



Sea Scrolls

Notes from the
Ocean Beach Historical Society

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Women on "Wave Machine" at OB Cliffs

CP Photo courtesy of OBHS Archive

June/July 2009 • President Pat James • Editors: Carol Bowers & Susan James • Creative Director Kathy Blavatt

LIGHTHOUSES OF SAN DIEGO

*Author Karen Scanlon, Thurs., June 18th, 7 p.m.
At PL United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.*



Twins sisters Karen Scanlon and Kim Fahlen have lived many years in San Diego. Kim's preoccupation with lighthouses began in childhood when the family camped in the sand under Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Karen's

fascination lay dormant until her first visit to Point Loma Lighthouse, after which—and making up for lost time—she proceeded to document its' history!

Karen's success in locating a few of San Diego's former lighthouse-keeper families has offered rich, firsthand accounts that might otherwise have been lost. Her research and writing link other historical events to San Diego's lighthouses past: The critical need for the dredging of the shipping channel; the deadly explosion aboard the Navy gunboat USS Bennington in 1905; and the inception of San Diego's island playground, Shelter Island.

The twins volunteer at Cabrillo National Monument tending its lighthouse lenses. Each has contributed to the journals of Maritime Museum of San Diego and U.S. Lighthouse Society. They have assisted the U.S. Coast Guard and Lighthouse Lamp Shop with lighthouse lens-work. Kim helps edit related reports and writing.



THE OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDER HONORED BY OBHS AND CITY OF SD

Our May OBHS meeting honored the life, books, and achievements of Ruth Held. Ruth's family accepted an honorary award from the City for her contribution to our local history and her founding of the OBHS.

Ruth's family and friends had many wonderful and whimsical stories about Ruth.

WE THANK RUTH, AND REMEMBER HER WITH FONDNESS.

OUR LOCAL POTTERY HISTORY

*Dedi & Izzy present: Thurs., July 16th, at 7 p.m.
At PL United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.*



Two locals give two fascinating personal accounts of local history of pottery over different time-periods.

Dedi Ridenour's father Dr. Paul Wedgewood helped legitimize pottery as an art form by demonstrating pottery making at the Panama Exposition of 1935 that took place in Balboa Park.

Dr. Wedgewood turned the garage of his Sunset Cliff Spanish style home into a studio where he "threw pots" on a kick wheel, created his own glazes, and with the help of his wife, fired the pieces.

Dr. Wedgewood won many awards for his pottery, and was very active in the art community.

Izzy Elizondo our renowned local Ocean Beach potter (featured in *Wonderland*) will give the history of "Falling Sky" the store-front studio, located across the street from the OB lifeguard station.

Izzy runs and teaches at "Falling Sky", which opened in 1969. He and a number of talented and prominent potters have worked at "Falling Sky" over the years.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OBHS MEETINGS/EVENTS

KAREN SCANLON

LIGHTHOUSES OF SAN DIEGO
THURS. JUNE 18, 7 PM
at PL Methodist Church (PLUM)
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

DEDI & IZZY

OUR LOCAL POTTERY HISTORY
THURS. JULY 16, 7 PM
at PL Methodist Church (PLUM)
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

OB HISTORICAL WALK
SAT. JULY 18 at 10 AM
Meet at the OB Library

EVENTS

OB STREET FAIR

June 27th starts at 10 a.m.

Visit the OBHS Booth

NEW MEMBERS

thru JUNE:

Ryan Ibarra, Jeri Isom,
Marcy McCann
Marylou & Glenn Riese,
Laura Smith & Eric Thomson

Renewal at sustaining level:

Chris Stavros-

Olive Tree Market Place

DONATIONS — Thank you to:

Mary E. Miller,
Katie & Phil- *Elsbree House*
DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF
MADDIE DIBBLE:

Susan Cates, Helen Doerr,
Lawana "Dolly" Belt, Judy Dibble
& David Dibble,
Verna "Deanne" Price

Thanks to Blue Vase donors

HELP PRESERVE OB'S HISTORY

Give our community a gift!
Donate to the Ocean Beach
Historical Society

*OBHS says, "Goodbye to
Maddie Dibble"
...an extraordinary
Woman.*

The OBHS
has lost a
longtime friend
& supporter -
**Madelyn Boyd
Dibble.**

She was a
board member
and for many
years, graciously
opened her home to us
for our board
meetings. She also provided
refreshments for our general
meetings for years.

