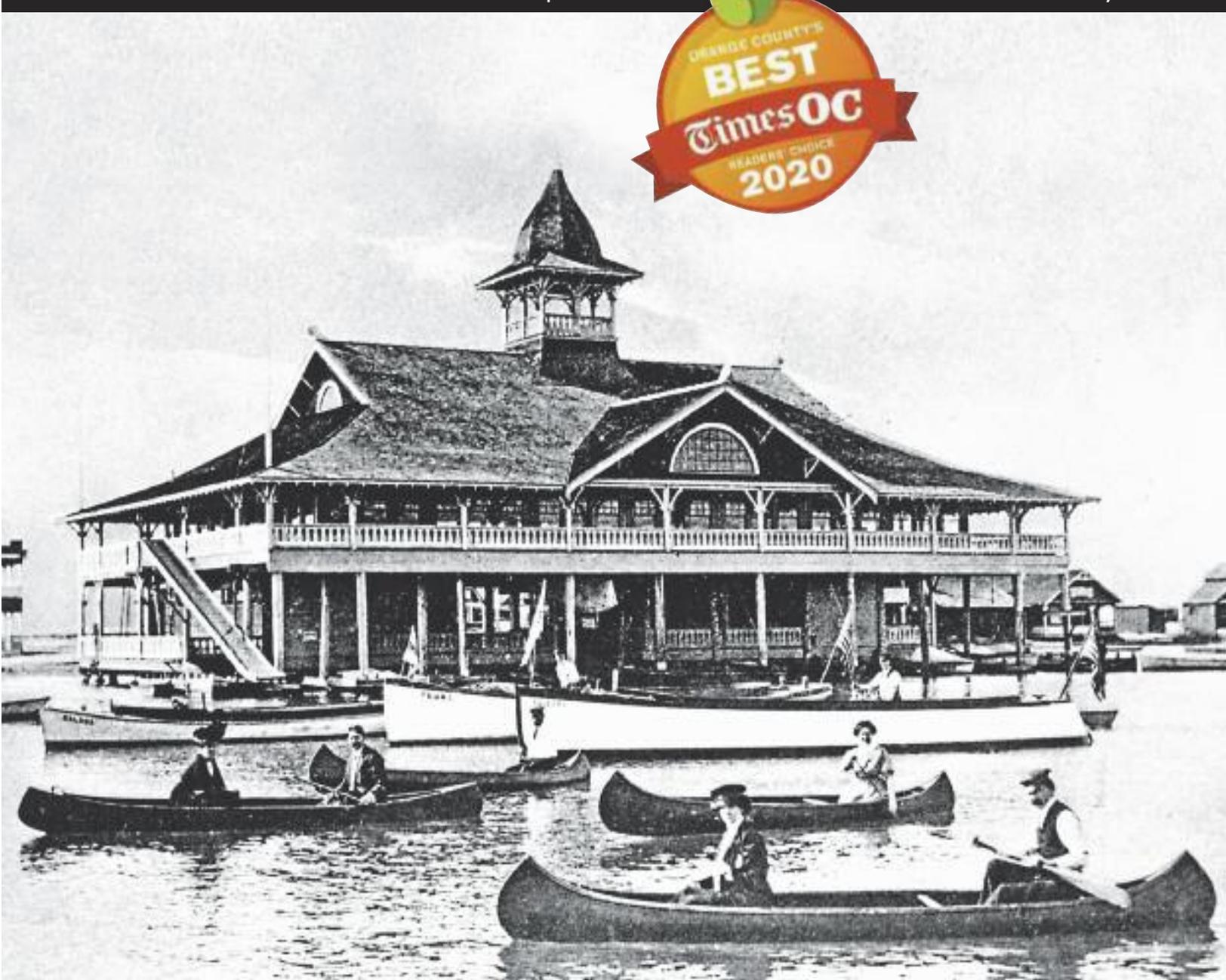


Balboa Island MUSEUM NEWPORT BEACH

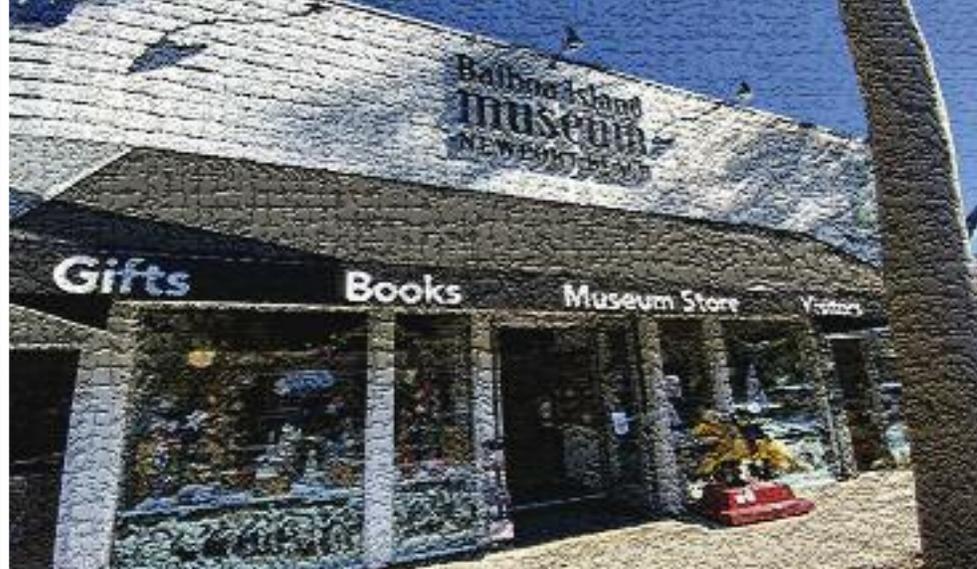
Official Newsletter of the Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach

10 Year Anniversary Issue





by Peter Weitzner



“Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach Named as One of Orange County’s Favorites”

The Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach was chosen as one of the best museums in Orange County by the *Los Angeles Times* in their Readers’ Choice Awards 2020. The others include the Bowers Museum, Discovery Cube Orange County, and the Orange County Museum of Art. “I couldn’t have been happier, maybe a little shocked,” **Shirley Pepys** said of the accolade. Pepys was the museum’s president for the last five years, and easily its biggest life force for the last decade. The *Times* story described the museum as one that “pays homage to the Island so many of us know, love and call home – and a place that continues to capture the imaginations and hearts of visitors the world over.” There are well over 40 museums in Orange County. And for the Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach, climbing to the peak of county museums marks quite an ascent. Not too long ago the museum was merely a one-room collection above Island Market on South Bay Front.

In 2011, Island resident **Sharon Lambert** contacted Shirley Pepys to look at a cottage on Marine Avenue, and the future home for the museum was discovered.



Shirley Pepys, Sharon Lambert



The vintage cottage was perfect!

The new location, just over the bridge at the entrance to the Island, was a vintage cottage, and it was perfect. It had a patio for entertaining and fundraising. The museum grew and prospered at 331 Marine Avenue.

In 2018, Pepys led the next big leap of faith by proposing a move to the former “Art for the Soul” building at 210 Marine Avenue. Pepys, now President, and the late **Jack Northrup**, Treasurer, had to convince the board. “He never got to see this and that makes me very sad. Jack’s dream



