



Laguna Niguel Historical Society

Spring 2015

VOLUME 3 Number 1

Phone: 949-495-3974

lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.com

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2015, 5 PM

Laguna Niguel Library

at Laguna Niguel's Library Community Room,
Laguna Niguel, CA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Members.

As you know our beloved City celebrated its 25th Birthday on December 1, 2014. The Historical Society along with a broad base of community members marked the joyous occasion with a Gala celebration at the Ritz Carlton, Laguna Niguel on Sunday, December 21. We had a delicious dinner, a 'Past, Present & Future' pictorial program covering Laguna Niguel's milestones covering the last 25 years. The evening culminated with dancing until the DJ stopped playing at 11 P.M. All agreed it was a great success both as an opportunity to celebrate Laguna Niguel, reminisce with old and new friends and as a fundraiser, funds of which will be used for our education and scholarship programs.

Currently the Board is in the process of planning programs and activities for this year. We encourage your input and participation which will help us build on the successes we have had in just a little over three years and ensure the history of our great city lives on through the generations that have and will enjoy the exceptional quality of life it provides us.

Looking forward to seeing you at our April 9th General Meeting.

*Pat Bates,
President*

Hon. Pat Bates



Senator Bates with Bill
McDonald and Jeanette Krembas

President
Pat Bates

Vice President
Bruce Rasner

Secretary
Jeanette Krembas

Treasurer
Jerry McCloskey

Newsletter Editor
David Weiss

Calendar

Board Meeting - 4th Thursday
of each month.

General Membership Meeting -
April 9 - 5 PM



Preserve the Past Enrich the Present Promote the Future

April 9 - General Meeting Guest Speaker - Ted Wells

Very pleased to announce Ted Wells, distinguished architect, and member of Laguna Niguel Historical Society, has graciously accepted our invitation to speak at our 5:00 general membership quarterly meeting at the Laguna Niguel Library. The topic, 'ENRICHING & CHANGING SUBURBAN LIFE: THE NEXT 55 YEARS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EARLIEST MASTER PLANNED COMMUNITY.'

Ted is the principal at Ted Wells Living Simple, LLC. His designs include houses, community buildings, monasteries, gardens and neighborhood & community planning projects throughout the U.S., as well as restorations of significant historical properties by noted architects. His historical planning consultations include reuse plans of the Presidio in San Francisco, the Long Beach Naval Shipyard, and Exposition Park in downtown Los Angeles. He is currently coordinating the creation of the largest historic district in Sacramento. Ted's own house in Laguna Niguel was recently selected for inclusion in a new book 'The World's 100 Best Houses.'

Ted will be sharing the history of Laguna Niguel's 'secret treasure'. The Horizon House, one of the first residences to be built in Laguna Niguel and would be the first historically designated house in Laguna Niguel.

Resting on a small landscaped bluff, the home's 360-degree round design plan, and use of highly durable materials was thought to be the dawn of a new era in low-cost and maintenance free architecture still drawing attention. It was designed 52 years ago by local architects and engineers dubbed by many "The House of Tomorrow". The home was officially labeled the Horizon Home and has hit its 50 year mark so is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places through the Department of Interior.

Please mark your calendars to join us to hear this fascinating speaker's shared history and future plans for Laguna Niguel.

Linda Bayme
LNHS Program Chairman



LNHS President Pat Bates with Paul and Judy Whitelock at the LNHS Gala On 12/21/15



Senator Pat Bates and Steve DeVre

Jeanette Krembas and Gordon Tippell (Taylor Woodrow former CEO who furnished and planted a Christmas tree for the City after incorporation)



Archives Committee News

2015 SPRING NEWSLETTER

As you may know, the Archives Committee has had to take a long winter vacation due to the construction in Aliso Wood Canyon Wilderness Park. Work on the park began in mid-December and is still in progress, but with the end in sight.

So, although the committee could not continue archival work on site, we have completed two other projects.

