Executive Director’s Column

Enhancing Our Visitors’ Experience

Museums and exhibit galleries are wonderful places to see great examples of natural and cultural history. One of the best ways to enhance the experience is to give the patron the opportunity to interact with a friendly, informed docent who effectively links the visiting public with the organization and its exhibition programs.

As the Society develops and introduces more exhibits in Wisteria Cottage, a robust docent program will be essential. Docents can help the Society become more effective communicators to and educators of our visiting public.

To formally introduce our new docent program, we are excited to hold our first Docent Open House on January 30, 2010 in Wisteria Cottage. We’re looking for dedicated volunteers with a passion for La Jolla and its unique history and who want to share their enthusiasm and knowledge with fellow La Jollans and out-of-town visitors. Additionally, the more dedicated docents we can get involved, the more often Wisteria Cottage can be open to the public. Janet Lowe and Nancy Koch, our Co-Volunteer Coordinators, are working hard behind the scenes to organize the Docent Open House and help the Society launch this program. With their leadership, the January 30 event is sure to be fun and informative.

More Great Events!

This past fall, the Society was honored to host a series of phenomenal lecturers for our Fall 2009 Lecture Series. Four of California’s finest architectural experts, Diane Kane, Ted Bosley, Lauren Bricker, and Alan Hess, offered a fascinating in-depth look into the international influence on our region’s unique architecture.

For this season, thanks to the Society’s dedicated Programs Committee and the leadership of Lecture Series co-chairs Ruth Covell and Elizabeth Carson, the Society will present a series of lectures profiling the histories of three of La Jolla’s great schools (see page 4). In partnership with The Bishop’s School, La Jolla High School and La Jolla Country Day, the Society’s upcoming Winter Lecture Series will help attest to the long-standing strength of our community’s fine educational institutions.

Finally, I want to extend a special thanks to Laird Butler of Merchant du Vin and Giuseppe Ciuffa of Giuseppe’s Fine Catering for making the La Jolla Antique Brewery Fest on November 21 such a success. We look forward to featuring this fun beer tasting fundraiser again in 2010.

Annual Appeal

Thanks to so many of the Society’s members and supporters, Annual Appeal 2009 is turning out to be the most successful end-of-year fundraiser we have ever experienced. As of this writing, we have surpassed the $32,000 mark — phenomenal! On behalf of the Board, staff and volunteers, I extend my sincere thanks to everyone who has given (page 17), with special gratitude to Sandy and David Erickson and their family foundation for their remarkable gift to this annual effort. In this challenging economic environment, it is encouraging to know that the Society’s efforts retain outstanding support in the community.

Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year,

John H. Bolthouse, III
Executive Director

Docent Open House

Saturday, January 30, 2010 at 10:00 am, Wisteria Cottage

- Learn how you can share your interest in La Jolla history with others
- Meet current docents and staff
- Enjoy a private tour of historic Wisteria Cottage and the Society’s newest exhibition, All Roads Lead to La Jolla
- Coffee and light breakfast served

Free Admission / RSVPs required

To RSVP, contact volunteers@lajollahistory.org or Michael Mishler at (858) 459-5335 by Friday, January 22, 2010.

Cover image: The San Carlos Station was built in 1924 as a stop for the electric train serving La Jolla for many years. After service was discontinued, the station. Located at 6063 La Jolla Boulevard, was purchased by the La Jolla United Methodist Church in 1953 for use as a chapel and the church still uses part of the structure today.
Thursday & Friday, January 7-8, 12:00 – 4:00 pm
Come see the Society’s newest exhibition, *All Roads Lead to La Jolla: A Journey through our Automotive Past*. Through images and maps from the Society’s collection, see how the automobile changed La Jolla’s culture and landscape. Admission is free though donations are welcome. This exhibition is open every Thursday and Friday and runs through February 20.

Friday, January 8, 5:00 – 6:00 pm / 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Join the Society and Warwick's bookstore for a reception at Wisteria Cottage with Colin Comer, author of the new book, *The Complete Book of Shelby Automobiles*, and Phil Remington, chief engineer of the legendary Shelby Cobra. Following the reception, attend a special lecture and book signing event at Warwick’s. Both events open to the public and admission is free.

Saturday, January 9, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm
As part of the La Jolla Motor Car Classic Road Rally through San Diego County, approximately sixty vintage automobiles will slowly drive by Wisteria Cottage on their way to their final stop. Bring your lawn chairs and get your roadside seat on the Wisteria Cottage lawn to see this “Parade of Classics.” And while you’re at it, come in and see the Society’s exhibition *All Roads Lead to La Jolla*!

Saturday, January 9, 3:00 pm
Come to the La Jolla Library for a special showing of the motion picture *The World’s Fastest Indian* starring Anthony Hopkins. This great family movie tells the story of the 1967 world land speed record set by 68-year-old Burt Munro on an Indian motorcycle which will be on display at the La Jolla Motor Car Classic on January 10!

