Secret Garden Tour 2009
Restoration of Pergola Begins
Oral History Program Launched
Executive Director’s Column

Navigating the Choppy Waters

I value the opportunity to use this column in each issue of Timekeeper as a way to provide our members and the general public a clear assessment of where the Society is and where it’s going. Just as important in that assessment is the climate in which we operate and the effects it has on our ability to carry out our mission.

It is not news that our nation finds itself in some of the most difficult financial conditions experienced in generations and the turmoil we’re all seeing is certainly affecting the nonprofit community. News reports are rife with anecdotes of downsizing, deferred maintenance, and delays or outright cancellation of plans for growth, including some fellow San Diego non-profits. Philanthropic giving is down nationwide. The La Jolla Historical Society has not been immune to this economic downturn, most notably reflected in a decline in new and renewing membership and in our recent Annual Appeal.

The most effective way to deal with such a difficult environment is to recognize the dangers and adjust accordingly. The Board of Directors and I are determined to maintain the health of the Society during these challenging times. Through cautious and conservative investment strategies and prudent spending policies, we will ensure our grand ambitions fit within our economic realities while maintaining our efforts at the highest possible levels. We will remain an advocate for La Jolla’s heritage by monitoring our community’s historic structures and making our voice heard when necessary. We will remain dedicated to caring for the Society’s collection and making it available for use. We will continue pursuing partnerships with fellow nonprofits and the business community to capitalize on opportunities that advance our mission and support mutually beneficial goals. We will keep working hard to generate the most enjoyable and effective events. We will move forward with plans to raise money to restore historic Wisteria Cottage.

To do all these things, however, the Society needs your continued support. There are many small ways you can make a big difference: Increase your current membership to the next level. Encourage a neighbor to become a member. Support local businesses that, in turn, support the Society through their Corporate Membership. Attend our fun and informative events. Consider a small tax-deductible donation to the Society.

We’ll get through these difficult economic times together. La Jollans aren’t going to stop caring about their community’s heritage… and neither will the La Jolla Historical Society.

Volunteers: Key to Our Success

National Volunteer Week is in April, a reminder just how indispensable the Society’s dedicated corps of volunteers is to our efforts. On April 18, we are holding our first annual Volunteer Appreciation Day Picnic, a small way of recognizing the efforts of so many who have helped make this organization what it is today. From event support to research to clerical assistance, our volunteers are one of the most vital assets the Society has. As we enhance and expand our activities, the need for more volunteers grows. We have volunteer and internship opportunities requiring varying skills, time commitments and areas of interest (see page 5). Become a volunteer and be a part of our success!

John H. Bolthouse, III
Executive Director
Richly-dressed women in a rainbow of colors at the La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club, sipping glasses of iced tea and talking about how their kids are doing in school. Lydia McNeil, president of Las Patronas, straightens her suit before settling into a relaxed pose, smiling as she prepares to welcome attendees.

The scene was the Las Patronas Beneficiary Luncheon on January 21, 2009. This annual event is the second-most important day of the year to the ladies of Las Patronas (the most important being the Jewel Ball fundraiser). Las Patronas presented checks to ten different non-profits that have worked tirelessly to benefit San Diego in every way possible. The La Jolla Historical Society received a grant for over $39,000 to enable an extensive upgrade to the way its collections are archived and stored. The Las Patronas grant will fund state-of-the-art movable shelving for the collections to be better stored and accessed. In addition, the grant will pay for equipment to digitize the Society’s extensive image collection. Not only will thousands of pictures and documents be kept safely in online archives but residents of La Jolla will be able to easily access the archives in the future.

Executive Director John Bolthouse accepted the check from Caroline Nierenberg, Jewel Ball Chair 2008, and thanked the members of Las Patronas for their generous donation. The preservation of La Jolla’s rich history is an important undertaking, he said, and the grant will allow the Society to transform the way it maintains and accesses the extensive collection.

Fiona McNeil was an intern at the Society during January-February 2009.
March 7, 2009, marked the 100th birthday of Roger Revelle, one of the world’s giants in science and higher education and a true legend in the annals of La Jolla history.

Revelle, who passed away in 1991, was a preeminent researcher and administrator at Scripps Institution of Oceanography for decades in the mid-twentieth century. He advocated passionately not only for the establishment and growth of the University of California, San Diego, but also against the discriminatory covenants permeating La Jolla real estate in the 1960s that restricted housing opportunities for the university’s Jewish faculty. One of the first scientists to study global warming and plate tectonics, Revelle’s life-long work garnered reverence at the highest levels of government. In 1991, Revelle was awarded the National Medal of Science by President George H.W. Bush.

On the occasion of this great man’s contribution to earth sciences, higher education and our community’s history, the La Jolla Historical Society extends its sincerest regards to the Revelle family. Happy Birthday, Roger!

CowParade, the world’s largest public art event, made its California debut in La Jolla on March 15, 2009. The work of artists from La Jolla and Tijuana will be celebrated on fifty life-sized fiberglass cows displayed around La Jolla, including at the La Jolla Historical Society’s historic Wisteria Cottage. From its start in Chicago in 1999, CowParade has appeared in more than fifty cities on six continents and seen by more than 100 million people. The exhibit runs through June 15, 2009.

