

Ocean Beach Historical Society
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167

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Joy to the World and O.B.

SEE YOU IN
2026

Sea Scrolls

Notes from the
Ocean Beach Historical Society
Vol. XXXI No.2



INFO & FILM/YOUTUBE LINKS at: www.obhistory.org

December 2025 / January 2026 • President: Eric DuVall • Editor: Susan James • Creative Director: Kathy Blavatt

Ocean Beach Historical Society Remembers:
JULY 29, 2014... A GREAT DAY FOR OCEAN BEACH!
S.D. CITY COUNCIL (Including Todd Gloria)
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED FOR THE
Ocean Beach Community Precise Plan Update!

NOW!
We need to repeat
history...
SAVE O.B.
pg. 3



On July 29, 2014
OBceans packed
San Diego's
City Hall.
That afternoon
Council Members
voted unanimously
in FAVOR of the
Ocean Beach
Community
Plan Update!

The Ocean Beach
Precise Plan update
was supported by every
O.B. Community
group, worked on for
over 12 years, and
helps preserve our
beach town character
and cottages.

Thanks to all that
helped and supported
the plan.

A special thanks to the
OB RAG for their
fabulous reporting
throughout the entire
process.
Detailed articles:
obrag.org

OBHS VISIT

www.obhistory.org
• PROGRAMS & EVENTS
• ONLINE FILMS
• HISTORIC RESOURCES
• BLOG
• OBHS YOUTUBE LINKS
• OBHS PRESS LINKS

If you're moving
or temporarily
changing address contact:
Susan James
Ph. (619) 226-8125

Or Mail:
Ocean Beach
Historical Society
P.O. Box 7895,
San Diego, CA 92107

Have you
renewed your
Membership?



ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, DONATIONS MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

JOIN AND RECEIVE OBHS EVENT POSTCARDS, BI-YEARLY SEA SCROLLS.

Fill out the form below and mail it with a check to:

OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167-0895

Individuals, Family, or Business \$25/yr.
 Sustaining Member-\$100/yr. Life Member-\$500/1, payment
 Special Friend of OBHS-\$1,000/1 payment (includes Life Membership)

Name _____

Street Address or PO Box _____

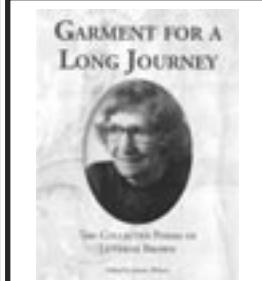
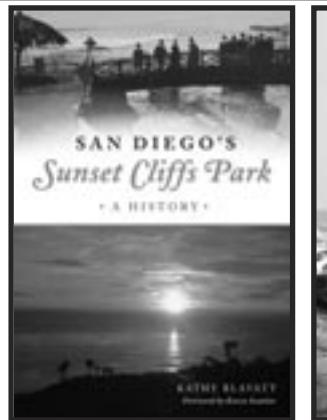
City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL CHANGE OF ADDRESS

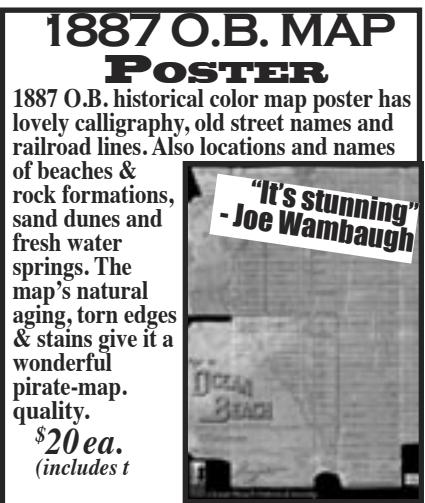


**BOOKS,
BOOKS,
BOOKS!**
LEARN OUR
EXTRAORDINARY
LOCAL HISTORY!



*Garment for a Long Journey:
The Collected Poems of LoVerne Brown,*
published by
Jonnie Wilson.
Info. & book orders at:
lovernebrown.com

Information and where to buy books or place online orders: www.obhistory.org
Local Vendors: Olive Tree Market, Stumps Market, La Playa Book Store, CVS, OBHS, Book Star, and Kathy Blavatt: www.blavatt.studio



THANK YOU

- **Members**
- **Donors**
- **Archive Donors**
- **The OBHS Board and Volunteers**



PRESERVE O.B.'S HISTORY Through CONTRIBUTIONS!

