Executive Director's Column

Your Involvement is Key

I continue to be impressed by the growing interest and engagement of our members in the Society’s programs. On April 25, nearly ninety people attended our Annual Members Meeting to hear guest speaker Dr. Gary Fogel talk about the history of Torrey Pines Gliderport. I hope he was able to convey the historical importance of the Gliderport and why the Society advocates for its preservation.

On May 15, the Society held its Secret Garden Tour of Old La Jolla annual fundraiser, presenting some of La Jolla’s most magnificent gardens and homes to hundreds of attendees. As always, this event relied on the generosity of numerous corporate and individual sponsors (page 15) and the hard work of the event committee, under the dedicated leadership of Chair Gladys Kohn and Vice-Chairs Devonna Hall and Betty Vale. The Society is honored to benefit from these volunteers’ incredible commitment to success.

Summer Treat

Hopefully, you have read in recent issues of Timekeeper that the Society is working hard to expand its appeal to La Jolla youth. From hosting schoolchildren on tours of Wisteria Cottage to our growing internship program, we have made it a priority to develop initiatives that enable more local young people to discover the Society. Thanks to the leadership of Board member Christina Freundt, the Society is presenting an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social on July 17 (see page 3). We are pleased to partner with Geppetto’s toy store on a fun Saturday afternoon with old-time games, music and everyone’s favorite summer treat: ice cream!

Speaking of our efforts in youth outreach, we are thrilled to welcome Lydia McNeil to our Board of Directors. An accomplished leader and innovator, Lydia has kindly agreed to serve as chair of the Society’s new Education Committee which will begin working to develop robust education programs for people of all ages. From curriculum-based history programs for La Jolla schoolchildren to historic preservation workshops for home owners, Lydia’s committee intends to unveil a number of educational initiatives in the years ahead.

Legacy of a Friend

The Society has a number of programs surrounding the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of our local Post Office building this fall (page 4). We expect a great season of programs but the Society is saddened that we will not be joined by the one man who worked hard to bring these programs together: Roger Craig. Roger, who was a former Assistant Postmaster, past President of the Society, and a generous donor, recently succumbed to a lengthy illness. We hope these programs will be a fine reflection of Roger’s legacy.

A n n u a l P r e s i d e n t's M e s s a g e

Looking to the Future

O n the one hand, we are an historical society and look into the past; on the other hand, we are a vibrant organization, with a strong, active board of directors, looking to the future. Both are exciting.

As President of the Society this past year, I am especially aware of the rate of change of our organization. The number of lectures has doubled. In March 2008, there were twelve active committees; we now have twenty. And the awareness of the Society by the community seems to have grown exponentially. These changes have been due in large part by the extraordinarily generous donation to the Society of the Wisteria Cottage property by the late Ellen Revelle and her daughter Mary Paci in July 2008. With a permanent home, we have been able to install exhibitions, present programs and cooperate with other local organizations on new initiatives like the Torrey Pines Gliderport Film Project and the La Jolla Motor Car Classic.

Looking to the future, I anticipate that our activities will continue to multiply. Ideas abound. It’s the execution of projects that takes the time. My particular interest is oral history. This year, the members of our Oral History Committee recorded interviews of five remarkable La Jollans, including Harle Montgomery, Rosamond Larmour Loomis and William Hawkins. The interviews have been transcribed and will be added to our new, modern archival facility.

Our Executive Director, John Bolthouse, is particularly excited about our exhibitions. Under the direction of Archivist/Curator Mike Mishler, our four exhibitions per year have been of great interest to both locals and tourists. A reminder: we need more docents to be able to make our exhibitions open to the public more often.

I look forward to serving as the President of the Society for a second term. With the assistance of our first Organization Support Grant from the City of San Diego, our new goals include the development of education programs for schoolchildren; monthly Saturday walking tours; and workshops for residents seeking historic designation of their homes. In addition, we plan to conduct comprehensive surveys of historic neighborhoods. Join us as a member or volunteer as we expand our programs and events!

With great sadness, I must report the passing of former President Roger Craig. His widow, Ann, has suggested that gifts in his memory be given to the Society’s Capital Campaign.

Connie Branscomb, President
The La Jolla Historical Society welcomes three new members to its Board of Directors, elected at the Annual Members Meeting in April.

Courtney Ann Coyle
A twenty-year La Jolla resident, Courtney is an attorney specializing in efforts to protect and preserve heritage resources, particularly those of the American Indian community. She has assisted in establishing several sites on the National Register of Historic Places, including two in La Jolla. Courtney has been involved with numerous community organizations, including La Jolla Town Council, City of San Diego’s Commission for Arts and Culture, Torrey Pines Association, and Save Our Heritage Organisation.

Clarke Herring
Clarke has lived in San Diego County since 1947. He attended Stanford University and University of Arizona and received a degree in chemistry. Though he taught chemistry in the classroom, history has always been one of Clarke’s passions. Clarke owned and operated a management firm in La Jolla for thirty-seven years. Upon retirement he became an active volunteer with the San Diego History Center.

Lydia McNeil
Lydia is president of the San Diego chapter of National Charity League and serves on the board of The Gillispie School. She is past president of Las Patronas, has served on the boards of Stella Maris Academy and La Jolla United Methodist Church Nursery School, and has provided leadership on numerous successful events and fundraising initiatives. Lydia is a professional writer, editor and graphic designer, and was volunteer editor of the Society’s newsletters for many years.

