Oceanside Historical Society

Summer 2016 Newsletter
www.OceansideHistoricalSociety.org

Ruiz Family Reunited With Long Lost Photos

Cousins Misty Jones and Erin Olsen were thrilled to receive photos of their mothers, aunts, uncles and grandmother.

Several years ago a packet of family photographs made their way to the Oceanside Historical Society's photo collection. An old photo sleeve dated 1951 with the name "Raul Ruiz" written on it provided clues, however, at the time, we were unsuccessful in identifying the persons in the photos or the original owner (this was B.F. "before Facebook"). The photos sat safely in a box waiting to be "rediscovered."

A few weeks ago the photos were scanned and posted on our Facebook page. It did not take long for family members to come forward. Misty Jones recognized her mother as a little girl, proudly standing by her new baby carriage with her sister. She contacted the Oceanside Historical Society and the next day, along with her cousin Erin Olsen, came to retrieve 52 family treasures. Misty and Erin were thrilled to see the photos, including several of their maternal grandmother, Ysaura Zuniga Ruiz, who they have never seen before. They explained that their Uncle Raul died in 1955, at the age of 21, in a motorcycle accident, which is why we could not locate him years ago when the photos were donated to us.

We are happy to reunite these images with a family who is thrilled to have them. Preserve and share your history!

Mary, Audelia, Juanita, Angelina, Alisa and Ysaura Ruiz (not in order)

Audelia and Angelina Ruiz

News of Interest

New Members:

The Historical Society would like to welcome the new members:

Terry Ann Larson
Kay A. Klinker
Cynthia Runge
David Wysocki

Thank You!

Board Members:

President: Kristi Hawthorne
Vice President: John Daley
Treasurer: Ronalee Elsberry
Corresponding Secretary: Kierstin Hill
Publicity Chair: Shelley Grichuhin
Ways & Means: Tanisha Garvin
Membership Chair: Janice Ulmer

We value your support!
To renew your membership or make a donation, please mail a check to:
P.O. Box 125
Oceanside, CA 92049-0125

Thank you to those who renewed their membership. If you are not a member, please consider joining. Forms are on the back of this newsletter. Membership dues enable us to continue preservation efforts and are our main source of income.

Your support goes a long way to help us maintain and preserve Oceanside's precious history.

Oceanside's Downtown History Walks Continue

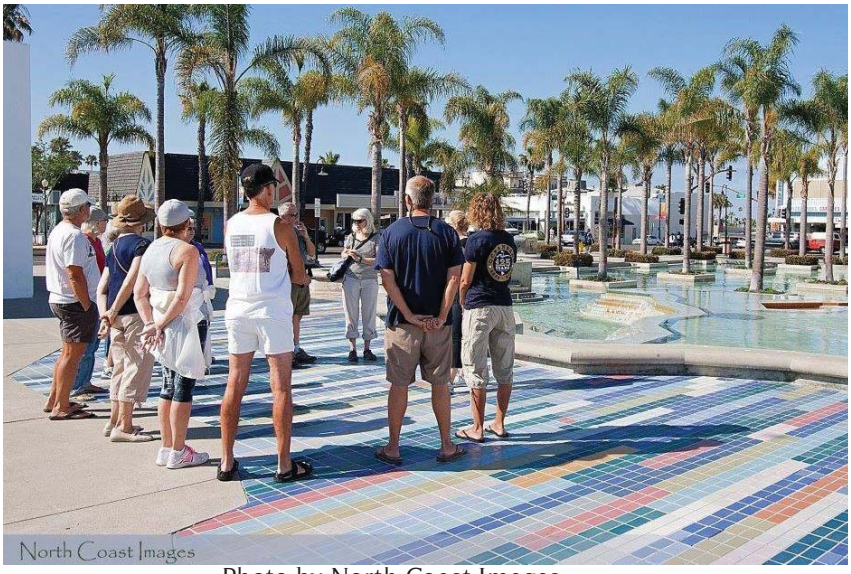

Photo by North Coast Images

History Walks: July 9th, August 13th and September 10th

We start at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Oceanside Public Library at 300 North Coast Highway (Look for the plaque of Andrew Jackson Myers.) Walks are moderately paced and take about two hours. Downtown walks are free (donations are always welcomed!) and open to everyone!

Stop by the Oceanside Historical Society Museum

and say hello to Janice and Shelley, our museum/office volunteers.
Thank you, Ladies, for all you do!

General Museum Information

305 N. Nevada Street
Oceanside, CA 92054

Phone: (760) 722-4786

We are open Thursday & Friday from 10 am to 2pm & Saturdays by appointment.

