Catch the Wave!

Everyone’s welcome to attend the California Surf Museum’s Annual Gathering on February 21 (see box). Last year’s party was a huge success (see page 6) — being as it was the 20th anniversary of CSM, and several former Board members were in attendance. The theme was Hawaiian, and those who came were able to see Duke Kahanamoku on a segment of vintage TV’s “This is Your Life,” and could purchase one of our gently used Hawaiian shirts for a great value.

This year’s theme is “Expansion,” as CSM is seriously pursuing a larger location that will allow us to grow, and go for it, so to speak.

You may have heard that the City of Oceanside has offered the California Surf Museum a building that will nearly triple the size of CSM’s current location. If you haven’t heard, it is true! Since first getting a peek inside, CSM’s Board of Directors has been hard at work weighing the pros and cons of moving down the street from the current location on Coast Highway to 312 Pier View Way, which is 1.5 blocks closer to the ocean, and closer to new resort hotels (currently under construction).

CSM member Louise Ravera Balma, a licensed architect, has volunteered her considerable talents in creating several façade designs (the most popular is shown above) and a preliminary floorplan.

At the Annual Meeting, get a brief update of our progress, and see how vastly improved our museum would look with a few thousand square feet! Join us for good food and camaraderie. RSVP (760) 721-6876, to let us know you’re coming.
Welcome, New Members!

Our membership continues to swell! As of press time, we’d like to welcome our new members:

January
Bill Barcroft, San Clemente
Michael Sebahar, Carlsbad
Bart Crandell, Irvine
Stephen Whalen, Encinitas
Dennis Rumrill, Poway
Peter Soria, Encinitas
Kim “Danger Woman” Hamrock, Newport Beach
Mike Jipp, Lincoln City, OR
Lillian & Allen Stewart, Jacksonville, OR
Duncan Byrd, Vienna, VA
Brian Jones, Ocean City, MD
Bill & Will Moore, Ocean City, MD

February
Jerry Galilely & Debbie Elliot, San Diego
Tim Cooley, Goleta
Sean Foley, Coronado
Bob Devine, Coronado
June Chooches, Encinitas
Jim Byrne, Laguna Niguel
Catherine Woolsey, Carlsbad
Laurie LaForest, Palm Desert
Kirsten Nylhen, Torrance
Robbie Nelson, San Diego
Peter Piper, Camarillo
Heather Martonik, Encinitas

March
Rich Taylor, Fallbrook
Jerome Hall, San Diego
Stephan Crow, San Diego
Bill Holmes, Victoria BC Canada
Mike Griffin, San Diego
Jim Cerone, San Diego
Rita Lee, Encinitas
Mike Burner, Carlsbad
Mark & Jeanne McLulics, Poway
Ed Nava, Mission Beach
E.J. Otis, Narragansett, RI

April
Brett Hoffman, Encinitas
Larry Ellison, East Moline, IL
David Mickelson, Oceanside
Kevin Woods, San Diego
Sandra Boe, Oceanside

May
Craig Blanke, Carlsbad
Richard Mandich, Ramona
Brian Barry, San Antonio, TX
Charles Stuart, Irvine
Michael Boroznoff, Red Bank, NJ
Bobby Simpson, North Tustin

June
Bruce King, Oceanside
John Collinson, Bakersfield
Lonnie Smith, Carlsbad
Koji Tchigi, Kamakura, Japan
Allan Bush, Memphis, TN
David Gilroy, Solana Beach

July
Jay Johnson, La Canada
Lee Davis, Oceanside
Bruce Gaudino, La Brea
Joshua Kaiser, Hemet
Dick Sensenbrenner, Henderson, NV
Rick Blake, Jupiter, FL
Owen Scheurie, Bryn Mawr, PA

August
John Bibiiescas, Santa Rosa
Michael Faircloth, Fallbrook
Ted Lorey, Cardiff
Adam Birnbaum, Oceanside
Rita Moriarty, Ladera Ranch
Russell Huffman, Palo Alto
Steve Sinardi, Burbank
Bill Oxley, Oceanside

September
John Linsalato, Chino Hills
Fred Ashley, Cardiff
Rich Brown, Virginia Beach, VA
Larry Cook, San Diego

