

THE ISLAND

BRIDGE

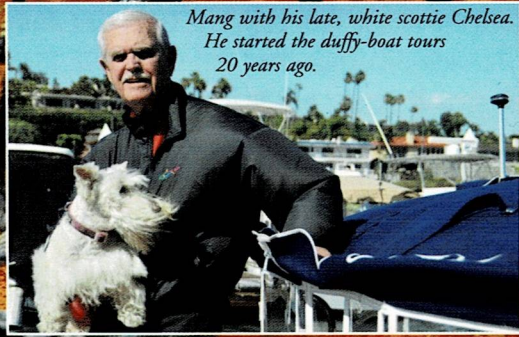
JULY-SEPT
2020

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



Summer Regatta II, by Debra Huse
huseskellygallery.com

Tim Mang...



Mang with his late, white scottie Chelsea. He started the duffy-boat tours 20 years ago.

By
Pete
Weitzner

...Game, Set, Tour.



We all have stories.

Tim Mang's lived in Newport Harbor for 75 years. More stories than most. And Mang can spin 'em. "Right place. Right time. Very fortunate," Mang said.

"I grew up here, all the kids, we took it for granted. Sail across the bay and have lunch at a buddy's house."

Mang had a young athlete's temerity, a Newport surf kids' fearlessness, to get access to the celebrities that migrated south from Hollywood for that miracle time between the 1930s and 1960s. That Newport Harbor-Hollywood Golden Age.

Mang's stories are no brush with greatness, no sighting of **John Wayne** buying melons at Hershey's Market.

Mang does have stories about Newport's first citizen, and so many more who flooded to the world's largest, small harbor during that time. They shot films, all over Newport. They came to sail, and many were good sailors.

Pedigree

His family led the migration to the Harbor.

"My uncles helped develop Lido Isle, built sidewalks, underground utilities for The Griffith Co., Mang said. My mother went to Newport Grammar School by the pier in 1916. First grade."

Carroll Beek babysat Tim and his brother. "Just twice." "Ever left Newport?" I asked.

"Went away to school at University of Nevada-Reno, Mang said. Came back...as soon as I could."

Even in high school he took an acute interest in the folks who were discovering and growing the Harbor – the businesspeople and the celebrities.

"They mostly wanted to be left alone, and to sail, and party, I got that," Mang said.

Hollywood historian **Bob Verini** observed as much in a New York Times story in 2019, "Where Hollywood Stars Found Safe Harbor."



Ahoy: Hollywood Actor/sailor George Nader, one of many who discovered Newport's Harbor, along with close friend Rock Hudson

"There was no privacy in Hollywood, Verini wrote, but when they got on the water and beyond the three-mile limit out there, they could drop all the pretense and be their authentic selves."

"No one bothered them here," Mang said. But Mang was no Zelig or Tom Buchanan. At 13, he wedged into a small role in **Jack Lemon** and **Lee Remick's**

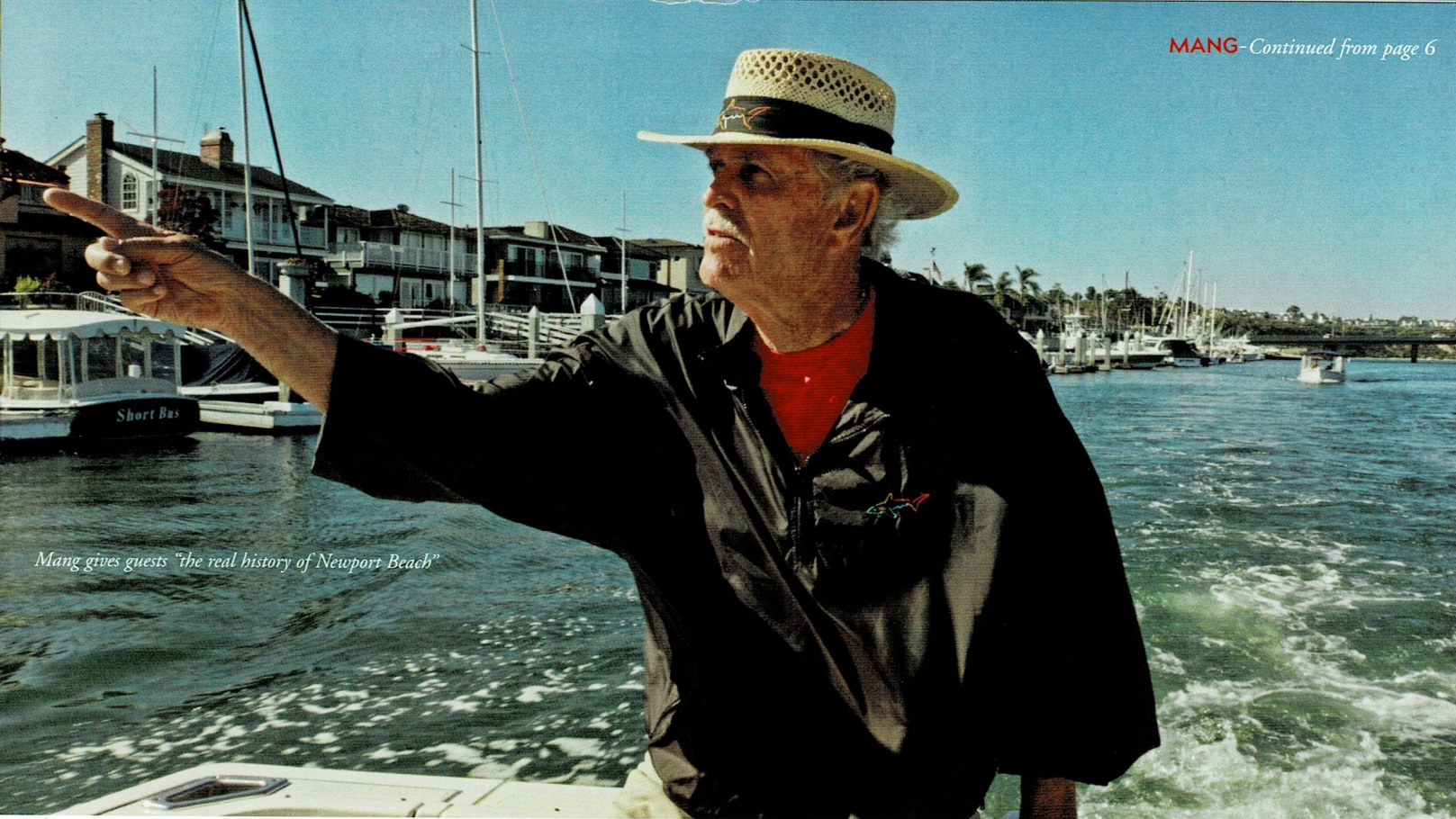
"Days of Wine and Roses." His mom **Ruth** greased his entrée, but he moved easily among Newport-Hollywood and local industrialists. He dated Candy, actress **Candice Bergen**, who lived with her ventriloquist dad on Lido Ilse.

