


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

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# Sea Scrolls

Notes from the  
Ocean Beach Historical Society

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OB Exposed! Best Vintage Photo: 1973, 13-year-old Leesa Davis stands in front of the wild flowers behind her family's home on West Point Loma Blvd. before the park was built.

July - Aug 2015 • President: Pat James • Editors: Susan James & Stephanie Greenwald • Creative Director: Kathy Blavatt

**Ocean Beach Historical Society Presents:**



## NEWPORT AVE.-THRU-THE-DECADES

### THURSDAY, JULY 16, 7 PM

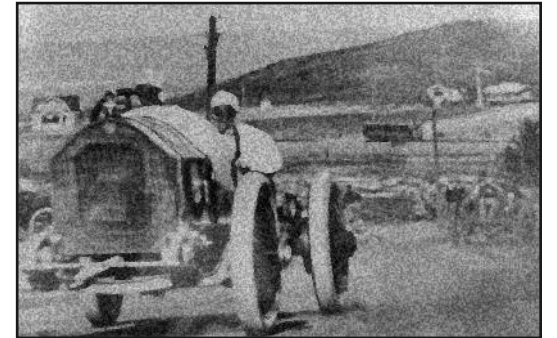
by Craig Gerwig & Judy Parry at the P.L. United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

Craig Gerwig (Owner of the Newport Ave. Antique Center) and Judy Parry will talk about popular businesses that lined Newport Ave. over several decades. They will talk about the businesses and properties their family owned/own on the 4800 block of Newport Ave. Don't miss this family's interesting history in O.B.

## THE 1915 S.D. EXPOSITION ROAD RACE IN POINT LOMA

Thursday, Aug. 20, at 7 pm

By Mac McPherson, Horseless Carriage Club, S.D.  
at the P.L. United Methodist Church,  
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.




Jan. 9, 1915, the Automobile Club of Southern Calif. & Al Bahr Shrine sponsored the SAN DIEGO EXPOSITION ROAD RACE, a 300 mile road race over a 6-mile course around Point Loma. The race was one of the opening events of the 1915 Panama California Exposition in Balboa Park.

The race course routed around Point Loma starting on Rosecrans St., heading North, turning West on Lytton St., South on Chatsworth Blvd. and Catalina Blvd., East on Cañon St. and back onto Rosecrans. Almost 5 hours and 51 laps later, Earl Cooper in Stutz #8 won the race averaging over 65 mph. Only 5 of the 18 cars that started the race finished the grueling 300 mile 51 lap route. Racing cars in those days carried a driver as well as a mechanic. Other notable drivers were San Diegan, William Carlson, who finished 2nd, Barney Oldfield, Eddie Rickenbacker, and Bob Burman. An estimated 50,000 people spread out along the course to watch the spectacle. The San Diego Union newspaper proclaimed: "It was the greatest throng ever seen at one event in San Diego, excepting, perhaps, the opening of the exposition." (Clips from the recent Balboa Park Centennial Tour Reenactment will be shown at OBHS program).

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**COMING**



NEWPORT AVE.-THRU-THE-DECADES  
Craig Gerwig & Judy Parry  
THURS., JULY 16, 7 PM  
P.L. United Methodist Church  
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., Ocean Beach

If you're moving or temporarily changing address  
Contact: STEPHANIE (619) 602-0771  
luckyme3@cox.net  
or mail to:  
Ocean Beach Historical Society  
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167

**MARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY?**

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, 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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<input type="checkbox"/> Individuals-\$15/yr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Business, 2 Adults, or Family-\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member-\$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member-\$500/1 payment
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Friend of OBHS (includes Life Membership) - \$1,000/1 payment	

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address or PO Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MEMBER       RENEWAL

Receive an 1887 Map Poster FREE with \$100 or Larger NEW Membership  
Redeemable at any OBHS 2015 Event or Program



## San Diego Book Awards

**2015 WINNER**  
**OCEAN BEACH**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Best Published**  
**Local Interest**  
**"OCEAN BEACH"**  
(Images of America)



Pat James & Ray Blavatt still smiling at the closing of O.B. Steet Fair. Thanks to OBHS members who came by our booth.

