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FREE VENICE

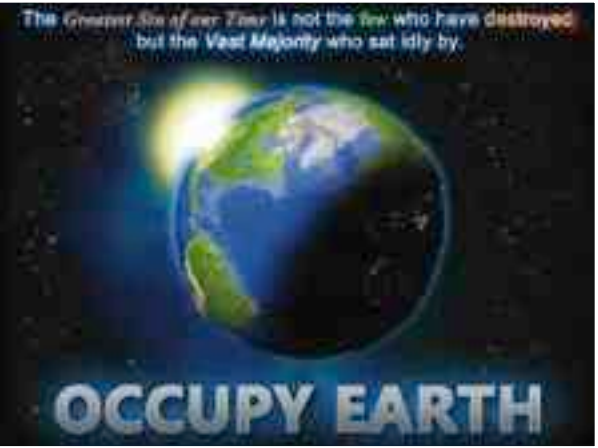
SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD



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November
2011
#361



Occupy Portland



Occupy Chicago



Occupy
L.A.



Occupy Wall St.



Occupy San Diego



Occupy Oakland





Beachhead Collective Staff: Karl Abrams, Greta Cobar, Don Geagan, Mary Getlein, CJ Gronner, Roger Linnett, Ron McKinley, Yolanda Miranda, Jim Smith, Alice Stek.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry or graphics of interest to the Venice community.

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Nether Regions of The Beachhead

Dear Beachhead,
I think you will be pleased to know I found Google googling The Beachhead. In searching for material on “Delta smelt U.S. Fish and Wildlife findings” I was directed to
http://freevenicebeachhead.wordpress.com/2011/03/01/water-crisis-the-delta-and-us/ where I found my own article from the March issue. I am enjoying the experience of being referred to myself. But there is a downside. I was looking for new material.

DeDe Audet

Homeless Emergency Task Force

Dear Beachhead,
Here are some of my comments based on the proceedings of the Homeless Emergency Task Force Mtg held Thurs, Oct 26. 10 participants.
First and foremost, I believe establishing a forum for dialog is key to resolving our challenges in the community. I am glad to be part of bringing more awareness to all affinity groups....

Winter Shelter

Informal survey taken myself before attending mtg. on Thurs evening as people waited for bus. In line stood about 30 people and the line continued to grow. Many offered their input. Their shelter experience is currently a positive experience - clean bed, healthy food, LAHSA mgmt team polite and respectful. Noted though that only a couple of women were in line waiting for the bus. Also no one under 30 was present.....did hear need for beds outweighed number of beds available.

Task Force to seek further funding options, public and private, provide more beds until the full Winter shelter program is open at the beginning of December. Also offer changes to layout to encourage more participation from women and youths such as more clearly defined separate quarters.

Also some participants of the task force suggested visiting the shelter to learn first hand. Linda Lucks to provide more details

LAMC 42.15

Some members of the Task Force suggested supporting the passage of the proposed revision to LAMC 42.15. Linda Lucks to send out details. Others suggested letter writing campaign to local papers too.

Other related topics

Some of the participants on the Task Force expressed concern about food distribution on the boardwalk. Some spoke about the impact to tenants that owned eating establishments and impact to tourism.

Part of my role was to remind the group of our collective basic human rights. Others did the same. As well, I am reminded of more than one story of tourists that have approached me during times when food is distributed acknowledging their curiosity and goodwill towards others. Additionally I am told of many instances of tourists approaching food distribution stations to offer monetary contributions along with words of encouragement. Even Anthony Hopkins is seen regularly leaving donations.

Another concern was that people that could afford to pay for food at eating establishments were assumed to be participating in the food giveaways as recipients. My informal survey did not substantiate that claim at this point. I suspect those making that claim may feel undue pressure at work to maintain their employment status or business operating. Their fears about losing profit are real concerns but food giveaways to feed people that are hungry who cannot typically afford this basic human right should not be use as the main cause. Our current economic situation in the country and abroad is declining. I suggest those members engage in political causes to change current policies that remove corporate loopholes for large multinational corporations so that small business owners have a fair chance at existence as opposed to targeting an already at risk group. Venice as well reminded by the current President of the Neighborhood Council has always been a place were those that have and those that have little co-exist.

I was asked how many people that are defined by our society as homeless are dealing with mental illness? My estimate was 25%. One problem I see eve-

Thanks for your generous donations!

Electric Lodge
Ed Ferrer
Mary Getlein
Great Western Steak & Hoagie Company
Arleen Hendler
Sydney Lovelace/L.A. Surf and Swim
Nutritional Warehouse
Rebekah/Michael Ozier
James Schley

ryday is that the needs of those individuals with mental illness are being blantly ignored through society, because we as a collective are allowing this to members of our society.

As well I was asked how many people did I believe refuse any services at all. Frankly as I mentioned to the group I am appalled at the term service resistant. To my knowledge everyone I have spoken to is or has a desire to belong to connect to participate in society. Some of the participants of the task force were frustrated with my accessment but I did state I did not have a percentage to note off the top of head but I would inquire. To me you have to look at your approach as well. Are you coming across as condensing or dictating or accusatory when inquiring of others? When I engage in dialog I initially see resistance from some people but as I listen to the reasons to learn about their situation then I often find out most are actively involving in some form of service.

Yes, there are services but the effectiveness of the services is rarely evaluated, and those organizations that profit on the misfortune are over not addressed which causes further isolation of the individual.

Most people living their daily life have no clue what someone on the street endures. For instance:

Young adults/kids that were in foster care until they get released with nowhere to go....

A woman who is escaping an abusive relationship that cannot turn to friends or family for fear of being hurt or those held close being retaliated on...

Mom and/or dad trying to make it but the rising costs overwhelm them to the point where they lose their home....

The veteran who is suffering from post traumatic stress disorder. the list goes on and on.

The individual who is suffering with mental illness and finds their quirks unwelcoming in a society that is very self focused...

Often women living on the streets are sexually assaulted by not only others living on the streets but sexual predators that are traditionally housed...in fact I am aware of a handful of men that we have had to address on the boardwalk in the last year.

I suggested and will continue to suggest that a coalition form of affinity groups that will outreach to those suffering from mental instability using a model that builds empowerment, psychological resilience, independence and individual growth along with shelter. A connection back to healthy mind, spirit and body....

And it was noted by quite a few of the participants that a group of younger adults/kids were reported to be creating disturbances on Venice Boardwalk through the night. This group is defined as runaways or kids without a home. I was not actively engaged with this group but will investigate to learn more about the situation.

This was not the entire list of items but provides a bit of what transpired. The task force will meet again soon.

Lisa Green



1720 Lincoln Blvd, @ Superba, Venice
310-450-4545

Benches and Tables to Remain at Oakwood Park; New Fitness Stations? Maybe

By Anne Alvarez

Fitness stations versus park benches was the most important item on the Oakwood Park Advisory Board’s agenda, Nov. 1, and quite clearly what drove Venice locals to come out and make their voices heard.

According to Lizka Mendoza Oakwood Park Director, final decision for it’s whereabouts are unknown. At one point, according to various people in attendance, during a previous Advisory meeting had been led to believe that “park benches would be removed in order to make room for the exercise equipment” this statement was denied by Mendoza and the rest of the board members.

One thing was made clear however, and that is that Venice residents most of them lifetime residents, are completely opposed to any kind of relocation or removal of park benches, which according to many like Sheila Smith, who has lived in Venice for the past 44 years, is where the true heart of the community lies. Old friends gather and play dominoes, checkers or cards on any given day, family picnics and birthday celebrations take place every weekend. It is a place where memories and tradition are kept alive.

Gentrification is a word that was used by most who took the floor, the local community mostly African American and Latino which have resided in the Oakwood park area for generations, feel their community is being torn apart by the new more affluent residents that have recently begun to call their neighborhood, home, and they turned out in force to make sure that doesn’t happen.

