



DANA POINT
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

The
News

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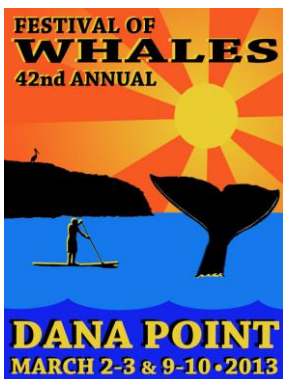
February 2013

Please join us February 27, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. for our monthly meeting, which will feature surfing legend Mickey Munoz. This event will be held in the Dana Point Room of the Dana Point Marina Inn, 24800 Dana Point Harbor Drive. Refreshments will be provided. Read more about Mickey inside this newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE!

The meeting of the DPHS in March will be the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony of our new museum located in Suite 104 of Dana Point City Hall. City officials, DPHS members and guests will gather on Wednesday, March 27, at 4:30 pm for this event, followed by a reception given by the Historical Society. Please be sure to join us on this very special day.

VOLUNTEERS!



In this very special 25th anniversary year of the Historical Society we have a great need for volunteers for several upcoming events. Won't you consider dedicating even a small portion of your time to help the Society make this a banner year in our organization's history? All skill levels are needed and no experience is necessary.

Readers are needed on the second weekend of the Festival of Whales for the presentation of Richard Henry Dana's *Two Years Before the Mast*. Please look inside this newsletter on page 3 for complete information regarding this event. Contact Ann Leibowitz at 949-248-8121.

Heidi Hyde is looking for more volunteers to take two-hour shifts at the **DPHS booth** during the Festival of Whales. The booth will be open March 2 & 3, and March 9 & 10. An experienced member of the Society will be there to assist new volunteers. Please contact Heidi at 949-661-8291 or at heidi_hyde@yahoo.com.

Mary Williams is seeking **docents** for our new museum. No experience is necessary, training is provided and an experienced member of the Society will accompany you during your first sessions. Please contact Mary at 949-248-7164.

President's Message



Our New Year is off to a great start due to January's well-attended annual meeting. We shared delicious home cooking and socialized with friends over dinner. The annual meeting was dedicated in memory of Beverly Sels, DPHS past president from 1996-2001, who passed away on January 5. The January 2012 annual meeting minutes were read by Secretary Heidi Hyde and approved. The 2012 Financial Report was accepted and will be audited by the Finance Committee within 90 days and reviewed by our CPA. Nancy Jenkins gave the Bylaws Committee report and a motion was passed to accept the bylaws revisions. Parliamentarian Mary Crawl announced the slate of officers who were approved by a vote of the members. The installation of elected and appointed officers was conducted by City Councilman Carlos N. Olvera, who, as immediate past DPHS president, commented on the high quality of past and present officers with whom he had the pleasure of serving. Thanks to Carlos administering our pledge to serve, we all feel officially responsible to carry out the Historical Society's mission. Ross Teasley, VP Museum, reported on the museum's progress, the need for docents and the March 27 museum opening. After additional announcements, the business meeting was adjourned by vote of the members.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and our members, it was my privilege to read the Pat Plepler Citizenship Award Proclamation honoring Terry Walsh and to present him with the award for his civic activism. The recognition of Terry's service is a salute to Pat's memory and her dedication to our quality of life.

Joel Bishop introduced the evening's featured speaker, Dr. Dorian Paskowitz, and described how the two men met on their daily exercise walks in Sea Terrace Park. "Doc," along with his wife, Juliette, entertained us with his surfing adventures along the pristine California coast of the 1930s that included Dana Point.

March will be an event-filled month. The Festival of Whales begins on March 2 & 3 and volunteers are needed for our booth in the harbor and to accompany visitors on the Historical Society walking tour through Town Center at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday of both weekends. The walk is entertaining and good exercise.

