

Bicentennial - Santa Cruz City

# Grand plans for bicentennial

## \$30,000 needed for fireworks display at wharf

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SANTA CRUZ — A private donor willing to put up as much as \$30,000 apparently is all that stands in the way of a 20-minute fireworks show at the city's bicentennial party in October.

Lisa McGinnis, the city's special events coordinator, told members of the Santa Cruz Bicentennial Committee Wednesday that she has support from the Fire and Police departments for a fireworks show Saturday, Oct. 5.

But the \$20,000 to \$30,000 price tag still has to be picked up by someone in the private sector before the show will go on.

If funded, the fireworks would be shot off from a barge in the bay by the downtown wharf, said McGinnis.

Earlier bicentennial Saturday, the an-

nual Mission Fiesta Parade with a 200th-birthday flavor will step off at Cathcart and Cedar streets.

McGinnis — who said she expects the parade to be twice as large as usual — will march down Cedar to Water Street, and into San Lorenzo Park, where much of the day's celebration will take place.

The other center of activity will be the old mission adobe, which Jim Fife, a state park supervisor, said could be dedicated that weekend to coincide with the bicentennial.

A dedication ceremony would tie in because the celebration marks the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Santa Cruz Mission, which later included the adobe living quarters for Indian workers.

Another idea tossed on the table Wednesday was for a sound and light historical show, possibly in the Mission Plaza area.

Santa Cruz resident Jan Garrison suggested the show as a way of teaching bicentennial party-goers about the history of the plaza area.

"They have it in the Acropolis. They have it in the pyramids. Why not Santa Cruz?" asked Garrison, who has con-

tacted Phoebus Lighting of San Francisco, which is interested in the project if money can be raised.

Phoebus Lighting took part in both the Golden Gate 50th anniversary celebration and the Statue of Liberty 100th anniversary show.

In her written presentation, Garrison said, "The purpose is to gather people in a large area, either with seating or just as a standing audience which can move and turn as the beams of light focus on various historical buildings.

"As flood lighting in various forms ... demonstrate the location, there is an overlay of recorded music, speech and narrative telling of the people, buildings and places in the area which make up the historical background of the location."

Garrison said she didn't know how much such a show would cost, but pointed out the sound portion of the show would be reusable.

"I'm very interested," said McGinnis. "The best scenario would be if we could do all of this. ... But it could be if we can't get the funds for the fireworks, we could apply the money for this."

Members of the Adobe Coalition are helping devise a way to offer a barbecue

at the newly restored site sometime bicentennial weekend.

Other ideas included a Friday night fandango in the downtown area as a kickoff to the weekend, and possibly a concert at Mission Plaza the same night.

Possibilities also include a series of theatrical re-enactments of historical moments in Santa Cruz's past, especially the founding of the mission.

Fife also asked about the chance of buying a bronze plaque commemorating the bicentennial to be placed on the plaza.

John Lane, education director of the city's museum, said they may get into the act by sponsoring a series of historical lectures, downtown walking tours and a look at "the impact of missionization of Native Californians."

McGinnis also is looking into the possibility of a lighted boat parade for the harbor, possibly in conjunction with the fireworks show if that comes through.

The bicentennial committee will meet again on Wednesday, March 20, at 11 a.m. in the ABC Room of the Civic Auditorium.

For more information, or to offer ideas, call McGinnis at 429-3477.