NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2020

OCEANSIDE CELEBRATES ITS 132nd YEAR SINCE INCORPORATION

The City of Oceanside incorporated on July 3, 1888 but our history dates back years further. It was founded by Andrew Jackson Myers, who settled in the San Luis Rey valley in the late 1870's. Myers applied for and received a homestead grant in 1883 and received 160 acres, which is now downtown Oceanside. In the early 1880s a railroad line was built that connected Los Angeles to San Diego. The trains traveled directly over Myers' new land grant making his property very valuable.

Cave Johnson Couts, Jr. surveyed and helped to map out the townsite. John Chauncey Hayes sold the new town lots through his land office on North Cleveland Street. Hayes served as Justice of the Peace and was the first mail contractor between San Diego and San Bernardino. He wrote the petition for the town's first post office, which listed the name as two words: "Ocean Side".

The train stopped at a simple wooden platform to unload mail and passengers. One of the first commercial blocks contained the Hayes Land Office, the Louis Billiard Hall and Mayroffer's Saloon.

By 1886 Oceanside had a population of 350 people and boasted of "nearly sixty houses". Two churches were established, the Congregational and the Christian, but the saloons outnumbered them. The Congregational Church was built on the corner of Ditmar and First (now Seagaze) and is still standing, the oldest in Oceanside.

By 1887 a large, ornate brick building was erected at the northwest corner of Second and Hill (Mission and Coast Highway) to house the Bank of Oceanside. The bank was organized by Col. Daniel H. Horne and Charles Morrill, with E.S. Payne as the cashier.

Needed for a seaside resort was a substantial hotel, and in 1887 the beautiful South Pacific Hotel was built. It was located on Third (Pier View Way) and Pacific Streets, near the present day pier. A.P. Hotaling of San Francisco was the owner and the hotel was leased out to a proprietor. Dr. E.A. Tuttle was one of the first managers of this hotel, which faced the railroad track, instead of the beach, to entice train passengers.

In early 1888 a new Santa Fe Depot was built, located on the 100 block of North Cleveland Street. It was the center of activity for decades, bringing tourists, settlers, visiting relatives and even presidents. Oceanside's depot was essential in shipping crops to Los Angeles and it was also a gathering spot for locals to catch up news from abroad and get the latest bulletins from the telegraph wires.

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Board Members:

President: Kristi Hawthorne
Vice President: John Daley
Treasurer: Ronalee Elsberry
Recording Secretary: Shelley Grichuhin
Development Director: David Nydegger
Corresponding Secretary: Kierstin Rielly
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Visit our website: OceansideHistoricalSociety.org
Visit our Facebook page: Facebook.com/OceansideHistoricalSociety
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Do you have history questions?
Email us at info@OceansideHistoricalSociety.org

The Bank of Oceanside building was located on the northwest corner of Second and Hill Streets (Mission and Coast Highway). It was built in 1887

History Walks on Hiatus

Our Office is closed until further notice. Our Downtown History Walks are on hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions. If we are able to resume walks by September, we will let our membership know.

Pioneer Cemetery

We want to thank volunteer Kevin Leahy who went out to the San Luis Rey Pioneer Cemetery on several weekends to mow and tend to the cemetery in general. We are grateful for his work!

Dues Increase and New Membership Levels

You may notice that we have recently made a dues increase. We have not raised our membership dues for nearly ten years. We still have a very affordable annual membership fee but have also added additonal levels for those who may wish to support us on another level.

NEW MEMBERS

Kevin Shin at Friend level

Araminta Wordworth at Family level

If you haven't done so, please renew your membership, (form is on the back of this newsletter).

Thank you for your support!

To Our Members from the Oceanside Historical Society President Kristi Hawthorne

Due to COVID-19 restrictions placed on gatherings, we have been unable to hold a general meeting in order to conduct our Board member election. Because of this, we will be holding our election via e-mail and by mail.

Our elected Board members have expiring terms and are willing to remain on the board if re-elected. (Other positions are appointed.)

Please respond as to whether you agree that these individuals should remain on the Board with a "yes" or "no" for each person. You may also nominate someone, but that person must be a member in good standing. In order to vote or nominate, you must also be a member in good standing (dues paid).

President: Kristi Hawthorne

Vice President: John Daley

Treasurer: Ronalee Elsberry

Recording Secretary: Shelley Grichuhin

Secretary: Kierstin Rielly

Please reply by July 24th. Thank you.

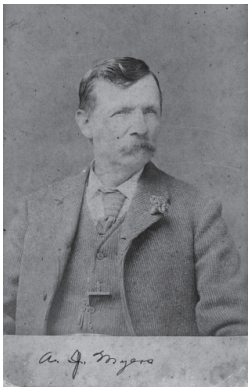
OCEANSIDE CELEBRATES (Continued from page 1)

In March of 1888 the South Oceanside Diamond newspaper reported that prominent businessmen were interested in incorporation: "We have sounded the public pulse and believe the time has come to incorporate the "Gateway of the county."

Many residents were asked to comment on voting to incorporate and E.A. Tuttle responded, "I don't think the population is hardly large enough, but at the same time I am in favor of incorporating as it would put us in shape to do something. The money that now goes to San Diego would be kept here and needed improvements made." Frank Obear declared, "Give me incorporation or give me death. It is the only thing that will give life to this town."

On June 25, 1888 residents cast their votes with Andrew Jackson Myers being the first to vote. The Diamond reported that the "total vote polled was 128, and the vote counted 127—a torn ballot being rejected." 74 voted for incorporation and 53 against. On July 3, 1888 the San Diego County Supervisors declared the City of Oceanside in existence. City Trustees elected were C. W. Maxson, John Schuyler, J. V. Hicks, F. S. Trumbower and Col. Daniel Horne. Horne would later be appointed President of the City of Trustees, making him the first mayor of Oceanside.

Oceanside was the third city to incorporate in San Diego County, following San Diego and National City. The same year Oceanside became a city our first pier was built...called a wharf. It was located at the end of what is now Wisconsin Street. While the early pier was washed away by a storm just two years later, it would be rebuilt five times at its present day location and has become a beloved landmark, synomous with Oceanside.



Louis Billiard Hall and the Hayes Land Office in the mid 1880s

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

Summer 2020 Newsletter

Forwarding Service Requested

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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

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND CHECK THE LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE CIRCLE: NEW MEMBER RENEWING MEMBER

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

____	Student	$18.00
____	Individual	$25.00
____	Family/Dual	$50.00
____	Friend	$75.00
____	Benefactor	$150.00
____	Patron	$250.00
____	Life Member	$500.00
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