Fond Farewell
The Society recently wished a fond farewell to four of its most committed Board members. Ann Zahner joined the Board in 2002, serving as chair of the Secret Garden Tour and, currently, co-chair of the Society’s capital campaign. Don Schmidt joined the Board in 2001, providing a leading voice in the Society’s preservation efforts in La Jolla. Gladys Kohn joined the Board in 1997, providing leadership with membership growth, program development, and serving as chair of the 2010 Secret Garden Tour. We express our sincerest thanks to these outstanding volunteer leaders who have been key to the current success of the La Jolla Historical Society.

And Remembering...
Finally, we are saddened to report the recent passing of Roger Craig after a lengthy illness. Roger joined the Board in 2006 and served as President from 2007-2008. Few were as passionate for preserving La Jolla’s history as Roger was. His legacy will remain influential in the Society’s efforts for many years.

The La Jolla Historical Society Presents

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New Exhibit to Showcase Postal Service History
August 12 – November 5, 2010

The La Jolla Historical Society announces a new exhibit this fall as part of a series of events surrounding the 75th anniversary of the La Jolla Post Office building. Entitled Postmark La Jolla: History of the US Postal Service in La Jolla, the exhibit will feature images, letters and postcards of the past, and highlight the history of La Jolla’s own post office and its role as a center of communication for the community and a window to the wider world. Images are drawn from the over 800 picture postcards in the Society’s collection, showing not only how La Jolla’s landscape looked in the past but how visitors saw La Jolla through their own words as written on postcards.

Postmark La Jolla will open in Wisteria Cottage on August 12 and run through November 5, open on Thursdays and Fridays, 12:00 – 4:00 pm. To learn how to become a docent for this exhibition, contact 858-459-5335, ext. 3 or volunteers@lajollahistory.org

La Jolla Post Office Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, September 11, 2010 2:00 - 4:00 pm
1140 Wall Street, La Jolla
Free to the public

The 75th anniversary of the dedication of the La Jolla Post Office building is being marked on September 11, 2010, with a celebration co-hosted by the La Jolla Historical Society and the United States Postal Service. Following the unveiling of a bronze commemorative plaque, guided tours of the Post Office interior and the notable Belle Baranceanu mural will be given. The event will also feature historical displays, a chance to meet our local postmaster and mail supervisor, commemorative postcard with special edition “cancellations,” and free cake and lemonade.

Fall 2010 Lecture Series
“History of the US Postal Service in La Jolla”

LECTURE 1
Thursday, August 26, 2010, 7:00 pm
“Behind the Scenes of the La Jolla Historical Society’s Exhibit Postmark La Jolla”

Michael Mishler
Archivist/Curator, La Jolla Historical Society
Carol Olten
Historian, La Jolla Historical Society

LECTURE 2
Thursday, September 16, 2010, 7:00 pm
“Belle Baranceanu, the Public Works of Art Project, and the La Jolla Post Office Mural”

Bram Dijkstra, PhD
Emeritus Professor of Literature at UCSD

LECTURE 3
Thursday, October 7, 2010, 7:00 pm
“The La Jolla Post Office: Architectural Icon of the Depression Era”

Diane Kane, PhD
Architectural Historian

Wisteria Cottage, 780 Prospect Street, La Jolla
Tickets go on sale July 1
La Jolla Historical Society members: $10 per lecture / $25 for entire series
Non-members: $12 per lecture / $30 for entire series
Space is limited so reservations required
For tickets, visit www.lajollahistory.org or call 858-459-5335 extension 1
Join the La Jolla Historical Society for the third annual "Feasting on History" progressive dinner! The evening’s festivities will take place in fifteen distinctive La Jolla homes and in historic Wisteria Cottage. Guests will dine with a different set of companions on appetizers at one home and for the entrée course at another home. For example, you might feast at a 1927 Spanish Mediterranean estate with ocean views for appetizers and at a contemporary home with an oceanfront location for your entrée. All guests will then gather at Wisteria Cottage for delicious desserts created and provided by Girard Gourmet. Creative Occasions will present cottage décor using flowers donated by ProFlowers. We extend special thanks to Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, our major sponsor.

An added attraction this year will be an art exhibition and sale at Wisteria Cottage with part of the proceeds benefiting the Society.

Tickets Information
$225 for Society members / $250 for non-members

Registered attendees will receive a letter acknowledging reservations and stating the amount of the tax-deductible donation. In early September, guests will be mailed the names and addresses of their hosts for the appetizer and main course. Due to the randomization of guests, specific home requests cannot be accommodated.

Register today! Given past success and anticipation, this event sells out quickly. Complete and return the reservation form below with payment to the address below. For place cards and nametags, please include both first and last names. Tickets can be purchased online at www.lajollahistory.org. Reservations are limited and will be taken in the order received, so don’t delay!

Questions? Call La Jolla Historical Society at (858) 459-5335, press 5, then 5 again, for Feasting on History. Leave a message for a committee member to return your call.
Third grade students from La Jolla Elementary School recently toured the Society’s Waveriders exhibit in Wisteria Cottage. Here, Archivist/Curator Michael Mishler describes to children how the design of surfboards has evolved.

