

LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1526, Laguna Beach, CA 92652 * 494-2318

May 1993

Volume 2, number 2

NEXT MEETING!!

Thursday, May 13

7:30 p.m.

Wells Fargo Bank
3rd Floor Meeting Room

Featuring...

A program on
"Kitshi Manido", an
Indian Pageant from
the 1920's.

The program will be preceded by a short general membership meeting.

In the 1920's, the Art Association wanted to build a new art gallery. To raise funds, the people of Laguna twice gave of their talents and time to put on "Kitshi Manido", the Indian pageant-play written by artist Issac Frazee.



As part of Laguna Beach Heritage Month festivities, the Laguna Beach Historical Society will present a program on this significant event in Laguna's history. Come and hear about the search for the "Sacred Beams," view photos, a painting by Issac Frazee, and the poster done for the production by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Payne. David Wilson will present the program, based on Jane Janz's research. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Look at your mailing label. If "93" is in the upper left hand corner you are a member in good standing. If "92" is there we encourage you to continue as a member in 1993. If there is no number, please consider becoming a member of the Laguna Beach Historical Society. A membership form is attached.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD LAGUNA BEACH

Laser photographs of historic Laguna Beach continue to be available at the Laguna Beach Art and Antiques Mart at 222 Ocean Avenue. Included are a number of scenes of downtown Laguna, Glenneyre, the beach, Laguna Canyon, and an aerial view. The laser process gives a good quality reproduction and is considerably less expensive than a "traditional" print. 8 X 10 photos are only \$3.95 and are suitable for framing.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

The Nominations Committee, consisting of Jane Janz, Jim Davison, and Barbara Stuart, offers the following slate to the membership for 1993/94.

President: Belinda Blacketeer
Vice President: Sharon Heath
Secretary: Nelda Stone
Treasurer: Pauline Buzan
Director: Terry Nepture

Ed Perry and Jane Janz will continue on the Board as directors. There will be an opportunity to make additional nominations from the floor during the general membership meeting on May 13.

MAY IS HERITAGE MONTH - Calendar of Events

May 1-31 - HISTORY EXHIBIT. Laguna Beach History Exhibit. Public Library, Park and Glenneyre. No charge. Will include Kitshi Manido after May 13.

Thursday, May 6, 7:30 p.m. - OPENING CELEBRATION! Deserts, beverages and entertainment. Welcoming by Mayor Lenney. Announcement of Heritage Art Contest Winners! See Trudi Grossman's Slide Presentation, "Laguna's Hidden and Not So Hidden Architectural Treasures." Wells Fargo Bank, 260 Ocean Ave. No charge.

Saturday, May 8, 9:00-11:00 a.m. - GUIDED WALK. Walk-About Historic Downtown Laguna with former Heritage Committee members Sharen Heath and Stephan Crawford. Meet at St. Francis American Catholic Church, 430 Park Ave. No charge.

Thursday, May 13, 7:30 p.m. - CELEBRATE WITH THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY!! Deserts, beverages and entertainment. The Historical Society presents a program on "Kitshi Manido," an Indian Pageant performed in Laguna Beach during the 1920's as a benefit for the Art Association. Winning Artwork of the Historic Laguna Photo contest will also be displayed. Wells Fargo Bank, 260 Ocean Ave. No charge.

Saturday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. to noon. - GUIDED TOUR OF CRYSTAL COVE NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT. Charming, quaint historic district takes you back somewhere in time. Experience this wonderful example of an early California settlement. Meet at Pelican Point Ranger Station just south of Corona Del Mar. No charge for tour. \$5.00 parking fee.

Saturday, May 29, 9:00-11:00 a.m. - GUIDED WALK. Walk-About Historic Downtown Laguna with Heritage Activist Trudi Grossman. Meet at St. Francis American Catholic Church, 430 Park Ave. No charge.

May thru July - "75 Works, 75 Years: Collecting the Art of California." Laguna Art Museum, 307 Cliff Drive. No charge.

LAGUNA BEACH HERITAGE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT
May 1-7 Bill Thomas's Camera Shop
May 9-31 at the Laguna Beach Public Library

Ed Perry and Jane Lanz will continue on the Board as directors. There will be an opportunity to make additional nominations from the floor during the general membership meeting on May 13. Everyone is welcome.

LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

IT'S CHARM HOUSE TIME AGAIN

The annual Village Laguna Charm House Tour will be held Sunday, May 16. Among the attractions this year will be a Woods Cove restored craftsman bungalow, a contemporary home with a wonderful ocean view, and central Laguna village charmers.. Tickets are \$20 pre-sale and \$25 on the day of the tour, subject to availability. Buses leave the Festival grounds from 12:00-3:30 p.m. For more information and ticket reservations call 714-455-3924.