Born in Ocean Beach, CA, on
March 31, 1920, she is
survived by her son David and
her daughter, Judy, her
daughter-in-law, Linda and
her grandchildren. She was a
Point Loma High School graduate
in 1938 and the New England
Conservatory of Music in 1942.

A second generation San Diegan, Madelyn's father Butler, was born in San
Diego in 1878, when the population of the city was mere a 4,000. He was a
renowned builder of numerous San Diego landmarks.

SHE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED!



Above, OBHS President Pat James,
at OB Exposed!, generously received
a donation check of \$2,500 in Maddie Dibble's
name from her children Judy and David Dibble

OB HISTORICAL WALK & TOUR OF THE HIDDEN GARDEN — SAT. JULY 18

The OBHS presents our
HISTORIC WALK

Sat. July, 18th at 10 AM

Meet at the OB Library

(Sunset Cliffs & Santa Monica)

\$3 Members/\$5 Non-members

Included is a bonus
tour by Louise Williams
of the *Hidden Garden*.

Join us and learn
about the history
of Ocean Beach.



**THE OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY GIVES SPECIAL THANKS
TO CLAUDIA JACK & OB SERVICES
FOR PAYING FOR OUR OB STREET FAIR BOOTH**

The 15th Annual

Winning Photos can be seen
at the OB Library
in June

WINNERS

OB EXPOSED!

Photographic Impressions of Ocean Beach & Point Loma



Roughly 300 of the "WHO'S WHO" of OB attended the May 15th Friday night reception of OB Exposed.

What made this year's event special was: Our local *Wonderland* documentarian Noah Trafolla presented the awards, a special tribute to Maddie Dibble, photographer Steve Rowell's exhibit of his work starting in the 1960's, and incredible food.

The quality of the photos this year was extraordinary. The digital cameras have made a real difference in quality

and are inspiring more people to take photos.

Our OB Pier, cliffs and surf were the subject that seemed to grab the judges and the attendees (Peoples' Choice Award) this year. Many amazing shots were taken.

The parrots were also very popular subjects. After looking at this show you would think we were living in the tropics!

There were also some great human interest shots. A shocked girl watching her car being towed away and two 3-year-olds protesting to keep the OB Library open, were popular with the crowd.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT MADE '09 OB EXPOSED! A SUCCESS:

*Masonic Center
Noah Taffola
The Beacon
OB Peoples
Olive Tree
CJ's Catering Concepts
SD Catering
Pepe's*

*European Cake Gallery
Our Judges:
Tom Shugrue,
Tim Haugh and
Ed Frey
and all
participants
and volunteers*



Best in Show, "Surfer" Joe Ewing



Best Color, "Cliffhanger" Bryce Johnson



Best B&W, "Cliffs & Pier, NW Swell, High Tide" Roderick Michener



Best Special Effects, "OB Pier" Kathleen Blavatt



Best Vintage, "Girls Gone Wild" John Ayres



Peoples' Choice, "OB Pier" Emily Sales

Ocean Beach Historical Society
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167

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COMING



Author Karen Scanlon

LIGHTHOUSES OF

SAN DIEGO

Thurs. June 18, 7 PM

At PL Methodist Church

1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

If you're moving or temporarily changing address Contact:
STEPHANIE
(619) 501-6161
luckyme3@cox.net

or mail to:

Ocean Beach
Historical Society
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego,
CA 92167

Please join our OB Blog to tell your favorite OB stories, facts and memories. Visit:

www.obhistory.wordpress.com



ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

We are a 501 (C) 3 Nonprofit, DONATIONS MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Join and receive our newsletters & announcements.

Fill out the form below and mail it with a check to:

OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167

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 Special Friend of OBHS (includes Life Membership)-\$1,000/1 payment

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