

**Laguna Beach
Historical Society**
Murphy-Smith Bungalow
278 Ocean Avenue
Laguna Beach CA 92651
949-497-6834



Laguna Life

The Laguna Beach Historical Society Newsletter: Feb 2014

**Please attend Historical Society Program to be held at
Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue
Tuesday, February 25th – from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.
“HOBIE: Master of Water, Wind and Waves” by Paul Holmes**

Journalist and author Paul Holmes' latest book is the biography of a man who is such a rock star in the worlds of surfing and sailing that he is known worldwide by just one name.

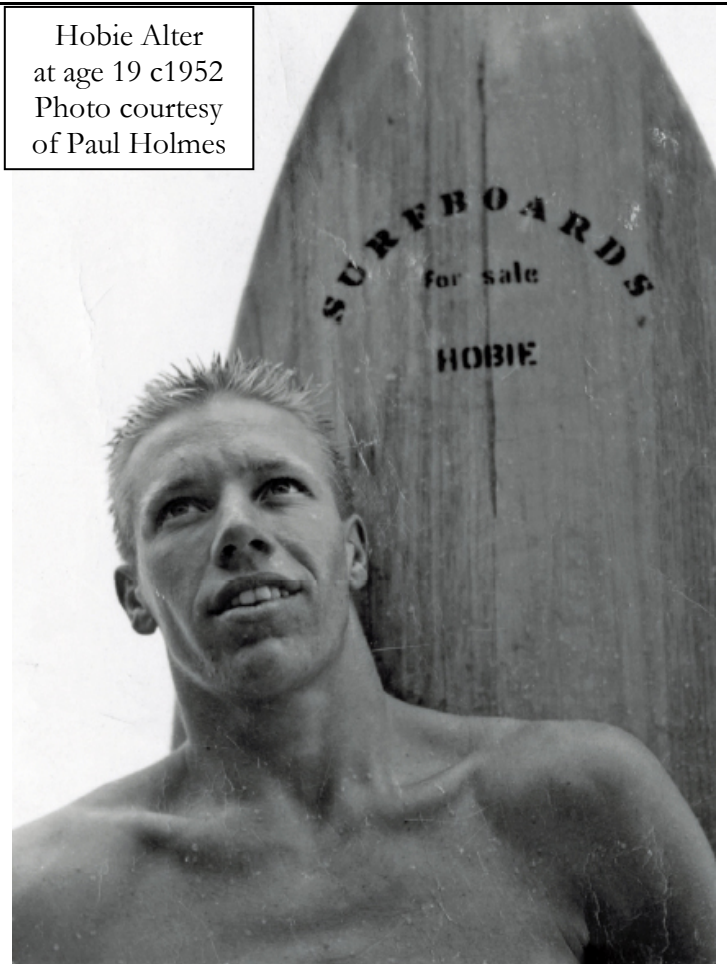
Hobie Alter's genius and innovation shaped and changed the entire cultures of both sports for posterity. Hobie, the man and the brand, created an empire of surfboards, catamarans, monohull sailboats, powered craft, radio-controlled model gliders, apparel, sunglasses and more.

And that was just the foundation for many other amazing endeavors in this incredible life story of a Californian surfer whose prime motivation was always simply, in his own words, “to build them a toy, and a game to play with it.”

HOBIE: Master of Water, Wind and Waves, was released by Newport Beach-based Croul Publications in early December 2013

Twenty-seven months in the making, this superb quality 300-page book comprises 120,000 words of text accompanied by 585 photographs and illustrations that document Hobie's entire life and career. It's an epic by any measure and a fitting testament to an amazing man as he enters his octogenarian years.

Hobie Alter
at age 19 c1952
Photo courtesy
of Paul Holmes



Consider Contributing to Historical Society Maintenance Fund

Hobie Alter Sails His 14 Foot Catamaran

From Hobie's earliest years growing up in Ontario and Laguna Beach, to his late-teenage success as a pioneer surfboard maker, Holmes shows how Hobie's passion and vision extended far beyond the basics of board building and how he revolutionized surfboards by introducing polyurethane foam as a substitute for balsa wood, making surfing accessible to millions of people around the world and popularizing the sport.

Later, in a spectacular career shift, Hobie revolutionized the sailing scene, too, by designing and manufacturing small catamarans. In 1999, *Yachting* magazine honored the Hobie 16 as 'the most produced boat in history.' Even today, forty years after the boat was first launched, there are an estimated 100,000 Hobie 16s being sailed around the world."

Photo courtesy of Paul Holmes from his book "HOBIE: Master of Water, Wind and Waves"



Pyne Castle 770 Hillcrest built c1925

From "Cottages and Castles of Laguna" by Karen Wilson Turnbull page 16 "The Norman revival architecture takes its influence from the buildings of Normandy, France and shares some elements of the Tudor and Provincial styles. Stucco sidings, towers, and steep gables are present. The main differences between Norman and the other two styles, are that Norman architecture features gray stucco, narrow windows, and clipped gables. There is much less use of half-timbering in this style.

