

SOUTH SWELL

THE DOHENY STATE BEACH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION E-MAGAZINE

WINTER 2012

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Doheny State Beach
25300 Dana Point Harbor
Drive

Dana Point, CA 92629

Park Hours: 6 AM - 10 PM
Gift Store Hours: 10AM-4PM

Kiosk Phone #:
(949) 496-6172

Male Megamouth Shark caught in Dana Point, California, October 21, 1990

Tom Haight

[DSBIA Board Member Tom Haight has been a free diver / SCUBA diver and photographer of life in the sea for many years, contributing greatly to our knowledge and enjoyment of Mother Ocean. In 1990, he had the rare good fortune to participate in the study of a live megamouth shark trapped by a local fisherman and brought into Dana Point Harbor for



observation. This was only the 6th of the species ever seen, and the only one that was alive. More of Tom's photographs can be found on the DSBIA website and at <http://www.oceanimages.com/>. The following article made up one of Tom's Campfire Presentations this past summer. ED]

Tom with fellow diver and photog, Jim Serpa

Like so many people, as a teenager I became fascinated by the oceans after reading a book called **The Silent World** written by the late **Jacques Cousteau**. I knew that I had to explore the oceans and enjoy the peace and serenity it offers to those who try to capture the untold beauty that it represents. If you are like me, I am sure that you dream of doing something that has never been done before. If you are **lucky** you will never stop the dreaming, because sometimes those dreams **do come true**. **On October 22, 1990 my dream became reality.** I shot underwater photographs and video of a living megamouth shark.

The summer of 1990 in Southern California was one full of surprises brought on by ocean temperatures that were warmer than usual. Some of the unexpected treats were large schools of yellowtail, dorado, triggerfish and a few sea turtles. Naturally the biggest surprise of all was the living megamouth shark.

Megamouths are so rare that they were not known to exist until the first one was
(Continued on page 9)



President's Message

Bill Brooks, President, DSBIA

Gratitude . . . research shows if we made a conscious effort to be grateful on a daily basis, we'd be happier, suffer less depression and stress, sleep better and be in a better position to face our problems. So, in my continued effort to make your lives healthier (said tongue-in-cheek), let me tell you some of the things I'm grateful for. Please feel free to share them if you'd like.

As I think about Doheny and gratitude, we have a lot to be grateful for. If it weren't for the State of California and Edward Doheny, we wouldn't have this beautiful state beach we all enjoy today. State park leadership in the 1920's fortunately had the vision to recognize how much people would enjoy beaches in the future when they decided to include them under the state park umbrella. In 1931, Edward Doheny donated the land that would create California's first state beach as a memorial to his son Ned. Thank you and thank you!

Currently our Sector and District Superintendents are keeping Doheny operational as money is slashed from their budgets. Our ranger and lifeguard staffs keep Doheny safe while we visit, and are doing so with fewer personnel than they've had in the past. Litter is picked up, our bathrooms are clean and functional, and the park is well landscaped thanks to Doheny's maintenance staff that works hard to keep our park's aging infrastructure repaired. They even find the time to continue work on our Visitor Center. They truly are Doheny's unsung heroes.

Let's be thankful for the kiosk park aides that greet us with a smile, wave every time we enter Doheny and sell us firewood. Our gift shop coordinator continues to increase profits by having a keen eye for popular new merchandise. Our aquarium park aide has worked hard on the tide pool touch tank, the aquariums and has built a holding tank system in the Visitor Center. Doheny's interpreter continues to develop new ideas for sharing knowledge of our park's natural resources, as well as coordinating the camp hosts. Without our dedicated camp hosts, our gift shop would not have the staff to remain open nor would there be firewood for sale in the

campground. Rounding out the Doheny staff is our picnic/event coordinator whose clients praise her for how easy she makes scheduling events and because she is always looking for new ways to raise badly needed revenue for our park and state park district.



Our Visitor Center remodel is making progress. The aquariums and life support systems should be operational by the end of December. Our DSBIA liaison / retired supervisor, along with volunteers from the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum, have been busy installing interpretive displays, bringing the Visitor Center to life. The final trim has been installed in

the building leaving just office carpeting, cabinets, aquarium catwalks, and the bathroom to be finished. Park officials are in the bid process for finding a contractor to complete the Americans with Disabilities Act work in the park. The first item on the contractor's list will be an entryway and front doors to the Visitor Center. When that is complete, the exterior of the building will have the stucco applied and we can open!