The OBHS Archives was founded to preserve the history of Ocean Beach and the peninsula. *OBHS Archives Room is on the top floor of the Water's Edge Community Center.*

ARCHIVE COLLECTION INCLUDES:
Photos, maps, books, papers, newspapers, letters, artifacts and an extensive biography index with San Diego City Directories from 1926 to 1984 (which list people, their addresses, their spouses & occupations). Dedicated volunteers assist with processing and organizing incoming materials.

ARCHIVES DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

Many people believe that their lives are of no interest to others, but they are! Unfortunately, after a family member's death, important history is lost when photos, house plans, business and organization records, and family papers end up in the trash. Photos are historically crucial because people's shots depict their activities and customs, homes and buildings, and dress. Without records of O.B. buildings, we lose links to the past when the buildings vanish, or their functions change.

Likewise, when the cliffs erode and scenery changes, it needs to be documented. OBHS Archives' donations provide an invaluable window into O.B.'s past.

When donating photographs to the Archives, please remember to:
RECORD THE DATE AND IDENTIFY THE PEOPLE AND PLACES.
Reluctant to give up your photos or papers? Our Archives' staff would be happy to copy and safely return items to you with your permission to use the materials.

Preservation work often needs support and supplies.

GIFTS MAY BE DONATED

*OBHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
DONATIONS OF ITEMS & CASH MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.*

CONTACT FOR ARCHIVES:

TO SCHEDULE A MEETING OR PICKUP: contact@obhistory.org

OBHS GENERAL INFO. CONTACT:
ph. 619-226-8125

CHECK IT OUT AT: obhistory.org



Enjoy Ocean Beach Historical Society's FREE Specials! Links at: obhistory.org
Our You Tube Channel includes FREE original specialty videos for your edification and entertainment!

The Rosemary Ann Phelan Photo Collection.

OBHS is proud to host this remarkable collection of over 9,000 images of San Diego before 1950. Archived by Mr. Jim Phelan and curated into topical; slide shows set to music.



The collection includes many unique images found nowhere else. San Diego neighbors, backcountry, and coastal cities, the military's role in San Diego history, local events, expositions, and institutions are all a part of this remarkable collection.

Ocean Beach Historical Society Programs
Some of the wonderful Ocean Beach Historical Society programs were recorded and are available at: obhistory.org.

1970s Era Street Photologs

DO YOU REMEMBER THE HOMES AND BUSINESSES FROM THE 1970S?

The Digital Archives of the San Diego City Clerk's Office includes this unusual collection of what they called *Street Photologs*. The images were snapped ten seconds apart driving down many San Diego Streets. OBHS has reproduced quite a few of these with period music soundtracks.



Enjoy these flashbacks to the past.

Is your home or business in these Photologs?

**GIVE A
HOLIDAY GIFT
PRESERVE OB'S HISTORY THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS!**

DONATE!

OBHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit org.

**MAIL CHECKS TO: Ocean Beach Historical Society
P.O. Box 7895, San Diego, CA 92167**

Ocean Beach Historical Society Archive Donations

*Photo of the
O.B. Cliffs
circa 1887*

See how OBHS is
preserving our
local
history at:
obhistory.org

**DONATE
PHOTOS OR ITEMS**
Contact:

619-226-8125

*OBHS is a 501(c)(3)
non-profit org.*

- We Can Schedule
a Pick-up.



**Ocean Beach Historical Society
2026 Board Members**



**OBHS Programs
had record breaking crowds!**

**SAVE OCEAN BEACH!
DEVELOPERS WANT TO GENTRIFY
AND BUILD HIGHRISES IN O.B.!**



PROTECT O.B.'s COMMUNITY & HISTORY!

- **OPPOSE CHANGES to O.B. AT KEY CITY MEETINGS**
- **Read updates & learn what's going on: obrag.org**
- **Work together with Advocacy Groups & Neighbors**

Mayor Todd Gloria, along with many San Diego and State politicians, are pushing large scale developments in our beach town. They want to take away our Community Plan's Ocean Beach Historic Cottage District.