Proceeds from post-exhibition auctions of the art will benefit Rady Children’s Hospital and the Zoological Society of San Diego.

For more information, visit: www.cowparadelajolla.com.

In a private ceremony in early January, members of the La Jolla Historical Society’s Facilities Committee presented the original threshold from Wisteria Cottage to Ellen Revelle and Mary Revelle Paci, who donated Wisteria Cottage to the Society last summer. The threshold, which probably had been in place at the cottage front entry since Irving Gill’s 1909 renovation of the historic structure, was recently removed to allow for the installation of a new ADA-accessible front entry. Once removed, this small but significant part of La Jolla’s Wall Street Art & Framing, mounted for display in Ellen’s home. Above, the threshold presented to Ellen by (from left) Trip Bennett, Tom Grunow, and Don Dewhurst.
Legends of La Jolla

Robert Andrews: Getting the Picture

Being at the right place at the right time has epitomized the professional life of Robert Andrews. As a boy growing up in Marshalltown, Iowa, Andrews stood on a street corner with his new 298 Falcon Miranda camera taking pictures of small town life in the wake of the Great Depression. It marked the beginning of a lifelong interest in photography.

Newly graduated from Grinnell College in 1957, Andrews was appointed a construction draftsman in New York, mingling with the cultural and social milieu gathering in post-World War II Manhattan. Fast forward to San Diego of the early 1960s: an emerging metropolis of skyscrapers, banking moguls and advertising pioneers. Andrews became art director for the giant Armour Oil Company with fashionable new offices in C. Arnholt Smith’s ritzy downtown landmark, the U.S. National Bank.

Luck, says Andrews, has a way of following a person around. He has lived in La Jolla for forty-seven years, first visiting in 1953 after seeing the idyllic seaside community described in a story in National Geographic. “It looked just like the pictures,” he recalls. “The beautiful views of the ocean. The picturesque Spanish Colonial architecture.” It was that appreciation for La Jolla’s beauty that led Andrews, in 1973, to launch a community effort to preserve La Jolla’s heritage with the La Jolla Historical Society, La Jollans, Inc., and other local organizations. The effort triggered some of the first attempts to save historic properties and incorporate their preservation into the La Jolla Community Plan.

Over the years, Andrews has been a photographer and salesman for a number of camera stores and has run his own film and travelogue production company. Although essentially retired, the camera remains an eternal love. He arrived for his interview at the Society with one of his own inventions: the Andes Expedition Camera. It is built out of found parts, requires no focus and, Andrews says, it is the lightest four-by-five camera ever made.

Volunteer Focus

Rudy Vaca

Whether its still imagery or spoken word, Rudy Vaca spends his life capturing history. If he’s the eye behind the camera, he may record something as grandiose as San Diego’s architectural diversity or as subtle as the birth of a dolphin. When he’s recording audio, Rudy may be capturing the reflections of generations of a single family history in one instance or the delicate sounds of that baby dolphin coming into the world.

For the past six years, Rudy has been a volunteer photographer and video producer recording the visual history of the La Jolla Historical Society. But you may never notice him. He quietly circulates around crowds with his cameras at the Society’s events, capturing our best social moments for posterity. His photographs appear regularly in both Timekeeper and local newspapers. Rudy also records many of our speaker programs on video, part of the Society’s burgeoning oral history program. It is this initiative, on which he already has provided invaluable professional advice, that really excites him. “La Jolla has so many interesting people,” he says. “I feel it’s really important to get their stories.”

Rudy works as a television producer at San Diego State University where he originally studied television, film and photography. For seven years, he served as staff photographer for Café del Rey Moro in Balboa Park. He has been a wedding photographer and provided imagery for the San Diego Film Commission’s first book. His eye for nature is just as diverse, as he has documented the beauty of dolphin life along the California coastline.

With a personal collection of nearly two hundred antique cameras and projectors, Rudy tends to take his work home with him. “I’ve always thought of my job as a real pleasure,” he says.

Welcome New Volunteers

The Society welcomes new volunteer Robbin O’Neal and intern Jemma Mae DeLeon!

Volunteers Needed More Than Ever!

The La Jolla Historical Society continues to expand its efforts in the community by offering new and exciting educational programs, exhibits and events. In order to continue the growth and quality of its efforts, the Society needs volunteers! Current opportunities include:

- Archives / Collections Management
- Neighborhood / Architectural History Research
- Collections Move (to new facility)
- Exhibit Gallery Docent
- Events & Programs
- Clerical & Administrative
- Living History Presenters
- Oral History Developers

Contact the Society to learn more about how you can volunteer the gift of your time and talent to our efforts. Visit www.lajollahistory.org/get-involved/volunteer, e-mail at info@lajollahistory.org, or call (858) 459-5335.
The La Jolla Historical Society collects a wide variety of historically significant materials associated with La Jolla. These collections are maintained as primary and secondary resources and made available for research for generations to come. Donating personal, family or business records allows us to increase the breadth and depth of our resources and better serve the research needs of our patrons. The Society thanks the following for their recent gifts to the Society's collection:

- Greg Lane, “Bank Night” kiosk from the Cove Theatre
- George Coles, photographic prints of Coles Carpet / Fine Flooring corporate history
- Don Dewhurst, photographic prints of early corporate history of Dewhurst & Associates; brochures and publicity material related to Stella Maris Academy and miscellaneous 1940s-1960s life in La Jolla
- Pat Dalhberg, Historical Resources reports and Community planning documents relating to properties and resources in La Jolla.
- Marylin Vollmann Nelson, photographic prints from the 1930s-1940s of Cleancraft Laundry and La Jolla Auto Body Shop; undated photographic postcards featuring Casa de Mañana
- John Thiele, Brown Bear restaurant sign featuring original inscription by Green Dragon Colony founder Anna Held

While the images and artifacts displayed made for an appealing exhibition, the greatest asset of Merchants & Memories was our corps of dedicated volunteers. The exhibit could not have been possible without those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes on fabrication and installation: Terri Whitcomb; Fiona McNeil; Janet Lowe; Robbin O'Neal; Larry Urrutia; Irma Waser; Jemma Mae DeLeon; Sandy Spalding; Debbie Beacham; and Victoria Reed. Special recognition goes to Grunow Construction which fabricated most of the display façades. Finally, we extend sincere thanks to the public face of the exhibit: our friendly volunteer docents who daily guided patrons through the Merchants & Memories, encouraging visitors to share their own experiences of La Jolla’s business community.

The Society welcomes volunteers with technical skills in video, audio, computers, or transcription interested in contributing to this new program. Contact Archivist Michael Mishler or Oral History Committee Chair Judy Haxo at the Society for more information.
Since its inception, La Jolla has always been characterized by its charming simplicity and ability to make anyone feel as if he or she were in an oasis. The hotel La Valencia upholds – even defines – this impression. Officially opened in December 1926, a year of prosperity for La Jolla, La Valencia was and remains quite the gem. Designed by architect Reginald Johnson, the hotel overlooks La Jolla Cove, boldly standing as a palace of terracotta tile and pink stucco. Its ocean view, courtyards, fountains, and gardens create a Mediterranean ambiance of old world charm rarely seen in present-day California coastal resorts.

It could easily be assumed that such a hotel would require much upkeep in order to maintain both its great presence and aesthetic appeal within the community. Thus, it is understandable that the “Pink Lady” has undergone several renovations since it was first built, the most recent a $12 million undertaking that brought the installment of fifteen new villas, redecoration and a new pool. What is most notable about the renovations is not only that it allows La Valencia to keep up with the times but also how she is still able to maintain that simple elegance that made her so appealing in the first place. La Valencia is still the iconic pink that she has been since the beginning and proudly parades her gold-topped tower that was used as a civil defense lookout point during World War II. The hotel still provides the service that makes guests like incoming scientists of the Salk Institute, map-toting tourists, and celebrities like Madonna, John F. Kennedy, Jr., Dustin Hoffman, and Sophia Loren, all feel at home.

La Valencia’s history can be traced, in part, through the files of the La Jolla Historical Society. The Society’s collections highlighting La Valencia contains news clippings, promotional materials, original correspondence, and photographs of the hotel and the people who have been part of La Valencia’s history. In addition, recognizing its conspicuous and historic presence in the central village, the hotel is one of the stops on the Society’s self-guided Walking Tour.

Jemma Mae DeLeon is an intern in the Society Archives

Support the Society at Historic Torrey Pines Gliderport!

May 2-3, 2009
9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Free Admission!

The Gliderport is holding a fun weekend of events to benefit the La Jolla Historical Society. Activities include:

- Free lunches and t-shirts for donors to the Society
- Raffles for tandem flights (proceeds go to the Society)
- Beanbag drop competition for pilots aiming at targets with donation amounts

Join the Society at this beautiful and historic venue!
For more information, call Robin Marien at 858-452-9858
Wheeler J. Bailey is remembered today primarily for the unique 1907 Hopi-inspired home (cover image) he had built on a beautiful site at 7964 Princess Street. Hugging the ocean bluff with northern views of ancient sandstone cliffs and awe-inspiring south-facing views toward La Jolla Cove, the Bailey House today seems frozen in time, still filled with much of the original furniture, art and mementos of the owner. Designed by a young Irving Gill in the early phase of his architectural career, with key contributions from architect Frank Mead, the Bailey House is a significant monument to the past. But while its rustic Mission-style architecture and heavy redwood timbers are awe-inspiring, so, too, is the enigmatic character of Bailey the man.

Born in Vienna, Ohio, Wheeler Bailey was among the many that followed the movement west seeking adventure and fortune. He arrived in San Diego in 1888 at the time of a building boom, successfully establishing a lumber business before becoming a paving contractor just as the region’s dirt roads were being made more navigable for automobiles with cement. In 1920, Bailey became the first to drive the newly paved road from San Diego to La Jolla.

