THE ISLAND JAN-MAR 2022

The Only Official Balboa Island Newsletter - Published by the Balboa Island Improvement Association since 1919





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Terry Janssen

I think we would all agree that 2021 was much better than 2020, but what about 2022? The better question is how will you

be in 2022? The Balboa Island Improvement association is off to a banner start. Membership dues, judging by the number of renewals, will most likely break previous records. Your Association survives because of membership, donations and sponsorships. We received a big boost from the **Gunderson's** Christmas/Holiday Gala on North Bayfront of over \$9,000. A big thanks to **Ryan** and Company.

Our 2022 calendar is included in this issue, as well as listed on the website. Save a copy so you don't miss a beat this year. Generally, the first part of the year is fairly quiet, but Dan Abbott, BIIA Co-Vice President, and Cynthia **Shafer**, President of the Balboa Island Merchants Association are cooking up something special. The date has not been set in stone but in April or the first part of May the island merchants will be cooking up a Taste of Balboa Island. The Art Walk, while not a BIIA sponsored event, is scheduled in May and then the whopper, our annual parade is back Sunday, June 5th. As in years past, almost the entire parade is paid for by donors and sponsors. If you would like to participate in the planning, please see the meeting dates included in our BIIA calendar and if you would like to support the parade financially please contact Jack Callahan at 949.887.1676 or **Gail Vasterling** at 949.246.7110.

Behind the scenes we've been working on several things like the benches around the bay front. By the time you read this, you would have had an opportunity to vote on a bench of your choice to replace the existing teak benches on the bay front. No, all 90 plus benches will not be replaced at once, but they will be replaced over a period of time. I'm very proud of the team that **Dave Webb**, Public Works Director, assembled to work on this improvement. All island Associations collectively worked with the City to develop a very workable plan to replace the deteriorating benches with islander's input. Thank you for voting so your voice could be heard.

It's probably once a week that I hear from someone about an island issue, many times the issue is something as simple as a street light outage. Not that I mind helping, but please notify the City for a faster response. The City has a link on their website to report any problem.

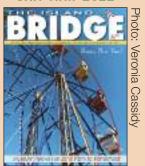
Newport Beach City website:

www.newportbeachca.gov

Located on the upper right hand corner of the homepage is the "REPORT A PROBLEM" button. Type in the issue and navigate the site to get information on how to solve your problem.

BRIDGE

JAN-MAR 2022



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Featured Pot —Betty Christy

KRISTINE TAFT & BARBARA BIGGS Amethyst Avenue and South Bayfront

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THE BIRTH OF THE BIIA

Compiled by Celeste Dennerline Chairman of Visitor Experience Balboa Island Museum/Newport Beach



William S. Collins' vision to "turn sand into money",

began with a dredger and a good deal of imagination. From 1905 to 1913 he dredged around the Snipe Island mud flats, piling silt and sand onto the lowest areas. After adding wooden, then cement bulkheads, he plotted the land and his realtors began offering lots for between \$300 and \$600 with a promise to add improvements like sewers, lights, gas, water and paving. By 1914, his dream had come to an end. He'd only sold half the lots, which didn't give him enough money to make the promised improvements.



Collins was gone, along with his ferry and any reliable way to reach the Island from Newport Beach/Balboa (incorporated in 1906). Many lots went into foreclosure and prices fell to \$25/\$50 a lot. The only way to save the Island and run utility lines under the bay was to incorporate with the City of Newport Beach, which it did in 1916. Deplorable conditions continued which led to a meeting of several property owners, in Los Angeles, in the winter of 1918/19. The decision was made to establish the **Balboa Island Improvement Association**.

