

February 2019

HARBOUR LIGHT

The Original Magazine for the people of Huntington Harbour

Volume XLIX

Our 49th Year in the Harbour

No. 1

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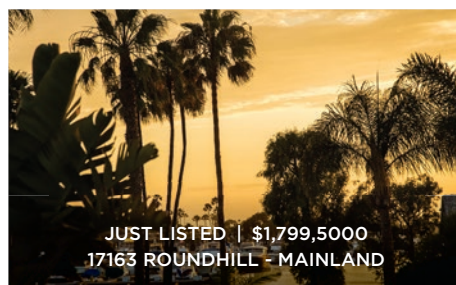
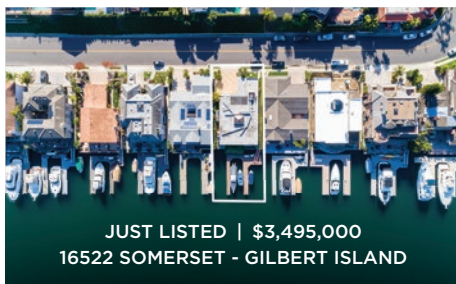
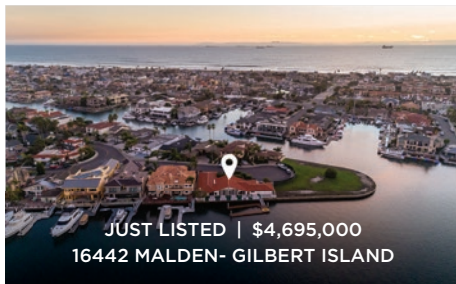
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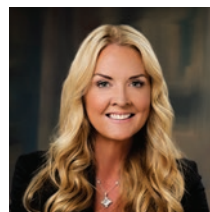
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HARBOUR LIGHT

For and about the PEOPLE of
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Published by Boris & Dorothy Ralphs

Volume XLIX Number 1
February 2019

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On the Cover

In December, 24 new Matilija Poppies were planted at 5 intersections west of Saybrook. Spring should bring the large, lacy "fried egg" blooms to all of the Edinger Parkway.

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What's Happening to Your Editors, Boris and Dorothy Ralphs

by Dorothy Ralphs



Boris and Dorothy just off the ferry at Friday Harbor.

We haven't left Huntington Harbour but we have expanded our horizons and sometimes when the weather is good we'll be living in Friday Harbor, a cute little town on San Juan Island, well north of Seattle. Many of our local boaters probably know the place.

With computers and the Internet and cell phones we are really never far away, so never fear the Harbour Light Magazine is going strong!

Keep your articles and pictures coming. If you have a great product or business, why not advertise to all your

friends and neighbors in the magazine?

Many of you are familiar with our production manager, Keith plucker, who has worked with us, and you, for many many years, he lives in Sacramento but it feels like he is just down the road!

We are easily reached by phone anytime at (310) 874-2033. If you have questions or want to submit a picture or article to the magazine, send an email to harbourlightmagazine@gmail.com. Boris and Dorothy Ralphs can also be reached by email at borisralphs@icloud.com and d.ralphs@me.com.

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ARTICLE DEADLINE for the April issue is March 4th

Please send articles and pictures to:
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Youth STEM Programs at Bolsa Chica

by Colin Dunbar & Whitney Thompson



Lab work is an important part of the STEM programs at Bolsa Chica.



Students testing water samples at Bolsa Chica.

Conservation of natural ecosystems wouldn't be possible without the hard work and unerring dedication of scientists, as well as the support and concern of the general public. The best way to encourage the public to be invested in conservation is by educating them about its importance and the positive personal impacts their actions have. Through the Bolsa Chica Conservancy STEM-based (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education programs are offered for those as young as pre-kindergarten and through to college and the general public. In 2018, the Conservancy had more than 55,000 people participate in the available education programs. Of that total 14.5% were pre-kindergarten, 16.7% were in elementary school, 17.1% were from middle school, 16.3% were in high school, 33.7% were college students and adults, and 1.7% were in scout programs.

Most of the Conservancy's education programs start at the Bolsa Chica Interpretive Center, which acts as a gateway to wetland and watershed discovery and understanding. One of the most popular programs is a guided

hike through the wetlands which is customizable for students of all grade and comprehension levels. These hikes are typically 1.5 miles long and give students the opportunity to observe the plants and animals that call the wetlands home. Trained naturalist guides provide information as to why the wetlands are important, not just to the organisms there but also us humans. Topics from wetland ecology to human history at Bolsa Chica are discussed to allow students to interpret the wetlands from multiple perspectives. In addition to the guided hike, a guided tour of the Bolsa Chica Interpretive Center is offered so students can see educational and engaging displays including saltwater aquariums, numerous bird taxidermy, and live snakes.

STEM-based labs and field activities are also available through the Bolsa Chica Conservancy, and options are available to every age group. "What's In The Mud" is a lab aimed at grades 3-12 which allows students to identify and learn about the marine invertebrates that live in Bolsa Chica. "Wetland Food Webs" (grades K-8) familiarizes students with wetland

plant and animal species and their relationships with one another while "Birds and Adaptations" (grades 3-8) has students observing the relationship between the tides and bird species that reside in Bolsa Chica. There are more advanced labs for middle school, high school, and college students that involve collecting water, soil, and plankton samples for analysis of abiotic factors and/or observing the adaptations between native and non-native species.

While teachers are encouraged to bring their students to experience the wetlands first hand, we understand that not every class or school has the means to do so. The "Windows to Our Wetlands" (WOW) is the Conservancy's mobile wetland ecology program that allows the wetlands to come to the students. Within the WOW bus is a 100-gallon touch tank as well as two smaller saltwater aquariums with native marine animals for students to engage with and observe. Another learning opportunity is an outside station with a terrestrial animal display where students can learn about the mammals, birds, and reptiles that live in Bolsa Chica. A second outside station teaches human connectivity with nature through a wetland model that highlights certain wetland functions and the aide they provide naturally as well as a watershed model that shows how all waterways are connected to the ocean and why wetlands are important places for plants, animals, and people too.

Getting students and scouts involved in wetland learning is easy! For more information about the Bolsa Chica Conservancy's programs, contact Whitney Thompson at whitney@boslchica.org or (714) 846-1114. The wetlands awaits!



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La Familia

by Mary Busché



L to R, Front: Marsha Saracco, Jackie Demos – Back: Leslie (daughter) Garcia, Reyna Garcia, and Barbara Thomas.

With Valentine's Day just ahead this month where love again is expressed to our dear ones we are still looking back at December 's love expressed at Christmas and New Years.

We work all year to help provide special activities, love and necessities to the darling children at Orangewood Children and Family Center. Last year at Christmas Tree Wonderland we were rewarded greatly for our efforts by again seeing the glowing results of our efforts.

