

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. XXIV No. 1



Edwina Goddard loved boating as seen her sailor outfit. She was the first woman member of the Southwest Yacht Club.

June 2023 • President: Eric DuVall • Editor: Susan James • Creative Director: Kathy Blavatt

OBHS

VISIT

www.obhistory.org

- PROGRAMS & EVENTS
- ONLINE FILMS
- HISTORIC RESOURCES
- BLOG
- OBHS YOUTUBE LINKS
- OBHS PRESS LINKS

*If you're moving
or temporarily
changing address:*

Contact: Susan James
Phone (619) 226-8125

Or to Mail:
Ocean Beach Historical
Society
P.O. Box 7895,
San Diego, CA 92107

SPECIAL OFFER

Please visit our OB Blog for information, comments and memories:
www.obhistory.org

OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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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 OBHS EVENT POSTCARDS, BI-YEARLY SEA SCROLLS.

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, Family, & Business \$25/yr.
 Sustaining Member-\$100/yr. Life Member-\$500/1, payment
 Special Friend of OBHS-\$1,000/1 payment (includes Life Membership)

Name _____

Street Address or PO Box _____

City, State, Zip _____

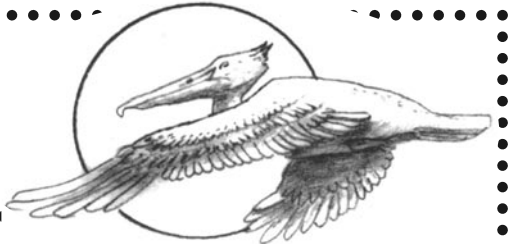
Telephone _____ Email _____

- NEW MEMBER RENEWAL CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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



Don't Miss the June 15, 7 pm OBHS Program:
A Retrospective:
**OCEAN BEACH'S
EXTRAORDINARY
ARTIST CHARLES FAUST**



Presented by Kathy Blavatt
The Ocean Beach Historical Society invites you to join us
THURSDAY, JUNE 15 AT 7:00 PM at Water's Edge Faith Community,
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., in Ocean Beach for our June program as we enter the
mid-year line-up, starting with an exceptional presentation.

Charles Faust was a modern-day Renaissance man. He was among the echelons of Ocean Beach's most famous artists. He was multifaceted in various mediums in the fine art world, commercial art and illustration, design, and structural design. Learn about this talented man and see an array of his artwork. OBHS programs are entertaining, informative, and FREE! *More on page 3.*

LOOKING FORWARD AS WE REMEMBER THE PAST!


Thank you for your continued support of Ocean Beach Historical Society. We are a very local non-profit 501(c)3 organization working to highlight and preserve the history of our community. We are a completely volunteer organization. **Basic membership** (Individual, Family, & Business) is only \$25 annually. Other levels of membership including **Sustaining Memberships, Life Memberships, and OBHS Special Friends** are also critical to our continued success. **Details/Membership Form on the of back of Sea Scrolls or OBHS website: Join or Donate or <https://obhistory.org/membership/>**

Check out our amazing **Ocean Beach Historical Society YouTube Channel** available 24/7. It's a treasure trove of local history and special features. Access our website links at obhistory.org or go to **YouTube and search for Ocean Beach Historical Society.** Also, visit our online collection of OB's great little community newspaper, *The Beach News* (link at obhistory.org).

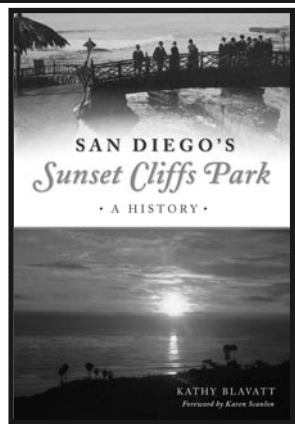
Ocean Beach Historical Society thanks the **Water's Edge Faith Community**, Methodist church in Ocean Beach, for hosting our lecture series, and for providing a home for our Historical Archives. The **OBHS Archives** houses books, periodicals, maps, charts, planning documents, photographs, directories, oral histories and more. We welcome donations of similar material. If you or someone you know has something of a local historical nature that you don't know what to do with, the OBHS Archives may be your solution.

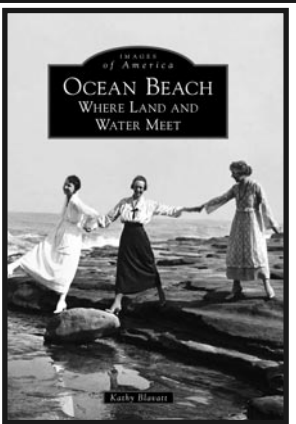
Thank you again for your continued support and participation.