One of Ken’s key contributions was to put the Society in touch with the surfing community, which responded by providing us with more stories, images, and the surfboards on display that have helped bring our exhibit to life. For this I would like to thank Tommy Carroll, Woody Ekstrom, Carl Ekstrom, Sharon Noel, and Jane Schmauss of the California Surf Museum for their stories, photographs and the time they took to teach us about surfing and life in La Jolla during the 30s and 40s.

When we designed the exhibit, I thought I would be pleased if we could have at least two original surfboards on display. Instead, staff Historian Carol Olten worked tirelessly to secure the interest and trust of four tremendous members of the community who agreed to lend the Society several historic boards for Waveriders. The collection of vintage paddle and surf boards in the exhibit have been the highlight of the exhibit, adding a richness to our presentation that we didn’t originally anticipate. I extend my sincerest gratitude to Joan Blankenship, Anne Coleman, John Bishop and Fernando Aguerre, for their generous loans of these great examples of surfing heritage.

The volunteers and members of the Society who have helped research and put together this and other exhibits are an important part of the effort to bring La Jolla’s history to life. We are fortunate to have Janet Lowe, Sandy Spalding, Larry Urrutia, Pascale and Robert Bauer, Jemma Mac DeLeon and SDSU intern Ashley Jefferson who worked hard behind the scenes to ensure the exhibit’s success.

Finally, I would also like to thank the Society’s Docent Captains, particularly Martie Rice, for all their hard work recruiting, training and organizing our dedicated team of docents, as well as our docents themselves who are doing a great job of helping the Society bring more of La Jolla’s history to the community.

Looking back at this list, I can tell you that it is the depth of the support we get from our members and volunteers that has allowed us to build the exhibition program. The future looks even better as we work on not just our next exhibit, Postmark La Jolla, but on future exhibits and programs.

Archivists spend a lot of time making lists. Finding aids, indices and other lists help define the depth of a collection of cultural materials such as those held by the La Jolla Historical Society. As the curator, I also feel the need to make a list of the volunteers and donors who have contributed their time, talents and artifacts to our current exhibit, Waveriders.

The idea for Waveriders was brought to us by lifelong La Jollan Ken Haygood. His stories and photos tell of a group of young La Jollans whose love of the water drew them to the waves and helped define our unique community’s role in the birth of California’s surf culture. One of Ken’s key contributions was to put the Society in touch with the surfing community, which responded by providing us with more stories, images, and the surfboards on display that have helped bring our exhibit to life.

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 future educational use. We thank the following for their recent gifts to the Society’s collection.

- Willie Skinner, postcard of scenes of La Jolla and electronic images from personal collection of La Jolla surfing
- Ken Haygood and Woody Ekstrom, electronic images from personal collection of La Jolla surfing
- Sharon Noel, electronic images from Okey family scrapbook
- Helen Swain Varley and Bob Varley, three original 1915-17 diaries of Jethro Swain covering his years in La Jolla and his cross country trip from La Jolla to Milan, Michigan; receipts from local businesses such as La Jolla Hardware
- William Hawkins, magazines and books relating to La Jolla; personal documents and memorabilia relating to life in La Jolla
- Kendall Mower, brochure map entitled *Roads to Romance* from 1930s and circa 1946 California picture book produced by Santa Fe Rail Road Company
- Bob Talboy, 8"x10" photographic print from 1944 Boy’s Club
- Suzy Ticho, self-published book, *Sumner Canyon: The Natural and Social History of a La Jolla Landscape*
- Dr. Gary Fogel, documents on historic designation of Torrey Pines Gilderport; July 1939 edition of *Soaring*, newsletter of the Soaring Society of America featuring La Jollan Woody Brown

New Acquisitions

Follow the Society on Facebook
**From the Files**

**July Fourth and “Jollification” in early La Jolla**

by Carol Olten

“We have had the biggest crowd known to La Jolla today. Three or four thousand people certainly.”

So read the entry Anson Mills made in his diary for Independence Day in 1899. If today’s crowds at the Cove for the Fourth of July fireworks seem large, those of more than a century ago were just as remarkable, considering La Jolla was a small isolated community with barely 200 inhabitants. Railroad promotions proclaiming La Jolla as an idyllic seaside location to picnic and view pyrotechnic displays on Independence Day annually drew thousands of people by train from San Diego from the 1890s into the next century.

Mills recorded the festivities in his diaries each year, noting the size of the crowds and some of the other slightly bizarre events of the day. For three years, stunt man Horace Poole made a spectacular ocean dive from the cliffs above Goldfish Point. Once, in an even more daring effort, he doused himself with gasoline to be set afire as he made the plunge. Poole was roundly cheered on, remarkably surviving each dive to die many years later at a fair age.

As the automobile became more prominent, La Jollans often drove to downtown San Diego to view an extensive Fourth of July parade. In 1914, Mills recorded: “We, the Mills family, went into town at 8:30 a.m. to see the Parade. Located the car at the corner of 6th and 13th Streets where we had a good view. The Parade was well worth seeing and the crowd was large and interesting.” As America’s entry into the First World War approached and patriotic spirit ran high, Mills noted that the Fourth of July parade in 1916 featured 15,000 men, women and children on the march, with “hundreds and hundreds of cars in the road” during the festive day.

