

Laguna Beach
Historical Society
Murphy-Smith Bungalow
278 Ocean Avenue
Laguna Beach CA 92651
949-497-6834



Laguna Life

The Laguna Beach Historical Society Newsletter: April 2012

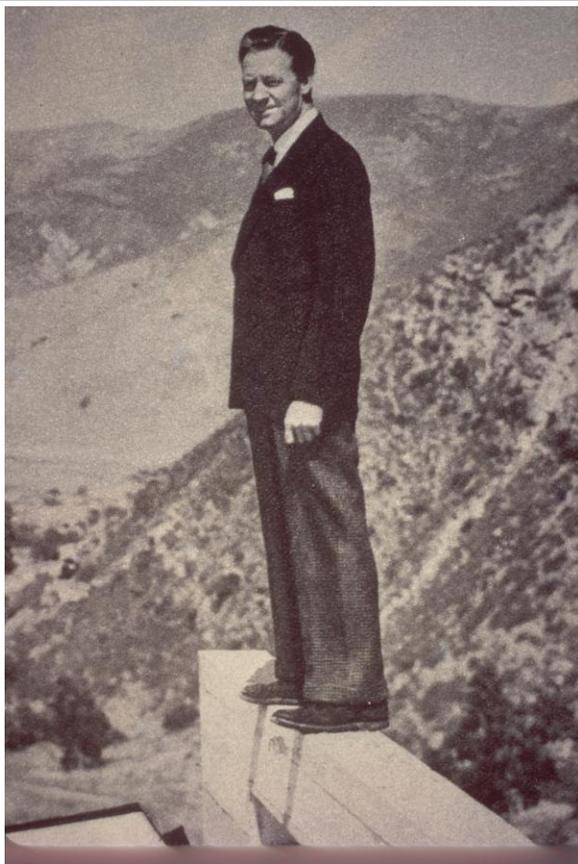
Please attend Historical Society Program to be held at Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue

Tuesday, April 24th – from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Pancho Barnes, Moye Stephens & Richard Halliburton

by Barbara H. Schultz author of “Pancho” and

“Flying Carpets, Flying Wings” the biography of Moye W. Stephens



Richard Halliburton on Roof of Recently Sold “Hangover House” overlooking Aliso Canyon in South Laguna

The public is invited and there is no charge. The program will be videotaped and is to be televised on the local Cox Cable channel 30. Barbara Hunter Schultz has been an aviation historian for over 20 years. Her interests have focus on individuals from the early years of flying who have contributed significantly to the advancement of aviation but have yet to have their stories told. Barbara is a pilot herself, and has authored three aviation histories and maintains a large collection of images and memorabilia from the Golden Age of flying.

During the *Golden Age* of aviation, Pancho Barnes and Moye Stephens soared through the skies with the likes of Doolittle, Earhart, and Lindbergh. Their achievements were numerous; their exploits, noteworthy. Pancho flew in the First National Air Race for Women in 1939; captured the women’s speed record in 1930; founded the Women’s Air Reserve in 1931; and established a raucous sanctuary known as the Happy Bottom Riding Club for the Army Air Corps in the mid-1930s. Known as the consummate hostess, Pancho’s parties in Laguna Beach and at her San Marino estate were well attended by the movie set, stunt pilots, and the social elite. Her friends thought her to be honest, generous and spontaneous.

Moye Stephens learned to fly at Clover Field, now Santa Monica Airport, in 1928. He stunted in the movies and, as an instructor, taught Alan Hancock, Donald Douglas, William Garrett and other prominent business men to fly. By 1928, he was flying as a captain for Maddux, TAT, and T & WA Airlines in Ford trimotors. Moye might have continued with this career but a call from Richard Halliburton in 1930 changed his future dramatically. The world famous author had already completed several books about his travel ventures but his next one (“The Flying Carpet” would be Halliburton’s fourth and most famous book) would be accomplished by air. Because he lacked the aptitude for flying himself, he needed a pilot. Moye was highly recommended as a competent flyer and, after some serious consideration, he agreed to fly Richard around the world. The task was daunting for the experienced aviator but Moye managed to successfully navigate over harsh terrains with only a compass to guide him; maneuver through extreme weather conditions; and, more importantly, rein in an always impetuous Halliburton. It was through Moye, that Pancho and Richard became acquainted and ultimately close friends. , Pancho, Moye, and Richard’s stories will be told through historical slides and a narrative overview.