A large 4th of July Celebration was planned and the first on island meeting was set for July 5, 1919. Officers were elected with Charles E. Stanton serving as the first President. Its membership was open to all property owners or residents of the Island and dues were set at \$1/year. A list of needs was prepared including bulkhead repair, mosquito abatement, reliable ferry service, sanitary sewer system, dependable water and gas

Continued on page 4



BIIA - from page 3

supply, paving of certain streets/alleys, street lights in the summer months and rebuilding the two public piers at Opal and Coral Avenues. Over the next ten years, most of these goals were met and, to this day, the Balboa Island Improvement Association continues to improve the quality of life for the residents of Balboa Island.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Balboa Island **Improvement Association - July 5th, 1919**

President, Charles E. Stanton

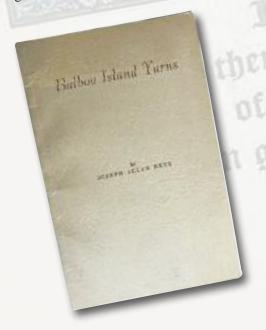
Present: Secretary Baverstock, Treasurer Bostwick, and the followings Trustees: Lightipe, Thompson, Young and Baker.

Others present: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. McNally, Mr. Cubbon, Mr. White, Mr. Beek, Dr. Suckow, Mr. Webster, Mr. Garrison, Mrs. Garrison, Mr. Bradshaw, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Spencer, Mrs. Stanton and Mrs. Baverstock.

Committee Reports: Bulkhead Committee, Sewer Committee, Street Committee, Ferry Committee, Mosquito Abatement.

Motion to thank Mr. Lightipe and the Edison Company for the beautiful flag pole. "Mr. Beek said that if the Association program for improvements is carried out, values will surely increase. He predicted that the time will come when there won't be a lot on the island worth less than five hundred dollars and that front lots will some day be worth five thousand!"

Motion that the committee in charge of the 4th of July celebration be given a vote of thanks for all their hard work.





From the archives of the Balboa Island Museum/Newport Beach,

an undated, 7"x10", thin, red, leather bound book embossed on the front right lower corner in gold letters, Charles E. Stanton. The signatures of J.A. Beek and Roberta Middleton are personally signed in ink at the end of the proclamation.

Whereas:

In the development of Balboa Island the unselfish and patriotic services rendered by certain Directors and Officers of the Balboa Island Improvement Association, especially Charles E. Stanton, Ralph S. Baverstock, James B. McNally, Ralph D. Rollins, Robert F. Bostwick, John Cubbon, D.E. Lyon and Henry Millar merit permanent recognition on the part of this body; now therefore, be it

Resolved:

By the members of the Balboa Island Improvement Association, that the above named pioneers be and each of them is hereby thanked and commended for his loyal and unselfish devotion to Balboa Island; and be it further

Resolved:

That the President and the Secretary are hereby instructed to have copies of this resolution suitably engrossed* and bound.

Signed: J.A. Beek, President Roberta Middleton, Secretary

Notes from Celeste

engross, v. to copy in a large, formal manner for preservation (Webster's)

The Mrs. Collins referenced in the BIIA Minutes would be **Jessie Collins**, ex wife of W.S. Collins. Jessie lived in her home, the White Swan, on the corner of South Bayfront and Pearl Ave. The meeting minutes are dated July 5th, 1919. They are the only minutes in the book.

Two days later, on July 7th, 1919, Joe Beek was awarded the ferry contract. He was the 3rd interest to run a Balboa Island Ferry, after W.S. Collins and the Wilson Brothers.

Source Information: Balboa Island Yarns by Joseph Allan Beek With thanks to:

The Charles E. Stanton Family

Brit Webb, Collections Manager, Balboa Island engenen and frei

Museum/Newport Beach

Meet Your Neighbor to Bridge Staff



Meet Jill Adams

Jill has been an Island resident since 1995 and has been in her duplex since 1998 when she was lucky enough to be renting from Jim and Bonne Miller who took a liking to her and decided she should own the property. At the time, she co-owned an aircraft advertising business and her partner agreed to buy her out over time, covering her mortgage, so she could focus on increasing her income. She did that by going into aircraft finance and has owned her own brokerage business since 2001, successfully running it from her Island home.