Not only do residents oppose the proposed site for the exercise equipment, but they want more park benches added as well as an outdoor restroom.

Not one person was opposed to having outdoor exercise equipment provided, Shaylon Williams from the Venice Bulldogs said “Having a fitness area is a great idea.” 95 percent of those who spoke voiced their concerns about the location, while the other 5 percent were concerned with trash and safety. All made valid points and everyone present at the meeting clearly cares about the future of the community.

Make your voice heard by sending an email to Jon Kirk Muri jonkirk.mukri@lacity.org or calling 213-202-2656 at Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Dept., tell them you oppose any attempt to move or relocate any existing park benches at Oakwood Park, let them know bathrooms and proper lighting are imperative in keeping the Park and community safe and clean. 🚲



Above: Crowd at Oakwood Park Board meeting.
Below: Jataun Valentine tells Board to keep the park benches.

Photos by Jim Smith



Fighting the Postal Monolith

By Jim Smith

Venice has always risen to the challenge when an outside force has threatened our community. Over the years, we have prevailed numerous times against developers and the city of Los Angeles.

During the past six months a broad coalition has been built to oppose the US Postal Service plans to close our historic post office. Unlike our battles with local developers and the City, the USPS has been a shadowy monolith 3,000 miles away. There has been no human face to focus on and apply pressure. How do you fight something that has no concept of negotiations or compromise?

Nonetheless, we have collected petitions, filed appeals, held meetings and rallies (another is scheduled for Nov. 5), and in general, raised hell. A broad coalition of Venice organizations and individuals has been formed that includes the Free Venice Beachhead, SPARC, Venice Arts Council, Venice Neighborhood Council, Venice Peace and Freedom, Venice Stakeholders Association, and Venice Town Council. Other organizations and individuals are welcome to join.

Even so, the only break in the monolithic face of the USPS occurred on Oct. 31, when about 40 of us met with Ruth Goldway, Chairperson of the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). Goldway is a Venice resident, former Mayor of Santa Monica (as Ruth Yannatta), and is in sympathy with our desire to save the post office.

The PRC is the body that oversees the operation of the Postal Service. A number of Venetians have

appeals of the closing pending before this body. Unfortunately, Goldway has to recuse herself, or abstain, from participating in the deliberations because it concerns her local post office.

Goldway made it clear that she cannot snap her fingers and make the USPS leave our post office alone. She started our meeting by telling us that her Commission has three Republicans and two Democrats (including her). If this majority was reversed we might not be facing the closing of more than 3,000 post offices and the layoff of 120,000 workers.

It could have been reversed, Goldway told us. President Obama made an appointment to the Commission, but he appointed a Republican! As a result, there is no internal mechanism to stop the self-destruction cycle of the Postal Service. Goldway also told us that the House of Representatives is not likely to be much help because of its domination by Republicans. Perhaps this is why the USPS paid little attention to Rep. Janice Hahn when she wrote on behalf of our post office.

It wasn’t all bad news. Goldway also pointed out some possible ways to get our case heard in Washington, including:

1. Contact our Senators, Feinstein and Boxer. Please make a call or send an email. Boxer: (202) 224-3553 www.boxer.senate.gov/en/contact/ Feinstein: (202) 224-3841 www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me

Why Saving the Post Office is important to our community

The Venice Main Post Office was built under the New Deal’s Works Project Administration and includes a cornerstone dated 1939. This historic building has been at the center of Venice community life for 72 years.

It is located on the central plaza in the Windward commercial district. It is constantly busy with postal customers arriving on foot, by bicycle and auto. There is no busier building in the Venice community. Generations of Venetians have patronized this building on a regular basis throughout their lives.

Upon climbing the stairs or handicap-accessible ramp, we enter an attractive lobby with a deep wood finish. Their eyes automatically turn to the beautiful and well-preserved “Story of Venice” mural by artist Edward Biberman on the south wall. The mural was painted in 1941 by the famous artist, and is his last surviving mural. It is seen by hundreds of people per day, thanks to its position in the post office lobby.

The aesthetic charm of the building, and the museum-quality art in the lobby, is beloved by this community, which is filled with artists, poets, muralists and connoisseurs of art.

The character of the Venice community as an arts haven means that the blow to the community of losing both the building and the mural is far greater than it would have been if it were a nondescript building that was bereft of art. 🚲

Fighting the Postal Monolith

–continued from page 3

- 2. Make it difficult to sell the Post Office. Venice already has a reputation for being feisty. Let’s hold more rallies and protests that may frighten off prospective buyers. Just because the property is on the market doesn’t mean it will be sold.
- 3. Make sure that we have the strongest historical preservation restrictions possible. The same goes for the Biberman mural. Public access to the mural must be guaranteed.
- 4. Make the case that the transfer of services to the annex amounts to a partial closure. The

USPS claims it is not closing the post office, merely relocating it. However, the number of customer service windows in the annex would be two, compared to the current five windows. This amounts to a partial closure. The willful lack of maintenance, including a dirty entry way, a graf-fiti covered FedEx box, and sidewalks that haven’t been sandblasted for years shows that the USPS has disdain for its customers. The Postal Service is trying to shoehorn everything into a small building. According to Architect Michael King, the Post Office building is 23,700 square feet, while the Annex is only 15,890.

In addition, please help with legal expenses by making a contribution by paypal on the the VSA website (venicestakeholdersassociation.org) - there is a separate “button” for Save the Venice Post Office - or by sending contributions directly to our attorney, John Henning, with a notation on the check that says “Venice Post Office”, at: 125 N. Sweetzer Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90048. There is a separate trust fund for this project. ☺

**A True Hearted Venice Beach Wedding,
Held In The Heart Of Venice
October 15th, 2011**



**With Bare feet In The Sand
Miss Rebekah Schultz Gave
Mr. Michael Ozier Her Hand
In Marriage And Life Lasting Love.**

**A true celebration of Mike & Rebekah's
love for each other, as well as for the lives
they live together, here in the Venice
community. The wedding festivities
began with a renegade beach ceremony
with 125 of their closet friends. And they
finished the night riding away on a
'Just Married' Tandem Bicycle, trailing
cans and streamers galore!
Best Wedding Ever!**

After 20 years, Ocean Blue closes its doors On the Venice Boardwalk

By Kathy Leonardo

When I first came to Venice, before I even moved to Los Angeles, I remember a store on the boardwalk called Ocean Blue. It had such cool stuff, mermaids with wings, flying high above my head, colorful painted wood framed mirrors in the shape of a sun, the smell of incense and candles burning as well as beautiful sterling silver jewelry. Back in the 90’s I would buy gifts for my NYC friends there, at Ocean Blue, to bring back to the East Coast.

I just found out that it soon will be closing...after 20 years. I recently met the owner of Ocean Blue, Larry Gutin who told me a bit about his story and how long the store had been in his family. “My Dad started a T-Shirt business on the beach back in 1978. Back in those days, Venice had stalls that you could rent and sell your wares.” Since his parents were divorced, Gutin lived with his mother in New York but would spend the summers in L.A. with his Dad. In 1982 Gutin’s older brother Jeff, took it over. Then in 1983 Larry moved to L.A. and worked while he went to college.

In 1990, Gutin traveled to Indonesia. He fell in love with Bali and the beautiful arts and crafts made there. Larry shipped some merchandise back to his brother Jeff, to see if it would sell. It was indeed a huge hit in Venice and Gutin continued to bring beautiful items from Bali to sell at Ocean Blue. Silver Jewelry was added to the product line at Ocean Blue. His brother decided to retire from the business, leaving Gutin as the sole employer.

The economy definitely affected sales at Ocean Blue in the last four or five years, but Gutin managed to stick it out with the help of the Venice community’s support. When asked if he is sad about closing, he shrugs and says, “It’s time for a change.” Gutin is considering starting a new business, but in the meantime has decided to go out with a bang!