The foremost Norman style estate in Laguna is what is now known as Pyne Castle. Originally called Broad View Villa, this 62 room castle was built by Walter E. Pyne. He was originally the owner of a piano company who owned some land in Olive. The land was rich in oil and he soon became a millionaire, earning about \$1000 a day.

As Laguna's number one castle, this structure has always held a certain fascination to the locals. In years past, before the hillside was so built up, Pyne Castle could be seen from the highway, perched on the hilltop as noble as any European castle. Today it is necessary to drive on Hillcrest Street to see it.

In recent years [1960s], the castle has been divided into apartments."

First American Title Photograph



Hugo Aleidis - Owner
of Victor Hugo Inn

FAMOUS HOST



HUGO ALEIDIS
Owner of Victor Hugo Inn

Victor Hugo Inn Pier 361 Cliff Drive built 1938

From City Historic Resources Inventory "What was the Victor Hugo Inn from the time it was built until 1979 is now Las Brisas Restaurant. The building is a one-story stucco structure with a modified triangular plan and a hipped and tiled roof. The building is situated on a sloping bluff and maximizes the panoramic ocean vista by incorporating a patio seating area and two large circular wings faced with window panes. Entry is off Cliff Drive.

The restaurant was founded by Hugo Adelietus [the correct spelling of the founder of Victor Hugo Inn is Hugo Aleidis (also listed this way in the 1939-40 telephone book.) who arrived in Laguna in 1938 after going bust in Los Angeles during the Depression. He formerly owned a restaurant by the name of Victor Hugo's in Los Angeles, which he sold prior to coming south. Immediately upon completion, Victor Hugo's became a popular landmark restaurant. Movie stars, dignitaries and the rich have all dined at Victor Hugo's over the years."

Victor Hugo Inn was later owned by Marcel Langlois, and became Las Brisas Restaurant in 1979.



Historical Society Business / Organization Members

Wells Fargo Bank City of Laguna Beach
Caduceus Medical H.J Baker & Bro., Inc.

Andy Alison Bungalow Hunters Ann Christoph Landscape Architect FASLA Borthwick Guy Bettenhausen
Brooks Street Books Butler Box Charles' Wig Chateau Chicago Title Emerald Bay Community Association
Indiana James Limited Partnership Dr. Korey Jorgensen Ken's Jewelry Store
Laguna Beach Visitors & Conference Bureau Laguna Broadcasting Network Realtor Gayle Waite
Reynolds Carpet Sawdust Festival Stewarts Landscaping Teller Architects
The Stand Natural Foods Restaurant

View Laguna Photos at www.Laguna-Historical-Society.smugmug.com

Laguna Beach Historical Society Board of Directors

Karen Smith – President

Gregg De Nicola – Vice President

Sandra Desmond

Gene Felder - Treasurer

Anne Frank

John Hoover

Jane Janz

Eric Jessen

Ronald Kaufman

Carol Lloyd

Glenna Matthews

Francie Holder Pemper

Laurie Sanders

Don Sessions

Nelda Stone - Secretary

Ed Storke

Kimberly Stuart

Consider Contributing to Historical Society Maintenance Fund

President's Message by Karen Smith

“HOBIE: Master of Water, Wind and Waves” by Paul Holmes

Tuesday, February 25th from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Please attend the Laguna Beach Historical Society program. It is of course free, and will be held at the Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue. The program will be videotaped and is to be televised on the local Cox Cable channel 30 (and channel 852/853). After six great programs in 2013, this is our first program for 2014.

Hobie Alter lived near Brooks Street in Laguna Beach and was ingenious in designing surfboards, catamarans, and other ways to have fun. Paul Holmes has now written HOBIE: Master of Water, Wind and Waves an extensive biography of Hobie Alter. Paul Holmes built surfboards in England, was editor of the surfing newspaper called Tracks, and later editor of Surfer magazine

Thanks to all those who have donated to the Historical Society Maintenance Fund contributions and for in lieu contributions. The latest improvement is the painting the western wall of the Bungalow which will complete the exterior painting. We have received a couple bids for replacing the roof which the Wells Fargo Bank has requested. The estimated useful life of the roof is only a couple years, so we will have to address the roof shortly. We had another significant expense; the tree in the backyard fell on Whole Foods next door and had to be removed.

The Board has been exploring numerous alternatives particularly due to the efforts of new Board member Don Sessions.

Step back into 1920s Laguna by visiting the Laguna Beach Historical Society Murphy-Smith Bungalow, located at 278 Ocean Avenue, which is open to the public at no-charge every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Those interested in supporting the Laguna Beach Historical Society should send \$15 per individual, \$25 per household or \$50 per business/organization to 278 Ocean Avenue, Laguna Beach CA 92651. The Laguna Beach Historical Society is a section 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Tax ID #33-0519882.

If your Dues are due (check your mailing label) Send \$15 per person, \$25 per household or \$50 per business or organization to Laguna Beach Historical Society, 278 Ocean Avenue, Laguna Beach CA 92651

Name _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

FAX: _____ email: _____