With his great business success, Bailey entered fields of culture and philanthropy. He developed a wide range of interests, from art collecting and music to archaeology and hunting, always known as a great sportsman and a gentleman of finest distinction. Unmistakably handsome with a trim physique, thick thatch of black hair and moustache, Bailey remained a bachelor throughout his life.

When he asked Gill and Mead to design his house in La Jolla, it was intended to be a weekend beach retreat and gathering place for friends. He entertained some of the era’s finest internationally-known figures in music, art and theater, among them actress Ellen Terry and opera singer Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink. Bailey also was close friends with Green Dragon Colony founder Anna Held and her musician husband Max Heinrich. Stories of Miss Held playing Bailey’s piano with three fingers while he sang along became local legend.

The house was run by a Japanese caretaker while Bailey traveled and attended to business. In 1910, his great niece, Helen, came to live in the house as a child. In 1922, she became a student at The Bishop’s School which Bailey endowed and supported as secretary-treasurer for twenty-four years. When Bailey died in 1935 at age 78, Helen inherited the house, spending most of her life there. Her son, La Jolla Historical Society Board member David Reynolds, and wife Marlene, along with Helen’s daughter, Jane Trimble, became custodians in the 1980s. Through their efforts, the property has been preserved and designated historic.

Show your support of the Society...and get a great deal at your favorite community bookstore!

In partnership with Warwick’s bookstore of La Jolla, all new and renewing members of the La Jolla Historical Society at the $100 and above membership levels receive a coupon of 20% off purchases up to $500 at Warwicks!
Those of us who were not born in La Jolla were drawn here by various routes and interests. For me, it was the Salk Institute for Biological Studies and its architect, Louis I. Kahn, that first brought me to La Jolla as a young architect in 1969.

I first heard Louis Kahn speak while I was in architecture school in New York while the Salk was under construction. Arriving in La Jolla four years after the Salk was completed, I was drawn to this celebrated structure and its spectacular, inspiring site. This natural coastal bluff of approximately twenty-six acres was an ideal location for the Institute that Dr. Jonas Salk had envisioned.

Louis Isadore Kahn was born Itze-Leib Schmuilowsky on February 20, 1901 on the Baltic island of Saarama, Estonia (Russia). He immigrated with his parents to Philadelphia in 1905 where the family lived in poverty. Growing up in a traditional Jewish environment formed his later pursuit of knowledge which always had a questioning or Talmudic quality to it. While in high school, Kahn demonstrated a gift as a painter and a musician that brought him citywide art prizes and helped support his family by playing the piano in silent movie theaters.

During his last year of high school, Kahn took a course in architectural history. Though he had won a collegiate scholarship to study art, Kahn resolved instead to become an architect. It took many years of work before he was finally recognized as a significant contributor to the field of architecture. It was his Richards Medical Research Building in Philadelphia which brought Kahn to the attention of Jonas Salk.

Salk, Founding Director of the Salk Institute and creator of the Salk polio vaccine in 1955, selected Kahn as the one person who not only shared his philosophic vision for the Institute but who could also translate that vision into a poetic functional architectural reality. A Salk Institute informational brochure, Salk Institute Architecture and Engineering, states, “Salk’s directives to Kahn called for large, open, unobstructed laboratory interiors – adaptable to the ever-changing needs of science. The building materials had to be simple and strong – able to withstand the tests of time, without costly attention to maintenance. Above all else, the laboratory environment had to meet the researcher’s humanistic and aesthetic needs.” Salk summarized his directives by telling his architect: “Create a facility worthy of a visit by Picasso.”

It was at the Salk that Kahn’s journey towards his later outstanding buildings began. Such breathtaking works as the Bangladesh National Capital in Dhaka, the Phillips Exeter Academy Library and the Yale Center for British Art only accentuated his talents. Kahn’s work on the Salk was not only pivotal to his future architectural work and career but also inspired an entire generation of architects to think beyond the Modernist box. The sum of the Salk’s laboratory buildings, the courtyard and their contextual setting create a synergy, which is greater and more profound than the individual elements would have been. The Salk Institute at forty-four years is of exceptional importance and represents Louis Kahn’s unique, extraordinary and individualistic approach to architectural design.

Jeffrey Shorn, is a professor of Architectural History and former Dean at San Diego’s NewSchool of Architecture. He operates his own La Jolla architectural firm, Jeffrey D. Shorn & Associates, and serves on the La Jolla Historical Society’s Board of Directors.

Image courtesy the Salk Institute for Biological Studies / with permission of the family of Jonas Salk

Kahn conferring with Jonas Salk during planning of the Salk Institute

The Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla

It was at the Salk that Kahn’s journey towards his later outstanding buildings began.
Support for the La Jolla Historical Society’s capital campaign continues to steadily grow. Since the inception of the campaign’s “quiet” phase in January 2007, supporters have expressed varying reasons for what has motivated their decision to get behind the effort. For two of La Jolla’s most distinguished women, in particular, the success of the campaign has special meaning.