Sunday, January 10, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Join us at beautiful Scripps Park for the *Sixth Annual La Jolla Motor Car Classic*! Some of the day’s fun features include:
- More than 140 classic automobiles competing for awards
- More than twenty vintage motorcycles competing for awards
- Approximately sixty restored Shelby and Cobra cars on general display
- Historic, record-setting 1920 Indian Scout motorcycle featured in the movie *The World’s Fastest Indian*
- Nissan’s Concept Car Display, featuring three concept cars, including the state-of-the-art “gravity racer”
- La Jolla High School Auto Shop’s custom racing car display
- Delicious food and beverages
- Great car-related merchandise
- Live music by the Dave Patrone Band and the La Jolla High Stage Band

All proceeds benefit the La Jolla Historical Society. Enjoy a weekend of family fun and see the true classics of automobile history!

Event Volunteers Needed!
Be a part of the behind-the-scenes fun at the Motor Car Classic!
**Volunteer opportunities include:**
- Car & Motorcycle Ushers
- Cashiers, Greeters & Info Tent
- Volunteer Check-In
- Security

All volunteers receive free admission, snacks & drinks.
Register to volunteer at [www.lajollamotorcarclassic.com](http://www.lajollamotorcarclassic.com) or volunteers@lajollahistory.org
The Society is pleased to announce an exciting new documentary film project that will showcase an important piece of La Jolla’s rich heritage: glider aviation at the historic Torrey Pines Gliderport. Tentatively titled Soaring Torrey Pines, the film is being produced by the La Jolla Historical Society with the help of a team of soaring aviation enthusiasts, including award-winning aviation documentary film director William Liscomb.

Many La Jollans may have seen the sailplanes, hang gliders, paragliders, and radio controlled gliders flying along the beautiful Torrey Pines cliffs. For many, however, the history and unique character of the Gliderport remains unknown. The first person known to have soared above Torrey Pines in a sailplane was none other than Charles Lindbergh who, on February 24, 1930, launched from Mount Soledad, sailing along the Torrey Pines cliffs to set a regional glider distance record. Since that historic flight, national and world soaring records have been set at the Gliderport and numerous innovative aircraft designs have been tested there. More than a historic site, the Gliderport remains unique for soaring aviation. In the 1930s and ‘40s, dozens of gliderports dotted the California coastline – from Point Loma in San Diego to Point Reyes north of San Francisco. Today, however, Torrey Pines is the only coastal gliderport remaining for manned sailplane operations along the American west coast. Designated a National Soaring Landmark by the National Soaring Museum in 1992, Torrey Pines Gliderport also is listed on the local, state and National Register of Historic Places.

The film project initially will produce a short 10-15 minute film (currently in production) accompanied by a booklet. Completion of this first production is scheduled for Spring 2010. Phase two of the project will encompass a more ambitious feature-length high definition documentary film, scheduled to be completed later in 2010, depending on funding.

“As a glider pilot and member of the Society, I’m very excited to be working on this film,” says Film Project Committee member Bruce Elder. “I meet many visitors to the Gliderport, even La Jolla natives, who come to enjoy the views or take a tandem flight, but are surprised to learn about the historical importance of the site, or that it is the last West Coast gliderport where sailplanes still fly. This film is a great opportunity to present a fascinating part of history to a broader audience and share some of the fun we glider pilots experience each time we soar along the Torrey Pines coastline.”

Be a part of preserving the Torrey Pines Gliderport story! The Society welcomes support that will help underwrite the film project. For more information or to support the project, contact Executive Director John Bolthouse at jbouthouse@lajollahistory.org or 858-459-5335 extension 2, or visit www.lajollahistory.org/collections-programs/gliderportfilm
### Winter 2010

**La Jolla Motor Car Classic**
- **January 10**
  - Location: Scripps Park
  - Time: 10:30 am – 1 pm

**Winter Lecture Series: Lecture 1**
- **January 26**
  - Location: The Bishop’s School
  - Time: 6 pm – 9 pm

**Docent Open House**
- **January 30**
  - Location: Wisteria Cottage
  - Time: 10 am – noon

**Winter Lecture Series: Lecture 2**
- **February 24**
  - Location: La Jolla High School
  - Time: 6:00 pm – 9 pm

**Winter Lecture Series: Lecture 3**
- **March 16**
  - Location: La Jolla Country Day School
  - Time: 6 pm – 9 pm

**Volunteer Appreciation Day Picnic**
- **April 17**
  - Location: Wisteria Cottage
  - Time: 11 am – 2 pm

**Exhibition: TBD**
- **May 20 – July 16**
  - Location: Wisteria Cottage
  - Time: 12 pm – 4 pm (Thursdays & Fridays only)

