



DANA POINT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

The  
News

# DROGHER

Holiday Issue November/December 2015



**The Dana Point Historical Society  
cordially invites you to join Supervisor Lisa Bartlett  
at the dedication of the Dana Bicentennial  
Commemorative Plaque:**

**Sunday, December 6 at 1:30 PM  
Richard Henry Dana Jr. Statue  
Harbor Island, Dana Point Harbor**

**A Holiday reception will follow  
until 5 PM at the Society's Museum,  
Dana Point City Hall, 33282 Golden Lantern**

## **Join Us November 14 for Our Annual Field Trip**

This year, we are featuring a walk through the historic area of **Rancho Santa Fe**. Our bus will leave from the Strands parking lot promptly at **9 AM (please arrive 20 minutes early)**. Upon arrival, we will be met by our guide, local historian Von Marie May, who will take us on a walking tour through historic Rancho Santa Fe and the Inn. You may brown-bag a lunch or join us at Morgan Run Club & Resort. Reservations are required for lunch and you will be contacted about the menu and the price, which ranges from \$15 to \$25. This tour is available to the first 50 people to sign up with a check, money order, or cash. The cost is \$35 per person plus the cost of your lunch at Morgan Run, if you choose that option. You may stop in and pay during museum hours, Tues. and Thurs. 1-3PM or Saturday 11AM -1PM. You may also mail a check or money order to DPHS, PO Box 544, Dana Point CA, 92629. Checks should be made out to DPHS. We hope you will join us!

## President's Message



This has been a banner year for the Historical Society and I am thankful for everything our members, volunteers and donors have accomplished. The results of our Fifteenth Annual Home Tour exceeded our expectations, despite the heat on Sunday, October 11. Over five hundred people participated and, with less-than-projected expenses, we have cleared more than \$18,000 toward our mission to preserve and share local history with residents and visitors. Our success is directly tied to the guests who attended and the sponsors who underwrote the cost of the tour. We are blessed with volunteers who were generous with their time and their contributions to organize the tour. Please see the Home Tour sponsors, the Home Tour Committee and volunteers featured in this issue and on our web site. If you missed the tour, but would like to learn more and see photos of two of the historic properties on the tour, visit: <http://www.danapointtimes.com/historic-homes-hidden-treasures-historical-societys-15th-annual-home-tour-to-feature-capo-beach-properties/>

For the first time, the home tour featured music and art as part of the city's October Arts and Humanities Month. The Laura Seeley Studio and Dana Yarger of Breton Fine Art provided an Art and Gift display, along with a colorfully decorated, life-sized baby elephant sculpture to welcome us to the post-tour reception. The Dana Point Symphony and Arturo Echarte of Acoustics for a Change provided live music in three of the homes. Arturo recently thanked us for the opportunity to promote the organization's Instrument Donation Program. As a result of his music and display at the home tour, guests responded with donations of instruments. Arturo emailed, "We already received a keyboard, a few guitars and a mandolin [for distribution to students who cannot afford them]. Even in the heat it was a beautiful venue to play and a great group of volunteers."

As many of you know, the Calle Maria home, once owned by well-known antiquarian Gep Durenberger was one of six properties featured on our home tour. On the day following the tour, I received an email from Rick Morgan, whose mother, Glorea, became a friend of Gep's when she attended his Decorative Arts seminars at the property's unique "folly." Unknown to us on the day of the tour, Gephard Durenberger, 79, had passed away on October 1, at his home in Henderson, Minnesota. Gep's former Capistrano Beach home, with its charming Doheny cottage, picturesque gardens and the folly, is a tribute to his talent and his memory, a treasure generously shared by current owner Eric Guenther. The *Historic Homes and Hidden Treasures of Capistrano Beach* was, and will continue to be, a celebration of the Capistrano Beach community, from the Doheny era to the present.

As mentioned in the last issue, our August 1 collaboration with the Ocean Institute in celebration of Richard Henry Dana Jr.'s 200th Birthday supported the *Adopt-A-Class Program* at the Ocean Institute. Dori Moorehead, President and Chief Executive Officer, thanked us for working together with the City of Dana Point to make the donation, and Shira Greenbaum, the program's manager, has promised to be in touch when "our adopted students" are scheduled for their overnight on the brig *Pilgrim*. I hope you feel as I do that Dana would have enjoyed his birthday party and this gift to the children from those who organized, volunteered and attended our Dana Bicentennial program.

