Pacific Beach Historical Society
NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 9200 San Diego, CA 92109 John Fry, Editor 272-6655 Vol. X, No. 8 August, 1988

BELMONT PARK REOPENS!



BELMONT PARK REOPENED ON JULY 30, 1988, after a twelve year hiatus. Don't plan on taking the kids down to ride on the Tilt-a-Whirl, though -- it's a shopping center. The Plunge has been refurbished, however, the roller coaster may run again, and their are rumors of a ferris wheel and carousel down the line. The amusement park that many of us remember is pictured above, on July 4, 1960. Inside are additional photos that will bring back memories. (Photo courtesy of SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY/

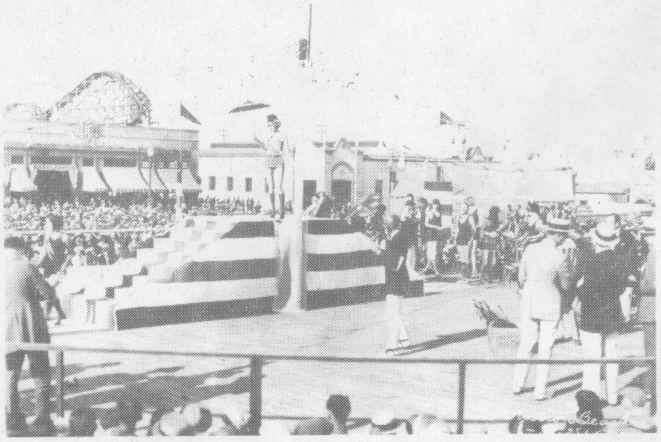
NEW MEETING PLACE, NEW MEETING TIME! SEE BACK PAGE.

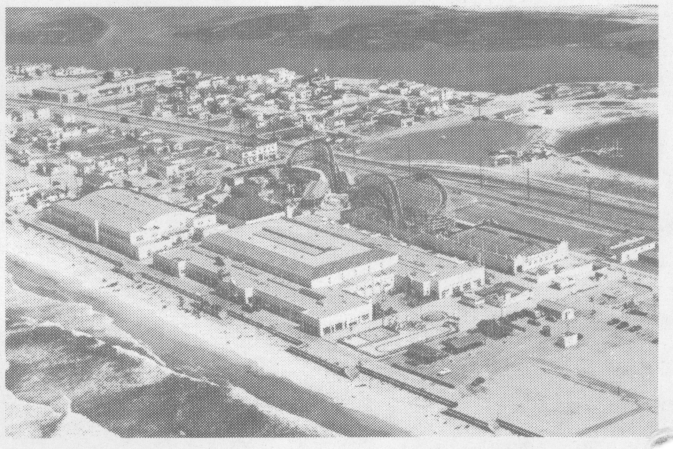
BELOW

(TOP) L.K. Dewein photo of a beauty pageant on the Prado, August 30, 1925.
(MIDDLE) Crowds lined up to enter the Natatorium (also known as the Bath House -- and later the Plunge) in 1925.
(BOTTOM) Earl Passmore took this shot of the masses on "East San Diego Day" at Mission Beach Amusement Park, August 19, 1928.

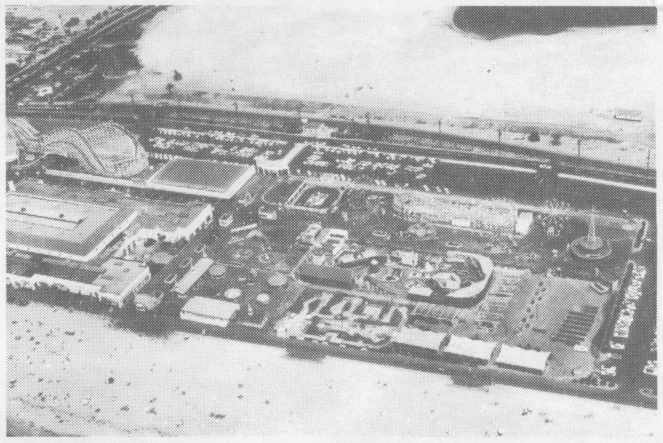
Photographs courtesy of SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY/TITLE INSURANCE COLLECTION)













ABOVE

(TOP) The "Midway", around 1938.
(MIDDLE) Howard Rozelle took this aerial in 1945 showing the ballroom and the plunge. Also note the dredge in the background, and the work on Bahia Point.
(BOTTOM) Another Rozelle aerial, from 1959, shows Belmont Park at its zenith, with a host of midway attractions, "Wonderland Park", and the miniature go course.

Photographs courtesy of SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY/TITLE INSURANCE COLLECTION)



THE ROLLER COASTER, photographed by Howard Rozelle around 1985. The redevelopment of Belmont Park was probably the most controversial project in the history of the beach. Perhaps not everyone would even agree that the new shopping center is an improvement over the run-down, fenced-in ghost town that existed for the past decade.

Are You A Member of the Pacific Beach Historical Society?

For those of you who aren't members, weren't aware of its existence, or thought membership was by invitation only—guess again! The society actively seeks new members. A membership application is provided below.

PACIFIC BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ DATE _____

BUSINESS/GROUP _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

☐ - $10/Single Membership ☐ - $15/Family Membership ☐ - $20/Business/Group Membership

Send to: Membership Secretary, Pacific Beach Historical Society, P.O. Box 9200, San Diego, CA 92109

* Make checks payable to: Pacific Beach Historical Society (or P.B.H.S.)

AUGUST MEETING

The popularity of the China Inn has forced the society to look for a new meeting place. Owner Roger Ip was most hospitable, and made every effort to assist us. We believe that a growing number of parties will need to use the back room, making it difficult for us to have our meeting at the same time.

President John Fry contacted Wesley Palms, and toured the facilities with Howard Rozelle, Dee Scherrer, and Jackie LeMay. Management extended a cordial invitation for us to have our meetings in their auditorium. In an effort to encourage their residents to attend the meeting we are scheduling the first meeting at 10:30 AM. Members who want to have lunch following the meeting, will have to make separate arrangements. There is a possibility of eating at Wesley Palms at future meetings. The topic of the slide presentation will be "Pacific Beach in the 1920's".

IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts are with member Jackie Lemay, whose mother passed away on July 18, 1988.

NOTICE!!!

THE AUGUST MEETING OF THE PACIFIC BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 10:30 AM AT WESLEY PALMS, 2404 LORING.
(Take Soledad Mt. Road -- turn right on Loring)

MEMBERSHIP

Renewing their memberships s[illegible] the publication of the last newsletter were the following: Pamela Beckett Stahl, Kiko Kawamoto, Linda Lopez, Raymond & Marjorie Harris, Edna Ratz & Laura Bartlett, THE BEACH COTTAGES, NEEDLECRAFT COTTAGE, HOME FEDERAL SAVINGS, JoAnn & Tom DiPiano, Gene & Marcie Wieveg, Erma Benson, Frank & Betty Bradley, Mr. & Mrs. Adare McAllister, Jack & Joanne Cannon, THE CALENDAR MAGAZINE, and Molly Kervin Steele.

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