

SUMMER 2023

# THE LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LAGUNA BEACH LIFE | PAST PRESENT FUTURE



Summer Drive along Coast Highway

## NEWS AND UPDATES FOR THIS MONTH:

- BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION A SUCCESS!
- AUDIO VISUAL DISPLAY ADDED AT THE BUNGALOW

## Our Mission: The Collection, Preservation, Dissemination of History

Every June, with our mission statement in mind, we connect with and **disseminate** the unique history of our town to third-grade students from El Morro and Top of the World Elementary Schools.

This past June, El Morro students, along with teachers and chaperones, included the bungalow as a stop on their downtown field trip. Ed Storke, grandfather to two former students, scheduled a visit to present to Top of the World students in their multi-purpose room. Ed started with a general overview, Karen Lagrew compared and contrasted everyday life during the early 20s with life today. Anne Frank told the story of Bubbles the Hippo. This one remains a favorite!

Informative brochures, with 100-year birthday stickers, went home with students following the presentation.

This memorable experience prompted many repeat and first time visitors to the bungalow, accompanied by their parents, to show what they had seen and learned. Maybe it was the trap door or Bubbles poster they wanted to revisit, but we enjoyed their budding fascination with the history of Laguna Beach. This educational experience supports state curriculum, and it is hard to find local history in a textbook.

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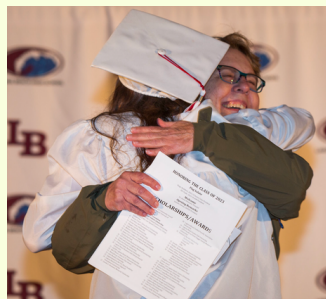
### Your Membership / Donation:

Your membership funds help with poster displays and other printed handouts used at the bungalow in outreach events like school visits. Funds also go to our yearly scholarship for a student who shows an interest in history during their high school years and beyond.



### LBHS Convocation Ceremony

Board member Nelda Stone awarded Dempsey Sadler the 2022-2023 Laguna Beach Historical Society Scholarship.





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Lagrew **President**  
Jeff Loge **Vice President**  
Johanna Ellis **Treasurer**  
Nelda Stone **Secretary**

Gregg DeNicola MD	Carol Viebeck Lloyd
Anne Frank	Glenna Matthews
John Hoover	Heidi Miller
Jane Janz	Laurie Sanders
Eric Jessen	Ed Storke

# A Message from our President

KAREN LAGREW, PRESIDENT

The grey skies didn't stop a good turnout at the 100-Year Birthday Celebration on May 20th. The day was enjoyed by all.

Volunteer board members and docents helped greet people and speak to the bungalow's 100-year history. Visitor's shared their own stories of families and homes steeped in the unique history that make Laguna Beach so special. Community came together.

We are thankful for support from Laguna Beach High School Alumni and resident, Jeff Greenough, for t-shirts and shopper bag printing and supply. Jedidiah Coffee generously donated cold and hot brew for the event. Richard Kelley documented the festivities to video, and Matthew Papish created a historic video montage.

Thank you also to the Laguna Beach City Heritage Committee for including us in their annual event.

I'd like to address an error in postcard printing that occurred to our valued members. You may have noticed your name was wrong when you received the postcard announcement in the mail. This happened when, for the first time, we used a direct mail company. Their computer system took rows of the given spreadsheet and mixed first and last names together! While the use of this technology helped speed up delivery, helped track, cut costs and relieve the labor of hand stamping postcards, it was an embarrassment. We have since addressed the issue with the company and received credit for their mistake.

I hope you can understand, find humor in a name that the computer came up with and sincerely hope it doesn't affect your continuing membership with The Laguna Beach Historical Society.

We look forward to resuming programs at The Susi Q this fall. Look for topics in upcoming newsletters.

*Karen Lagrew*

Nelda Stone presented the \$1,000 Laguna Beach Historical Society Scholarship to graduating senior, Dempsey Sadler. Dempsey gave a touching speech to her class, comparing their journey to that of Laguna's ocean tides. She plans to study art history at UC Berkeley next year and pursue a career in museum curation. We are overwhelmed by the wonderful essays, hobbies, and extracurricular activities so many of our high school students enjoy.

On a final note, we are happy to announce we received a Laguna Beach City Community Assistance Grant this month. The grant will be used for education and family outreach. This work helps to fulfill our mission statement's last point to disseminate history. More to come on this as we begin the work of doing just that.