Many of our members have a very dear friend that we love so much and have learned to respect greatly. That friend is a very hard working lady that really cares that things are done correctly at all times. Her accomplishments in life have shown that with a little help at a crucial time in ones life so much good can take place. She has been able to think of others and help them.

This wonderful lady I am referring to is Reyna Garcia. Yes our own dear friend who serves us at Huntington Harbour Yacht Club on Taco Tuesday Night, TGIF Friday Night, Sunday Brunch and a variety of special events with a big smile. She has a full time day job and helps many of us at baby showers, wedding and various parties.

Reyna's dream was to see her children get a college education and have a better beginning than she had. It wasn't easy, but she made it happen. Her daughter, Leslie, graduated from California State University, Channel Islands and her son Cameron graduated from University of California, Irvine. A devoted and loving mother made a difference. We are so lucky to have Reyna as a dear friend and a product of Orangewood. Orangewood gave Reyna that needed security at a

crucial time. Our efforts pay off. Come join us to help the other children at Orangewood.

Darryl Isaacs is a long time very active member of La Familia. She has always been a very charitable person and has passed on this wonderful trait to her children. See the picture, to the right, of Darryl and daughter, Debbie, enjoying doing good together.

Darryl's son and daughter in law, Dan and Rosie Pierro, adopted 2 sisters and a

son from Orangewood and also had three children of their own. How fantastic is that for making a difference in so many lives? Debbie and Rick Evans, daughter and son-in-law were given an award for their contribution to Make a Wish from the funds of Dan's step mother's estate.

In the December issue I told you all about the preparations for Christmas Tree Wonderland. Once again this event was a beautiful luncheon and fashion show. The event was held at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa. It raised funds for Orangewood Children and Family Center. We try to make all our fund raisers an extra enjoyable time for our members and friends. Many ladies won beautifully decorated trees and other prizes from raffles and the silent auctions. Pictures say a thousand words. See the happy faces on our beautiful ladies enjoying helping. Please think about joining us to see positive results, have fun and make friends.

For more information about La Familia, please call Barbara Blodgett at (714) 612-2390 or Mim Strickler at (562) 592-2367.



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Seagate Yacht Club

by Pam Jackson, SGYC Communications Chair



Honorary Commodore Bob McCormick and 2018 Commodore Cindy Broz Allen

SGYC's 2018 Commodore's Ball was an elegant affair held at the Old Ranch Country Club on November 10th. Hosted by Commodore Cindy Broz Allen.

The menu included appetizers and a no host bar. Dinner included a choice of entrées, salad, dessert and wine. Commodore Cindy Broz Allen presented "thank you" gifts to the 2018 SGYC board and event hosts and then the 2019 SGYC board members were sworn in. Immediately following the ceremony, we danced to the music of the very popular band Dead Men Rockin'. One of the most enjoyed surprises at the event was when Hostess Commodore Cindy Broz Allen presented an Honorary Commodore Flag

and gift to Robert (Bob) McCormick. Bob has been active on the SGYC Board of Directors as Roster Chairman for many years. But Bob is not satisfied with one duty. He tirelessly assists with nearly every SGYC event not to mention the events hosted by Bob and his wife Joanne McCormick. Everyone rejoiced watching the very overwhelmed Bob accept his award. The standing ovation for Bob led to many cheers and tears of joy.

With the leadership of Rear Commodore Francis and Aurelia Okino and FIN-TASTIC Owners Robin & Jean Clark, the Seagate Yacht Club won "Best Yacht Club" again this year. The team of SGYC member decorators worked

tirelessly for many weeks. The group included Mike and Erlene Pace, Cindy Allen, Ray and Jan Nagele, Pat Jenkes, Jackie Sands, Robert Sanabria, Michael McEntee, Donna Wells, Debra Wainer, Nancy Knupp, Susie Pendleton, Janet Littlejohn, Ralph Lind and Lisa Ratkelis.

On New Year's Eve we enjoyed "The Ultimate Pajama Party" hosted by Commodore Erlene and Port Capitan Michael Pace at the SGYC clubhouse. Guests were invited to dress casually, including in PJs if desired. Our members were creative in choosing appropriate PJs. Cocktail Hour included Grey Goose Martinis, Donovan-Parke Wines, Luponic Distortion IPA, and other beloved Libations. Italian food was provided by "A Slice of New York" and included salads, house specialty rolls, wings, dessert, and of course, pizza! Members danced to the live band "Brent George Music". Of course, we topped off the night and the year with a Champagne toast at midnight.

The Seagate Yacht Club's 2019 calendar promises to be a great year filled with favorites and exciting new events thanks to the executive board and energetic event hosts. See more about the club on our website www.seagateyachtclub.com.

Huntington Harbour Art Association

by Jackie Dvorman



At "Driftwood and Greens" workshop: Standing: Nancy Phillips, Ann Reigle, Dorothy Boyer, Linda Morrow, Barbara Steele, Nancy Cole, Marsha Hendler, Karen Walstad – Seated: Janet Johnson, Gerry Reed, Pam Smart, Jacqueline Dvorman, Kay Sullivan, Elise Masseling.

The Art Association is an energetic, creative gathering of women interested in all phases of art whether painting together or separately, but sharing ideas and finding artistic critique all around them. Janet Johnson, president, encouraged such

activity recently when she supplied all the driftwood, others brought greenery and succulents and members created exciting displays for home or exhibit. Some had small figurines and snow scenes, but all were full of life and charm. You can see

the pleasure of the day by the smiles of the members in the picture above.

Recent winners in the Fiber Arts Show were Patsy Wilson who won the Viewers Choice prize and, Janet Johnson who won both the Best of Show for her enchanting animals and her unusual display of a crochet bicycle. Kate Hoffman director of the Huntington Beach Art Center was the lucky winner of the Scholarship Quilt, and she was so delighted that she wrapped it around herself and danced around the room.

The upcoming spring season will offer many activities such as the luncheon at the Art Center to honor the annual January display, the Fine Arts Show held the Gallery of the Central Gallery where winners are announced at the Champagne Reception, and the Spring Luncheon when all members gather to Show and Tell their work of the year. We are, indeed, an active group and encourage all interested in the arts to join us, make good friends and have fun creating in many mediums.

Anglers of Huntington Harbour

by Kathy Bayless



Anglers of Huntington Harbour 2019 President Elect Helene Rowlette, 2018 President Linda Axel, 2019 1st Vice President Elect Pam Myers and 2018/2019 2nd Vice President Phil Lupton.

