

## The News

# DROGHER

October 2012

### **DPHS celebrates 25 years at *Sunset at the Drogher***

We enjoyed a great turnout for the Dana Point Historical Society's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary kick-off event at the Bluff Top Trail on September 26. One look around and it was easy to see why this was the spot first chosen by The Society for preservation and public access to the Bluffs. With the sun setting and an evening of beautiful weather, the spectacular views were breathtaking.

Many long-time loyal DPHS members attended, along with some newer members and many honored guests. We were pleased to have Assemblywoman Diane L. Harkey attend and speak about the accomplishments of the DPHS, read a congratulatory Proclamation from the California State Assembly and also present a plaque commemorating the devotion of Doris I. Walker-Smith to Dana Point and Orange County. Fifth District Supervisor Patricia C. Bates sent her congratulations and a Certificate of Recognition from the County of Orange although she could not attend. Also in attendance were City Council members Lisa Bartlett and Bill Brough along with City of Dana Point Mayor Lara Anderson, who recognized the importance of DPHS contributions to our community over the past 25 years. Mayor Anderson read and presented a framed proclamation commemorating many of the Society's achievements. We are excited to display these special recognitions at the opening of the Historical Society's Museum.

Our President, Barbara Johannes, introduced many of our honored guests and she thanked the City and the Planning Commissioners for designating the original 1924 Scenic Beach Trail and the Arches of the 1930 Dana Point Inn as significant historical resources in time for our 25th Anniversary celebration. She remarked that the designations made perfect anniversary gifts as this is also the 25th anniversary year of the 1987 Historical

Society effort, led by Liz Bamattre and Judy Henderson, to save public access to the Bluff Top Trail between Violet and Amber Lantern---the most appropriate place for our 25th Anniversary celebration!

DPHS Board Member Elizabeth Bamattre spoke about the early days of preserving access to the Bluff Top Trail, along with preserving the arches and getting the Hide Drogher Statue commissioned. As the second President of the Historical Society, Liz asked the former presidents in attendance to gather around her (past presidents Beverly Sels and Don Burnes were unable to attend the event). She also asked Doris Walker's sons, Brent and Blair, to join her noting that Doris had been on the Board from the beginning. Mary Crowl, Terry Walsh, and Carlos N. Olvera joined Liz and Barbara Johannes in presenting Judith Henderson with a Director Emeritus award in recognition of her 25 years of continual service on the Historical Society's Board of Directors. Liz called attention to the evening's program and asked attendees to thank the committee members listed there who created a lovely evening for all of our members and guests. Special thanks also go to Heidi Hyde who, as our drink mixologist, created the evening's signature sunset cocktail and to Helping Hands who skillfully assisted with catering the appetizers.

Among the audience, there seemed to be a feeling of gratitude for all that has gone into making DPHS's many goals a reality. Everyone appeared to have a wonderful time catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. We look forward to many more years and future anniversary celebrations!

*Jessica Blair, Event Chair*

For pictures of *Sunset at the Drogher*  
please turn to Page 3

## President's Message

Fall is a season to gather with friends, share our summer activities and just enjoy one another's company. Our September meeting provided such an occasion, to reminisce and acknowledge the contributions of the Historical Society to our community. We have received wonderful comments regarding our *Sunset at the Drogher* reception. One member wrote, "It was a lovely event in spectacular surroundings." Another emailed, "It was heart warming to stand back and watch so many people gathered together enjoying this memorable event. Just knowing this small community has such a common bond regarding the history of Dana Point makes all of us proud of our city and what has transpired." The evening would not have been a success without those of you who joined in celebrating past accomplishments and those who have supported the Society over the past quarter century.



Our common bond was evidenced in the remarks of Assemblywoman Diane L. Harkey and Dana Point Mayor Lara Anderson, both longtime members and contributors to our Society. Their sincere reflections, congratulatory remarks and presentations were based on their personal experiences that added so much to the evening. The presence of Dana Point City Council members and city staff demonstrated the support and the cordial relationship we share. Mayor Anderson's comments included welcoming the Society to our new location at City Hall. Our lease is now officially approved by the city council and the DPHS Board of Directors is planning the museum reopening in the same building where it was first located in 1992. Thanks to the City of Dana Point we have an air-conditioned gallery exhibit space and an archive office area, an important feature for storing documents and photos. Ross Teasley is chair of our museum committee that includes Elizabeth Bamattre, Terry Walsh, and your president. All members of the Historical Society, whether you have volunteered before as docents or have been looking for your first opportunity to help take us into the next 25 years of preservation, are invited to join us. Our goal is a museum where our collections can be archived, classified and exhibited in one area. Ross will be announcing a volunteer coordinator and the exciting work ahead in the November and December issues of this newsletter. A ribbon cutting ceremony and an open house for our members and guests are in the near future.

The DPHS Board has approved a Nominating Committee chaired by Parliamentarian Mary Crowl and includes Elizabeth Bamattre, Rod Howorth, Barbara Boyd and Beatrice Reed. A Bylaws Committee chaired by Nancy Jenkins includes Mary Crowl, Paul Hinman, Linda Moore and Terry Walsh. Both committees reports will appear in the January News Drogher before our January 23, 2013 Annual Meeting.

Our October meeting is a visit to San Juan Capistrano whose history is a part of ours. The arrangements have been made and your invitation is below. It should be a *hoot!* You will also want to plan ahead for the November trip to Riverside's historic Mission Inn on November 7, 2012. Please RSVP for both of these programs. I look forward to seeing you at one or, hopefully, both of these magical events.

