

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: April 2011

Please attend Historical Society Program to be held at
Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue
Thursday, April 7th – from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.
St. Francis By the Sea Cathedral Chapel
by Anne Frank and Jessica De Stefano

Former Historical Society President Anne Frank (who is also a member of the City's Heritage Committee) will speak about the history of St. Francis-By-the-Sea American Catholic Church and the procedure of putting it on the National Register of Historical Places. Anne will be joined by Jessica De Stefano, who is Bishop Percy Wise Clarkson's granddaughter.

From the Laguna Beach Historic Resources Inventory which is online at <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/about/historic.asp>

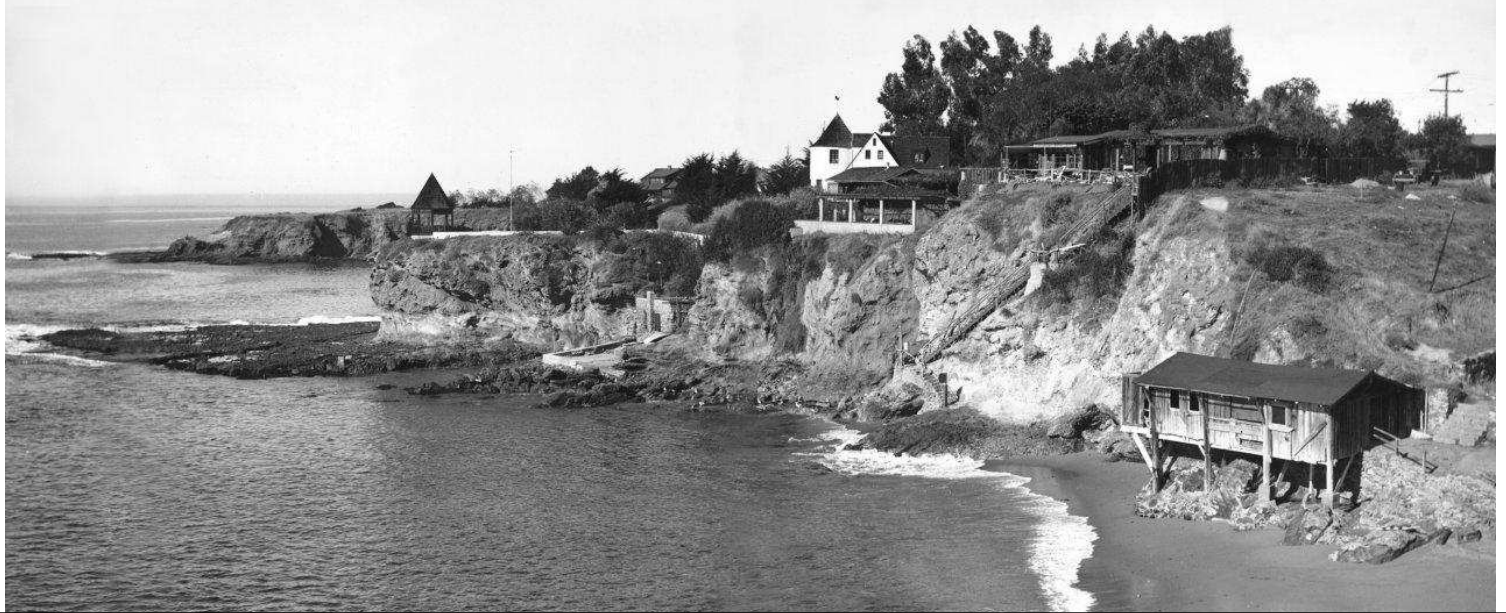
430 Park Avenue

"The structure, built in 1933, was constructed from earthquake remnants by the followers of the Bishop Percy Wise Clarkson. He had been removed from the traditional Episcopal church next door to this structure and he joined the American Catholic church..."

"St. Francis American Catholic Church is an unaltered eclectic building with Mediterranean Revival influences. The church was constructed with materials salvaged from the 1933 earthquake in Long Beach. The building contains 1008 square feet on a rectangular plan with a gabled roof, plaster facing on the front, adobe tiled roof, and a wooden bell tower, sans bell. The front of the building is multi-faceted through the use of a front bay, pilasters, tile hoods, and a bell tower."