**Learn How Florence Lowe Barnes
Got the Name Pancho**



**Richard Halliburton Driving Car with "Flying Carpet"
Pilot Moyer Stephens and Pancho Barnes in the Backseat**



RICHARD HALLIBURTON

"The Flying Carpet" was Halliburton's fourth and most famous book and details his epic adventures flying a bi-plane through remote parts of the globe. The resultant work doesn't have a dull page. It details how Halliburton landed in Timbuktu, passed over Mount Everest, flew over the Taj Mahal upside down, and dropped down into the jungles of Borneo to visit with native head hunters. If one book could summarize all the reckless love of life and romance that symbolized Richard Halliburton, then this is the book.

According to Laguna Beach Historical Society Board Member Eric Jessen: "Richard Halliburton was one of the most famous persons that ever lived in Laguna, and he left one of the greatest signature homes in town. The avant-concrete, steel, and glass house is perched high on the steep slope of Aliso Peak, just inland from Aliso Beach Park. For decades it stood alone there, as a sentinel to the memory of a man who was easily the world's most famous travel adventure writer and lecturer in the 1920s and 30s.

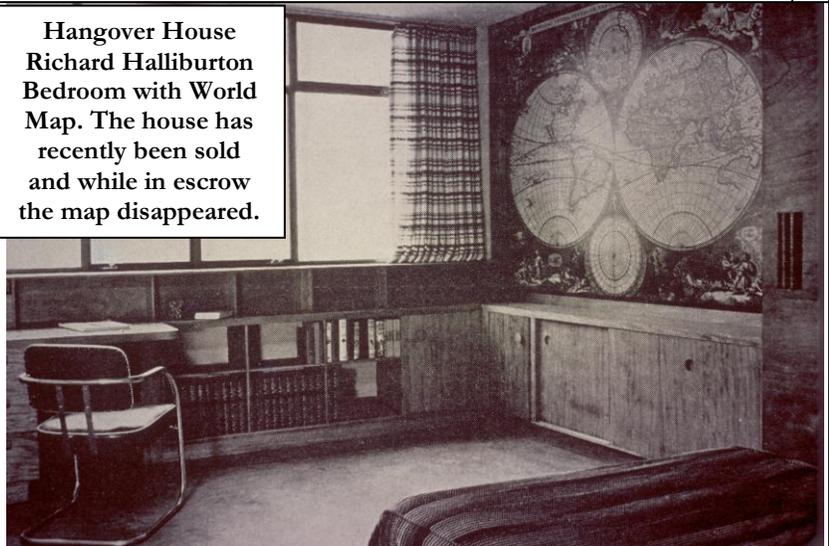
What Richard Halliburton did was go places. Dazzling places in far off lands on most of the world's continents, following the routes of Alexander the Great, Hannibal, Cortez, and Homer. And he did glitzy stuff when he got to these places. Like swimming the Hellespont, the Sea of Galilee, and the Panama Canal. Climbing the Matterhorn, Mt. Vesuvius, Mt. Olympus, and Mt. Fuji. Spending a night in the Cave of the Cyclops at the foot of Venus' birthplace on Sicily.

Whether Halliburton was waltzing across the Court of the King of Kings in Addis Ababa, mounting stone elephants at Babylon, sailing the route of Homer's Odyssey, his adventures were gloriously documented in some of the most colorful and popular books in the world at the time: The Royal Road to Romance, The Book of Marvels, The Flying Carpet, and New Worlds to Conquer, to name some."

**Richard Halliburton and pilot Moyer Stephens
in "Flying Carpet" Airplane**



**Hangover House
Richard Halliburton
Bedroom with World
Map. The house has
recently been sold
and while in escrow
the map disappeared.**



View Laguna Photos at www.Laguna-Historical-Society.smugmug.com

Board of Directors Elected March 27, 2012

Gregg De Nicola	Anne Frank	Gene Felder - Treasurer
John Hoover	Jane Janz	Eric Jessen
Ronald Kaufman	Glenna Matthews	Francie Holder Pemper
Laurie Sanders	Vern Spitaleri	Karen Smith – Vice Pres
Nelda Stone - Secretary		Kimberly Stuart - President

Thanks to Historical Society Business / Organization Members

Wells Fargo Bank H.J Baker & Bro.,Inc.

