



JUNE, 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

CCBC 10th ANNIVERSARY – A CRYSTAL COVE STATE OF MIND: Happiness to all who visit this cottage

Quotations from a Decade of Cottage Guest Journals on the Ten-Year Anniversary of Crystal Cove Beach Cottages

"We feel like California time travelers we never want to leave. Don't change a thing; everything is perfect!"

This 2009 hand-written entry from the guest journal of restored Beach Cottage #29 is one of the many reflections recorded by overnight visitors since Crystal Cove Beach Cottages (CBCC) first opened its doors ten years ago in June of 2006.

While the enduring value of the restoration of the cottages has been recognized with a decade of full occupancy -- as well as with the prestigious Governor's Historic Preservation Award -- the more personal value to visitors has been preserved in the heartfelt words recorded in the cottages' guest journals since CBCC's opening on June 26, 2016.

As Laura Davick, Crystal Cove Alliance's founder recalls: "The first night we opened, I ran down to Barnes and Noble and purchased 17 journals ... and I said we are starting a new tradition of capturing everyone's memories and experiences here." This "new tradition" for CCBC was in keeping with Crystal Cove's history of fun and meaningful community-building traditions.

Just as Laura hoped they would, the guest journals have "captured memories and experiences" that reflect the diversity of CCBC's guests. Ranging from whimsical to profound, each individual journal entry is as distinct as each individual cottage, but all are connected by the single theme of gratitude. As Laura says, "When you read these journals, the thing you hear over and over again is that it has been the best experience for my family," and this gratitude is not only for the good fortune of landing a reservation at Crystal Cove beach cottages, but a more expansive gratitude "that such a place does indeed exist," and continues to be preserved and restored for future generations. On CBCC's ten-year anniversary, Crystal Cove's history of being discovered, loved, and protected endures with the cottages' restoration and opening as lodging and common public spaces. This anniversary is an opportunity to share reflections from guests who have been inspired by Crystal Cove, and become part of its most recent traditions and living history.

"The state's creation in this great location fills us with elation." Cottage #19B CREW'S QUARTERS (2006)

"Wonder at the tide pools ... wait for the trumpet to signal the Martini flag ... watch your grandkids fall asleep." Cottage #18 SUNSET BUNGALOW (2007)

"May all who stay in the Shell Shack cottage enjoy this very special place." Cottage #2 SHELL SHACK (2008)

"A longing to stay and never leave. You have left a part of yourself here, and are taking a part with you." Cottage #18 SUNSET BUNGALOW (2008)

"What a magical place to detach from our hectic fast-paced life and re-connect with the sea and all its beauty!" Cottage #29A/B LONG BOARD LODGE (2009)

"The withdrawal from electronics is painful for teenagers, but given a little space and time, they come around and engage in the simple joys the cove offers." Cottage #37 FISHERMAN'S PERCH (2012)



SPOTLIGHT – Cont.

“Crystal Cove is a magical place that bridges any gaps of separation. It doesn’t matter how old you

“We began our day ... to the sounds of crashing waves and errant sea birds. I am overcome by the idyllic retreat that is Crystal Cove.” Cottage #40 CREEKSIDE STUDIO (2013)

“Relax ... leave worries behind, take walks holding hands, nap daily, be grateful for the day, breathe in the air or where you come from: you’re destined to leave this place a better person.” Cottage #1 CREEKSIDE STUDIO (2012) ocean.” Cottage #18 SUNSET BUNGALOW (2014)

“At the beach, life is different. We live by the currents, plan by the tides and follow the sun.” Cottage #33 ROMANTIC RETREAT (2015)

Happy Ten-Year Anniversary to Crystal Cove Beach Cottages from a decade of grateful guests for what they have called “the gift” of time at “this special, magical place,” made possible by the collaborative vision and support that continues to sustain Crystal Cove.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

SUMMER FUN AT THE COVE!

Don’t let June Gloom get you down this month! Even if the skies are still gray overhead, summer is already starting in Crystal Cove State Park’s Historic District.