November TGIF, Annual Meeting, Election of Officers

Friday evening, November 16th, 60 Anglers of Huntington Harbour met at the Huntington Harbour Village Clubhouse for the organizations November TGIF, Annual Meeting and Election of Officers hosted by Merrill and Karon Walstad. Each of the Anglers brought one of their favorite appetizers or desserts to be enjoyed by all as they socialized and conducted their business. Attendees were entertained with the piano music of member Stan Sholar. The results of the 2019 election were announced by 2018 President Linda Axel. Helene

Rowlette was elected President, Pam Myers 1st Vice President/Fundraising, Phil Lupton 2nd Vice President/Kids Fishing Trip, Bob and Connie Mandic Tournament Chairs, Bob Hetzler Treasurer, Paula Hetzler Secretary and Linda Axel Parliamentarian. Attendees celebrating November birthdays included Kathy Bayless, Leigh Ross, Linda Sackin, Trisha Pratto and Jim Armor.

Anglers of Huntington Harbour Philanthropies

The Anglers of Huntington Harbour was founded 55 years ago with the purpose to foster an interest in sport fishing on our coast and support the conservation,

preservation and enhancement of our marine life. Our members generous donations not only add joy and meaning to the lives of at-risk children in our community by instructing and mentoring them on our annual "Kid's Fishing Trip" but also provide philanthropic support to other organizations that share the Anglers purpose. In 2018 the Anglers made donations to Get Inspired for the Huntington Beach High School "Seabass in the Classroom" Program and HOPE (Harbour Ocean Preservation Enhancement) for the white seabass grow out pens in the Harbour.

Upcoming Events

In 2019 the Anglers of Huntington Harbour are celebrating their 55th year in the Harbour and have many exciting social, fishing and philanthropic activities planned including the February TGIF at the home of Tricia Pratto on February 22nd, Sunday Brunch at Sea Cliff Country Club on March 24th and the April TGIF at the home of Bob and Linda Axel on April 26th. If you live in the Harbour and want to be considered for one of the Anglers open membership positions and attend one of our events please call membership chair Paula Hetzler at (714) 969-2570 for more information.

Trinidad Ladies Club

by Sherrill Lander

2018 flew by but not without the Trinidad Ladies Club saying goodbye with a flourish of daytime and nighttime fun.

Our first event in bidding 2018 farewell was a luncheon at the Boathouse in Los Alamitos. The Boathouse has a fabulous view of the ocean and all the beautiful holiday decorations to enhance our festivities. The event was filled with good faire and a round of present opening including the active game of stealing which we all know and love.

In saying goodbye to 2018 and welcoming in 2019, TLC had a holiday party at the Old Ranch Country Club. The party was hosted by Robin Vest and Laurie Keefner. They did an excellent job of bringing together a lively casino night with dinner, cocktails and fun DJ music.

We all look forward to 2019 and the camaraderie and friendship it will bring.



TLC Members enjoying the luncheon at the Boathouse.

Sea Isle Garden Club

by Caron Mount and Jackie Neil



Paul Neal with his 1943 Jeep taking Caron and Jackie to each of the 5 locations for the new poppies.



Caron Mount's grandchildren, Miah and Myles Mount, helped with flagging the newly planted poppies.

December was a busy month for our Sea Isle Garden Club, not only with the expected holiday activities, but with the planting of 24 new Matijilla Poppy plants in your Edinger Parkway.

We celebrated our holiday luncheon on December 12th, at the Humboldt Island home of Marsha Hendler, with a menu of breast of chicken, rigatoni with red sauce, Caesar salad, and cheesecake for dessert. We followed this fine meal with our gift exchange, not hesitating to grab a scarf, a piece of jewelry, or sweater from a fellow member. But everyone went home happy, even Dorothy Ralphs' special guest, Linda Sackin, who became our newest member.

Friday, Dec. 21, Inocencio Saldivar, our local gardener, who had helped Carolyn Platt add flowers around the Donor Recognition Plaque, planted the 24 5-gallon Matijilla Poppy plants, which Adrienne DeWolfe had picked up from the Matijilla Nursery in Moorpark. Dorothy was able to get the clearance from the City to tap into their water supply so we could provide the weekly watering these plants would need during their first few months.

Caron Mount, Jackie Neil, and her husband Paul, had a grand adventure

watering the poppies on Wednesday, December 26th. They met at the Bonaire clubhouse to make a plan, borrowed, with permission, a large orange cone to alert all the drivers on Edinger that our car was there and to proceed with caution. Jackie drove, while Paul and Caron walked to the first poppy plantings by the Edinger Plaque. Caron had brought a bag with extra flags to identify the new plants, and a lightweight hose and the hose valve connector. They got started, encountered a few leaks and everyone got a bit wet. First while connecting the hose connector, the pressure in the irrigation pipe sprayed them a bit and the hose started leaking!

Each poppy needed to be watered for at least a minute. The team decided that this watering project is at least a 2 person job and they immediately decided that these volunteers needed to wear boots and bring trash bags to contain the wet hose. There were 5 poppies there at Bonaire, 2 to the right of the plaque and 3 to the left.

Jackie drove her car while Caron and Paul walked to the next spot by Bimini. There were 2 poppies to the right of the sign and 3 poppies to the left of the sign. Paul and Caron got wetter and Jackie

took notes!

At the 3rd spot near the sign on Montego, there were 5 poppies to the left of the sign. Here the hose had a major malfunction and really sprung a leak. Instead of watering themselves, the "Poppy Pioneers" stopped at this spot and decided a new hose was needed. A list was made to advise future teams to bring bags or newspapers to put on the floor of the car so it doesn't get muddy and that our cars should have on hazard lights for extra protection from the traffic that speeds by the bike lane. At this Montego spot, there is a wide distance between the 3 plants on the left and 2 plants on the right, so it's necessary to bring a watering jug or can.

With a new hose in hand, Caron, Jackie and Paul met on Friday to finish up the watering of the poppies. Paul and Jackie decided to bring their 1943 JEEP this time so they didn't have to worry about getting the car floor wet and muddy. After picking up Caron they drove to Bravata where they watered 4 poppies that were located to the left of the Bravata sign.

Next stop was Trinidad and they found 5 poppies to the left of the sign. But 2 of them were too far from the hose connector and had to be watered using a watering pail. Caron climbed among the senecio plants and watered the 2 poppies on the right.

The fifth and final location to finish watering the plants was by the Montego sign and all 24 poppies should be fine! Nine other Sea Isle members signed up to water each week; Cathy Kelly, Cindy Allen, Lucille Mascoli, Mary Ann Brinket, Donna Davis, Jan Nagele, Lu Mendenhall, and Adrienne De Wolfe. Unless, of course, Mother Nature kindly does the job for us!

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Happiness in Retirement

One of the great transitions in many people's lives is going from employment to retirement. Between pursuing old or newly found passions, babysitting the grandchildren, traveling, or volunteering, many of our retired clients are now busier than they were during their working years!

