

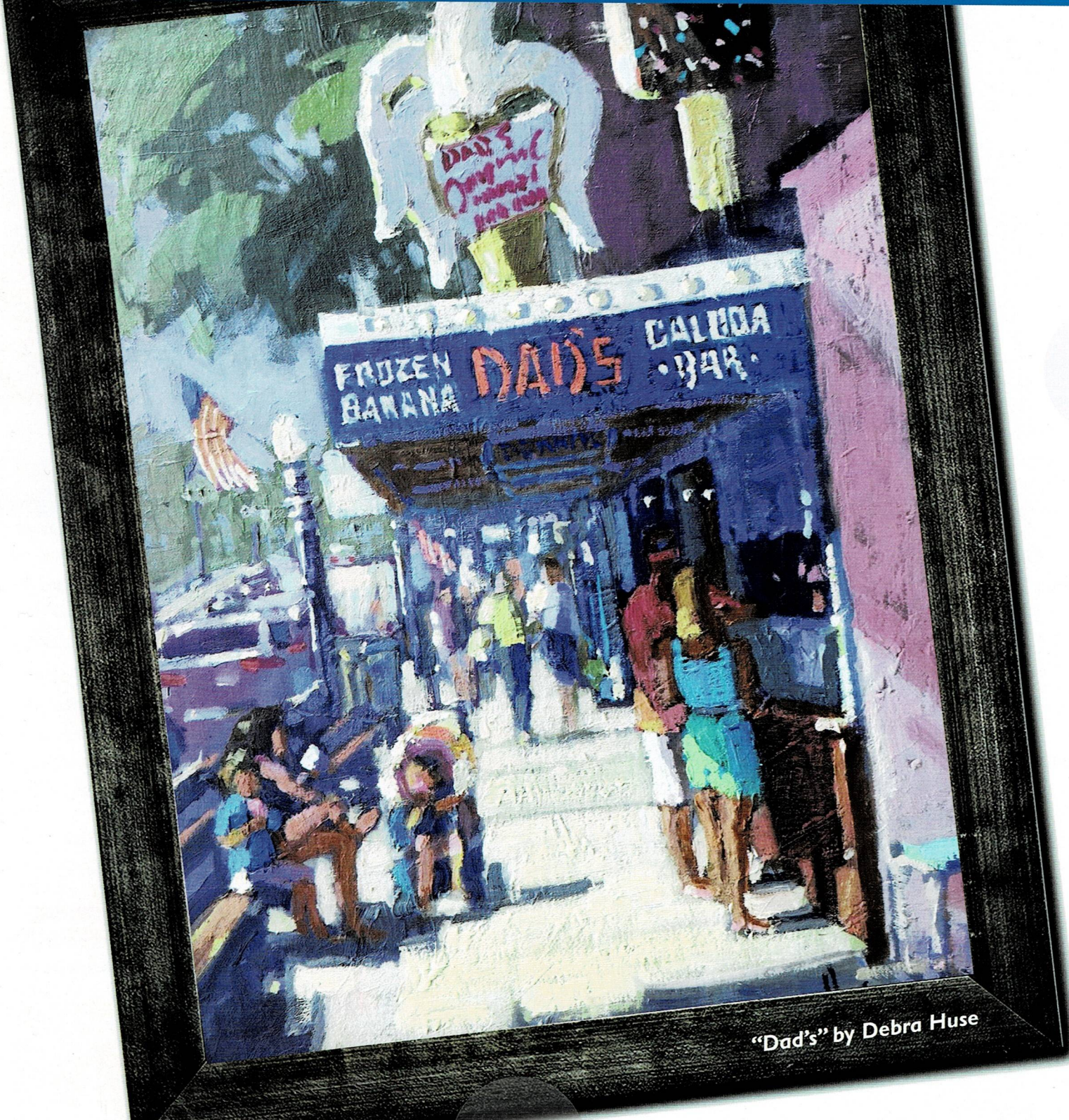
THE ISLAND

# BRIDGE



JULY - SEPT  
2019

The Only Official Balboa Island Newsletter - Published by the Balboa Island Improvement Association since 1919



"Dad's" by Debra Huse



Balboa Island  
museum  
NEWPORT BEACH

# ISLAND MUSEUM'S LEGACY VIDEO PROJECT PICKS UP PACE AND LOOK

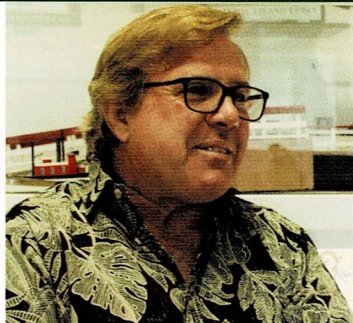
## *Ready for Your Closeup?*

by Tiffany Pepys and Pete Weitzner

FEATURED THIS SUMMER:



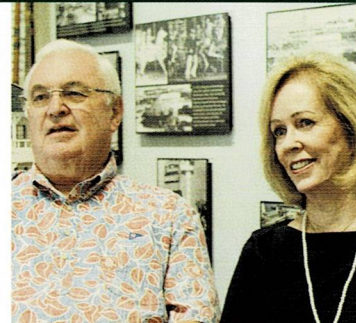
*Celeste Dennerline*



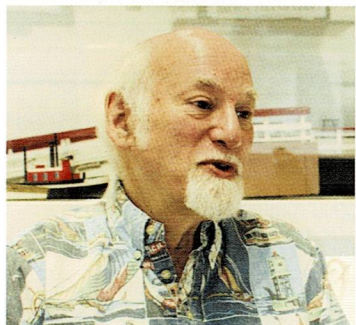
*Chris Crosson*



*Debra Huse*



*Kae and Anne Ewing*



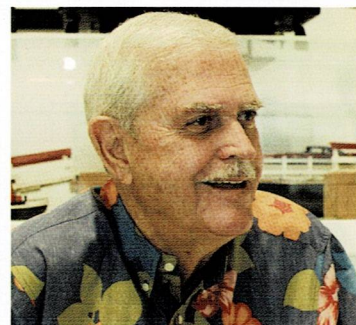
*Rick Sherman*



*Ruth Hynds*



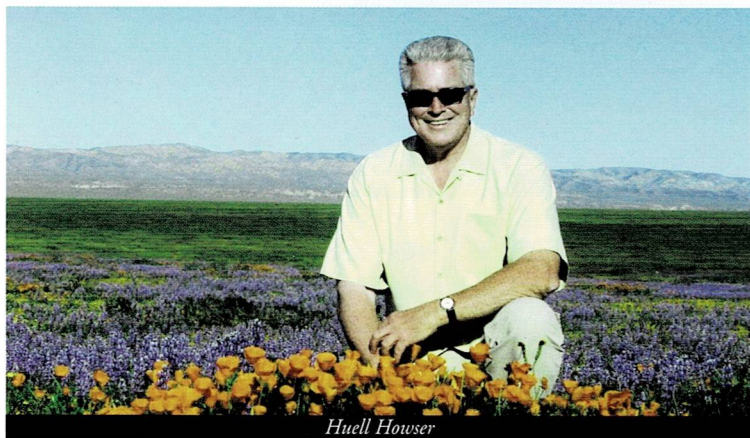
*The Brothers Remy, Richard and Jon*



*Tim Mang*

Just a few years before his death, I came to know **Huell Howser**, Mr. "California's Gold." Howser's PBS show documented the Golden State's history, culture and people for 24 years, people that made the Land of Milk and Honey. Howser donated his entire "Gold" collection to Chapman University after forging a bond with the "G.O.A.T.," **Jim Doti**, Chapman's 25-year "Greatest President of All-time." "California's Gold" is a beloved series, cult-like fans to this day, and when I had Howser

talk to my broadcast journalism students I discovered why. The Tennessee transplant tapped into an idea long before most of us—that for all our weather and beauty and surf, and for all our business empires from Hollywood to Silicon Valley to Orange County Inc.—it's easy to forget that it's people and our history and the men and women who forged that history that touch us most. Even if presented in the most hokum way—"This is Amazing!"—a good story, a good interview subject, holds up.



*Huell Howser*

COURTESY PHOTO



I mention Howser as when I first adopted Balboa Island as my new home in 2017, and happened upon the new and fabulous expanded Museum, both residents and the Balboa Island Museum confirmed the zeitgeist Howser homed in on: Community, people, vision and daring are what lasts – and of course, surf, celebrity and good fortune are also nice.

As I slowly toured all of the Museum's exhibits this winter, executive director **Tiffany Pepys** showed me the Legacy Project, a video history focused on one person at a time, perhaps a couple—the goal of documenting all of the people since Mr. Collins began dredging in 1905—that have made the Island the "Treasure" we all love. (Thank you 26th Summer Parade for our new moniker).

Tiffany and her mom Shirley were very successful business people prior to becoming the driving forces behind the Museum. So, they knew a good offer when they got one. I'd been a TV guy for over 30 years, a lot of interviews, shows and stories—Presidents, billionaires, B-1 **Bob Doran**—I remember well, Bob? – so I offered to pick up the Legacy Project, along with my production team of crazy talented and freshly-minted Chapman film grads, and produce shorter but highly cinematic videos: 30-minute interviews or so, cut down to the best 5-6.

You can watch the first batch at the Museum on their big projection screen, or check them out on their website, <https://www.balboaislandmuseum.org/oral-history/>, or on our YouTube page, Balboa Island Legacy videos.

Here's the link for the tribute to the "Sandman,"

**Chris Crosson:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MecQu6Fb8Ss&list=PLcGIUhkqtPZE8L2QJ5Nh38-XL0N2dmJ6&index=6&t=0s>;

Key searchable words include Balboa Museum, Balboa Legacy Video and the subject's name. We shoot eight legacy videos every quarter at the Museum, summer's Gang of Eight is pictured on the left—from Piano Man **Rick Sherman**, to Island mainstays **Anne** and **Kae Ewing** to the first ladies of watercolor and Plein Air, **Ruth Hynds** and **Debra Huse**.

*Think you or a friend or Newport Peninsula neighbor is Legacy worthy? Please let us know, the next interviews will be conducted September 9,10. Just email or tweet at Pete Weitzner at [weitzner@chapman.edu](mailto:weitzner@chapman.edu), @Weitzner or © 949-291-1316.*