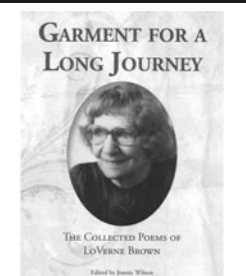
INFO & FILM/YOUTUBE LINKS at: www.obhistory.org



BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!
LEARN OUR EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL HISTORY!









Garment for a Long Journey: The Collected Poems of LoVerne Brown, published by Jonnie Wilson.
Info. & book orders at: lovernebrown.com

Information and where to buy books or place online orders: www.obhistory.org
Local Vendors: Olive Tree Market, Stumps Market, La Playa Book Store, CVS, OBMA, Rite Aid, Book Star, and Kathy Blavatt: www.blavatt.studio

CHECK IT OUT AT: obhistory.org

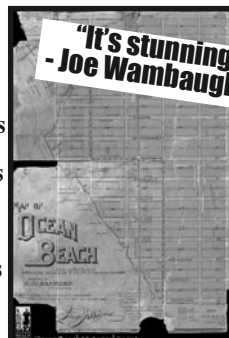


Ocean Beach Historical Society  **YouTube**

Enjoy Ocean Beach Historical Society's FREE Specials! Links at: obhistory.org
Our YouTube Channel includes FREE original specialty videos for your edification and entertainment!

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



"It's stunning" - Joe Wambaugh


PRESERVE O.B.'S HISTORY Through CONTRIBUTIONS!

The OBHS Archives was founded to preserve the history of Ocean Beach and the peninsula. *OBHS Archives Room is on the top floor of the Water's Edge Faith Community.*

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



Vallin family fishing at Sunset Cliffs

DONATIONS Support OB Historical Society



ARCHIVES DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

Many people believe that their lives are of no interest to others, but they are! Unfortunately, after a family member's death, important history is lost when photos, house plans, business and organization records, and family papers end up in the trash. Photos are historically crucial because people's shots 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. **OBHS Archives' donations provide an invaluable window into O.B.'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? Our Archives' staff would be happy to copy and safely return items to you with your permission to use the materials.

THANK YOU

- To Members
- To Donors
- To Archive Donors
- To the Board and Volunteers

Preservation work often needs support and supplies.
GIFTS MAY BE DONATED

*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: contact@obhistory.org


OBHS GENERAL INFO. CONTACT:
ph. 619-226-8125



The Rosemary Ann Phelan Photo Collection.

OBHS is proud to host this remarkable collection of over 9,000 images of San Diego before 1950. Archived by Mr. Jim Phelan and curated into topical; slide shows set to music.

SAN DIEGO NAVAL TRAINING STATION



THE ROSEMARY ANN PHELAN PHOTO COLLECTION No. 4

The collection includes many unique images found nowhere else: San Diego neighbors, backcountry, and coastal cities. The military's role in San Diego history, local events, expositions, and institutions are all a part of this remarkable collection.

Ocean Beach Historical Society Programs

Good news— some of the wonderful Ocean Beach Historical Society programs were recorded and are now available.

1970s Era Street Photologs

DO YOU REMEMBER THE HOMES AND BUSINESSES FROM THE 1970S?

The Digital Archives of the San Diego City Clerk's Office includes this unusual collection of what they called *Street Photologs*. The images were snapped ten seconds apart driving down many San Diego Streets. OBHS has reproduced quite a few of these with period music soundtracks.



SAN DIEGO CITY CLERK'S PHOTOLOG C. 1970

Enjoy these flashbacks to the past.

Is your home in these Photologs?

The Wisteria Garden Party was Blast!



The Ocean Beach Historical Society thanks folks that help make the 2023 Wisteria Garden Party & Fundraiser a success.

We applaud the talented musicians: Bill Corwin and the Vintage Swing Band whose classic pieces set the tone for the party. We also thank special guest Claire Roberts for her lovely cello playing and her singing "Summertime" with the band. And we always enjoy hearing T. J. Antonio Johnson sing "Its a Wonderful World."

Thanks Justin Reed and Kathy Blavatt for photographing. A big thanks to the donors who provided the drawing prizes.

We are grateful to all our OBHS board members and volunteers that made this years party very special.

May's OBHS Program was a full house that included loads of PLHS Alumni!

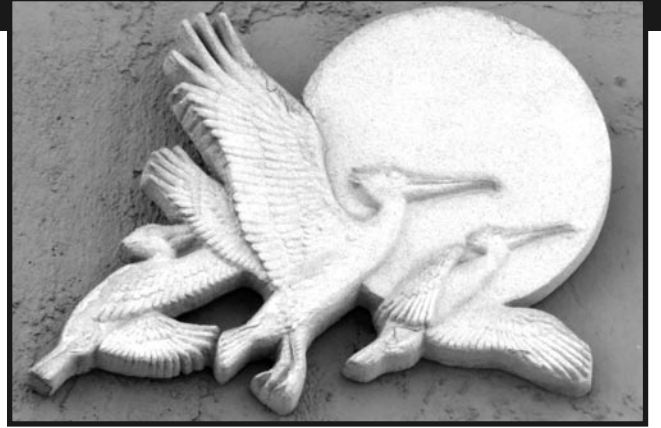
Author of "Cradle of Bitchin" Lee Brown (middle), with buddies Scott Hawkins and Richard Arnold who regaled the crowd.