One of the most spectacular Fourth of Julys in early La Jolla history occurred in 1924. Local entrepreneurs, including business owners and leading citizens, decided to throw a celebration called “Jollification,” culminating with speeches and fireworks before a crowd of thousands at the Cove. The year 1924 was one of the most prosperous years to date for La Jolla, marked by several significant landmarks. The new electric railroad to San Diego began its first runs, built and installed at a cost of more than $3 million. The Casa de Mañana opened as a spectacular new resort hotel. The Scripps Metabolic Clinic was just built. The first street lights were installed on Prospect Street and Girard Avenue. Like the rest of the country, La Jolla was experiencing the boom and lighthearted spirit of the Twenties and what better way to celebrate than hold a spectacular July 4th event.

So for July 4, 1924, La Jolla demolished the old, battered bathhouse at the Cove and celebrated the new and swinging Jollification, announcing itself in promotional materials as “America’s Finest Seaside Resort.” The headquarters was at James “Squire” Wilson’s Cabrillo Hotel, amply decked with red, white and blue bunting. Scribe Walt Mason served as chairman of the general invitation committee. Ellen Browning Scripps, then in her late 80s, was among the sub-chairmen, along with Nellie Mills, Anson’s wife, and Isabel Hopkins, owner of the new Casa de Mañana hotel. The day was celebrated with music, barbecue, seaside excursions, a parade down Prospect Street, movies, sporting games, and the day’s inevitable conclusion with a grand fireworks display.

Alas, July 4, 1924, was La Jolla’s first—and only—“Jollification.”

Carol Olten is the Society’s Historian

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**Save the Date**

2010 Ellen Browning Scripps Luncheon

Saturday, October 16, 2010, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

Keynote Speaker: Chris Van Gorder
President & CEO
Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

Lecture: “Living the Legacy of Miss Ellen: Scripps’ Mission to Haiti”

Tickets go on sale September 1

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**This Day in La Jolla History**

**June**
- 6 – George Heald begins construction on first permanent home in La Jolla (1887)
- 19 – Kellogg Park dedicated in La Jolla Shores (1951)
- 25 – La Jolla bathing suit ordinance adopted (1917)

**July**
- 3 – La Jolla Playground (now Recreation Center) opened (1915)
- 4 – La Jolla celebrated “Jollification” with party and fireworks at the Cove (1924)
- 8 – La Jolla Summer Playhouse opens (1947)

**August**
- 9 – Pier dedicated at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (1916)
- 17 – Charles Ritchie appointed first postmaster of La Jolla (1884)
- 22 – Glass-bottomed boat begins operation at the Cove (1899)
As a newlywed, Florence Palmer arrived in San Diego in 1923 with her architect husband, Herbert E. Palmer. Within a few months, the Palmers began the architectural design firm Palmer and Palmer, located at 1202 Prospect Street in La Jolla. Florence concentrated on architectural interiors and both she and her husband gained immediate recognition for their creative design work. *A La Jolla Light* article dated June 8, 1923, wrote about the couple: “Mr. Palmer comes very highly recommended having many years experience in New York as one of the leading architects there. Mrs. Palmer, who was in charge of interior decorations of Pratt Institute in New York, will ably assist her husband.”

Over the next three years, Palmer and Palmer would flourish, designing and building several notable La Jolla homes. Both Palmers were unlicensed architects, something that was not uncommon in California during this period. Their marriage ended in 1926 and they parted ways, yet both remained in La Jolla. After gaining substantial hands-on experience in all facets of design, Florence began her own architectural practice after her divorce. Throughout the late 20s and 30s, her name appears in the *La Jolla Journal* as the lead architect for several homes. Florence Palmer’s style embraced the European Revival styles of architecture that were popular during this period and her designs included English Tudor and Spanish Eclectic Revival architectural styles.

Her affinity for interior architecture made her very popular with La Jolla’s upscale clientele. In an interview with Barbara Barber Stockton, daughter of Phillip Barber (namesake of the Barber Tract), she recalled that her father hired Florence “Cutie” (her nickname) Palmer in the early 1920s to design the interiors of the family’s oceanfront home on Dunemere Drive, The Dunes/Casa de la Paz. The Barber home was later owned by Academy Award-winning actor Cliff Robertson from the early Sixties to 2005.

One of Palmer’s best known projects is the cluster of storybook-style English Tudor homes in the Barber Tract known as the “Little People’s Block.” In the late Twenties, Florence began construction on four storybook homes beginning with the most westerly lot at 336 Fern Glen and ending with the home at 360 Fern Glen, which became her design studio and residence from 1929 to 1935. Sadly, the home at 336 Fern Glen was demolished in the Seventies. Today, 360 Fern Glen is historically designated as the Florence Palmer House, Historic Site #692.

To learn more about Storybook style architecture, see “What Type of Architecture is It?” on page 22.

Editor’s note: No known image of Florence Palmer exists today. Readers are encouraged to contact the Society with knowledge of such an image or other information about Palmer’s life and work.
1930 Viking Way Spanish Eclectic (1891 Viking Way) Recently designated by the City of San Diego’s Historical Resources Board, this home remains in its original state in a setting of mature landscape. It was designed by La Jolla master architect Edgar Ullrich for Edward and Eleanor Mastin in a Spanish Eclectic style with Monterey influences.

Copley Library (1134 Kline Street) New owner has hired Grunow Construction to renovate the landmark library for his private collection of art, books and fossils. The 15,000-sq. ft. building, known for its vine-covered exteriors, will remain intact except for minor alterations. It was built in the 1980s to house the private Americana collections of newspaper publisher James Copley.

