

Spring Greetings to our Members and Friends!



Please join our volunteers for the 51st Annual Festival of Whales the first weekend of March. It is appropriate that we dedicate our participation to Don Hansen, founder of the Festival of Whales, who brought the event to Dana Point Harbor in 1971. The festivities start Friday, March 4 at the Ocean Institute with a 4:45 p.m. sunset welcoming ceremony by members of the local Acjachemen Nation and a surfers' paddle-out at the Marine Protected



Area behind the Ocean Institute. A reception will follow inside the Ocean Institute with an update on Dana Point's World Cetacean Alliance designation as the first and only Whale Heritage Site in the Americas. The free-admission event will include food-truck cuisine for purchase, free non-alcoholic beverages and the Ocean Institute's educational activities and displays.

On Saturday, March 5, you can view the Festival of Whales Parade at 10 a.m. from the Island Way Bridge or Dana Point Harbor Drive. Look for the Society's vintage 1929 Woodie parade entry presented by our volunteers and driven by owner and DPHS board member Bob Minty. You can read more about this unique vintage automobile on page 5.

On Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6, our members will volunteer at our DPHS Outreach Booth from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (open 10 a.m.-4p.m.) along Harbor Walkway, which includes setting up and taking down our pop-up tent, unloading historic photos, books and our newly redesigned Dana Point afghan. Allow time to check out the 9th Annual *Fish for Life* Clam Chowder Cook-Off at Baby Beach where, for a \$10 donation, you can taste all the chowders from 11 participating restaurants.

A live DPHS Walking Tour will be offered at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday by appointment. Guests will view historic homes and landmarks from the Bluff Top Trail over Dana Point Harbor and hear our history from 1819 to the present. For reservations call 949-248-8121 to leave a message, or email museum@DanaPointHistorical.org with your name and contact information. (Please see: festivalofwhales.com event schedule for more information. You will also find a link to a virtual tour if 2 p.m. is not convenient.)

Our Board of Directors acknowledge and thank the following individuals who have donated items to our archives and to the museum. William J. Hamilton sent the gavel he used as the last chairman of the Dana Point Specific Plan Review Board, whose members wrote the Specific Plan to prepare for the City of Dana Point's incorporation. Member Robert "Bob" Wilson donated a framed post-card of the Dana Plantation Motel (demolished in 2015) where his father, Cpl. Robert K. Wilson, and crew were lodged as part of the Army's Western Defense Command in 1942. Their assignment was to build an observation post on the Headlands manned 24/7 by civilian volunteers. DPHS Director Grant Earl permanently donated a Logitech *Meet Up + Expansion MIC*, which we used at our February 8, 2022, Board of Directors meeting to enhance the sound in a combined live and virtual board meeting. Salome Ollangg donated 1970s photographs and Dr. & Mrs. Jim and June Mullen gave us several 1980s copies of the now defunct local newspaper, *The Beacon*.

As always, we thank our museum docents, who keep the museum open and who meet with individuals for research. Special thanks go to the amazing members who mailed your 2022 dues during the Omicron pandemic without being reminded.

We will return to the Community House for our Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, March 30th. This is a tradition that was established by the Civic Association and the Women's Club after the Community House was built in the 1950s, and it continues to be a favorite informal dinner meeting site of the Society. After a brief business meeting, two Interior Designer Institute students will present their class project on the adaptive reuse of the Woodruff Real Estate building located at Del Prado and Pacific Coast Highway. I look forward to seeing you at the Festival of Whales and at our Annual Meeting.

Barbara Force Johannes