On December 4, Ocean Blue will throw a party, as a thank you for the community, from 2 - 5 p.m. There will be live music, art and poetry as well as a huge sale. Everything in the store marked down by 50 percent. Refreshments and snacks will be served. Performers featured will be Ava Bird, John Clinebell, Greg Cruz, Geoffrey J, Kathy Leonardo and a special guest performance by the Jingle Bell Rockers.

When asked why he continued the business for so long, Gutin explains, “Everyday I would meet smiling tourists from all over the world. It was a great place to come to work everyday not to mention that when I built the store I made sure the register had a direct view of the beach and its sunsets.”

Larry Gutin is a big supporter of the arts. Each month, Ocean Blue would participate in the Venice Art Crawl featuring local artists at their store. He also has consistently donated merchandise to charity events such as Jazz at the Palms Court and the Venice Music Festival, for their silent auction which benefitted the Venice Community Housing Corporation.

Celebrate 20 years with Larry Gutin and the Ocean Blue crew. Pick up some holiday gifts at exceptional prices. Drink, eat and be merry. Life is all about change, it’s time for the next chapter. Ocean Blue will remain open through the end of the year.

Farewell Ocean Blue, Venice will miss you! ☺



Two Views on the Occupy Movement

Unoccupied

By Greta Cobar

Occupy Venice voluntarily de-occupied the Windward Circle while all over the country the police have taken violent, extraordinary measures to do just that. Infiltrators have penetrated occupation movements in an effort to stir disagreements, fights, and ultimately to dissipate the collective solidarity of the 99%. Although the 1300 occupations taking place right now in the US have stayed strong when faced with internal strife and continued to expand in spite of police brutality, quite the opposite took place in Venice.

The Venice occupiers themselves called the police and asked them to remove person(s) from the Circle. One might think that the person(s) had to be removed because they were part of the other 1%, but that was hardly the case. The group that assumed leadership of the Circle announced that the Circle should be occupied strictly by non-homeless individuals. According to them, “this is not a bed. If you are homeless and you are just looking for a place to sleep, don’t come over here.”

But this is Venice, and it has been occupied. We’ve had hundreds of people sleeping outside since the great recession has set in. And then as soon as “Occupy Venice” signs go up people are chased out of their own neighborhood?

Although piggy-backing on the Occupy Wall Street movement, the Venice occupation was different. In Venice individuals did take charge and put themselves in a position of leadership, and adopted the motto “We are the 99% and the 1%. Together we are 100% and we are whole.” It sounds bohemian, but it does not represent Venice, which has historically embraced alternative lifestyles, including non-housed individuals.

The persons in power don’t represent Venice either. Since when do we follow someone who has moved here from Texas seven months ago, had been given a top secret security clearing, and who blatantly stated that in the past the CIA had tried to recruit him?

Perhaps we need to re-occupy the circle with true community involvement. Real Venetians who have been local activists for years or generations were quickly driven away by the individuals who assumed leadership of the circle through arrogance, self-righteousness and ignorance. The whole movement got off to a bad start when Jody Evans, of Code Pink, initiated the occupation on October 9. She was there just long enough for the photo-op, which is not to be found in the definition of occupation.

Housed or not, come out and occupy the Circle and the world!

We will start from scratch Saturday, November 5, from 4 to 6. And don’t forget about the rally to stop the sale of the historic post office that also takes place November 5, from 2 to 4. See you all there! ☺



Where’s the Movement?

By Bill Mitchell

I see no real anti-war movement in the US. Only more wars of aggression, now invading with intent to occupy all of Africa in the name on human rights protection. President Barack Obama has been getting away with mass murder as the aggressor. All while using the transparently bogus pretext of 9/11.

A “peace” symbol here and there, is not confronting the illegitimacy of “The War on Terror” as we must state loud and clear, that 9/11 was a false-flag psychological warfare operation mirroring ‘Operation Northwoods’ designed by the pentagon as a pretext to invade Cuba in 1962. <http://bit.ly/WfVgn>

In 1967 Israel not only attacked Egypt, Syria, and Jordan; it attacked the United States as a false flag provocation to get the US under President Johnson to drop two hydrogen bombs on Egypt. The was a US-Israel conspiracy that is documented in the BBC video: Dead In The Water - The Sinking of the USS Liberty: <http://bit.ly/4KKKM>

Add this “smoking-gun” expose’ by Webster Tarpley interviewed by Bonnie Faulkner on KPFA on “The 46 Exercises and Drills of 9/11” <http://www.kpfa.org/archive/id/73129>

Taken all together Operation Northwoods and the attack on the USS Liberty establishes the depravity of mind in the former and depth of treachery in the latter. They also are proof of a modus operandi, that leads to 9/11 as updated Operation Northwoods and the co-conspiracy to to murder Americans as a pretext for what are in truth, wars of aggression, prohibited by ‘The Nuremberg Principles; and the “The 46 Exercises and Drills of 9/11” together with the credibility or lack thereof of the federal government, the US military high command, and complicity of the mass media, and you have impetus and confidence for 9/11 and got it!

Nuremberg Principle VI:

The crimes hereinafter set out are punishable as crimes under international law:

(a) Crimes against peace:

(i) Planning, preparation, initiation or waging of a war of aggression or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements or assurances;

(ii) Participation in a common plan or conspiracy for the accomplishment of any of the acts mentioned under (i).....’

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/full/390>

9/11 was a crime against peace, leading to crimes against humanity and war crimes brought about in a

‘In a single conspiracy in which each person is responsible for a distinct act within the overall plan such as an agreement to produce, import, and distribute narcotics in which each person performs only one function. All participants are interested in the overall scheme and liable for all the other participants acts in furtherance of that scheme.’ <http://bit.ly/vCTWv2>

Looking at 9/11 in light of have has been exposed as lies and a cover-up by the federal government and the fraudulent report of the 9/11 Commission, taken into perspective the neoconservative or neocon document called PNAC, and their positions in the federal government and private power elite, we can name 19 co-conspirators at-large who are long overdue to have charges and specifications drawn up against them, and other key chain conspirators.:

George H.W. Bush; Benjamin Netanyahu; David Rockefeller; Dick Cheney; Paul Wolfowitz; Condi Rice; Richard Perle; Richard Myers; Douglas Feith; Montague Winfield; Dov Zakheim; Larry Arnold; George Tenet; Richard Mies; Michael Chertoff; Ralph Eberhardt; Michael Mukasey; Philip Zelikow; and John Deutch.

A dramatic facsimile of such a trial on the order of the Judgment at Nuremberg would be add weight to debunking and therefore ending these wars of aggression by showing them for what they are. A total criminal fraud, further exposing all military orders given to perpetrate these constitutionally illegal wars of aggression, are UNLAWFUL ORDERS!

In fact, the oath one takes on entering and reenlisting in the US military to to ‘...that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic...’

<http://www.history.army.mil/html/faq/oaths.html>

Most critically, all Members of the US Armed Forces must understand that they have been given, and must now reject all unlawful orders irregardless of from whom, including the white house or pentagon. <http://bit.ly/tvLWbE>

The US War Crimes Act of 1996 carries the death penalty and is prosecutable in US courts, and used for mock trails by activist groups on and off college campuses, to drive home the point that we are “A nation of laws, not of men” Therefore, we must not allow criminality to reign supreme by dent of office and mass media propaganda. Public opinion polls prove the people are not duped by the lies of the criminals in power. <http://bit.ly/uh3DPF>

Ten years after 9/11 we have no defense for silence, for not confronting propaganda that aids and abets Crimes Against Peace, a War Crime, without becoming complicit ourselves by omission.

