



### *President's Message*

## *Wishing you a Happy, **HEALTHY** New Year!*

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our December 10 Holiday Luncheon. Thanks to Holly Smith Jones and Jojo Bogard for taking on “hospitality chair” duties to help organize the event.

Thanks also to Richard and Fran Moore for patiently allowing me to recount their many contributions over the years to Solana Beach and our Historical Society. In the 1960s, Fran and Richard moved to a Spanish Colonial home built in 1928 on south Nardo Ave. At the time, the area was largely avocado groves and rural, undeveloped land. Their children, Beth Ann and Richard, tended sheep and walked the animals to the Del Mar Fairgrounds for judging during the annual State Fair. When the County of San Diego was considering a zoning change to allow widespread development of additional apartment complexes on the southern section of the city, the Moores were instrumental in generating a local petition and speaking against the measure. Richard served as Society Historian for many years, contributing to our two books on the history of Solana Beach; he continues to contribute research and articles for our newsletters and website.



Fran and Richard Moore

In addition to enjoying hearty meals and music of the season, attending members passed several important updates to our bylaws, as follows. [Click here to review the updated bylaws document.](#)

- Addition of a calendar/fiscal-year provision
- Addition of a “paid lifetime” membership category
- Authorizing the board to determine dues payment schedules
- Provision for in-person or electronic meetings/voting.

This final item is especially important as we continue to endure restrictions and honor precautions due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Once again, it appears that City of Solana Beach Community Centers will be closed, but along with Zoom meetings, your Board of Directors is exploring alternative venues. Learn more about our planned January 21st Zoom “lunch and learn” program on page 2. Your Board also will be working out details to simplify our dues payment schedule in line with the shift to a calendar fiscal-year. We’ll share information about what to expect during this transition year in the next newsletter.

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I am saddened to close this note with a fond farewell to two good friends of your Solana Beach Civic & Historical Society. We lost Suellen Lodge, an avid Crafts Group member and former Board member, in late October. And we were shocked and further saddened to learn that Bruce Berend passed away on Christmas eve. I know you will join me in opening your hearts to their families . . .

*Michele Stribling*

*January 21 'Zoom at noon' program*

## ***Artist Jim and Anne Hubbell's Magical Home and Studio***



**Join us at noon on Friday, January 21, 2022** to “lunch and learn” about our local, living treasure — the visionary artist Jim Hubbell and his remarkable mosaic and glass home near Julian. Marianne Gerdes, Executive Director of the Ilan-Lael Foundation, which sustains the property, will speak to us about Jim Hubbell, his self-built home, and his extraordinary art outreach programs here in San Diego, in Baja, Mexico and around the Pacific Rim.

The Hubbells established the Ilan-Lael Foundation in 1982 to help sponsor public art projects, lectures, seminars and exhibitions in San Diego and Tijuana. Among the programs

the foundation has inspired Some include ArtWalk San Diego, KidzArt and an award-winning newsletter about San Diego's downtown development called Hidden Leaves.

Ilan-Lael translates from Hebrew to “a tree that unites the physical and the spiritual,” integrating art, nature and community in a dynamic setting. The name Ilan-Lael was first given by artist James Hubbell and his wife Anne to the structures they designed and built as both home and studios over the past 60 years on 10 acres near Santa Ysabel.

Hubbell started building the first of 11 organically inspired structures in 1958. The intent was to create a home that appeared to grow out the landscape, using the natural shape and materials of the land. The first few structures were built with no bulldozers: all footings were hand-dug and wildflowers were kept and appreciated for their beauty. The architectural styles of the buildings are influenced by adobe structures in New Mexico, where Hubbell lived for a time as a boy. Each building incorporates intricate details, including mosaic murals, soaring arches, stained glass windows and natural materials from seashells to gemstones. The property received historic designation in 2008.



Mosaic detail, one of myriads

Today Ilan-Lael also serves as the home of the Ilan-Lael Foundation: an art education and nature center, a retreat space, and a place for all those seeking inspiration in beauty, art and natural surroundings. During the past year, the foundation sponsored “Healing the Healers,” providing Covid workers a day of rest, reflection and renewal, as well as a Harvest Moon dinner at the home/studio.

**Lunch & Learn about the magical home and ongoing artistic endeavors of local living legends Anne and Jim Hubbell.**  
Noon, Jan. 21, 2022

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83276030101>

Meeting ID: 832 7603 0101





## Suellen Lodge

**September 30, 1941 - October 29, 2021**

Suellen grew up in Corvallis, Oregon and graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in education. She taught third grade for in Corvallis while her then-husband, Michael Laurs, completed his degree in oceanography at Oregon State University.

The family moved Solana Beach in 1970. Both of her children, Brendan and Meghan Laurs, attended Solana Beach schools, where Suellen was an active parent-volunteer. In 1982, Suellen married Eric Lodge and became a second mom to his three children, Julann, David, and Adam.

Suellen earned a special education credential at San Diego State University. She then spent 20 years as a resource specialist at Earl Warren Middle School in Solana Beach. In 1997, she was honored by her colleagues as the school's Teacher of the Year.