However, after a few years in retirement, some people realize that they are not as happy as they used to be due to stress or busyness. Because adding to your life is not always the answer, here is a reminder of things that you could **REMOVE** from your life to be happier in retirement:

- **Comparing yourself to others:** Social Media can sometimes create unrealistic expectations of what a "perfect" life should be. You may feel that you are not as good, not as successful, or not as rich as your friends. However, if you look at their lives from an objective standpoint, you will see that they also have challenges and make mistakes, just like the rest of us because we are all human beings.
- **Living in the past:** You may be nostalgic for "the good old days" but your life is not over, you still have adventures to live and chapters of your story to write.
- **Declutter your home:** Sell or donate duplicate items or items that you don't use anymore.

- **Obligations that you are not looking forward to attending:** People tend to assume that once you retire, you have a lot of free time. You should not feel obligated to serve on a committee or babysit your grandkids this weekend. Make sure to create boundaries and say "no" when needed.
- **Postponing things that you want to do:** In my opinion, time should be the most treasured asset that we possess. It's important to realize that we all have a limited amount of time to live and accomplish our greatest adventures. Each day is valuable as a day wasted can never be recuperated. Seize the day!

Finally, for some people, routine can make your life seem predictable and boring. It may be fun to reinvent your daily routine and switch things up. Inspired Financial has a lot of experience helping clients go through life's transitions. If you have any further questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Inspired Financial is a fee-only comprehensive financial planning firm that specializes in serving women in transition—particularly widows and divorcees. This article is intended solely for informational purposes and does not provide advice for your specific situation.

by Barbara Devlin & Pearl Holmes



L to R: Mary Johnston, Rita and Bill Collins, Bonnie Shumann, and Pearl Holmes enjoying the FINS Christmas party.

The December Christmas meeting of FINS was held in the evening at the home of Rita and Bill Collins. Members enjoyed various appetizers provided by members followed by a delicious light supper provided by the hosts, Rita and Bill. The delicious ice cream cake was a big hit with members. Bonnie Schumann, a long time member of Newcomers and FINS, who now lives in Los Angeles, drove down from Los Angeles to join us this year and

everyone was delighted to see her. Following the meal members enjoyed a Christmas Song Festival performed by the wonderful "Surf City Singers" from the Huntington Beach High School Academy for the Performing Arts (APA). The male and female singers are talented seniors who perform in musical theater productions.

Every year FINS members provide gifts for children and women at Interval House, a crisis shelter and center for


victims of domestic violence. The gifts were delivered to the Interval House by FINS member, Maggie Flavia.

Day Gourmet members decided to out go for lunch this Christmas and they had a wonderful luncheon at one of their favorite restaurants, Bistango in Irvine. Enjoying the day were June Ascolesi, Betty McCarthy, Pearl Holmes, Barbara Devlin, Loretta Maiorana, Mary Johnston, and Shel Grossman.

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cristi@timsmithgroup.com



Cathy Thomas Cooks

by Cathy Thomas



Salmon Rillettes...delicious on everything from crackers to cucumber slices.

Don't sweat the small stuff. Host a simple gathering the showcases assorted munchies. It's a great way to get together without much fuss. Make your homemade hors d'oeuvres look bountiful by buying the rest of the appetizers from bakeries and specialty grocers.

Store-bought delicacies might include a glorious cheese platter, augmented with a bowl of mixed olives or candied nuts, some dried figs or Champagne grapes. Or an impressive antipasto platter groaning

with a selection of marinated veggies, prosciutto slices and salami.

Whether the appetizers are purchased or homemade, think about the best presentation for each and have garnishes ready to add glamour and color. Fresh herbs and edible (pesticide-free) flowers and leaves (such as citrus leaves or banana leaves), make fast, easy garnishes.

Salmon Rillettes, From Scratch

A spread that shows off salmon teamed with butter, herbs, capers and lemon, is

delicious atop baguette slices, crackers or cucumber slices. Start by cooking a fresh 1-pound skinless salmon fillet. Bring 3 cups water to boil in deep, 12-inch skillet on high heat. Add salmon; reduce heat and poach at bare simmer, turning once, until just cooked through, about 8 minutes. With slotted spatula, transfer salmon to bowl and cool. Flake poached salmon with fork. Add ½ pound chopped smoked salmon, 1 stick soft butter (cut into several pieces), ¾ cup minced shallots, 1/3 cup chopped parsley, 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice, 2 teaspoon Dijon mustard, 2 teaspoons capers, 2 teaspoons brandy, 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon zest, salt and pepper. Stir until well-combined. Pack into 1-quart terrine or bowl. Refrigerate, covered, at least 4 hours. Serve with bread, crackers and/or cucumber slices.

Cathy Thomas is an award-winning food columnist. She writes for Orange Coast Magazine and Orange County Register. She has lived in Huntington Beach for decades. Read more about her culinary escapades and sign up to receive her monthly e-newsletter at CathyThomasCooks.com, a website for food lovers and cook.

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Huntington Harbour Yacht Club

by John de la Haye, Vice Commodore



Enjoying the action at the tables at the HHYC New Year's Eve party.



The "Come as you did for your prom" theme had everyone looking sharp.

Happy New Year to everyone in Huntington Harbour. My name is John de la Haye and I am the new Vice Commodore of Huntington Harbour Yacht Club for 2019 (vicecommodore@hhyc.org). My role is to oversee our membership and keep everyone happy. I invite you to come see our club. More details below.

We had a great New Year's Eve party with amazing food, entertainment,

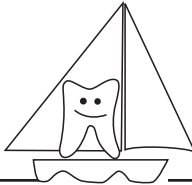
gambling (with play money) and dancing. Our theme this year was come as you did for you prom. There were some interesting outfits to say the least. We had some big winners at the tables and I think some people didn't eat their dinner because they didn't want to give up their winning streak. Our Prom Queen & King this year were Marsha & Steve Saracco. We ended the night with a champagne toast and more dancing. A special thanks to

Linda Nibeel and Rudy Lopez for all their help. Our events are a big success because of our members chipping in to help. Our Chef & Staff Commodore, Phil Ventura, made us an amazing meal.

The Yacht Club has events throughout the month and also special events during the year. Some of our monthly events include: Cigar Night, Single's Boat Cruise and Birthday Dinner for our birthdays of the month. We also hold events throughout the year around the major holidays. Most of our events also include a meal and live entertainment.

