

## The News

# DROGHER

Dana Point Historical Society

October 2008

### President's Message

by Carlos N. Olvera

**W**hew! The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Tour is behind us. This is the one big event we hold to raise funds for the operation of the Dana Point Historical Society. We are still looking for a museum, and, hopefully, sometime next year we may be closer to having some plans. Meanwhile, we have been fortunate to get three lanterns back to Dana Point. We are also in progress for restoring new lantern glass insets for our lanterns and those in the possession of homeowners. We are also looking at a new program to put more lanterns on display. As we get closer to making this happen, we will share all the details. And our archives are going well as we are cataloging many boxes of recently donated historical papers.

As far as the home tour, the weeks before with news of a sagging economy made sponsor levels and attendance lower than last year. But ask anyone and you will hear it was the biggest success. What made it that way was having all the homes in one area, El Camino Capistrano. There you could walk between each home and not worry when the next bus would come. On this historic street, we had for the first time a classic car show and, as you looked across Capistrano Bay, you could visualize the city's motto, "Harboring the Good Life", with a clear warm sky and a cool breeze and the Hobie Regatta below with over 100 Hobie Cats with their colorful sails. And then you could enjoy a light brunch from El Patio Café, Chaparossa Grill and Donna B's Cookies. Please do stop by our sponsors

and thank them for supporting the Historical Society.

Coming up is our program on incorporation efforts for Dana Point since 1959 through cityhood and, then, our annual field trip. This year we are going to Camp Pendleton to see the Old Rancho adobe house and museums. December will be our open house and pot luck.

I want to thank the Board of Directors, the Home Tour Committee, and the over 100 volunteers who helped this year. To put on this event, we have a logistics team that organizes all the permits and equipment needed to support the home tour and parking, nearly eighty docents in shifts to explain the homes on

tour and their unique architecture, our registration group, bus service with docents to help guide you through the tour, the publicity group, and program group. The committee chairs who go from one end to the other helping things move freely, the boutique group who present mementos of the city and its history and, not least, the committee that solicited the restaurants for the refreshments and helped serve the food and drinks—all are appreciated and need to be thanked. But, all of this would be for naught if it weren't for our sponsor team which does the solicitation for support and, of course, the home finders and their owners who graciously put their home on display for over 500 people to walk through.

If you would like to be on a committee in the future or to be a docent and haven't done this before, please let me know. We can find a place that will suit your desires.



# 20 Years of Cityhood To Be Celebrated

In 2009, Dana Point will be celebrating its 20 year anniversary of cityhood. The Historical Society, in conjunction with the City of Dana Point, will be organizing the event, so reserve Saturday, January 3, 2009, at 2 p.m. to have some fun. We are appreciative of the support of the Ocean Institute, OC Dana Point Harbor Department, and the City of Dana Point.

We will reenact the swearing in of the original city council aboard the Brig Pilgrim and will be inviting all

prior city council members to be on board the Pilgrim during the mock swearing in.

We are planning additional activities with displays and a souvenir history book outlining the past members of the city council, the history of incorporation, and a year-by-year history of Dana Point in the news from 1989 to the present.

As we get closer, we will have more details. Be sure to reserve the date now!

Cityhood for Dana Point has not always been marked by unity of purpose. City Council members have often pursued conflicting ends, and Dana Point residents have, on numerous occasions, found themselves at odds with civic leaders. None of these citizens, however, as displeased as they may have been, ever found leadership as frustrating as did Richard Henry Dana and his crewmates aboard the brig Pilgrim.

“Captain T was a vigorous, energetic fellow,” Dana says in Chapter 14 of *Two Years Before the Mast*. “He was made of steel and whalebone. He was a man to ‘toe the mark’ and to make everyone

else step up to it. During all the time that I was with him, I never saw him sit down on deck. He was always active and driving, severe in his discipline, and expected the same of his officers.

“The mate not being enough of a ‘driver’ for him, and being perhaps too easy with the crew, the captain was dissatisfied with him, became suspicious that discipline was getting relaxed, and began to interfere in everything. He drew the reins taut, and as in all quarrels between officers the sailors side with the one who treats them best, he became suspicious of the crew. He saw that everything went wrong—that nothing was done ‘with a will’—and in his attempt to remedy the difficulty by severity he made everything worse. We were in every respect unfortunately situated—captain, officers, and crew entirely unfitted for one another—and every circumstance and event was like a two-edged sword, and cut both ways.”



# JOIN US FOR A DAY AT CAMP PENDLETON!

The Dana Point Historical Society will invade US Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton on Tuesday, November 18! Our chartered bus will leave the Selva Road parking lot at 9 a.m. to take us to the historic ranch house (pictured below) for a tour of it and the adjacent chapel. The tour guides will be Maj. Jack Smith, USMC (Ret) and Doris Walker-Smith.

Then we will enjoy a hearty buffet lunch at the Pendleton Officers' Club.

We should rate a private room. After lunch, we hope to visit the Mechanized Museum and perhaps the Navy Hovercraft facility. Time allowing, we may wander into other interesting areas, returning to Dana Point by 5 p.m.

Advance reservations are necessary, as the number paid by November 8 will determine whether the trip is full speed ahead. A check for \$47 per person will cover the bus trip, lunch, and incidentals. If you prefer to charge it via VISA or MasterCard, call Treasurer Dave Kristjanson at 496-5340.

Use the attachment below, make check payable to Dana Point Historical Society, and mail it to DPHS, Box 544, Dana Point, CA 92629. See you in camp!



**The chartered bus will leave the Selva Road parking lot at 9 a.m. The Selva lot is on the ocean side of PCH; follow Selva around to the vehicle entrance. Please arrive early to check in and to be ready to leave promptly at nine. Park near the drive-in entrance to the parking lot and look for our group. We will return at approximately 5 p.m.**

.....

## Camp Pendleton Trip Reservation

Please reserve \_\_\_\_ spaces for the Camp Pendleton Tour at \$47 per person: Tuesday, November 18, at 9 a.m. Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_. If you wish to use a charge card in payment, please call the treasurer, David Kristjanson, at 496-5340.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

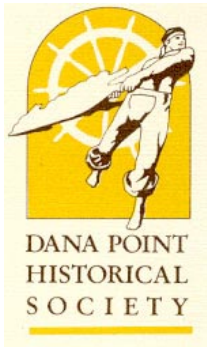
Phone/Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Dana Point Historical Society  
P. O. Box 544  
Dana Point, CA 92629

**DANA POINT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**P.O. BOX 544**  
**DANA POINT, CA 92629**



NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
LAGUNA NIGUEL, CA  
PERMIT NO. 243

**Return Service Requested**

## **GENERAL MEETING**

# **Dana Point's Incorporation History**

**Wednesday, October 22, 2008—6:30 p.m.**

**Dana Hills Tennis Center, 24911 Calle de Tennis (Off Golden Lantern just seaward of Del Avion)**

Though we are about to celebrate our city's 20th anniversary of incorporation, the idea of its becoming a legal entity was brewing for decades before that. It became a serious issue as Dana Point Harbor's construction got underway.

This meeting will feature a panel, bringing together a leader of the initial 1960s incorporation move, Dr. Roger Sanderson, and a co-petitioner of the 1980s realization of cityhood, Michael Eggers. The local conditions of each era were different, as were the entities who supported and denounced the issue. Some of the incidents surrounding these civic leaders' personal involvement will prove enlightening as well as entertaining.

Social time begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program itself at 7 p.m. Guests are always welcome.

**Doris Walker-Smith, Program Director**