

# Historical Society

Laguna Beach Life | Past | Present | Future

## Mark Your Calendars For TWO Upcoming Programs!

**SEPTEMBER 25 Program**  
**History of the "HIP District"**

**OCTOBER 18 Program**  
**The 1993 Fire - 25 years later**

Susi Q Community Center

7:30pm

*Recorded programs can be  
viewed online at:*

Laguna Beach Historical Society -  
YouTube Channel

## Music on the Porch

Page 2

Fête de la Musique Celebration

## President's Message

Page 4

Laguna Beach Historical Society  
welcomes new President -  
Edward Storke

## Docent News

Page 3

We love our volunteers, join us

## Then and Now

Page 5

What was, and what is now



## History of the "HIP District"

### Memories: Past and Present

by Susan Elliott

Tuesday, September 25th 7:30pm

Formerly known as "Laguna Heights," "Arch Beach," and "The Village," the stretch of South Coast Highway from Thalia Street to Bluebird Canyon Drive has had a re-birth as the "HIP District," a name conceived by businesses in the area. (HIP stands for Historic and Interesting Places.) The area has enjoyed a renaissance in recent years as owners have renovated and re-imagined the historic properties which had experienced ups and downs in the decades since they were

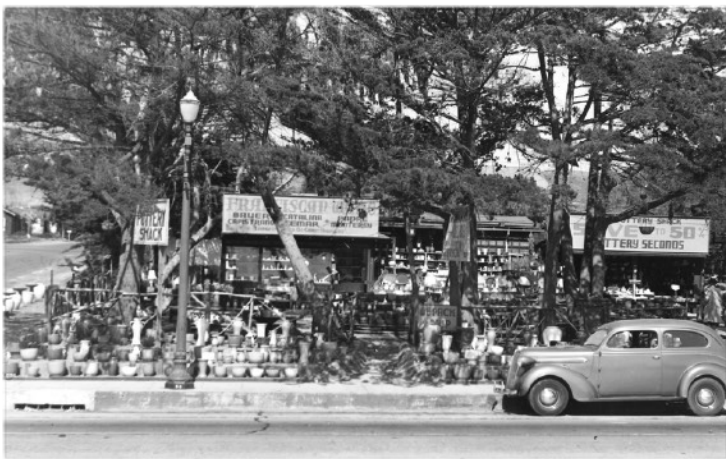
(continued on page two)

## Fête de la Musique

On Saturday, June 16th The Historical Society participated in this annual Laguna Beach Sister Cities event by hosting music on the front porch of the Murphy Smith Bungalow. The town welcomed visitors and locals with more than 40 live music performances, filling the streets and alleyways.



**Stop by the Bungalow for more live music on the porch, and some holiday cheer on December 7th, during Hospitality Night 2018!**



(continued from page one)

built. The area is known for the Art Center, the Pottery Shack (now known as The Old Pottery Place), the Casa del Camino Hotel, and many bars, restaurants, and shops.

The Art Center has had many businesses and re-



incarnations over the years, including a pottery studio, various restaurants, a gay bar, several boutiques, and a beloved bakery/coffee shop. Likewise, The Pottery Shack, formerly a favorite destination for folks looking for cool, handmade

California pottery, has become a set of shops and restaurants that still retain much of the original style and decor in its new incarnation, "The Old Pottery Place."

In this program, we will discuss the new and the old versions of these favorite places and historic buildings in the HIP District including history, stories, and memories from old time Lagunans who remember it when.



## Docent News

### The Murphy Smith house welcomes new volunteer docents at the bungalow:

Chuck Straub  
Steve Tollefsrud  
Barbara Ring  
Willa Gupta  
Arlene Bernholtz

*For anyone who is interested in sharing stories about Laguna Beach history with our visitors, we welcome new volunteers to join the docent crew.*

# 1993 Laguna Fire

## 25th Anniversary of the Wildfire

by Gene Felder

Thursday, October 18th 7:30pm

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, the Laguna Beach Historical Society will host a program noting the 25th Year Anniversary of the Laguna Wildfire presented by our guest speaker Gene Felder. Numerous photographs from the fire and information, including from the report prepared by Orange County Fire Authority Chief Larry Holms in 1993 will be included in the presentation.

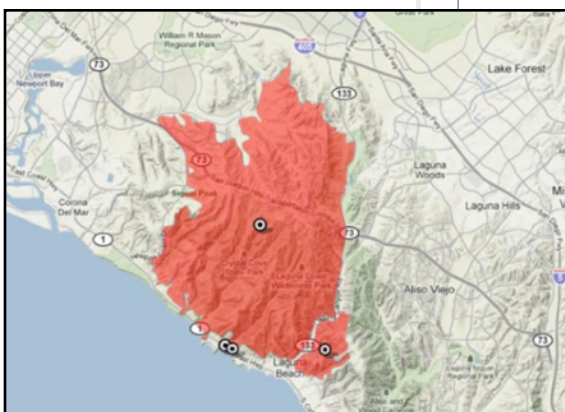


Gene Felder served on the Laguna Beach Historical Society Board of Directors for 13 years, 5 years as President. Gene Felder is co-author, with Foster J. Eubanks, of the 2013 book "Laguna Beach, Then & Now"; Gene's portion of the royalties are donated to the Laguna Beach Historical Society.