DSBIA's financial support of the Visitor Center is rapidly approaching three hundred thousand dollars and has only been possible through the strong and continued support of our community partners: Rainbow Sandals, Southern California Edison, Golden Legs Racing, Go Forward Racing, Monarch Beach Rotary, Kona Brewing, the City of Dana Point and Surfrider Foundation. Without these benefactors, our Visitor Center would be nowhere near as close to opening as it is.

The next time you visit Doheny and you see state park staff, consider showing your gratitude by saying a quick "thank you". The ocean vistas, the waves, the sky, the clouds, and the abundance of marine life found at Doheny are something we may take for granted. Nature teaches mindfulness and those lessons learned lead to gratitude and an appreciation of planet Earth. This is why the Doheny State Beach Interpretive Association exists.

WHAT'S COOL IN THE VISITOR CENTER'S GIFT STORE?

Time to go shopping at the Doheny Gift Store, currently located in the Lifeguard station by San Juan Creek. Park Aide Rachel Hammer has a great selection of items selling for very inviting prices. DSBIA members receive a 20% discount. How can you beat that?



Beach Towels for \$16
DSBIA Members \$12.80

Lots of Stocking Stuffers

Hoodie Sweat Shirts \$18.00
DSBIA Members \$14.40



Signs \$9.00/DSBIA Members \$7.20



*The perfect stop for your last
minute holiday shopping!!!!*

TAKE A HIKE!

Part 2 of 3

Ed Neely

In last summer's issue of ***SOUTH SWELL***, we hiked from Doheny State Beach down to the Dana Point tide pools and out to the Pirate's Cave. Our hike in this edition starts at the Dana Point Nature Interpretive Center (NIC), across the headlands, down along Dana Strands beach, then a ride on a funicular rail road, through Hilltop Park with a spectacular 360 degree view from the Pacific to the Santa Ana Mountains, and returns us to the NIC. As with all hikes, appropriate preparations are important: good shoes suitable for the terrain (all three of these hikes are good with tennies), water, sunscreen and a hat. Optional items to carry along in a fanny or backpack are binoculars, camera, snacks and (depending on the weather) a sweatshirt or jacket.

To see the first hike, visit our website and look for the Summer 2012 issue of South Swell Newsletter.

<http://www.dohenystatebeach.org/>

DANA POINT HEADLANDS HIKE

Approximately a 4-mile loop

(No dogs or bikes are allowed on the trails)

A map of this trail is available in PDF format at <http://www.danapoint.org/index.aspx?page=577>

This is a loop trail across the Dana Point Headlands and through coastal sage scrub, along Dana Strands Beach, city parks and with striking ocean and coastal views. The trail and turnouts on the headlands are grand locations for whale watching in the winter months. This hike also gives you the opportunity to ride a funicular



railway. The trail's creation was the result of many years of grassroots, local efforts to preserve the last of the

open space headlands on the California coast for public access and enjoyment.

You will probably want to drive the 1.5-mile route to the trailhead at the Dana Point Nature Interpretive Center (NIC). From the entrance of Doheny State Beach, turn left (west) onto Dana Point Harbor Drive going about 1 mile to Cove Road; a right turn takes you up the steep and not pedestrian friendly hill to Scenic Drive. Turn left on Scenic Drive, which dead ends at the NIC parking lot. You can park in the lot or on the street (parking lot gates are locked just after sunset).

Before hitting the trail, take time to visit the NIC, open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 AM – 4 PM. Inside you will find wonderful historic, geologic, geographic, animal (land and sea), and vegetation exhibits giving you a good background on the area you are about to traipse through.



There are knowledgeable docents and a colorful mural of the 1840's headlands during the hide trade era along the California coast.