Girard Avenue Storefronts (7600 block of Girard) New and brightly-colored awnings and complete renovation of commercial space give a significant part of La Jolla’s business core a much-needed facelift. Two new stores add to the French flavor of the commercial block.

1923 Monterrey Classic (417 Coast Blvd.) Owned and resided in for many years by La Jolla’s legendary Dr. Anita Figueredo, this house is on the market for the first time in 55 years following Figueredo’s recent death. It is situated on the ocean, its classic features including an exterior second story balcony and fine woodworking throughout the interiors.

Late 1940s California Ranch (1211 Virginia Way) Major additions and remodeling of this classic California Ranch house may soon modify this older structure on historic Virginia Way. The three-bedroom, two-bath house is a fine example of post-Second World War housing built with fine craftsman detailing and traditional materials.

1922 California Mediterranean (7348 Vista del Mar) This home was built by La Jolla icon Ellen Reveille’s mother and was the home of Roger and Ellen Reveille for decades until Ellen’s death in May 2009. From the street, its California Mediterranean style is hidden behind a majestic ivy-covered wall.

Growing up in La Jolla in the simple days before World War II, Jack “Woody” Ekstrom experienced a candy store of delights: movies at the Granada Theater, fixing up old Model Ts, and playing lots of delightful pranks on and with his buddies. However, his fondest memories are of the times he spent in the surf learning to ride the waves and learning to build the best surfboards that would ride them.

Ekstrom was fourteen when he jumped on his first surfboard in 1941. Even today, at 83, he still paddles out. From his home in Leucadia overlooking the waves from a steep hillside cliff, he is a committed surfing historian, playing a key consulting role in the La Jolla Historical Society’s current exhibit, Wave Riders. Ask Woody his favorite reminiscence and he responds simply, “La Jolla. My pals. My friends.”

The son of house painter O.G. Ekstrom, Woody was born in La Jolla’s old Scripps Hospital in 1927, one of four children. While attending La Jolla High School, he became part of a close-knit group that frequently skipped class to go surfing. (Woody’s younger brother, Carl, became a world-renowned shaper of boards and continues to experiment in the state-of-the-art industry.) Woody bought his first paddleboard from another kid for 25 cents. He was soon surfing on huge redwood and balsa boards that weighed up to ninety pounds that, for a smaller guy, could be risky particularly in big winter surf. On an eventful day on February 17, 1947, Woody nearly met his fate when a thirty-five-foot water wall at La Jolla Cove cracked up his board and washed him to the shore. It felt, he said, “like being in a washing machine.”

Woody’s brush with mortality added to his legend, particularly amongst his surfing peer group that included John and Francis Blankenship, Kenneth Haygood, Don Okey and others. Woody remembers Windansea when “there were only two of us out there,” how the young surf group with their Hawaiian luus began to attract the Hollywood entertainment crowd ranging from actress Greer Garson to Guns and Hero James Arness. He recalls the time when he surfed in and out in an attempt to impress Garson who watched from the beach with her pet white poodle. When he wasn’t surfing or at school Woody helped his father paint houses, an occupation that gave him an introduction to some of La Jolla’s famous residents, including writer Raymond Chandler.

“It’s a priceless life I’ve had,” he says, “and who would have thought surfing would become the industry it is today.”

About that nickname “Woody”? Named after Woody Woodpecker after he and his pals watched a cartoon together in La Jolla’s old Granada Theater on Girard Avenue.
Situated in the back of an older court at 7755 Fay Avenue, F.H. “Trip” Bennett’s architectural offices exude hominess and a studious devotion to a profession immersed in art and culture, starting with the Charles Rennie Macintosh print hanging in the entry. Bennett has worked in La Jolla since 1989, the year he got in his car and “headed west” from his home state of Texas. He had originally been headed for the Hamptons but the economic climate in that part of the country shifted his focus to California.

During his first ten years in La Jolla, Bennett worked for Dewhurst & Associates before setting up his own practice, Bennett & Associates. Devoting its work primarily to historic structures preservation, Trip’s award-winning firm also specializes in new-build projects based on classic historic styles – a recent residential project on La Jolla Scenic Drive having been inspired by the prairie school of Frank Lloyd Wright. Bennett & Associates’s work has been featured in publications around the world, and is regularly spotlighted in San Diego Home & Garden Magazine. One of Trip’s current projects is the restoration of an 1889 schoolhouse in Park City, Utah. The old 15,000-square-foot stone building, listed on the National Register, is being retrofitted for use as a boutique inn – a testament to successful “adaptive reuse” that Trip has long championed for historic structures.

Bennett is optimistic about the field of preservation. “We are starting to change the conversation that preservation is really a good thing,” he stresses. “People are becoming more aware of maintaining historic structures, although there are still unfounded fears about property rights.” He also maintains that the Mills Act is limited in what it can do to encourage preservation. “Property owners need more and better incentives to save historic structures,” Trip notes, “rather than continuing to add to the ‘Mcmansioning’ of La Jolla. Also, reasons for not building to the thirty-foot height limits.”