### MEMBERS

May - June 2015:

**New Members:**  
Beach Sweets; Bunny Flick;  
Devon Mackie & Donald  
Woodard; Julie Quesada;  
Lisa Fenno; Lois & Jeff Iles;  
Mike Rogalski.


**Welcome Back:**  
Vivian & Tim McCardle.

**Donations:**  
Barbara Busch & Family;  
Mignon Scherer;  
Judy Collier & Family.  
**Thank You Blue Vase Donors**

**Thanks for Archives Donations:**  
Eric DuVall,  
Curtis McAllaster,  
Judy Thomas  
and the  
OB Exposed! Entry Donors.

# "OCEAN BEACH"

Book by the Ocean Beach Historical Society & Arcadia Publishing



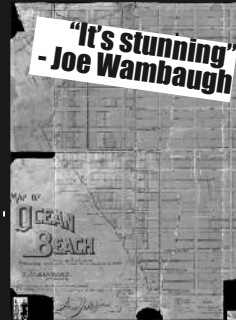
Be transported back in time through this fantastic book filled with Ocean Beach's wonderful history, historical photos and fascinating images.

**\$21<sup>99</sup>** plus tax

The "Ocean Beach" book is available at the Ocean Beach Historical Society programs, events and for sale by local vendors... see sales list at: [www.obhistory.wordpress.com](http://www.obhistory.wordpress.com)

## 1887 OB MAP Poster

The 1887 O.B. Historical map poster (in color) has lovely calligraphy, the old street names and the railroad lines. Also locations and names of the beaches & rock formations, sand dunes and fresh water springs. The map's natural aging, torn edges & stains gives it a wonderful pirate-map quality. \$20 ea. (includes tax) AVAILABLE AT: OBHS Events, Green Store, John Baker Picture Frames, OBMA, & The Newport Avenue Antique Center.



Proceeds go to the OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY a 501(c)(3) non-profit org.

**THE OBHS NEEDS:** • HISTORICAL PHOTOS, ITEMS & DOCUMENTATION  
• CASH DONATIONS • HISTORICAL INTERVIEWS • ARCHIVAL SUPPLIES



© Photo by Pat James

## PRESERVE OB'S HISTORY!

THE OBHS ARCHIVES WAS FOUNDED TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF OCEAN BEACH AND THE PENINSULA.

The Archives Room is in the PLUM Church in O.B., where the OBHS programs are held. The collection includes: Photos, maps, books, papers, newspapers, letters, artifacts and an extensive biography index and San Diego City Directories from 1926 to 1984 (which list people, their spouses & occupations). Residents are also listed by street address. Dedicated volunteers assist with processing.

### ARCHIVES DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

Many people believe that their lives are of no interest to others, but they are! Unfortunately, photographs, house plans, business & organization records, and family papers end up in the trash after a death in the family... photographs depicting people, their activities & customs, homes & buildings, and dress. Some O.B. buildings vanish or functions change almost overnight and new ones appear. The cliffs erode and scenery changes. The OBHS Archives provide an invaluable window into O.B.'s past.

**When donating photographs to the Archives, please remember to date, identify the people and places in them.** Reluctant to give up your photos or papers? The Archive's staff would be happy to copy and safely return items to you with your permission to use the materials.

**Preservation work often needs support & supplies.**  
**GIFTS MAY BE DONATED AT MONTHLY MEETINGS**  
OBHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
DONATIONS OF ITEMS & CASH MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



**CONTACT FOR ARCHIVES ONLY:**  
ARCHIVIST MARY ALLELY  
TO SCHEDULE A MEETING OR PICKUP: 858-550-5982

**OBHS GENERAL INFO. CONTACT:** Pat James, President  
[pjinob@gmail.com](mailto:pjinob@gmail.com) or ph. 619-226-8125

Come see the  
**OB EXPOSED! WINNING PHOTOS**  
on display at the  
**OB Business Center, 4876 Santa Monica Ave., O.B.**



© Photo by K. Blavatt

## WOW! OB EXPOSED! What a Great Night!

The Ocean Beach Historical Society had it's Annual OB EXPOSED! - Photographic Impressions of Ocean Beach & Point Loma, May 22 at the Masonic Center and it was a blast! The photos were fabulous. This event gets better each year.