Our cruise season will be starting in March with our first cruise to Marina Pacifica in Long Beach. Our cruises happen every month till September. A cruise is generally a large group of boats from our club going to a specific destination: San Pedro, Catalina multiple times, Newport Beach, Dana Point and many more. Our cruises are generally made of 15-25 boats from our club. While on the cruises we visit other yacht clubs and go on tours. Our favorite is the private tour we get in San Pedro of the Large Fire Boat that helps with larger boat emergencies. Catalina is also a favorite of our club members because of all the activities on the island, choices of restaurants and the clear water.

We invite you all to come see our club and have a drink in our Commodore's Lounge. Just contact me directly (vicecommodore@hhyc.org) and I will setup a time for you to come see our club. I wish everyone a wonderful New Year.



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Sea Belles of the HHYC

by Ship's Hailer Lara Anderson



Sea Belles members at our Board Installation Champagne Brunch.

It is a New Year, that means a new board! The Sea Belles officers for 2019 are: Captain - Ellie Winterfeld, First Mate (Membership) - Linda Nibeel, Keeper of the Log (Secretary) - Donna Carlow, Purser (Treasurer) - Ann Crowley, Cruise Director (Programs) - Jo Andrews, Navigator (Ways and Means) - Judy Cassidy, Ship's Hailer (Publicity) - Lara Anderson, Ship's Store - Maureen London, Parliamentarian - Carol Leu Ventura.

Thanks to the outgoing board members and Captain Carol Leu Ventura for a great year. We ended 2018 with 116 members.

Jo Andrews has a fabulous lineup of speakers planned for our monthly meetings including one for February 6th you don't want to miss! The engaging and entertaining Chris Epting, author of 30 travel/history books, is back by popular demand and never disappoints with his incredible knowledge on a multitude of cultural, historical, and local topics.

Sea Belles meet monthly on the first Wednesday of the month, except during June, July and August. Meetings start at 10:30 a.m., speaker at 11:00, with lunch following the speaker.

Reservations are required for lunch (\$15). Guests are more than welcome and if you're a Huntington Harbour Yacht Club member, join us as a Sea Belle. Visit us on the web at www.hhyc.org/sea-belles for more information.

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Huntington Harbour Philharmonic Committee

by Eva Kilgore



HHPC Juniors answered lots of phones during Cruise of Lights. Leaders Elizabeth Henry and Rachel Helgeson are so proud of this teen group!

Lots of smiles for the successful completion of a most productive holiday season. We started with the 56th annual Huntington Harbour Boat Parade. Many thanks to the entrants, and those behind the scenes making it all happen. Our grand marshals John de la Haye and his dad, Ross de la Haye, Bill Wheeler, Paul Haase, Terrance Bailey, Deborah Fairon, Robin Silver, Kory Feltz, Karen Branoff, Maggie Van Eck, Barbara Sentell, Roxanne Talley, Debbie Edwards, and Susan Lipman, Charmaine Rood and Madeline Fields. Thanks to everyone involved in making the parade go smoothly.

The theme, "A Space Odyssey," lent itself to some very creative decorations. Of course, the Boat Parade is a "thank you" to our Huntington Harbour residents for decorating their homes. Why? Because right after the Boat Parade we present the Cruise of Lights, a 45 minute narrated boat tour that takes thousands of passengers, from as far away as China, to see those decorations.

Our Cruise of Lights "thank yous" go

far and wide, but special thanks to Mike and Sheree Novak, Patty Reilly, Helene Rowlette, Lolly McHardy, Marlene Nielsen, and the CORE team. Many thanks to our HHPC Juniors for helping out, too! There is a complete list of "thank yous" to the right.

We're resting a little bit, but the Grand Marshal Ball Event is coming on Saturday, March 23 at SeaCliff Country Clun. Jeanie Gibson, Lyn Senske and their committee are making sure every detail is perfect. It is a night for us to celebrate our continued goal of providing music and music education programs for more than 160,000 Orange County school children and to announce the 2019 Grand Marshal.

The Juniors fashion show will be on Sunday, March 31, also at SeaCliff Country Club. The Juniors are our teenage volunteers. You are all invited to a wonderful luncheon, auction and a fun opportunity to see the Juniors model very cool fashions on the runway. For information, call (714) 840-7542.

Boat Parade Thank You!

The success of our 2018 Boat Parade depends on the efficiency and dedication of these wonderful volunteers keeping us safe on the water.

Grand Marshal:

Ross de la Haye & John de la Haye

Parade Captains:

Paul Haase & Terrance Bailey

Night Captains:

Brian Metherell

Calvin Free

Dean Stanton

Jeff Silver

Norm Huniu

Sharie Sneddon

Taylor Nielsen

Lieutenants:

Bill Wheeler

Bud Lung

Cliff Robbins

Dory Chandler

Erik Peterson

Jim De Clerck

Kenny Menard

Christen Silver

Larry French

Monte Kay Yohr

Roger Zarke

Roy Nielsen

Tony Williams

Skippers:

Cody Cozart

Matt Beall

Robert Yohr

Warren Jackson

Larry Moore

Mike White

Tim Fagan

Loaned Boats:

Dean Oliver

Scot Campbell

Kevin Patz



Sweepstakes Boat Parade Winner. Shelly Darling and her son Josh Darling are so proud of their decorations on the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club Boat. It took countless hours and lots of man power to get it all together. Photo by Kelly Bourquin.

HHPC: Marina/Windjammer

by Lara Anderson



On the docks Roberta Swain, Pam Barthold, Lara Anderson, Kelly Haynes, Bobbie Spiegel, Elise Masseling, Suzanne Baird.

It was fair weather and smooth sailing for the Marina Windjammers at the Cruise of Lights on our assigned work night of Friday, December 21st. Linda Halopoff made sure all the volunteers were at their posts and ready to make it a successful evening for the hundreds of people boarding the boats that night. Coralie Prince had the wonderful Mesa View Middle School band and choir performing outside the yacht club to delight all the passengers. Special thanks to all the friends and family of our members who joined us, we're not the largest group so having the extra helping hands is needed and greatly appreciated!

Our fabulous volunteers this year included: Linda Halopoff, Carlone

Herman, Gary & Lisa Weller, Lani Martin, Sherry Skerik, Ruth Roe, Scott Fernbach, Pat DeCou, Susie Sampson, Suzanne Baird, Karen & Phil Ridout, Maggie VanEck, Barbara Sentell, Pam Barthold, Bobbie Spiegel, Sally Phillips, Elise Masseling, Roberta & Todd Swain, Todd & Kelly Haynes, Lara Anderson, Rick Silverlake and several HHPC Juniors.

Prior to the Cruise of Lights, the Boat Parade also requires volunteer talent. Each group is responsible for a part of making it happen and this year we were in charge of the judges' dinner. Thank you Barbara Sentell and Maggie VanEck for stepping up to the task.