President Paula Castanon, Shirley Pepys, and Julia Argyros. (They are smiling)

was a permanent home for the museum,” Pepys said. A generous grant from **George and Julia Argyros** helped secure the new lease, and with Pepys leading the fundraising, the community met the challenge, and stepped up to support the renovation of the new home.

The “new” Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach—recently re-branded, having been established in 2000 as the nonprofit Balboa Island Museum and Historical Society, features some fifteen rotating exhibits, homages to the people and events dating to the late 19th century, that transformed the Island and Newport Harbor into a place of world renown. The exhibits showcase famed Newport developers like William S. Collins and James McFadden; the Golden Age of Hollywood on The Harbor, 1940s – 1960s, when stars from **Humphrey Bogart** to **John Wayne** found safe harbor in Newport; the surfing legends including **Duke Kahanamoku**; and seminal events like the 1953 Boy Scout Jamboree.

Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach is located at 210 Marine Ave., Balboa Island. For more information, visit <https://balboaislandmuseum.org> 949.675.3952



MESSAGE FROM NEWPORT BEACH MAYOR BRAD AVERY

Newport's Future at the Balboa Island museum

The culture of Newport Beach reflects the drive and interests of our city's early citizens who were dedicated to the success of a remote beach town with a mudflat filled harbor. Real estate, tourism, fishing, sailing, and enjoying the sand and waves were primary occupations and pursuits for many residents. This holds true more than a century later, in a city that has grown into one of the world's most desirable places to live. Our culture remains centered around family, civic

involvement, an orientation to the ocean and harbor, and building upon the successes of previous generations. Despite past local and national challenges, our early leaders and residents created strong government, infrastructure, institutions, businesses, neighborhoods, and villages.