Congratulations to the winners, whose photos are hanging at the OB Business Center, 4876 Santa Monica Ave.

Attendees were supportive as they were encouraged to become members, buy opportunity drawing tickets, donate to the OBHS or buy our gift items & books. Refreshments as always were YUMMY!

### OB EXPOSED! Photo Contest Winners:

**Best in Show:** Steven Drummond "The Guardian" 2015  
**People's Choice:** Fran Del Santo "Much Respect" 2015  
**Best Color:** Fran Del Santo "In a Moment" 2015  
**Best Black & White:** Cameron Pettit "Sunrise at the Pier" 2014  
**Best Special Effects:** Fran Del Santo "Mindfulness" 2013  
**Best Vintage:** Virginia Davis "Leesa Davis in Back of West Point Loma Blvd. House" 1973

**THANK YOU** to all the businesses that donated food and opportunity drawing awards. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers: MC Nancy Cassidy, Judges Cliff Beck, Joe Ewing & Steve Rowell, those who entered photos, Scott Williams, the Masonic Hall (& Gerald), and the OB Rag.

**Photos not donated to OBHS are available for pick up at the OB Business Center (M-F).**  
4876 Santa Monica, OB (9 am-5 pm, Mon.- Fri.)

Sept. 1 all unclaimed photos become the property of the OBHS. The OBHS is not responsible for lost or damaged photos.

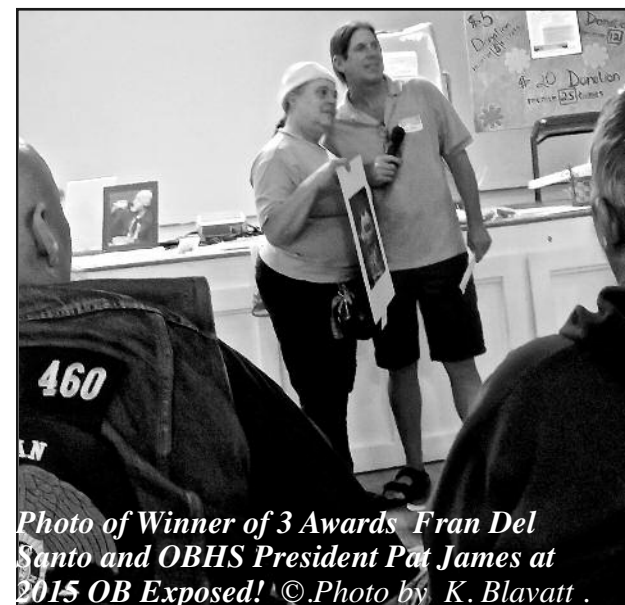


Photo of Winner of 3 Awards Fran Del Santo and OBHS President Pat James at 2015 OB Exposed! © Photo by K. Blavatt

### THANK YOU RAFFLE DONORS:

Arizona Cafe, Bernie's Bicycle, Black Bead, Floral Fantasia, Gary Gilmore, Hodad's, Hungry Lu's, Kathy Blavatt, Namaste, Newbreak Coffee, Nati's, Ocean Beach Sweets, Ocean Spa Nails, OB Business Center, OB Dog Wash, OBHS, OB Hotel, Raglan, Second Hand Sports, Signs by Kip, Steve Rowell, South Coast, Sunshine Company Saloon, The Coffee Method, Temptress, and Tony's.

### THANKS TO REFRESHMENT DONORS:

European Cake Gallery; Fran Del Santo; Pastry Chef Lauren Ritchey; Newbreak Coffee Co. & Café; Ocean Beach People's Organic Food Market; OB Quik Stop; Olive Tree Marketplace; Pepe's; Shades Oceanfront Bistro.