October
Jack Brown, St. John, VI
Ingo Hentschel, Oceanside
Sato Koichi, Katsushika, Japan
Gary Young, Encinitas
Ann Hannon, Carlsbad
Carol Landis, Carlsbad
Star Raphael, Leucadia
Willy Moss, Oceansides
Kevin Hall, Simi Valley
Kirsten McIntyre, Tucson, AZ
Walter Brown, Winton
Joe St. Ours, Vista

November
Stephen Rawding III, Oceanside

December
Douglas Roberts, Oceanside
Brad Branton, Oceanside
Ted Rutherford, Solana Beach
Art Beutler, Phoenix, AZ
Jens Morrison, Oceanside

Special thanks for their generous contributions in 2006:
City of Oceanside
Tara Torburn & Dan Highland $1500
Oceanside Longboard Surfing Club $1000
Terri Murray $1000
George Murray $1000
Larry & Louise Balma $1000
Capital Group Co. Charitable Fund $500
Susie King $450
Randy Wilkerson $450

Your memberships, donations and gift shop purchases support CSM in its mission of preserving our surfing heritage.
Volunteers are Welcome at CSM!

We always welcome volunteer assistance here at the California Surf Museum, and 2006 was a rich year for us. Volunteers come from many sources — from folks needing to complete some community service hours, to college students who receive credit for time spent in here, to the retired surfer who just wants to share the stoke with our many visitors. Whether on weekend or weekday, we will find a way that an interested individual can contribute.

Some people have a particular talent that helps us look better — Carol Landis comes in once a week to design and decorate our front display windows and to re-arrange merchandise in the gift shop — what a difference she has made! Nancy Burton Latimer (surfing pioneer Wally Burton’s daughter) regularly assists as docent and has put together several photo albums for our archives.

Glen Alexander worked about 20 hours in our back room, added shelving, and helped organize our storage space. Hiroe Morishima, a student at Cal State San Marcos, got our magazine collection very well-organized, and was starting in on our poster collection when she received an excellent job offer and had to leave us. Yvonne Gillis has become so familiar with our routine that she has been a part-time employee fill-in!

We also wish to thank the following volunteers for their time and effort: John Panzeca, Billy Harris, Nikki Alexander, Peter Greyschock, Linda McLean, Tracy Dillon, Cris Hicks, Ha Pham, and, most recently, Kenny Rhoades.

In the Media

If you have flown from Hawaii to San Diego on Hawaiian Airlines, you may have been lucky to see the excellent presentation of Oceanside and the California Surf Museum on a Hawaiian Airlines in-flight video, the award-winning “Hawaiian Skies.” CSM Board member and longtime Oceanside resident Tillman Eakes is seen in this video sharing his many surfing memories and experiences. Can’t make a flight and want to see it? Stop in CSM and we will be happy to show it to you!

Many of you heard our own Jane Schmauss on the radio and saw Jane as well as CSM VP Jim Kempton on TV in 2006. Jane Schmauss did on-air interview on KPBS radio in March and in June appeared on local the Fox affiliate, Fox6 San Diego’s “Fox in the Morning.” Jim Kempton was on local NBC affiliate 7/39 for their morning program in April. CSM was also excited having been selected to be part of a BBC Channel 1 travel special.

San Diego Surfing History

Long time CSM member and supporter John Elwell, along with Tom Keck, Woody Ekstrom, Lee Louis, and CSM’s Jane Schmauss, are collaborating on a photo book of San Diego surfing history. The book, to be published by Arcadia Publishers, will draw from CSM archives and private collections to present a look at early area surfers from 1910 to the early 1960s. It should be available sometime this summer. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go directly to CSM. We will keep you updated on the book’s progress.

Did you know …

… when England’s Prince Charles came to visit North Island as part of his military-bases tour in the 1970s, he would go to Imperial Beach (where else?) and take surfing lessons from Duryea (who had a surf shop there)?

… that Betty Jo Hoskins was the first woman lifeguard in Oceanside, in the mid 1950s?