Front Gate: Suzanne Lopez



Front Porch: Walker Reed and Ed Storke



Living Room: John Nootbaar, Carol Lloyd, Caren Nootbaar, Nelda Stone



Front Room: Chris Collett and Karen Lagrew



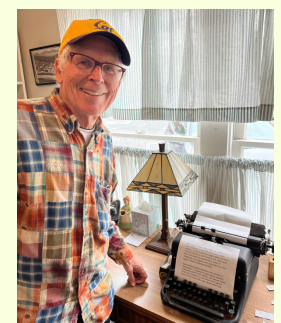
Fireplace: John Hoover



Kitchen: Gregg DeNicolo with guest



Backyard: Greg MacGillivray, Heidi Miller



Office & Jim Dille's Typewriter: Tom Osborne

100 Years Loved



### Fourth of July Decor

Thank you to Walker Reed for his docent help on the 4th holiday.

### Video Montage

We have talented volunteers! Mathew Papish donated his time and professional video editing skills to create a photo montage of long ago and here & now historic Laguna places and people. To view this, a monitor was installed in the front bedroom and will be used for this video and our programs. Stop by and watch Laguna over time.



### Diane Keplinger

October 19, 1934 - April 20, 2023

Diane and her husband George "Kep" Keplinger arrived in Laguna in the early 1970s, built their home, and grew to love Laguna Beach and support many causes in town. Along with donating her time with us as board member and Docent Coordinator, other causes she loved were Village Laguna and the Laguna Beach Playhouse.

During her career as an educator, Diane worked at The El Toro Marine School GATE program and then as a 4th grade teacher at Irvine Unified School District's Santiago Hills School for over 37 years.

She and Kep followed a favorite band as they cruised and listened to Ragtime Jazz music. With their good friends Ryan and Anne Caen, they had tickets for the Laguna Beach Playhouse every first Thursday. Diane lost Kep in the fall. She asked to stay in the loop with the historical society as she fell ill shortly after his passing. She will be missed.

### Recent Archival Donations

- Lyon's Club photos and programs – 1930s
- Yearbooks – 1940s
- Pontiac Dealership photos - late 1940s 1950s
- Villa Rockledge slide collection



Photo: Diane with her husband George "Kep" Keplinger



### Carol Lloyd at 4-5 years old:

With a curiosity way back then about life in her small world. That sense of wonder is still with her!



### James Dilley Plaque:

We received a beautiful bronze plaque honoring the life and work of James Dilley. It hangs in the living room at the bungalow. You can find his typewriter in the office/bedroom. This donation comes from The Kalos Agathos Foundation supported by Bruce Hopping, and it was designed by local artist Bill Atkins.

**Carol Lloyd**  
Carol is a 6th generation descendant of Henry Rogers and his son George, who both acquired early homesteads in Laguna Beach in 1876 and 1882. As an educator Carol supports schools with literacy and reading intervention support and also works online with students from Africa. She enjoys time with her children, grandchildren, travel and continuing her mother's research of Laguna Beach history.

*Why did you choose to serve on the board?*  
To give back to the Laguna Beach community that my early ancestors in the late 1800's helped to develop. I want to, with the other board members, make a difference in the preservation of our very unique local history.

*Why do you think your position on the board is a good match for you?*  
Because it allows me to utilize my skills and experiences in a meaningful way, contributing to the society's goals and objectives. I enjoy working with such a wonderful group of board members who share a love and passion for our city's history.

*What is your favorite part of working with the LB Historical Society?*  
It is the sense of fulfillment I get from being a part of something larger than myself. It's rewarding to see the impact of our efforts in preserving the historical archives, which includes photos, documents, articles, and many other types of historical memorabilia. Also, participating in the planning and execution of local historical events and educating the community about our rich history has been very fulfilling.



# HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS LIST

## HISTORIAN/PLATINUM/ CORPORATE MEMBERS \$1000 AND ABOVE

- Chris & Patti Appel  
Caduceus Medical Group  
Jonathan Ellichman MD  
Mary Lynn Lowry  
Dave Walker  
Chris Quilter

## HISTORIAN PATRONS \$500 AND ABOVE

- Don Crevier/Crevier Family  
Foundation  
Festival of Arts of Laguna Beach  
Sandy Desmond  
David & Karen Lagrew  
John & Caren Nootbar  
Jamie Piotti

- Charles Schoen  
Marvina Shilling  
Karen & Matt Smith  
Barbara Sparkuhl  
Laguna Beach Lawn Bowling Club  
The Stand Natural Foods  
Charles and Ann Quilter

*Thank you!*

Go to [LagunaBeachHistory.org/support-us](http://LagunaBeachHistory.org/support-us) to join or renew now!