September's *Toshiba Tall Ships Festival* again provided the opportunity for our volunteers to share Dana Point history at a new DPHS booth location near the brig *Pilgrim*. We also shared space with the Hobie Memorial Committee, whose members are in the process of raising public support for a Hobie Alter Memorial in the City of Dana Point. Maritime historian Bob Minty, the Ocean Institute and the Historical Society also combined efforts to provide an interesting maritime history exhibit in the Samuelli Conference Center during the tall ships weekend.

On September 16th, we again collaborated with the Ocean Institute for our fall meeting when more than 80 members and guests listened as Jeffrey Amestoy presented his new biography, *Slavish Shore: The Odyssey of Richard Henry Dana Jr.* Many brought or purchased books from the Ocean Institute Gift Shop and patiently waited for the author to autograph their copy after his talk. Amestoy impressed us with the significance of Dana's advocacy and his legal work, including before the Supreme Court as related to Lincoln's Civil War powers. Amestoy presented the Historical Society with a signed copy of his book, in appreciation for our help in launching *Slavish Shore*. We were fortunate to have retired Vermont Chief Justice Amestoy share his insight on Dana's extraordinary life and we have invited him to return this April for the community reading of *Two Years Before the Mast*.

I look forward to Sunday, December 6, when we officially conclude our Year of Dana. Supervisor Lisa Bartlett will officiate at the dedication of the Dana Bicentennial plaque, in recognition of our namesake and in appreciation of the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society members who raised the funds for the Dana statue installed in 1972. Let's join in a toast to Richard Henry Dana Jr. at the Holiday Museum Reception after the dedication!

*Barbara Force Johannes*

## *A Special Thank You to Our 2015 Home Tour Sponsors!*



### *Event Sponsor*

Community Driven Hospitality  
*Sunsets Bar & Grill,*  
*Stillwater Spirits and Sounds,*  
*Waterman's Harbor*



### *Founding Sponsor of 15 Home Tours*

*Dan Raphael/Coldwell*  
*Banker Real Estate*



### *Platinum Sponsor*

*Fay & David Kristjanson*  
*Dana Point Nursery*

### *Golden Sponsors*

Karen and Steven Abraham, Elizabeth & Bill Bamattre, Breton Fine Art, Anna Brace and David Brown, Joyce & Dr. Dean Clark, Dana Point Times, Dana Wharf Sport Fishing & Whale Watching, Norm Denton and May Belsby, Arturo Echarte—Acoustic for a Change, Eric Guenther, Barbara and Keith Johannes, Patricia O'Keefe and Andrew Smakula, Karen and Fred Scuncio, So\*Cal Boot Camp, Triton Air—Mike & Kim Nicola, Zen Ziejewski—Z Team of Keller Williams

### *Silver Sponsors*

Beacon Brokerage—Dena Van Slyke, Beal Business Law—Bruce L. Beal, Calvo Studios—Maria del Carmen Calvo, Cannon's Seafood Grill, Capo Cares, Chez Nevine, Coffee Importers—Jim Miller, Mary Crowl, Dana Point City, Dana Point Symphony, Linda Hardy, Judy and Buck Henderson, Sandie and Carl Iverson, Nancy Jenkins, Minuteman Press Dana Point, Olamendi's Restaurant, RJ's Café, Salon Diva, J. Scott Schoeffel, Councilman, City of Dana Point, John Tomlinson, Councilman, City of Dana Point

### *Bronze Sponsors*

Leslie Aronson, Regina and Jim Barnes, Beautiful Massage—Jennifer Huffman, Jessica R. Blair Estate/Trust Attorney, John L. Campbell Insurance Agency, Janet and Chris Carter, The Ceramics Studio, Janeann and Gary Clark, Dana Point Chamber of Commerce, Eleanor and Joe Dunn, Educators Retirement Services, Susan and Paul Hinman, David Holmes, Rodney J. Howorth, Killer Dana Surf Shop, Marsha and Richard LaRusso, Lucy's El Patio Café, Pat and Bob MacDonald, McCool Flowers, Barbara and George Miller, Kim Myles and Mike Schmidt, Planet Beauty, Plant Depot, Beatrice Reed, Ricardo's Place, Joyce Spriggs, The UPS Store, Robin Valles, Lee and Terry Walsh

### *In Kind Sponsors*

Agostino Ristorante, Blue Lantern Inn, Casa Romantica, Casanova Restaurant, Gemmell's Restaurant, The Harbor Grill, Hennessey's Tavern, Las Golondrinas, Luxe Restaurant, Toni Nelson, Peking Dragon Restaurant, South County Skin & Body Center—Marilee Miller, The Point Restaurant, Trader Joe's, Woody Hut

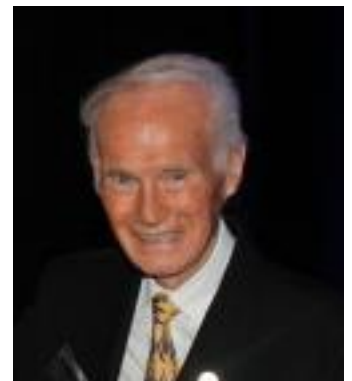
## THANK YOU to our 2015 Home Tour Committee, Volunteers and Docents!