Her true passion is gathering fun people together for adventure travel! After planning group trips for nearly 10 years, Jill started "ADAMS' WORLD", a business organizing trips to Tahiti, Africa, Peru, Cuba, Rhine River, the Caribbean and beyond!1





No matter where her travels take her, Jill loves coming home to the Island! Breakfast at Wilma's, hanging out at the VI or just over the bridge at NBYC and shopping at her absolute favorite clothing store, AMORE'! They have the most beautiful fabrics and designs that are ideal for travel as well as everyday wear.

Over the years, walks around the Island morphed into powerwalking 5 full and 3 half marathons and she is training for another full marathon in 2022.

Jill's life is truly blessed by her wonderful family and friends. In addition, as a licensed pilot, she inherited an aircraft that she owned for 21 years, was gifted a Boston Whaler and also given a brand new electric cart. She has divested herself of all those vehicles and is down to her little red convertible which suits her just fine! She is certified in Culinary Arts but that training doesn't get a lot of use due to all the great dining options on the Island, not to mention our fabulous Irvine Ranch Market!





She loves her community and is a recurring member of the BIIA. She loves the wonderful things they provide for us! The parade is her absolute favorite local event, but she also enjoys the Home Tour, Pancake Breakfast, BBQ and Holiday Decoration Judging! She is a big fan of our incredible museum. Jill attended the Newport Beach Citizen's Police Academy and loved every minute of it! She is a member of the Balboa Island C.E.R.T. team.

No doubt, Jill is an Island Girl for life!



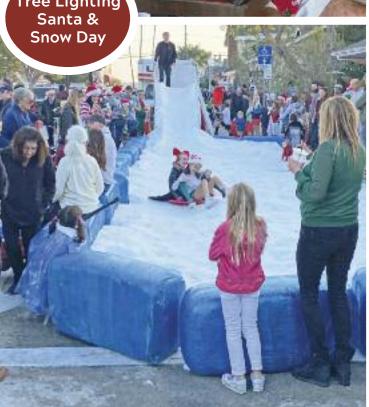
Aloliday 2021





Patti & Terry Janssen leading the Holiday Cart Parade









• THE ISLAND BRIDGE



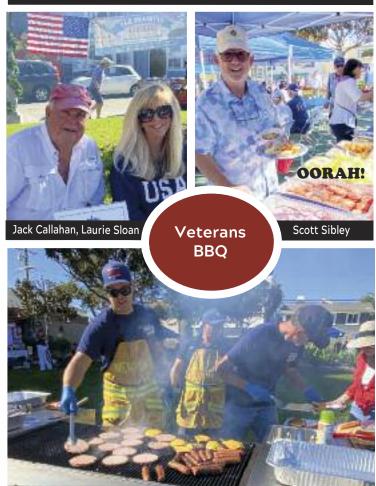


Balboa Island's **Bill Stewart**, Air Force Veteran of WWII and Korean era and one of "America's youngest living WWII Veterans" joined seven other California WWII veterans who participated in the Walk of Honor taking flight to attend the 80th Commemoration National Pearl Harbor remembrance at Pearl Harbor today, December 7. Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 1941, is "a date which will live in infamy," according to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The USO send-off and Walk of Honor celebration for these eight veterans (six from Orange County) took place at John Wayne Airport on Saturday, Dec. 4 at approximately 6:45 a.m. In attendance were Newport Beach Fire Chief **Jeff Boyles** and **Dennis Bress**, who heads up the Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach's veterans' programs.

Stewart served as Staff Sergeant in the Army Air Corp in the Pacific from 1946-1949. THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE BILL!







