



# Laguna Niguel Historical Society

**Spring 2012**

VOLUME 1 Number 1

Phone: 949-495-3974

[lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.com](http://lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.com)

## **General Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

**Watershed Center**

at AWMA Road on Alicia Parkway, Laguna Niguel, CA

**Meeting: 6:00 p.m**

### ***Guest Speaker: Dick Ramella***

**D**ick and his wife Mary are natives of Orange County born in Anaheim. They have lived in Newport Beach for the past 42 years. Dick's ancestors arrived in Orange County in 1875. Dick's professional planning career began with the Orange County Planning Department in 1959. When he left the County in 1973 he was serving as the Administrator of the County's long range planning program. He founded The Planning Center in 1975. The Planning Center is a nationally recognized land planning firm specializing in new town planning and the preparation of general plans for cities and counties. Dick retired in 2005. A graduate of U.C.L.A., he is a student of Orange County history and is currently writing his family history.

Dick will discuss the historical context in which the community of Laguna Niguel was created. He will give us his perspective of what the environment was like for the creation of a new community, what

tools were available to guide the development of a new community and what the politics were like at the time. This program promises to be both informative and entertaining.

Friends of Historical Society members are welcome to attend. Space is limited, so please make your reservation by calling 949-495-3974 or e-mail [jkrembas@cox.net](mailto:jkrembas@cox.net).

#### **Registering Guests at LNHS Outreach Meeting**



**Jeanette Krembas & Karen Langer**

President  
**Pat Bates**

Vice President  
**Bruce Rasner**

Secretary  
**Jeanette Krembas**

Treasurer  
**Jerry McCloskey**

Newsletter Editor  
**David Weiss**

#### **Calendar**

**Board Meeting** - 4th Wednesday of each month.

**Archives Committee** 10-12 noon each Wednesday.

**General Meeting** - March 28



**Preserve the Past . . . . . Promote the Future**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all ---

2011 was a very successful year for our Historical Society. Our founding membership has grown substantially and our members have volunteered and participated in our events and activities to raise awareness of our mission to "Preserve the Past, Enrich the Present and Promote the Future".

These activities included volunteering as "History Walk" docents for the grand opening dedication of Laguna Niguel's new City Hall, representing the "Good Old Days" riding in a "vintage car" in the City's annual Christmas Parade and celebrating our City's 22nd birthday with our first "Member's Holiday and City Birthday Party".

As we plan for 2012, we have many milestones we hope to accomplish. A few include fundraising to endow a scholarship fund for high school students who are pursuing studies in history and culture, and archiving our expanding collection of historical documents and memorabilia.

We look forward to having all members join in activities which celebrate the "history" of the Laguna Niguel community where we are all fortunate to live work and play



**Hon. Pat Bates**

*Pat Bates*

LNHS President



**Linda Bayme   David Weiss   Marc Winer   Betty Pequet**

## Laguna Niguel Historical Society Hosts First Outreach Meeting

The Laguna Niguel Historical Society (LNHS) treated its members and guests to a walk down memory lane at its first Outreach meeting held at the Sea Country & Community Center in Laguna Niguel on August 15, 2011. The event was hosted by the Laguna Niguel Senior Citizens Club president, and LNHS board member, Ron Langer. LNHS board president, and Founding Mayor of Laguna Niguel, Pat Bates chaired the presentation meeting. Attending were (35) LNHS members and guests, plus the LNHS Board of Directors.

In addition to President Bates' presentation on how Laguna Niguel became a City in 1989, including the many events that led up to and after it, she also presented a brief history of the Society's formation, its mission, and the planning that was underway for programs and activities. An invitation was made for all to volunteer, get involved and become Founding Members. Mayor, Gary Capata, gave a brief presentation on how Laguna Niguel has grown since its inception and the many changes that have taken place within the City to date. A question and answer period followed the program, and many of the audience participated by asking excellent questions which were answered by the various board members present.

Cake and refreshments were served while all attendees viewed the many historical items and articles that were on display.

