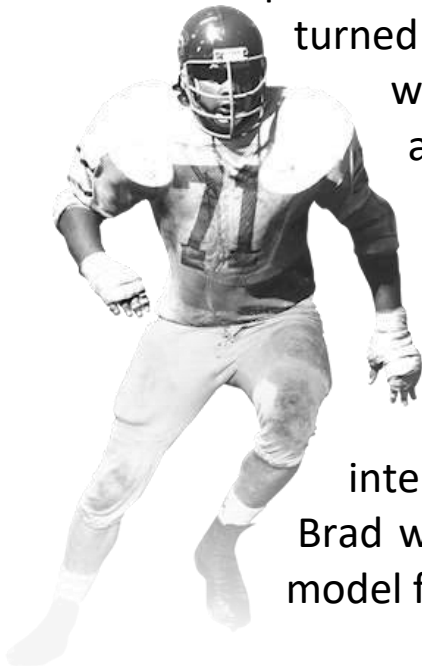




The News Drogher

Spring 2025

Join us on Wednesday, June 18, at 6 p.m. in City Hall Chambers for our next meeting featuring football legend Brad Budde, selected by sculptor F. Benedict Coleman as the model for the Hide Drogher statue located on the bluff-top trail between Amber and Violet Lantern. Brad, an All-American guard at USC who won the Lombardi Award in 1979, played in the NFL for the Kansas City Chiefs for seven seasons and is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. The Hide Drogher statue was the first significant project by the fledgling DPHS and was started before cityhood. The statue eventually became the logo for the Society. Following a life in professional football, Brad



turned his career as a warrior into that of a healer, earning a master's degree in physical therapy and serving the community of Dana Point for 30 years as an in-home licensed therapist. Please bring your questions for Brad --- he is glad to share his experiences. Special Events Chair Elizabeth Bamattre will begin the evening interviewing Brad and then he will welcome audience queries. Brad will also discuss how he was invited to participate as the model for the Hide Drogher statue.

The Society welcomes attendees to a reception in the museum following our program.

President's Message



Never in my wildest dreams did I think that I would have the distinct honor of being president of the Dana Point Historical Society. Thank you for placing your confidence in me to lead as we transition into a new administration.

I want to give a shout out and a note of special thanks to the Executive Board. I know that I have the best of the best backing me up and I look forward to working with all of you during the year. What a great Board of Directors we have! We start off with Gary Macrides (just recently named Dana Point Citizen of the Year), our newly elected First Vice President. Gary oversees our museum and the merchandise that we sell. Next, we have Jeff Lander, Second Vice President. Jeff oversees membership and will be able to answer any questions that come up. He is also the driving force behind the website and coordinates technical implementations with Grant Earl, our technology advisor. Following close behind, we have Bob Minty, Third Vice President in charge of programs. By the way, if you have not had the opportunity to see him perform, Bob does a fabulous presentation in which he plays Richard Henry Dana Jr. Keeping our finances in order is our Treasurer, Gary Prenovost. Heidi Hyde is our Recording Secretary and Scholarship Chair. Nancy Jenkins is our Corresponding Secretary and conducts all the correspondence for DPHS. Joel Bishop is Parliamentarian and handles technology at our meetings.

What good is a Board without quality chairpersons who add a wealth of knowledge and expertise? I must give a shout out to Keith Johannes, Preservation; Grant Earl, Technology/Media; Barbara Johannes, Historian and President Emeritus; Elizabeth Bamattre, Special Events; Judy Henderson, Sunshine Ambassador and Director Emeritus; Rocky Parker, Archives; James Proett, Docent Scheduling; Robin Valles, Historic Photos; Max Brown, editor of The News Drogher and posting on Social Media; and Randy Roberts, who coordinates the creation and installation of tiles for the Baby Beach Tile Wall project.

We will continue to work on our website, always striving to make it easier to navigate, and easier for everyone to be able to find what they are looking for. Grant Earl and his technology "Tiger Team" will be making sure we have the best available equipment and software to keep us as up to date as possible.