O.C. Fire supplied their mobile grill once again for burgers, spam, and dogs

Merchant Spotlight - Bridging Relationships



One of the best things about being President of the BI Merchants Assoc, is all the great business owners I have met and become friends with in our special island community. I feel blessed we have these amazing people on our island who share their expertise with us, so I thought I could introduce some of

them to you as well. I truly believe the more we merchants work together and support each other the better our community will be on the whole. This Bridge we meet Gerda Egul from Gerda Pilates. A beautiful person and Master Pilates Instructor who graces our island with her years of knowledge and experience, her positive spirit and optimism.

cs: Tell me a bit about your background?

GE: I was born in Tiran-Albania and lived there until age 24, I was an elite and nationally recognized Track & Field athlete in 400m and 400m hurdles, breaking 8 Albanian national records and competed professionally throughout the Balkan States and Europe. I moved to Istanbul-Turkey in 1991 and worked as Manager and Fitness Specialist in top ranked sports companies.

In 2002 I became Founder, Owner & Program Director @ Gerda Pilates and ever since have been running my own Pilates studios. I obtained my Master Degree as Certification Courses Specialist from Pilates Academy International, located in Manhattan in 2007. I moved to California in 2014, it's been a very interesting journey.

cs: Why did you get involved in teaching Pilates?

GE: I read a lot about Josef Pilates who suffered from many childhood injuries, and his drive and determination led him to become a competitive gymnast, diver, and skier. I started to train my body with Pilates because of injuries I had as an athlete. I was amazed with the philosophy which helps strengthen the body from inside out. I believe that we all came to this world with a holy mission. If I can help my clients improve their quality of life to be pain free, or play better golf or tennis or even leave my studio with a smile, I feel I'm making a positive impact.

cs:People hear "Pilates" and think it is difficult or not for them? Why is Pilates good for all?

GE: Pilates is a philosophy, it's an intelligent exercise which requires efficiency. It's not a competitive sport which requires lot's of effort to build big muscles and lose weight.

IT'S GOOD FOR EVERYONE BECAUSE:

- It improves your posture
- Strengthen your muscles by elongating them NOT bulking them
- Creates a core foundation for a variety of sports training
- There's no age limit. Clients benefit from 10 to 93
- Create joints strength to prevent injuries in lower back
- Helps improve balance and bone density and increases energy level

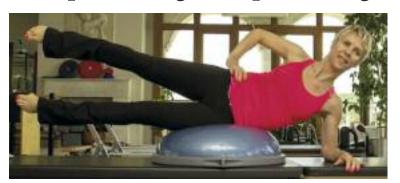
cs: Why choose Balboa Island for your studio?

GE: I fell in love with the energy of Balboa Island the first time I visited, I was planning to open a Studio somewhere in OC and I wasn't sure where and when. I saw the Pilates Studio on Marine Ave, I envisioned myself teaching in that Studio and being part of this neighborhood and it felt so good, so safe, so home. It was the perfect place at the perfect time.

cs:What is your teaching Philosophy? What do you hope to give your students?

GE: I have gone through a lot. I was diagnosed with stage 2 Breast Cancer in 2018. This was a turning point in my life. I knew exactly the reasons that caused it, it was based on how poorly I managed my stress level and what I put into my body. I had to change the perception of the reality and me adapting myself to a new reality by creating a new Gerda with a different life philosophy. When I teach Pilates I create a story according to each and every client's physical and spiritual state. I try to raise their energy level by using different tools like: I will make them dance in the middle of the session or find a story that we can all laugh about. If I can provide my students with a happy atmosphere in the Studio while I help them to improve their quality of life by getting stronger and feeling taller that will be my teaching philosophy and fulfillment of my mission.

"Keep Shining, Keep Smiling"



cs: What do your students give to you? (meaning spiritually, etc.)

GE: My students are my life's teachers. I have learned so much from them. At the same time they are very good listeners. On the spiritual level they have lifted me very high. Because of them I have been able to freely express the language of my heart and mind. They have given me the comfort of being part of this amazing community. Dancing and enjoying my free time with them has been the best spiritual gift I have ever received.

cs: You always end our classes say "keep shining, keep smiling"? What does this mean for you?