**Preserving La Jolla’s Charm Motivates Support for Partners for History**

*Sandy Coggan Erickson* came to La Jolla with her family from Detroit, Michigan, at the age of eight when her father took a job as a manager at Convair. Soon after their arrival, Sandy’s father bought one of the last open lots on Camino de la Costa and built a house where her mother still lives. Sandy has many pleasant memories of growing up in La Jolla — swimming in the ocean, taking classes at the art museum, shopping at John Cole’s Book Shop, going with her elementary school class to the bank — so many on which to reflect. She left La Jolla for college at UCLA, returning in 1973 when husband *David* took a job at SAIC, bringing her back to her “hometown.”

Her founding of the La Jolla High School Alumni Association in 1990 led to her involvement with the La Jolla Historical Society and service on its Board in the mid-1990s. While the family had a tradition of service to the community, in what Sandy feels is part of her midwestern ethos, that tradition did not truly extend to monetary philanthropy until her mother gave a significant donation to La Jolla High’s swimming pool fund.

When the Historical Society launched its capital campaign, Sandy thought, “This is my chance to start my own philanthropic kind of thing. We had the resources.” What has made this campaign so “right” for her is the combination of preserving a landmark location and supporting the mission of the La Jolla Historical Society.

She is looking forward to a time when she is free to do more than give money — a time when she can get in and organize objects and records — the “creative stuff.” She also wants to write a history of La Jolla High School, a goal she set for herself in 1995.

In the meantime, she’s doing what she can for one of her passions: the La Jolla Historical Society and Wisteria Cottage.

*Susan Oliver* attended first grade at La Jolla Elementary School and recalls her family always having a vacation home here. Her husband, *Fred*, also had early La Jolla connections, his family living in El Centro and spending every summer at the local beaches, including La Jolla. Fred’s aunt introduced the two after he returned from Vietnam and they both graduated from San Diego State. They married and bought their first house in La Jolla thirty-four years ago.

In addition to raising three sons here, Susan has been an active community volunteer. She was a “yellow lady” at Scripps Hospital when it was on Prospect Street, was active on the boards of six La Jolla schools, served as president of the La Jolla High PTA, chaired the Jewel Ball, and is a member of Las Patronas.

“La Jolla is home,” says Susan. “The whole family goes on trips to exotic places every summer and we always return knowing we live in the very best place on earth.” When asked what makes it so special, Susan acknowledged the physical beauty. “But more than anything,” she emphasizes, “it’s the friends. I feel secure here.”

It is that love of La Jolla and Fred’s love of history that led the Olivers to support the La Historical Society’s capital campaign so generously. “We’re proud of the history we have here,” Susan comments, “and we want our sons, all three of whom were born here, and future generations to know how glorious it was and still is.” She supports the Historical Society’s mission to keep La Jolla’s history alive. “There is so much potential in the photographs and stories that the Historical Society preserves.”
Capital Campaign Donors
(As of February 28, 2009)

Visionaries
Ellen C. Revelle & Mary Revelle Paci
Anonymous

Pacesetters
Sandy Coggan Erickson
Erickson Family Charitable Foundation
Orrin & Karen Gabsch
Carol & Henry F. Hunte Fund
Las Patronas
J. Frederick & Susan Oliver
Harle G. Montgomery
Arthur & Jeannie Rivkin, Rivkin Family Foundation

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Mark & Terre Edwards
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Marian & Walter Trevor, Jane Trevor
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Dr. Don & Mary Ellen Fleischli
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Oliver & Norma James
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Janet Klauber
In honor of Roger Craig
Fredrick & Angelina Kleinbub
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Angela Leira
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Susan McKean Walden
Jean McKee
William & Patricia Meanley
Neil & Judith Morgan
Dr. Walter Munk
James & Elspeth Myer
Hiomi & Marie Nakamura
In memory of John Shelton
Nicolas & Caroline Nierenberg
Dr. Solon & Peggy Palmer, Jr.
Nancy H. Payne
John & Ernestine Peak
Nancy Ames Petersen
Gina Phillips
Harry & Betty Phillips
Ann Poovey
Clifford P. Robertson
Harry Rudolph, III & Danielle Shapero
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Don Schmidt
Charles "Red" & Kathy Scott
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Dr. Jack & Bonnie Sipe
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Soroptimist International of La Jolla
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Sidney & Judith Stutz
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Michael W. & Marlene Teitelman
John W. Thiele
David Weston
John & Janet Wingfield
Tim & Cindy Wollaeger
Rev. Robert M. Wolterstorff*
Donald & Jeannette Yeckel

* deceased
Perched on a small cliff overlooking La Jolla Cove, Brockton Villa is a prime example of a historic building success story. In 2009, Brockton Villa celebrates its eighteenth year as a restaurant and 114th year as one of La Jolla’s oldest structures. “The fact that we are a historic building actually added to the success of the business,” says Megan Heine, owner of the restaurant with husband David. “It’s part of the selling point when people come to explore La Jolla, the whole idea of dining in a historic beach bungalow, of taking time to notice the historic pictures on display and, of course, take a look at the main attraction: the fireplace with all the abalone shells.” The other part of Brockton’s success, says Megan, is “location, location, location” with a menu devoted to outstanding food for a good value and friendly, family-atmosphere service from Brockton’s ten-member staff.