… that one of La Jolla’s best surfers, Woody Ekstrom, was a notoriously poor swimmer, and could surf all day without getting his hair wet?
Visitors!

Bob McTavish, along with his assistant Ben Wallace, stopped in for a surprise visit last January. Featured in the “Surfer-Shapers” exhibit, Bob was not shy about autographing photos and boards. After touring the exhibit, he commented, “You guys got it right!”

Ismael Neira, above, heard about CSM and made a special trip to inquire about the value of his board. When he was just a kid, he lived in Peru near the famed Waikiki Surf Club and used to walk up on the beach and borrow the heavy wood boards that belonged to the club. He became passionate about surfing, and has a pristine Waikiki paddleboard that he used to ride all the time at Corona del Mar after he moved to the Los Angeles in the late 1940s.

At left, CSM Advisor Robert ‘Black Mac’ McClendon goes over one of his many family photo albums with intern Eric Chen, from UCSD. The album was filled with Mac’s diving and surfing pictures, some of which will be used in the upcoming “San Diego Surfing History” book.

Above, from left: Greg Cudnik, from Ship Bottom, NJ, Matt Sheplin, from Harvey Cedars, NJ, Jordan Kranda and Forrest Kranda, from Chino. Greg and Matt, surfing buddies from New Jersey, are visiting their west coast cousins, and getting into the water whenever they can. The young men are incredibly knowledgeable about surfing history. Last year they found us on the internet and made a special trip here; this year they came back for a second visit.

My one regret is that I thought California had to go thru a ‘hybrid’ era instead of going right to the pointed nose I was riding!!
Meet Member
Harold Reid

We were looking for a classic Skip Frye surfboard to accent the photos of the Tom Keck Exhibit, and someone told us to contact Harold Reid...

When you first step into the office at City Electric Works in Kearney Mesa, you may think you’ve crossed the threshold of a Hawaiian surf shop! A gallery of sepia-toned vintage photos and bright-hued beach prints welcome the unsuspecting guest, making one feel immediately at home.

And then you meet Harold Reid face to face, and encounter a seasoned surfer, full of energy and passion for his life sport, and you just want to listen. Harold takes you on a tour of his collection of art, boards, and memories, and you know you’ve met someone who’s lived and loved surfing for close to 50 years. He has a quiver of exceptionally crafted Skip Frye surfboards, and, of course, each board has a story. Harold relates these with gusto. He speaks reverently of the brotherhood of surfers, but sprinkles his tales with slightly less reverent anecdotes about San Diego’s finest, and you are spellbound.

He learned to surf on balsa and redwood, with the son of Pacific Beach pioneer Bill ‘Hadji’ Hein, and he and junior high buddy Jim Cerone founded the Kanakas Surf Club when they were still gremmies. “I had many mentors, just hanging out on Grand Avenue in PB as a kid in the mid 50s – Gary Cook, Dave and Richard Cheney, Al Nelson, Pat Curren – to name a few. I remember when Chuck Hasley brought back the Windansea Surf Club in 1962 – that was a San Diego surfing milestone.”

Harold kindly let us copy some of his vintage photos for our CSM collection, not an unusual gesture for the big-hearted man. And, oh yes – he loaned us a streamlined seafoam-tinted Skip Frye to go in the current exhibit. Mahalo nui loa, Harold

Apology

In our last newsletter, we inadvertently put forth some incomplete information, with regards to the Women’s World Longboard Contest in October 2005, and we would like to make amends ...

First – we neglected to mention that Cardiff surfer and artist Jeannette Schumacher Prince was the lead person responsible for creating and putting together the fantastic display at the contest in Ocean Beach. It was Jeannette’s vision that turned the small space into a warm, welcoming gathering place for the surfers and fans for the duration of the contest. It was an incredible undertaking and she managed it beautifully!

Second – we regret to say that we omitted the Surfing Heritage Foundation from our list of sponsors who came together in support of the event. They sent several wonderful vintage photos that were prominently displayed in the History of Women’s Surfing exhibit, and, while they were credited in the exhibit, we accidentally left them off the list of sponsors in our subsequent newsletter.

Please accept our sincere apologies for the oversights.

Time to Renew Your Membership?