**Ellen Browning Scripps Luncheon**
- **October 16**
  - Location: Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla
  - Time: 11:30 am – 2:00 pm

**La Jolla Antique Brewery Fest**
- **November 20**
  - Location: Wisteria Cottage
  - Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**La Jolla Christmas Parade Open House**
- **December 5**
  - Location: Wisteria Cottage
  - Time: Noon – 5 pm

### For more information on the Society's events, visit www.lajollahistory.org
If you ever wanted to research some aspect of history, you would find that only a small percentage of all the primary sources of history found in archives would be available online. Why? Because it takes time, money and the right equipment to scan, identify and convert documents into an Internet-based format. This is a challenge that affects more than just the archives of the La Jolla Historical Society. Even the National Archives will probably manage to digitize and upload only a small percentage of their collection of more than nine billion documents.

As Archivist, one of my goals is to expand the online presence of the Society’s collection by participating in the Online Archive of California (www.oac.cdlib.org), a collective of over 150 historical organizations, universities, museums, and libraries focused on all aspects of California history. To help make that goal possible, a generous grant from Las Patronas has provided the image scanning equipment that will allow us to digitize and store electronic versions of the images in our collection (see story page 12).

But the equipment is only part of the resource equation for the digital archive project – the archives needs volunteers! Not only will you learn about La Jolla’s history but you’ll help make that history available to others. It is my hope that within the next two years the Society can list its finding aids and selected parts of its extensive image collection on the Online Archive of California, making our collections instantly and conveniently accessible to millions. From identifying photographs to creating finding aids to actually scanning, you can make a real difference in ensuring the Society’s great still image collection is seen and appreciated for generations to come.

Michael Mishler is the Society’s Archivist & Curator

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New Anecdotal History of La Jolla

Have you ever wondered how the streets of La Jolla were named? How was mail delivered to La Jollans without street addresses? Where did “Lucky Lindy” eat the night before his historic trans-Atlantic journey?

*From the Files*, a new publication by longtime Society volunteer George Silvani, answers these and many other interesting questions. This unique and sometimes quirky tome is a different take on our community’s history. The product of years of research, Silvani intended the book to offer an often-times humorous glance into the lives of the less well-known residents of La Jolla who were instrumental in the community’s growth.

Copies of the limited-run book are now available at the Society for $10.99. Who knows… when you stop by to get your copy, you might just find George rummaging through the archives preparing his next book.
Part I: A Surprise Visit
by George Silvani & Carol Olten

Despite being a world-renowned children’s hero, La Jolla’s Theodore Geisel – AKA “Dr. Seuss” – reputedly was not known for his great love of children. Keeping in touch with their ideas and what they enjoyed reading, however, was important to him. Once, during the height of his career, Geisel made a surprise visit to first graders at the Balmer School when it was located at Wisteria Cottage. The occasion even made Life magazine.

It was the most exciting thing that ever occurred at the school, recalls Dorothy Haven, who taught the first grade at Balmer at the time of the Geisel’s 1959 visit. A picture of the famed author and the class appeared in Life under the headline “The Wacky World of Dr. Seuss.” By coincidence, Dorothy’s son, Carter, appeared in the middle of the picture. Geisel announced to the Balmer schoolchildren, as quoted by Life:

“I’m writing a new book and last week I got very tired. I need a new animal and I thought maybe you’d help me find one. Now, the first thing is to figure out what color spinach to put at the end of the tail. Do you want droopy spinach with squiggles in it? Do you think his topknot should be noodly? Should we put a nose on the end of his nose? Now, what’ll we call it? That’s good… a “Moon Monster”!

Balmer School opened in Wisteria Cottage in 1942 soon after Roger and Ellen Revelle purchased the property. Kindergarten, first and second grades were taught there for seventeen years at Wisteria and in the small carriage house on the property. The school was founded by Louise Balmer, an educational entrepreneur, who came to La Jolla from the East Coast. Ms. Balmer started the school with four pupils in 1926 at her home, 921 Coast Blvd. It became La Jolla Country Day in 1961.

Part II: Dr. Seuss’ Bookstore
by Carol Olten

They arrived in La Jolla within two years of each other. Barbara Cole came in 1946 to start a bookstore with her husband who had returned from duty with the Army. Ted Geisel came to settle in La Jolla in 1948 after retiring as a lieutenant colonel at the end of the Second World War to write and illustrate children’s books.

Inevitably, within the small town atmosphere that characterized post-war La Jolla, it was all but impossible for the two not to meet: Cole, the kindly, creative and humor-loving bookseller, and Geisel, the sardonic, fun-loving spirit who was to revolutionize children’s books by inventing a world of wonder inhabited by “grinches,” “loraxes” and “whos” as the beloved Dr. Seuss. The books came and went and so did their lives as two of the most endeared members of La Jolla. Geisel died in 1991 at age 87 and Cole thirteen years later at 91. But, oh the places they took us!