With a wildly successful home tour this year, we need to recognize all those who helped make the event a triumph: Committee Co-Chairs Sandie Iverson and Barbara Johannes and committee members Elizabeth Bamattre, Mary Crowl, Linda Hardy, Rod Howorth, Carl Iverson, Nancy Jenkins, Keith Johannes and Marsha LaRusso.

Volunteers and docents Elizabeth Abraham, Stella Allen, Alice Anderson, Bill Bamattre, Nik Bamattre, Carol Banister, Bruce Beal, Marlene Beal, Joan Beyer, Chris Bourke, Irene Bourke, Judy Brandmeier, Bonnie Burchette, Mary Burrough, Pat Cameron, Irene Cody, Suzanne Enis, Denise Erkeneff, Rick Erkeneff, Tom Fagan, Richard Gardener, Karen George, Liz Goodman, Amy Grupe, Muriel Hamme, Lisa Harter, Julie Aros Heine, Judy Henderson, Peggy Hewco, Betty Hill, Buck Hill, Paul Hinman, Susan Hinman, Marion Huiberts, Heidi Hyde, Bill Johnson, Mary Lou Johnson, Vivi Johanson, Storm Karczewski, Jeanine Kofford, Mark Kofford, Karen Kulik, Frances Lam, Richard LaRusso, Diana Leahy, Mike Leahy, Wendy Lockwood-Larson, Barbara Martin, Ashlynn Matthews, Ingrid McGuire, Patty McLaughlin, Linda Moore, Barbara Mooring, Toni Nelson, Steve Pierce, Wayne Rayfield, Bea Reed, Ann Romano, Dee Samson, Karen Schnell, Hansa Sehgal, Lakshman Sehgal, Patti Short, Lucy Siebert, Mary Therese Spivey, Joyce Spriggs, Steve Stewart, Linda Stites, Hank Thomas, Patti Thompson, Linda Trim, Kay Verity, Sheryl Villaparnia, Lee Walsh, Terry Walsh, Sue Walshe, Sandy Wheeler, Kimberly Williams, Barbara Wilson and Josh Zeyak.

### Dana Point Mourns Loss of Resident

It is with sadness and admiration that we salute DPHS Honorary Member Gene Burrus, who passed away on October 21. It was our March 24, 2010 Historical Society Meeting when Gene Burrus and Lubica Selecka related the tale of the now well-known Burrus family tile portrait on the new Dana Point Coast Highway pedestrian bridge. Gene recalled a 1933 visit to his grandparents as a six-year old, when the photo was taken in front of a sign advertising Sidney Woodruff's new development, Dana Point. Gene had graciously given the original photo to the Historical Society and it was later selected to be one of the mosaic murals that artist Lubica Selecka would create for the bridge. When Gene retired from his career as a professional radio announcer, he and his wife Gladys decided to live in Dana Point, where he is best known as the Voice of Dana Point Youth Baseball games. The evening Gene was named the Dana Point Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, everyone at the Historical Society's table thought Gene should be invited to be the lead reader for the Annual Community Reading of *Two Years Before the Mast*. Gene's golden voice began the March 2013 reading with his wife Gladys in the audience. A celebration of Gene's life is planned for Sunday, November 22, at noon, on the Gene Burrus Ballfield at Del Obispo Community Park.



*Photo by Andrea Pappagianis*

To read more about Gene and his contributions to Dana Point: <http://www.danapointtimes.com/gene-burrus-the-voice-of-dana-point-passes-away-at-88/>

### Save the Date of January 20, 2016 for the DPHS Annual Meeting and Potluck

Our annual meeting, which includes the presentation of the Pat Plepler Award, will be held the evening of Wednesday, January 20, at Community House. Time will be announced in January, but, as in the past, we will have a reception and potluck dinner followed by new officer recommendations for the Board of Directors, a report from our treasurer, and the bestowing of the Pat Plepler Award. Please be sure to join us for this special evening.

