

Capitola Sunset

Summer 2024

410 Capitola Avenue

News, Events & Information

Thank You Dave Peyton! — by Brian Legakis



Dave Peyton

Dave Peyton has stepped down from the Board of Trustees of the Capitola Historical Museum after serving three terms. Over the last two years plus, he also led the Board in brilliant fashion as Board President, taking over from Niels Kisling's long tenure in that role. Dave took on the Board presidency as an all-encompassing position. He not only provided direction and gentle discipline to his work, but did so with a grace unique to Dave. He was a right-hand advisor to our Curator, Deborah Osterberg, and aided her in the completion of three museum exhibitions. Dave worked with Niels and later with Emmy Mitchell-Lynn on the volunteer rosters and schedules. He knew

Continued on page 4



Welcome!

New Board President Emmy Mitchell-Lynn

Emmy Mitchell-Lynn recently assumed the position of President of the Board of Trustees for the Capitola Historical Museum after serving five years as a Board member. She comes to her position as a recent graduate of UC Berkeley and Cabrillo College where she studied history and archaeology. She is currently involved with archaeological work throughout the Monterey Bay Area and is on the boards of the Soquel Pioneer and Historical Association, the Friends of the Cowell Lime Works, and the Museum of Art and History Publications Committee. Most recently Emmy served as Vice President working with President Dave Peyton. She is keenly interested in helping volunteers with the challenges of scheduling. Emmy plans to rework the scheduling process as one of her new goals. Like her predecessor, Emmy has helped with the installation of museum exhibits, and she has assisted our Curator with inventorying and repackaging parts of the collection. Our recent addition of credit card transactions at the front desk was the result of Emmy's good diligence. The Board welcomes our new President, Emmy Mitchell-Lynn, with great enthusiasm.



Emmy Mitchell-Lynn



The admission free — Capitola Historical Museum at 410 Capitola Avenue, next to the railroad trestle, is open every Friday through Sunday from noon until 4:00 p.m. till December 29th

831-464-0322

capitolamuseum@gmail.com

Past newsletters

available on

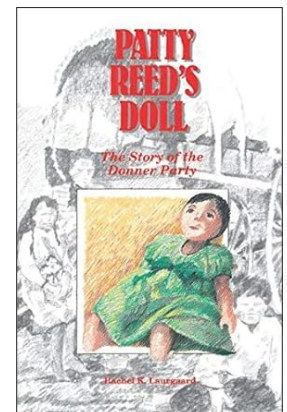
our museum website

UPCOMING EVENTS

Capitola Art & Wine Festival September 14-15

Capitola Wharf Re-opening Ceremony 2:30 p.m. September 25

Capitola Beach Festival September 28-29



Latest addition to our museum bookstore

New Board Member—Toni Alldredge by Emmy Mitchell-Lynn



Toni Alldredge

The Capitola Historical Museum is delighted to welcome Toni Alldredge as the newest member of our Museum Board of Trustees. With deep roots in Capitola, Toni's connection to the community spans generations—her family owned a mobile home in Surf and Sand Mobile Home Park for over fifty years, and her children grew up participating in the Junior Guards program. Toni has watched Capitola transform over the years and is deeply passionate about preserving its unique history. Now residing in a historic home in Soquel, her commitment to the area's history remains unwavering. In addition to her role on our Board, Toni actively volunteers with other local historical groups, bringing her enthusiasm for research and community engagement to everything she does. We are excited to have her expertise and dedication as part of our mission to preserve Capitola's history.

What sparked your interest in local history?

My interest in local history began simply by talking with and listening to longtime local residents who shared their stories of growing up in Santa Cruz County. Their stories connected me to the past. Additionally, in the process of researching the previous owners of our historic house in Soquel, I am learning about local history.

What excited you most about becoming a museum board member?

Becoming a Capitola Historical Museum board member allows me the opportunity to learn about and promote the history of Capitola, work with and support the museum's curator and other board members, and inspire interest in visitors.

What other boards do/have you served on?

Currently, I serve on the Soquel Pioneer Historical Association Board and the Historic Soquel Cemetery Committee. For many years, I served as the administrative assistant to the Personnel Commission Board for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

What's your favorite thing about Capitola?

I enjoy everything that Capitola has to offer from Brown's Ranch Marketplace to its beautiful beaches. One of my favorite things about Capitola is that the Capitola Community Services & Recreation Department offers adult and youth programs for its residents. My children, and now my grandson, have participated in Capitola's Junior Guards Program.

What is your favorite thing to do in Capitola?

I enjoy walking down the wharf and looking at Capitola Village from afar. If I close my eyes, I can see family and friends fishing off the wharf while listening to music played at the Wharf House Restaurant.