Geisel was one of Barbara Cole’s first friends among local authors after she and her husband opened John Cole’s Book Shop and Craft Store in an old house on Ivanhoe Avenue. A scrapbook she kept of the store shows pictures of Geisel dating to 1950. After John Cole’s passing in 1959 and the move of the book store to Wisteria Cottage in 1966, the association continued. Barbara sent boxes of newly-published Seuss books up to Geisel’s studio for signing – many La Jollans continue to remember the special joy of buying signed Seuss copies from her. Geisel would thank Cole with personal letters and notes. He also thanked her once for a gift of a wind-up dancing duck, the kind of whimsical item she offered in her store.

After Geisel’s death, a New Orleans-style parade of dancers and musicians was organized as a celebration of life. One of the places the procession passed was John Cole’s Book Shop.
William Lumpkins

Architect and artist William Lumpkins had edition of his 1961 book La Casa Adobe, he exclaimed that his fellow designers should “throw away their handbooks of California Contemporary Architecture and their books of the Bauhaus Group and look and see themselves in relation to the country in which they are living, and create for these people an architecture which is original and adapted to the country.”

William Lumpkins left a substantial legacy of adobe-style dwellings in his wake, especially in and around Santa Fe where he first practiced and later returned to spend the last three decades of his life. In the interim, he also left his signature on La Jolla where he lived from 1950 to 1967. Three of his landmarks in La Jolla are the Chancellors House (designed originally as a private residence for William Black in 1952); the iconic rotunda of the Athenaeum’s Art and Music Library (completed in 1957 as an addition to the William Templeton Johnson structure); and the La Jolla Post Office (which added more than 6,000 sq. ft. to the 1935 WPA building in 1959). Lumpkins also designed many private residences in La Jolla. He maintained an office at 7909 Herschel Avenue and he and wife Mary Alice lived in a home of his own design at 1723 Castellana Road from 1956 until the time of their departure for Santa Fe in the late 1960s.

Born in 1909 on Rabbit Ears Ranch in Clayton, New Mexico, Lumpkins early on developed a love for the landscape of the Southwest – its dry desert environment and the rolling hills that peaked in the Sange de Christo Mountains outside Santa Fe. He grew up on ranches in New Mexico and Arizona and painted abstracts of the landscape before moving to Santa Fe in 1930 to pursue a dual career as an architect and a fine artist, much influenced by the paintings of Peter Hurd. America’s entry into the Second World War interrupted Lumpkins’ career when he joined the Navy.

While living in Santa Fe, Lumpkins made the acquaintance of William and Ruth Black who lived in a 1920s-era adobe home typical of Santa Fe’s popular Pueblo Revival-style architecture. The Blacks were affluent financiers and thoroughbred aficionados. In 1947, they purchased 248 acres of oceanfront real estate above La Jolla and began to develop it as La Jolla Farms. Lumpkins was hired to design their 10,000-sq. ft. adobe hacienda home complete with features typical of Southwest architecture, including exterior portales arcades, handcrafted corbels and decorative ironwork. Proudly, Lumpkins called it “the first pure New Mexico-style house built in San Diego.” Attracting wide attention, it was easily Lumpkins’ calling card to La Jolla.

He soon became a celebrated resident, contributing to the social and cultural life of the community as both an artist and architect. He was active with the La Jolla Art Center (today the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego) and had a variety of interests. Later in life, Lumpkins became recognized for incorporating adobe designs with solar technology.

Today, his name lives on in two worlds: art and architecture. His art work is preserved in the Smithsonian Institution’s Archives of American Art while the Chancellors House, through the tireless efforts of the La Jolla Historical Society, is in the final stages of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

“Design Masters” is made possible by the generous support of:
A true New Yorker from day one, Gladys Kohn was born in the Bronx and grew up in Yonkers. But when she and husband Bert considered starting a new life on the West Coast nearly 25 years ago, or returning to New York, the answer was easy.

“We were staying at the Sea Lodge, walking along the beach asking ourselves if we really wanted to go back,” Kohn recalls. “Then we suddenly looked around at this beautiful spot and said to each other, ‘Are we crazy or what?’”

The Kohns have lived in La Jolla ever since. Gladys has been extremely active with the La Jolla Historical Society since 1997 when she first became a Board member, serving as Secretary and volunteering hundreds of hours on various committees. One of her many endeavors has been working with the Secret Garden Tour which she chairs for the 2010 event.

“It’s all very exciting around the Society,” says Gladys. “Especially now, being able to develop our facilities for the community.”

Her interest in history dates to her student days at New York University where she obtained degrees in history and art history. She was active in developing education and grant programs while running a gift shop in New York. In 1978, she and her Bert left New York to move to Minneapolis when he took a job there. Another career opportunity brought the Kohns to the West Coast.