You will really feel a part of history when you read aloud from *Two Years Before the Mast*. 100 readers are being scheduled now, as explained in this issue, and you and I can be among them. In contemporary terminology, Richard Henry Dana Jr. is truly the creator of Dana Point's historic *brand*, with his phrase "the most romantic spot on the coast.."

All of these activities provide an opportunity to display historic photos, tell our stories and celebrate our history for our community and visitors. Please be an active participant in one or more of these fun events. March comes to a close with our museum opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony in City Hall on the 27th. City Council members and the Chamber of Commerce will officiate. Again, we would love to have your help in preparing the museum and/or becoming a docent when the museum is opened. It will be a success with your help.

Not to be missed, Mickey Munoz is our speaker for the February 27 meeting! Nicknamed "The Mongoose," Mickey is a local surfing legend and this is our chance to be "up close and personal" with a historical figure in the surfing world. My sincere thanks go to Marlene and Bruce Beal for arranging this treat.

Regina Barnes, VP Membership, wrote these remarks in an email to our board members: "Just wanted to say how much I enjoyed last night's meeting...I have never been involved with an organization that has such great members. Everyone truly cares for the organization..."

Regina expressed how many of us felt at the annual meeting. We do appreciate your support and invite you to join our team as an active member. I look forward to seeing you at our Wednesday, February 27 meeting and throughout our March events.

Barbara Force Johannes

Third Annual Reading of *Two Years Before the Mast*

The Dana Point Historical Society, in collaboration with the City of Dana Point, will present the third annual public reading of Richard Henry Dana Jr.'s *Two Years Before the Mast* as a feature of the 2013 Festival of Whales. It is modeled on the popular annual public reading of Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* conducted by the Old Dartmouth Historical Society at the New Bedford Whaling Museum in Massachusetts. Dana's book is the first to describe in detail the California coast as it existed in the 1830s.

In the book, which takes place between 1834 and 1836, Dana gives a vivid account of the life of a common sailor at sea as it really was, recounting his voyage from Boston to South America, around Cape Horn to California to trade manufactured goods from the United States for cow hides produced by Mexican colonial California missions. While

the images in the book of Santa Barbara and San Francisco are of interest, best beloved passages describe Capistrano Bay and San Juan (now Dana Point) as “the most romantic spot on the coast.”

The reading will take place at the Nature Interpretive Center, 34558 Scenic Drive, where a spectacular mural of the Dana Point coast as it was in Richard Henry Dana’s time, complete with the ship “Pilgrim” at anchor, provides a perfect background for readers. It is accompanied by a slide presentation noting the location of the Pilgrim as Dana’s journey progresses, and then of the “Alert”, the ship on which Dana returns to Boston. The reading begins on Friday, March 8 at 1 p.m., continues until 4 p.m., resumes on Saturday March 9 at 9 a.m. and continues until 6 p.m. The final portion of the reading starts on Sunday March 10 at 9 a.m. and continues until the book is completed around noon. Volunteers read aloud from a large-print version of the book for 8 to 10 minutes each to an audience of friends, family and visitors; admission is free. Participants include Historical Society members, local celebrities, politicians, and anyone else who wishes to join this celebration of Dana Point and its history. In addition, volunteers serve as “watch officers” to oversee and manage each “watch” (to land lubbers, that means a two-hour shift).

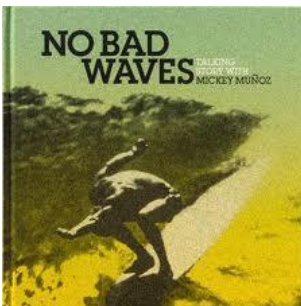


Reading slots and volunteer opportunities are still available, so please consider participating in this community event. Come and bring friends and family to enjoy the reading, the Nature Interpretive Center, and a walk on the surrounding trails.