The Great Plein Air Art Experience has long been a summer favorite of art-loving visitors to the Cove. Starting on Tuesday, June 14, CCA is offering five public workshops which will introduce participants to Crystal Cove’s long tradition of plein air art. Registration is required, and classes often sell out far in advance, so sign up early! More details are available on CCA’s website.

This summer, CCA is also piloting a new plein art program called The Family Plein Air Art Exploration! These fun family workshops are intended for parents, grandparents, and children ages 8 and up. During the three-hour program, family teams will explore the basics of plein air painting, and then work together to create a fun still life that captures the summer spirit of the Cove, as each family member creates their own masterpiece. The Family Plein Air Art Exploration will be held on Tuesday, July 12 and Tuesday, August 9. Visit CCA’s website to register!



FROM THE FIELD

CITIZEN SCIENTISTS WANTED FOR THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL BIOBLITZ

Crystal Cove’s tidepools provide both beauty and insight into the biodiversity and health of our ocean ecosystems. On Saturday, June 11, you and your family are invited to join Crystal Cove Alliance and Crystal Cove State Park as we take place in California’s inaugural coordinated statewide coastal bioblitz, Snapshot Cal Coast! A bioblitz enlists the help of Citizen Scientists to observe and document the plants and animals that they see in a particular place in the hopes of better understanding that ecosystem. During Snapshot Cal Coast, participants will use the iNaturalist app to document species that they find in Crystal Cove State Park’s tidepools. Their observations will then be shared online, where they can be accessed and analyzed by researchers at organizations like the Ocean Science Trust, the California Coastal Conservancy, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Snapshot Cal Coast organizers are particularly interested in monitoring target species such as California’s sea stars. In 2014, Sea Star Wasting Disease caused sea star populations on the West Coast to plummet.

Recently, Park visitors have begun noticing juvenile sea stars in our tidepools again, showing that these unique animals may finally be starting to recover. If you’re interested in coming out for Crystal Cove’s Snapshot Cal Coast event, join us from 8-11 AM on Saturday, June 11! The group will meet in the Education Commons of the Historic District at 8 am, and all ages are welcome. Park visitors can also contribute to the Bioblitz at any time during the week of June 4th-12th by visiting Crystal Cove’s tidepools and using the iNaturalist app to document any species that they observe.

To register for the Crystal Cove State Park Snapshot Cal Coast event, visit our Calendar! For more information on the statewide coordinated coastal bioblitz effort, visit the California Academy of Sciences’s website.



THEN AND NOW

COTTAGE #14 – SOUTH BEACH SUITE

From its origins as a simple palm-frond hut to its recent restoration as a spacious multi-windowed beach cottage available for overnight lodging, Cottage #14 tells its own story of Crystal Cove. Known now as “South Beach Suite” for its spectacular location and views, and as “McCloskey Cottage” for the family who lived there for four decades, the cottage was originally built in 1931 by a woman named Edith Henning. Edith first discovered Crystal Cove through its historical connection to the early Hollywood movie industry as a seaside background. Her boss, the legendary Max Factor, invented a special formula of pancake face powder in 1918 to replace stage actor greasepaint exclusively for the emerging film medium, which brought Edith to the cove for a film shoot. Edith fell in love with Crystal Cove as a real setting, and began tenting on the site where she eventually built a beach hut. Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, Edith gradually transformed her makeshift getaway into a palm-frond-covered retirement cottage with upstairs bedrooms, a garage, a deck, and an exterior wooden stairway down to the sand.

When Jane and Wally McCloskey bought Edith’s cottage in 1961, they continued to transform it with more extensive modern upgrades that included new plumbing and wiring, as well as quaint cosmetic accents such as hand-stenciled walls. Wally’s background as a contractor helped guide the cottage to a standard of construction that surpassed most of the other cove cottages. Jane and Wally’s granddaughter Jane Burzell and her family were the last full-time residents of McCloskey Cottage, and the family generously donated period furnishings and art to support the cottage’s new life as “South Beach Suite,” a place for future generations to also experience Crystal Cove’s natural beauty and iconic cultural history. One of 29 of the original 46 historic seaside cottages recently restored by California State Park and Crystal Cove Alliance, Cottage #14 still has its charming ocean-facing deck and stairway to the beach, as well as its own vibrant history of Crystal Cove