The New Year starts with new concerts. Carlone Herman is scheduling ushers for



Ruth Roe and Maggie VanEck handling tickets at the mall.

the upcoming 2nd Grade concert series. There are many dates, venues, and carpools to choose from and the excitement of the children arriving for what is often their first live concert is fun to see, (plus you get to enjoy the concert too!)

To learn more about volunteering with us, becoming a Marina/Windjammer or to check out the food, fun and friends at our next meeting, contact Membership Chair Karen Ridout at 714-319-2325 or email: kridout1@icloud.com. Our meetings are held in the morning on the third Thursday of each month, followed by lunch at the host member's home and feature a live musical performance.

HHPC: Trinidad Group

by Linda Axel

Our Cruise of Lights for the HHPC was a huge success. Trinidad was very busy with this event and worked hard to contribute to its success. Our members, Patty Reilly and Sheri Novak were at the office every day for a month to make sure ticketing ran smoothly. We are so thankful for their dedication. Our members were busy answering phones and selling tickets. Way to go Trinidad.

During cruise we have a wonderful event that is called Chili Night. This is a special event where we distribute checks to our local schools for their special needs in their music departments. It might be a new music instrument, mikes, risers or any number of items that they need. Trinidad group made the chili this year. We had an amazing salad bar and then homemade chili and corn bread. We served well over 100 Philharmonic members.



L to R: Deborah Fairon, Gail Weiss, Ellen Martin, Santa, Sharon Courtway Linda Cohen, Sheri Novak and Martha Askew in back.

The New Year is always an exciting time for our group. On February 8th we will have our Chinese New Year's party at Sea Cove II. We are having a 9 course feast that includes lobster with noodles, Peking Duck, Walnut Shrimp, French

Beef, Orange Chicken, and many more delicious dishes.

We would love for you to be a part of our group and enjoy all the fun. For information email Ellen Martin at elleninhuntington@yahoo.com.



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HHPC: Admiralty

by Grace Holdaway



Congratulations to Admiralty member Dean Oliver (center) who was awarded the Lifetime Support Award at the 2018 Boat Parade Trophy Presentation Brunch by Co-Grand Marshals Ross de la Haye (L) and John de la Haye (R). This was in recognition of his many years of participation in the Boat Parade.

Happy New Year to all! Admiralty finished the year in grand fashion at Mim Strickler's lovely home with our traditional 'friends and family' meeting. We had our meeting and then joined our guests for a scrumptious dinner of short ribs or chicken with potato and salad catered by Casa Blanca HB catering.

The Cruise of Lights is now a memory, but what fun we had this year! Alice Zamboni with an assist from Charmaine Rood and Mim Strickler helped with staffing the office. Thanks to all those that volunteered their time to work. To me this is such a good time and after volunteering for a couple of days came to appreciate what a huge task it is to put on this event each year. It truly takes all of the Philharmonic groups working together. Also a big hug and thanks to our Madeline Fields for the tremendous job she does each year and keeping us all going with her big smile.

December 14th was Admiralty's work night and we braved the cold weather, helping with loading boats at the dock, the buses at the Mall and manning the office. It turned warmer soon after,

but the cold we experienced that night put us in a holiday spirit.

Chili night is held each year during the Cruise of Lights and gift checks are presented to deserving schools. This is why we volunteer, to help our schools with their music programs.

As we relax from the holidays we are looking forward to the Junior Fashion Show in March and then Attic Treasurers in May. We also will be volunteering at the Music Mobile and different venues where concerts are given for our grade school children.

Our next meeting will be held Thursday, February 21st. If you are interested in joining Admiralty and having a fun and rewarding time, please contact our Membership VP, Judy Cassidy, at (714) 842-9394. We would love to have you!

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Madeline Fields special guest, Mary Busche President, and Judy Cassidy, Membership.

HHPC: Islanders

by Eva Kilgore



Islanders Heather and Scot Campbell (former Grand Marshal) won an award for "Most Contemporary Boat" entry in the parade.



Mary de la Haye, November Islander of the month.

Go Islanders! We were everywhere in December. First of all, congratulations to Mary de la Haye, chosen as "Islander of the Month" for November. Mary is a long time Islander member, and just so happens to be the wife of Grand Marshal Ross de la Haye, and the mother of co-Grand Marshal John de la Haye. A much deserved award!

Robin Silver, Kory Feltz and Karen Branoff were hard workers, tending to a myriad of details, and making sure the 2018 Boat Parade ran smoothly.

Many thanks to the night captains and lieutenants from Islanders, as well.

Calvin Free's contributions from The Beef Palace made sure those on the water were well fed. Marlene Nielsen, CORE Cruise of Lights team and beyond, thank you. Hats off to Kim Weddon, and all of the Islanders for making it happen. President Denise Sonnenberg is so proud of our group.

We loaded and unloaded buses, and boats. We answered phones, did hours and hours of customer service, made sure

publicity went out far and wide, stood in the parking lot, commented on boat tours, and had big smiles on our faces. Thanks to all for an amazing Cruise of Lights.

Next up is the Grand Marshal Event, set for Saturday, March 23 at SeaCliff Country Club. Our own Jeanie Gibson is underway finalizing plans for this festive event.

HHPC Juniors leaders Elizabeth Henry and Rachel Helgeson are expertly leading our teen volunteers. They were invaluable in the office answering phones for Cruise of Lights, and continue to help out in the community cleaning beaches, and doing a variety of community services.

Time to make a note on your calendar! The HHPC Juniors will be holding their annual fashion show on Sunday, March 31 at the SeaCliff Country Club in Huntington Beach.

You'll bid on fabulous items in the auction that day, enjoy a delicious lunch, and watch the Juniors model up-to-the-minute fashions on the runway. Bring your friends, daughters, granddaughters, it's a wonderful event. For more information please call (714) 840-7542.

On a sad note, condolences go out to the family of Maxine Spears Dawson, mother of Pam Free. Maxine was an original member of Islanders, and was active until a few years ago, when she became ill. You will be missed Maxine.

Why do we volunteer? We want to make sure funds are provided for more than 160,000 Orange County school children to continue receiving music and music education. While we're doing this important work, we strengthen new and seasoned friendships, and have a heck of a good time in the process.

