

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  
Vol. XXVI No. 5 Published Bimonthly



Luscumb's Point and Needles Eye  
(which broke apart in the early 1960s)  
seen from Sunset Cliffs Blvd.

September - October 2020 • President: Eric DuVall • Editor: Susan James • Creative Director: Kathy Blavatt

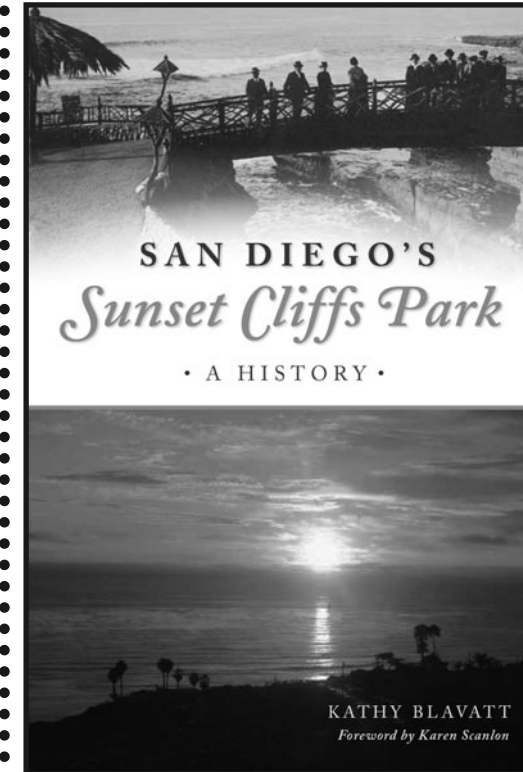
## Books, Books, Books!!! JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

The Ocean Beach Historical Society announces two new books!

### KATHY BLAVATT'S NEWEST BOOK **SAN DIEGO'S SUNSET CLIFFS PARK** • A HISTORY •

AVAILABLE OCT. 12, 2020, at: [www.blavatt.wordpress.com](http://www.blavatt.wordpress.com)

Kathy Blavatt's book *San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Park • A History*, published by History Press, is near and dear to her heart. Sunset Cliffs Park meanders along a mile and a half of San Diego's coastline, beckoning tourists and locals alike. These stunning cliffs inspired Albert Spalding, sportsman and visionary, to create a park in 1915 for all to enjoy. In the century since, many have left their mark, including the powerful Pacific Ocean. John Mills, an enterprising land baron, restored the original park, only to have it fall into neglect during the Depression and World War II. It became a popular spot for pioneering surfers and divers in the postwar boom. The park's colorful landscape attracted artists and children. Join author Kathy Blavatt as she relates the many transformations of this beloved park and looks to its future. *Continued on page 3*



### **SAN DIEGO'S POET LoVern Brown**

THE COLLECTED POEMS OF LOVERN BROWN

• OBHS board member Jonnie Wilson recently published a collection of poems  
• *Garment for a Long Journey: The Collected Poems* by her mother  
• LoVerne Brown, who lived and wrote in Ocean Beach for 50 years (1912-2000).  
• The majority of the poems in this book date to those years, during which she  
• lived in the San Diego neighborhood of Ocean Beach, close to the Pacific  
• Ocean, a frequent inspiration for her verse. *Continued on page 3*  
• To read select poems from *Garment for a Long Journey: The Collected Poems of*  
• *LoVerne Brown* and for ordering information, go to: [lovernebrown.com](http://lovernebrown.com)

### GARMENT FOR A LONG JOURNEY



THE COLLECTED POEMS OF  
LOVERNE BROWN

Edited by Jonnie Wilson

More about books and ordering at: [www.obhistory.org](http://www.obhistory.org)

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



The  
Ocean Beach Historical  
Society Site Presents:  
**FILMS ONLINE**  
LINKS  
and descriptions at:  
[www.obhistory.org](http://www.obhistory.org)

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**

**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

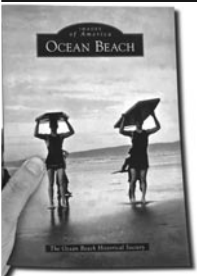
**"OCEAN BEACH"**  
by Ocean Beach Historical Society & Arcadia Publishing

San Diego Book Awards 2015 WINNER

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.

