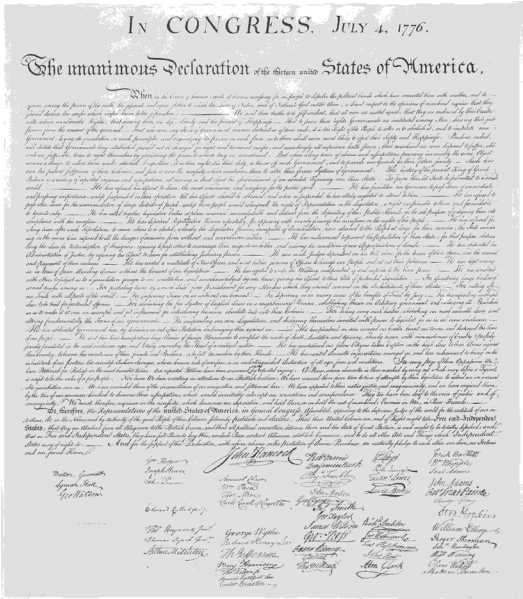


Encinitas Historical Society Newsletter

390 WEST F STREET • ENCINITAS • CA 92024 SUMMER 2026



UPCOMING EVENTS

250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence

- **Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20, 2026** Black Americans, re Emancipation Proclamation first celebrated 19 June 1865, Galveston
- **Sat., June 27, 2026 McCarran-Walter Act (June 27, 1952):** Federal legislation allowed Japanese aliens to become naturalized U.S. citizens, overturning the “alien ineligible for citizenship” states used to enforce California’s land restrictions.
- **Sat., July 4, 2026 Declaration of Independence signed 1776, 250th anniversary for United States**
- **Sat., August 8, 2026 for Aug., 9/17 Secularization Act, Native Californians freed from Missions, August 1852**

- **Sat., August 22, 2026 for Aug., 26, 1920, Nineteenth Amendment, U.S. women get the vote**
- **Sat., September 12, 2026 for California Independence, Sept., 9, 1850 admitted to Union as free state + cityhood of San Diego recognized by California legislature shortly before California statehood. Incorporated March 27, 1850**
- **Sat., September 19, 2026 for Sept.16 Mexican-American: Mexican Declaration of Independence**
- **Sat., October 3, 2026 for Oct. 1, 1986, incorporation of Encinitas, Oct. 4th city council sworn in 40th anniversary; also China’s National Day, recognized in California**

HISTORICAL DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR SCHEDULE 2026

The Encinitas Historical Society is able to offer this fun educational tour more often and with more varied walking paths! The Historical Society schedules will again offer monthly tours on the 3rd Saturday of every month. The tours start at the 1883 One-Room Schoolhouse, 390 West “F” Street, where there is plenty of parking. We will concentrate on the south end of historic Coast Highway, 2nd & 3rd Streets to “K” Street and we’ll cover the north end of Coastal Encinitas from “F” Street to Encinitas Blvd. The alternating of the route ensures that we can cover the distance in a slower, leisurely, more personal fashion.

<i>The following dates for the rest of the year 2026 are as follows:</i>	May 16.....South	Sept. 19South
	June 30North	Oct. 17North
	July 18South	Nov. 21South
	Aug. 15North	Dec. 19North



We have implemented a suggested donation for the Encinitas Historical Society of \$10 per person. We are an all volunteer organization with tax exempt status. *We accept cash, checks or credit/debt cards. Children and dogs are always free!* You may contact the Historical Society at 760-942-9066 or info@encinitashistoricalsociety.org with your questions.

Contact us:
Email: info@encinitashistoricalsociety.org
Phone: (760) 942-9066
Visit us today! www.encinitashistoricalsociety.org