GE: This phrase has a deep meaning to me and I can't stop telling it every time I see and feel someone who vibrates low. We all are part of the wholeness. I have experienced that when you practice smiling and shining even though you don't feel it it becomes part of your personality. It lifts you up and then you start attracting people with the same high energy and you help the ones who vibrate low who are also attracted to become like you. And again, we came to this world with a mission. I believe my mission is to teach Pilates while I keep smiling and shining for a better place in the world.

Balboa Island is always such wonderful place to be during the holidays. This year was no exception when it comes to Holiday Spirit. Decorating started early and homes were as lovely as ever. It was such a pleasure to walk around the Islands, enjoying the displays of lights and decorations.

This was the fifth year of the Holiday Light Pole Challenge and once again it was a great success, better than ever. The first year there were eleven or twelve, and this year there were forty-four beautifully decorated light poles. The poles on Balboa and Park were decorated, as well as many in the middle of the block on various streets.

Because decorations were so creative and well done, it was impossible to choose just one winner. Everyone who decorated a pole was eligible to receive a prize. A big "Thank You" to the following sponsors that made this possible: 501 Park Avenue Bistro, Ciao Italian Restaurant, Royal Hen, Snipe Craft House, The Village Inn Wilma's Restaurant, Voyager Rentals, Sur La Mer and Sugar'n Spice.

A big Thank You to our judges. Gwen and Chris Cruttenden along with Matt and Carolyn Hurray. Of the forty-four poles that were decorated there were twenty seven who participated in the challenge. The judges carefully considered each one. They chose four poles that were exceptionally well done to receive awards. The Kids Christmas Winner award went to nine year old, Banks and five year old, Tiegan who decorated the pole on the median at Coral and Park. It was a green PEZ dispenser that actually had candy in it. The Whimsical Christmas Winner award went to Jacqueline Brooks and her sister Ginger Vasquez. They created the Elf pole with a life sized cut out of Elf, located at Garnet and S. Bayfront, The Classic Christmas Winner award went to Susan Crookshanks who used lovely traditional red, white and silver ornaments along with snow flakes and red ribbon to decorate the pole at the corner of Collins and Balboa. The Judges Choice award went to Christine Lissoy, Carol Hanes and Lynette Sikand who created Christmas in a Construction Zone at Pearl and S. Bayfront. It was so creative and perfect for this year, covered with yellow hard hats and caution tape.

Wouldn't it have been fantastic if, every light pole on both Islands was decked out in holiday spirit? Start planning. That's the challenge for next year.

LIGHT POLE CHALLENGE

by Sue & Lee Pearl



Classic Christmas



Whimsical





Balboa Island Museum NewPort BEACH BACK into the suring of things



FUN ZONE FEST CAPS YEAR THREE FOR NEW MUSEUM

By PETE WEITZNER, Producer, "Golden Age of Newport Harbor"

It would be hard for the Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach to top how it ended 2021 -- the first-ever Fun Zone Festival. The amusement-park themed evening propelled the museum well past its fall-fundraising goal of \$100,000 to \$125,000. And if it seemed you knew everyone there, it's because you did.

"The Pyle Family, new owners of the Fun Zone generously made it possible for the Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach to host our first major event," Museum President Emeritus, Shirley Pepys said.

On a wondrously, balmy late-November Friday, we came, we won outsize gifts knocking over once-mighty, milk jugs, ate delicious local food, bought terrific local wares, and danced the night away to popular local 80s cover band, Reflexx. Just ask Board Member Dennis Bress, aka Fred Astaire.

As the event's tagline promised, "It's Fun to Be a Kid Again." "Wonderful, fun and exciting evening, Island Marine Fuel General Manager David Beek said.

Linda Young and her company, Newport-based Elite OC Productions staged the memorable evening – a perfect capper to Year Three of the new Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach at its new location at 210 Marine Avenue. It was a year where "we got back into the swing of things," Executive Director Tiffany Pepys Hoey said.



