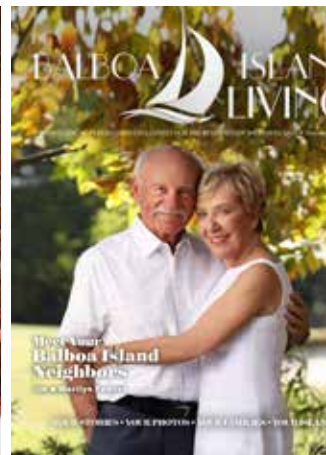
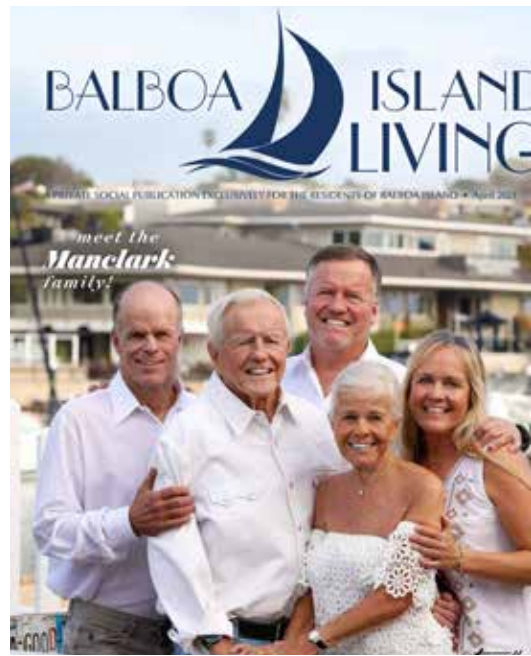
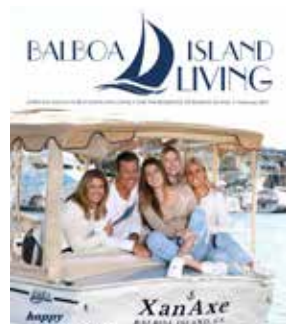


BALBOA ISLAND LIVING

A PRIVATE SOCIAL PUBLICATION EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BALBOA ISLAND • January 2022

goodbye 2021... **HELLO 2022!**



YOUR STORIES • YOUR PHOTOS • YOUR FAMILIES • YOUR ISLAND

IT WAS FUN TO BE A

Kid again

FUN ZONE EVENT, A THROWBACK TO REMEMBER

It's possible you can't go home again.

But we now know – you can be a kid again.

Ask any of the 300-plus guests who attended the **Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach's** Fun Zone Festival on November 12.

“What an amazing event,” **Royal Hen General Manager, Cynthia Shafer** said.

“Fabulous program and evening,” **Former Newport Beach Mayor, Keith Curry** said.

“Such fun,” museum secretary **Joe Ellen Heck** said. “Great food, decor, fun games, great company, and a stellar band for dancing the night away!”



history

By **Pete Weitzner** – Balboa Island Resident and Co-Producer, “The Golden Age of Newport Harbor”

The Museum held its annual fundraiser for the first time at the newly owned Fun Zone, thanks to new proprietors the Pyle family.

“I'm grateful for their generosity, hosting our event,” **Museum President Emeritus, Shirley Pepys** said.



Shirley Pepys, Julia Argyros, OC Supervisor Katrina Foley, David Beek, Dennis Bress

Chartwell Real Estate Development is the new owner of Fun Zone. Chartwell is the investment vehicle of the Pyle family, longtime Newport Beach business and community stalwarts.

Museum board member Linda Young and her company, Newport-based **Elite OC Productions**, helped remind guests of the Fun Zone's halcyon days, turning the Fun Zone into an amusement park with carnival-inspired games and prizes and other entertainment.

If it seemed the ring toss and dart throw were a tad easier than we recall, they likely were. Most guests finished the evening with prizes under each arm and danced a balmy evening away to music from the popular local band **Reflexx** and their spot-on covers of Depeche Mode, Duran Duran, and INXS.

Unofficially, board member **Dennis Bress** took home the Mirrorball Trophy (very unofficially). “Dancing Dennis was a hit,” **RPL & Associates President Renee Pepys Lowe** said. “Everyone loved it and had so much fun.”

With due respect to Bress, the overall Mirrorball goes to the Fun Zone Festival itself.

“Such a wonderful, fun, and exciting evening,” **Island Marine Fuel General Manager David Beek** said. “The BIM Team knocked this event out of the park.”

At the festival, **Museum Founding Member Julia Argyros** and **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.

Separately from the grant, the event was a financial success, propelling the museum past its fall fundraising goal of \$100,000, as it reached \$125,000.



Marleen and Jim Quandt



Volunteers for newsletter



Walkie and Jane Tray

“We couldn't have done this without the support of our staff, vendors, donors, members, and guests,” Shirley Pepys said. “Thank you for making an investment in the future of your museum!”

Visit Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach – discover the history of the Fun Zone and much more. Open daily. Free general admission. Become a member. balboaislandmuseum.org/become-a-member



Marylynn Pyle, Bobby Gorby, Annie Pyle, Lynn Pyle



John and Karen Valley



Mary Hardesty and John Scudder



Burton and Linda Young



Volunteer Christine Tillett