Now a new challenge is upon us, and we can look to our history of resilience for guideposts. Indeed, Newport's long-term success is dependent on a collective knowledge of its story. It contains the values, aspirations, dreams, and determination of six generations. This is a touchstone to a bright future. The Balboa Island Museum is now curating and telling Newport's story as never before, thanks to the hard work of Museum volunteers and staff. All of us who care about our town's past and future should applaud and support their dedication. Engaging and sharing our past moves us forward.

HONORING OUR VETS



The museum is honored to pay tribute to Balboa Island and Newport Beach vets in the USA exhibit and on the museum website. World War II veteran and long-time Balboa Island resident, **Bill Stewart**, spear-headed the Veterans Project in an effort to document and recognize all veterans who have lived in or have had a connection to Balboa Island, and the Project has expanded to include all of Newport Beach and surrounding communities.

The museum has also held many events to honor our vets, including Memorial Day barbeques, and the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pinning ceremony.

If you would like to share a veteran's history with us, please call the museum at (949) 675-3952, or email info@balboaislandmuseum.org.



Visit the Veterans Project at <https://www.balboaislandmuseum.org/veterans/>

2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Opening the Wyland Foundation exhibit**, art and merchandise in the Museum Gallery, celebrating the work and legacy of its founder, renowned artist and conservationist, Wyland. The exhibition focuses on the artist's legacy, including custom-created gifts and signature artworks.



All proceeds benefit initiatives for clean water and healthy oceans.

- **Filming Oral Histories**, now numbering over 50, featured on local Channel 3.



Wing Lam and parents, Mr. & Mrs. Lee, at Oral History interview

- **New President, Paula Castanon** took the reins as president in the fall of 2020. "The museum is a remarkable place and brings us closer to our own history," Castanon said with the announcement. Shirley Pepys is staying on the board and will focus on marketing and fundraising.



Summer Premier



by Peter Weitzner

The museum premiered its first film, "**The Golden Age of Newport Harbor**" featuring Tim Mang. "What a wild time that was," BYC Commodore **David Beek** said after the screening.



David Beek, Shirley Pepys

The film premier was an outdoor event in September, safely and graciously hosted by Balboa Yacht Club. Community events have become a staple of the museum, but had to be scaled back in 2020. "We're eager to resume them", said Executive Director **Tiffany Pepys Hoey**.



Tim Mang touring Newport Harbor

For more information, visit

<https://balboaislandmuseum.org>

View the trailer at:

<https://youtu.be/B0JHyWmB44E>.

Attend the virtual premier -- balboaislandmuseum.org/events/. The DVD is available at the Museum Store and online.



A magical event

E X H I B I T S

“Boy Scout Jamboree” exhibit, homage to the iconic ‘53 mass gathering at the future site of Fashion Island, added new items, kudos to donor **Joel Holmberg**. A handmade Galleon ship joined the Beek Family Exhibit, amid a “surge in object donations,” said Collections Manager **Brittany Webb**.



Movie Stars exhibit, resident John Wayne



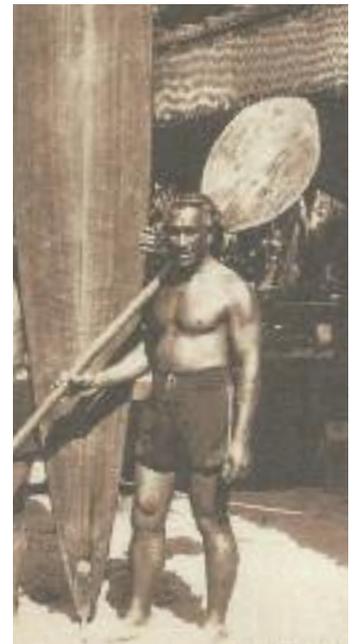
Wood Beams from the original Balboa Island bridge



The history of the Balboa Island Ferry, Beek family exhibit



Artist Wyland on exhibit



Surfing exhibit, Duke Kahanamoku



Puzzles, puzzles, puzzles!