I am looking forward to our upcoming event, a tribute to Richard Henry Dana's 210th Birthday, on June 18th in the City's Chambers. Our special guest speaker will be Brad Budde. We look forward to seeing you there!

Marsha M. LaRusso

Donated Historic Lanterns Come with a Dual History

The Historical Society received two original Dana Point Lanterns on March 6 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Vice President Gary Macrides was the museum docent who accepted the c.1927-1929 lanterns. When I called the donor for this article, he was able to give me the history he knew. Sometime after Orange County removed the deteriorated lantern streetlights in the 1950s, some individuals were able to acquire salvaged lanterns for their private use. Some lanterns were restored, rewired and appeared on private property where they can still be seen today. Others were donated by



Marjorie Kinkaid in 1989 for local merchants to replace and restore the lantern streetlights in downtown's La Plaza. These most recent lanterns were found in a local antique shop in Capistrano Beach where they were purchased by Mary Limebrook. Mary hung them in her living room on Beach Road about 1955. Evidently, the antique dealer or Mary inserted some clear plastic on the inside of the lanterns to evoke the streets of the Golden Lantern and Ruby Lantern. When stored, someone put the white paper around them to protect the clear plastic or to simulate the look of white glass or plastic. Unfortunately, an added

iron chain, not original to the lanterns, has caused rust to run onto the original verdigris copper. The lanterns were later stored outside in an open garage where the ocean's saltwater breeze rusted the attached iron chain and caused rust to run over the original verdigris copper. When compared with other salvaged lanterns, these have acquired a heavier "verde patina" with an added rust stain.

The donor wanted to know if the electric lanterns originally had colored translucent plastic beneath the white frosted glass. According to Sheet No. 14 of 15 Sheets in the County Improvement No. 17, Orange County California, August 1928, "the only colored glass was a globe at the top of the Standard (light pole) when on the corner of a Lantern Street and Roosevelt Military Memorial Highway [Pacific Coast Highway]." On the corner of a colored lantern street even the streetlight pole was painted the same color as the lantern street name, while all the other lantern posts were to be black. The diagram's description states: "On lantern named streets, the intersection standard, excepting (the) lantern, is to be Duco [Duco was a trade name assigned to a product line of automotive lacquer developed by the DuPont Company in the 1920s], or its equal, finished in the color indicating the street name; all other standards to be finished in black Duco, or its equal. Street names to be lettered in white (on the sign attached to the standard [light pole]." Of course, people might have tried other temporary means to color the lantern light but it wouldn't have been during the time Sidney H. Woodruff was in charge.

The Historical Society wishes to thank the donor for adding two original lanterns to our archives.

Note: For more information on the history of Dana Point's unique lanterns, please go to our web site and look for "Dana Point's Legendary Lanterns" in the Spring 2021 News Drogher. Place "A Legacy of Lanterns," Dana Point Times, July 25, 2008, in your browser for another article.

Barbara Force Johannes

Remembering Ann Romano and Her Gift to DPHS

Ann Tavis Romano and her husband Malin were lifelong residents of Orange County and longtime residents of Capistrano Beach. Ann Austin Tavis was born in Los Angeles in 1946 to Mary and Robert Tavis and raised on Balboa Island in Newport Beach. Malin was raised in this area and his parents built a home in Capistrano Beach that he and Ann inherited from them. Their home on the Palisades was near Alice Baum's and Don Burnes' historic Doheny home on Camino Capistrano, which provided the opportunity for Ann and Alice to become close friends. Ann joined our Society's Inaugural Historic Homes Tour Committee in 2000, organized by Alice and Don. Ann's career in Orange County public relations agencies specializing in real estate was valuable to the committee, especially when it featured the historic Doheny Homes of her beloved Capistrano Beach. Ann had established *Ann Romano and Associates* (public relations) working out of her home office, which also allowed her to help care for Malin as his health declined. Ann would be involved in four additional home tours, which is when I joined and served on the committee with her and others. We often met at Alice and Don's home. After Alice Baum passed away, Ann's time was taken with caring for Malin, and, later, with her own treatment for breast cancer. Ann celebrated being cancer free after five years and was deeply grateful to Saddleback Memorial Care for her treatment there. Ann also served on the Board of Directors of the Building Industry Association for years, was an active member of Capo Cares when it was established and she supported other nonprofits related to the environment and animal causes. After Malin's passing, Ann decided to sell their home on the Palisades and she purchased an apartment in Laguna Woods. Coincidentally, a former colleague she had trained at B.J. Stewart Advertising and Public Relations, Inc. nearly 4 decades earlier, lived nearby. Ann missed Capistrano Beach but was happy in her Laguna Woods apartment. However, Ann's cancer later returned and she passed away in 2024.