INDEPENDENCE DAYS

On July 4, 2026, this nation will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. One might think that this anniversary has little or nothing to do with the local history of Southern California or Encinitas. In 1776, Indigenous peoples like the Kumeyaay, who had been in this area for at least 8000-10,000 years, would not have heard of a “Second Continental Congress.” Nor did the Declaration have any immediate impact on New Spain, which encompassed both Baja and Alta California. Both Californias, although outlined on dozens of inaccurate—even fanciful—maps inked with French, English, Russian, Portuguese, and Spanish coastal names, were

a U.S. “free state” in 1850 only by virtue of a compromise in the Senate that enabled the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act, which required citizens of free states to collaborate in searching out and returning to their “masters” all who had fled slavery, thus perpetuating the institution of slavery in all other US states. Indeed, for 250 years, Southern California and its resident communities have experienced an extraordinary multitude of Independence Days, each one usually promising more than it delivers—an independence sometimes withdrawn or contradicted by other laws, decrees, or sly amendments. This has been the shared experience of Indigenes, Mexicans, Blacks,



scarcely populated by Europeans or, for that matter, by the Black Amazonian women of a mythical Indies queendom after which California itself had been named. In 1776, barely visible among some 300,000+ natives, six missions had been planted in Alta California, maintained by a handful of Franciscan padres and perhaps 500 soldiers and settler families, many of whom were themselves of Mexican “Indian blood.”

But Independence Days are always aspirational. It took seven years of war for Great Britain to recognize the independence of the thirteen North American colonies, another four years for the US Constitution to be ratified, another two years before George Washington could be inaugurated as President. Similarly, Mexico declared its Independence from Spain in 1810 but could only claim that independence after eleven years of battle and then enduring three more years before the overthrow of emperor Agustín de Iturbide, the creation of the Mexican Republic and a Federal Constitution. The new Mexican government in turn was dedicated to eliminating slavery, first of Blacks and next of Native Californians in servitude to the growing number of missions. One Emancipation Proclamation after another was issued by the government in Mexico City; these too were often aspirational, as would be a series of declarations of independence, starting as early as 1836, by residents of Alta California announcing its (and their) freedom from the tyrannies of Mexico City.

And when California was “liberated” at the end of the Mexican-American War, it became

Chinese, and Japanese in California, as well as by women of all backgrounds.

Therefore, starting this June, the Encinitas Historical Society plans to celebrate not a single Declaration of Independence but a set of Independence Days, aided by a grant from the Coastal Community Foundation. We welcome people of every age to these free events, each of which will feature a number of different and collaborative activities tied to the tradition of one-room schoolhouses and the distinctiveness of our local history. You may find yourself engaged by short vivid talks or videos, interactive displays, artmaking, storytelling, puzzle-solving. You can help us write out, with turkey quill pens dipped in vintage ink, the Declaration of Independence, and add your own signature. You might read out an emancipation proclamation, a Constitutional Amendment, or a letter yearning for independence while learning proper elocution, as did schoolchildren not so long ago. You will be invited to record a personal narrative of independence and listen to newly recorded oral histories of elders in our community. Perhaps, just perhaps, you will invent a new app linking all Declarations of Independence around the globe or one American Independence Day to the next.

Each of us no doubt has experienced our own share of Independence Days, personal, familial, collective. Come help us explore the primary materials in our archives, which have much to tell us, for example, about the fortieth anniversary of the Independence (the Incorporation) of the City of Encinitas, later this year.

continued...

Come learn about the intriguing connections, for example, between the first settler in what we now call Leucadia and the national program for the education of newly freed slaves after the Civil War. Or between San Dieguito High School, the Japanese Internment Camp at Poston during World War II, and the Encinitas flower-growing community. Or among two signers of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, the exploration of the Northern Pacific coast, and California statehood.



If you know people in the Encinitas area whose life stories are of one Declaration of Independence after another, or if you yourself have a story to tell about an aspirational Independence Day, come share these with us. Encinitas may very well prove to be a hotspot of Declarations of Independence for local pods of surfers and skateboarders, bioengineers and artists, oceanographers and ecologists, spiritual and archaeological seekers, flower growers and ceramicists, garage bands and birdwatchers.

If you would simply like to join us from month to month as we unearth, recall, and elaborate upon the promise of the many Independence Days experienced in this area over the centuries, please come forward. Declarations of Independence are always occasions for finding oneself in the moment.

He who in late 1887 named Leucadia and its thirty streets of GrecoRoman glory, he who penned its first advertising and auction copy for the Leucadia Land and Town Company, was a man named Thomas Fitch. Otherwise known as the “Silver Tongued Orator of the West,” Fitch was always in demand, from 1860 through to 1920, as the featured speaker at July 4th celebrations in most every State and Territory west of the Mississippi. Are we not called, then, by the very momentum of our own local history, to carry on his tradition if not also his grandiloquence?