When Brockton was first built in 1894 by San Diego physician Dr. Joseph Rodes as a private residence, it occupied one of La Jolla’s most outstanding sites on Coast Boulevard, with a striking Cove view looking north to La Jolla Shores beyond Goldfish Point. Today, the vistas – particularly sunsets – are a key part of Brockton’s marketing strategy.

Megan grew up in La Jolla in the 1970s, working for her father, Bob Sinclair (see Timekeeper, Spring 2008), at his famed Pannikin coffee house on Prospect Street before it moved to its present site on Girard Avenue. Sinclair acquired the lease on Brockton Villa in 1989 and restored and adapted the cottage to become a restaurant. In 1993, the work in preserving Brockton Villa was recognized with the prestigious Orchid Award for Historic Preservation.

When the restaurant first opened in 1991, it featured breakfast and lunch only. It still remains a popular morning dining spot, especially known for its “Coast Toast”—a rich orange-flavored variation of French toast —and those incredible La Jolla sunsets. “I’ve lived in La Jolla my whole life,” says Megan, who assumed ownership from her father in 1994. “The businesses and buildings changed a lot in the 1970s and ’80s but now things seem to be happening again to make history seem very fresh and updated.”
### Saved

1927 H.R. & Olga McClintock Spanish Eclectic (7755 Sierra Mar Avenue) Designated historic by Historic Resources Board in late 2008; notable work of master architect Herbert Palmer, with landscaping by landscape architect Milton Sessions, nephew of Balboa Park horticulturist Kate Sessions

1950s Cape Cod-inspired complex (7836 El Paseo Grande) Very much intact apartment with crisp details appearing similar to when first built; architect unknown; application submitted by Affordable Housing Coalition of San Diego County and Citizens for Responsible Equitable Development to convert eight existing apartments to condominiums

1920s Spanish-style California bungalow (7015 Vista Del Mar Avenue) Original Barber Tract cottage; declined request for historic designation due to loss of original architectural integrity; retains scale and fit in neighborhood’s low profile architectural character

### In Transition

Mid-century modern design apartment court (7417-7427 Olivetas Avenue) Designated historic by Historic Resources Board in mid-2008 but reversed by City Council on appeal; approval granted for demolition and replacement with condominiums (see Timekeeper, Spring 2008)

1920s Spanish Colonial (7907 Princess Street) Rejected as a historic resource due to loss of integrity over time; 2,232 sq. ft. addition scheduled; land beneath designated as Site #6, Indiana Archeological Site; like rest of upper South La Jolla Shores area, site is potentially rich in Indiana artifacts

1948 Mid-Century Modern (5960 Camino De la Costa) Oceanfront home repeatedly altered and remodeled over the years; slated for demolition to allow for 18,000 sq. ft. home with architect Sim Bruce Richards, an Oklahoma Cherokee who studied under Frank Lloyd Wright

### Threatened

1920s Spanish Colonial (7907 Princess Street) Rejected as a historic resource due to loss of integrity over time; 2,232 sq. ft. addition scheduled; land beneath designated as Site #6, Indiana Archeological Site; like rest of upper South La Jolla Shores area, site is potentially rich in Indiana artifacts

1920s Spanish style California bungalow (7015 Vista Del Mar Avenue) Original Barber Tract cottage; declined request for historic designation due to loss of original architectural integrity; retains scale and fit in neighborhood’s low profile architectural character

1948 Mid-Century Modern (5960 Camino De la Costa) Oceanfront home repeatedly altered and remodeled over the years; slated for demolition to allow for 18,000 sq. ft. home with architect Sim Bruce Richards, an Oklahoma Cherokee who studied under Frank Lloyd Wright

### Monitor

**Status of Historic Structures in La Jolla**

**In Transition**

**Threatened**

**Saved**

**Monitor**

**Our friends at the Coronado Historical Association announce**

**2009 Coronado Historic Home Tour**

Sunday, May 3, 2009
11 am - 4 pm
(619) 435-7242
www.coronadohistory.org

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Work Begins on Wisteria Cottage Pergola

On March 9, 2009, work began on restoration of the iconic pergola at historic Wisteria Cottage. The pergola, which trains the namesake wisteria vine at the entry of the Cottage, clearly shows its century-old age. Substantial rot and structural deformity had become more apparent recently, presenting concerns about safety and declining aesthetics. While the Society’s capital campaign to raise funds for the entire Wisteria Cottage project is far from reaching its $2M goal, the Board of Directors decided that funds raised to date were sufficient to allow work to commence on the pergola.

The meticulous process of restoring the structure first required professional pruning of the wisteria vine prior to its annual springtime bloom. Disassembly of the pergola’s components involved careful removal of each piece that was simply too damaged to retain and replacement with a virtually identical piece of redwood, replicating the original as closely as possible. Work is expected to be completed by mid-April.

The pergola project involved a number of key individuals. Board member Tom Grunow of Grunow Construction conducted extensive research on the original structural materials of the pergola and located a supplier of vintage redwood for use in the restoration. Architect Trip Bennett (Bennett & Associates), also a member of the Society’s Board, developed architectural plans for the restored pergola structure (as well as the walkway underneath) while local architect David Singer contributed invaluable counsel during the planning process. Board member and landscaper Betty Vale has been the principle adviser on the wisteria vine, ensuring its proper handling during the project. The work itself is under the direction of Don Dewhurst of Dewhurst & Associates. The professional services of these talented individuals have been provided to the Society almost entirely as in-kind donations.

