Laguna Beach Historical Society

P.O. Box 1526, Laguna Beach, CA 92652 • 494-2318

February 1992

Vol. 2, No. 1

WORLD WAR II IN LAGUNA BEACH February 27, 1:30 p.m. Wells Fargo Bank

Where were you in 1942? Were you living in Laguna Beach, or were you one of the many men and women in the armed forces who first were introduced to Laguna Beach by being stationed in Southern California? If so, come to our February meeting and share your memories and your memorabilia.

We want to add to Laguna's historical record by getting first hand accounts of residents and visitors to Laguna during this crucial time in our history. If you were 5 years old or 20 years old, how did it affect your life and that of your family? What are your most vivid memories? How did Laguna Beach change during the war? We plan to record reminiscences, and perhaps this meeting will lead to opportunities for more extended oral interviews with our longtime residents.

By the way, if 1942 was before your time and World War II seems like ancient history, don't feel left out.
As Uncle Sam says, "We Want You!"
--and we need you. What makes reminiscing meaningful is passing on

ones' memories to others.

Everyone is welcome. Please bring photographs and memorabilia to share. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions or need transportation, please call Anne Frank at 494-2318 or 856-4968.

1993 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Look at your mailing label on this newsletter. If there is a "93" on the top line, you are a member in good standing of the Laguna beach Historical Society. If "92" is there, it's time to renew your membership. If neither number appears, please consider joining the society now. A membership form is enclosed.

BLACKOUT Papers & Shades . . . Every home should be prepared in these days of "Dim-Outs" and "Black-Outs". . . go through these occasions without trouble or inconvenience. We carry a complete stock of BLACK-OUT PAPERS and SHADES for every purpose. Nozzles, Buckets, Shovels, etc. for your Air Raid Precautions at moderate prices. Phone 222

In 1942, local hardware stores stocked specialty items of a kind it would be tough to find today.

255 Forest Avenue

ORANGE COUNTIANA

Early Business in Orange County, volume V of Orange Countiana, has been published by the Orange County Historical Society. Included is a history of Laguna's Benson Plumbing, by Eleanor Benson Widlof. Prices are \$24.95 hardcover and \$16.95 paperback. Available from OCHS, c/o Orange Countiana, P.O. Box 10984, Santa Ana, CA 92711.

WALKING TOUR OF **DOWNTOWN LAGUNA**

On Sunday, February 28, after a delicious continental breakfast hosted by the Renaissance Cafe, Sharen Heath will lead a narrated tour of many historic sites and buildings in downtown Laguna. The tour is limited to 25 people and the cost for breakfast and tour is \$20. Proceeds go to benefit the Laguna Greenbelt Legal Defense Fund. Call (714) 494-8190 for reservations and information.

BOARD CHANGES

Due to an extra-heavy load of personal and professional responsibilities Judith Brunner and David Wilson have resigned their positions as Director and Secretary on the Laguna Beach Historical Society's Executive Board. To complete their terms, the Executive Board has appointed Ed Perry Director and Nancy Pearlman Secretary. Ed is very knowledgeable about local history societies having been very active in the Whittier Historical Society. Nancy has been serving as our membership chair and joined as one of our first members. Welcome, Ed and Nancy.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR SOUGHT

Karen Turnbull, who admirably served as our first newsletter editor, has resigned her editorship to spend more time on her growing crafts business. We are very grateful to Karen for getting us started with a newsletter. We will miss her good work, but look forward to seeing her at meetings.

Now is someone's chance to join the fourth estate. We're looking for a person with access to a computer who would be willing to produce a newsletter approximately every two months. You don't necessarily have to articles. write though contributions are welcome. The job primarily involves putting contributed articles into a newsletter format. Call Anne Frank at 494-2318 or 856-4968.

1942 GROCERY PRICES: TURN THE PAGE



BOARD CANDIDATES, NOMINATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

At our annual membership meeting in May, we be electing new officers, including President, Vice-President, Secretary and two directors. We will be appointing a Nominations Committee soon to form a slate. If you are interested in being considered for a Board position or would like to serve on the Nominations Committee, please call Anne Frank at 494-2318 or 856-4968.

MAIL

Recently the Society received a letter from Doreen Sherman Nichols, a Laguna Beach resident in the 1930s, now living in Batavia, Ohio. She wanted to know the present address of the site of the Sacred Heart Convent and School, which she attended in Laguna Beach from 1934-37. She thought it was on Park Avenue near the Episcopal Church. A quick look at a 1935 Orange County Directory (located in the local history section of our public library) gave information that it was located at 450 Glenneyre, the present site of the Ahimsa Care Center. Mrs. Nichols was in Laguna last heavy month during the rainstorms and had no luck at the time in finding the location. We're pleased to be able to give her the information she wishes.

In August of 1942, you could get coffee for 26 cents a pound and sirloin for 41 cents. A big box of Bisquick was 29 cents. Prices today have increased roughly eight to ten-fold.

GENERAL MEETING
AND WORLD WAR II
ROUNDTABLE:
WELLS FARGO BANK,
THIRD FLOOR
260 OCEAN AVE.
1:30 PM SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 27

LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LAGUNA BEACH IS A SPECIAL PLACE, A TOWN UNLIKE ANY OTHER IN ORANGE COUNTY. COME LEARN ABOUT OUR CITY'S COLORFUL PAST.

THE LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S PURPOSE IS TO ACCUMULATE, RECORD AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TOWN'S UNIQUE HISTORY.

IF YOU JOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, YOU CAN

- LEARN THE INTERESTING BACKGROUND OF THIS UNUSUAL COMMUNITY.
- GET THE REGULAR NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING LAGUNA HISTORY AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS
- RESEARCH A SPECIAL TOPIC IN THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN.
- HELP IDENTIFY AND SAVE LAGUNA'S HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
- HELP BUILD A COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH MATERIALS AT THE LAGUNA BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY.

WE'RE JUST BEGINNING. WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN AND HELP US WITH OUR PROJECTS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL ANNE FRANK (714) 494-2318

I WISH TO JOIN THE LAGUNA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY. ENCLOSED IS MY MEMBERSHIP FEE (INDIVIDUAL \$15; COUPLE \$25; STUDENT \$5)

	NEW _	RENEWAL	
NAME	lacioned in a	binney of Lambage	Nov a namena a
ADDRESS:	Widel, Free and Electric College and Electric College and Electric College and	to 624.95 hardones government of Orange Countries.	distribution read
PHONE: (home)	92HL	(work)	atria, di
COMMENTS:	DOWN	DW94LAGUNA WE	estaji allinomas partue Marinista entropistisci Lagranis en alle 1915.

Please return to Laguna Beach Historical Society, P.O. Box 1526, Laguna Beach, CA 92652.

THANK YOU!