“Mahalo” to all those who have brought their memberships current. Do you have a red dot on your mailing label? It is time for you to renew your dues. Use the remit envelope enclosed, or use the form below and send it in. You can also download the form from our website, www.surfmuseum.org (click on Membership). Don’t miss out! Your support helps the museum in preserving our surfing heritage.

California Surf Museum

☐ New Membership
☐ Dues Renewal
☐ Surfer $25
☐ Hang Five $50
☐ Hang Ten $100
☐ Kahuna $250
☐ Duke $500+

Date __________________________

Name______________________________________________________________

Business____________________________________________________________

Address____________________________________________________________

City __________________ State ________ Zip __________________________

Phone ( ) ___________________________ Zip __________________________

Email______________________________________________________________

I am interested in the following:
☐ Donating/lending artifacts
☐ Volunteering
☐ Attending Board Meetings

New Membership includes t-shirt, window sticker and membership card. Periodic newsletters and invitations for all Museum events are mailed to all New and Annual Dues paid-up Members.

Circle one t-shirt size: S M L XL XXL

If ordering New Membership(s) by mail, please add $5 each for shipping and handling. Mail to:

California Surf Museum
223 North Coast Highway
Oceanside CA 92054
20th Year Highlights

2006 was a busy one! Exhibit openings, unexpected visitors, friends passing on, special events, appearances on TV and radio — and even on Hawaiian Airlines! — enjoy photos from CSM’s 20th Anniversary year …

20th Anniversary Party a Time to Celebrate!
February 15, 2006

Founders of the California Surf Museum
From left, Ian Urquhart, Jane Schmauss, Kevin Kinnear, Catherine Woolsey, Stuart Resor, June Chocheles and Don Fine. In front, CSM logo designer Ed Nava.

Duke Kahanamoku keeps watch.

From left, Jim Garrison, Aaron Byzak (then aide to Sen. Bill Morrow), Wendy Wiegand, Don Fine and Rita Lee.
‘Taming the Pacific Swell’ Opening at the San Diego Maritime Museum A Grand Success

March 11, 2006

CSM’s successful “Surfer-Shaper” exhibit was transformed and a swell time was certainly had by all at the grand opening of “Taming the Pacific Swell” at the Maritime Museum.

Summer SurfSounds

For the third year, the City of Carlsbad has awarded CSM a grant for “SurfSounds,” to take place Sundays in August 2007. The grant funds are from Carlsbad’s Community Activity Program. Look for SurfSounds August 5, 12, 19, 26 Center Court at Carlsbad Premium Outlets®, 5620 Paseo del Norte in Carlsbad. In 2006, The Nocturnes, The Surf Kings, SuperWave and The Deoras kept us entertained.

Visitors were able to browse an exhibit on a brief history of Carlsbad surfing. The banners were also shown at Carlsbad’s ArtSplash this past September.

The Surf Kings wowed us on August 13.

The Deoras kept us wanting more on August 27.

Both selling their books at the exhibit opening, Mike Doyle and Glenn Hening meet for the first time.

Mouse Robb and Judy Dibble, standing in front of a photo showing them tandem surfing, enjoy the exhibit.


CSM Advisor Tom Keck and exhibit designer Maggie Piatt.
Tom Keck: EXPOSED Exhibit Opening
March 26, 2006

Tom Keck cuts the “ribbon” while CSM President Daryl Dick and Tom’s wife Linda look on.

Left: Photographers LeRoy Grannis and Kevin Kinnear.

Above: Tom and Cheer Critchlow, the surfer in the Hansen’s Surfboards sign.

The Murrays, CSM members, donated custom-labeled wine from their winery.

A big thanks to HANSEN SURFBOARDS for sponsoring the opening reception!
Old Timers’ Day honoring Woody Ekstrom
October 8, 2006

Honoree Woody Ekstrom with appropriately named brew.

Still surfing together 60 years later! From left, Dr. Kenny Haygood, Woody and Brian Smith.

Above, artist Wade Koniakowsky unveils the newest painting in CSM’s pioneer collection. (Prints are available in CSM’s gift shop.)

At right: Woody autographs a shirt for Tom Keck while Linda Keck looks on.