Gene Felder has lived in Laguna Beach since 1986 and has donated significant time and energy to organize events and be engaged on issues of public policy. Since 1988, Gene has served on the Top of the World Neighborhood Association Board of Directors, a number of times as President,

providing leadership particularly in stopping the El Toro Commercial Airport. He is currently President of the Laguna Canyon Conservancy. He was also Vice President during the 1989 Walk in the Canyon. Gene was Chair of Save Laguna Art Museum in 1986. In 2016, Supervisor Lisa Bartlett appointed Gene as an alternate member of the Coastal Greenbelt Authority which oversees the Laguna Coast and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Parks.

Come join us for an educational and informative evening focusing on the largest wildfire Laguna Beach has ever seen.



**175,425 acres were burned in the fire of 1993.**



***More images from the Great Laguna Wildfire. The fire was seen from all areas of town.***

## A Message from our President

**Edward Storke**

Putting pen to paper to write my first column as president, I'd like to start by paying tribute to our immediate past president: Dr. Gregg DeNicola. He has done an outstanding job leading The Laguna Beach Historical Society. His administrative skills and optimistic vision has helped lead our society to grow and progress. I salute his term of office. We all owe him gratitude for his tireless service. He will continue to help the Laguna Beach Historical Society as a member of our Board of Directors. He has helped Laguna Beach Historical Society further its mission which "shall be the collection, presentation, and dissemination of knowledge about the history of Laguna Beach."

In June, Nelda Stone and I (see picture) presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Delaney Basile, Laguna Beach High School senior, on behalf of our society. Her thank you note, in part, states "I am so honored and grateful for the doors that this scholarship can open up for me and I am excited to have your support." She continues, "I think that history plays such an important role in learning from the past and I am excited to see where it can take me." Delaney will be attending UC Berkeley in the fall.



On Friday, June 8th, Heidi Miller, Johanna Ellis, Anne Frank and I made a presentation on Laguna Beach history to students at Top of the World Elementary School. We brought with us pictures and artifacts which we showed to an enthusiastic group of students. On June 11th and 13th, third graders from El Morro Elementary School came to The Murphy Smith Bungalow as part of an exploration of Laguna Beach history. Please plan to visit the bungalow any Friday, Saturday, or Sunday from 1-4pm.



## Laguna: Then and Now



### **Corner of Ocean Avenue and Beach Street:**

*Old Time Washbrook's Health Foods, currently occupied by Gorjana Jewelry Design.*

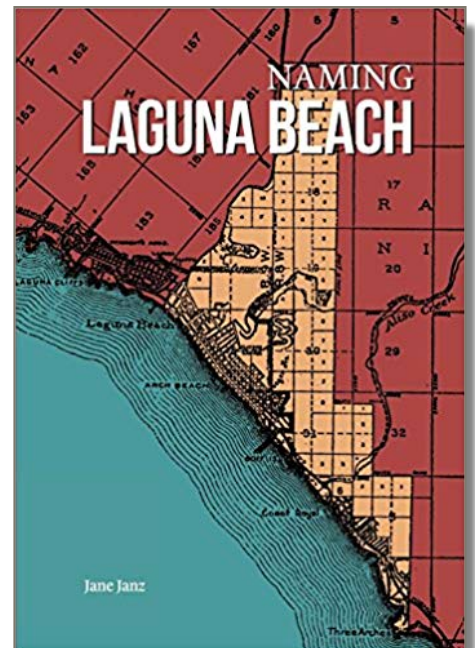


### **South of Main Beach:**

*Remnants of the past currently adorned by murals painted by artists.*

## *Naming Laguna Beach* *by Board Member Jane Janz*

You may have read the recent article in the Laguna Beach Independent about a new book about Laguna Beach History written by one of our board members, Jane Janz. It answers the questions How, Why, and When was our town named Laguna Beach? It is available locally at Laguna Beach Books if you'd like to add it to your reading list.