Furthermore we must come to understand and public state that 9/11 was more than a Inside Job.” That is was at minimum a co-conspiracy between the US government, military, and business groups, with Israel using its’ Mossad agents and dual US-Israel citizens to plan, execute, and cover-up 9/11 for mutual imperialistic gains in land and resources, leading to the mass murder of millions of innocent people who have the right of reprisals against the aggressors. See Article 497: <http://bit.ly/sFyvoC>

Break the silence, challenge those in denial, study the facts, radicalize the would be enlistees before they are victims of 9/11 too. Before they become sick in heart, mind, and body; for their suicide rate exceeds battle deaths. They are being killed upon recruitment, for no man can be better than his mission. To not raise consciousness by voice or e-mail, is truly the complicity of silence! ☺



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By CJ Gronner

The 8th Annual Other Venice Film Festival was another success - and a blast - this year, featuring wonderful work from our own local filmmakers, as well as entries from around the world. The festival ran from October 13-16 this year, and it all started out with a big rager at Beyond Baroque for Opening Night.

The Featured Artist of the OVFF was William Attaway, whose art was displayed in and around the entrance to Beyond Baroque. It was great to see so many creative people all coming out to support each other in their different mediums, and something that I hope will only grow as more and more, our circles overlap.

The first event drew all sorts of local legends of skate and surf, as the Feature competition kicked off with a screening of big wave surfer, Allen Sarlo's, documentary, Work To Surf. It was the hottest night of the year in Venice, I think, so we watched the film in chairs outside under the stars - and close to the open bar. I chatted a bit with festival founder, Reuben De La Casas, before the film started, and he said they had far fewer feature length submissions this year, and the ones that were submitted were mostly documentaries, as people are into them and really, real life is better

than fiction most of the time. With the economy being what it is these days, shorts are more prevalent, and easier to produce, obviously. The economy being down also severely hampered the sponsorship sup-

port that has been contributed in past years, so most of this year's Festival was coming out of Reuben's own pocket. Ouch. Hopefully that can be sorted out for next year, as it really is a valuable display of the deep talent pool here in our Venice.

Work to Surf was super entertaining, and most deserving of the Best Feature Abbot Award that it ultimately won. Jaw dropping big wave surfing plus laugh out loud funny at times, it takes you to the "War Zone" of 1970's Venice, when, as Jeff Ho says in the film, "Their JOB was to go out and tear the waves apart!" Then they grew up, and Allen Sarlo decided to get into real estate so he could subsidi-

dize his travels to go surf big waves, and there you get the title. The working just to surf tied in with the soul surfing ethic, and Sarlo and his good friend, Mark Foo, made a pact that they would always "Work to Surf". Foo died at Mavericks on a day that Sarlo didn't go. He was crushed by his friend's death, and the film is dedicated to Foo. Known as "The Wave Killer", Sarlo is described in the film by Kelly Slater as, "The thing about Sarlo is he's just a good guy ... until he gets in the water, then he's an animal!" And now, still working to surf, Sarlo's legacy will be carried on by his two surfing kids, Sophia and Colton. I loved this film, and agree with Mr. Slater that Allen Sarlo couldn't be a nicer guy.

The bar re-opened for an intermission, and then we saw another good and funny skate film, A Day At The Pool, about how maybe a guy named Benton Shakely was really the guy who started the whole skating pools thing. After that, the party was on, and off the record.

Friday night's "Premiere Night" segment saw the brilliant short film, Admissions, (directed by Harry Kakatsakis) steal the show. It was produced by local Venetian, Gavin Behrman, who told me that they finished it under the wire, as it was important to him that it premiere in Venice. Starring Academy Award nominee, James Cromwell, as the guy at the Admissions Desk leading to Heaven or Hell, the film is a (15:00 timed) discussion between an Israeli couple and the Palestinian suicide bomber who killed them. It is so wise and well written (by John Viscount) that I honestly feel like it should not only win the Oscar for Best Short Film next time (maybe it will!), but probably deserves a Peace Prize too. Honestly. As Cromwell says in explanation to both outraged parties, "You can't want Hell for other people without being in hell yourself". It's very deep, very profound, and should be required viewing for peo-

ple in conflict the world over. After this (truthful) gushing, you will be happy to know that Admissions won the Abbot for Best Short, (voted on by the audiences over the weekend) so it's off to the races! GO!

Short Films that stood out to me on Saturday, (which ran very behind, as everyone shrugged, "It's Venice") were Sandbox Lullaby, directed by Joey Indrieri - a very dark tale shot all around very sunny Venice, and The Unicorn Girl, a beautifully shot fantastical story about a girl (local Amelia Mulkey, who also directed) - and a unicorn. Thanks to Amelia's swag of a headband with a unicorn horn attached, I also had a Halloween costume! Win, win! The New Bicycle was a good one all the way from India, by Arshdeep Singh Jawandha, about a kid who is desperate for a bike - Venice people can understand that one.

The Abbot for Best Music Video went to "Love Is Love" by Gabriela Tagliavini, and I had to miss that section as there was a beautiful wedding on the beach in Venice that I had to attend. But Congratulations to all the winners, and to everyone that participated at all! Making a film is hard work, from idea to screening, by everyone involved, and it's kind of a drag that there even has to be a "Best" of any of it. Having said that, the ones that won were really, really good.

Everyone had another ball at the Closing Night award ceremony, hosted by the hilarious Jill Jacobson. The three Abbot Awards were given out (cut back to three this year as those things are expensive) and the fact that great film making is alive and well in our community was duly celebrated. It's a special festival, and also a lot of work - done mostly by Reuben DeLacasas by himself with volunteers. There may have to be a change of venue next year, as it's all been too expensive, and even non-profit Beyond Baroque wouldn't budge much on their profit, but maybe the local community can help each other out a little more and band together to make this thing awesome - and not break one guy's bank. Venue donations, sponsorships, HELP - I think we have it in us, right?

Cheers to the Other Venice Film Festival, for a great time/s, and for giving all this excellent and thought provoking film work a place to be seen, right in the neighborhood. Bravo!!! ☺

Photo: CJ Gronner

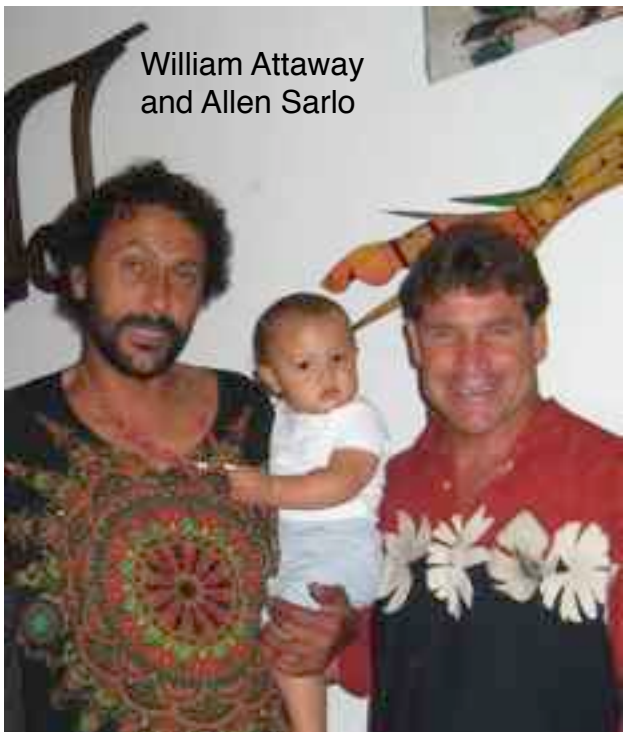


Photo: CJ Gronner

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Film Producer Reuben De La Casas and friend

Interview with Artist Raymond Dean Packard

By Mary Getlein

Raymond Dean Packard was a Venice artist from 1975 to 1989. He is a renowned water colorist and oil painter who did hundreds of beautiful paintings of Venice.Beachhead:

Beachhead: When did you feel like an artist? Did you always know you would be an artist?

Packard: Yes, as far back as I remember. After I finished with the Navy, I went to Art School on the GI Bill and graduated with a Masters in Fine Arts.