The best event, at the best time



Shirley Pepys, Julia Argyros, Katrina Foley, Wendy Hales



Walkie & Janet Ray



Laurie Sloan



Jack Callahan, Gerda Egul, Cynthia Shafer



A Conga Line breaks out





More 2021 Highlights

Sunday night dinners, guest speakers and theatrical events returned to the museum, culminating with the December 9, TINBOX Theatricals' "Celtic Christmas."

Speaking of speakers, Author Chris Epting's sold-out talk on the history of rock n' roll in Orange County is still a talker in town. Who knew that "Elvis's marriage dissolved in a cul-desac in Huntington Beach?"

There was generosity aplenty. A \$10,000 grant from The Exchange Club of Newport Beach, is helping the museum's education duo, Celeste Dennerline and Tiffany Pepys Hoey to develop a program to teach the history of Newport Harbor in our local schools.

At the festival, Second District Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley presented the museum with a \$20,000 arts-related grant (see photo), part of California's COVID-19 relief program for small businesses and nonprofits.

Collections scored. The museum received The Scroll from the 2006 Newport Beach Centennial, a 16-foot, beautiful wooden boat, and a painting of WW II bombers over Newport Pier now on display, along with an original WW II Waves uniform and the buckle of the First Commodore of Balboa Yacht Club, Robert L. Griffin. "His kids walked in, saw it, couldn't believe it," Pepys Hoey said.

Other military and Veteran's commemorations returned including the Veteran's Day BBQ at Balboa Park. WW II Vet Bill Stewart hopes to resume his tireless efforts to recognize every Island vet, the registry of close to 200 can be found here on the museum's website: balboaislandmuseum.org/veterans The museum's upfront artist gallery moved into quarterly rotation, replete with installation art above. The all-local artists featured in the summer garnered great attention and praise.

Tours resumed at a brisk pace, "most Girl Scout and Boy Scout tours we've ever had," Pepys Hoey said.

The Museum's collection of some 50 Legacy Videos and Oral Histories can now be enjoyed on NBTV Channel 3.

"2022 is going to be even better. And we all hope, it'll include a full schedule of events, exhibits at the museum, around Newport," Pepys Hoey said.

First Sunday Supper of 2022 is February 20, Vietnam Veterans Day is March 29. See you at The Museum!



Author, Chris Epting's sold-out event



Katrina Foley presents \$20k COVID Grant to the Balboa Island Museum



Amazing treasures collected



Veteran Bill Stewart with Dennis Bress



Island Sandcastle King Chris Crosson



Tours and Scavenger Hunts remain brisk



Celeste Dennerline's 10-Minute Talks



Quarterly Installation Art



210 Marine Ave., Balboa Island Open daily - Free general admission.

Become a member.

For more information: visit https://balboaislandmuseum.org.



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ISLAND

2022 BUSINESS MEMBERS

DIAMOND \$1,000

Abrams Coastal Properties Georgie Fenton Real Estate Once Upon An Island



Balboa Candy Doggie Walk Bags Mary Hardesty Realty



SILVER \$250

Balboa Island Ferry
Bill Stewart Realty and Property Mgmt.
Duck House Balboa Island
Gerda Pilates, Inc.
The Royal Hen
Vitarelli Construction Inc.



BRONZE \$125

Hagmann Painting
Jim Jennings Custom Masonry
Kristine Taft, Notary Public
Linda Wood Notary Public
State Farm Insurance, Paul Ricatto

BASIC \$65

Bayside Cleaners
Castle Blaney Investments
Churchill Design
Collins Avenue Graphics
Edward Jones Brokerage
International Electronics Enterprises Inc
Irvine Ranch Market
Tim Lloyd Real Estate







by Larry Kallestad

Although this may be repetitive, I will say it one more time, "Happy New Year 2022."

