



SERVING NEWPORT BEACH for 13 years!

"Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does!"

BALBOA BEACON



Vol.16#12

NEWPORT'S FAVORITE ♥ COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER!

March 26, 2009

THE BEAT IS STILL BLUE IN NEWPORT

By Brian Chidester



Just in from the pier at Newport Beach stands one of the last remaining examples of the Beat Generation in Southern California. The affectionately named **Sid's Blue Beet** was the brain-child of **Sid Soffer**, and remains, to this day, at 107 21st Place. (1959 photo of Soffer to left)

Singer **Bobby Fuller** referred to a burgeoning youth counter-culture when he unleashed his 1965 garage-punk staple "I Fought the Law," but he might as easily have been talking about Sid Soffer, who fought the law over a building code violation for the last 12 years of his life. Well, the law won. Judge Susie Shaw sought to throw ol' Sid in jail back in 1995, but Soffer instead became a self-proclaimed fugitive living in Las Vegas. That is where I first caught up with him a little less than a decade ago.

As a historian of all things beatnik, I had found an article in the microfiche room of the Laguna Library about a coffeehouse named Café Frankenstein, which Sid Soffer managed from 1958-59. During that time, the Frankenstein (860 South Pacific Coast Highway, (Page 3)

BeachHarry James and I

By Leon Meyers

I was 15, my family rented a summer house of Alvarado St., on Balboa Peninsula. I was swing mad, my girlfriend Wendy and I practiced dance steps every day. Her parents would allow her to listen to the music until 11 (no dancing). We would stand outside the **Rendezvous**



Ballroom. (Photo above of Rendezvous on the oceanfront between Palm & Washington. Look how close the ocean was to the ballroom just feet away!)

One evening we listened to **Harry James**. He played solos of "Cherry" & "Ciribiribin" & **Helen** (Page 3)

BALBOA CHRONICLES CLASSICS

By George Grupe, Research Historian

*What happened to NB Boy Scout Troup 5? For years we've asked without an answer until now when I received a phone call from a former member of Troop #5, **Fred Bockmiller, Jr. NHHS class of 1980.** Bockmiller was a member telling me about 1970 the troop was meeting on Balboa Blvd. in Christ Church by the Sea. There were not many members and they had trouble getting a sponsor. They joined Troop 37 on Lido Isle about 1973-74. **Fred Bockmiller, Jr., 949.646.1004***

The Beacon got a letter from **John Lugo, Scottsdale AZ, Newport Harbor Union High School Class of 1937** Dear Balboa Beacon, I was a member of Boy Scout Troop #5 during the 1930s. I knew Al (Page 3)

LOCAL BUILDERS CHOSEN - EXTREME MAKEOVER



Ty Pennington and Scott Cross arrive on build site

Sunday, March 29, 8-10pm **Scott Cross, SC Homes**, local builder (est. 2002) was chosen for this special edition of **Extreme Makeover Home Edition**. SC Homes, building & remodeling mostly in NB & (Page 2)

TALL SHIP LYNX "AMERICA'S PRIVATEER" RETURNS TO NEWPORT HARBOR



LYNX "America's Privateer's" magnificent tall ship will be sailing into Newport Harbor for the first time in 2-years, for an exclusive visit to the **Newport Harbor Yacht Club**. Join the flotilla Sat. Mar. 28, 10:30am, as **LYNX**

makes her grand arrival into the harbor. Hear the roar of her deck guns. (Sail to Page 3)

www.BalboaBeacon.com
FABULOUS Color Photos ~ Merchant links!

MARCH Flower ~ Jonquil Stone ~ Aquamarine

28 **LYNX "America's Privateer"**s magnificent tall ship will be sailing into Newport Harbor for the first time in 2-years, for an exclusive visit to the **Newport Harbor Yacht Club**. Join the flotilla on at 10:30am, as LYNX makes her grand arrival into the harbor. Line the water front, waving and cheering her arrival. Hear the roar of her deck guns announcing her arrival.