Toni Alldredge helping with the Begonia Festival

Donations

A BIG THANK YOU to those who gave generous donations to the museum in the second quarter of 2024:

Andrew Baumhardt	Richard W. Nutter
Brett Brumbaugh	Roland & Stacy Pan
Patricia Murphy-Hupp	Joe Ortiz
Kathleen King	Dave Peyton

*During Fiscal Year 2024 (June 2023 to July 2024) the museum received **\$8,270.09** in direct fundraising (bookstore sales plus mailed in donations)*

How You Can Help

MUSEUM DONATION ENVELOPE—Inside each quarterly newsletter we mail out, we provide a donation envelope. Our ongoing museum projects include continued work developing our new Native plant garden, building an exhibit case for the Capitola Wharf model, and the purchase of museum quality storage cabinets and containers for our artifacts and archives. Tax deductible donations to the Capitola Historical Museum may be made anytime. Thank You!



Garden Volunteer Mary O'Neill recently added colorful flowers.

Capitola's Sea Star — Jerry Clarke (1939-2024)

The Capitola Historical Museum marks the passing of beloved local Jerry Clarke. He moved to Capitola in 1970, where he and his wife Kay made a home on Depot Hill. For many years he served his community as a head of the Begonia Festival, as a Capitola City Councilman, serving for 16 years, and as a two term Mayor of Capitola.

Jerry Clarke will best be remembered for his work as an artist. He exhibited in open studios and was noted for his large bird sculptures. In fact, it was due to a large bird sculpture that his sea stars became popular. His sculpture of a heron entitled, "Reach for a Star" held a sea star in its mouth.

Jerry Clarke 's colorful 8"x8" ceramic sea stars became ubiquitously displayed on homes throughout Capitola over the past seventeen years. To date, over 3,000 sea stars have also been shipped out to art lovers throughout the world.

All the sea star orders were generated by word of mouth and shipped from his home. The Capitola Historical Museum proudly boasts two of his sea star creations. His grandson Dominic is continuing the sea star making tradition.

You may listen to the *Capitola Memories* oral history interview with Jerry Clark done by the museum back in 2016, available on the Capitola Historical Museum *YouTube* Channel.



The sea star represents rebirth, regeneration, and guidance.



Jerry Clarke



2024 Capitola Art & Wine Festival

The Capitola Historical Museum is pleased to be once again a part of the Capitola Art & Wine Festival. With the help of our dedicated Museum Board members and Volunteers, we will have our display of historic Capitola photographs set up across from Esplanade Park throughout both days of the festival.

The admission free Art & Wine Festival runs from Saturday, September 14, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through Sunday, September 15, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Make sure to pick up a copy of the *2024 Official Capitola Summer Festival Program*. Within the program is an article by Museum Curator Deborah Osterberg entitled, "In Their Own Words: Camp Capitola's First Visitors" in honor of the 150th Anniversary of Camp Capitola 1874-2024.

At our tables we will have a variety of kids' history coloring and activity sheets. Our table will also feature a selection of local history books and merchandise (postcards, hats, buttons, stickers, coloring books, etc.), including a selection of vintage Begonia Festival posters. All donations will help support museum programs and exhibitions.

*"Celebrate The Good Times—
Past, Present & Future"*



*2024 Capitola Beach Festival poster art
by Maia Negre*

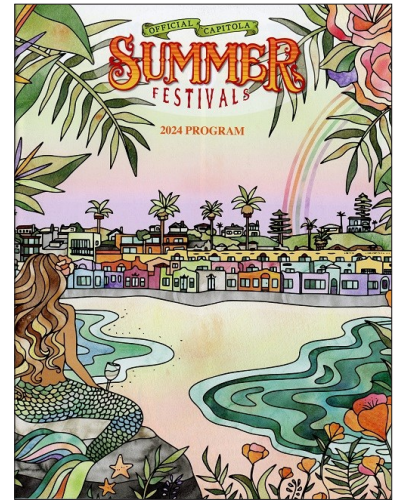


**Thank You
Dave Peyton!**

Continued from page 1

every volunteer and was a skilled recruiter for new volunteers.

His personal charm and love for the museum front desk duties made a complicated scheduling task a pleasant one for all concerned. We may have lost one of the finest Board members in the history of the museum, but we can rest assured that he will continue to volunteer with the museum and greet newcomers in the magnanimous style and warm smile that is Dave Peyton.



Cover art for the 2024 Capitola Summer Festival Program was created by artist Sabrina

2024 Capitola Beach Festival

The Capitola Historical Museum will be in the midst of the upcoming Capitola Beach Festival taking place Saturday and Sunday, September 28 & 29.

Based upon its popularity last year, we plan to again set up our Victorian bathing costume photo-op board in Esplanade Park. So, stop by Esplanade Park and step back in time to take a photo of you and a friend sporting fashionable 1880s Camp Capitola bathing style.

Museum volunteers are already at work on our float for this year's Lighted Nautical Parade which will proceed down Soquel Creek on Saturday evening, September 28th. This year we will celebrate the festival theme "Celebrate the Good Times—Past, Present & Future" by honoring Camp Capitola's 150th Anniversary with a tableau of the camp's early visitors.