Mark your calendar Tuesday, May 10, 2011, 7:30 pm
 next Laguna Beach Historical Society program will be Jahraus Family by Linda Jahraus



Shaw's Cove Gazebo - Fisherman's Cove photo by Roger Sumner 1925-32

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

Laguna Beach Historical Society Board of Directors

Kimberly Stuart - President		Karen Smith - Vice President	
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**Thanks to Historical Society Business
 / Organization Members**

**Wells Fargo Bank H.J Baker & Bro.,Inc.
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Remember the Laguna Beach Historical Society in Your Planned Giving



Josie Derkum Rice meets brother's fishing boat at Boat Canyon - Fisherman's Cove



**Fisherman Hut Boat Canyon - Fisherman's Cove
Built in 1913 by Refugio Coronado and Jovencio Duarte;
1928 Photo shows Cowboy Movie Star Tom Mix House**

Merle and Mabel Ramsey in their book "The First 100 Years in Laguna Beach 1876 - 1976" write the following [page 36-37] :

GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST DISCOVERED

"In 1914 Lewis [actually Louis] Betts, the noted artist, set out for the west to find and paint the "Girl of the Golden West". He tracked through the western states and arrived in the little village of Laguna Beach. Here he found Josie Derkum and immediately began painting a portrait of her and her horse, Honda. The background of the portrait was of the hills behind the Water Company on Third Street. This famous painting hangs in the Art Institute of Chicago when it is not on exhibit elsewhere in the United States."



Josie Derkum Rice, Girl of the Golden West

From 1947 book "Laguna Beach of Early Days" by Joseph S. Thurston Page 97 "Boat Canyon was thus named because it was the best boat landing place along the coast. There was a man who had a shack at this place, and who made his living fishing. He was from Chile and was known as the Chilean. There were several boats that were owned by the campers. These were freely used, both for fishing and for pleasure. The Chilean sold fish and one that weighed ten or fifteen pounds would bring twenty-five cents, but I came over one day after there had been a heavy run and there was a great string of them hanging in front of his place that were offered at ten cents each, so I bought my first fish. Everyone was full of fish, and they were not selling."

Boat Canyon Movie Set 1920s

The Laguna News-Post October 20, 1988 feature "Laguna: Looking Back" noted "The place: Boat Canyon in Laguna Beach. The scene: looking north toward Shaw's Cove. The time: mid 1920s. A crew is in progress with the filming of "The Wreck of the Hesperus," with cast and cameras on hand. Actor Tom Mix's house is on the hill in the distance."



President's Message by Kimberly Stuart

St. Francis By the Sea Cathedral Chapel

Thursday, April 7th – from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

by Anne Frank and Jessica De Stefano

Please attend the Laguna Beach Historical Society program, which is of course free, and will be held at the Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue. We are eager to hear former Historical Society President Anne Frank, and delighted that Anne will be joined by Jessica De Stefano, who is Bishop Percy Wise Clarkson's granddaughter to share the details with us.

We thank Beryl Wilson Viebeck, Eric Jessen, and Gene Felder for a great program in February on the "History of Downtown Laguna Beach." After the "Surf's Way Up: Our Surf Musical Heritage" co-sponsored by the Susi-Q, our 2011 programs are off to a great start.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 10th and a program on the Jahraus Family by Linda Jahraus who previously did our History of Lawn Bowling program a few years ago. Linda has written a book which can be previewed and purchased at <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1441752>.

At the April 5th City Council meeting there is proposed development of 229 Arch Street. William Wendt built this house in 1918 and lived in it until he died in 1946, and some of his paintings were probably done from the house and its garden. It's been listed on the Historic Inventory with an E rating, primarily because of the association with him and the setting. The Laguna Beach Historical Society Board of directors position is that the exterior be maintained as is.

View historic photographs at www.Laguna-Historical-Society.smugmug.com. Viewers are invited to leave comments to help the Society better identify or date the photographs. At the web site, prints can also be purchased; for example an 8" by 10" glossy for \$6.97 plus tax and shipping. Send questions, photographs, or pieces of Laguna Beach history using info@LagunaHistory.org.

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.

We thank all of our new members and volunteers for their support and participation. And, we ask our members to acknowledge our thanks to the staff of the Wells Fargo Bank for their service to the community by renewing our one dollar a year lease of the Murphy-Smith Bungalow. Those interested in supporting and joining 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

To be added to the mailing/email list please provide the following information:

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