Their plan is to break our 30 Foot Height Limit law, so they can build high-rises, packing our community. They have tried similar methods numerous times, but in 2016, O.B. was able to PASS its current OCEAN BEACH COMMUNITY PRECISE PLAN, retaining height limits to 30 ft. and preserve the Ocean Beach Historic Cottage District.

Government entities are also working to remove environmental safety protections. Remember the 2016 and second flooding, of the underground O.B. garage on Abbott Street, which destroyed three Lamborghinis and another car. This example shows what goes wrong when environmental threats are ignored!

Multiply the damage of the Abbott Street building, if high-rise plans bypass environmental issues: flood zones, earthquakes, liquefaction, hillside slides, toxic dumps, fire zones, and other environmental problems common to San Diego. By eliminating CEQA and environmental laws future liabilities will BREAK our city and taxpayers!

O.B. has already taken on density, because of our many substandard size lots, apartment buildings, and multi-unit lots.

Ocean Beach is a town like no other! The City doesn't get it! We're a "Walkable Village", "Rich in History", and a "true community"!

The City tried to take out our O.B. Library, O.B. Elementary School, and recently Water's Edge Community Church! Now once again, our homes and cottages are threatened to be replaced by dense high-rises without parking! WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY!



SAVED!



SAVED!



SAVED!

“Go-To” for FUN and Research Online! Visit our Local Vintage Newspapers, Videos and YouTube sites.

FREE!!!

OCEAN BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY LINK: www.obhistory.org



THE BEACH NEWS OCEAN BEACH NEWS PENINSULA NEWS

OB'S GREAT LITTLE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER, *THE BEACH NEWS*, got its start over a century ago in a small cottage on Saratoga Avenue, right next door to where Water's Edge Church is today. The paper liked to describe the beach town as "Where the Sunset Turns the Ocean's Blue to Gold."

Later known as the *Ocean Beach News*, the weekly paper was extremely popular. The little paper advertised local businesses, featured columns and events, and community groups. "Community Spirit Upheld," and by 1927 the paper, was billing itself as "The Most Widely Read Weekly Newspaper in San Diego County. We Circulate!" This claim was later enlarged to cover all of Southern California. The paper also frequently boasted a local readership larger than all the other San Diego County newspapers combined.

The Ocean Beach News morphed into the Peninsula News in 1950. The paper continued its fun community-based reporting through the turbulent times of the 1960s and into the early 1970s.

Use links to the three online newspapers on the Ocean Beach Historical Society website: obhistory.org



Step into the past:

- Learn our local history.
- Have a few laughs.
- Learn about S.D. politics.
- See how things have changed or not!
- Check out the styles, cartoons, and ads.



People are overpaying, tax official announces

A sampling of 1968 California income tax returns shows many taxpayers are failing to take their tax credits and are overpaying their personal income tax, according to executive officer Martin Huff of the Franchise Tax Board.

Others are computing their tax and claiming refunds if the tax credit exceeds the tax.

The State Legislature substituted tax credits for exemptions in 1967, allowing \$25 for individuals, \$50 for married couples filing jointly, and \$8 for each dependent.

The taxpayer should determine his adjusted gross income, subtract either the standard deduction or take his itemized deductions, find the tax on this amount from the tax rate schedule, then subtract his tax credits and pay the balance.

"If he doesn't deduct the credit, he will overpay and be entitled to a refund," Huff said. "The taxpayer who follows the procedure and finds his tax is less than his tax credits has no tax to pay." Huff advised. "Don't pay. However, he will have delay until the last minute no refund coming since California does not withhold income tax from wages.

The deadline for filing state personal income tax and paying the full amount due is April 15.

Blue Crater, with a depth of nearly 2,000 feet, in Oregon, is the deepest lake in the U.S.

Heart attacks kill more Americans than all other diseases combined.

SMALL SPACE SELLS - You are reading this now . . .

Call 274-3212

The Beach News and Ocean Beach News, (536 weekly editions) cover an exciting twenty-five-year period in the development of the beach community, which may now be read online by anyone anytime at: obhistory.org.

Included in the Ocean Beach Historical Society collection is over 140 editions of the *Peninsula News* that were digitized through the California State Library's California Revealed program.

The Peninsula News is the direct descendent of *The Beach News* and the *Ocean Beach News*, which are available on the OBHS collection. It includes editions from the 1950s, 1960s, up to 1970.

Visit our online news paper collection links to the news papers at:

obhistory.org