Exclusive sponsorship opportunities for the pergola are still available. Contact Executive Director John Bolthouse for more information.

Preservation through Renewal

Grunow Construction of La Jolla recently took on two small adjoining 1940s houses as a development program. Located just off La Jolla Boulevard at 503 and 505 Bonair Place, the distressed properties previously were owned by Paula Kent, a well-known figure in La Jolla for many years. After Kent’s death, the properties were sold by her estate.

“I like older cottages,” says Tom Grunow, whose company specializes in older structures. “Working on them is really a more manageable kind of project than the higher end ones.”

The challenges for Grunow’s design and construction teams were to develop floor plans updated to serve today’s lifestyles and to work with materials in a creative way. To keep the projects as “green” as possible by recycling demolition debris, Grunow incorporated re-used materials like old hardwood floors, tiles, lighting fixtures, and windows into the renovations. The façades were changed significantly to give the two heretofore non-descript structures greater character; one transformed into a small Spanish bungalow and the other with crisp Cape Cod-style detailing. The Spanish bungalow was expanded into a duplex for two tenants with an added 729 square feet of living space. The Cape Cod house added 464 square feet of single family living space. Fireplaces were added to all living spaces, along with new kitchens and baths. Other updates included double-insulated glass, full wall and ceiling insulation and new heating, electrical and plumbing systems. Old redwood was recycled along with interior doors and exterior window frames. Both houses are surrounded by new drought-tolerant landscaping.

Assisting on the project were Design Lead Architecture of La Jolla along with detail specialists Annie Williams and Kathy King and Grunow’s son, Dan, who devised the “green” building concept plans.

“I like older cottages,” says Tom Grunow. “Working on them is really a more manageable kind of project than the higher end ones.”
Ever wondered how future historians will write history documented during the digital age? With fewer letters, diaries and other personal papers, one wonders where researchers and writers will get reliable information to develop astute insight. Several recent incidents made it apparent that even current printed methods are not always reliable.

In January, a native La Jollan called attention to a Fall 2007 article in Timekeeper that referenced Dr. Edward Copp as “one of the founders of the Scripps Clinic,” as per Copp’s 1969 obituary filed in the Society’s archives. In fact, Dr. Copp was hired by the clinic’s first director, Dr. James Sherrill, who was hired by the clinic’s true founder and benefactress, Ellen Browning Scripps.

In the La Jolla Historical Society’s 2008 calendar, the December picture (below) depicts a Ford truck in a Christmas parade identified as from the 1950s. Actually, as pointed out by an eagle-eyed observer, the Cove Theatre marquee on the extreme left displays the 1961 movie *The Hustler*. A check of the files found the photo was misidentified as being from the prior decade.

A 1970s pamphlet in the archives refers to Herbert Palmer, designer of La Jolla’s “Taj Mahal” house, as the illegitimate son of England’s King Edward VII with the source as his half-sister, Helen Gwyther. That claim, too, now appears spurious. Palmer’s 1902 English marriage certificate to Mary Ellen Coe identifies his father as “Edward John Palmer,” a deceased “general produce merchant,” and lists Palmer’s age as 29. His second marriage application, filed in Reno, Nevada, in 1923, to Florence Buchanan gives his age as 42. Four years later, his San Diego marriage certificate to Georgie Held lists his age as 57 and his father as Thomas E. Palmer. Finally, his death certificate declares a birth date of May 8, 1879, but the name and birthplace of both parents are indicated as unknown while the source was Helen Gwyther. Obviously, the numbers – not to mention the lineage – just don’t add up.

Writing history isn’t an easy task. What makes it into print isn’t always truth but once printed, the words take on a life of their own. As caretakers of the resources that document our heritage, the most valuable role we play is ensuring the record is accessible for posterity and corrected when necessary.

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Help Designate a Postal Treasure

In 2010, the La Jolla Post Office on Wall Street will be seventy-five years old – a landmark date that may help advance potential designation on the National Register of Historic Sites.

One of the first Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects in California, the cornerstone of the post office building was laid in July 1935 and dedicated later that year in November. Built by WPA workers under the direction of La Jolla contractor Frank L. Stimson, the design was described as “modified Spanish type,” built of reinforced concrete with tile roof. The project included the historic mural “Scenic View of the Village” by Belle Baranceanu that remains today. In 1959, an addition was built on the facility.

The La Jolla Historical Society is developing plans to pursue designation of the historic structure on the National Register and welcomes anyone interested in assisting with this effort. If you would like to volunteer, contact Society historian Carol Olten at 858-459-5335 or historian@lajollahistory.org.

Help the Society recognize this local symbol of America’s postal heritage!