A second year fighting the pandemic, has been for all of us, a frustrating, exhausting, and for some, a tragic time for all of us. However, we all got through it, hopefully the coming year will be less so. As I indicated in my last column, a group of Association members assembled and mailed to members of years 2020 and 2021, reminders to rejoin the Association for the calendar year 2022. We mailed out 700 reminder invitations. As of January 1, the response has been overwhelming, 391 islanders responded to the reminder to once again support the BIIA this year.

Last year by January 1, 2021, 353 previous members responded to the mail-out. Encouraging! There were also those who are new to the Association. We appreciate all who have responded. We have the feeling that you did so because you know how vital what the BIIA does for our Island neighbors, and your contribution is a very good investment in the future of Island life. The Directors and Associate Directors would like to thank all of you who have supported the Association financially, but also those who volunteered to help make all the various activities the BIIA sponsors during the year, what successes they were. We could not accomplish all the Association does without the loyalty of those volunteering and making things happen. Thank you for being there for all of us. In past columns I have highlighted the list of the many functions and endeavors sponsored by the BIIA that enhance Island living. I am forgoing it in this column, because those of you who have been Islanders for any length of time, could probably list them yourselves.

Those of you that are fortunate enough to be new to our Island life, it will be an enjoyable experience to be a part of. May the coming year be all you could hope for in every aspect. And may the difficulties you encounter be overcome successfully and quickly. Larry



PRO STYLE BIIA MESH CAPS AVAILABLE



We have a special offer for existing BIIA members. If you move to the next tier of membership for 2022 you are elgible to receive a pro mesh hat with our new embroidered logo. Please notify Larry Kallastad if you wish to upgrade your membership level from 2021.

balislelarry@sbcglobal.net

If you just want the cool new limited edition hat, please email Larry Friday and arrangements can be made for payment and delivery. akula1313@aol.com

2 As of January 1, 2022 BIIA ME

\$1,000

Abbott, Dan & Barbara Abrams Coastal Properties Cooper, Kay & Will Georgie Fenton Real Estate Gudim, Lissa & Sheard, Phil Kohl, Jerry & Terri Landon, Marv & Jill Luce, Jim & Gale Once Upon An Island Talbot, Todd & Denise

\$500

Abrams. Don & Gwen Anderson, Robert & Diana Balboa Candy Belin, Jake & Betty Bodenhoefer, Steve Burns, Clint & Kristen Colm, Ann Crosson, Chris Dobbins, Brian & Sue Doggie Walk Bags Durnian, Tori & Charles Harwood, George & Patricia Hall, Heidi & Steven Henderson, Lisa & Jerry Janssen, Terry & Patti Koll, Kathi Mehlberger, Scott Monroe, Dorothy Price, Chris & Lisa Rawlins, Rick & Lucy Searing, Lee & Sue Silberberg, Marshall & Austin, Soledad Thiel, Laurie & Scott Von KleinSmid, Marilyn Wondries, Jill Wood, Tracy Woodley, Mike & Carol Zurawski, Troy

\$250

Allen, Shelley Balboa Island Ferry Bensussen, Gale & Jane Berl, Doug & Jane Bill Stewart Realty and Prop. Mgmt. Brennan, Kieran & Susan Brower, Ron & Stacy Burk, Robin & Bill Busby, Jim & Judy Cholakian, Rich Collins Avenue Graphics Conners, John & Diana Croke, Tom & Terra Ctvrtlik, Bob & Cosette Davies, John & Sharon Davis. Kim & Steve Dawn, Lyle

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\$125

Allen, Dee & Eldrid Astone, Mark & Debie Bain, Marjit Baker, Cheryl & Bob Baker, Jim & Linda Barkate, Hal & Krystal Bear, Dennis Beek, Seymour Bergenfeld, Helen & Joe Berwald, John & Sue Biggs, Barbara & Dickens, Reggie Banker, Sandy & John Blaine, Andy & Leigh Bradford, Judy Brandow, Peter Brogan, Kevin & Nena Brown, Greg & Joyce