For more information about the Laguna Niguel Historical Society, visit its Website located at: [www.lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org) or e-mail: at [info@lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org). Plans are underway to post a Facebook page in the near future.

## Scanner, Computer Programs and Equipment Needed

The LNHS would like to purchase a scanner, computer programs and other equipment necessary to reproduce and preserve memorabilia we are collecting from Laguna Niguel residents. In order to secure funds for this equipment we are researching grants that may be available to us. We recently submitted a request for a Community Services/Cultural Arts Grant to the City of Laguna Niguel. If anyone has knowledge of any other funds available for this purpose, please contact Jeanette Krembas.

Jeanette Krembas  
(949) 495-5957  
or [www.lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.com).

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## Enjoying Holiday Party Festivities



**Donna Mulvaney, Tina Vaiasicca, Pat Bates, Jeanette Krembas, and Guy Vaiasicca**

## Membership

**D**uring our first operational year we have received very good membership support from the community. Our membership has grown to 52 members. A special note of thanks to **Charles Roy** of Moulton Niguel Water District for their sponsorship and to **Darren Colbert** of DC Carpet and Restoration for their founding sponsorship. We are also very pleased to welcome **Sheryl Bailen**, a long time resident of Laguna Niguel, who recently became our first Patron Member. Thank you to all.



**Solveig Darner**

Within the next few weeks we will be mailing out membership renewals and thank everyone in advance for prompt responses. We also encourage members to help grow our organization by telling neighbors and friends about the Laguna Niguel Historical Society and suggest that they join us in our efforts to preserve our community's history. Membership applications can be downloaded from our website at [www.lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org)

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## ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

**T**he Archives Committee is the heart of the historical society. It is charged with the responsibility of acquiring, cataloging, preserving, storing and displaying the photos, documents, maps and artifacts that trace the history of Laguna Niguel.

Currently the majority of acquisitions are sitting in their temporary home at the Watershed building in Aliso Creek Park, waiting for committee members to begin organizing and cataloging. We also want to reach out to the community for additional donations.

Do you love to organize? Does one of your favorite activities involve a computer? Do you enjoy playing detective? Do you like to talk to people about their histories? Do you have artistic leanings? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then the Archives Committee is the place for you! Please join us.

**The Archives Committee meets every Wednesday from 10-12 noon at the Watershed portable located in the southwest corner of the Aliso/Wood Canyon Wilderness Park parking lot.**

Contact **Nancy Kurtz** at [ngkurtz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ngkurtz@sbcglobal.net) or 949-495-4958 for further information.

Nancy Kurtz, Chairman Archives Committee

# **Laguna Niguel Historical Society**

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## **OBJECTIVES & PURPOSE**

*The primary objectives and purpose of  
The Laguna Niguel Historical  
Society shall be the promulgation  
of historical information  
about the Community of Laguna Niguel  
and its surrounding area.  
This will include the gathering,  
storage and display of historical  
documents and artifacts and  
sponsoring of activities and events  
that will celebrate our history*

**H**istory is made every day and as every day passes more of it is lost to memory. The Laguna Niguel Historical Society has been formed to preserve the record of Laguna Niguel's past and of its new history that is constantly being created. Even though the City of Laguna Niguel was incorporated as recently as 1989, there is a rich past preceding cityhood that needs to be preserved for this and future generations. The native American population, the Spanish explorers, the mission fathers and the ranchers all had a part in our history that needs remembering. The Laguna Niguel Historical Society intends to preserve this history for future generations.

### **Laguna Niguel Historical Society**

**30025 Alicia Parkway #190**

**Laguna Niguel, CA 92677**

**[lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org](http://lagunaniguelhistoricalsociety.org)**

### **Founding Directors**

*Patricia "Pat" Bates*

*Linda Bayme*

*Gary Capata*

*Solveig Darner*

*Jeanette Krembas*

*Gary Kurtz*

*Nancy Kurtz*

*Ron Langer*

*Jerry McCloskey*

*Betty Pequet*

*Bruce Rasner*

*David Weiss*

*Judy Whitelock*

*Paul Whitelock*

*Marc Winer*