After retiring in 2001, Suellen loved hosting weekly dinners for her children and grandchildren, a tradition that continued until the Covid crisis of early 2020. She was active in reading and bridge groups, as

well as in civic affairs, including serving as Recording Secretary for our Civic and Historical Society and baking delicious goodies for the annual Crafts Group Holiday Boutique.

Suellen also was an avid hiker and birder, regularly hitting the local trails, particularly in the San Elijo Lagoon and the San Dieguito River Valley. For over 20 years, she and Eric enjoyed annual trips with friends to birding hotspots around the USA and abroad. She enjoyed daily walks on Solana Circle while catching up with friends and, over four decades, famously logged more than 15,000 miles walking and hiking.

Suellen was quite active until early October, 2021, just after her 80th birthday, when it was discovered that she had an inoperable brain tumor, to which she later succumbed. She will be fondly remembered for her ever-present smile, her kindness, her love of nature, her wonderful cooking and her concern for the well-being of her family and friends. "She touched the lives of many over several generations with her beautiful smile, great laugh, and generous spirit," commented Mayor Lesa Heebner in closing the Nov. 10 Council meeting. "She will be greatly missed."

Suellen is survived by her husband, Eric; her children, Brendan Laurs and his wife, Millie, and Meghan Laurs and her partner Tom Bertulis; her step-children, Julann Lodge and her husband, Fernando Diaz; David Lodge and his wife, Lara Stuart; and Adam Lodge and his wife Almetria Vaba, as well as grandchildren, Marley and Tosh Jaoudi, Sierra Laurs, Sebastian and Odin Arteaga, Mateo Diaz, Kai Lodge, and Quincy Lodge.

**A celebration of Suellen's life is planned at 2 p.m. January 2nd at Fletcher Cove Community Center.** Due to Covid restrictions, reservations are requested. Masks are required. Doors will be open to provide air circulation. Please check <https://www.mykeeper.com/profile/SuellenLodge/> to RSVP. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial donations be made to the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, the Nature Collective, or a [charity of your choice](#). For this celebration, the Society suggests that fellow bakers bring a plate of homemade cookies to help honor Suellen. After the gathering, there will be an extremely low tide — perfect for a beach walk in her memory.

## City Adopts Ordinance to Regulate New Construction

Solana Beach City Council last month approved an ordinance aimed at regulating new construction under California's Senate Bill 9, passed in September.

SB 9 allows up to four units and a total of eight market-rate units on lots that are currently zoned for single-family housing. Developers are not required to provide or pay for infrastructure improvements to support the denser housing. Under the new state law, property owners can create a duplex or subdivide the property into two lots and build up to two units on each lot.

The new Solana Beach Ordinance 521 allows two 825-square-foot units up to 16-feet in height on each lot and requires one parking space per unit. These standards meet the parameters outlined in SB 9. By capping the square footage, the City hopes to create opportunities for moderately priced homes.

"It's important to me, to the council and to our community, that our community priorities are also honored in the way [SB 9] is implemented," Mayor Lesa Heebner told the Coast News.

"We've been trying to get some sort of moderate and lower-income housing, and the only way we can accomplish that, since SB 9 does not mandate any affordability, is to use the phrasing that's in SB 9 and choose 825 square feet . . . Square footage might be what helps us produce some moderately priced housing."

She added that the parking space requirement is essential in our coastal city, which must provide off-street parking for visitors and ensure access to our local beaches.

Mayor Heeber was an outspoken critic of SB 9 during its passage through the State Assembly. Council approved the resolution unanimously.



SeaWeeders Garden Club members gathered in early December for our annual wreath-making. Cindi Clemons, Judy Hegenauer, Meg Shakibai and Jewel Edson show their decor creations.

**On January 6, 9 a.m. to noon**, you and the SeaWeeders are invited to join a crew from the Nature Collective to add 20 containers to the Rios Trailhead garden at San Elijo Lagoon. New plants will include coast-live oak, spiny redberry, and monkeyflower, plus indigenous perennial grass seed.

### *The Solana Beach Civic & Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization*

#### **2020-21 Executive Board**

President.....Michele Stribling  
Vice President.....Judy Hegenauer  
Treasurer.....Holly Smith Jones  
Recording Secretary.....Karen Grossman  
Corresponding Secretary.....Cindi Clemons

#### **Committee Chairs**

Civic Affairs.....Cindi Clemons  
Communication.....Pat Coad  
Crafts Group....Phyllis Schwartzlose, Pam Dalton  
Education.....Pat Coad  
Hospitality.....Vacant  
Membership.....Betsy Walcott  
Historian, Museum Curator.....Lisa Montes  
Newsletter.....Kathleen Drummond  
Nominations.....JoJo Dodson Bogard  
Parliamentarian.....Carol Childs  
Programs.....Carol Childs  
Scrapbooks.....Nancy Gottfredson  
SeaWeeders.....Kathleen Drummond  
Website.....Lenore Dale, Kathleen Drummond

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Digital Assets Consultant.....Sandro Alberiti  
Historian emeritus .....Richard Moore