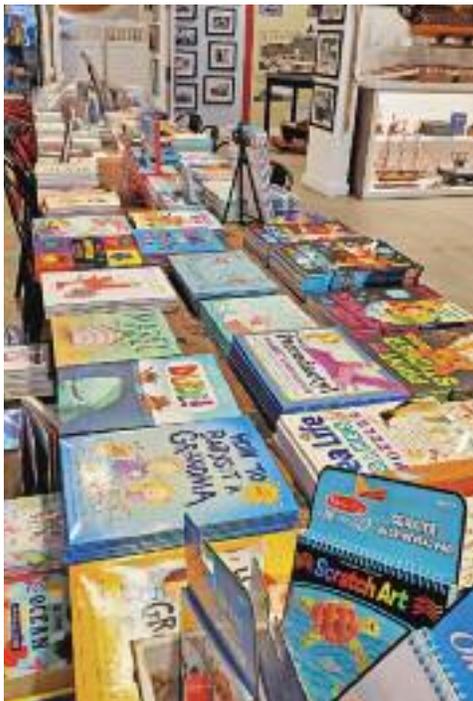
ONE-STOP ONLINE SHOPPING

The Museum Store offers a full array of unique items. There are hundreds of book titles for all ages, custom puzzles only available at the museum, art, home decor, jewelry, and more. Find the perfect gifts, or just something for you! Convenient online shopping and curbside pickup available.

Even during a challenging year, Executive Director **Tiffany Pepys Hoey** and her team kept the Museum Store open for online shopping and curbside pickup. Pepys Hoey insightfully stocked up on jigsaw puzzles, hot sellers for stay-at-home entertainment, and the Museum Store sales saw a healthy increase.



Chris McClellan ready to help



Unique Book Titles



Art



Home Decor

Join the fun, discover the Island and Newport Harbor's Rich History

Members are the support structure of the museum, partners in our mission: **To collect, preserve and promote the culture and history of Balboa Island and Newport Beach.**

As a non-profit organization, membership is a vital part of our budget. Please become a member and part of the museum family.

Thank you for your support.

<https://www.balboaislandmuseum.org/become-a-member/>



John & Karen Vallely, Bobbie Daniel, Seymour Beek



Sunday Supper at the museum



Jo Ellen and Rick Heck

Membership Levels

\$50 Crystal	\$2,500 Emerald
\$100 Pearl	\$5,000 Diamond
\$250 Topaz	\$10,000 Double Diamond
\$500 Sapphire	\$20,000 Platinum
\$1,000 Ruby	

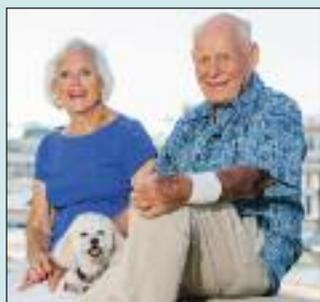
County of Orange Honors the Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach

Vice Chairman **Michelle Steel**, Supervisor, Second District, County of Orange (now United States Congresswoman Steel) joined the Orange County Historical Commission for a special meeting at the museum to honor both the museum and long-time board president, **Shirley Pepys**. Each received a certificate of recognition.

Shirley Pepys' five-year run at the helm merited a singular citation, for "...tireless efforts to find a permanent home for the Balboa Island Museum...and the generous gifts of your time and talents...serves as a shining example for others to emulate."



"...sharing this culture and history provides inspiration to current and future generations," reads the museum's proclamation, which goes on to commend "...countless volunteers, docents, staff members, Board Members and a dedicated Board of Presidents (both past and present)..."



IN MEMORIAM

Joan Kirkwood Orem Northrup passed away on Monday, November 9, 2020, at the age of 89. Joan was a long-time volunteer and docent at the museum and an active member of the BIIA. She spent a good deal of time on Balboa Island in her childhood and teen years. She attended Newport Beach Elementary School and came down from Whittier, where she was born, to enjoy Bal Week. Since 1990, Joan and her late husband Jack Northrup were active Islanders who enjoyed every day of life on Balboa Island. We will miss her lovely spirit.

Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach Making History For All of Orange County



The museum's stunning selection as one of Orange County's favorite museums in the *Los Angeles Times* Readers' Choice Awards 2020 did more than validate the incredible journey the museum has undergone in its 20 year history:

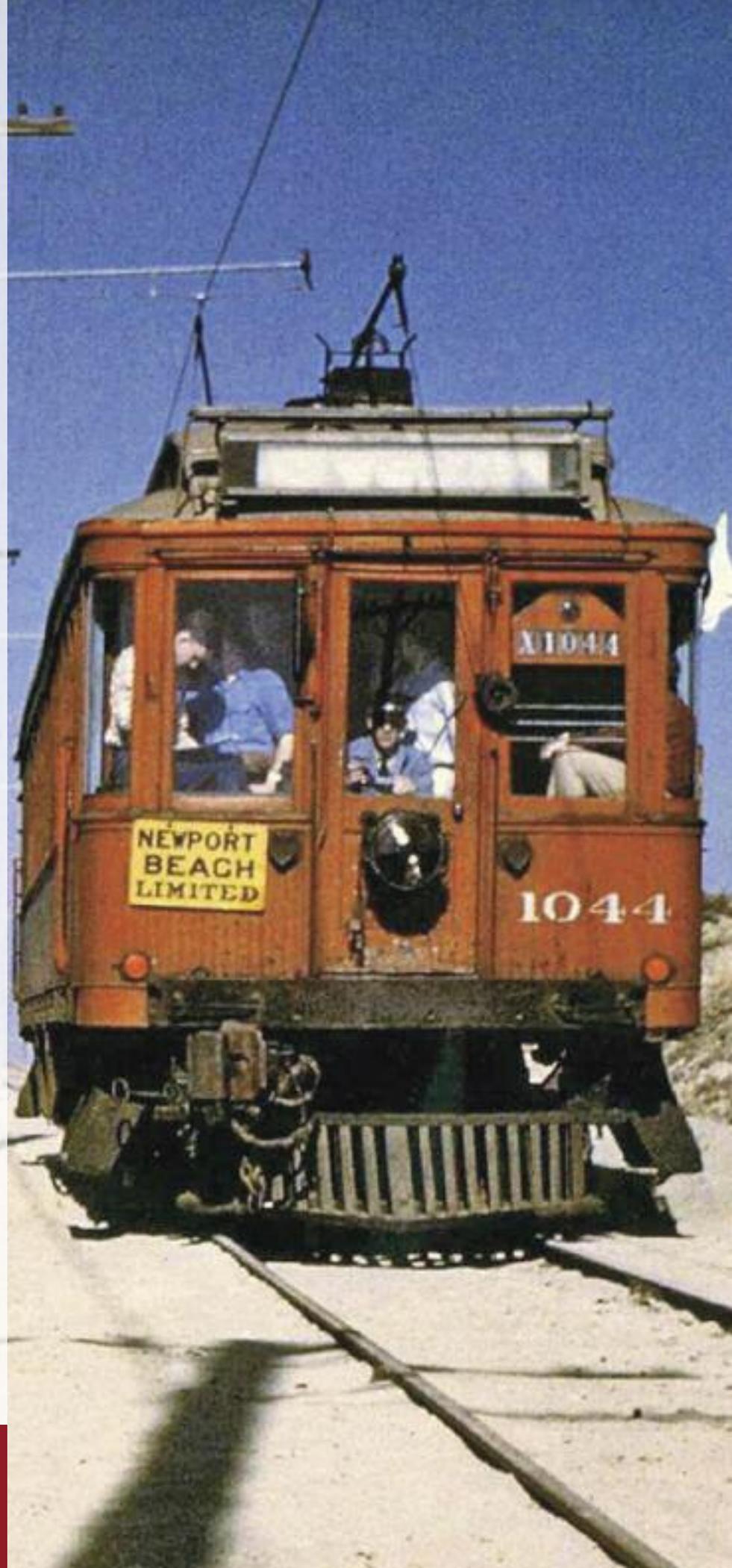
– **A physical journey** from an upstairs storage room on South Bay Front to a vintage cottage at the entrance to the island to a 2,200 square-foot home at the center of Marine Avenue on Balboa Island.

– **A substantive journey**, recognized by this latest accolade as fulfilling the museum's mission of collecting, preserving and promoting the culture and history of Balboa Island and Newport Beach.

The Best of Orange County 2020 honor also affirms the museum now transcends Balboa Island and Newport Harbor. It is becoming an homage to the history of all of Orange County.

Celeste Dennerline, long-time Island resident and host of the museum's "10 Minute History Talks," offers examples of museum exhibits that highlight Orange County and California history. These history talks are available on the museum's YouTube Channel, and include the fascinating story of **Duke Kahanamoku** and **Kathy Kohner** ("Gidget"), two figures from the museum's popular surfing exhibit and influencers on all of California's Surf Culture.

https://youtu.be/2_y5CIMtVnU



Balboa Island Museum Newport Beach

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