“La Jolla right away seemed very special as a place to live,” Gladys says. “The sense of the town itself with local merchants and family-owned businesses. There’s never a real need to go outside of the town for anything and I love being near the water. After all these years of living here, I still feel that I’m on a vacation.”

Volunteer Focus

Gladys Kohn

Exciting news! The La Jolla Historical Society is launching a formal docent program! Join us on Saturday, January 30, 2010, at 10:00 am as the Society will be hosting a Docent Open House at Wisteria Cottage. Everyone who loves history and meeting new people is welcome to attend. This event will be the Society’s first docent orientation session and a light breakfast will be provided. As part of the day’s activities, Historian Carol Olten will share some of her extensive knowledge about La Jolla, the Society and its historic buildings. Then, Archivist & Curator Michael Mishler will talk about future exhibits planned at the Society and discuss the role of an exhibit gallery docent.

What is a docent, anyway? Docents will be true ambassadors for the Society, serving as expert guides for exhibits in Wisteria Cottage and, eventually, leading guided walking tours around La Jolla’s historic village. The Society will be providing training sessions and meetings as part of the program. We will be establishing docent teams with accomplished volunteers Pascale Bauer, Virginia Deardorff, Colleen Foster, Martha Pistacchi, Martie Rice, and Mary Vicknair serving as Docent Captains.

The Society has a current need for volunteers. Docents are needed for the new exhibition All Roads Lead to La Jolla which runs from December 3 through February 20 at Wisteria Cottage, and additional volunteers are needed for the La Jolla Motor Car Classic. Visit our website for specific volunteer opportunities or contact the Society directly if you’d like to get involved.

Thanks to all volunteers for utilizing the new volunteer time sheets! These will help to strengthen grant applications and enable us to properly track and acknowledge the incredible amount of time the Society has benefited from the talents of our volunteers. We now have an in/out box for time sheets in the reception area of the office.

Happy Holidays… and see you January 30!

Volunteers Needed!

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 volunteers@lajollahistory.org, or call (858) 459-5335.

2010 Calendars

$10.99 plus tax

Available at the La Jolla Historical Society, Burns Drugs, Warwicks, D.G. Wills, Ark Antiques, and Cave Store
La Valencia is looking forward to 2010. A series of renovations to the historic hotel are nearing completion, including refurbishment of the main entry with new tiled floors, exterior painting and awnings, and renovation of the signature Mediterranean Room and al fresco dining patio. A new kitchen will feature the latest concepts in food preparation under the supervision of executive chef Sean Eastwood, coming from Chicago to join the historic hotel.

Maintenance on the carnation-colored La Jolla landmark (nicknamed “The Pink Lady”) is a continuing challenge. As a member of the Historic Hotels of America, La Valencia’s efforts at preservation must be constantly balanced with making the upgrades necessary to be competitive in the contemporary hotel marketplace. “La Valencia’s owners are dedicated to preserving the property without sacrificing historic integrity,” says director of sales Cathleen Flowers. “We often have repeat customers who go back for generations, people who gravitate to older hotels. And we share in the history of La Jolla and the community.”

La Valencia originally was designed by architect Reginald Johnson as an apartment hotel. Built in 1925 and opened in December 1926, it became a major resort hotel when its iconic tower was added in 1928, furthering its distinction as a Southern California landmark that attracted major stars of the silent screen, from Greta Garbo to Groucho Marx.

Today, La Valencia operates 113 guest rooms and suites. Besides the newly refurbished main floor dining areas, the hotel’s classic Skyroom with extraordinary nighttime views also has been given a more contemporary look and has its very own high-in-the-sky kitchen.

As it strives to modernize, La Valencia’s historic past and position in the community remains important. “The hotel’s history and what it means to the community is always one of our main considerations,” says Flowers. “It wouldn’t even be an option not to be involved with the La Jolla Historical Society.”
The La Jolla Historical Society owes much to Hiomi Nakamura. A native La Jollan, Nakamura was one of the Society’s founders, a charter member and its first vice president, and a life-long champion for the community’s heritage.

Hiomi’s parents, Naojiro and Misao Nakamura opened a café in La Jolla in 1912, which served the community until the early 1940s. Hiomi, their only child, was born in 1913. He thrived in La Jolla, attending the local schools and enjoying all the amenities this small town on the coast offered. He swam, shot the sewer tube down to the beach, fished, collected abalone, dove for Indian relics, sailed, and joined friends for the many activities at the La Jolla Recreation Center under the tutelage of tennis instructor and Center director Archie Talboy and his wife. He was on the high school football, basketball and track teams. It was an idyllic youth and carried Nakamura through some serious challenges during the 1930s and 40s.

The Great Depression made Nakamura’s ability to finance his college degree difficult, preventing his enrollment in Stanford Medical School. A stint at Scripps Institution of Oceanography as a chemist helped fund graduate studies in bacteriology at Berkeley. However, his dreams were abruptly and tragically interrupted.