The trailhead is behind the NIC and leads out into the coastal scrub of the headlands. On the southeast side (your left), you'll see San Juan Rock and the coastline from Dana Point down into San Diego County. Ahead on a clear day is San Clemente Island, and north of it and much closer, Santa Catalina, the southern most islands in the Channel Island chain. Just offshore of the headlands is "Annabelle", a large red *Looking Northwest to Dana Strands Beach* channel buoy giving off the occasional toot to warn sailors there are rock reefs on the inside they should avoid. You'll probably hear the barking of sea lions that use Annabelle as a haul-out to rest on during the day. To the northwest on a clear day, you can visually follow the coastline up to the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

The headlands trail winds along to exit onto Dana Strands Road. Walk passed the apartments (wouldn't you **(Continued on page 5)**)

like to have one of those, eh?) and a short distance further down the road until you reach the entrance to the switchback stairs leading down to Dana Strands Beach. At the bottom of the switchback is a wooden raised walkway heading northwest along the beach. On your left is beautiful Dana Strands; on your right are some spectacular homes (forget the apartments, I'll take one of these). The waves along this stretch of beach are hard breakers. If perchance you decide to take a swim, be forewarned that it doesn't take much to get hammered into the sand.

The walkway ends at a lifeguard tower and a wide paved path heads up the hill. Just a short



distance away is some real fun, a chance to ride a funicular railcar to the top of the hill. The funicular runs during the summer and on weekends during other seasons. It's a free ride. Your other choice is to walk up the stairs, a walkway known locally as "1000 Steps". On-line readers can take a trip down the funicular on YouTube at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6idbHEWZ8lw>

Exiting the funicular or arriving at the top of the stairs, turn right and walk along the sidewalk of the parking lot through Strands Vista Park. At the War Memorial, head out to Selva Road and look to your right across the street for the pedestrian / bike path heading up the hill. Reaching the top of this path, you are at the private entrance of the housing tract on Shoreline Drive by Pacific Coast Highway. Cross Shoreline Drive to the entrance into Hilltop Park and its walking path. When you reach the point on the path where there are apartments on your left, you'll also reach an intersecting path on your right leading up the hill. This is a side trip well worth the climb as it takes you to the highest point on the coastline with a spectacular 360-degree view of the coast from San Diego to Palos Verdes and the Santa Ana Mountains behind you. In the winter when there's snow capping Saddleback at sunset and the sun settles into the Pacific, it's a breath-taking sight. Now back down this side trail and continue along the Hilltop Park path to a stairway leading down to Green Lantern Street. At the bottom of the stairs, turn right to head back towards the NIC. Along the way and on your left just passed Cove Road is another short side trip trail



(1/4 mile) through Harbor Point Park leading to the cliffs above the Ocean Institute and the jetty.

Next issue of ***SOUTH SWELL***, we'll hike the San Juan Hills trails.



KIDS' ART FROM BATTLE OF THE PADDLE 2012



Doheny State Beach Goes Greening and Cleaning in 2012

Vicki Wiker, Doheny Interpreter I

I have tried to live my life believing that anything is possible if you remain faithful. That motto has been a little challenging these last few years working for an agency that has suffered such severe cuts. However, I have learned the last couple of years that our incredible California State Parks are not alone. There are a collective group of individuals who truly embrace their State Parks. They donate their time. They donate their money. They stand beside us as partners as we move forward through these challenging times.

Doheny State Beach is fortunate to receive many inquiries regarding both beach cleanups and planting projects. We have about six organized beach

cleanups throughout the year kicking it off by loving the beach in



February and then wrapping it up by giving thanks in November. Additionally, we have schools, scouts, businesses, and other groups who lend a hand to keep our beach clean, as well. For anyone who has spent time along the shore, keeping the beach free of debris is a daily task! There is no way that our understaffed and overtaxed maintenance crew could keep up with that workload. It is estimated that a few thousand gloved hands support this volunteer program each year. Thank you beach-cleaning partners for you are helping keep Doheny's number one



resource inviting and pristine for both visitors and wildlife.

In addition to Doheny's Adopt-A-Beach program, we try to organize at least one Earth Day grant-funded planting project each year. As you can imagine, grants and donations have become more competitive throughout the State as monies towards these efforts have become less. As a result, many California State Parks flora and fauna are



suffering with dying and diseased landscapes.

