floats for a wide variety of charitable organizations, volunteer to be...
Madness Monitors and Parade Ambassadors, set up tents for the street fairs, groom their dogs, cats and others animals for the Pet Parade and then settle back to enjoy the fun!

Once we are finished with the great Fantasy Fest parade, we’ll have our Veteran’s Day Parade to look forward to. We are an island with a strong military presence and we look forward to the opportunity to honor our service personnel. And then there’s the Christmas Parade, which tends to bring out the kid in all of us. We have lots of requests from groups to charter our Trains for that fun event.

Although we always make plans for a fall-back venue for our annual Fall Picnic, this year’s event was held at our favorite location on Higg’s Beach. Safety Jim Lamberson and our Roundhouse Czar Roberto Alvarenga manned the grills in the afternoon heat, cooking up chicken, shrimp, sausages and burgers for hungry staff, Significant Others and lots of small, sticky children. Our office personnel organized small mountains of side dishes and our favorite desserts. It was a terrific time on our beautiful island beach.

CTT folks had a chance to catch up with all that was new at the Key West Treasures Museum. A terrific presentation was hosted by Clinton Curry and men who bring to life the divers, lumpers and salvor Asa Tift back from the 1800s to the present day. We all had the chance to hoist a silver bar and gaze at treasures recovered from the hundreds of ships that lie wrecked on our coral reefs.

The cruise ship lines are planning additional ports-of-call to Key West, and we always welcome the chance to show off our island paradise to new visitors. Studies have indicated that once tourists have a chance to see Key West they are quite likely to book future return trips.

We are all gearing up for the coming busy season, at the same time as our sister companies in the north are winding their efforts down. Additional drivers and sales reps are being certified and our round house staff is getting our trains spiffed up and ready for the onslaught and guests. We’re ready!

Clinton Curry at the Key West Treasures Museum.

Driver Eduardo “Fast Eddie” Silva and Sales Rep Joyce Dahlberg at the Key West Treasures Museum.

Richard Derreth as Asa Tift at the Key West Treasures Museum.

Mary Martinez, Supreme Commander of Paper Work and a multi-generational Conch, points out the name of an ancestor on a manifest at the Key West Treasures Museum.

Puzzles, Games and Trivia Answers from Page 18

TRIVIA TEASER
Answers to ’TV Initials’
1-c, William Shatner
2-a, Arrested Development
3-a, James
4-a, Burt Reynolds
5-d, Greg Evigan
6-b, Peg
7-b, Rick
8-c, Dan Dailey
9-c, A.C.
10-c, D.J.

PENCIL TIME SODOKI

REAL ESTATE WORD SEARCH