Like so many Americans of Japanese decent, Nakamura and his aging parents were sent to internment camps by the US government in February 1942, first in Santa Anita, California, then to Gila, Arizona. Nakamura was allowed to seek employment, which he found at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Toledo, Ohio. Ironically, he received a draft notice and entered Army basic training, Officer Candidate School and intelligence training. A friend’s personal appeal led to Nakamura’s assignment to a physiology lab at Randolph Field, Texas, for the duration of the war. In 1946, he and Marie Schimizu, whom he had met at Santa Anita, were married and eventually had three children and four grandchildren.

After the war, Hiomi and Marie returned to La Jolla with his parents. Nakamura found work as a bacteriologist in a clinical laboratory. He later became a partner in the lab and served as its director until his retirement in 1978.

With Marie, Nakamura continues to live in the house on Fay Avenue that was built on property his parents bought before the Second World War. A strong advocate for La Jolla’s heritage, Nakamura and his family have helped to supply the social glue that has held a great generation of early La Jollans together.

**Legendary Aviation Namesake Visits Torrey Pines Gliderport**

La Jolla was pleased to welcome Erik Lindbergh (second from left), grandson of Charles Lindbergh, during a recent visit to historic Torrey Pines Gliderport. In February 1930, Erik’s legendary grandfather set a soaring record above the bluffs of Torrey Pines. An accomplished and world-renowned aviator himself, Erik was visiting the Gliderport for the first time. Hosting Erik were La Jolla Historical Society Executive Director John Bolthouse (far left); preeminent Gliderport historian Dr. Gary Fogel (second from right); and Robin Marien (far right), the Gliderport’s Manager and Flight Director. They are pictured at the monument marking the Gliderport’s designation as an historic site.
In January 2009, the La Jolla Historical Society received funds from a successful grant application to Las Patronas (see Spring 2009 issue of Timekeeper). Las Patronas is an all-volunteer organization that provides financial assistance to San Diego nonprofits across a wide spectrum of public service. The grant enabled the Society to purchase equipment for the archival preservation, storage and digitization of its image collection so that visitors and researchers may enjoy it for generations to come.

To qualify for this grant, the Society submitted a request that included a highly detailed proposal outlining the scope of the project, its impact on both the Society and the community at large, and how it would positively affect the Society’s mission. The proposal also included a description of equipment (including competitive purchase bids) and financial statements. After thorough review of the application and supporting documents, Las Patronas conducted a site interview and two-day presentation meeting in which the Society’s request was weighed against many others before the final award decision was made.

“Many people associate Las Patronas with the Jewel Ball,” said Las Patronas President Tracy Lyon. “And they may know that the Ball supports many worthy projects all over San Diego. But they may not know how we choose our beneficiaries. They undergo a very rigorous examination and we visit, in person, every successful applicant. The grant process is extremely important to us. It’s our mission.”

The proceeds of the annual Jewel Ball, a La Jolla tradition since 1946, have funded roughly $15 million in capital items to well over 1,500 nonprofits in every corner of San Diego County.

Las Patronas Vice President Sallie Warren is currently administering the fall 2009 grant requests; a record-breaking number of organizations have submitted applications. “Raising money is not easy, and we have a responsibility not only to the well-being of our beneficiaries but also to our own donors,” said Warren. “We want to assure them that we are using their contributions wisely. We are diligent in our treatment of the applications, and in making sure that the items we fund will effect true, positive change in the lives of San Diegans.”

The award of a Las Patronas grant constitutes a partnership between the recipient and the grantor. “We love to see our beneficiaries succeed, knowing that we played a part in that success,” said Lyon. “Nothing makes us happier than hearing from one of our beneficiaries that going through the Las Patronas grant process has given them a higher profile in the community and that they’ve been able to attract more donors because we’ve given them that credibility.”

Lydia McNeil is immediate past president of Las Patronas and “a big fan of the La Jolla Historical Society.” To learn more about Las Patronas and its mission, visit www.laspatronas.org.

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Las Patronas funded the equipment needed to digitize and store electronically the Society’s expansive still image collection, which will make viewing them easier and more accessible.
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(As of November 30, 2009)

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Great Fun at Antique Brewery Fest!

Thanks to Merchant du Vin and Giuseppe’s Fine Catering for making the La Jolla Antique Brewery Fest fundraiser at Wisteria Cottage on November 21 a great success!

Join us again on November 20, 2010!
Cape Cod-style Cottage (7460 Herschel Avenue) One of many mid-Thirties small cottages built in La Jolla's central village area, this house is scheduled for demolition to make room for a four-unit condominium. It is located near La Jolla Elementary School where high density condos are increasingly replacing single-family housing.