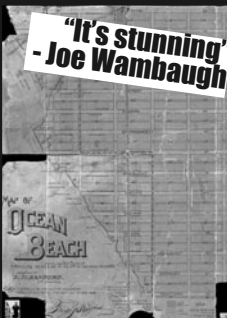


**1887 O.B. MAP POSTER**

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*

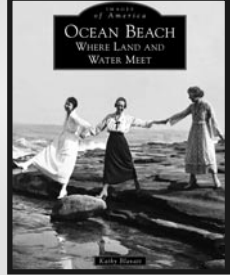
\$20 ea. (includes tax)



Visit Film Links at [www.obhistory.org](http://www.obhistory.org)

Regretfully Live OBHS Programs are CANCELED until further notice!

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



Available at OBHS events & local vendors: Olive Tree Market & Stumps Market

**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:

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.

**THE OBHS NEEDS:**

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



©Randy Dible

**DONATIONS Support OB Historical Society**

THANK YOU



**MEMBERS August 2020**

**New Members**  
Jane M. Manderscheid & Fletcher Miller

**Donations**  
Cliff Beck; John "Jack" Brennan; Laura Buxton & Tim Cohelan; Arlene & Keith Fink; Barb Franklin; Jan & James Hall, DDS; Claire Harootunian; Jim Harvey; Renewing member gift- John Fletcher and a Donation: From-Pat & Garnette Kipling; Mary "Mares" Northrup; Bill Russell; Nancy & Stewart Witt.

**In Memory of Dean Hollenbeck**  
Kathy & Ray Blavatt

**In Memory of Dorothy Anthony**  
Marge Grant from the Xzephias

**In Memory of Rikio Shiodsaki & Elenor (the Dragon Lizard)**  
Annie Shiodski

**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**  
OBHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
DONATIONS OF ITEMS & CASH MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

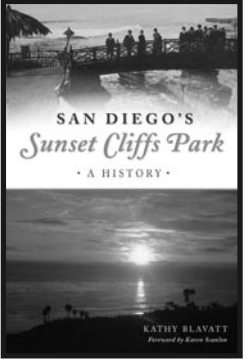
**CONTACT FOR ARCHIVES:**  
TO SCHEDULE A MEETING OR PICKUP: 619-226-8125

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



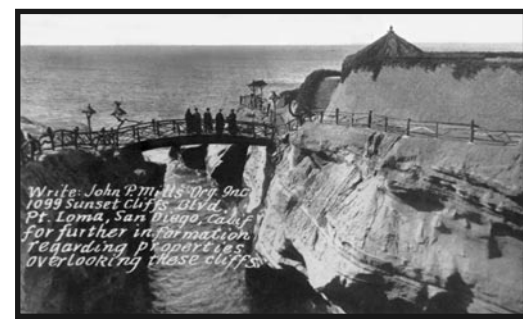
Continued from page 1, **About San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Park • A History**

Author Kathy Blavatt (Pearson) grew-up on Sunset Cliffs Blvd., and later lived in the family home with her husband, Ray. The couple was married at Dan Dixon's cliffside "Villa Surf" overlooking "Garbage Beach." Kathy's book incorporates photographs she shot, historical photos, and documents.




Photos from the book *San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Park • A History*.

The forward was written by Karen Scanlon, co-author of *Light Houses of San Diego*. Many peninsula residents donated material, photos, and information contained in the book. Visit the Blavatt site for more information and to place book orders: [www.blavatt.wordpress.com](http://www.blavatt.wordpress.com) or phone: 619 222-0057



Ocean Beach Historical Society celebrated LoVerne Brown's 100th birthday in 2012 with her poet friends.



Continued from page 1, **Garment for a Long Journey: The Collected Poems of LoVerne Brown**



The Ocean Beach Historical Society was honored to present their July 2012 program "Remembering—O. B. Poet, Activist, Beloved Friend". Featuring friends and family who spoke about the achievement of LoVerne Brown and the important part she played in Ocean Beach's history.

Multi-talented LoVerne had many friends who were happy to ensure that her poetry was available to everyone. (Much of her early serious work was published in poetry journals, which had limited audiences of mostly other poets.) In 1983, LoVerne's friend Steve Kowitz, published a collection of her work (*The View from the End of the Pier*) as a 71st birthday present to her. This volume sold out quickly and is now a collector's item. Two more collections followed: *Gathering Wine Grapes at the Hollywood Hilton* (1986) and *The Under Side of Snow* (1996). In 1999, 87-year-old, LoVerne Brown was honored with the *Local Author Lifetime Achievement Award (LOLA)*, an annual award given by the San Diego Public Library to a local author for his or her body of work. LoVerne never left her beloved O.B. Now, she continues to be a part of O.B. history.