So far as we can tell, there is no project like this anywhere else in the United States. And it is veritably aspirational—we will be depending upon your help and presence to carry it off. It is a striking historical paradox that Independence Days are almost everywhere and everywhen a call to community.

Hillel Schwartz

Archivist - Encinitas Historical Society



EXECUTIVE BOARD

- President..... Carolyn Cope
Vice President Dayna Donatelli
Treasurer Al Mora
Secretary Cheryl Rehome

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chairman..... Jim Filanc
Secretary Cheryl Rehome
Treasurer..... Al Mora
Heritage Tree..... Jim Filanc
Archives Hillel Schwartz
Garden Club Jane Hunt
Membership Jane Hunt
Maintenance..... Patrick Danforth
Emeritus Joy Lyndes
Honorary Member..... Pam Walker

DOCENTS

Coordinator: Debra Zirolla

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Carolyn Cope | Dayna Donatelli |
| Dan Dalager | Janie Fay |
| Susie Faulkner | Jane Hunt |
| Sara Hoff | Pam King |
| Cheryl Rehome | Cheri Sheridan |
| Debra Zirolla | |

ACTIVE MEMBERS

NOT ON THE BOARD:

- Sean Englert
Encinitas Preservation Association
E Clamous Vitus
Nathan Henry
Photo Archives (*print orders*)



MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE ENCINITAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The mission of the Encinitas Historical Society is to collect, archive and preserve the many documents, photos, videos and oral histories that shaped our treasured heritage. In addition, we maintain the health and integrity of the oldest building within the City of Encinitas, the 1883 One Room Schoolhouse.

DONATIONS



SALES



MEMBERSHIP DUES



Donations - <https://givebutter.com/aSYHMs>

Sales - <https://givebutter.com/AUWPN2>

Membership Dues - <https://givebutter.com/PNmRki>

MEMBERSHIP CHANGE TO FISCAL YEAR

Board Member, Jane Hunt, is our new Membership chairperson. **Membership benefits:** Receive 10% off of purchases and FREE archival research.

2026 membership fees are now:

Family \$30 • Senior (65 or older) \$20 • Individual Membership \$25

All members will receive a renewal notice in June for our fiscal year July 2025-2026.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Historical Society. Your membership is extremely important to cover our operating costs.

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE “FRIENDS OF THE 1883 SCHOOLHOUSE”

Help to preserve our local history for generations to come and to provide numerous educational programs for our community including monthly walking tours of Historic Encinitas, development of heritage gardens at the Pacific View property and special events to engage our residents in supporting the work of the Encinitas Historical Society.

Membership INFO: ☐ New ☐ Renewal (Please check box)

Senior \$20 ☐ • Family \$35 ☐ • Individual \$25 ☐ • Business \$100 ☐

Please Print:

Date ____/____/____ Name:(s) _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ | (____) _____ - _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

- Would you consider volunteering as a docent for a few hours once a month on Saturday from 10am-3PM? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Donations to the nonprofit Encinitas Historical Society are tax-deductible.

I Love Encinitas! Don't you?

Being born and raised here I didn't realize how much I would miss here.....until

In 1974 I moved to Houston, Texas while my high school sweetheart turned husband attended medical school. I was pretty miserable. I hoped that somehow I could move back home where I could serve, my wonderful, beautiful hometown of Encinitas. We moved back in 1988.

I jumped right into the meetings of the Encinitas Historical Society and the newly formed San Diego Heritage Museum. Since coming home, I have served on many boards and committees, and am a 24+ year Rotarian where the motto is Service Above Self...my kind of people!

My passion and dedication is with the Encinitas Historical Society. Our precious little town does have very colorful history. Our Natives, our cultures, diverse religions & flowers-flowers everywhere.

In 1980 the historical society accepted the 1883 one-room schoolhouse and moved it to the south/west corner of the now Pacific View Arts Center. Thru donations, grants and volunteers we are diligent in keeping our oldest building in Encinitas healthy.

