

**Laguna Beach
Historical Society**
Murphy-Smith Bungalow
278 Ocean Avenue
Laguna Beach CA 92651
949-497-6834



Laguna Life

The Laguna Beach Historical Society Newsletter: March 2012

Please attend Historical Society Program to be held at Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue

Tuesday, March 27th – from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Lila Zali – Laguna Beach Civic Ballet presented by Kathy Kahn
along with Merilee Magnuson Blaisdell, Mary Hanf Monzingo, and June Budd



Lila Zali (1918-2003) Founder Laguna Beach Civic Ballet later Ballet Pacifica

Presenting the program will be Kathy Kahn along with two former company dancers, Merilee Magnuson Blaisdell, Mary Hanf Monzingo, and June Budd who was Lila's colleague in Laguna Beach Soroptimists and mother of company dancer Kathleen Budd.

The public is invited and there is no charge. The program will be videotaped and is to be televised on the local Cox Cable channel 30. The program will include a twenty minute documentary "A Loving Tribute" produced and directed by Jennifer and Steve Baker.

Kathy Kahn was formerly a soloist, ballet mistress, and resident choreographer for the Laguna Beach Civic Ballet which became Ballet Pacifica. For sixteen years, she directed the Laguna Beach Ballet Studio and has taught all ages and levels at numerous dance schools throughout Orange County. Kathy currently teaches at Coastline College, Orange Coast College and Southland Ballet Academy.

Lila Zali was born in 1918 and died in 2003. Lila Zali founded the Laguna Beach Civic Ballet in 1962 which became Ballet Pacifica. Before coming to Laguna Beach she danced professionally in the Mordkin Ballet, (forerunner to American Ballet Theatre), Col. de Basil's Ballet Russe and as the principal dancer on the CBS television show "Balleretta". Lila organized and choreographed a trio of dancers who toured the United States during World War II. The Three Debs included Barbara Stuart Rabinowitsh who also was a founder of the Laguna Greenbelt.

Lila Zali moved to Laguna Beach in 1959 with her husband Kolia Levienne. Lila served as director, choreographer, costume maker, fundraiser for the Laguna Beach Civic Ballet as well as teaching ballet to many Laguna Beach children and adults at her 1863 South Coast Highway studio. She continued to teach up until four days before her death at the age of 84.



Lila Zali - Ballet Pacifica She continued to teach up until four days before her death at the age of 84.



View Laguna Photos at www.Laguna-Historical-Society.smugmug.com

Notice: Board of Directors Election to be Held at March Program

NOMINATED:	Gregg De Nicola	Anne Frank
Gene Felder	John Hoover	Jane Janz
Eric Jessen	Ronald Kaufman	Glenna Matthews
Francie Holder Pemper	Laurie Sanders	Karen Smith
Vern Spitaleri	Nelda Stone	Kimberly Stuart

Thanks to Historical Society Business / Organization Members

**Wells Fargo Bank H.J Baker & Bro.,Inc.
 City of Laguna Beach Caduceus Medical
 Laguna Beach Community Foundation**

Andy Alison Bungalow Hunters Borthwick Guy Bettenhausen....Butler Box
 Charles' Wig Chateau Chicago Title Dana Wharf Sportfishing & Whale Watching
 Flavors of Laguna Emerald Bay Community Assoc
 Indiana James Limited Partnership.....Dr. Korey Jorgenson
 Laguna Beach Visitors & Conference Bureau Laguna Technologies
 Reynolds Carpet Service Sawdust Festival South Coast Lock Shop
 Stewarts Landscaping The Stand Natural Foods Restaurant

Remember the Laguna Beach Historical Society in Your Planned Giving

Upcoming Program: Tuesday, May 8th - 80th Anniversary of Festival of the Arts by Sharbie Higuchi, Dee Challis Davy, and Dan Duling

Three Debs

USO Tour including Lila Zali (standing) and Barbara Stuart Rabinowitch (seated at right) a director of the Laguna Beach Civic Ballet and a teacher at the studio as well as a founder of the Laguna Greenbelt.



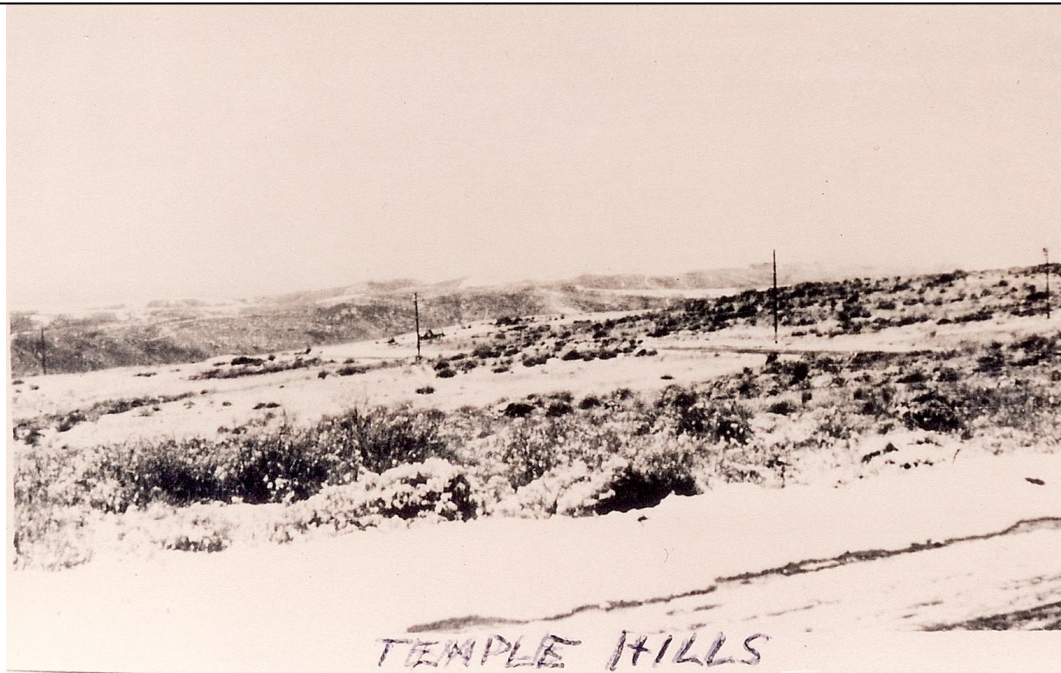
Maurice T. (Red) Guyer (1909-1989)