Trip was elected to the La Jolla Historical Society board of directors in 2003. He currently serves as Vice President and on the Facilities Committee and La Jolla Motor Car Classic event committee. He has great confidence in the Society’s future as a viable conduit for historic preservation. “Eventually,” he says, “we should get to the point of having the financial means to purchase permanent façade easements on properties that are endangered or buy and sell the properties themselves after they are designated. Ideally, the Society wants to help create a culture in La Jolla where most people truly want to preserve our historic structures, rather than having to do it.”
On April 17, the Society celebrated its second annual Volunteer Appreciation Day picnic on the lawn of Wisteria Cottage. Held in conjunction with National Volunteer Month, the picnic honored the many volunteers who help the Society run smoothly. Service pins were awarded to Melesse Traylor, Betty Vale, Mary Ellen Fleischli, and Chris Albence. Girard Gourmet generously provided a delicious lunch for attendees and several businesses contributed raffle items for volunteers. These included gift certificates for Giuseppe’s Museum Cafe, The Shores Restaurant, Sadaf Restaurant, Dick’s Liquor, Girard Nail & Skin Care, The Perfect Workout, and Muttopolis, and a linen shawl from Past and Presence. In addition, tickets to the 2011 Motor Car Classic were gifted by event chair and Board member Trip Bennett. Other Board members generously provided items, including sparkling wine from Don Yeckel; Secret Garden Tour tickets from Gladys Kohn; sunset sail cruises from Trip Bennett; and a weekend retreat at the Little Pink Cottages from Don and Lael Dewhurst. Thanks to the Board and staff who worked to obtain these gifts.

Upcoming volunteer opportunities include docent service for the upcoming Postmark La Jolla exhibit (contact Docent Captain Martie Rice); ongoing archival research (contact Archivist & Curator Michael Mishler); and various event committees such as the Lecture Series, Antique Brewery Fest, and La Jolla Christmas Parade Open House (contact one of us). All can be reached by leaving a message at the Society, 858-459-5335, ext. 3, or by signing up at lajollahistory.org and clicking on the “Volunteer” link. Please indicate what your specific area of volunteer interest may be.

As always, thanks for being a volunteer!
Civic activism and philanthropy are part of the DNA of Karen and Orrin Gabsch’s family. Karen credits her mother, Burl Mackenzie, with establishing the tradition.

Burl brought Karen and her sister, Pam, to the area in 1946 in search of a healthier environment for Pam, who suffered from hay fever. The sisters both attended The Balmer School (which was located in the Society’s historic Wisteria Cottage) through second grade, then La Jolla Elementary and The Bishop’s School. During these years, Burl’s activism left a deep impression on Karen and Pam. They knew, “that it was our responsibility to give back” to the community. In an August 1965 San Diego Magazine article, journalist Harold Keen called Burl a “scrapper for La Jolla causes.” She was a pioneer in the fight for a thirty-foot height limit in La Jolla. As a member of the Scripps Memorial Hospital board, she actively supported the move to the mesa and helped organize an annual fundraising event for Scripps. Today, Burl continues to serve on the Scripps Green/Scripps Clinic Advisory Board as well as the Cardiology Board of Scripps Green Hospital.

Karen serves with her mother on the Advisory Board. Burl has also been a long supporter of the San Diego Zoo, her “special animal friends” being elephants.

When Karen returned to La Jolla with husband Orrin in 1968, she plunged into La Jolla and San Diego causes. She was a member of Las Patronas and has been involved with and supportive of Scripps Memorial Hospital, Scripps Green Hospital, Scripps Clinic, the San Diego Zoo, the San Diego Blood Bank, the Burn Institute, Animal Rescue, The Bishop’s School, and, of course, the La Jolla Historical Society. Her sister, Pam, a geologist, has been involved with the San Diego Museum of Natural History, has written strategic plans for museums around the country and, coached science teams for the Science Olympiad for many years.

Orrin is the former owner of Burns Drugs, one of La Jolla’s classic commercial institutions. Civic involvement is Orrin’s hallmark. To make La Jolla “better,” he has been president of the Town Council, and served on the Community Planning Association, the Traffic and Transportation Committee, the Parking District, and practically every community committee in La Jolla. He is also active in church affairs and Rotary, and enjoys biking, participating in “Team in Training” rides to raise money for leukemia and lymphoma research. Orrin also serves on the board of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

“The entire family has always thought that La Jolla should be preserved for the jewel that it is,” Karen explained. “That means adhering to building codes and preserving the atmosphere that supports family businesses. You can have a very successful village without building from lot line to lot line. The La Jolla Historical Society seems to be the only group right now that is standing up and saying, ‘Pay attention, we have something really precious here and we need to keep it.’”

She feels the Society is moving forward, increasing its credibility, extending its hours, expanding its outreach to children, housing its archives optimally – all capped by the 2008 donation of the property by the Revelle Family to the Society. Karen is enthusiastic about the Society’s work to preserve the buildings where she attended The Balmer School. “I learned to tie my shoes at The Balmer School,” she fondly recalls. “I am touched by the fact that the drinking fountain I used when I was five is still there! I don’t care if it doesn’t work. The Historical Society is honoring the past and the people who have walked through Wisteria Cottage.”

“My sister and I learned from Mother the value of volunteerism,” says Karen. “I am proud of the role my family has played in trying to do our best by our little town.”

Judith Haxo is a member of the Capital Campaign Committee and a past President of the La Jolla Historical Society Board of Directors.