© KATHY BLAVATT

June 2023 PROGRAM

Ocean Beach's Extraordinary Artist
Charles Faust



The Ocean Beach Historical Society Presents:
A Retrospective: OCEAN BEACH'S EXTRAORDINARY ARTIST CHARLES FAUST
Presented by Kathy Blavatt
THURSDAY, JUNE 15 AT 7:00 PM
at Water's Edge Faith Community,
1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., Ocean Beach

Charles Faust was a modern-day Renaissance man. He was among the echelons of Ocean Beach and San Diego's most famous artists. He was multifaceted in various mediums in the fine art world, commercial art and illustration, design, and structural design. Faust's worked for the San Diego Zoo, Lindbergh Field, and he had a vast number of freelance accounts. Faust also worked out of a studio on Voltaire Street in Ocean Beach, where he created many of his signature sand castings that were displayed at commercial buildings and homes on the peninsula. Learn about this talented man and see an array of his incredible artwork. OBHS programs are entertaining, informative, and FREE!

The Ocean Beach Historical Society Invites You to Our Booth at the 43rd OB Street Fair



OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOOTH AT O.B. STREET FAIR 2022, Photo by Justin Reed

Come on down to the 43rd Annual Ocean Beach Street Fair & Chili Cook-Off

**SATURDAY, JUNE 24
10 AM TO 8 PM**

The Ocean Beach Street Fair & Chili Cook-Off Festival offers attendees fun in the sun for all ages including the ever-popular **OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOOTH** (near Hodads). Come say "hi."

The OB Street Fair also includes three stages of continuous music, art, beach-front entertainment, shopping, food and more.

Entry to the Street Fair is always free!



THE BEACH NEWS

The Beach News link at the Ocean Beach Historical Society website: obhistory.org

OB'S GREAT LITTLE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER, *THE BEACH NEWS*, got its start a century ago in a small cottage on Saratoga Avenue, right next door to where Water's Edge Church is today. Later known as the *Ocean Beach News*, the weekly paper was extremely popular from the outset. The little paper advertised that it was "Endorsed by the Ocean Beach Chamber of Commerce," and frequently featured the slogans "Community Spirit Upheld," and "Circulating in Every Home." The paper liked to describe the beach town as "Where the Sunset Turns the Ocean's Blue to Gold."

By 1927 the paper was billing itself as "The Most Widely Read Weekly Newspaper in San Diego County - We Circulate!" This claim was later enlarged to cover all of Southern California. The paper also frequently boasted a local readership larger than all the other San Diego County newspapers combined. Without question *The Beach News* was fun. By the mid '20s the paper carried national wire service features, serialized adventure stories for adults and children, and even a half page Comics Section.

Many local landmarks date from the 1920s and 1930s and their development and completion were chronicled in *The Beach News*. The purchase of the Chatsworth Boulevard property, the hiring of Point Loma Architect Edwin T. Banning, and the subsequent construction of Point Loma High School was a story followed closely by *The Beach News* in 1924. The opening of the new Strand Theatre, the new Bank of Italy, and the coming of the San Diego Electric Railway's high speed Beach Line, were other significant additions to the community covered by *The Beach News* in the '20s.

Occupying a prominent shelf in the Archives of the Ocean Beach Historical Society is our collection of fourteen volumes of *The Beach News* and the *Ocean Beach News*. Six of the years are complete or nearly complete 52-week volumes. The collection chronicles the development of the community from the early Jazz Age, through the Great Depression and on through the end of the Second World War. We have 1922-1927, 1934-1936, and 1943-1947. The collection is a very representative sampling of a quarter century of seismic change and upheaval, both internationally and on the home front. Some of the years are in large bound volumes and some are on microfilm. All once belonged to the San Diego Public Library and were heroically rescued from the scrap heap of history. They are fascinating, fragile, and falling apart.

Through California Revealed, a program of the California State Library, Ocean Beach Historical Society's collection of *The Beach News*, and the *Ocean Beach News*, nominated and accepted for digitization in September of 2019, is now beautifully digitized and newly available for your perusal on the Internet Archive, the massive digital public library.

Use *The Beach News* link at the Ocean Beach Historical Society website: obhistory.org

LINK TO THE BEACH NEWS at: www.obhistory.org

The Ocean Beach Historical Society is very excited to announce that 536 weekly editions of *The Beach News* and *Ocean Beach News*, covering an exciting twenty-five-year period in the development of the beach community may now be read by anyone with a mind to. We hope that will include you.