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Spring Lecture Series
January - March 2009

January 20 lecture, held at St. James Hall

Dr. Richard Atkinson, former Chancellor, UCSD

Speakers Dr. Jonathan Singer and Dr. Suzanne Bourgeois

Corporate Member Appreciation Night
February 5, 2009

Ruth Varonfakis with Nancy Warwick of Warwick’s

Society Archivist/Curator Michael Mishler and Gina Phillips of Adelaide’s

Girard Gourmet’s François & Diana Goedhuys

Owners and employees of over twenty community businesses were in attendance

Don Dewhurst, Tony Alkire, Dave and Doug Dewhurst (Dewhurst & Associates) with Dan and Tom Grunow (Grunow Construction)

Min Harris and Society Board member Leslie Davis of Davis Marketing

Save the Date
Ellen Browning Scripps Luncheon
Saturday, October 17, 2009

Tickets go on sale August 1

Save the Date
Feasting on History
Saturday, September 26, 2009
Tickets go on sale June 1
Join Heritage Circle! This exclusive group of La Jolla Historical Society supporters recognizes and honors those who have made a commitment to preserving La Jolla’s heritage by including the Society in their will or estate plans via bequest, charitable and deferred gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, charitable remainder trusts, pooled income funds, and life insurance. Help ensure the Society’s future by creating a lasting legacy of friendship.

For more information, visit: www.lajollahistory.org/getinvolved/donate/plannedgiving or e-mail info@lajollahistory.org
A PASSION FOR PRESERVATION

What type of architecture is it?

French Eclectic Revival style architecture is part of the European Eclectic Revival movement that was popular throughout the suburbs of America after World War I. Many American soldiers were stationed in Europe, including France during the war and they brought back memories of the old farmhouses, manors and châteaux they saw there. These memories of French architecture interpreted into what know today as the French Eclectic style, where the homes can be modest in size or as grand as their chateau-like cousins. French Eclectic Revival style features; steeply pitched roof lines, wall finishes of stucco, stone or brick, shuttered windows, balconies, massive chimneys and sometimes you will find half-timbering on the facades.

The featured home was designed by Thomas Shepherd in 1934 and features a typical steeply pitched roof line and “Normandy-esque” style windows with wooden shutters. Shepherd used this style of window and roofline in many of his homes and historians feel that he may have been influenced by his own travels throughout northern France. This home also reflects the conservative classic style and quality that Shepherd envisioned for our growing La Jolla community in the 1920s & 30s.

Recently historically designated as the, Minnie Gerhard/Thomas L. Shepherd House, Historic Site #898, this home at 7118 Olivetas Avenue in La Jolla’s Barber Tract is also typical of the style of home that Phillip Barber, the neighborhood’s original developer, fancied for the area. Today, much of the original Barber Tract remains and it is treasure trove of architecturally designed European Revival style homes from the 1920s and 30s.

LINDA MARRONE
Historic & Architectural Specialist
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www.LindaMarrone.com

Trained in historic real estate & architecture by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, DC, Linda blends her passion for preservation and gardening into her real estate business. A co-founder of the Secret Garden Tour of Old La Jolla, you can find Linda working in her historic Barber Tract garden or you can read her garden tips in the La Jolla Village News.

List or purchase a home from Linda and mention that you read about her in the “Timekeeper” and she will happily donate a percentage of her commission to the La Jolla Historical Society.

Take a tour of Linda’s garden on: www.LindaMarrone.com

7118 OLIVETAS AVENUE IS CURRENTLY OFFERED FOR SALE.
CALL ME FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT
The Dewhurst crew breaking ground on their first project in 1929.

(Ernest Dewhurst pictured 2nd from the left)
Coming Events

Annual Members Meeting
April 27, 2009
St. James by-the-Sea Church
See page 2

LIHS Benefit at Torrey Pines Gliderport
May 2-3, 2009
See page 16

11th Annual Secret Garden Tour
May 9, 2009
See page 3

Ellen Browning Scripps Luncheon
October 17, 2009
La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club
See page 4

La Jolla Historical Society Membership Application

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Student - $25 (three years: $50)
- Society Friend/Family - $50 (three years: $150)
- Heritage - $100 (three years: $275)
- Benefactor - $250 (three years: $750)
- Jewel - $500 (three years: $1,500)
- Legacy - $1,000 (three years: $2,750)
- Director’s Circle - $5,000 (three years: $14,000)

- Membership
- Gift
- Change of Address

Name ______________________________
Address ______________________________________
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City_____________________ State______
Zip_________ Phone__________________
E-Mail Address __________________________

Enclosed is a check in the amount of _________________ payable to the La Jolla Historical Society.

Charge credit card number ___________________ Exp. _____________
Visa   MasterCard

Signature ______________________________________
E-Mail ________________________________

The Society is a tax-exempt, public benefit, non-profit corporation and qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code of 1986, as amended. Your membership and donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Advertise in Timekeeper

The La Jolla Historical Society now accepts advertisements in its newsletter. Quarterly circulation of Timekeeper is over 1,200 with an estimated 2,000 pass-along. All proceeds for advertisements enable the Society to expand and enhance the educational and historical content of Timekeeper.

For more information, contact:
(858) 459-5335
info@lajollahistory.org

All advertisements are subject to approval by the Society to ensure compatibility with organizational mission.