La Jolla Family Proud of Philanthropic Heritage
by Judith Haxo

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Ann L. Zahner

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Homi & Marie Nakamura

Andrew Wright
Ann L. Zahner

Lee Fox
Ann L. Zahner
One year ago, with the support of Donald Yeckel, a trustee of the Ray Thomas Edwards Foundation and member of the La Jolla Historical Society board, the Society entered into a partnership with the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. Thanks to a grant from the Foundation, the Society was able to fund an oral history project at Salk which I am privileged to direct. This support has allowed me to produce a number of new recordings and transcripts of interviews related to the founding and early history of the Institute.

The Salk Institute oral history collection includes interviews of early faculty members, alumni and employees as well as architects who have been involved in the construction of the iconic Kahn building. Also included are interviews of key family members and of founders of neighboring academic institutions. This collection not only recounts events that tell the story of the beginnings of Salk, but also reflects the cultural and social landscape of La Jolla in the 1960s and 1970s. The complete collection is expected to comprise about fifty interviews and be completed by December 2011. It will eventually be preserved at the Society’s new archival facility where, in time, it will be made available to scholars.

Meanwhile, this oral history collection is an essential source of information that I am using to write a book on the “genesis” of the Salk Institute. In addition to the oral history collection, the book will be based on research of various archival collections, including administrative archives of the Salk from the 1960s and 1970s; the papers of Jonas Salk, Francis Crick and Leo Szilard that are preserved at the Mandeville Special Collections at UCSD; the papers of Jacques Monod at the Pasteur Institute in Paris; and the March of Dimes archives.

I arrived in La Jolla in 1963 as a graduate student from the University of Paris and the wife of a founding “Fellow” of the Salk Institute, Dr. Melvin Cohn. As an eyewitness and participant in Salk’s history, I have accumulated firsthand knowledge of the institute’s history since 1961, before its inception and will be able to employ unique insights, contacts and personal archives as well as access to the Cohn papers, not to mention my own diaries. The story of the beginnings of the Salk Institute has never been told. This will be the first book on the subject and likely the only one ever to be written by a witness who has known personally all of the founders.

To facilitate the multiple steps involved in getting a book published, I am pleased that the Society is extending its partnership with Salk by supporting the assistance of an experienced publishing consultant. Considering the celebrity of the founders of the Salk and the sustained notoriety of its faculty and of its building, this book will satisfy widespread curiosity and fill an obvious gap.
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In Memoriam

Juanita Killy Whisenand (January 24, 2010)
Faye Clarke (April 4, 2010)
Roger Craig (May 25, 2010)
Francis Haxo (June 10, 2010)
William Mackenzie (June 10, 2010)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMER 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exhibition:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| *Waveriders: Perspectives on Surfing La Jolla, 1930-1950* | July 17, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
3:00 – 5:00 pm  
(See page 3) | August 12 – November 5, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
12:00 – 4:00 pm, Thursdays & Fridays  
(See page 4) | August 18, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
2:00 – 4:00 pm  
(by invitation) |
| May 20 – July 18, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
12:00 – 4:00 pm, Thursdays & Fridays | |
| **Fall Lecture Series - Lecture #1** | **La Jolla Post Office 75th Anniversary Celebration** | **Fall Lecture Series - Lecture #2** | **Fall Lecture Series - Lecture #3** |
| “Behind the Scenes of the La Jolla Historical Society’s Postmark La Jolla Exhibit”  
August 26, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
7:00 pm  
(See page 4) | September 11, 2010  
La Jolla Post Office  
2:00 – 5:00 pm  
(See page 4) | “Belle Baranceanu, the Public Works of Art Project, and the La Jolla Post Office Mural”  
September 16, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
7:00 pm  
(See page 4) | “The La Jolla Post Office: Architectural Icon of the Depression Era”  
October 7, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
7:00 pm  
(See page 4) |
| **FALL 2010** | **FALL 2010** | **FALL 2010** | **WINTER 2010** |
| **Third Annual Feasting on History** | **Ellen Browning Scripps Luncheon** | **La Jolla Antique Brewery Fest** | **La Jolla Christmas Parade Open House** |
| September 25, 2010  
5:30 – 10:30 pm  
(See page 5) | October 16, 2010  
Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla  
11:30 am – 2:00 pm  
(See page 7) | November 20, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
6:00 – 8:30 pm | December 5, 2010  
Wisteria Cottage  
12:00 – 5:00 pm |
| **2011** | **2011** | **2011** | **2011** |
| **Seventh Annual La Jolla Motor Car Classic** | **Annual Members Meeting** | **Thirteenth Annual Secret Garden Tour** | **Fourth Annual Feasting on History** |

For more information on the Society’s events, visit www.lajollahistory.org/events/calendar-events
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.

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<th>HERITAGE – $100</th>
<th>BENEFACtor – $250</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(three years: $50)</td>
<td>(three years: $140)</td>
<td>(three years: $275)</td>
<td>(three years: $700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With valid ID</td>
<td>Includes two adults and their children under 18</td>
<td>Includes up to two adults and their children under 18</td>
<td>Includes up to two adults and their children under 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personalized membership card</td>
<td>Personalized membership card</td>
<td>All Society Friend/Family level membership benefits, plus</td>
<td>All Heritage level membership benefits, plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual subscription to newsletter, Timekeeper</td>
<td>Annual subscription to newsletter, Timekeeper</td>
<td>One (1) complimentary annual LHS calendar</td>
<td>One (1) complimentary Historic La Jolla Walking Tour guidebook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% off purchases of LHS merchandise and photograph reproductions</td>
<td>10% off purchases of LHS merchandise and photograph reproductions</td>
<td>20% discount coupons for Warwick’s bookstore and Meanley’s hardware of La Jolla</td>
<td>Tax-deductible amount: $250 ($700 for three-year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invitations to and discounted rates for LHS events</td>
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<td>Tax-deductible amount: $100 ($275 for three-year)</td>
<td>Tax-deductible amount: $250 ($700 for three-year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax-deductible amount: $25 ($50 for three-year)</td>
<td>Tax-deductible amount: $10 ($25 for three-year)</td>
<td>Tax-deductible amount: $100 ($275 for three-year)</td>
<td>Tax-deductible amount: $250 ($700 for three-year)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