Meet Volunteer Candi Stout – Interview by Deborah Osterberg

What would others want to know about you? What has led you to this time & place?

I've been fortunate to spend the last twenty-one years as a resident of Capitola. I was born in Tennessee but wasn't there long, just a few months. My father was with the U.S. Navy, and we moved around a bit. I spent much of my childhood in Oakland, then Pacific Grove while my father worked at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey.

After I became visually impaired in the early 1990s, I attended Monterey Peninsula College, where I graduated 3rd in my class. In 2002, I studied social science at San Jose State University. Since I didn't want to live in downtown San Jose, I chose to settle in Capitola and commute by bus to San Jose. It was a long commute, but it was worth it.

I love Capitola because it is so walkable and runnable. I love to climb stairs. I also enjoy running up Cliff Drive toward Pleasure Point. I have run three Wharf to Wharf races, the last one in 2018. I have also run the Santa Cruz half mile and back in 2011 I did the Fresno half marathon and the Lost Dutchman race in Imperial Junction, Arizona.

Let us know what brings you to the museum. Why did you join our volunteer docent program and what is especially important to your involvement at the museum?

I've had an interest in museums since kindergarten. My mother often took me to museums in Oakland and San Francisco. I worked at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) as a gallery host for ten years. I enjoyed greeting patrons and answering their questions about the exhibitions. I like meeting people and finding out their reactions to the exhibitions. I love almost any kind of history, especially the history of where I am living. I am honored to be involved with the museum.



Volunteer Candi Stout

Your experience at the museum have been limited to this point, but does something stand out as significant?



New Museum Board of Trustees member Toni Alldredge, Museum Curator Deborah Osterberg and Museum Board President Emmy Mitchell-Lynn at the Annual Soquel Pioneers Picnic on July 27, 2024.

I partnered with Dave Peyton at the museum desk a couple of times so far. I like meeting people and enjoy talking about history with them and with fellow volunteers. Because of my love of nature and geology, I especially enjoyed working at the opening of an Ansel Adams exhibition at the MAH a few years back. I look forward to reading Frank Perry's new book on the geology of this region.

We often refer to the docent shifts as "museum magic". Have you experienced this "magic"?

YES!

Continued on page 6

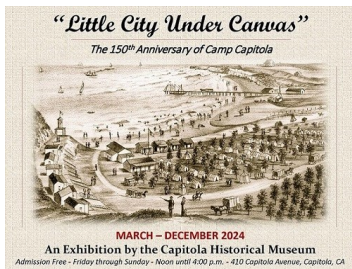
Museum Volunteer Application



**FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK**



The video of JoJo Urbancic’s 80th Birthday Bash and a supplemental oral history are now available on the Capitola Historical Museum’s YouTube Channel. The video was filmed and edited by Kathy D’Angelo.



The Capitola Historical Museum’s 2024 Annual Exhibition—“Little City Under Canvas”—The 150th Anniversary of Camp Capitola will run through the end of December 2024.

MUSEUM CURATOR
Deborah Osterberg

**Museum Board
of Trustees**

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Meet Volunteer Candi Stout—Continued from page 5
What other volunteer or community service work have you been involved with?

In addition to ten years as a MAH gallery host, I also volunteered with several social service organizations including Suicide Crisis from 2005 to 2017. When I was younger, I was inspired to do this work when I saw the Sidney Poitier and Anne Bancroft movie, *The Slender Thread*.

Do you have a favorite historical moment?

I love to learn about state and national parks and the history of land use. I am also interested in the history of women artists, like Georgia O’Keefe. When it comes to Capitola’s history, I am interested in all aspects of it and look forward to learning more about it.

Let the Curator know if you would like to be on a list of folks interested in partnering with Candi on some weekend museum desk shifts. Thanks!

New Capitola Mall Exhibitions



We initiated a kiosk exhibition at the Capitola Mall with the cooperation of Mall Manager Brian Kirk.

The exhibition contains brief histories of Camp Capitola (1874-2024) and the Venetian Court (1924-2024).

Inside the Capitola Police Annex we placed the model of the Capitola Railroad Trestle made by Chris Lundell in the 1990s. The exhibitions are located in the Mall between Target and the Capitola-Soquel Chamber of Commerce office. The trestle model, along with a model of the Capitola Wharf, were donated to the museum by Mr. Lundell’s grandchildren.

The trestle model and kiosk exhibitions will remain in the Capitola Mall into Spring of 2025. The Capitola Wharf model (which includes the Wharf House and Boat & Bait Shop on it) is scheduled to be exhibited inside the Capitola City Council Chambers once an exhibit case is built to display it. We’ll keep you posted.



The Capitola Railroad Trestle model by Chris Lundell is exhibited at the Capitola Mall with a railroad lantern and conductor’s hat from the museum’s large collection.