Buettell, Mike & Sue Calhoun, Martha Canning, Joan & Don Caring Companions At Home Carmichael, Dave & Beverly Cayanni Family Cencibaugh, Chuck Celio, Richard & Nancy Chaix, Dean & Nancy Cheney, Marilyn & Jim Childs, Beverly Church. Melinda & Steve Cohoe, Bruce & Karen Cook, Jim & Kate Cook, Marcy Crookshanks, Susan Cruttenden, Chris & Gwen Culpepper. Patti Cunningham, Scott Curry, Jeanne & Paul Davis, Jane DeRevere, Brian & Melinda Di Bari, Donna Ewalt, Alan & Kaye Farmer, Aline Fraker, George & Linda Friday, Larry & Leslie Friend, Darren Franzen, Christine Fuller, Ted & Joan Galli, Sis Galt, Patricia Green, Bob & Judy Grime, Greg & Irma Gubser, Dave & Polly Hagemeyer, Bill & Pat Hagman, Sophia, Lexi, Capri Hagman Painting Hanson, Gary & Sharon Harris, Marilyn Hearne, Steve & Gina Herring, Mike & Lisa Hillman, Karen Hoffman, Scott Horgan, Kathi & Robert Hunsaker, Regina Hurst, Frank & Diane Hutchinson, Ann & Ken Jacobsen, Craig & Susan Jennings, James Jim Jennings Custom Masonry Jessop, Andrew John, Jay & Patti Jones, Judy Jordan, Donna & Cliff Katz, Howard & Karen Kelly, Jim & Leigh Kent, Chip & Barbara

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King, Mary Ellen

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Cushing, Mike & Jeannette
Dahm, Mary & Fred
Dallape, Don
Davis Natalie & Phil
Deane, Bill
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Palmer, Brad & Heidi

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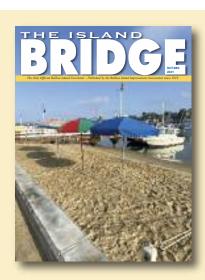
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THANK YOU!







Recently, we received a two-page hand-written letter from a life-long resident and BIIA member, Evelyn Nelson. Her letter epitomizes the very reason we all cherish living on Balboa Island.

THE BLUE UMBRELLA

Dear Association Members,

My name is Evelyn Nelson. I am 93 years old, and I have lived at 325 Apolena Ave. since 1938.

I just received the latest copy of The Island Bridge, and imagine my surprise when I discovered my blue umbrella on the cover, along with two other umbrellas on the beach on North Bay, at the foot of Apolena Ave. I thought you might be interested in a little history.

I was nine years old when I spent my first summer on the island. That was all it took for me to realize I wanted to spend my life there—and I have done it!

Now back to the umbrellas on the beach. I carried our blue umbrella down to the the beach first thing every morning. I played all summer on the beach; swam in the wonderful bay every day; and dove and jumped from the float tied with ropes from the sea wall out to bouys. I swam in races, and taught youngsters how to swim. I eventually married and had children—one boy and two girls, and we became a sailing family. My son taught sailing at BCYC, and I directed the program.

Eventually my husband passed away, and as I grew "older", taking the blue umbrella down to the beach became more than I could handle. That's where the other two umbrellas come in.

Across the street, and down a few houses at 318 lived a couple—Mildred and Steve Crosby, who were old friends of my parents. So as the families grew, we all were good friends. Their house was built in 1936, and still stands today.

And the last few years the grandson-in-law has taken over the job of putting up my blue umbrella as well as two of theirs. That enables me to go down to the beach each summer day, to climb, with difficulty, over the "newly high-tened" seawall so that I could continue to enjoy our beach. Each morning before most residents are up, my dear friend sets up my umbrella, and returns it to its home where it rests up for the next day's fun! I love it!

— Evelyn Nelson, 325 Apolena Ave.