Below from left, Mike Dormer, CSM VP Jim Kempton and LJ Richards.

Above, Woody and Kit Horn.

At left: the Landises with Louise Ravera Balma, right.

Special thanks to Karl Strauss Brewery for donating beer and the Murrays for donating wine for this event.
Passings

Farewell, Hal Jepsen
1940-2006

Hal was born in 1940 in Los Angeles, California and began surfing at 17. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from UCLA in 1968, and became a real estate agent before producing his first surf film “Cosmic Children” in 1970. Jepsen's best known work showcased Hawaiian surfers Jeff Hakman and Barry Kanaiaupuni in their prime. Jepsen followed with three more full-length surf movies, “A Sea for Yourself” in 1973 along with “Super Session” in 1975 and “We Got Surf” in 1981. In 1978 he branched out into skateboarding with the film “Skateboard Madness,” starring Stacy Peralta. In 1997, his filmmaking accomplishments were profiled in The Surfers Journal’s 50 Years of Surfing on Film series for the Outdoor Life Network.

Hal’s extensive work in the early 70s surfing and skateboarding subcultures is revered today in documentaries and feature films, such as “The Lords Of Dogtown.” Hal passed away February 2, 2006. He is survived by his younger brother Robert.

A paddleout for Hal was held February 26, 2006 at Buccaneer Beach in Oceanside. Gathered together with many of Hal's friends were several filmmakers who shared fond memories of Hal.

Filmmaker Steve Soderberg shares his memories. Other filmmakers present were Richard Cheski, Scott Dittrich and Steve Spaulding.

Filmmaker Ira Opper.

John Lamb, right, leads a last toast to Hal before the paddleout.

A small tribute left by a friend tucked into the rocks at Buccaneer Beach.
I rode “The Pipe” for two fantastic years, 1963 and 1964. I had sworn that I would never do it. Sunset was perfect that first day, winter 1963. I didn’t want to leave Sunset to surf Pipeline, no way. Pipeline is too scary. Hardly anyone surfed it. Besides, I was about to go out again at Sunset.

Mike was my surfing buddy. He drove our “North Shore Cruiser” down to check Pipeline. Our jalopy was a 1947 Plymouth 4 door sedan, green, with a large safari sun visor protruding out over the windshield. On the trunk and side of the car we pasted grocery store purple stamps. In those days, we got stamps at North Shore markets and saved them in books. The books were worth cash discounts on future purchases. More fun on the car.

Mike came back all excited. Pipeline was a perfect six to ten feet and he wanted to go out. There was no one on the beach nor in the water. He was adamant that I go with him because he couldn’t go out alone. “Okay … Okay, Mike, I won’t go out at Pipe but I’ll sit on the beach in case you need help.” “But we’ve got to come back to Sunset because I want to surf.”

PANIC AT PIPELINE

© 2000 Hal Jepsen • printed by permission of Bob Jepsen

As good as Pipeline gets, Mike chose any wave he wanted. Can you imagine riding it all by yourself? I couldn’t stand for it very long. I had to paddle out. I rode my shortest board, a California 9’6” Yater, single fin, clear, with isothalic resin. This was B.C., before cords. My other board was a 10’6” Felker Sunset gun. I rode it also at Pipeline a few times for fun.

Two others saw us and were inspired to paddle out. I’d be interested to know how many had ever surfed Pipeline as of winter of 1963. Possibly 30, maybe 50, but not very many. We surfed for at least four hours straight, my first day.

My biggest wave was the worst panic I’d ever experienced. Someone had given me good advice to paddle a few more times even if you think you’ve caught the wave. The lip jacks up so fast you need to be going down the face or get pitched. Dropping in on a vertical dive, you can see the bottom clearly. When all the water is sucked up the face, it’s about four feet deep. There’s major incentive to make your bottom turn or get hurt real badly. I made the turn but not the wave. Backside, I fell into the wall and kicked my board as far away as I could. Rising up the face, everything turned into slow motion. It took forever and I knew it was going to be a long trip back down and a likely meeting with Pipe’s rough lava bottom. I positioned myself to spread the blow on my entire right side. Waiting for contact, I finally realized there was a spray or gush of water coming up as I was falling. The lip had hit bottom and was bouncing back. It cushioned my fall completely.