Beachhead: Did you start out as an independent painter?

Packard: No - I managed my own gallery in Akron, Ohio. Having The Packard Gallery was one of the major highlights of my life. I went to Europe once or twice and brought back Picassos to sell. My gallery was mentioned in several art books as a “cutting edge” gallery. I showed artists from all over, including works by Andy Warhol. I met a lot of well-known artists in and out of New York City.

Beachhead: What brought you to Venice, California?

Packard: It was 1975. I put it to a vote of my two young sons, Vincent and Raynard. My wife had just died and it was time for a change. I was burned out on the art business, so I played at being a business man.

Beachhead: What did you do when you got here?

Packard: At first I worked for General Motors in the Valley, just to pay the rent and support my two boys. My drinking got worse the longer I worked on an assembly line, and after two years I quit. I started showing my art out on the Boardwalk and got a favorable response from people there. This was exciting for me, and I was able to survive off my art, which is something I had wanted for a long time. Ray lived in Venice until 1989, when he decided to go into a Veterans Administration rehabilitation program and get sober. He still has clients in Southern California who buy his work. They call him on the phone, describe a painting, and he matches it up and sends it to them. One client in Santa Monica has over 200 Ray Packard paintings. “During the 1984 Olympics, many of my paintings went all over the world,” said Ray. When I asked him if he ever felt like keeping a special painting, he said, “No, never.” He sold everything he could.

Beachhead: Do you miss Venice, and what do you miss the most?

Packard:I think about Venice every day, and miss all the beautiful women I knew the most. We all had a lot of fun in those days, and those are fun memories to look back on.

Beachhead: What is the driving force in your life, Ray?

Packard: Well, art, of course, and living the life of an artist and meeting and enjoying all the beautiful women who were attracted to my art. I loved having wild parties in Venice.

Beachhead: Yes, Ray, I remember you had quite a reputation as a ladies man in Venice. When you left Venice, Teresa Daniels said, “You



had been rescued by the breasts of all the beautiful women in Venice.” Do you remember that quote?

Packard: Yes, vaguely. I loved Venice and all the eccentric people of Venice. I look forward to my issue of The Beachhead every month. I

show people The Beachhead and say, “Do you see what you’re missing living in Ohio?”

Ray is now living in Akron, Ohio with his partner, Bunny. He is very proud of his sons and grandchildren, and is glad to be sober and drug-free.

Packard: Life is tough enough, so it’s easy to stay sober. I swim almost every day, ride my bike, enjoy my family and enjoy my life. What more could one ask for?

For information on price lists, collector lists, or for an appointment, please contact Ray Packard, 1319 Shanabrook Drive, Akron, Ohio 44313 (234) 542-3950. ☎



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SONG EVER CHANTED

by the whale hunter
is a collector's item
and wafts like mountain fog
from node to node before becoming clouds.

EVERY
BACKWARD
LOOK

puts us in touch with sentiment,
and hurts less than peering forward,
for tomorrow is the shadow of today.

Even the blue jay
gloats over his stash
of brass buttons. See the octopus play
with the exoskeleton
of his prey.

The statement's convolution
confounds what is already done.

Bulldozed hillsides.
Scarlet flower bugles on the mountain top
overlook the graveyard.

Such elegant music when we make it
(for poets call it music)

surprises
US

in the act
of what we do.
The hand plays hide and seek
with the eye, and we grow
great brains

in honor of the game.

Then we dance and the music
follows at our footsteps
and we stop to listen
as it passes by.

WE
HEAR
THE MUSIC
OF

our selves!

Call it animal nature -- or name it Civilization.

from Rare Angel (1974)

By Michael McClure

Beat Legend Michael McClure Reads at Beyond Baroque

Michael McClure of Beat
Generation fame celebrated his
80th birthday at Beyond Ba-
roque, Oct. 20.

McClure was a fictional-
ized character in the *Dharma
Bums*, *Desolation Angels* and
Big Sur, all written by Jack
Kerouac.

He read with Allen Gins-
berg on the night that Ginsberg
first read *Howl*.

His play, *Beard*, was raided
by the San Francisco Police
Department in 1966 and the
actors were arrested for obscen-
ity.

McClure has published 31
books and plays between 1956-
2010.

He is known for his poems
to and about animals, some of
which he read on Oct. 20. Mi-
chael C. Ford and S.A. Griffin
also read.

—Jim Smith



Michael McClure at Beyond Baroque

Snoopin' Around – The Story of David Asper Johnson and The Argonaut

Reviewed by Jim Smith

Sometimes those who report the news have the
biggest influence on shaping the news in the first
place. Probably no one had a bigger influence on the
the development of Marina del Rey than Argonaut
founder and publisher Dave Johnson.

David Asper Johnson and the newspaper he
founded were inextricable linked with Marina del
Rey. The small craft harbor began in the 1960s and
the Argonaut was not founded until 1971, but from
that day the newspaper reflected, for better or worse,
our unusual neighboring community to the south.

Before dredging began, it was a swamp, a wet-
lands, as was Venice many years before. The natural
environment was destroyed, as was 99 percent of the
wetlands in Los Angeles County.

Snoopin' Around, the title of the book - subtitled
The Story of David Asper Johnson and The Argonaut
- was also the title of Johnson's long-running column.
In it, and in the news stories carried by The Argonaut,
is chronicled the 50-year journey that changed the
Marina from a small-boat harbor into a mega-
development that even attracts Saudi princes, and is
L.A. County's cash cow. In fact, the major topics of
concern in The Argonaut, as reflected in Johnson's
columns are proposed new developments, not all of
which were successful, and airport noise. The low
rumble of giant jet aircraft that we sometimes hear in
Venice could be a deafening roar in the neighbor-
hoods of Playa del Rey and Westchester which were
served by The Argonaut.

During the 1970s, many of us in Venice cast a
wary eye on the Marina. The culture clash between
bohemian Venice and swinging-singles Marina was
extreme. There was even a popular tee shirt, "Venice
Is Not Marina del Rey." But even while we were
condemning the high-rises sprouting in the Marina
and the "straight" lifestyle of the thousands pouring
into new waterside apartments and condos, many of
us trooped off to work in the "swamp." Venice
women worked in the many expensive restaurants,
and I still remember, not so fondly, waxing boats to
make ends meet.

It's always good to know your neighbors, and the
Marina has been Venice's neighbor, for better or
worse, for nearly half of our town's lifetime. The
building of the Marina put more pressure by develop-
ers on Venice. The upwardly mobile have been trying
to slice off Venice neighborhoods and call them part
of the Marina for decades. Many newer residents of
Venice's Oxford Triangle and the Peninsula think of
themselves as residents of the County's boat harbor,
instead of Venetians whose neighborhoods have a
long history as part of Venice. Johnson noted this,
and called Washington, "the Mason-Dixon Line."
Indeed, Marina signs can be found up and down Lin-
coln Blvd. and the large hotel a block south of
Windward was until recently called the Marina-
Pacific Hotel.