1930 Spanish Revival (7857 Eads Avenue) Recently designated as Historic Site 449 by the City of San Diego, this Spanish Revival was built in 1930 near the foot of Eads Avenue with a then-unobstructed view of the ocean. It was sold to Dolly Bray in 1957, for many years known as the Dolly Bray House. Development has long since obscured the ocean view but it was recently renovated by the owners for preservation under the supervision of architect Ione Stiegler (IS Architecture).

Eads Office Plaza (7596 Eads Avenue) This landmark commercial building constructed in the Colonial Revival style at the corner of Silver Street and Eads Avenue has undergone a major facelift recently after being bought by a private investor. Consisting of about 10,000 sq. ft., it has been leased for office and professional spaces for many years and will continue in such use.

1950s Apartment Complex (6767 Neptune Place) Located near La Jolla’s landmark Windansea beach, the Shore Colony Apartments is proposed for demolition and replaced with higher density condominium units. It represents typical 1950s construction, with board and batten wood exterior and large picture windows facing the ocean.

1930 Lilian Rice Tudor Revival (7325 Remley Place) Designed by legendary female architect Lilian Rice, this was the first house built in La Jolla by Dewhurst Construction, completed in 1930 for clients William and Anna Bradley in the then-new development of La Jolla Country Club Heights. Rice designed several homes in La Jolla, but is mainly known for her architectural work in Rancho Santa Fe.

Turn-of-the-Century Beach Cottage (1263 Silverado Street) One of the few surviving early beach cottages built in the immediate village area, this small house received historic designation from the City of San Diego recently after an arduous pursuit for site selection by the owners with assistance from the La Jolla Historical Society. It was built in 1909 and originally sat adjacent to the first permanent home constructed in 1887 by pioneer George Heald at the corner of Silverado and Exchange Place.

Learn More About La Jolla!

Available at Warwicks, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, and the La Jolla Historical Society

This Day in La Jolla History

December
- 15 – La Jolla Lumberyard destroyed by fire (1952)
- 24 – La Jolla Reading Club founded (1894)
- 22 – Volunteer fire department established (1907)

January
- 2 – Electricity lines to La Jolla completed (1911)
- 18 – First edition of La Jolla Journal newspaper published (1913)
- 22 – Motion pictures shown in La Jolla for the first time (1912)

February
- 8 – Construction begins on Ellen Browning Scripps home (1897)
- 12 – Lincoln’s Birthday centennial celebrated at Scripps Park
- 24 – Charles Lindbergh flies glider from Mt. Soledad to Del Mar (1930)
A Tribal Historical Context of Spindrift’s Status as an Archaeological Resource

by Carmen Lucas with Courtney Ann Coyle

One of the earliest handwritten notes of Malcolm Rogers records that “…in the beginning of time the All – Spirit (Ah –My-Yah-Ha) finished teaching the people on the mountain top of Weke-ia-mee. The creator divided them into tribes, gave each a name and sent them forth to the land that was to be theirs . . . KU-ME-I went to the Seacoast. …” Unfortunately, Rogers does not reference the source of this information.

As curator of the San Diego Museum of Man in the 1930s and 40s, Malcolm Rogers collected evidence of La Jolla’s and San Diego’s pre-history with an obsession. Many of his records and artifacts are still at the museum. Unfortunately, the collection had received neither proper curation nor serious study until the Indian-owned Red Tail Monitoring and Research Company recently began cataloging and curating this important collection. A geologist by education, Rogers bestowed a number of names to identify the evidence of occupation through the soil strata, supposedly as a means of relating objects to geological eras. Unfortunately, like others who have tried to “compartmentalize” the archeological record of San Diego, Rogers created a confused record of limited usefulness in addressing contemporary project management or tribal concerns.

Much has been written on the nontribal perspective to local archaeological contexts, still found in the repositories of the Museum of Man, the San Diego Archaeological Center and many San Diego public libraries. What is important to me, as a local Indian, is that Rogers knew early on in his work that the Indians of La Jolla called themselves KU-ME-I (modern spelling Kumeyaay). That is important to the Kumeyaay of San Diego as they have been saying all along, be it scholars, archaeologists or others: “Our legends and songs tell us that we have been here since the beginning.”

The Kumeyaay traditional lands stretch from the Pacific Ocean – including La Jolla Shores – across San Diego and Imperial Counties and into Mexico. Ancestral human remains unearthed in La Jolla have been dated to 9,920 years – older and more numerous than the more famous Ancient One (Kennewick Man) from the Pacific Northwest. The Yuha Man, uncovered in the desert of Imperial Valley, had been dated to approximately 23,000 years. Sadly, the Yuha Man was mishandled, calling its dating into question. Yet, there were also human remains dated to 5,000 years at Indian Hill in Imperial Valley. The Kumeyaay believe, and treat, these ancestral human remains as affiliated with them.

One can also follow the “Abalone Trail” or the deposit of Olivella Beads from the west to the east across this varied landscape, or follow back from the east the obsidian whose source comes from the Salton Sea, or the desert stones across the desert pavement, over the mountains to the Pacific Ocean and to La Jolla Shores.