Coach Guyer first class 1933 photo thanks to Robert McChesney Bethea, he is on the right in the front row, also pictured is Art Sherman.

Guyer coached track at Laguna Beach High in 1934-69. His teams won 15 league championships, compiling a record of 100-47-8. Early in his career, he also coached football, basketball and baseball at the school. The High School track and football field is named after Coach Guyer.



Snow in Laguna Beach January 11, 1949



Thanks to Jane Janz, we have this information "on Tuesday, January 11, 1949. According to Police Lt. George T. Pletts, a snowstorm began shortly after 3 AM and it lasted long enough to blanket the city with 'a mantle such as it had never seen before.' A former police chief, Paul Johnson, recalled in 1949 that it had snowed briefly in Laguna in 1932, but most admitted it never lasted on the ground to the extent it did in 1949."

Next Program Tuesday, April 24th: Pancho Barnes, Moye Stephens & Richard Halliburton
by Barbara Schultz author of "Pancho" and "Flying Carpets, Flying Wings"
the biography of Moye W. Stephens

President's Message by Kimberly Stuart

Lila Zali – Laguna Beach Civic Ballet

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Please attend the Laguna Beach Historical Society program presented by Kathy Kahn along with Merilee Magnuson Blaisdell, Mary Hanf Monzingo, and June Budd who was Lila's colleague in Laguna Beach Soroptimists and mother of company dancer Kathleen Budd.

The program is of course free, and will be held at the Laguna Beach City Hall Council Chambers, 505 Forest Avenue. The program will be videotaped and is to be televised on the local Cox Cable channel 30.

Our next program is Tuesday, April 24th "Pancho Barnes, Moye Stephens & Richard Halliburton" by Barbara Schultz author of "Pancho" and "Flying Carpets, Flying Wings" the biography of Moye W. Stephens. For Heritage Month, we are having a program Tuesday, May 8th - 80th Anniversary of Festival of the Arts by Sharbie Higuchi, Dee Challis Davy, and Dan Duling.

The Historical Society received generous donation from Caduceus Medical, and a grant from the Laguna Beach Community Foundation. We are so grateful; it was a nice way to start 2012.

View historic photographs at www.Laguna-Historical-Society.smugmug.com. Viewers are invited to leave comments to help the Society better identify or date the photographs. At the web site, prints can also be purchased; for example an 8" by 10" glossy for \$6.97 plus tax and shipping. Send questions, photographs, or pieces of Laguna Beach history using info@LagunaHistory.org.

We thank Steve Winke for a great job volunteering to maintain the Bungalow grounds, and Laurie Saunders for her valuable work organizing and categorizing our archives. Check out the Murphy-Smith Bungalow, thanks to Vice-President Karen Smith's generosity, it is better than ever. Step back into 1920s Laguna by visiting the Laguna Beach Historical Society Murphy-Smith Bungalow, located at 278 Ocean Avenue, which is open to the public at no-charge every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. We thank Kate Adams, Sandy Desmond, Gene Felder, Anne Frank, Skip Hellewell, John Hoover, Lorraine Jones, Ronald Kaufman, Diane Keplinger, Glenna Matthews, Barbara Metzger, Francie Holder Pemper, Karen Smith, Dee Taylor, and brand new volunteer Erin Sparkuhl for manning the Bungalow so it is open to the public.

We thank all of our new members and volunteers for their support and participation. And, we ask our members to acknowledge our thanks to the staff of the Wells Fargo Bank for their service to the community by renewing our one dollar a year lease of the Murphy-Smith Bungalow. Those interested in supporting and joining the Laguna Beach Historical Society should send \$15 per individual, \$25 per household or \$50 per business/organization to 278 Ocean Avenue, Laguna Beach CA 92651. The Laguna Beach Historical Society is a section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID #33-0519882.

If your Dues are due (check your mailing label) Send \$15 per person, \$25 per household or \$50 per business or organization to Laguna Beach Historical Society, 278 Ocean Avenue, Laguna Beach CA 92651

To be added to the mailing/email list please provide the following information:

Name _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

FAX: _____ email: _____