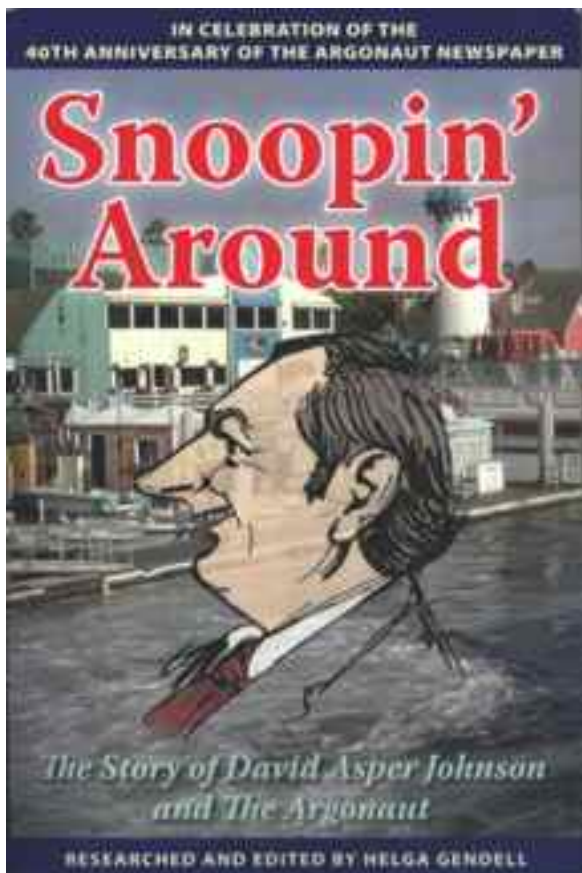
The Argonaut has never been as partisan as the
Beachhead, yet by simply shining the light of public-
ity on outrageous development schemes, the Argo-
naut helped to quash them. There was a plan for a 13-
story Holiday Inn at Lincoln and Mindanao, recurring
Marina Bypass freeways, and a yacht harbor in the
Venice canals. Johnson calculated how many more
boats would be entering the Marina's main channel
from the canals, creating the specter of traffic jams.
He reported on Dow Chemical's former dump site
that lies under some of the plushes homes in the Sil-
ver Strand. Even though a Republican, Johnson sup-
ported the drive for decriminalization of marijuana
back in 1972. He also reported favorably on a peti-
tion drive for Venice cityhood in 1990.

At the same time, Johnson was an unabashed
capitalist wannabe. He purchased a chain of newspa-
pers in the South Bay, and moved his main office to
Hermosa Beach. The papers folded a short time later.
In 1980, Johnson invaded Venice in partnership with
Tom Victory who wrote a chatty column in their
short-lived paper called the Ocean Front Weekly. The
Beachhead countered with a satirical column by
"Dawn Defeat." In his last couple of decades Johnson
focused on the Argonaut, and made it a going con-
cern.

At all times, the competition between the Argo-
naut and the Beachhead was friendly. So much so that
when Johnson died in 2006 he was eulogized in this
paper by none other than Carol Fondiller, usually our
most caustic writer. But Fondiller, who had been with
the Beachhead off and on since 1968 had nothing but
high praise for the humor and integrity of the Argo-
naut's publisher. If only corporate media had those
qualities.

For those who are interested in the history of the
Marina and Venice, this is a book to have. Helga
Gendell, a Marina historian, has done a fine job re-
searching and editing the book.

Snoopin' Around can be purchased on-line at
www.lulu.com. Carol Fondiller's insightful article
can be found at <http://bit.ly/tuHUUG>. 🚲



Burning to Read

What could be done
with a book
by Henry Miller?
It could be

picked up.
It could be
checked out.
It could be ripped

like a bodice ripper novel.
It could be heaved
up into a bower
or atop a tall tower.

It could be set afire
and then quickly extinguished
like the fleeting lust
of a pair of fervently humping bunnies.

It could be held. Squeezed tight.
It could be banned.
It could be burned.
It could be read. And devoured.

-Hal Bogotch

Let’s take it easy

By Jim Smith

Venice is for kickin’ it
for just goofin’ off
We’re always late
What’s the rush?

New York, L.A., Frisco
they’re for business,
rushin’ around in
suits & ties & heels

But Venice my Venice
we squish sand between our toes
Stay up late and cogitate
while they make their silly deals

They’re busy with their clocks & traffic jams
While we sing and dance & touch & hug
They worry & take their meds to stay alive
We toke the holy herb & let the rest slide

The Magic Cape

By Majid Naficy

Running toward the beach
I saw her on the stairs
lying at the last landing
And a rusty cart separated her from the world.
I asked myself: “Is it a woman? ... Is it a man?
Or a puppet full of straw?”
She wore a black hat
And a large winter coat
Covered with a white blanket
Like that of my little niece.
She always sucked it through her teeth
And sometimes put it on
Like a magic cape.
When did she leave her house?
Was it raining that night?
Did someone walk her to the door
Or was she alone?
Did she bang the door with a shout
Or creep out of it slowly?
Did she go to find a new world
Or want to give up forever?
Why did she leave her castle
To barricade behind this cart?
When I returned
I did not see her.
Perhaps she was wearing
Her magic cape.

90291 – Venice USA

By Tina Catalina Corcoran

What a Dream!
What a GREAT All American Dream!
What a Scene!
What a GREAT All American Scene!
What a MAN –
What a GREAT All American Man!
90291 – Dreaming in the Sun – What a Land!

What I mean:
IS – A MAN, in this Land, is a Dream!
In a Dream –
Well, a man, in this Land, is a King!
When THE KING –
Takes YOUR HAND – You’re A QUEEN!
90291 – Venice, All night long – What a Scene!

When THE KING –
When THE KING and THE QUEEN “do their thing”
–
What THEY BRING –
What THEY BRING, are THE CHILDREN, who
Sing –
Sing, Love’s SONG –
In a Land, where THEY ALWAYS BELONG!
90291 – Hear THE CHILDREN’S SONG – Sing
Along!
90291 – Singing in the Sun – I BELONG!
90291 – Venice IS A SONG – WE BELONG!

In the Bathroom at the Hotel Cornell

Standing before the Polished Mirror
I look at the scar above my crotch --
half of it has disappeared --
the other reminds me
of a dark grin.

“You’re almost 50,” the Mirror points out.
“Face it -- you don’t have the body of your youth.
And don’t pretend it won’t get worse!”

“Well,” I reply, “I’ve lasted longer
than the Maiden Joan whose image
abounds everywhere here at the Hotel Cornell:
in tapestries,
in statues,
in plaques,
in posters,
the Maid of Orleans
reminds me
that not all women, even when young,
concern themselves with the supple body.”

The Mirror considers my statement, then admits --
“You could have fared worse. Hers was a life
consumed by vision, betrayed by royalty, and fed to
the fire.”

We stand there, sizing up one another,
the Mirror and me. At last, the dark grin wins.
“You’ve won this round!” I tell the Mirror.
“But it’s not over yet.
Joan may have recanted once,
but she held out to the end.”

The Mirror says nothing.
My husband calls me back.
I walk away, looking over my shoulder,
and see in the Mirror’s Face
the reflection of my lovely ass.

–krista schwimmer

Birds II

I guess the gift
Is in the lift
You flying there of light
Wings on air
Like Fred Astaire!
I don’t dare!
Lost beggars wandering aimlessly
Inches above the ocean water
Another Albatross Morning!

Paul Beethoven

There Are Days

By Humberto Gómez Sequeira-HuGóS

There are days on which I feel
the urgency of exposing myself,
like a naked ape
running amock on Wall Street,
to the consuming elements:

The price index and war
for the salvation of the faith
in the banking system
that continually test my capacity
for keeping the mind still
like a monk absorbed in meditation
inside the furnace of suffering
alimented by the avarice of the bankers.

Will my head be ignited
by a flare of wisdom
or will I collapse
with the stock market
like an innocent bystander
killed by friendly fire?

Verit

Carrot ... Coach ... Run
French Connection
Jail and what’s outside
Looking in

How do I escape my
Sadness
How do I begin?

Is it what everything’s
Saying
Is it what I’m relating?

Is twelve o’clock straight
up to a clock
Am I in the groove
Listening to rock?
Or do I need silence
to think and dream
about what I might find?

Till the morning sun
The light and now I
feel blind.

–Cameron Pryor



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Venice Memorial to Japanese-Americans Incarcerated During World War II Moves Forward

By Don E. Geagan and Suzanne Thompson

In a time when we are consistently threatened by the loss of public space and facilities, such as the Venice Post Office, a very special building continues to serve the community. On Saturday, October 29, a place “dedicated to the possibilities of language,” housed in the Old Venice Town Hall, Beyond Baroque welcomed more than 100 Japanese-Americans and others in support of the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee (VJAMM) to be placed on the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards.