## **Members**

### **Historian Platinum/ Corporate Members** *\$1000 and above*

.....  
Eric Jessen  
Caduceus Medical,  
Gregg DeNicola MD  
Mary Lynn Lowry  
Judy McKay  
Charlie and Anne Quilter  
Dave Walker

### **Historian Patron** *\$500 and above*

.....  
Laguna Beach Festival  
of the Arts  
Karen & Matt Smith  
Barbara Sparkuhl  
Ed Storke

### **Historian Friend** *\$100 and above*

.....  
Kate & Robert Adams  
Roger & Mary Alderson  
Andy Alison  
Joseph Ambrose Jr.  
Jay & Gertrud Andrus  
Alizabath Arciniaga  
Wayne & Faye Baglin  
Andrew Ball  
Curt and Jan Bartsch  
Lisa & Rex Bell  
Jerry Bieber  
Leslie Blumberg  
Bob & Vicki Borthwick  
Meriam Braselle  
Ronald & Frances Chilcote  
Ann Christoph  
Andy Coyle  
Don Crevier  
John & Stephanie  
Cunningham

Jane Cutting  
Leslie Daff  
Karen & Roger Dennis  
Sandy Desmond  
Ellen & James Dovey  
Susan Elliott  
Johanna Ellis  
Emerald Bay  
Community Association  
Robert & Nancy Englund  
Gene and Johanna Felder  
Carolyn Hobert Fisch  
Josie Fox  
Richard and Anne Frank  
Cathy Fry  
Mary Williams & Pat Gallis  
Jon Garmshausen  
Jane Golden  
Morrie & Barbara Granger  
Willa Gupta  
Arnold & Bonnie Hano  
Regina Hartley  
Healthcare Information  
Management  
John Hoover  
Jerry & Renee Hornbeak  
Patrick Jackson  
Susan & Joseph Jahraus  
Jane Janz  
Korey Jorgensen MD  
Trudy Josephson  
Bob & Betty Kelly  
Kep & Diane Keplinger  
Penny King  
Eric & Laurie Kirkland  
Karen Lagrew  
Tom & Vickie Lamb  
Anders Lasater  
John Leonoudakis  
Randy Lewis  
Brent & Diane Liljestrom  
Christopher Lill  
Carol Lloyd  
Jeff Loge  
Greg MacGillivray

Jared & Kathryn Mathis  
Ed Merrilees  
Lindy Narver  
Professor Michael Onorato  
Karen Pedroza  
Barbara Ring  
Dan Satterthwaite  
Lester & Lori Savit  
Chuck Schoen  
Vicki Schyamm  
Arthur Sherman  
Marvina Shilling  
Teryll Sindell  
Nancy Smith  
Nelda Stone  
Si Teller  
Gil & Judy Thibault  
Village Laguna  
Gayle Waite  
Barbara Wick

## **Board of Directors**

Ed Storke  
**President**  
Nelda Stone  
**Secretary**  
Gregg DeNicola MD  
Johanna Ellis  
Anne Frank  
John Hoover  
Jane Janz  
Eric Jessen  
Diane Keplinger  
Jeff Loge  
Karen Lagrew  
Glenna Matthews  
Heidi Miller  
Laurie Sanders

*Thank you to all our members  
for your generous support -  
We couldn't do it without you!*

.....

## **Become a Member:**

- ☐ **\$25 for Historian** (Individual)
- ☐ **\$100 for Historian Friend** (Individual, Business, Organization)
- ☐ **\$500 for Historian Patron** (Individual, Business, Organization)
- ☐ **\$1,000 for Historian Platinum/Corporate Membership**  
(Individual, Business, Organization)

Online donations gratefully accepted now by PayPal or credit card on our website at:  
**[lagunabeachhistory.org](http://lagunabeachhistory.org)**

You can also mail this form with your check to:

Laguna Beach Historical Society  
278 Ocean Avenue  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Name and/or Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The Laguna Beach Historical Society is a section 501 (c) non-profit organization.  
Tax ID #33-0519882

## **Other Ways to Support Laguna's History:**

### **Amazon Smile**

- We would be honored if you would choose Laguna Beach Historical Society as your "designated charity" on Amazon.
- Be sure to always start at AmazonSmile.com when you shop at Amazon.
- It costs you nothing extra and you will be supporting our organization –Thank you!

### **Ralph's Community Contribution Program**

- The Historical Society is now enrolled in the Ralph's/Food 4 Less/Foods Co. Community Contribution Program.
- To register, simply go online to [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com).
- Make sure to have your rewards card handy, choose The Laguna Beach Historical Society as your organization.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the customer service desk at any store.
- If you are new to [ralphs.com](http://ralphs.com) online, please click on the top right: no account and register.
- You will receive an e-mail when you register your new account.
- Walk through the steps and enter our Ralph's Non Profit Organization (NPO) # - KC415.

**Laguna Beach Historical Society**  
**278 Ocean Avenue**  
**Laguna Beach, CA 92651**

---

**A Special Note to our Loyal Members:**

With your support, we are able to maintain our beloved Murphy Smith Bungalow, present historical programs, send this newsletter, and host other events — thank you!

**Visit us on You Tube:** [Laguna Beach Historical Society](#)

**Visit our Website:** [lagunabeachhistory.org](http://lagunabeachhistory.org)

**Contact us at:** [info@lagunabeachhistory.org](mailto:info@lagunabeachhistory.org)

**We would be honored if you would follow us on  
Facebook and Instagram**