"**Charlie McCarthy** had the bigger room in the Beverly Hills house, Mang said, he made the money."

He's lived a local celebrity life as well, beyond extra roles in feature films, and was somehow privy to stories few know and "many that I can't tell in polite company."

His Story

Tim Mang is 78, born in San Marino. His silent-film actress mom took the family South when Tim was three. 6'3 Tim Mang excelled at beach volleyball, but he'd go on to become the first inductee into the National High School Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame.

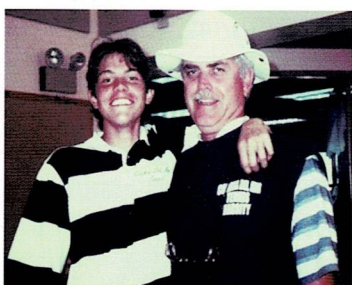


Mang gives guests "the real history of Newport Beach"

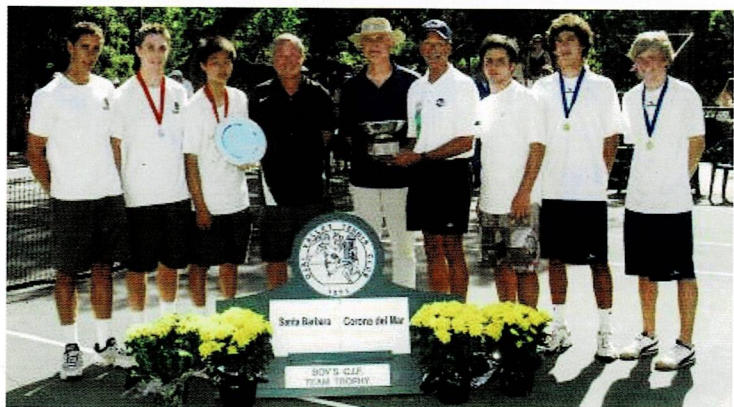
36-year coach – 20 at Edison in Huntington, last 16 at Corona del Mar. He coached 12 All-Americans, **Taylor Dent** reached #21 in the world.



Duke holds a tennis racquet – only time and looks don't lie.



Coach/Pupil: Dent topped Mang's long list of Mentees



Mang was a charter inductee into HS Coaches Hall Of Fame

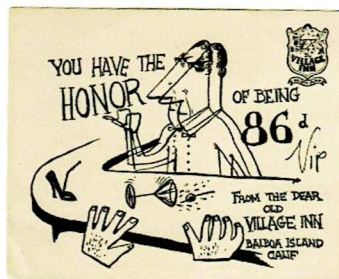
For 20 years he hosted the National Inv'l Boys HS Tennis Team Tournament at Palisades Tennis Club, next to iconic Hyatt Newporter. The Duke himself opened Palisades in 1974, with a 45-year lease for \$1. Good negotiating for an actor – the photo above said to be the only time The Quiet Man held a racquet.

Mang's spring tourney, featuring the US' most promising players, took a COVID-mandated break this March, first in 21 years.

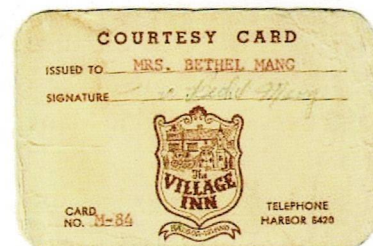
Coach Tim mentored players. Young Tim and running mates were "playuhs."

They'd live on Balboa Island in nine-month rentals, switch to the garage and sublet during spring break (Bal Week), for drinking money. They'd shift to Costa Mesa for the summer, then return.

"All the guys met at the Village Inn. The place to go. Many fun times those years," Mang said.



"Place to go," Mang said of "The VI"



As his coaching career eased, Mang had free time. The tennis coach had been told enough times that he was a pretty fair raconteur.

"I started (Harbor) tours – about 20 years ago, with my friends' Duffy, Mang said, when old friends come to town, or I'm dating somebody.

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