

Pacifica Historical Society

Newsletter Volume 17 Issue 2 Summer 2023

President's Letter



Summertime and the fog just keeps coming, at least in Pacifica. Even if the weather won't cooperate, we will brighten up your world with shining events at the Pacifica Historical Society. Join us at the two concerts scheduled in July, Seaside Singers on July 16 at the Pacifica Coastside Museum, and then master of ragtime Bob Milne brings his foot-tapping music to the Moose Lodge on July 26. Whatever your music preference, we have you covered.

And there are our sparkling rummage sales, one in July and two, count them two, in August! Shirlee Gibbs, our rummage sale maven, is trying her darndest to clean out her garage so her car will no longer be homeless. Come shop a lot and show your support for her and the Ocean Shore Railroad car renovation.

We also have been having record attendance at the museum on Thursdays and Saturdays, helped by our wonderful new docents. And of course, our ever-popular Pacifica Jack cheese is still selling well.

Plans are in full swing for the Fog Fest near the end of September, the 23rd and 24th this year. If you would like to help at the parade or at the PHS booth let us know. We will also have the museum and gift shop open both Saturday and Sunday during Fog Fest hours, so there will be plenty of opportunities to volunteer.

My grandmother used to say we were not sugar or salt and a little wet would not hurt us. That was back in Kansas and the same principle applies here in Pacifica. So, I hope that you have a wonderful summer in spite of our occasional fog.

Historically Yours,

Judy Heldberg, PHS president

This Summer: Mark Your Calendars

Seaside Singers

“Come, Sing and be Joyful” will be a special event at the Pacifica Coastside Museum, Sunday, July 16, at 3 pm. Free.

Bob Milne Concert

If you haven't yet bought your Bob Milne tickets, please do so soon. On Wednesday, July 26, the renowned Milne, considered the top ragtime and boogie-woogie pianist in the country, will play a farewell concert at the Pacifica Moose Lodge, 776 Bradford Way, as a benefit for the Ocean Shore rail car restoration.

Milne has performed over the years in Pacifica, always drawing a full house with his entertaining piano playing. Considered a national treasure, he has been interviewed as a ragtime expert and documented by the U.S Library of Congress.

The event is \$35 per person and includes a casual dinner of hamburgers, fries and wine, beer or soda. Dinner starts at 6 p.m. and the concert is at 7 p.m. Advance tickets are necessary and available at pacificahistory.org or at the museum during regular business hours, Thursday and Saturday, 1 – 4 pm.

And More!

PHS continues its regular rummage sales on the second Fridays and Saturdays of each month (July 14-15, Aug. 11-12, Sept. 15-16 this summer). A special second sale is set for Aug. 25-26 because of the many donations, including clothing, jewelry and home goods that it has received this year, said Shirlee Gibbs, PHS vice president. All proceeds go to restoration of Ocean Shore car #1409.

In other news from Shirlee, she's arranging for the transfer of beloved SeaBowl mascot Herman to our museum sometime soon, thanks to a donation from the Szeto family, SeaBowl owners. Look for Herman as a selfie opportunity soon!

Who doesn't love the Fog Fest? PHS certainly does. We'll have a booth at the festival as a fundraiser for OSRR rail car #1409. Our museum and gift shop will be open both Saturday, September 23 and Sunday, September 24 during Fog Fest hours. Stop by, say hello and take a look at what's new at the museum and the gift shop. We have new Ocean Shore Railroad mugs!

Also mark your calendars for Sunday Oct. 22 for PHS's annual meeting, election and potluck dinner.

And there's Sunday, Dec. 3 -- the date for our annual Holiday Party at the castle!

Pacifica Goes Out to the Ballgame

Horace Hinshaw, longtime sports editor of the Pacifica Tribune (more on Horace below), used his half century knowledge of covering Pacifica sports in bringing together a panel of some of the city's most illustrious baseball and softball players from the 1950s onward at a PHS April event.

The memorable afternoon featured an 11-minute video made for PHS by Major League Baseball great Keith Hernandez, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mt0oQXfK3dk>) who talked about what growing up in Linda Mar meant to his baseball career.

Bob McClure, another Linda Mar standout who went on to the majors and a coaching career, joined by telephone from his Florida home.

Keith's brother, Gary Hernandez, participated along with Major League Baseball's Greg Reynolds and Bill Hooper, who played in Pacifica's first Little League game in 1957. Diane Hart, an early Bobby Sox board member and members of the 2014 Pacifica Little League team that went to Western Regional finals, spoke movingly of their experiences.

PHS vice president Pat Kremer researched and created several panels of Little League and Bobby Sox history for a special exhibit. Denise Buckley Crawford, PHS board member, provided a video clip of the 1982 World Series game when two Pacificans who grew up just blocks apart in Linda Mar, faced each other, with the Milwaukee Brewers' McClure pitching to St. Louis Cardinals' Hernandez.

Thanks to videographer Jim Kremer and tech wizard Deb Wong, the event can be viewed online in a two parts (part one covers 1950s-70s Little League and Bobby Sox history, part two the 2014 Little League team experience). Part 1: <https://youtu.be/cvTbDhTK91g>, Part 2: <https://youtu.be/MoqleiQvJfM>.



Left, Gary Hernandez, Little League player from early Pacifica days and brother of major league great Keith Hernandez, brought one of Keith's Golden Glove awards to the PHS event. Right, Horace Hinshaw (left) and the panel watch Keith's video on the big screen.

Welcome Piano Fix

In June, Rich Bourgeois, the top player piano restoration expert on the west coast, checked out our player piano and estimated how much it will be to breathe new life into it.



Rich spent two and 1/2 hours examining our piano in great detail in order to give us the best estimate. The \$150 fee I paid and that will be applied to the final bill. We also are trying to find a piano dolly and cabinet for the piano rolls, another \$1500 in addition to the \$3800 repair estimate.