I am thrilled to share that

Doho was graced with three sponsored planting restoration projects this year. First, through Starbucks Make Your Mark program, volunteers planted an array of native plants and shrubs the second Saturday in April after an Earthly night of rain. This much appreciated partnership was established a whopping ten (plus) years ago with the amazing Blythe Persinger leading the Starbucks Green Team (thanks for your commitment, Blythe!). Doheny is most grateful to Starbucks for supporting our vision of a green and clean State Park. Second, Estela Suzara from the Capital Group partnered with the California State Parks Foundation who in turn partnered with me to host another Earth Day project the following Saturday. Those hard-working families and employees from

Capital Group removed weeds, planted flowers, spruced up the benches in the palapa, and even cleaned the beach. Not only did the Capital Group work hard, but they also donated materials (plants, tools, and etc.) and even fed everyone lunch. Talk about a planting partner...thanks for believing in me, Estela! **(Continued on page 7)**

[Greening and Cleaning...Continued]

Lastly, our final restoration effort of the year was last month's grant-sponsored project by Odwalla. Lana Meade (Crystal Cove resource management lead) was able to get monies through a pretty competitive nationwide grant program. DSBIA Board Member Ed Neely made it his mission to make sure that Doheny was one of the recipients (thank you, Ed!). So, volunteers planted native trees along North Creek and filled in an adjacent planter island with an assortment of native shrubs and flowers. Another group of volunteers focused upon restoring planter islands in the parking lot by removing non-native sea fig and then re-planting with some more native trees and plants. Everyone worked in such great cheer as Doheny was greened one more time in 2012!

As the end of the year draws near and another one shines on the horizon, it is refreshing to reflect upon the last year with gratitude for life's good fortune. Call me an optimist and maybe even a dreamer, however, I am remaining hopeful for the future of our magnificent California State Parks. I figure there is too much beauty and diversity in our glorious State Parks system for it to crumble. If by chance it does, we are not alone when we have our partners who stand and work beside us as we brave the storm! My sincere thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers who have supported me throughout this last year in every facet of this jewel.



THAR' SHE BLOWS!!

Ranger Jim Sepra

[Gray whale season off our local coast has just begun. The first grays, probably scouts for the main pods, have already been spotted off the Dana Point Headlands. As you walk along the shores of Doheny, keep a lookout for a "blow" as these travelers pass close to the coastline. ED]



"Look alive mates, that be no normal beast, it's the Devilfish we're after!"

Had you been a whaler in the mid-1800's, that cry might have made your blood run cold. Today we find it hard to believe that the whale Californians have come to cherish was so feared that only the bravest would try to harpoon them. The cycle has turned so dramatically that the public is now spending large amounts of money to get a good view of them. In fact, there are several companies that will actually take you to the breeding grounds in the shallow coastal lagoons of central and southern Baja California where you have a chance to pet these mammoth creatures.

The gray whale is not really a big whale, as whales go, reaching a length of about 40 to 50 feet. As in all baleen whales the females are larger than the males. Baleen is the material that hangs down from the roof of the mouth in non-toothed whales (Mysticetes) and is used to filter out the small crustaceans

[Continued on page 8]

that these whales feed on. The baleen is made of material similar to our fingernails and is cream-colored in gray whales.

Grays are considered by scientists to be the most primitive of all the baleen whales. Lacking a dorsal fin, the gray whale is not really gray at all, but almost black with lighter blotches. We Southern Californians might call it "charcoal". The gray color comes from the fact that older grays are covered with large numbers of light colored parasites, most notably barnacles and whale lice. As gross as this may sound, these lice actually help the whale out by dining on dead flesh which, when left alone, might cause infection.



You can actually tell if the gray whale you are lucky enough to spot is right handed or left handed (or “flippered” if you prefer) by noticing which side of the whale is the most barnacle and lice-free. This whale likes to feed in the shallow waters of the Bering and Chukchi Seas, diving down to take large bites out of the soft mud, then using its enormous tongue to force the silt out through the baleen and leaving the delectable crustaceans to be swallowed. If the whale has a right side that is fairly clean of parasites then you can assume

that the animal is right handed, and vice versa. It's interesting to note that gray whales have about the same percentages of right and left handed individuals as do humans.

Until recently it was thought that these whales fasted the entire length of their 12,000 mile migration, but we now know that the gray will feed if it gets a chance. Unfortunately for the hungry whale, good food is hard to find down here.

At Doheny we can spot gray whales as early as late December with the bulk of the population heading south past us by the end of January. In February and March you can get a better view as the whales make their northward migration back to the abundant feeding grounds of the Chukchi and Bering Seas.



