

tiptime

the newsletter of the Huntington Beach Longboard Crew



spring '05



The longboard line up. Huntington Beach Pier 2005.

Longboard Crew Turns 20

Aloha, and welcome to the new, online version of Tip Time, the newsletter of the Huntington Beach Longboard Crew. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of our (hard core) Surf Club. Twenty years is a lot of water under the Pier, not to mention thousands of barrels, bottom turns, nose rides, and cutbacks. Along the way we've made lasting friendships, enjoyed good times together, and even scored perfect waves in far-away places.

By now, most everybody knows the story about the Club's charter members and the circumstances which led to the establishment of the Longboard Crew back in October of 1985. It's a great story, and one that should be re-told, but we're going to save that for a future issue. Suffice to say, it was a vastly different

world then, and a different club as well.

In 1985 the local Huntington Beach establishment didn't know what to make of this new "surf-gang" made up of rebellious longboarders whose presence was starting to be felt out in the water, especially on the north side of H.B.. Pier. At this time Ronald Reagan was President, gas could be had for less than \$1.00 a gallon, Michael Jackson was still black, and all those 50 year old guys you see face-planting on the North Side, were thirty-something and could shred.

Holding monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of the month is probably the longest standing Crew tradition on record. Having a place to hold the meetings was another matter entirely.

Fagerly anticipated, a typical Crew meeting in 1985 started after a morning surf, with the cracking of the first beer. After that, it was sheer profit for the breweries. Given the average member's propensity for cordiality and good times, local establishments began regarding the club with some ambivalence. It was great to make the extra money on a typically slow night, but one never knew when or if a meeting might break out amidst all the reveling and chaos. And when the damages were factored in, profits evaporated. Consequently, the meetings had to be moved around -- a lot.

By 2005 the Longboard Crew has turned itself into the "establishment," enjoying the rarified atmosphere of its not-for-profit status as an approved 501(c)3 California Corporation. Even

the International Surfing Museum which once kept the Longboard Crew at arms length, has embraced the philosophy of the club, going so far as to name Crew President, Gary Sahagen, the head of its board of directors. And of course longboarding has come to be so established in the surfing industry that many original members are continuing to rebel by reverting back to riding shortboards.

Over the past twenty years, the Longboard Crew has been blessed with effective leadership. From the "Fathers of the Longboard Crew," Mike Minchinton and Bruce Walzcyk, all the way up to the present administration, each president and board of directors has left their unique mark on the Crew, establishing the traditions that we still observe today, while advancing the club's worthiness as we go into the future.

Longboard Crew Hall-of-Famers in Santa Cruz: 1992.





The Longboard Crew has always tried to make positive contributions to the local community. Whether it's recovering Dick Dale's stolen guitar, throwing surf contests to benefit the International Surfing Museum, adopting needy families for the holidays, or restoring bicycles and giving them away to kids in Baja (ala Blackie August,) the Crew can be proud of its record of community service.

However, as much as the Crew contributes to others, the club's number one priority remains: going surfing and having fun! Toward that end, the Longboard Crew sent a competition team to Churches last January 22nd & 23rd to participate in the Gathering of the Tribes, sponsored by Doheny Longboard Surfing Association. Team standouts included the dynamic father-son duo of Bill Hopkins Jr. and Sr. who each took 6th

place in their respective divisions. Rob Brown placed 3rd in the highly regarded Grand Masters division with Kelly Kraushaur shredding his way into 4th place of the Men's 39 & Under Shortboard. Gary Sahagen, no stranger to a final heat, rounded out the competitive results with a 3rd place in the Club President's division. Overall, the Longboard Crew finished a respectable 7th out of 17 teams. Congratulations go out to all participants.



Bill Hopkins Jr. goes left at Trail 4.

With the well being of it's membership always at the fore, the founders of the Longboard Crew established the annual Valentines Day Dinner Dance in the club's first year of existence. It has been a rousing success from its first inception, no doubt inspired by the fact that hardly anyone had a girlfriend in those days. That circumstance was immediately remedied after the first event. However, the incentive to continue putting on a quality affair persists. Now all those wives and girlfriends want an excuse to see their significant others dressed up in something besides t-shirts and surf trunks - at least one time a year.



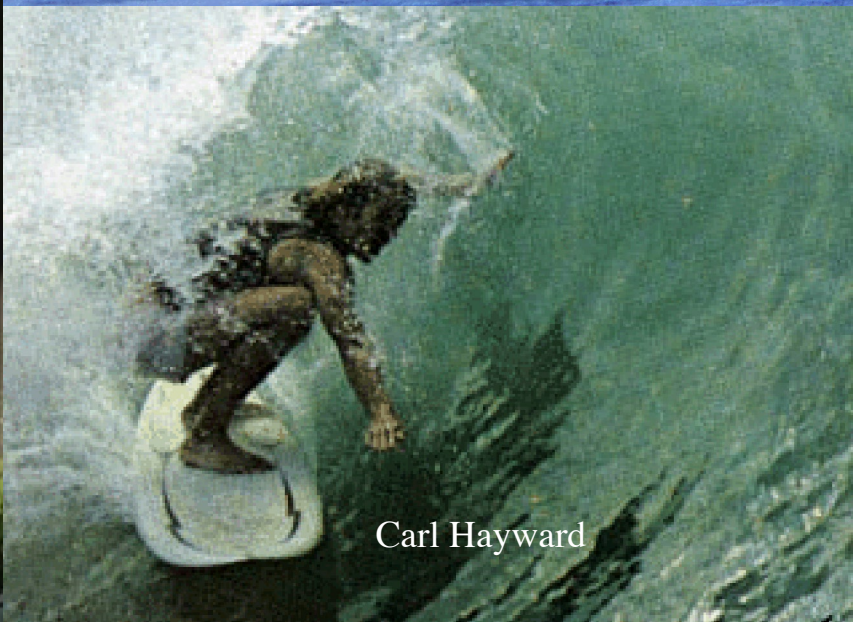
Mike Minchinton properly attired, and exercising the prime directive.

In Loving Memory

John Boozer



Uncle David



Carl Hayward

dodgerkremmel

Robert August
Surf Company



www.robertaugust.com

Monthly Meetings

Where: Mario's Restaurant
Five Points Shopping Center
18603 Main St. Huntington Beach, CA
92648. Phone: 714-842-5811

When: The second Wednesday of the
month - from 7:15pm to 8:15pm.



www.hblongboardcrew.org

The unforgettable Robin Hauser



The International
Surf Museum

HSS Longboards
Baja Fresh
Fred's Mexican Cafe
BJ's Pizza
Love at First Bite Catering
TK's Frog House
Momo's
Ariba Baja Cantina
Starbucks
Huntington Beach Beer Co.
15th Street Surf Shop



www.dangerwoman.com

Surfrider Foundation

2005 Schedule

April - Robin Hauser Surf'n Bowl
Think Bowling is easy?

May - Intra-club Surf Contest
Prepare for Memorial Day in Santa Cruz.

June - San-O-Smash
Bring supplies to party all weekend.

July - Malibu Surf Contest
Malibu Boardriders' 'Call to the Wall.'

August - Intra-club Surf Contest
Commemorating the Duke's birthday.

September - Oceanside Contest
More intense Coalition Competition.

October - Swami's Contest
Self Realization Surf Contest.

November - Intra-club Surf Contest
Turkey permitted Surf Competition.

December - Christmas Fundraising
We put the 'Fun' back in Fundraising.



Paddle Stronger-Surf Longer!



5th Street Surf Shop