The real work now for the past year and a half has been taking complete inventory: identifying, cataloging, photographing, scanning & digitizing our many archives - a local newspaper dated 1892.

Via a grant, we are blessed to have a retired UCSD Professor, Dr. Hillel Schwartz who heads up a team of assistants and interns who work during the week to accomplish these intricate tasks. Soon we will have a Research Station where members can search the database.

We are also cataloging all of the Public Art within Encinitas and have documented over 950 with over 600 just west of I-5. For the Cyclovia event we will have a map with guided walking tours of the public art between "D" & "K". This small map is just a sampling of our planned full-scale maps with GIS mapping capabilities.

The Historical Society has created two power point presentations: Public Goods Initiative – The Invisibles on the history of Encinitas' Sewer System and recently Roads and how they came to be. We have on-going oral history interviews including a young intern from Mira Costa who is interviewing the early Mexican families here.

Another huge project we are working on is celebrating our 250th July 4th Independence Celebration...BUT...we are not only focusing on Americas' Independence Day but also included will be June 19th Black Americans Emancipation Proclamation, The Secularization Act that freed the Native Californians from Missions in 1852, the 1920 Nineteenth Amendment where US Woman were allowed to vote and in 1950 California's Independence as a free state. Also very important our own city's independence when we incorporated in 1986. Several lectures and hands-on activities are planned for each of these celebrations.

We are open to the public every Saturdays, 10am-3pm. Patrick Danforth, whose family has been here many generations, and I, conduct the monthly Downtown Historic Walking Tours. In 2017 the Historical Society Board of Director, Jim Filanc, took over the Lighting of the Heritage Tree to kick off the Holiday Season. The City and County grants, San Diego Foundation, valued donors memberships and volunteers keep us going. The San Diego Garden Club helps us to maintain our lovely garden areas. Needless to say, we are active!

In appreciation,

Carolyn Cope

President, EHS



CALLING ALL ALUMNI OF ENCINITAS SCHOOLS



The EHS hopes to complete its collection of school yearbooks.

If you have yearbooks in good condition for the years and schools listed below, we would be happy to accept them as donations:

San Dieguito High School (Academy)
for the years

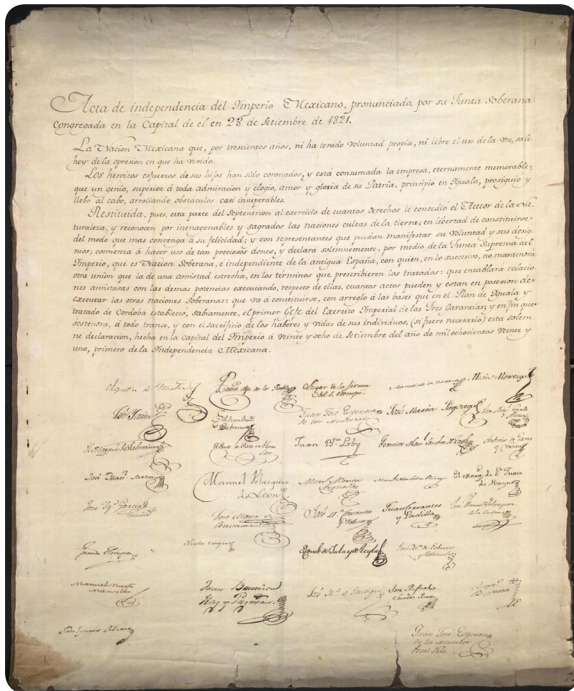
1955, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1974, 1975, 1980 thru 1986, 1989 thru 1996, 2001, 2008 thru 2015, 2019+.

Oak Crest Junior High: before 1959, 1968 thru 1974, 1976 thru 1998, 2002+.

And yearbooks of any other schools.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION

Below are images of Declarations of Independence Celebrations from our Mexican neighbors. Join us in celebrating unity!



ENCINITAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Membership privileges include free research copies, regular issues of our newsletter mailed hard copy or email, a Calendar of Events, VIP nights (*free for special events*) and a 10% reduction on all books, pictures and materials.

If you opt for the Business Membership, you will automatically receive free advertising in our newsletter, and your website will be just a click away in our Links & Volunteering page.