These whales reach sexual maturity at 5 to 11 years of age. Gestation normally takes 13 months with the beautiful bouncing baby tipping the scale at a mere 1200 to 1500 pounds! Under ideal conditions these whales give birth once every two years. The whale calf can grow an amazing 50 pounds a day or more. The rapid weight gain is important if the calf is going to be strong enough to make the 6,000 mile one way trip back up north to the whales’ summer feeding grounds. This is

Spyhopping off the Dana Coast

accomplished by consuming vast amounts of highly fat laden mother's milk. The gray whales' milk is up to 40% milk fat. By comparison, cows milk is approximately 4% fat.

The history of the species is tragic to say the least. At one time there were two different populations of gray whales, one in the Pacific and a separate population in the North Atlantic. The Atlantic population was hunted to extinction by the end of the 1700's. The population in the Pacific was actually hunted to the brink of extinction twice, once in the 1800's and again in the 1900's. It wasn't until 1938 that it was decided by international treaty to stop all commercial gray whale hunting. Since that time this remarkable creature has made a miraculous comeback, with some experts estimating their populations at 21,000. In January of 1993, grays were taken off the endangered species list, but they’re still protected by treaty

from commercial harvesting. The latest threats to the gray whales existence is the possibility of a huge salt producing plant being built on one of the birthing lagoons in Baja and the fact that several countries want to start hunting them again. So far, neither has come to fruition and, hopefully, we humans have learned from our mistakes and won't put this animal at risk again.

So keep your eyes open for these giants and check with the rangers to see if any have been spotted the next time you visit the park.

[To learn more about gray whales and for great photos and video, visit <http://www.arkive.org/gray-whale/eschrichtius-robustus/>]

[Interested in whale watching boat trips? Visit our friends at Dana Wharf Sportfishing and Whale watching <http://www.danawharf.com/>]

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[MEGAMOUTH SHARK... continued from page 1] ...discovered off the coast of Hawaii in 1976. Four more specimens were discovered off the coasts of California, Australia and Japan prior to the Dana Point megamouth, but none had lived long enough to be studied or photographed alive.

I was at my Capistrano Beach home editing slides of baby Garibaldi, a local fish, when a friend called to tell me that a live megamouth had been accidentally captured in a local fisherman's drift net. This would be the sixth megamouth seen by man. When he hauled up the net, the fisherman knew that he had something unusual and he towed it seven miles by the tail, back to Dana Point Harbor. It was there in the harbor that it was finally identified as the rare megamouth shark. Dr. Don Nelson, a shark behavior expert at California State University in Long Beach, was summoned to come down. He planned the radio tagging, study and release of the shark.

"That thrill of a lifetime" came at 1:30 P.M. when I slipped over the side of my boat and I finally saw the shark. The shark was approximately 15 feet long and weighed about 2,000 pounds. The mouth was about 3 feet wide, big enough for a small diver with gear to swim into. This megamouth, like the previous five, was a male, which was evident by the claspers on the underside of the shark. These gentle giants of the deep feed on krill and plankton so even though they have many vestigial teeth they are not considered a threat to larger animals. As we approached, the shark seemed to welcome our attention and showed no apparent signs of nervousness, which is more than I can say for the divers in the water, including myself. I spent nearly eight hours with the shark, and I was lucky and video footage, but also to assist in the studying seen by man.



During that time we used a length of rope with equally spaced knots to measure the length and

circumference of the shark. Naturally we had to take some tissue samples of the shark in order for the marine biologists to try to determine if it was healthy. Two transmitters were attached to the shark - one to track it vertically in the water column and the second one to track it horizontally.

We were constantly touching this strange visitor who was usually at a depth of about 450 feet during daylight hours. He did not seem to mind our prodding, but rather tolerated us as if we were just a part of his daily routine. After all the measurements and tissue samples were taken and the transmitters were attached, the rope that restrained the shark by the tail was finally undone. It was exhilarating to see him swim slowly and calmly away from us to the safety of the deep.



The radio transmitters that allowed him to be monitored for the following three days revealed a vertical migration pattern. From dawn to sunset he swam slowly at 450 to 500 feet into the prevailing current, apparently feeding on krill that were at that depth during the daytime. From sunset to sunrise he ascended to 39 to 46 feet below the surface to feed on the krill as they also ascended. The extreme daylight depth could explain why the megamouth shark is so rarely spotted. Dr. Nelson stated that the tracking of

the vertical migration was one of the most significant shark research events in modern history. Since the Dana Point megamouth in 1990, several more have been seen, but none photographed alive underwater.