The first project was the creation of "25 years of Cityhood" displays, which ran during November at the Laguna Niguel Library and December at City Hall. Many thanks to **Sheryl Bailen**, who spear-headed the project and to Archive Committee members **Linda Stephen, Betty Pequet, Kathy Beaufort, Solveig Darner** and **Nancy Kurtz** for their invaluable assistance.

The committee's other project was a photo scanning session in conjunction with OC Stories under the auspices of the Orange County Library. Held in the community room at the Laguna Niguel Library on Saturday, February 21, the project was intended to get the public involved in preserving our local history by bringing in old family photos of events or places in Laguna Niguel. Sadly, only a handful of individuals participated, despite extensive publicity.

However, it was a great opportunity for the LNHS members in attendance to talk with the OC Stories staff and make connections for future projects. Thanks to Cindy Corderman, OCPL project leader, and Jon Gilliam, Laguna Beach head librarian and tech guru for their wonderful enthusiasm and assistance to the Laguna Niguel Historical Society. Thank you to Archives Committee members **Linda Stephen, Kathy Beaufort, Carl Schulkin, Sheryl Bailen, Solveig Darner** and **Nancy Kurtz** for organizing the event and assisting on that Saturday. Thank you, too, to board members **Paul Whitelock, Jeanette Krembas, Gary Kurtz** and **Pat Bates**, and general member **Kathleen Lechner** for their participation.

If you would like to join the Archives Committee or have questions about our activities, please call Nancy Kurtz, 949-495-4958. We are a friendly group, who welcome any extra assistance you can give.

Nancy Kurtz
(949) 495-4958



Education Committee

Once more the Laguna Niguel Historical Society will be passing out our History of Laguna Niguel teaching unit booklets to the seven Laguna Niguel public schools and four private schools. This teaching unit is for the 3rd grade students to complement the instruction they have been given in California History.

The Education Committee is also meeting to discuss how our society can best distribute \$2,500 in scholarship/grant money we have as a result of our very successful recent Gala event.



A note from the Membership

Thank you to all for sending in your 2015 LNHS dues. We are hoping for 100% membership retention. If you have overlooked the renewal notice or put it in the "tomorrow pile" please take a second and send it in now.

Also, if your friends and neighbors are interested in our efforts to collect and preserve documents/memorabilia that add to the story of Laguna Niguel, please Invite them to join us. Membership applications are available on our website www.LagunaNiguelHistoricalSociety.org

If you know anyone who might be interested in receiving information about speakers and other meeting programs, please let us know and we will put them on our meeting/speaker e-mail announcement list.

Any questions - give me a call at 949 495-1438 or send me an email.

Solveig Darner
Membership Chairman

solveig.darner@gmail.com

Laguna Niguel Historical Society

OBJECTIVES & PURPOSE

*The primary objectives and purpose of
The Laguna Niguel Historical
Society shall be the promulgation
of historical information
about the Community of Laguna Niguel
and its surrounding area.*

*This will include the gathering,
storage and display of historical
documents and artifacts and
sponsoring of activities and events
that will celebrate our history*

History is made every day and as every day passes more of it is lost to memory. The Laguna Niguel Historical Society has been formed to preserve the record of Laguna Niguel's past and of it's new history that is constantly being created. Even though the City of Laguna Niguel was incorporated as recently as 1989, there is a rich past preceding cityhood that needs to be preserved for this and future generations. The native American population, the Spanish explorers, the mission fathers and the ranchers all had a part in our history that needs remembering. The Laguna Niguel Historical Society intends to preserve this history for future generations.

Laguna Niguel Historical Society

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Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org

Founding Directors

Patricia "Pat" Bates

Linda Bayme

Gary Capata

Solveig Darner

Jeanette Krembas

Gary Kurtz

Nancy Kurtz

Jerry McCloskey

Betty Pequet

Bruce Rasner

Carl Schulkin

David Weiss

Judy Whitelock

Paul Whitelock

Marc Winer