*Barbara Force Johannes*

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### *October 24 Program*



The San Juan Historical Society will guide us through old Los Rios Street for a haunting 24, at 6:30 pm. Please street over the railroad Museum (left) at 31831. Wear comfortable shoes. There will be a fee of \$5 per person for this fun local fair trip which includes refreshments. **RSVP** to Liz Bamattre at email [FairviewT@aol.com](mailto:FairviewT@aol.com) or telephone : 818-636-0471 by October 19.



Society will guide us through old Los Rios "Ghost Walk" on Wednesday, October park in the multi-story lot across the tracks and meet outside the O'Neill Los Rios Street, San Juan Capistrano.

## Sunset at the Drogher: Reception and Reminiscences



There was a large gathering of DPHS members and guests for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary kick-off event held September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Hide Drogher statue near Bluff Top Trail.

Assemblywoman Diane L. Harkey, at right, made two presentations to the Society: a plaque honoring Doris Walker-Smith and recognizing her dedication to the history of our area, and a framed resolution from the California State Assembly recognizing 25 years of DPHS accomplishments. President Barbara Johannes accepted the honors on behalf of the Society.



City of Dana Point Mayor Lara Anderson, at left, presented the Society with a pro-clamation recognizing 25 years of DPHS contributions to our community. The Mayor also announced the September 18th City Council lease approval that will relocate the Society to a museum and archive space in City Hall.





Board members, left, attending the event included Elizabeth Bamattre, Christy Johnson, Joel Bishop, Regina Barnes, Jessica Blair, Heidi Hyde, Nancy Jenkins, Terry Walsh and seated, Mary Williams, Barbara Johannes and Judy Henderson.



Reception attendees, right, enjoy the beautiful sunset.



A special moment for Judy Henderson, center, surrounded by the Society's current president and several previous DPHS presidents. From left to right: Barbara Johannes, Carlos N. Olvera, Elizabeth Bamattre, Blair Walker, representing Doris Walker-Smith, Terry Walsh, and Mary Crowl.

*For more information on this portion of the program, please go to Page 5.*

## ***A Special Thank You***

The September 26, 2012, Kick-Off Celebration of our 25th Anniversary would not have happened without hours of planning on the part of the committee and additional help from volunteers. Kudos to the committee: Elizabeth Bamattre, Joel Bishop, Jessica Blair, Judy Henderson, Heidi Hyde, Nancy Jenkins, Barbara Johannes, Keith Johannes, Georgelean Olvera, Ross Teasley and Terry Walsh. The committee could not have managed without additional assistance from: Bill Bamattre, Nick Bamattre, Regina Barnes, Rene Cortez, Dick Dietmeier, Pete Hammer, Christy Johnson, Hank Thomas, Lee Walsh, Mary Williams and Kevin Evans, Director of Community Services & Parks, who provided the sound system.

# ***Judy! Judy! Judy!***



Cary Grant may not have really said that, but we've been chanting it from the sidelines for a long time! Judy Henderson's 36-year love affair with Dana Point preservation and community service was recognized at two special events.

Judy was awarded Volunteer of the Month for August by the Dana Point City Council. At left, on September 18, Mayor Lara Anderson presents Judy with a proclamation and an award for being named the Dana Point Volunteer of the Month.

At the DPHS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kick-Off event on September 26, Judy was once again recognized for 25 continuous years of service on the board of the Dana Point Historical Society.

At right, fellow board director and lifelong friend Elizabeth Bamattre presents Judy with a special recognition of *Director Emeritus*. Judy and Liz together formed the beginnings of DPHS 25 years ago with their first project: preservation and public access of the Bluff Top Trail.



## ***November Field Trip to Mission Inn***



Mark your calendars for **November 7** and join us for a day trip to the beautiful Mission Inn in Riverside. The cost for the trip is \$50 per person which includes transportation, a box lunch and the Mission Inn tour. The bus leaves the Strand Vista parking lot (Selva Road) at 9:30 a.m. (attendees should arrive by 9:15) and returns about 4:30 p.m. Interested persons should contact Jessica Blair by **October 30** to make a reservation, at (949) 690-7823, or email her at [attyjessicablair@yahoo.com](mailto:attyjessicablair@yahoo.com). Attendees may also complete the form below, and mail to: **DPHS, P.O. Box 544, Dana Point, CA**

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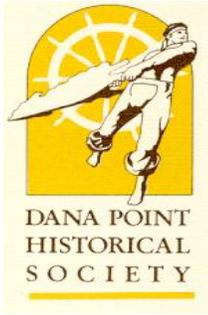
**Number of people:** \_\_\_\_\_ **@ \$50 each (enclose check/money order)**

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**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2012/2013 DPHS Calendar

Oct 24 "Ghost Walk"

Nov 7 Mission Inn Trip

Dec 2 Holiday Open House

Jan 23 Annual Meeting

## Membership

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.

At this time we would like to welcome new member, **Gretchen Augustyn**, and thank **Kevin and Sue Walshe** and **Bob and Diane Ferguson** for increasing their membership to the Patron level. Also a special thanks to **Kathy Jones**, with **Dana Point Nursery**, for becoming a Life Member. We appreciate your commitment to our mission, which is to celebrate and preserve the history of Dana Point for current and future generations.

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

*Regina Barnes*

## Museum Lease



On Monday, September 24, DPHS President Barbara Johannes met with Dana Point City Manager Doug Chotkevys to receive the keys to the Society's new museum space. The lease was approved by the city council on September 18.