For me, this once-in-a-lifetime encounter with a rare visitor from inner space was definitely the high point of my 50 years of diving.

So please, keep on dreaming. Your dream could be the next one to come true.

YouTube video of first megamouth shark caught

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCPIL1zMnD0&feature=player_embedded

YouTube video on the Dana Point megamouth (Megamouth #6)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxhqBmnZv8Q&feature=player_embedded

DOHENY STATE BEACH WINTER / SPRING CALENDAR

Winter – Spring Nature Outings: Explore tide pools, observe migratory whales and birds. Please call for a listing of additional outings in the park. 949 496-2704.

February 16: St. Valentine's Day Love Your Beach Cleanup

March 9: 5th Annual 10K / 5K / Kid's Run Grunion Run <http://www.dohenystatebeach.org/>

March 9: Mobile Marin Mammal Museum: Authentic and cool replicas of marine mammal artifacts on display along the west end beach promenade from 11 AM to 3 PM.

March 10: Whale of a Beach Clean Up (9 AM to Noon)

April ? : Grunion Night (9:30 PM) This evening program includes a slide-show presentation featuring grunion (and other marine life mysteries) and wraps up with the actual grunion run. Please bring along a chair, flashlight, and dress for weather. This program is for grunion viewing only as the grunion season is closed.

April 13: Earth Day Native Planting Project: Join other volunteers in planting native plants, shrubs and trees around the park

April 13: Doheny Wood Classic Woody Cars Start your springtime Southern California style by visiting the annual Doheny Wood at Doheny State Beach! Woodies start lining up in the south day-use area at 8:00 a.m. and begin departing at 3:00 p.m. Don't miss out on this fun-filled day!

April 20: Mother Earth Beach, Creek and Park Clean Up.

April. 20: California Wine Festival: <http://www.californiawinefestival.com>

THE LEGEND OF OLD MOTORCYCLE HILL

Story by Goldee Cortese base on story by Don Tryon

Photo Credits: Ken Claypool

Editorial comments: Ed Neely

Story courtesy of www.SanJuanCapistrano.net

[Stand in North Day Use Area and look back into the Capistrano Valley, to the hills on the right, mostly hidden by the park's trees. If you're familiar with where our local Costco store is, look to the bluff that rises up to the freeway, to the graded hillside and homes. Before the freeway and home developers got hold of it, this local geography was known as the "Gibraltar of the Pacific", and the challenge for motorcyclists was "Devil's Despair Hill". It is the center of the local legend of a momentous event that took place on March 18, 1917 when Calvin Lambert and his Excelsior Motorcycle were the first over the top. ED]

San Juan Capistrano has earned worldwide recognition because of the beautiful historical Mission San Juan Capistrano and the famed workings of Father Junipero Serra in his conversion of the Juaneno



Indians to Catholicism. Los Rios Street proudly displays one of the oldest streets in Southern California, which also brings visitors from far and wide to indulge in its old time flavor. And yet, there is another history making event that San Juan Capistrano harbors. It's the story of Motorcycle Hill.

On the southern edge of town, stood an imposing hill that was often referred to as "Gibraltar of the Pacific Coast." This rugged terrain was conquered on March 18, 1917 by a fearless group of motorcycle enthusiasts who were adventurous enough to try. And, it was done one day before the famed "return of the swallows." People came from all over to witness both events. San Juan was a beehive of activity and the streets were alive with happy celebrators.



It is recorded that 7,500 people, 1,070 cars and approximately the same amount of motorcycles were present to witness the siege of the notorious hill. Headlines read "Lambert on Excelsior Conquers 'Invincible' Capistrano." Local Santa Ana resident Calvin

Lambert rode a 3-speed series 18 Excelsior up the hill. He was the enviable first. Even as the crowd watched him disappear over the top, they still couldn't believe what they saw. Aghast, they were forced to recognize what an epochal feat they had witnessed. Nothing on wheels had ever taken Motorcycle Hill before. Both spectators and participants watched history unfold before their very eyes.