## HISTORIAN FRIENDS \$100 AND ABOVE

- Roger & Mary Alderson  
Warren & Mary Allen  
Warren & Marry Allen  
Joseph Ambrose Jr.  
Jay & Getrud Andrus  
Chris & Patti Appel  
Wayne & Faye Baglin  
Curt and Jan Bartsch  
Bob & Vicki Borthwick  
Edward Brancard  
Carolyn Smith Burriss  
Mike Carey  
Scott Case  
Ronald & Francis Chilcote  
Ann Christoph  
Kathy Conway  
Gregg DeNicola MD  
Karen & Roger Dennis

- Michael & Sharon Donoff  
Marisa Driscoll  
Johanna Ellis  
Emerald Bay Community Association  
Robert & Nancy Englund  
Gene & Johanna Felder  
Scott & Tracy Ferguson  
Carolyn Hobert Fisch  
Josie Fox  
Richard and Anne Frank  
Cathy Fry  
Mary Williams & Pat Gallis  
Dale & Marilyn Chere  
Jane Golden  
Barbara Granger  
Robert Granger  
Regina Hartley  
Karen Hedges

- Richard Holder & Barbara Dressler  
John Hoover  
Jerry & Renee Hornbeak  
Lique Hoskins  
Donald & Lona Ingwerson  
Toni Iseman  
Patrick Jackson  
Jeffrey and Linda Jahraus  
Joseph & Susan Jahraus  
Jane Janz  
Eric Jessen  
Mark & Kelly Johnson  
Korey Jorgensen MD  
Trudy Josephson  
Catherine Jurca  
Betty L. Kelly  
Diane Keplinger  
Penny King

- Eric & Laurie Kirkland  
Laguna Beach Greenbelt  
Anders Lasater  
Rob Leiter  
Randy Lewis  
Brent & Diane Lijestrom  
Carol Vieback Lloyd  
Joan Lowell  
Cindy Love & Eric Smith  
James & Carolyn Lyons  
Greg MacGillivray  
Heidi Miller  
Jared & Kathryn Mathis  
Glenna Matthews  
Judy McKay  
Ed Merrilees  
Lindy Narver  
William & Theresa Ann O'Hare  
Professor Michael Onorato

- Thomas & Ginger Osborne  
Richard Plavetich  
Don & Anne Polkingharn  
Joseph & Jan Praske  
Reynolds Carpet  
Monica Richards  
Alex Rounaghi  
Laurie Sanders  
Charles Schoen  
John & Teryll Sindell  
Jim Smith  
Nelda Stone  
Ed Storke  
Gil & Judy Thibault  
Carol Tomlinson  
Gayle Waite  
Robert L. Ward  
Village Laguna  
Warren Watkins



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**NOTE: If you would like to receive your next newsletter in a digital format to save paper and printing costs Send your email address to: [info@lagunabeachhistory.org](mailto:info@lagunabeachhistory.org)**



**Dendinger Boys 1948:** Jim Dendinger in glasses sits with brothers Stan, Phil, and John on the steps of the Murphy Smith Bungalow. Dendinger family members rented the bungalow from their neighbor Blanche Clapp. Jim shared these photographs of his home next door (labeled as "our old wooden house") prior to the building of the bungalow when he visited last spring. His father owned a sheet metal shop in town.



If you prefer to receive this newsletter by email, drop us a line at [info@lagunabeachhistory.org](mailto:info@lagunabeachhistory.org).  
With your support, we are able to maintain our beloved Murphy Smith Bungalow, present historical programs, send this newsletter, and host other events - thank you!

**Visit us on YouTube:** Laguna Beach Historical Society

**Visit our Website:** [lagunabeachhistory.org](http://lagunabeachhistory.org)

**Contact us at:** [info@lagunabeachhistory.org](mailto:info@lagunabeachhistory.org)



**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

- HISTORIAN — \$25**
- HISTORY FRIEND — \$100\***
- HISTORY PATRON — \$500\***
- PLATINUM — \$1,000\***

\*Donors at these levels will be listed in our newsletters.