

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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©McElwee/Peace Collection
Frank McElwee III enjoys the shorebreak on July 14, 1928.

September - October 2017 • President: Eric DuVall • Editors: Susan James & Stephanie Greenwald • Creative Director: Kathy Blavatt



Ocean Beach Historical Society Presents:
**Kumeyaay Resistance and "Abusive" Art
at Mission San Diego and the San Diego Presidio**

By *RICHARD CARRICO*
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AT 7 PM
AT P.L. United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

Do you ever wonder how the local Kumeyaay Indians might have resisted Spanish colonialization besides sacking Mission San Diego in 1775? Is there any chance that they used art forms to show their disdain for the Spaniards right beneath (and above) the eyes of the colonists?

In this highly informative and engaging talk, local historian and anthropologist Richard L. Carrico will delve into the "dark art" that the Kumeyaay used to continue their ancient artistic practices and their use of symbology.

The Kumeyaay served as laborers at both the mission and presidio and as part of that work effort they formed and fired the adobe roof tiles (tejas) and floor tiles (baldosas) at both outposts. Probably unknown to their supervisors and to Spanish authorities, some Kumeyaay inscribed the wet adobe with images and symbols. Many of the images are comparable to designs we see in local rock art and on ceramic pots and vessels that predate the arrival of the Spaniards. They include circles, concentric designs, cross-hatching, and what may be human figures. In addition some of the designs depict things and places on presidio hill.

Through a series of vivid slides and images Richard will guide us back to the 1770-1820 period when the tiles were formed and decorated and then link the art work to a far more ancient period. Mr. Carrico will strongly suggest that the images have deep rooted meaning and form what one scholar has called "abusive art" art that is meant to reflect cultural persistence and a rejection of some of the Spanish dictates.

An observer of something that doesn't move, something that is the same this morning as it was thirty, fifty, or even one hundred years ago. Or is it?

"Read the Book Before You Fly 'Em"


By *KAREN SCANLON*
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 7 PM
AT P.L. United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

Point Loma's Jack Allen Davis, Jr. wanted to fly airplanes. And fly 'em he did! This high-flying speculator bought and sold World War II surplus aircraft with daring competence. Jack was a local boy who learned to fly at age 14 with Gibbs Flying Service. "Old Bill Gibbs turned me loose on an old Piper Cub," Jack bragged. Flying drama, to be sure, but Jack also left a history mark as Shelter Island began to take shape in the early 1950s. He built and operated Red Sails Inn and later, Palomar Airport. Come and hear more about this adventurous fellow, and enjoy photographs of his airplanes and zest of the San Diego waterfront. *Continued page 3*



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COMING




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Kumeyaay Resistance and "Abusive" Art
By *RICHARD CARRICO*
THURS. SEPT. 21, 7PM
at P.L. United Methodist Church,
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

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

SPECIAL OFFER

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



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ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY?
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NEW MEMBER **RENEWAL**

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

“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.

\$21⁹⁹ plus tax

The “Ocean Beach” book is available at the Ocean Beach Historical Society programs, events and for sale by local vendors.

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

1887 OB MAP POSTER

The 1887 O.B. Historical color map poster 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)

“It’s stunning” - Joe Wambaugh

Farewell to
SUZANNE GHELARDI
A Lovely Woman

March 2, 1938 – June 25, 2017
A resident of Ocean Beach for over 30 years, Suzanne was active with local affairs and convinced every visitor that her beloved Dog Beach is the number one, must-see San Diego destination. While she could be feisty and humorous, her family and her huge circle of friends knew her as a person with a heart full of kindness, generosity, and compassion.

PRESERVE OB’S HISTORY Thru Your Contributions!

The OBHS Archives was founded to preserve the history of Ocean Beach and the peninsula.

The Archive’s Room is now upstairs on the top floor of the P.L. United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

The OBHS Archive Collection Includes: Photos, maps, books, papers, newspapers, letters, artifacts and an extensive biography index with 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.

- THE OBHS NEEDS:**
- **Historical Photos, Items & Documentation**
 - **Cash Donations**
 - **Historical Interviews**
 - **Archival Supplies**

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:
TO SCHEDULE A MEETING OR PICKUP: 619-226-8125

OBHS GENERAL INFO. CONTACT:
Pat James: pjinob@gmail.com or ph. 619-226-8125

Thank you Claudia Jack for your OBHS program and a look at your wonderful sign collection.

MEMBERS
July - August 2017:

Members:
 John A. Filler & Mary J. Basile-Filler;
 Ralph Guest;
 Denis Desmond.

Donations:
 Genealogy Society of San Diego;
 Laura Buxton.

Donations in memory
 of Roxy Phillips:
 D. A. & T.A. Carder - \$100 donation

Thanks To
 Blue Vase/ Torrey Pine Bowl
 Donators



©Photograph by Kathy Blavatt
 OBTC 2017 Grant Recipients including Ocean Beach Historical Society represented by President Eric DuVall (right top row).

THANK YOU FOR THE FOLLOWING 2017-2018 GRANTS:

OBTC 2017 Community Grants Grant
 Ocean Beach Town Council- Grant to help update the OBHS Archives and equipment

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Community Enhancement Grant
 County of San Diego Community & Fourth District Supervisor Ron Roberts.

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The Ocean Beach Historical Society is one of the chosen recipients of the **Ocean Beach Woman’s Club Fundraiser.**

OCEAN BEACH CRAFT FAIR

Come visit an Ocean Beach Historical Society Rep and take the opportunity to buy a book or map at the weekend Ocean Beach Craft Fairs at the grass at the foot of Newport Ave. that are sponsored by the OB Town Council and all proceeds from the space rentals goes to the Annual Food & Toy Drive.

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“Read the Book Before You Fly ‘Em”
KAREN SCANLON is a freelance writer, historian, and early childhood educator who writes extensively on the maritime history of San Diego, particularly of Point Loma Lighthouse and the explosion aboard USS Bennington. In other directions are her published works in children’s curriculum, and stories about people. She is a volunteer at Cabrillo National Monument and works with her twin sister, Kim, tending the Fresnel lenses in its collection. The two co-authored a book titled Lighthouses of San Diego. Karen is a contributing member of La Playa Trail Association and Maritime Museum of San Diego, and the proud recipient of The Martha Washington Medal awarded by the Sons of the American Revolution.

As for Jack Davis, we became good friends as I gathered his life story for publication. Jack died in 2006.