MOST WIDELY READ COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY --- WE CIRCULATE!

KIRK SMITH
Editor-Publisher
4829 Saratoga Avenue
Ocean Beach, Calif.
Phone, Bayview 0017

THE BEACH NEWS

Promoting the Prosperity of Point Loma and the Beach and Bay Districts of San Diego

EIGHTY PAGES
SUBSCRIPTION
\$1.00 per Year in
San Diego County
\$1.50 a Year anywhere
outside San Diego

FOURTH YEAR, No. 52 OCEAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA Saturday, November 13, 1926 PHONE, BAYVIEW 0017 FIVE CENTS THE COPY

"Buy At Home"—Patronize Your Community Merchant

"SILVER SPRAY" HOTEL PLANNED

J. N. and B. A. DOUGLASS
PROPOSE FINE IMPROVEMENT
OF SEASHORE PROPERTY

Although the plans are still somewhat indefinite, it is not too premature to announce that the long contemplated improvement of the splendid Silver Spray plunge property seems about to become a laudable reality. J. N. and B. A. Douglass, owners of the plunge and the unfinished apartment house, are perfecting details for the completion of the interior of the building, with the purpose of making it a strictly modern seashore hotel and residential resort. The present structure has one of the most substantial foundations to be found on the Pacific coast and the location is ideal for the purpose proposed.

Beautiful Ocean Beach Bank Now Undergoing Construction

FIRST REPRODUCTION OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL SKETCH OF

NEW STRAND THEATRE CHANGES OWNERSHIP

MR. AND MRS. F. J. GRUBER PURCHASE PROPERTY INTEREST FROM RAY G. ERICSSON

With the final business details practically consummated this week, the new Strand theatre on Newport avenue is scheduled to change ownership and management this week. The splendid amusement building and valuable business property has been purchased from Ray G. Ericsson by Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Gruber, who will shortly assume personal management of the Strand theatre. Mr. and Mrs. Gruber are practical show folks of many years' experience and have been residing in San Diego for some time. During their long and active theatrical career they both achieved wide fame and were headliners on the various amusement circuits throughout the country. The new owners propose to make the Strand theatre one of the best show houses in Southern California.

LOCAL MASONS CELEBRATE

FIRST ANNIVERSARY
PENINSULAR MASONIC LODGE

CHAIN MERGER OF MILLIONS

SAFeway STORES
AND SKAGG'S UNITED STORES

Big doings in the beach district in 1926. Southern Trust and Savings Bank became the Bank of Italy, and later the Bank of America.

APTS., HOTEL ROOMS
Moderate prices. Overstuffed Innersprings-Detached or private baths. Free access to swimming pools. Sun-bath privileges on roof. Glassed-in sun parlor.

"A REAL HOME AWAY FROM HOME"

DINING ROOM and LUNCH COUNTER
Home-cooked Meals
Short Orders
Sandwiches
Soft Drinks

SILVER SPRAY

APT. HOTEL, CAFE and PLUNGE
5116 Narragansett Ave. Ocean Beach. Tel. Bayview 9214

SILVER SPRAY HEALTH STUDIO
Only Combination of Its Kind in Southern California

<p>HEALTH SERVICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot Sea Water Tub Baths Swedish Massage Sweat Baths Electric Cabinets Gym Classes 	<p>SWIMMING POOLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Live Sea Water Heated Daily Popular for its Sanitation Competent Instructors Guard on Duty
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A 1936 Ocean Beach News ad for the swanky Silver Spray Apartments, Hotel, Café, Plunge and Health Studio.

San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Co. pushed modern electric kitchen appliances in a 1927 ad in The Beach News.

The Ocean Beach News discussed a proposal for a public fishing pier, and supported FDR in 1936.

THE OCEAN BEACH NEWS

A Booster for Ocean Beach, Point Loma, Mission Bay and Mission Beach

FIFTEENTH YEAR, No. 1 OCEAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1926 PHONE, BAYVIEW 0017 FIVE CENTS THE COPY

Fishing Pier Question Again To The Front

This Publication Starts Western Business Fifteenth Year Highest In 62 Months

Are You Missing The Fun of an Electric Waffle Iron And Percolator?

These are the ideal table appliances for a jolly supper or a hot, nourishing breakfast.

Make Coffee and Waffles at the Table
It's Much More Satisfactory

San Diego Consolidated Gas & Electric Co.
207 SIXTH STREET

Safeway Engineering and Management Corporation

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

Help PRESERVE OB'S HISTORY! DONATE!
OBHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit org.
MAIL CHECKS TO: Ocean Beach Historical Society
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167
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