

Pioneer Issue!



Laguna Beach Historical Society

January 1992

Volume 1 Number 1

Greetings...

You hold in your hands an important piece of the history of Laguna Beach. The Laguna Beach Historical Society has finally been organized, and this newsletter shall be it's voice.

OFFICERS ELECTED

The Board of Directors for 1992 is as follows:

President
Anne Frank

Vice-President
Jim Davison

Secretary
David Wilson

Treasurer
Pauline Buzan

Librarian/Archivist
Richard Ayotte

Directors
Jane Janz
Michael Onorato
Marguerite Stanton

Newsletter
Karen Turnbull

Next Meeting!!

Thursday,
January 23
7:30 pm
Weil Fargo Bank

Featuring...

A Lecture and Slide Show of
St. Francis of the Sea
American Catholic Church.
by
Anne Frank

ORAL HISTORY UPDATE

Hats off to Barbara Bing for her recent interviews with Florence H. Callaway, Phoebe Whipple, Jean W. McManus, William B. Thomas, as well as making available her interview with the late Bea Whittlesey. Michael Onorato has transcribed and edited his interview with Robert "Bob" Peacock and is completing the editing of his interview with Joe Sweeney, former general manager of the Laguna Water District.

Money is needed to transcribe the interviews. It takes \$100 to complete an hour long interview, aside from the donated time of our two interviewer/editors. The Peacock and Sweeney interviews were funded by a donation from Lou Zitnick.

Mike Onorato, who is former director of Cal State Fullerton's oral history program, says that anyone can make a tax-deductible contribution to further the cause of transcribing, editing, and completing Laguna oral history by making a check to "Cal State University Foundation" and sending it to his attention at P.O. box 4036, Laguna Beach, CA 92652. He will see that it is credited to the Historical Society transcription account at Fullerton's oral history program.

All completed interviews will be placed in the Laguna Beach Library and the archives of the Oral History Program at California State University, Fullerton.

NEWSLETTER INFO

Please submit all articles, information and announcements for this newsletter by the 13th of each month. All articles, within reason, will be accepted. Historical articles are welcome, as are xeroxes of old newspapers and books. Each newsletter will be kept to a few pages to keep postage reasonable.

Please submit articles by mail to..

Karen Turnbull
32181 So. Coast Hwy.
South Laguna, CA 92677

If you *must* call, 499-2540. Or hand-deliver information to Karen at Marriners Wednesdays or Fridays.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Last May, when Richard Ayotte, Michael Onorato, and I got together and decided to call a meeting to establish a new historical society for Laguna Beach, we weren't sure what kind of response would be forthcoming. However, we have been gratified at the interest and enthusiasm of the people who have come to our first meetings, showing their concern that Laguna's unique heritage is celebrated and preserved. Thus, we now have a fledging organization, with bylaws, a board of directors, a membership, and a treasury.

In 1992 we want to firmly establish the Laguna Beach Historical Society as an integral part of our community. We want to offer programs and activities that you, as members of the community, will find worthwhile and enriching. We strongly support the establishment of a local history room at the public library. The collection and preservation of materials pertaining to our past (and present) is of primary interest our organization. At the public library these materials can be properly cared for and be available for public use.

We have been in communication with Wells Fargo Bank concerning Blanche Clapp Smith's house at 278 Ocean

Avenue, now in possession of the bank since Mrs. Smith's death last year. We visualize it as an ideal location for a Laguna Beach history museum where the Historical Society could present exhibits relating to Laguna's history and at the same time have information concerning the Laguna Beach of today for our many visitors.

To help make all this possible, however, we need your support. If you are not already a member, join the Laguna Beach Historical Society now and become an active member! We need your ideas, your time, and your membership!

DUES UPDATE

Are you wondering why your membership check has not been processed? The reason is this: we are still waiting for the State to respond to our application for exempt status. We need to get the all-important tax identification number. It could come any day now, and then we'll open an account and pop your check in pronto! Please bear with us.

PHOTOS OF OLD LAGUNA

Through the kindness of Belinda Blacketer, the Laguna Beach Historical Society will begin offering copies of authentic photographs of

old Laguna Beach for sale at her Art & Antique Market, 222 Ocean Avenue (the former First Interstate Bank). The photos can be seen in the wall-mounted display case on the outside of the building near the entry. Proceeds from the sales of the photos will benefit the Historical Society.

In addition to these photos, *members only* may make selections of photos which they would like to have copied from the Historical Society collections. Some of these photos will be displayed at our next meeting. The price will equal the cost of creating a negative and a print. The negative will remain the property of the historical society. The Darkroom, an excellent local photographic studio, has offered to do the work for us at last year's prices, a very kind offer. Since the first print is sold at cost, the only proceeds to the society will come from subsequent sales of the same photo. This is a real bargain for our members and a good way to own a piece of old Laguna history.

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting will be very special. Ellen Lee will speak on Madame Modjeska and Laguna Beach. Place and date will be announced at the January meeting and in the next newsletter.

LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Membership Application

JOIN LAGUNA'S NEWEST GROUP. Send this form with your check to the Laguna Beach Historical Society, P.O., Box 1526, Laguna Beach, CA 92652. Questions??? Call 494-2318.

Membership Categories: Individual \$15; Couple \$25; Student \$5; Organization \$50; Life \$200; Patron \$500.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____ Category: _____

Committees:

- Finance
- Library & Archives
- Membership
- Nominations
- Program
- Publications

Interest Group Preferences:

- Archaeology
- Education
- Fund Raising
- Historic Materials
- Historic Preservation
- Indexing
- Oral History

Suggestions for Programs/Activities: _____

Comments: _____

THANK YOU!

Mike Gorrara, who is
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NEWSLETTER INFO
Please submit all articles,
in 4 or 5 columns, and
announcements for this
newsletter by the 15th of
each month. All articles,
with the exception of
accepted historical articles,
are welcome, as are reports
of old newspapers and
books. Each newsletter will
be sent to a 100 page
keep postage reasonable.

Please submit articles by
Karen Turnbull
32191 So. Coast Hwy.
South Laguna, CA 92677
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