The highly-successful event began on the back patio with a VIP Sushi and Sake reception prepared by Sushi Girl, Nikki Gilbert, a member of the VJAMM Committee. The Manzanar Committee provided banners from the relocation camps: Manzanar, Tule Lake (CA), Poston (Arizona), Gila River (Arizona), Granada (Colorado), Heart Mountain (Wyoming), Minidoka (Idaho), Topaz (Utah), Rohwer (Arkansas), and Jerome (Arkansas) for display under the canopy. The attendees were treated to a special performance was given by The Songbird of Manzanar, Mary Kageyama Nomura. She sang songs from the 1940s which which she had sung at Manzanar. The *Shoo Flies* and the “Songbird of Venice” Suzy Williams also performed.

At 2pm, when the reception guests joined others in the Beyond Baroque Theater to view three short films there was standing room only. Welcoming by Beyond Baroque Executive Director, Richard Modiano was followed by Len Nguyen from Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl’s office who presented Nomura with a certificate. Filmmaker and VJAMM Committee Member Brian Maeda emceed the event. Phyllis Hayashibara, recently retired Venice High School History teacher and VJAMM member gave a slide presentation of the VJAMM Committee. “The Music Man of Manzanar,” the story of Lou Frizzell was followed by a question and answer period with the filmmaker Brian Maeda, who was born in Manzanar and his older brother Arnold Tadao Maeda, a VJAMM member.

He said “instead of being worried about where we were going, I was obsessed with the fact that I had parted with my constant companion, my pet dog, Boy. For a fifteen-year old that was kind of traumatic.” This statement by Arnold Maeda will be inscribed on the memorial marker along with a quote from his brother Brian and VJAMM Committee member and former internee Mae Kageyama Kakehashi and Amy Takahashi Ioki.

To view their quotes visit: www.venicejamm.org or <http://www.facebook.com/VeniceJAMM>.

Guests viewed the silent auction items, which included art work solicited by artist and VJAMM Committee Member Emily Winters of the Venice Arts Council. The artwork donated by local artists included painted images of Manzanar, hand-blown sake glasses, restaurant gift cards, books and other items.

A model of the memorial marker designed by Emily Winters and the VJAMM Committee members, constructed by Kay Browne was on display.. The text for the memorial marker was written and agreed upon by VJAMM Committee members. The text can be found at <http://www.venicejamm.org/progress.html>.

Raffle prizes were given out between film screenings. The second film screened was “Stand Up for Justice,” the Ralph Lazo Story, by filmmaker John Esaki. Educational packets were distributed free to teachers in the audience. The event ended with the screening of an Academy Award for Short Documentary “Days of Waiting,” the story of Estelle Ishigo by filmmaker Steven Okazaki.

The event was organized by members of VJAMM Committee: Don Geagan, Free Venice Beachhead, Nikki Gilbert, Venice High School Alumni Association, Phyllis Hayashibara, Venice High School, Mae Kakehasi, former Manzanar internees, Arnold Maeda and Brian Maeda, also of the Manzanar Pilgrimage Committee, Jim Smith, Free Venice Beachhead, Alice Stek, Venice Peace and Freedom Party, Suzanne Thompson, Venice Arts Council, Yosh Tomita, former Manzanar internee and Emily Winters, Venice Arts Council. Beyond Baroque’s Jim Fleck worked very hard setting up, providing sound and lighting which furthered the success of the event.

Sponsoring organizations who helped make the event possible were Beyond Baroque, Free Venice Beachhead, King Fahad Mosque, Voice of the Canals and many volunteers.

“After 9-11, the Japanese American community reached out to Muslim Americans to let us know that their organizations would mobilize against any government effort to identify, detain, or exclude Muslim Americans based on religion or ethnicity. We will always be grateful for that support, and wish the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee success in building a reminder of our Constitutional rights”. –King Fahad Mosque

Other contributors included local markets, Feast of the East, Sakura’s Gourmet Pastries, Hama Sushi, Kifune, 26 Beach and many other silent auction and raffle prizes.

The event was not only a financial success, raising over \$10,000, and packing the house. It showed cooperation between cultures and support from business, religious and non-profit institutions and individuals. That spirit of cooperation builds community.

VJAMM has raised over \$20,000 toward their \$25,000 goal. The memorial marker is scheduled to be installed in April, 2012, the 70th Anniversary of the forced removal and imprisonment of more than 1,000 Japanese Americans from Venice, Malibu, and Santa Monica to Manzanar, an American concentration camp in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

The Memorial will state: “May this Venice Japanese Memorial Marker remind us to be forever vigilant about defending our Constitutional rights, so that

Reading of Moby Dick Celebrates Whale Migration

“Whenever it is a damp drizzly November in my soul then I account it high time to get to sea as soon as I can,”
-- Herman Melville, *Moby Dick*

The Venice Oceanarium will present its 16th annual reading of Moby Dick on the beach at the Venice Breakwater, at the end of Windward Avenue. The reading, which the L.A. Weekly called “one of the 100 best things to do in L.A.,” will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13, from 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM both days.

The book will be read continuously and in its entirety, with only one break for sleep. The complete reading will take about 30 hours.

The Oceanarium’s reading is unique in that it takes place entirely on the beach, with waves crashing in the background and sea gulls flying overhead. This gives the reading an authenticity and heightened drama.

A small microphone and an elevated director’s chair will make up the only stage, with gigantic whale bones and artifacts creating the setting, arranged around the readers as a sort of temple in the sand. An actual harpoon used in the Academy Award-winning film of Moby Dick will also be on display. The book will be passed around and read chapter by chapter as different readers interpret the classic tale of Ahab and the great white whale.

The reading itself celebrates the beginning of the annual California Gray Whale migration. The whales can be seen off shore traveling down the coast of California on their way to the calm spawning grounds off the Baja Peninsula.

All are welcome: readers and listeners alike. Kids are encouraged. The event is free of charge.

To schedule or reserve a favorite chapter to the facebook link:
www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=300063856687192

–Tim Rudnick ☺

the powers of government shall never again perpetrate an injustice against any group based solely on ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, race or religion.”

For more information on how you can help build, install, maintain and utilize the memorial marker as an educational tool, visit the VJAMM website www.venicejamm.org or on Facebook. ☺

Venice Art Crawl

By Anne Alvarez

The Venice Art Crawl, which is held every third Thursday of the month, has revamped and brought our community closer through the Venice Art Scene. November 17 from 6-11pm, Hotel Erwin, will be hosting “Pandora’s Out Of The Box,” an art & music experience, which will be showcasing local artists such as Erin Kelly, whose work is constructed on various media ranging from oil on canvas to mosaic sculpture.

Vibul Wonprasat a Venice artist, known internationally for his semi-abstract art, has held exhibits at the Louvre and Grand Palais. Wonprasat has been living in Venice for the past 20 years, and currently teaches art at his Venice studio. He says he is excited to take part of a grass roots project such as the Art Crawl, which he says represents the true spirit of Venice.

New to the local artist mix is Rachel Kice, who has recently moved from Nashville, where she was the visual artist, with the MusikMafia the Nashville based artist collaborative that yielded multi-platinum recording artist Big & Rich and Gretchen Wilson. Kice will be exhibiting and doing live art at the Canal Club, and Hotel Erwin.

The evening will also include nine other local artists who will take part in the exhibit and festivities including fire dancers, DJs and live painting. ☺



On April 25, 1942, they lined up at the corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards, and they were told to take only what they could carry. There was no violence. The Japanese-Americans went through a processing station and were sent to internment camps. They were released when the war was over but lost most of what they had owned. It was a black element in the history of the United States.