Visit our website: www.OceansideHistoricalSociety.org

Visit our Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/OceansideHistoricalSociety
(you do not need a Facebook account to see historical photos.)

Do you have history questions? Email us: info@OceansideHistoricalSociety.org

305 North Nevada, original home of the Oceanside Police Department, now Oceanside Historical Society

10 Things You Didn't Know About Heritage Park

Story by Kristi Hawthorne, originally published in The Osider Magazine January/February 2016 edition.
Photos by Kierstin Hill

Heritage Park Village celebrates its 40th year this year. It all began in the early 1970s as the City began planning a way to celebrate our Nation's Bicentennial. In the early 1970s a site for the park was selected just behind the Mission San Luis Rey. The two acre city owned parcel was chosen because of its close proximity to the historic Mission as well as the quaint Episcopal Church and cemetery established in the 1890s.

1. The Park is also near the site of the San Luis Rey Township established in 1871, which included a hotel, general store, post office and even a newspaper. It is considered the "birthplace of modern Oceanside".

2. The little Libby School house was the first building moved to the park in 1974. It was originally located on the north side of the San Luis Rey River and named after Benjamin Franklin Libby, a pioneer of the San Luis Rey Valley. Built in the early 1890s, it was used as a school house until about 1949.

3. Officially dedicated in 1976, Oceanside's Bicentennial Committee hoped to enlarge Heritage Park to include an observation point, a playground and even a pond and stream.

4. The old Blade newspaper building was originally located near Tremont and Second Street (now Mission Avenue) and was moved to the park in 1976.

5. The old city jail was located on the 100 block of South Cleveland Street. Built in 1915, it featured two 7x8 jail cells. After a new police station was built in 1929, the old jail was used as a 'soup house' during the Depression. It was moved to Heritage Park in 1981.

6. In 1993, the home of Soren P. Johansen, an Oceanside blacksmith was moved to Heritage Park. Built in 1887, it also served as the early post office. The City tried to selling it for $1.00 before it was finally relocated.

7. The park's gazebo was built by the Breakfast Optimist Club and a variety of clubs and organizations each "adopted" a building to help renovate and furnish including the Oceanside Rotary Club, Kiwanis, Soroptimists, and the Oceanside Woman's Club.

8. Heritage Park Village features many original street signs from downtown Oceanside and original lamp posts from the 1920s.

9. One of the most popular events held at Heritage Park every year is the "all class reunion" from Oceanside High School. The park is also the setting for family reunions and weddings.

10. The North County Model Railroad Society now makes their home at Heritage Park and is recreating a model train route through the county, with the focal point being a replica of the City of Oceanside.

The Blade Tribune Building with the Johansen house in the background.

Did You Know? Fun Facts about Oceanside's History.

- Ben Hecht, who wrote Scarface, lived in Oceanside's exclusive St. Malo.
- During 1984 Prince Phillip and Princess Anne stayed in St. Malo, Oceanside's exclusive community.
- Joseph Stalin's daughter, Svetlana Peters, lived in Oceanside in 1976.
- Raquel Welch competed in Oceanside's Miss Southern California Beauty Contest in 1956 and came in 2nd!
- Barbara Mandrell was Miss Oceanside in 1965 and graduated from Oceanside High School in 1967.
- Director Cecil B. Demille stayed at Oceanside's Beach Hotel in 1914.
- Oceanside Boulevard was once called Short Street and ended at Nevada Street.
- Our first pier was built at the end of Wisconsin Street in 1888.
- Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford vacationed at our beaches during the 1920's and named their camp "The end of the world camp."
- In 1897 the City granted permission to the Schuyler Hardware Company to use the "wharf for scientific purposes, and to erect such machinery necessary for the purpose of extracting gold from the ocean."
- Denise Richards attended El Camino High School and her family owned Jitters Coffee Pub in the 1980's.

St. Malo today

Barbara Mandrell at the Bridge Motor Inn Ribbon Cutting in 1965.

Denise Richards with her family at Jitters Coffee pub.

Here are additional photos of the Ruiz Family.

Boy on bike: Robert Ruiz

Ruiz cousin at beach stadium

Man in suit: Raul Ruiz

Do you have old photos of Oceanside? Please share them with us!

Oceanside Historical Society
P O Box 125
Oceanside CA 92049-0125

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Forwarding Service Requested

Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the **Oceanside Historical Society** and mail to:

OHS, P O Box 125, Oceanside CA 92049-0125

Donations & memberships may be made through our PayPal account via our website at: www.oceansidehistoricalsociety.org

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND CHECK LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

__ Individual $18.00
__ Family $25.00
__ Friend $50.00
__ Benefactor $100.00
__ Patron $200.00
__ Life Member $350.00

Please Circle: New Member Renewing Member