Daffodil Tea-a project of Arc Ecology

Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 19, 2006

Special Thanks To Our 2005 Daffodil Tea **Sponsors**

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Lovejoy's Tea Room-San Francisco • Mare Island Golf Course • Mid City Nursery • Napoli Pizzeria

• Natural Healings of Martinez • Millennium February 21, 2006

CONTACT: Myrna Hayes

(707) 557-9816, (707) 319-1886(cell) myrnahay@pacbell.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALWAYS-POPULAR DAFFODIL TEA AND CHAPEL PROGRAM RETURNS FOR 2006 PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE PRESERVATION OF TREASURED NATIONAL LANDMARK

The 6th Annual Daffodil Tea takes place Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 19, 2006 at Quarters G and H-historic Captain's Row Navy officer homes, on Mare Island in Vallejo, California. Included in the cost of admission for the 12noon or 3pm seating each day, is a program of music and history at St. Peter's Chapel. The annual event is a benefit to preserve and restore St. Peter's Chapel and it treasured collection of Tiffany stained glass. The Daffodil Tea features musical entertainment, boutiques, a silent auction and horse drawn carriage rides from the Chapel to the nearby homes (Sunday only). Admission is by pre-purchased tickets. The cost is \$30.00(adults) \$15.00(ages 2-12 yrs.)

The Saturday Chapel Program will feature "A Tribute to St. Patrick", Ed Craft, Jr. bagpipes and Donna Nunes, vocal and chorded zither and a presentation about the Irish and Scottish ties to the Chapel by Sue Lemmon, Mare Island Historian. A Daffodil Tea tradition continues with the Vallejo Community Presbyterian Church Carillon Handbell Choir, under the direction of Betty Heise performing during Sunday's Chapel program. The Chapel program concludes with singing of the Navy hymn.

Tickets may be purchased by mail with check or money order, February 20-March 10 and in person through March 17, 4pm at the Vallejo Convention and Visitors Bureau, 495 Mare Island Way, Vallejo. To purchase tickets using a credit card, call 707-642-3653. Call 707-319-9924 or 707-649-9464 for a reservation form by mail.

Tea and Wine Pairing, Preview House Tour and the Tiffany Windows at Sunset

Three preview activities are scheduled Thursday, Mare Island Mansion Art and Decorator Showcase, Quarters H, 12noon-5pm, Walnut Ave. \$10 at the door. No preregistration required; Sunset Tiffany Window Tour, 4:30-5:30pm, Peter's Chapel, \$5 at the door, no preregistration required; Mare Island Mansion Tea and Wine Pairing, (includes Sunset Tiffany tour), Quarters H, 942 Walnut Ave.

\$30, advanced reservation required. Call 707-649-5:30-7pm9464 to reserve.

St. Peter's Chapel will be open to the public to visit free of

Daffodil Tea PO Box 2252, Vallejo, CA 94592 a project of Arc Ecology-a 501(c)(3) non-profit ID 94-3201661 San Francisco CA • 707-319-9924 Reservations • 707-649-9464 Information line and 2005 Daffodil Tea Commemorative Tea orders by phone

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charge, Saturday, March 18, 11:30am-12:30pm and 2:30-3:30pm and again Sunday, March 19, 11:30am-12:30pm and 2:30-3:30pm.

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Sports Club-Vallejo • Numi
Tea • Raley's-Vallejo •
Safeway-Admiral Callaghan
Lane • Safeway-Benicia •
Safeway-Lincoln Road West
• Scotty's Restaurant • 7
Flag Car Wash • Smart n'
Final • Starbucks CoffeeAmerican Canyon & Vallejo
• Tea Fountain • The
Harbor View Tea Society •

Anselmo

HISTORY AND UNIQUE VALUE OF ST. PETER'S CHAPEL St. Peter's was the first Naval chapel built on the West Coast, and it is now the oldest Naval Chapel in the nation. It was built in 1901. The Chapel was in regular use by the Navy until the Mare Island Naval Shipyard closed in April 1996. The Chapel is now rented for weddings and tours.

St. Peter's is the repository for one of the finest collections of Tiffany stained glass windows under one roof west of the Mississippi River. Many of these windows and the plaques that adorn the walls and ceiling are memorials that link us to individuals and ships that served our country throughout its history. The Chapel's traditional, simple design, its graceful proportions, its wood-paneled interiors bathed in glowing light from 29 stained glass windows and its pastoral setting make it an inviting sanctuary.

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THE DAFFODIL TEA COMMITTEE

The Daffodil Tea Committee was formed in 1999 with a mission to preserve and restore St. Peter's Chapel. Proceeds of the first two teas funded new carpet and the purchase of new pew cushions in the Chapel. Last year, The Daffodil Tea Committee began to broadly publicize the Chapel's need of major repairs.

In July 2005, the Daffodil Tea Committee completed the two-year volunteer effort to write a 275 page report entitled, St. Peter's Chapel, An Historic Landmark in Jeopardy of Being Lost. It documents the deterioration of the Chapel observed for the past 6 years by volunteers and confirmed by a number of professionals. A range of conservation issues are identified that need careful analysis. It calls for review of the overall management strategy for and purpose of the Chapel in the context of its stature as a National Historic Landmark. It questions whether sufficient effort is being made to ensure that the Chapel is fully accessible to be appreciated by all Americans. It also recognizes the need for development of a long-term mechanism to generate and regularly expend funds for the Chapel's preservation and daily upkeep.

The State Office of Historic Preservation awarded a \$17,500 matching grant to the City of Vallejo's Architectural Heritage and Landmarks Commission, in 2005 to conduct an Historic Structure Report for the Chapel; the purpose is to provide a foundation for rehabilitation or restoration of an historic building. Consultants have been selected. In August and September 2005 members of the Daffodil Tea Committee attended Architectural Heritage and Landmarks Commission meetings at the Vallejo City Hall where we presented the Commission with documentation of the cracks and signs of stress observed in the glass since 2001. Commissioners were alerted to the accelerated rate of cracks appearing in the Tiffany collection over the Summer of 2005.

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The proceeds of this year's Tea will continue to raise funds for *The Campaign to Preserve and Restore St. Peter's Chapel*. The goal of the Daffodil Tea Committee is to raise \$1 million for the Chapel's repairs and restoration. While funds from many

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sources will likely be available for the preservation of such an important American landmark, strong local support will serve to inspire and rally others. Donations may be sent to Preserve and Restore St. Peter's Chapel-Arc Ecology, P O Box 2252, Vallejo, CA 94592.

Many congregations across the country raise money for the preservation and restoration of their church. These churches are fortunate to have defined congregations. St. Peter's Chapel lacks this traditional support base. As a National Historic Landmark, the Chapel belongs to each of us, therefore we must step forward and act as the Chapel's surrogate parishioners. Each of us must do our part to preserve and restore this precious American treasure.

The purpose of the Daffodil Tea is to raise the public's awareness of the needs of St. Peter's Chapel through the media, published materials and speaking engagements; encourage volunteer participation; and raise money for the preservation and restoration of St. Peter's Chapel.

The Daffodil Tea Committee is a project of Arc Ecology, a San Francisco based non-profit specializing in assisting communities in reuse of former military properties. Arc Ecology is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

Please note: St. Peter's Chapel and mansion tours are available to any reporter or photographer covering this event. Call Myrna Hayes, 707-557-9816 or 707-319-1886 (cell) to schedule.

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