


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

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# SeaScrolls

Notes from the  
Ocean Beach Historical Society  
Vol. xxv No. 6 Published Bimonthly



*The James family in their cowboy duds.*

November - December 2019 • President: Eric DuVall • Editors: Susan James & Jonnie Wilson • Creative Director: Kathy Blavatt

**COMING**  
OBHS PRESENTS:  
**THE LEGEND AND LORE OF THE O.B. JAMES GANG**  
**THURS., NOV. 21, 7PM**  
Water's Edge Faith Community  
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.  
Get your OBHS gifts at the  
**OB CRAFTS FAIR**  
At Veteran's Plaza  
Oct. 26, Nov. 16, 30  
December 7\*, 14, 21  
\*Dec. 7 - OB Holiday Parade -  
Craft Fair Closes at 2:00pm  
**NO DECEMBER OBHS PROGRAM**  
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

Please join our OB Blog to tell your favorite OB stories, facts and memories. Visit:  
[www.obhistory.org](http://www.obhistory.org)



**MEMBERSHIP**

**ARE 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 92167-0895**

Individuals-\$15/yr.       Business, 2 Adults, or Family-\$20  
 Sustaining Member-\$100/yr.       Life Member-\$500/1 payment  
 Special Friend of OBHS (includes Life Membership) - \$1,000/1 payment

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address or PO Box \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MEMBER       RENEWAL       CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

**SPECIAL OFFER**

*The Ocean Beach Historical Society Presents:*

## THE LEGEND AND LORE OF THE O.B. JAMES GANG

**Thursday, November 21, 2019 7PM**  
**AT WATER'S EDGE FAITH COMMUNITY, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.**

As we celebrate the 40th Annual Ocean Beach Christmas Tree and Parade, here is your opportunity to meet the family that not only started this holiday event but were instrumental in other cherished O.B. traditions as well.

Join brothers Ron, Greg, Mike, Pat, and sister-in-law Susan as they reminisce about the trials and tribulations of working together in a family business while also trying to make a positive impact on the community.

For over four decades, the James family has been an integral part of the Ocean Beach community. They were instrumental in the founding of the Ocean Beach Merchants Association (now the O.B. Mainstreet Association) and the Ocean Beach Historical Society. Over the years, they held leadership roles with the O.B. Merchants Association, O.B. Town Council, O.B. Planning Board, and O.B. Historical Society. The brothers were the catalyst in beginning the Ocean Beach Fireworks Festival, O.B. Street Fair, the Ocean Beach Christmas Auction, O.B. Parade, and the Christmas Tree, as well as the Community Mural Project.

The presentation will touch on the history of the James Gang, with anecdotes, images, and artifacts from Ocean Beach's past.

They will also pay tribute to their late brother Rich James, the founder of the O.B. Christmas Tree, whose life epitomized the O.B. spirit.

Please join us November 21st for this "FREE" fun evening of "The Legend and Lore of the O.B. James Gang"!



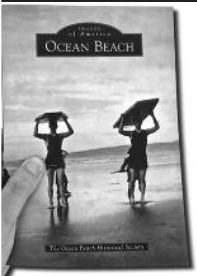
**SAN DIEGO BOOK AWARDS ASSOCIATION**  
**San Diego Book Awards 2015 WINNER**

**"OCEAN BEACH"**  
*by Ocean Beach Historical Society & Arcadia Publishing*

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

Available at OBHS events and at local vendors.

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

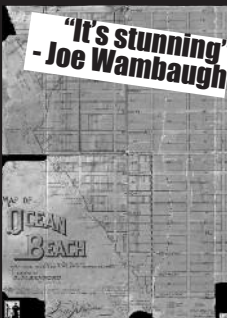


**1887 O.B. MAP POSTER**

1887 O.B. historical color map poster has lovely calligraphy, old street names and railroad lines. Also locations and names of beaches & rock formations, sand dunes and fresh water springs. The map's natural aging, torn edges & stains give it a wonderful pirate-map quality.

*"It's stunning" - Joe Wambaugh*

**\$20 ea.**  
(includes tax)

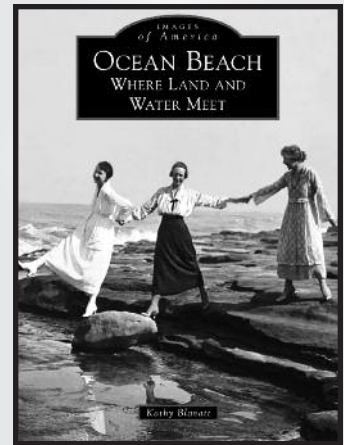


**DONATIONS Support OB Historical Society**

**BLUE VASE**



**OCEAN BEACH**  
**WHERE LAND AND WATER MEET**  
 By **KATHY BLAVATT**  
 Arcadia Publishing



Available at OBHS events and at local vendors.