Photo courtesy of MemorialCare Medical

In a letter dated April 12, 2024 from the Anderson Law Group, the Historical Society was informed that we were one of seventeen nonprofits listed to receive funds from the Ann Romano Trust once her estate was settled and the final distribution was made. There was no information shared regarding a celebration of life or service for Ann after she passed away on March 28, 2024. We had heard earlier from her former neighbor Toni Nelson that Ann had sold her home and moved to Laguna Woods. It wasn't until we received a letter dated March 28th of this year that we received Ann's gift and were informed that our beneficial interest in the trust was now paid in full. I did reach out to a friend of Ann's who met her when she spent a year in Hawaii after graduating from UCSB. They remained friends for life, but Ann returned to Orange County to follow her mother's career in residential public relations and landed a job as a secretary at the Irvine Company. It was there she met her future husband, Malin Romano.

Ann and Malin's trustees wrote: "Each of the 17 Southern California organizations listed as a beneficiary in the Trust was a part of their lives at one time or another. When Ann created this trust, she saw this as a way to either give something back or to say thank you for what you do." In return, the Historical Society wishes to recognize Ann for giving her time and talent to plan and participate as a member of five Historic Home Tour Committees. Not only did the committees raise funds for the museum's expenses, but they also raised awareness of the historic homes in Capistrano Beach, Dana Point, Monarch Beach and Beach Road. The 45 historic structures now on the City of Dana Point Historic Resource Register are, at least in part, due to the Fifteen Historic Home Tours raising awareness of the value historic buildings have in our community. We thank Ann for giving her recent gift to the Dana Point Historical Society and we plan to use it to the best advantage we can to preserve and share our history for present and future generations.

Barbara Force Johannes

Outreach Booth at Redo Market



1st Vice President Gary Macrides was on hand at Dana Point's Redo Market on Sunday, April 27th along with Tile Wall Chair Randy Roberts to help visitors at our outreach booth. Aside from our sales display of merchandise, historic photos and tiles, 3rd Vice President Bob Minty displayed his vintage Woody (pictured left), which always helps to draw an appreciative crowd!



One group of several visitors preparing their tiles for the Baby Beach seawall.



Booth volunteers included many DPHS officers and appointed chairs including Marsha LaRusso, Gary Macrides, Nancy Jenkins, Barbara Johannes and Keith Johannes (pictured l-r, above). Other Volunteers not shown were Elizabeth, Bill & Nik Bamattre, Heidi Hyde, Jeff Lander, Bob Minty, Jim Proett, Gary & Stella Prenovost, Randy Roberts and Robin Valles.

Membership

Please welcome new members **Derek Alkonis, Margo Beauchamp, Thekla Brahm, Thomas Champion, Cherilyn & L.J. Cibelli, Barbara Clancey, Kate Hughes, Don Kent, Riki Mullan, Flora Nadafi and R. Marie Paquette!**

As a reminder, the annual dues for 2025 were due in January. The membership categories are:

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

Please remit your dues at this time either via mail at P.O. Box 544, Dana Point, 92629; at our museum Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays, 1-3 p.m.; at one of our scheduled meetings or at events when our outreach booth is present.

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

Questions?

Contact Membership Chair Jeff Lander at Jeff.Lander@danapointhistorical.org 630-240-9266.