Community Events – day by day

Free Venice Beachhead • November 2011 • 11

Calendar Compiled By Karl Abrams

Location Guide

- Abbot Kinney Public Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd, 310-821-1769.
- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. 310-822-3006 - beyondbaroque.org
- Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way - marinadelrey.lacounty.gov
- Danny's Deli, 23 Windward Ave.
- Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave, 310-306-1854 - electriclodge.org
- G2 Gallery, 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd 310-452-2842.
- Hal's Bar and Grill, 1349 Abbot Kinney Blvd., 310-396-3105 - halsbarandgrill.com
- Oakwood Recreation Center, 757 California Ave.
- Pacific Resident Theatre, 703½ Venice Blvd. 822-8392 pacificresidenttheatre.com
- SPARC - Social and Public Art Resource Center, 685 Venice Blvd. 822-9560 x15.
- Talking Stick Coffee Lounge, 1411c Lincoln Blvd. 450-6052 - thetalkingstick.net
- Vera Davis Center, 610 California Ave. 310-305-1865.
- Westminster Elementary School, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (enter auditorium from Westminster Ave.) 310-606-2015.

Ongoing Events

Music

- 8pm-12am - **Hal's Bar and Grill** features Live Jazz, Sunday and Monday nights. Free.
- 8:30pm - **TKO Comedy's "Open Mic"** for comics, musicians. 212 Pier. Free. Every Thursday.
- 12-2pm - Saturday & Sunday; **Music at Uncle Darrow's**. 2560 Lincoln Blvd. Free.
- 5-9pm – **Venice Street Legends**. Venice Bistro, OFW & Dudley. Every Thursday. Free.
- 6-10pm - 2nd Thursday - **Psychedelic Surf Rock**. Mollusk, 1600 Pacific Ave. Free.

Movies

- 5:30pm - **Abbot Kinney Public Library** Thursday Movie Night. Call 310-821-1769 for title.
- 6-10pm - **7 Dudley Cinema** - First Thursdays at Beyond Baroque. Free.

Kids

- 6:30pm - Abbot Kinney Public Library Children's **Pajama Storytime**. Second, fourth Tuesday evenings. Free.

Miscellaneous

- 7-10pm - MOM: **Meditations On Media**. 3rd Wednesdays. Beyond Baroque. Free.
- 11:30am-2:30pm – **The Venice Oceanarium** (a museum without walls). Venice Pier. Every Sunday, weather permitting. Free.
- 6-8pm - **McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club**. Lloyd Taber - Marina Del Rey Library, 4533 Admiralty Way. First Tuesday of the month. Free.

Computers

- Venice Library offers a variety of **Free Computer Classes**. 310-821-1769.
- Vera Davis Center offers **free computer use**: M-Th 10am-Noon and 1pm-3pm; Fri 1-3pm.

Food

- Vera Davis Center. 12:30pm - 2nd and 4th Thursdays - **Free Food Distribution**.
- Vera Davis Center - **Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards)**. Call for date and time. 310-305-1865.
- 1st Baptist Church: 5-7pm Mondays - **Hot Meals; Pre-packs**: 2-3:30pm Saturdays, Westminster & 7th St.

Get Your Local Event Listed

Email your time, date and a brief description to Calendar@freevenice.org by the 20th of the month. If you charge for your event, please consider taking out a \$25 or larger advertisement.

Friday, November 4

- 7-11pm – **First Friday** on Abbot Kinney Blvd. Lots of people and open shops. Free.
- 7:30pm - **Night and the City: Noir in poetry, fiction and film**. Beyond Baroque. \$5 for members/ \$10 for non-members

Saturday, November 5

- 2-4pm - **Save Our Post Office from being Sold! Join Mass Rally at the Venice Post Office. Venice Circle. Bring Signs.**
- 4pm - **Night and the City: Poems of murder and mayhem**. Beyond Baroque. \$5 for members/ \$10 for non-members.
- 7:30pm - **Night and the City - Noir in poetry, fiction and film**: Why noir, Why now. Beyond Baroque. \$5 for members/ \$10 for non-members.
- 9pm - **Dustbowl Revival with DJ Bos Harmony**. The Townhouse. 52 Windward. \$5.

Sunday, November 6

- 2pm - **The Man Who Never Died**: William M. Adler and Ross Altman. Beyond Baroque. \$5 for members/ \$10 for non-members.
- 4:30-6:30pm - **Historic Conversation with Angela Davis & Rev James Lawson**. Center for the Study of Political Graphics. Temple Emanuel, 300 N. Clark Drive Beverly Hills. www.politicalgraphics.org \$35.

Tuesday, November 8

- 7-10pm - **A Night of Festive Musical Goodness**, hosted by Danny Moynahan. Talking Stick. Free.

Wednesday, November 9

- 7-10pm - **Suzy Williams sings at Danny's Deli**. Jazz/blues. Free.

Friday, November 11

- 7pm - **CAVE Gallery** presents two new artists. 1108 AK Blvd. Free.

Saturday, November 12

- 2pm - Join author and speaker, **Joan Moran**, for an irreverent **discussion about retirement**. Abbot Kinney Library. Free.
- 4pm - MESS (Media Ecology Soul Salon). **Lisa Green Interview**. The Unurban. 3301 Pico Blvd. S.M. Free.
- 7-10pm - **Grassroots Acoustica**. Talking Stick. Free.

Tuesday, November 15

- 7-9:30pm - **Venice Neighborhood Council Board Meeting**. Open to the Public. Westminster School Auditorium.
- 8-9pm - Join the **Venice Oceanarium** for their **Annual Reading of Herman Melville's Moby Dick**. Everybody can read. Bring a blanket, water and sun screen. On the Venice Beach by the breakwater rocks straight down from Windward Ave. Free.

Wednesday, November 16

- 7-10pm - **Kathy Leonardo** sings original rockin' songs. Danny's Deli. Free.

Thursday, November 17

- 6pm - **Westside Middle School Choices Parent Forum**. Panel discussion from local middle schools. Abbot Kinney Public Library. Free.
- 6pm - **Venice Art Crawl**. Find the maps online or go to OFW and Windward. Free.

Friday, November 18

- 7-10pm - **Venice Mozaic Music**. Talking Stick. Free.
- 8pm – **Suzie and Her Solid Senders. CD Release Party** for Suzie Williams and a wild good time. 1600 Ocean Park Blvd. S.M. \$10.

Saturday, November 19

- 7-11 pm - **HoneyLove's Yellow Tie Event**. Fun drinks, local honey tasting, silent auction and Leftover Cuties playing in support of protecting honeybees/educating new urban beekeepers. iheartbees.tumblr.com/yellowtie for tickets.

Sunday, November 20

- 7-10pm - **"It's Blues Time"** hosted by **Tom Gramlich**. Talking Stick. Free.

Friday, November 25

- 7:30-10pm - **Subversive Cinema**. 212 Pier. Free.

Tuesday, November 29

- 6:30pm-7:30pm - **The Venice Book Club meets** for their selection of the month. Light refreshments served. Abbot Kinney Public Library. Free.
- 7pm - **Bioneers Meeting**. G2 Gallery. Free.

Wednesday, November 30

- 9pm - **Venice Underground Comedy**: Local talent and Headliners. The Townhouse. 52 Windward. No Cover.



Kathy Leonardo - Nov. 16

Support Your Local Nonprofit Newspaper

The Beachhead Calendar is a public non-profit service to the community of Venice. Our goal is to list free events within Venice. If you charge for your event, please consider taking out a \$25 or larger advertisement.



Save the Venice Post Office **RALLY**

2-4 PM Saturday, Nov. 5

In Front of Our Historic Post Office

310-
396-
2525

Beachhead@freevenice.org • www.facebook.com/savethevenicepostoffice

Sponsored by the Venice Coalition to Save the Post Office, which includes the Free Venice Beachhead, SPARC, Venice Arts Council, Venice Neighborhood Council, Venice Peace and Freedom, Venice Stakeholders Association, and Venice Town Council.

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