**PRESERVE O.B.'s HISTORY Thru CONTRIBUTIONS!**

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

The OBHS Archives Room is upstairs on the top floor of the **WATER'S EDGE FAITH COMMUNITY**  
 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., O.B.

**THE OBHS ARCHIVE COLLECTION INCLUDES:**

**THE OBHS NEEDS:**

- Historical Photos, Items & Documentation
- Cash Donations
- Historical Interviews
- Archival Supplies

*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 addresses, their spouses & occupations). Dedicated volunteers assist with processing and organizing incoming materials.*

**ARCHIVES DONATIONS ARE WELCOME**

Many people believe that their lives are of no interest to others, but they are! Unfortunately, important history is lost when photographs, house plans, business and organization records, and family papers end up in the trash after a death in the family. Photographs are historically important because shots of people depict their activities and customs, homes and buildings, and dress. Without records of O.B. buildings, we lose links to the past when the buildings vanish or their functions change. Likewise, when the cliffs erode and scenery changes, it needs to be documented. Donations to the OBHS Archives provide an invaluable window into Ocean Beach's past.

**WHEN DONATING PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE ARCHIVES, PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECORD THE DATE AND IDENTIFY THE PEOPLE AND PLACES.**

Reluctant to give up your photos or papers? The Archives 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**

**MEMBERS July - Sept. 2019**

**New Members**  
 Pamela Kelly; Kenneth Korn; Sharon Novak; Jonathon Riley; Bill Russell; Steve Silva.

**Donations**  
 Laura Buxton; Claire Harootunian.

**Thank You Blue Vase Donors**

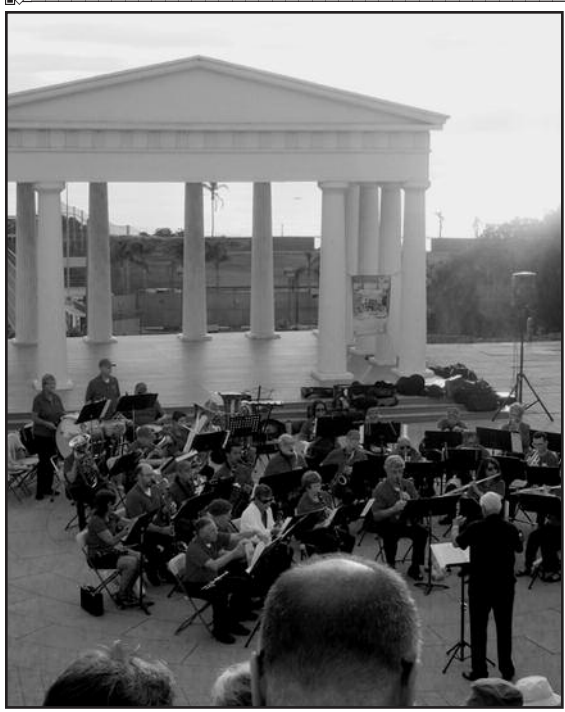
**Thank you:**  
**ERIC DuVALL** for organizing the wonderful Aug. S.D. City Band Concert.  
**RICHARD CARRICO** for the September Program.  
**MICHAEL MARTINO** for the July Program.



**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

**2019**  
**A YEAR OF FUN AND MUSIC!**




The OBHS had a Special Event in August featuring The San Diego City Guard Band At PLNU's Greek Amphitheatre built in 1901. A crowd of roughly 300 attendees heard the wonderful concert. Some enjoyed food from the vendors and others stayed for the beautiful sunset.




**THANK YOU FOR THE GRANTS!**

\* Ocean Beach Town Council \*  
 \* Ocean Beach Target \*  
 .... Also thank you for displaying Steve Rowell's Vintage O.B. Photos. in the front store window.



**MARY ALLELY**  
**Ocean Beach Historical Archivist....**  
**Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!**



Mary Allely is stepping down after many years of overseeing the OBHS ARCHIVES' COLLECTION. Mary Allely's extensive background as an archivist and librarian helped make our archives the wonderful collection it is today. Thank you, Mary.



*Farewell To Rikio Shiodsaki*  
 The Ocean Beach Historical Society sends a fond farewell to our dear friend Rikio and hugs to his wife Annie.

Rikio's memorial was held in A September on Harbor Island under his favorite tree. Lady bugs (his favorite bug) were released around the tree. Rikio was a modern-day renaissance man... a scientist, small business owner, artist, and a bullfighter!

Rikio and Annie were a true love story and they lived an unconventional life. They lived in O.B. then moved onto boat (formerly Humphrey Bogart's boat). They loved living on the water. Our hearts will always remember Rikio and his sweet smile.

Rikio's bull fighting S.D. Reader article at:  
[www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2013/feb/13/feature-bullfight-sweetwater/#](http://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2013/feb/13/feature-bullfight-sweetwater/#)