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2018 HHPC Boat Parade and Home Decorating Winners

Waterfront Home Winners

Sweepstakes: Jones Family
Best Tribute to Theme: Alan & Marlene Dager
Most Beautiful: Brian & Rocio Griley
Judges Special Trophy: Diane & Ernie Quijada
Best Tribute to Holiday Season: Zlatco & Becky Zadro
Most Religious: Brad & Sheri Goodrich
Best Animation: Mary LaBahn
Most Traditional: Greg & Jane Kriesel
Most Effective Use of Lights: Larry & Thao Zarrilli
Most Whimsical: Diane & John Gilbert
Most Contemporary: Frank & Donna DeGelas
Award of Excellence: Kevin & Martha Jorgensen
Award of Excellence: Michelle Brenner
Award of Excellence: Filipan Family
Award of Excellence: Robert & Gail Sebring

Condos/Townhomes

Sweepstakes: Portofino Cove Condos
Best Tribute to Theme: Guy & Caron Mount
Best Group Entry: Kodimer, Koehler, Ross,
Gleasons, Neils & Olsens
Judges Special Trophy: Bill & Mary Mislosk
Award of Excellence: Josef Davydovits

Off-Water Home Winners

Sweepstakes: Michael Rudolph
Best Tribute to Theme: Vlahakis-Hanks Family
Most Beautiful: Tom & Mary Griley
Judges Special Trophy: Bill Woodard & Janet Johnson
Best Tribute to Holiday Season: Oftedal Family
Most Religious: Alan & Margie Armstrong

Off-Water Home Winners continued

Best Animation: Glavinic Family
Most Traditional: Mark & Barbara deDubovay
Most Effective Use of Lights: Crowley Family
Most Whimsical: Ed & Beth Kendzierski
Most Contemporary: Norman & Julie Huniu
HHPC Special Award: Trinidad HOA
HHPC Sweepstakes: Frlekin Family
Award of Excellence: Fields Family

Huntington Harbour Boat Parade Winners

Sweepstakes: "At Last" by Huntington Harbour Yacht Club
Best Tribute to Theme: "Broudille" by Kevin & Barbara Patz
Best Display of Originality: by Nigel Malloch
Most Beautiful: "Hooligan VI" by Ron & Joanne Foland
Judges Special Trophy:
"Wicked Weighs" by Dan Meadows & Tony Garcia
Best Tribute to Holiday Season: "Team Pennywise" by Chris Hand
Most Religious: "Anchor of Hope" by Christopher Domino
Best Animation: "Navanax" by Ron Fornator
Most Traditional: "Adagio" by Robin & Mary Lynn Bachmann
Most Effective Use of Lights: "Afortunado" by Kevin Henson
Design Excellence: "Valhalla," Viking Boat by Marina High School
Most Whimsical: "Sea G" by Eric, Lisa & Gabby Harenburg
Most Contemporary: "Mas Fina" by Scot & Heather Campbell
Best First Time Entry: "Adios" by Rod & Susi Ondatje
Best Yacht Club: "Fin-tastic" by SeaGate Yacht Club
Award of Excellence: "Tooned Out" by Timothy Fisk

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HHPC's Admiralty, Islander, Marina-Windjammer,
Sandpiper, Seal Beach and Trinidad Members

Huntington Harbour Republican Women, Federated

by Annette Eliot



The wonderful Darden Sisters entertained us at the December meeting.



Charlotte wants you to become a member of HHRWF!

Happy New Year! The Huntington Harbour Republican women Federated had a wonderful December meeting featuring the entertainment from the Darden sisters. The Darden Sister's is an all sister group with the sound they dubbed as "Alternative Americana". Together these Sisters have smooth harmonies and make beautiful music. They have performed at many venues including, the Muckenthaler Art Center, Angel Stadium, and OC Fair. The Darden Sister's often play venues around Orange County. To catch a show with the Darden

Sister's, go to www.dardensisters.com for their schedule. You will be glad you went to see this great talent.

We have a great year scheduled with some great speakers. At our January meeting we are covering What's Happening in Media with our special guest speaker Brian Calle, owner of the LA Weekly. In February, we are covering education with our guest speaker Rebecca Friedrich. Ms. Freidrich will be speaking about The New Sex-Ed Being Taught in Our Schools. We will also hear from college students speaking about What's

Happening On Our College Campuses. March we celebrate Women in History month with a salute to Women Making History. April is our New Member Luncheon which is always a fun event that no one wants to miss. In May we are covering Election 2020 What to Expect.

Please join us for a year packed with interesting topics to keep you in the know. Yearly membership is open to both women and men. The \$30 membership includes the newsletter. For information about membership, please call Charlotte at (714) 846-4841.

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USC Orange County Alumni Club

by George Demos, Past President USC HB Alumni Club



George Demos (top, second from left) and friends at the Cal/USC game.

On November 10, 2018, USC Trojan Alumni saw a disappointing game against Cal who upset USC in the second half of

the game. The final score was Cal 15, USC 14. Despite the USC loss, we still had a good time at the Coliseum!

HARBOUR LIGHT 2019 Deadlines

April Issue

editorial: March 4
advertising: March 8

June Issue

editorial: May 3
advertising: May 8

August Issue

editorial: July 1
advertising: July 5

October Issue

editorial: September 3
advertising: September 6

December Issue

editorial: November 4
advertising: November 8

Huntington Harbour Garden Club

by Doreen Hill



(L-R) Kay Sullivan and her Xmas Luncheon centerpiece second place arrangement of poinsettia and narcissus. Elise Masseling, first place for her driftwood creation of green plants and a cute bird accent.

We closed out 2018 at Jim and Donna Shaffer's lovely home with a program in November by Mary Wagner, a specialist in the Friedenkreis method of movement. She took us through flexibility exercises and compared our range of motion before and after. We all had improved!

Warming up and stretching before gardening was emphasized and for us to be mindful of repetitive motion and any sustained position. Rest breaks and body

awareness are important with everyday physical tasks, especially as we age.

December's Xmas Luncheon was held at the home of Dean and Laurie Hill and the delicious dishes were prepared by several good cooks in our group including Barbara Devlin, Mary Johnston, Marie Coats, Connie Mandic, Betty McCarthy, Barbara Simone and Pearl Holmes. It was an intimate affair due to some members having to be absent due to illness and travels.

Arrangements were brought for judging and Elise Masseling won the most votes for her arrangement of green plants and a cute bird on driftwood. Kay Sullivan came in second with her poinsettia and narcissus creation.

We meet in member's homes the third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. Elise Masseling, our Second Vice President in charge of programs, has worked hard to arrange the years programs.

January featured a presentation by Jonathan Gottlieb from Wild Birds Unlimited. February will be a hands-on "Starting from Seed" workshop led by members and Master Gardeners, Barbara Simone and Kay Sullivan. Kay Goddard, also a HHGC member and President of Shipley Nature Center, will present an "Overview of Shipley Nature Center" an 18 acre preserve in Huntington Beach. "Air Plants and Bromeliads" by Barry Landau of Rainforest Flora, Inc will be our April program. "Bees in the Garden" and the work of the Long Beach Beekeepers will be presented in May.

For details of our meetings, please call Doreen Hill at (714) 878-3011 or Connie Mandic at (714) 377-0017. Be our guest.