La Jolla Historical Society Membership Levels

- STUDENT/TEACHER/MILITARY - $25 (three years: $50)
- SOCIETY FRIEND/FAMILY - $50 (three years: $140)
- HERITAGE – $100 (three years: $275)
- BENEFACtor – $250 (three years: $700)
- STUDENT/TEACHER/MILITARY - $25 (three years: $50)
- SOCIETY FRIEND/FAMILY - $50 (three years: $140)
- HERITAGE – $100 (three years: $275)
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Society Merchandise
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Books

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Self-guided tour with fifteen stops offering insight into the rich history, architecture and culture of La Jolla’s village
$3.99 (plus tax)

**From the Files**
A humorous glance into the lives of the lesser-known residents of La Jolla who were instrumental in the community’s settlement.
$10.99 (plus tax)

**Images of America: La Jolla**
Using archival photographs, a unique presentation of La Jolla’s past that shape the community’s character today
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Highlighting San Diego’s rich surfing history from 1907-1970, with a special chapter on La Jolla’s contribution to surfing
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Other

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Forest Green ceramic mug with the Society’s logo
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Light-weight canvas gardener’s hat with the Society’s logo
$39.99 (plus tax)

Advertise in Timekeeper

The La Jolla Historical Society accepts advertisements in its newsletter. Quarterly circulation of Timekeeper is over 2,000 with an estimated 3,100 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.

DVDs

**The Emergence of Pioneering Scientific Institutions in La Jolla**
Winter 2009 Lecture Series, featuring legendary La Jolla scientists
- Disk 1: Richard Atkinson and Jonathan Singer, UCSD
- Disk 2: Suzanne Bourgeois and Walter Eckhart, Salk Institute
- Disk 3: Charles Cochrane and Michael Goldstone, TSRI
Each disk: $9.99 (plus tax)

**A Century of San Diego Architecture: 1850-1950**
Fall 2009 Lecture Series, exploring architecture styles that influenced San Diego and La Jolla; with Diane Kane, Ted Bosley, Lauren Bricker, and Alan Hess
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Thank you to all our clients who have used us for the past 28 years... and to all of you who are helping to preserve our heritage and keeping our hometown of La Jolla beautiful!

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John Peek preparing the La Jolla Historical Society's Carriage House for painting

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What type of architecture is it?

After reading the book, Storybook Style – America’s Whimsical Homes of the 20s by Arrol Gellner & Douglas Keister, I now consider many of the French Normandy and English Tudor Revival homes I know and love as “Storybook-style” architecture. Storybook style is a blend of English Tudor and French Normandy architecture that has just the right touch of whimsy and allure that never fails to make people smile.

The Florence Palmer House – Historic Site #592, located at 360 Fern Glen, La Jolla is a perfect example of Storybook style architecture. Designed and built by architect/designer Florence Palmer in 1929, it is surrounded by fairytale gardens and was featured on the Secret Garden Tour in 2006. The home’s quaint cottage style, leaded glass windows, steeply pitched roofline, and vine-covered walls are all signature features of Storybook style. Along with its two sister homes to the west, these storybook homes appear to be much smaller than they actually are, which lead to the urban legend that the homes were built for the little people who portrayed the Munchkins in The Wizard of Oz.

As US servicemen began returning home after WWI, they brought back memories of the European villages they had seen. Around the same time, the onset of the motion picture industry transported people to the villages of Europe on movie screens. These inspirational images of villages filled with quaint cottages translated into the style of homes people began to build. By the beginning of the Great Depression, Storybook style architecture reached its flowering, fading from popularity by the late 1930s.

Storybook homes are relatively rare, vastly outnumbered by the Craftsman Bungalow, the more popular home style of the era. Today, La Jolla neighborhoods such as the Barber Tract, Upper and Lower Hermosa, and the Muirlands still boast wonderful examples of 20s and 30s Storybook-style architecture, many designed by master architect Edgar V. Ulrich. Ulrich designed his own 1920s residence in the Storybook French Normandy style and it still stands today on Monte Vista Ave. with his family “monkey” crest over the front door. Although Ulrich was well known for his Spanish and Mediterranean homes, he used his Storybook French Normandy homes to influence his clients to consider this style of architecture, said to have been his favorite.

Offered for sale, the historic Florence Palmer House comes with the Mills Act benefit that substantially lowers its property taxes – another way this storybook home will make you smile!

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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 “Timekeeper” and she will happily donate a percentage of her commission to the La Jolla Historical Society.
The Dewhurst crew breaking ground on their first project in 1929.
The La Jolla Historical Society is honored to be supported by Las Patronas, the Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation, and Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, San Diego County

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