# Tall Ships Festival Volunteers & Preservation Report

Text and photos by Keith Johannes

Below, some of our Tall Ship volunteers: Sheryl Villapania, Sandie Iverson, Lee and Terry Walsh. In between Lee and Terry, second from right, is author Jeffrey L. Amestoy, whose book "Slavish Shores" was featured at the Society's event the following Wednesday.



Photo by Jess Lopez

Brad Fowler, Director of Public Works and Engineering Services, has reported to our Preservation Committee that five "Historic Feature Signs" (example shown at left and below) have been installed on Del Prado and



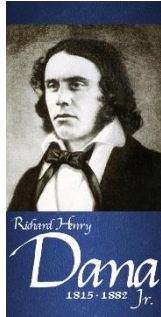
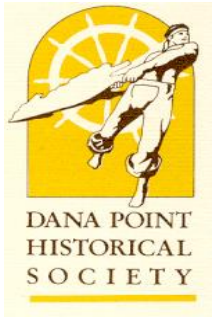
The Dana Point Historical Society's booth at the *Toshiba Tall Ships Festival* was another success, and kudos go to our volunteers who included: Brad and Judy Brandmeier, Rod Howorth, Kate Bartholomew, Mike and Diana Leahy, Heidi Hyde, Willa Porter, Richard Gardner, Terry and Lee Walsh, Elizabeth Bamattre, Barbara Johannes, Chuck and Era Johannsen, Carl and Sandie Iverson, Jess Lopez, Sheryl Villapania, Drew Reynolds and Bob and Barbara Wilson. Thanks to Tracy Kirby, Assistant Maritime Director, and the Ocean Institute staff, the DPHS booth was in a great location, across from the brig *Pilgrim*, where we enjoyed observing reenactments of 1800s maritime activities while also connecting with people stopping to check out Dana Point history. It was an added treat to have the Hobie Memorial Committee share the space next to us. You can read more about the Hobie memorial on the *Orange County Register's* website: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/hobie-675883-alter-dana.html>



Pacific Coast Highway. The sixth sign, of the 1927 Blue Lantern Café, will be installed after the removal of the construction fence. Special thanks go to the Society's Preservation Committee, especially Kevin Van Fleet, who

worked to enhance photos from the Dana Point Historical Society's collection as well as the photos for the eight tiled insets soon to be installed on the Lantern District Arch (see page 6). These insets will be a mixture of S. H. Woodruff's historic photos and his real estate brochures.

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## 2015 DPHS Calendar

**Nov 14** Rancho Santa Fe Field Trip    **Nov 16** Lantern District Ribbon-Cutting    **Dec 6** Plaque Dedication & Open House

## Membership

Please welcome new members **Kim & Mike Nicolai (Lifetime), Sandra Arsenault, Shirlene Diamond, Rick & Tracy Morgan, Jess Lopez & Sheryl Villapania, Wendie Pinto, Bonni Pomush, James Proett, Tom Rafferty, Portia Ryan, Gina Stivers and Carole & James Weling**

### Membership Dues

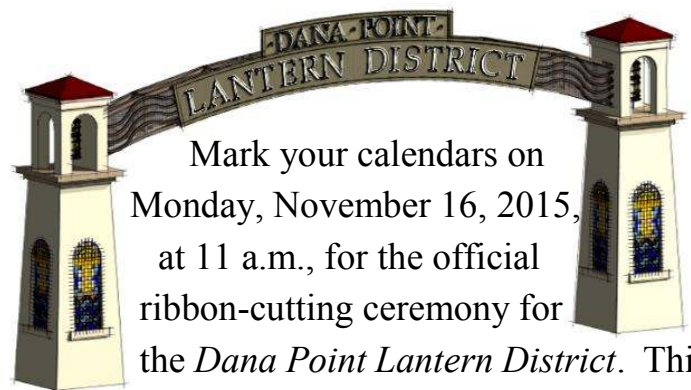
Your membership dues are important. Our activities, such as the newsletter, program meetings, collection and preservation of documents and photographs, are funded by your dues.

**Annual dues for 2016 will be due January.** The membership categories are as follows:

Individual	\$25 annual
Family	\$30 annual
Business	\$50 annual
Patron	\$100 annual
Life	\$500 lifetime

All contributions are tax deductible as the Historical Society is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization.

Marsha LaRusso



Mark your calendars on **Monday, November 16, 2015,** at 11 a.m., for the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the *Dana Point Lantern District*. This will take place under the new archway at Del Prado and Pacific Coast Highway.