To volunteer, send an e-mail to twoyearsbeforethemastdp@gmail.com, or call the Historical Society at 949-248-8121 and leave a message; provide your name, e-mail address, a phone number where you can best be reached, and a preferred time for reading. The *Two Years Before the Mast* Reading Committee looks forward to seeing you there.

Elizabeth Bamattre and Ann Liebowitz

Marlene and Bruce Beal to Introduce February Guest Speaker Mickey Munoz



The Society will be honored and graced by one of the world’s (Dana Point’s own) surfing pioneers. Actually, Mickey has full “Waterman” status in the world. We will have before us a Waterman who was the first to surf Waimea in Hawaii in 1957 and the outer reefs of North Shore Hawaii on self-made 16-foot surfboards as well as the first surfer to win a professional surfing contest.

Mickey Munoz has been one of the most creative figures in modern surfing, inventing many modern surfboard shapes, and more notoriously, surfing poses, such as the infamous “Quasimoto” (See book cover). These surfing poses have become compulsory exercises, poses that every surfer has to master to prove he or she has reached a minimal level of skill. Mickey was one of the original Hobie Surf Team members and board shapers (one of the “main men” at Hobie). He was also the surfing double for Gidget in the famous 1959 movie of the same name.

This will not be a customary presentation format. While there will be memorable images flashing in the background, and his new book will be circulating for your review, Mickey and his wonderful and supporting wife, Peggy, will be available to relate his “Talking Stories” about his life in Dana Point and far beyond. You will have the opportunity to ask questions that undoubtedly will bring colorful answers. Don’t miss this distinctly historical event, or the chance to purchase this most historical book about Dana Point, signed by the author! And be sure to ask Mickey about his America’s Cup involvement! Mickey is also a sailor among sailors. Save Wednesday, February 27 for an evening of blissful rides on Mickey and Peggy’s waves of history.

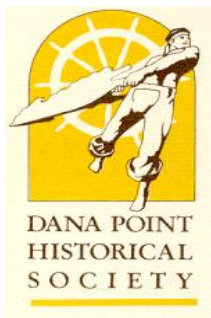


Highlights from the Annual Meeting

Dorian “Doc” Paskowitz, left, entertained the crowd with his reflections on life, health and living the life of an avid surfer. Terry Walsh, right, received the Pat Plepler Award for outstanding community service.



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Membership Dues

Thanks to all who have renewed your membership dues. It is very much appreciated. Our activities, such as the newsletter, program meetings, collection and preservation of documents and photographs, are funded by your dues.

We would like to welcome new member **Bob Wilson**, and to give a special thank you to **Ken Boyd and Max Brown**, life members, for their donation of \$1,000. We appreciate their commitment to our mission, which celebrates and preserves the history of Dana Point for current and future generations.

For those who have not renewed their membership this is a reminder that renewal is on an annual basis and was due in January. When you renew your membership you will receive a membership card that provides a 10 percent discount on our merchandise such as books, cards, photos, T-shirts, caps, etc.

All contributions are tax deductible as the Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 33-0359288.

Regina Barnes

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR 2013

The Dana Point Historical Society is pleased to announce that it will be awarding two scholarships, each worth \$1,000, to two graduating seniors.

The *Doris Walker Memorial Scholarship* is given to a student living in Dana Point and graduating from Dana Hills High School (DHHS). The *Lucy Chavarrias-Saunders Scholarship* is given to a student living in Capistrano Beach and graduating from either San Clemente High School (SCHS) or San Juan Hills High School (SJHHS). Any student planning to attend a trade school, community college, state college or university in 2013 is eligible. Deadline for accepting applications is March 11, 2013.

Applications can be obtained as follows: Students attending DHHS, contact Bonnie Borden; students attending SCHS, contact Kathleen Teager or Carmen Berry; students attending SJHHS, contact Maureen Scherf. If you know someone or have a child who meets the criteria, please have them obtain an application and submit it before March 11, 2013. They do not have to be a member of the Historical Society. Any questions, please call 949-248-8121.