Flying Dutchman Chapter, Guild of the Segerstrom Center

by Mike Nielson



At the Christmas gathering members donated to Toy for Tots. Linda and Lyle Theile delivered the gifts to the center the next day. In photo, seated: Gayle Sebring, Ellen Goodwin, Charmaine Rood, Rob Sebring and Marlene Nielson – Standing: Virginia Buccella, Joan Foote, Jim Rood, Dorothy Ralphs and Mary Shabell.

One of our really fun events was a cruise around the Huntington Beach Harbour. Gail and Jim Daniel's were the lucky donors. It started with cocktails and yummy hors-d'oeuvres, put on by one of the Harbour's most generous hosts and hostesses, Marcia Kay and Ron Radelet. Then onto the home of Ellen and Don Goodwin who served a fabulous dinner of gazpacho soup, mini popover's and wild salmon. The party then went back to the Radelet's for almond cake and French pastries by Jackie Wirta and Mary Shebell.

We have welcomed and are honored to have gained 6 new members; Dr. Paul and Susan Qaundah, Nella Webster and Dr. Kevin O'Grady, Jeanie and Frank Gibson.

October 14th was at the lovely home of Sharon Tarpo and Rick Edwards. Sharon's sister Linda Theile is our Hospitality Chairman. Buon Gusto Italian Restaurant catered and Lyle and Linda Theile, Dorothy and Boris Ralphs, Rick and Sharon, Mary Shebell and Merle McCormick all shared in kitchen duties.

December 2nd was our Toys for Tots event at the home of "Mike" Nielsen. Our Hospitality Chairmen, Linda and Lyle Theile, did not disappoint us with their wonderful Goodies and Cocktails.

Our next meeting in February will be a Bingo Night and in March we always have a most successful White Elephant Sale at the home of Bobbitt and Bill Williams. So, here's to 2019 and another good year for The Guilds of the Center.



L to R: Nella Webster and Dr. Kevin O'Grady; Jeanie and Frank Gibson.

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Assistance League Huntington Beach

by Pat DeRush, Thrift Shop General Manager/Chair



Some of the over 300 dedicated volunteers who sort through the many gently used donations from our community.

Happy New Year from our Community Thrift Shop & Boutique, located at 8071 Slater Ave. in Huntington Beach. As the current General Manager/Chair of the Shop, that word “Community” represents everything quite special about our members, our location, our customers, and especially our donors. This Community Circle makes our retail operation successful.

We depend on over 300 dedicated (all-volunteer) members, who live within our community circle of, and sometimes beyond, to commit to several shifts each month working in our Shop. These members take turns sorting through our donations, carefully determining if they are good enough to go out on our floor for sale. We are very particular about that quality standard that our Customers have come to depend upon. The very best of the best makes its way either to our Boutique or E-Bay, Craig’s List, Amazon Books or is saved for our Annual Fundraiser.

We depend on these same Members to work the cash registers, restock our

sales floor on a daily basis and to work on teams or committees for “specialty” areas that require special pricing like our Holiday items, Vintage items, Books, Linens, Fabric, or Stationery.

We depend, especially, on our Community Circle of donors, who every week ring our workroom doorbell, and generously donate their gently used (sometimes new) clothing, shoes, house goods, art, collectibles, accessories, and so much more. Whether you are clearing out your closets or garages, downsizing in some way, perhaps sending your last child off to college or their own apartment, we appreciate that you think of Assistance League and Shop as the recipient of your goods you no longer need or want and that you tell your neighbors and friends!

Finally, and wonderfully, we depend on our community of customers; some of whom stop in almost daily, others weekly, others not as often, but still regular “friends” of our Shop. It is for them that we take care to offer decent prices for very good items, that we decorate our Shop to

reflect the Seasons, that we offer periodic ‘special sales’ and for whom we try to create a fun, clean, spacious, shopping environment with favorite ‘nooks’ to explore. Going forward, building on a successful Courtyard Art Sale we had in December, we hope to also offer more such Courtyard Events to further entice customers to come visit us.

We complete this circle of members, donors, and customers, by being able to take most of the proceeds from the sales in our Shop & Boutique and flow those funds out to our local communities of Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley and Westminster through our multiple programs, such as Operation School Bell®, Scholarships to Veterans and Nursing Students at local community colleges, or grants to teachers through Links to Learning HB and so much more.

This circle is about caring about our community by transforming lives and strengthening community.

The photo shown with this article shows just a few members when we were toasting the grand re-opening of our shop in June and reflects our toast to you all. We thank all of you that are a part of this Community Circle, and wish you a healthy, happy new year.

How can you help us do more?

- Donate or Shop at our Thrift Shop, 8071 Slater Ave. (east of Beach Blvd.)
- Shop with us on ebay.com. Search for “Assistance League of Huntington Beach.”
- Attend our Annual Fundraiser, “Treasures by The Sea” March 30, 2019 at the Waterfront Hilton, HB.
- Make a donation to Assistance League on our website www.ALHB.org.



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Q&A with Mike Faas, Owner & Family Operator of Stone & Ceramic Surfaces, Inc.

Q: What is the most rewarding aspect of your business?

Helping the customer find and design the styles and choices they are hoping for and looking for. Then seeing the finished product all come together meeting everyone's expectations.

Q: You live in the harbour and work just miles away. As a business owner, how does this benefit you and your lifestyle in HB?

HB is one of the best places on the planet to live. The beauty of the coast, the weather, the entertainment value and family and friends make it just about perfect. It is great to work and live in that same environment.

Q: Tile & surfaces seems to be more complex than ever before with so many more options for the client?

Yes we have turned into a design industry and the choices are endless. Design trends change daily and we

do our best to keep up with it yet still have all the traditional choices as well.

Q: Explain your relationship with the contractor, designers and homeowners?

These are all very different type of relationships and all are a very important part of our business. The contractors are trades people and every day repeat customer whom you develop a long term relationship with. They are looking for customer service, quick turn arounds and the right setting materials and specialty products in stock.

Designers are also trades members and every day repeat customer whom you develop a long term relationship with. They are into the selection in your showroom, hoping you offer a large offering of design choices and concepts and that you are keeping up with all the latest new design trends.

Home owners are fun to work with and have a much better design since than in the old days. With Home and



Mike Faas with his wife Cindy.

Garden TV, houzz.com, etc., home owners usually have a concept and it is our job to accomplish what they are hoping for and looking for. We try to specialize in this and have all concepts at all budgets

Q: What do you like most about owning a company?

Bringing a team together and working toward success for all involved. I also like to be involved in our beautiful community and strive to have a "give forward" philosophy. Also, owning a company in awesome Huntington Beach is not to bad either. So beautiful and so many things to do.

Gee, We didn't know you were here.



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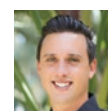


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