SMITH COTTAGE UPDATE

Finally, it is all coming together at last. With fingers crossed, we hope that by the time you read this newsletter a contract will have been signed with Wells Fargo Bank for a five-year lease on the house at 278 Ocean Avenue. The city permit process will, we hope, be underway. The Laguna Beach Historical Society and the Laguna Beach Hospitality Association will be sharing the facilities, offering a look at a pre-World War II Laguna Beach along with current information for visitors and residents. The Hospitality Association, counting on funds allotted to it by the City of Laguna Beach from the added bed tax assessment, has agreed to renovate and maintain the house. Local architect Morris Skenderian is in charge of the renovation. More news at our general membership meeting on May 13.

Thanks to Pam O'Neill for thinking of the Historical Society at the Art Institute of Southern California rummage sale. The Smith Cottage now has a vintage clothes ringer and plate rack. Thanks also to the ever-resourceful Sandy Thornton for the aged box of Ivory Flakes and milk bottles.

ORAL HISTORIES REVISITED

Michael Onorato, Chair of the Historical Society's Oral History Committee, recently completed a careful evaluation of tape recordings made in the 1970's by our predecessor, the Laguna Beach Community Historical Society. Although some of the recordings are inaudible, there are a considerable number that can be transcribed and are of historical value. Among the latter are interviews with Bea Whittlesy, Virginia Santmeyer, Ted Covern, Mabel Ramsey, Nita Carman, Lynn and Thelma Audenkamp, Bob Peacock and Dick Jahraus.

Anyone who is interested in transcribing an interview should contact Anne Frank (494-2318). Access to a computer is necessary, and transcribing experience is desirable although not mandatory. Having these interviews in written form would be a great addition to Laguna's historical record. Our sincere thanks to Michael for his excellent report.

THANK YOU

WORLD WAR II IN ORANGE COUNTY: THE HOME FRONT

The Old Courthouse Museum in the restored County courthouse in Santa Ana is planning an exhibit on the World War II Home Front in Orange County for next Fall. Orange County historical societies have been asked for their assistance on items and information. If you have materials or memories to contribute, contact Curator Marshall Duell (834-3703). Anne Frank (494-2318) has a copy of the exhibit proposal. Our February program on the WWII Home Front in Laguna Beach was well attended by an enthusiastic audience, so let's get some Laguna Beach input into this countywide exhibit.

DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT.....

Every so often the Historical Society Executive Board receives inquiries from people wanting information about a former resident or a Laguna building or event. We do our best to answer these questions, but sometimes we need some help from you out there. Does anyone have any information about the following?

1. A 3 1/2 foot model of the Chinese junk in which Richard Halliburton lost his life. Eric Davis, as a 9 year old, was given this model by Halliburton when he lived in Halliburton's "Hangover House" at 31172 Ceanotus Drive, South Laguna, with his mother and sister Dorothy in 1938-1939. Inquiry from William R. Taylor, New Berlin, Wisconsin, who is writing a book about Halliburton's life.

2. The Kindell family and their pottery business in Laguna Beach during the 1930's and 1940's. Inquiry from Kathy Nielsen, Dorothy Kindell's granddaughter, now living in Corvallis, Oregon. We found the Kindell's address and a newspaper article, but perhaps some of our readers might have something to add.

3. Merle and Dorothy Smith of Sultan, Washington would like any information about the owner of the Du Maurier Apartments at 260 San Joaquin during the 1950's. They have very happy memories of a stay there when the owner let them use her apartment on a crowded Memorial Day weekend in either 1953 or 1955. Contact Anne Frank if you can shed any light on these topics.

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This is my first attempt at preparing the Newsletter so please forgive its rather plain format! I'm just getting acquainted with my computer and what it can and can't do.

If you have any articles or information to contribute to upcoming newsletters, feel free to call: Dona Wurzel, 499-5794.

I am a part-time secretary, writer and I love our city.

I have been vacationing here since the 1960's and became a full time resident 5 years ago. I wanted to become involved with the history of Laguna and what better way than to join the Historical Society!

LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LAGUNA BEACH IS A SPECIAL PLACE, A TOWN UNLIKE ANY OTHER IN ORANGE COUNTY. COME LEARN ABOUT OUR CITY'S COLORFUL PAST.

THE LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S PURPOSE IS TO ACCUMULATE, RECORD AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TOWN'S UNIQUE HISTORY.

IF YOU JOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, YOU CAN

- LEARN THE INTERESTING BACKGROUND OF THIS UNUSUAL COMMUNITY.
- GET THE REGULAR NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING LAGUNA HISTORY AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS
- RESEARCH A SPECIAL TOPIC IN THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN.
- HELP IDENTIFY AND SAVE LAGUNA'S HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
- HELP BUILD A COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH MATERIALS AT THE LAGUNA BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY.

WE'RE JUST BEGINNING. WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN AND HELP US WITH OUR PROJECTS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL ANNE FRANK (714) 494-2318

I WISH TO JOIN THE LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY. ENCLOSED IS MY MEMBERSHIP FEE (INDIVIDUAL \$15; COUPLE \$25; STUDENT \$5)

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (home) _____ (work) _____

COMMENTS: _____

Please return to Laguna Beach Historical Society, P.O. Box 1526, Laguna Beach, CA 92652.

THANK YOU!