City of Laguna Beach Caduceus Medical Laguna Beach Community Foundation

Andy Alison Bungalow Hunters Borthwick Guy Bettenhausen Butler Box Charles' Wig Chateau Chicago Title

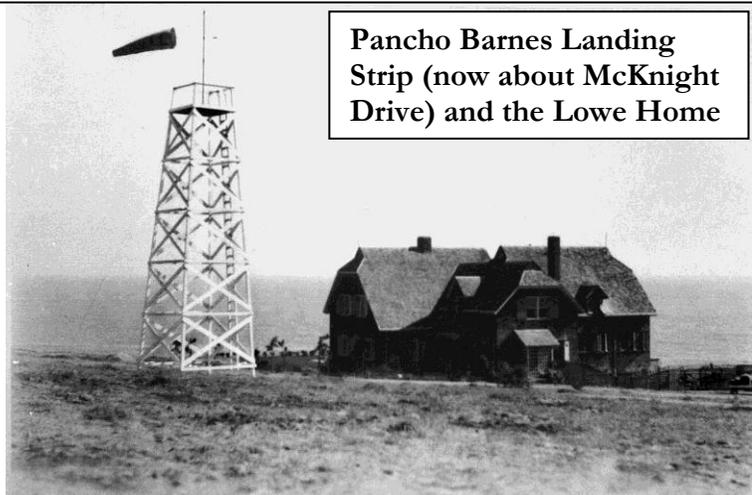
Dana Wharf Sportfishing & Whale Watching Flavors of Laguna Emerald Bay Community Association

Indiana James Limited Partnership Dr. Korey Jorgenson Laguna Beach Visitors & Conference Bureau Laguna Technologies

Reynolds Carpet Sawdust Festival South Coast Lock Shop Stewarts Landscaping The Stand Natural Foods Restaurant

Upcoming Program: Tuesday, May 8th - 80th Anniversary of Festival of the Arts by Sharbie Higuchi, Dee Challis Davy, and Dan Duling

According to Board Member Jane Janz "In 1915 wealthy Pasadena resident Caroline Dobbins fell in love with Laguna and bought 20 acres of land just south of Emerald Bay. In 1917 the local newspaper reported that "plastering of the Dobbins house will begin next week." She named her estate Dos Rocas for the Seal Rocks, just south of her house. She then built a house behind hers for her daughter Wilhelmina Lowe. When Wilhelmina died, her daughter Florence, better known as Pancho Barnes, a famous aviatrix, inherited the second house. The noise of Pancho's wild parties was intolerable to Caroline Dobbins so she had the Lowe house moved to the point of what is now McKnight Drive."



Pancho Barnes Landing Strip (now about McKnight Drive) and the Lowe Home



Pancho Barnes & Moyer Stephens with "Flying Carpet"

President's Message by Kimberly Stuart

Pancho Barnes, Moye Stephens & Richard Halliburton

Tuesday, April 24th from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Please attend the Laguna Beach Historical Society program "Pancho Barnes, Moye Stephens & Richard Halliburton" presented by Barbara H. Schultz author of "Pancho" and "Flying Carpets, Flying Wings" the biography of Moye W. Stephens.

The program is of course free, and will be held at the Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue. The program will be videotaped and is to be televised on the local Cox Cable channel 30.

Our next program for Heritage Month is a program Tuesday, May 8th - 80th Anniversary of Festival of the Arts by Sharbie Higuchi, Dee Challis Davy, and Dan Duling.

What a great program we had in March: Lila Zali – Laguna Beach Civic Ballet presented by Kathy Kahn. We have DVDs of the program at the Murphy-Smith Bungalow and just request a donation of the \$6 cost of reproduction. If you missed the program, you'll definitely will want to view the DVD.

At the March meeting the Board of Directors was elected and at our next Board Meeting the Board will elect its officers.

The Historical Society received a number of generous donations \$200 from Robert Bethea, \$150 from Stephen Hofstadter in honor of Yank Sefton's 70th birthday, and \$100 from Robert Englund. We thank them so very much.

We want to acknowledge Dr. Lou D'Elia and his providing historic photographs from the Pancho Barnes Trust Estate.

View historic photographs at www.Laguna-Historical-Society.smugmug.com. Viewers are invited to leave comments to help the Society better identify or date the photographs. At the web site, prints can also be purchased; for example an 8" by 10" glossy for \$6.97 plus tax and shipping. Send questions, photographs, or pieces of Laguna Beach history using info@LagunaHistory.org.

Step back into 1920s Laguna by visiting the Laguna Beach Historical Society Murphy-Smith Bungalow, located at 278 Ocean Avenue, which is open to the public at no-charge every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Those interested in supporting and joining the Laguna Beach Historical Society should send \$15 per individual, \$25 per household or \$50 per business/organization to 278 Ocean Avenue, Laguna Beach CA 92651. The Laguna Beach Historical Society is a section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID #33-0519882.

If your Dues are due (check your mailing label) Send \$15 per person, \$25 per household or \$50 per business or organization to Laguna Beach Historical Society, 278 Ocean Avenue, Laguna Beach CA 92651

To be added to the mailing/email list please provide the following information:

Name _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

FAX: _____ email: _____