It is a serviceable repair—so we can play and have fun with it. It also includes lessons for those who wish to know how to work it and act as “pianists” during our sing-a-longs. We are soliciting special funds for this project.

Please contact us for more information at info@pacifichistory.org.

--Deidra Crow

Horace Hinshaw Honored

In June, a celebration was held to honor those, including Horace Hinshaw, longtime Pacifica Tribune sports editor, who were inducted into the Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame. The festivities were held at the San Mateo County History Museum in Redwood City. It a well-deserved honor for Horace. Horace's plaque includes this passage: Horace's "work on the Coastside goes beyond athletics. It includes a variety of important civic and cultural endeavors, all of which have made Pacifica a better and more vibrant place." One of those other activities: Horace is a docent at the Pacifica Coastside Museum.

Congratulations Horace!



Horace and his family members surround his PSHOF plaque at the San Mateo County History Museum in Redwood City, June 2023.



PHS members support Horace. From left, Susan Stallard, Kathleen Manning, Horace, Shirlee Gibbs and Kathy McGuire.

Flute Concert, Mother's Tea

PHS had a busy spring with a wonderful Mother's Day Tea at the museum with tea and lunch from Lovejoy's and PHS Vice President Stephen Johnson's presentation on famous mothers in history. In June, Bel Canto, a local flute group led by Gail Edwards and featuring PHS's own Susan Stallard, performed at our museum to an enthusiastic and generous audience.



Half Moon Bay Expands Museum

In late June, our neighbors to the south in the Half Moon Bay History Association opened their expanded museum. The new space is in the 1920s-era sheriff's garage and has allowed the association to greatly enlarge its exhibits. The museum is open weekends 11 a.m.-3 p.m.



PHS Leadership 2023

Post Covid (hopefully) we realized it was time to refresh our website with a photo of our leadership team sans masks. It's been quite a time for a fine group of people who led us through some interesting (some might use more colorful language) years!

From left, Shirlee Gibbs, vice president; Judy Heldberg, president; Stephen Johnson, vice president; and Pat Kremer, vice president.



Want to be more involved in the PHS?

Would you like to be more involved with the Pacifica Historical Society? Always wondered what goes on behind the scenes? We currently have a couple openings on our 15-member Board of Directors. Want to “look before you leap”? You are invited to observe our board meetings at the museum. Contact any current board member or call the office for more information.

Your Membership and Giving to PHS

If you haven't paid for your PHS membership for 2023, please join or renew now. Dues are valid for the calendar year, so if you joined in 2022, your membership expired at the end of December. Dues keep the lights on, pay for the maintenance of the museum, and help us get this newsletter to you. See <https://pacificahistory.org/join> to renew or join online; visit the museum when it is open to pay by cash, check, or credit card; or mail a check to PHS, PO Box 752, Pacifica, CA 94044. Be sure to include your name, mailing address, phone number, membership level and email address.

Membership Levels:

Senior or Student	\$15	Patron	\$100
Individual or Senior Couple	\$20	Silver	\$250
Family Membership	\$25	Gold	\$500

PHS also gratefully accepts donations, particularly as we continue with the OSRR rail car project. One way to contribute is through **Benevity**, a matching donation program. Businesses and corporations offer employees matching donations to nonprofits. If you or your family members and friends work for companies that offer matching donations, ask them about Benevity. We are a listed nonprofit with Benevity.

You also can help the OSSR rail project directly. One way is through our **GoFundMe** campaign. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/PHSosrr1409> and another is through our website, which accepts donations: <https://pacificahistory.org/ocean-shore-r-r>.

Pacifica Historical Society

A Non-Profit Organization

Mailing Address: PO Box 752, Pacifica, CA 94044

Museum Location: 1850 Francisco Blvd., Pacifica

Phone number: 650-355-1909

Email: Info@PacificaHistory.org

Visit our website <https://PacificaHistory.org> for news and materials, including links to historical resources and videos.

Subscribe to our Facebook page: Pacifica Historical Society

President: Judy Heldberg

Vice President: Shirlee Gibbs

Vice President: Pat Kremer

Vice President: Stephen Johnson

Secretary: Carolyn Miller

Treasurer: Janet Ang

Board of Directors: Mary Dougherty, Shirlee Gibbs, Denise Buckley Crawford, Laura Del Rosso, Sue Digre, Judy Heldberg, Steve Johnson, Pat Kremer, Kathy McGuire, Carolyn Miller, Mike O'Neill, Susan Stallard, Brigid Voss

Emeritus Members Kathleen Manning, Jerry Crow, Clorinda Campagna

Newsletter Editors: Laura Del Rosso, Susan Stallard

The Pacifica Historical Society welcomes everyone to join our organization and join our committees. We hold monthly Board Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month, 7 pm. The Planning Committee for events and activities meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month, 4 pm.

The Pacifica Coastside Museum and gift shop is open Thursdays and Saturdays, 1 to 4 PM. The shop features books, postcards, and other items of interest, including the famous Pacifica Jack cheese. The museum is free to the public and ADA accessible, and our docents are there to assist.

The museum (aka The Little Brown Church) is a wonderful venue for meetings, weddings, parties and events, and it's a revenue generator for the PHS. Please spread the word that it's available. For rental information, contact Judy Heldberg at 650-359-6874.

Bargains are available at the PHS's popular rummage sales, usually held during the second Fridays and Saturdays of each month. Donated items are welcomed for drop-off on the Thursday mornings before the days of each rummage sale.

To join the Pacifica Historical Society, see <https://PacificaHistory.org/join>. Dues are good for the calendar year. Donations are always gratefully accepted. Our Federal Tax ID # is 943117665.



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