APRIL Flower ~ Sweetpea Stone ~ Diamond

01 **April Fool's Day.....Have Fun!**

01 **NB FILM FEST TICKETS ON SALE - NO FOOLING**

www.newportbeachfilmfest.com

12 **Easter Sunday**

23-30 **Newport Beach Film Festival ~ Tickets on SALE April 1st...no Fooling!** 9 days of creativity, fun & more! Order your tickets early!
www.nbfilmfest.com

24-26 **Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race** start line off **Balboa Pier**, 12 noon, April 24. Plenty of parking, festivities in Balboa Park, the whole town will celebrate. www.nosa.org

26 **Earth Day 10am-4pm** Muth Interpretive Ctr, FREE, environmental exhibits, kid's crafts, scavenger hunt, science booths, shark-mobile touch tanks, food available for purchase, environmental films. Recycle e-waste collection! Info <http://www.newportbay.org> or call 949-923-2269

MAY Flower ~ Lily of the Valley Stone ~ Emerald

10 **Mother's Day**

16 **Armed Forces Day** observed

17 **Balboa Island Art Walk** ~ 9am ~ 5pm along the water-front board-walk from Marine Ave past the Ferry Landing. www.BalboaIslandArtWalk.com

25 **Memorial Day Observed**

JUNE Flower ~ Rose Stone ~ Pearl

07 **Balboa Island Parade** - 11am Marine Ave. Don't miss this family fun for everyone!

14 **Flag Day**

21 **Father's Day**

21 **Summer begins**

BALBOA BEACON © 2009

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Quotes: Don Lemke

Website development by: <http://www.UniqueTech.net>

Weekly Advertising Rates

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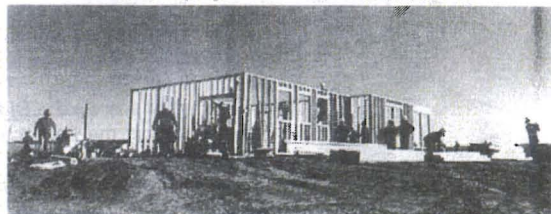
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EXTREME MAKEOVER (From page 1) Corona Del Mar. "We got selected by the show in late December, for the **Almquist Family**, in Phelan, CA (near Hesperia). I am the youngest builder for extreme makeover to date. We started Jan 31-Feb 7 given 106 hours to build but we completed in 100 hours flat" Scott proudly says!

The Almquists dedicate their lives to protecting wildlife. The family of 6 were living in a double-wide trailer held together with duct tape and plastic sheeting to keep the heat and freezing cold out in the middle of the desert.

There were 3 projects on this build, the main house,



learning center (framing photo above) & cages for animals (an animal shelter for exotic animals, tigers, etc.)

My company was one of two on the build. Everything was 100% donated by the builder & their trades people. We got over 2,000 people to drive out there & UC Riverside to give full-ride scholarships to all 4 of their kids. We raised \$50,000 for the family & got El Pollo Loco to donate a years worth of food to the family.

Check out www.schomesbuilder.com Cross' excellent building skills & day-by-day photo collection of Extreme Makeover build. SCBuilders - 949.723.4243



(Look familiar? Cross family were the former owners of the Coffee Bar, corner Balboa Blvd. & Island Ave.)

Cross Family: Shannon, Scott and Kayden at the build site in Phelan, in front of the Learning Center.

CITY of NEWPORT BEACH POPULAR SUMMER CAMPS & programs are offered once again. More than 100 camps are offered from surfing, sailing, art, science, engineering, cooking & more. About 5,000 children participated in the 2008 summer camps.

The annual Camp Newport Expo will be held on Sat. May 2, 11am-2pm, Newport Coast Community Ctr, 6401, San Joaquin Hills Rd, NB giving parents & children an opportunity to meet camp directors & learn more about each camp.

The city offers a discount if you register for camp by May 6. Visit www.campnewport.com or call 949-644-3151.