It was a picture perfect day and I paddled right back out. I had lost my fear. What made it such a memorable day, photographer Tom Keck was shooting from the bushes where no one could see him. He caught my epic ride in 1963. I have a hero photo proof thanks to you, Tom!**

A handwritten note at the top of the sheet says: “The YAHULA.com net site is suddenly moving faster who knows where it will go? I am to author “surf stories” & more — this is one of the first — still in editing stages.”

*Tom Keck adds: That shot was on the cover of one of his first videos. The story seems to make it like I didn’t want anyone to know I was up there in the bushes where we parked our cars. That is a mystery. I had shot with Bud Browne a bunch of times and he always shot from up on the bluff, in the bushes.

Cecelia Harrison

1917-2006

CSM met Virginia in 2003 at our Old Timers’ Day honoring Dale Velzy. This beautiful, energetic woman brought with her a copy of an article from a 1940 edition of Sea Magazine, which named her Queen of the Surf. It described her, then 23, as one of the early women of the “strenuous and dangerous sport” of surfing. The sister of pioneer off-roader Bruce Meyers, this daring woman also rode dirt bikes on camping trips until she was 70. Her cremated remains were scattered over the sea at Manhattan Beach, where she learned to surf.

Top, Virginia and brother Bruce Meyers. At left, Virginia with Dale Velzy.

Cecelia, at front left, is all smiles sharing daughter Rosie’s success with the publication of Rosie’s biography of Whitey Harrison, “Let’s Go, Let’s Go!”

Cecelia Harrison, widow of surfing pioneer Lorrin ‘Whitey’ Harrison, and a descendant of the Yorba family that originally owned one of the largest Spanish land grants in California, passed away in October. More than 100 people attended a memorial gathering at Doheny State Park, home to many of the Harrison clan’s outings over the years. A long-time supporter of CSM, Cecelia’s welcoming smile and gentle ways will be greatly missed.
CSM Gift Shop

Exclusive To CSM!

In 2005, an amazing T-shirt was created by combining two LeRoy Grannis images – one of Duke Kahanamoku, and the other a fabulous wave shot. By overlapping the two, the Duke seems to be dreaming of catching a perfect wave, maybe even going back in time to do so. This beautiful, limited edition shirt was featured at San Diego’s Action Sports Retailers’ convention in September 2005, and commemorated the special showing of Nathan Kurosawa’s film, “The Ride.” Each shirt is individually numbered, and all sizes are currently available. Proceeds go to the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation and the California Surf Museum. 100% cotton; $25.

“T’m Okay” is a beige T-shirt featuring LeRoy Grannis’ 1966 Makaha wipeout image – a real conversation-starter! 100% cotton; $20.

Also exclusive to CSM: Board member Mike Burner points to himself in this popular 1963 Windansea Surf Club photo by Lee Louis. 16” x 20” copies of this photo are now available at CSM, generously donated by Lee. $20.

Tom Keck: EXPOSED Photographs Available

Own a Keck! All photographs in the exhibit are available for purchase. You will be invited to a Private Reception with Tom Keck at the close of the show to receive your photograph and have it personalized as you like. Or order a print at any time. Details available in the gift shop — call (760) 721-6876.

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Grow The Museum!

We all have friends who we’d like to get a present for, but don’t know what to get them ... Next time you’re in this dilemma, think of getting them a membership to the California Surf Museum! You fill out the form (available online at www.surfmuseum.org), and we’ll surprise them with a T-shirt and a nice gift card from you, mailed directly to their doorstep. An added bonus — we can include a gift certificate in any amount you specify, and that way they can choose any additional merchandise from our fun Gift Shop. This is a very practical way you can share in our growth and progress — and helps us spread the word!

Visit our gift shop online at www.surfmuseum.org. Don’t see what you want online? Call in your order using your Visa or MasterCard; a shipping and handling fee will be added.

Along with memberships and donations, Gift Shop revenues help support the Museum. Paid-up members get a 20% discount on most items.