



**JULY, 2015**

# THE WAVE *At Crystal Cove*



Crystal Cove Alliance is the non-profit, cooperating association dedicated to education, restoration, and conservation within Crystal Cove State Park



## {spotlight}

### SAND, SNACKS, AND SUNSET: THE RETURN OF MOVIE NIGHTS ON THE BEACH

With summer now in full swing, Crystal Cove Alliance hopes to breathe life back into Crystal Cove’s cinematic and storied past with the return of Movie Nights and Community Days!

For two special evenings, CCA invites the entire family to come experience Movie Nights on the beach. On July 16, young love and surf culture intertwine in the premier of *Gidget* (1959). Making a very special appearance for this event is none other than **Kathy Koner-Zuckerman**, the real-life “Gidget” who was the inspiration for the novel and its film adaptation. *Gidget: The Little Girl with Big Ideas*, will be available for purchase from the Park Store and a 20-minute Q&A will take place just prior to the showing of the film, from 7:40 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On August 13, relive the adventures on Skull Island as *King Kong* (1933) rampages its way through Crystal Cove. Admission to Movie Nights is FREE (with a \$15 State Park day use fee per vehicle) and all ages are welcome to attend. CCA will also have a pop-up snack shop on hand that will have classic movie munchies available for purchase.



Every Wednesday beginning July 1, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the Education Commons, just across the creek from the Beachcomber restaurant, welcomes the return of Community Days. Visitors will enjoy crafting jewelry from sea glass, playing historic games, exploring the Park’s science in a marine field station (historic cottage #22), touring the historic district, and much more! Starting at 1:00 p.m., a one-hour tour of the Historic District will also be available for those interested in learning more about the history of Crystal Cove. Additional information about Movie Nights and Community Days can be found by visiting CCA’s [website](#)

## {making a difference}

### SUMMER PLEIN AIR ART SHOW FOCUSES ON “FUN IN THE SUN”

From July 10-12, Crystal Cove Alliance will be kicking off the summer with its semi-annual art show, “Fun in the Sun.” An exclusive preview and reception will be held on Friday, July 10, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., with the free public show on July 11 and 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. “Fun in the Sun” proudly showcases the talents of 30 of CCA’s juried plein-air artists. Their original works of art, all of which were started and completed on site, beautifully capture the summer theme and ensure the preservation of this 100-year old tradition in the park.

Just in time to celebrate this tradition, July also marks the beginning of one of CCA’s popular summer art classes, The Great Plein-Air Art Experience. Designed with beginners in mind, the class provides a fun and interesting introduction to plein-air art with students completing a painting by the end of the class. With the first class already sold out, be sure to reserve your spot today for the three remaining sessions on July 23, August 6 and 20. Having participated in the class before, CCA Store Manager Carrie Koenig fondly recalls her wondrous first plein-air art workshop. “There is something magical about hiking on a trail and setting up an easel,” she says. “The connection between nature and art was a wonderful experience.”



To RSVP for “Fun in the Sun,” visit CCA’s [website](#). To register for the Great Plein-Air Art Experience, visit [CCA’s calendar of events](#).

## {from the field}

### EL NINO KNOCKING ON CRYSTAL COVE'S DOOR

El Nino is officially here! Over the past month, hordes of small lobster-like creatures have been washing up onto the Crystal Cove's shores—stunning beachgoers with the sheer numbers of stranded animals. Pleuroncodes planipes, or Pelagic Red Crabs as they are more commonly known, usually inhabit the warm waters of Baja California. Their appearance this far north has CCA wondering what other unusual events we may witness this summer.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently upgraded their advisory notice to a full confirmation of an El Nino event. Fear not however, as El Nino doesn't necessarily mean a bad thing. El Nino is a cyclical event that occurs naturally every two to seven years, defined by unusually warm ocean temperatures and the potential for increased rainfall in Southern California.

Students aboard CCA's Marine Protected Area Citizen Science Cruise have also been part of the scientific community monitoring the El Nino trend. Water samples collected by student research teams have given CCA an inside look at the way the ocean is responding to this natural phenomenon.

The new exhibit in Cottage #46 "Strangers from the Sea," opening on July 15, will showcase photos of some of the unusual visitors that have been spotted in the water by our partners at Newport Landing Sportfishing. You can contribute to this monitoring project by snapping a photo when you see something unusual and sharing it with Crystal Cove Alliance via [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).



## {then and now}

### COTTAGE #13 – THE BEACHES COTTAGE

Nestled on the southern-most point of Crystal Cove's Historic District, Cottage #13 is perhaps Crystal Cove's most famous landmark. It is often referred to as the "Beaches" Cottage, for its beachside portrayal in the 1988 film, starring Bette Midler, of the same name.

Before its rise to famous-movie-location stardom, however, this quaint cottage was simply home to six couples that first visited the cove as campers in the 1920s. They quickly fell in love with the area, eventually constructing one of the earliest cottages in the district. During the 1930s, a major storm severely damaged the cottage, forcing four of the six families to cut the arrangement short. This unfortunate turn of events left the two remaining families, the Parkers and the Lees, to tend to the damages.

With immense dedication, the Parkers and Lees rebuilt and expanded their original cottage into its modern day iteration that still stands today. Their cottage became one of the very few cottages to house the same family since its inception, with Phyllis Parker-Loewe and her daughter Nancy being the very last tenants of Cottage #13.

Today, the Beaches Cottage pays homage to the early art of filmmaking that was once commonplace in Crystal Cove. Although major Hollywood productions are not really filmed in the park anymore, the Beaches Cottage has been transformed into the Beaches Film & Media Center to commemorate Crystal Cove's cinematic roots. The cottage will be open to the public throughout the summer on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., when a Crystal Cove State Park docent will be available to provide tours of the historic cottage.



## {membership}

### Become a member of Crystal Cove Alliance!

Our partners are all in this together! For as little as \$50, you can become a member of Crystal Cove Alliance.

Our new program includes benefits such as discounts at the Park Interpretive Store, invitations to special events, a one-day parking pass, up to four shuttle passes, the CCA monthly newsletter and lots more.

Congratulations for our fourth quarter new member, Stephen R. from Santa Clara, CA, winner of a two-night stay at Cottage #22!

Don't miss out – [sign up](#) today as a new member to be entered into a drawing for a two-night stay for two in a Crystal Cove Cottage.