Lambert won \$25 for the "Free for All" and \$50 for the "Stock Three-Speeds." Other competitive bikes included Hendersons, Eagles and Indians. Today's popular favorite Harley Davidson had a single entry that was expected to produce a stronger effort, but it became a negligible factor. The

There was another bike that was well known before the event, but it received no mention.

What's left of the notorious Motorcycle Hill can be seen from the parking lot of Costco on Doheny Park Road. Just look towards the Amoco shop above the freeway and there it is. When the I-5 was built, much of the hill was cut away. A developer of new homes is slowly reducing what remains.

If you hurry, you can still catch a glimpse. You too can see yet another of San Juan Capistrano's little famous sights that makes this town so rich in history and old time flavor. Come join us in enjoying the Legend of Old Motorcycle Hill.

Calvin Lambert and his Excelsior Motorcycle



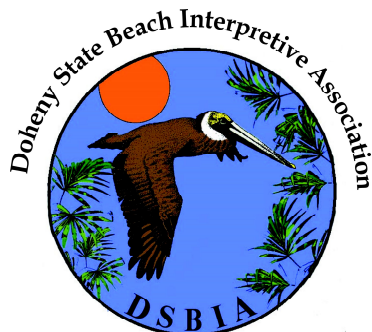
Photographer Kenny Claypool moved to Orange, CA in 1908 at age 9 and lived here until he passed away at age 96 in 1995. He was the photographer for these four images of 1920 (MCycle01-04) and was the treasurer for the *Orange County Motorcycle Club*.

[There would be future Capistrano Hill Climbs with larger crowds and new motorcycle heroes. The August 1919 edition of Popular Mechanics Magazine featured a story and photos of the Devil's Despair Hill Climb. <http://www.ebay.com/itm/MOTORCYCLE-HILL-CLIMBING-1919-COMPETITION-PICTORIAL-SAN-JUAN-CAPISTRANO-/380514369149> . Orie Steele was a hero from the 1923 event. Here's a great link to a story and wonderful photos from that competition, witnessed by over 35,000 spectators. <http://www.oriesteele.com/Articles/western.html> ED]

SOUTH SWELL

THE DOHENY STATE BEACH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION E-MAGAZINE

Comments or questions to edneely@dohenystatebeach.org



DSBIA WEB SITE

<http://www.dohenystatebeach.org/index.html>

DSBIA ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Doheny-State-Beach-Interpretive-Association/255397901205401>

DOHENY GIFT STORE ON FACEBOOK:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100003539533566>

DOHENY SURF CAMERA:

<http://www.surflinem.com/surf-report/doheny-southern->

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The Mission of DSBIA

The mission of Doheny State Beach Interpretive Association is to promote educational and interpretive activities at Doheny State Beach and to assist with the preservation and restoration of Doheny State Beach's interpretive facilities.

OUR GOALS

- A) Promote the educational and interpretive activities of the California State Park System at Doheny State Beach.
- B) Assist State Parks to produce and distribute appropriate interpretive and educational materials and resources to park visitors.
- C) Assist State Parks to acquire appropriate natural, cultural and historical artifacts related to Doheny State Beach and its surrounding area for display.
- D) Maintain a library of relevant interpretive media for Doheny State Beach.
- E) Assist in the development and maintenance of the interpretive facilities and programs.
- F) Provide funding to the State Park for Interpretive Staff support and professional development.



DOHENY STATE BEACH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I want to support the Doheny State Beach Interpretive Association. Please enroll me as a:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Individual Member, \$25 annual dues | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Family Member, \$35 annual dues
(Parent(s) and minor children) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Life Membership, \$100 (one-time dues) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Life Membership, \$135
(one-time dues) (children under 18) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership (Grade 6 through full-time
College) \$10 annual dues | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (age 63+) \$10 annual dues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Individual Supporting Member (Students
in grades K-5), \$3 annual dues. Requires parent
permission signature here. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Membership, \$50 annual
date _____ |

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE!

Enclose your Tax Deductible Donation of \$_____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) _____

E-MAIL: _____@_____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WILL NOT BE SOLD OR GIVEN TO ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL OR
ORGANIZATION

Make check or money order payable to:

Doheny State Beach Interpretive Association

MAIL TO:

DOHENY STATE BEACH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION
25300 Dana Point Harbor Drive / Dana Point, CA 92629