While appreciating Rogers for his historical notes, my approach to my ancestors’ history is different than his: The burials tell me that the ancestors took great care in marking the passing of their relations. The artifacts show me how clever, resourceful and adaptable these people were. The artistry of the pots and the tools demonstrates the individual creativity of the maker. Taken as a whole, the similarity across the material culture, combined with my observance of similar hidden soils in La Jolla to those in the San Diego Mountains at my ancestral home, speaks to a continuity of culture, and validates to me that we have always been here and always will be here.

Carmen Lucas is a Kwachmyin Indian from the Laguna Mountains east of Julian. She was raised in Pacific Beach and attended La Jolla High School. Carmen has been a tribal archaeological monitor for nearly twenty years in San Diego and Imperial Counties. Courtney Ann Coyle is an environmental and heritage preservation attorney in private practice. She and Carmen have worked together for a decade to preserve many important places in San Diego and Imperial Counties, including tribally-important sites in La Jolla.

Illustration showing general areas in San Diego County where Salton Sea Obsidian has been located by archaeologists during cultural resource management activities required by state and federal environmental laws.

This graphic of decorated pot shards across the Kumeyaay cultural landscape tells of Kumeyaay travels and association from “coast to coast.”

Spindrift’s scenic view leading to La Jolla Shores provided a pastoral sight in the early 1900s. This small strip of coast is one of Southern California’s most significant archaeological resources.

Spindrift, also called the La Jolla Complex, encompasses the parcel of coastal land along La Jolla Shores down to La Jolla Cove. One of the earliest recorded prehistoric village locations in Southern California, the area is rich in archaeological resources, representing coastal-oriented cultures common in southwestern California and northwestern Baja California during the middle Holocene period (6000 BC – 500 AD). Arguably the most striking characteristics of Spindrift are its long cultural continuity and simple material remains. As such, the Spindrift lands currently hold four designations (No. 390, 638, 813, and 818) on the City of San Diego’s list of Historical Landmarks.
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As of December 10, 2009

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Oliver James (October 15, 2009)
Neil A. Kjos (November 27, 2009)
Antonio De Ibarrola (November 6, 2009)

Special Thanks
The Society extends its utmost appreciation to Phil Haxo for his hours of volunteer work designing the Society’s 2010 Calendar.
“Hair Raiser” becomes Fundraiser for Society

Board member Leslie Davis and her husband David Garitty decked out their beautifully-restored 1923 Bird Rock home in “spooktacular” Halloween décor in October. The couple “haunts” their outdoor gardens for the neighborhood’s enjoyment every year, and their efforts have become a Bird Rock legend. This time, Leslie and David did something special: they decorated the inside of the house and proceeds from ticket sales to a Halloween-eve VIP tour benefited the La Jolla Historical Society. Nearly fifty attended the fundraiser event while over a thousand friends and neighbors came through the doors over the Halloween weekend.

Wisteria Cottage Gets Halloween Make-Over

Students from La Jolla Elementary School enjoyed painting ghosts, goblins, pumpkins, and assorted Halloween decor on the windows of the Society’s Wisteria Cottage again this year. Student art teacher Joanna Meyer annually supervises the window painting as part of a field trip for her young artists.

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Alfonso De Bourbon
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Elaine Evans & Don Ehrlich

Susan Ferguson
Klonie Kunzel
William Liscomb
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La Jolla Historical Society Membership Application

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Signature _________________________________________ E-Mail __________________________________

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☐ Student - $25 (three years: $50)
☐ Society Friend/Family - $50 (three years: $140)
☐ Heritage - $100 (three years: $275)
☐ Benefactor - $250 (three years: $700)
☐ Jewel - $500 (three years: $1,400)
☐ Legacy - $1,000 (three years: $2,750)
☐ Director’s Circle - $5,000 (three years: $14,000)

Please mail to:
La Jolla Historical Society, PO Box 2085, La Jolla, CA 92038

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was accomplished by utilizing the concept of post and beam construction that eliminated the need for bulky interior support walls and allowed architects to create open living spaces with walls that were seemingly made of glass.

The featured home on Inyaha Lane is located in Scripps Estates. Started in 1951, the neighborhood is positioned on the rim of a natural coastal canyon in North La Jolla and boasts a notable collection of Mid-Century homes, many designed by master architects.

Designed with organic simplicity, 2641 Inyaha was designed by its original owner/architect, Rob Roy Bittmann in 1961. Bittmann worked with architect, Tom Shepherd, prior to becoming the head architect for the US Navy in San Diego. The home features post and beam construction, board and batten redwood siding, walls of windows that let the outdoors in, and radiant-heated concrete floors. Note the interesting ceiling line that is embellished with 2x4 strips of tongue and groove redwood.

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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.
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