



July, 2016

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

FOLLOW THE SUN TO CCA'S SUMMER ART SHOW

On the last weekend of July, join Crystal Cove Alliance for our summer art show, "Follow the Sun," which will showcase the work of more than 25 *plein air* artists!

Guests can meet the artists and enjoy live music, wine, and hors d'oeuvres during the sneak preview and opening night reception on Friday, July 28 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. The free public show will take place on Saturday, July 29 and Sunday, July 30 in the Education Commons, from 10am to 4pm. The *plein air* artists featured in the show all live locally in Southern California. Each original piece of art was beautifully created at Crystal Cove, truly capturing the magic of summertime at the Cove.

If observing the work of our very talented artists sparks the artist in you, express it by taking part in our popular summer art class, The Great Plein Air Experience! There are three classes left in July and August, with a few spaces remaining in each. Specifically designed for beginners, the programs celebrate our area's long history of *plein air* art.

This summer, CCA is also piloting a brand new *plein air* art class for families, the Family Plein Air Art Experience, which will take place on Tuesday, July 12 and Tuesday, August 9.

"Taking this class opened up a whole new world, having no art training or art classes in my life," says Jackie Wisemen, who participated in a *plein air* art class earlier this month. "Maggie, the instructor, said it would cause me to see the world differently and it does! It amazes me that when you're painting, the hours seem to just disappear." Tickets for the "Follow the Sun" reception cost \$50 for the public and \$40 for CCA members. The public show on Saturday and Sunday is free. For all events, a \$15 State Park day use fee is required per vehicle. To register for the "Follow the Sun" opening reception or for more information on art programs at Crystal Cove, visit www.crystalcovealliance.org.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CRYSTAL COVE MOVIE NIGHTS ARE BACK!

With summer underway, Crystal Cove Alliance is extremely excited to celebrate Crystal Cove's unique cinematic history by bringing the community together after dark to enjoy classic movies on the beach! For three special evenings, you and your family, friends, and neighbors are invited to sit back, relax, and experience a blast from the past with the waves crashing nearby.

On July 14, join us for our first movie night, *Tell It to the Marines* (1926), a beloved silent movie featuring a gruff Marine sergeant and a handsome new recruit competing for the affection of a Navy nurse. Popular MGM character actress, Carmel Myers, who plays an exotic South Seas tribal princess in the movie, reportedly claimed that she had filmed at Crystal Cove, leading some to believe the "tropical village" scenes in the movie were filmed here. Although this Crystal Cove connection is not confirmed, *Tell it to the Marines* provides an entertaining venture into the heyday of big-budget, silent films of Hollywood in the Roaring 20s.

On July 28, we will be showing *Some Like it Hot* (1959), one of the greatest film comedies of all time,



MAKING A DIFFERENCE – Cont.

starring Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis, and Jack Lennon. When two male musicians witness a mob hit, they are forced to escape disguised as an all-female band. Watch as mayhem unravels when troubles arise as this duo attempts to keep their true identities hidden.

On August 11, come watch *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* (1954) a Walt Disney classic and the first science fiction film shot in CinemaScope. In this film, a naturalist, Professor (Pierre) Aronnax, his assistant, Conseil, and a professional whaler, Ned Land, join a US expedition which attempts to unravel the mystery of why so many ships have been lost at sea.

Admission to Movie Nights is free, with a \$15 State Park day use fee per vehicle, and all ages are welcome to attend. Each film begins at 8pm. Don't forget to bring a beach chair and/or a blanket! Retro style candy and refreshments will be available for sale.

FROM THE FIELD

THE BLUES ARE BACK!

As thousands of vacationers flock to Crystal Cove's beaches for the summer, a group of much larger visitors arrives in our waters as well. Blue whales, the largest animals to have ever existed, are a common sight during the summer months in California.

These giants can grow up to 100 feet in length, and can weigh nearly 200 tons. Their tongue alone weighs as much as an elephant, and their heart is the size of a car. Despite their size, blue whales feed exclusively on tiny krill that are less than an inch long. A single blue whale will often eat up to 4 tons of krill a day!

The local group of blue whales that passes by Crystal Cove is known as the eastern North Pacific population, and they travel between Alaska and Costa Rica, spending the summer months near California's coast. The population is estimated to be around 2,500 individuals, and it is the only population to have recovered to its original population size since whaling was banned in the 1960s.



For the best chance at spotting these ocean giants, hop on a whale watching boat run by CCA's partners at Newport Whales! Newport Whales offers four 2.5 hour whale watching trips a day. Visit newportwhales.com to reserve your spot!

THEN AND NOW

THE COLONY BY THE SEA - CELEBRATING THE 4TH OF JULY AT CRYSTAL COVE

"Bonfires and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other" was how John Adams said the Declaration of Independence of the 13 original colonies should be celebrated, and at Crystal Cove — an original seaside colony at one end of the continent — this was exactly how the Fourth of July was celebrated for decades. Like the firecrackers and 40-cent hamburgers once sold at Crystal Cove's seasonal store, or the illuminated flotillas once made from wooden planks and highway flares, bonfires are now part of a bygone beach era — but visitors still return to the timeless Cove traditions of community and freedom on the Fourth of July.

The outdoor circumstances of the colony at Crystal Cove helped inspire its unique community customs. The hand-built cottages and summer tents originally pitched on the then-private Irvine Ranch land were simple shelters. Their main feature wasn't luxurious beach seclusion but temporary indoor quarters for outdoor living. This common outdoor living created connections among neighbors from all walks of life — to each other and to a shared place.

The community-building effect of the Cove's scrappy vernacular settlement is reflected in its year-round celebratory spirit where there was always a reason to gather family and friends. From the raising of the martini flag to the annual tree-lighting, the cultural customs inspired by tide, sun, and season have always been festive, but they've also been

opportunities to strengthen community with returned-to traditions and holidays like the Fourth of July. For a place where every night was Saturday night, and every Saturday night was New Year's Eve, the shared outdoor holiday of Fourth of July was also a fitting farewell to an era in Cove history. As the last official holiday celebrated by the resident cottage community in 2001, that Fourth of July marked the transition of an 80-year idyll for cottage families, and the beginning of a new era of a larger community at Crystal Cove, built upon and inspired by the historic one. Just as tent campers returned every summer to enjoy the Cove's carefree lifestyle and reunite with friends back then, now families return on Fourth of July to do the same. Today, visitors might gather at a vintage restored cottage instead of a thatched-roof shack, or raise an umbrella instead of a tent at a favorite spot on the sand, or share a picnic instead of a cookout, while still carrying on the Cove's timeless practices of community.

The historic district of Crystal Cove State Park now preserves the artifacts and cottages of the original seaside colony, as well as its spirit of carefree community — a legacy that shines as brightly now as a Fourth of July bonfire on the beach did then.



Become a Member

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.

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.



**CRYSTAL COVE
ALLIANCE**