

"No Child Left Inside"
Bill Introduced



New Mural Honors
Jack O'Neill



Save the Mile Buoy

odyssey NEWS

Stone Introduces "No Child Left Inside" Bill

Assemblymember Mark Stone (D-Monterey Bay) has introduced legislation that would provide education about the environment and outdoor recreation for California children, prioritizing opportunities for underserved and at-risk students. To borrow a phrase from outdoor advocate and author Richard Louv, the bill aims to leave no child left inside. The bill takes the next step after the positive conclusions of a study on the benefits of outdoor education authorized by AB 1330 which was successfully carried in 2003 by then-Assemblymember, current Santa Clara County Supervisor and OSO Advisory Board Member Joe Simitian.



Assemblymember Mark Stone

"In many underserved communities, participation in outdoor environmental education and recreation programs are the only exposure kids have to nature and the environment," said Stone. "Outdoor environmental education provides students with memorable real-world experiences with the environment,

which increases interest in science and environmental stewardship."

Specifically, AB 1603 establishes an Outdoor Environmental Education Program under the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Grants would be awarded to education programs that are operated by public entities or nonprofit organizations. The bill prioritizes organizations that work to increase the ability of underserved and at-risk populations to participate in outdoor recreation and educational activities. Priority would also be given to programs that align with Common Core standards and integrate instruction in science, technology, engineering and mathematic (STEM) subjects.

"Few funding sources now exist for something that enhances academic achievement, critical thinking and lifetime environmental stewardship among students," said Dan Haifley, Executive Director of the O'Neill Sea Odyssey, a non-profit organization dedicated to

teaching students about marine life and the ocean environment. "Our own studies found that outdoor environmental education has a profound beneficial impact on lower income youth." ♦

Mural Commemorates Original O'Neill Surf Shop with Nod to OSO

Visitors to the parking lot in front of Santa Cruz' Cowell Beach, next to the Municipal Wharf, will be treated to a beautiful mural depicting stages in the life and career of Jack O'Neill and his family, including a photo of O'Neill Sea Odyssey students aboard the Team O'Neill catamaran. Accompanied by a marker designating a California Point of Historic Interest initiated by Santa Cruz City Councilmember David Terrazas, (*'Mural'* continued on inside left page)



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(Accumulated Giving)

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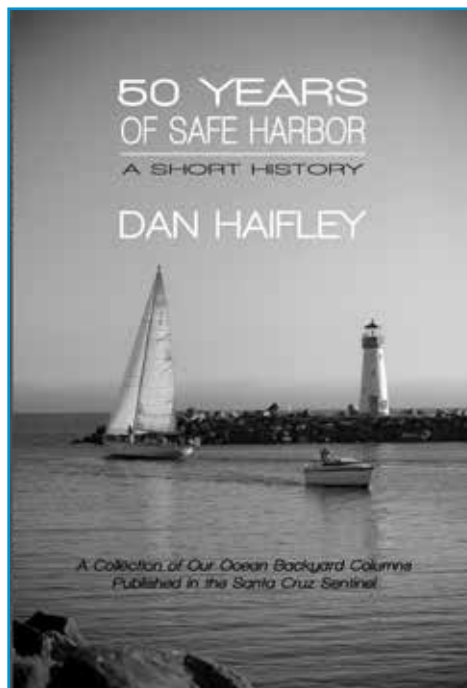
Autographed Copy of *Jack O'Neill: It's Always Summer on the Inside*



Full of unique, personal stories and photos of the life and times of Jack O'Neill, this beautiful 250 page coffee table book is a rarity, but when coupled with his autograph...wow. With a \$500 donation to the O'Neill Sea Odyssey, you will receive one of these unique books, complete with a letter of authenticity. Originally, this book was sold at retail stores for \$40 and even more than that online. Hurry, because there are just a few remaining! Donate at www.oneillseaodyssey.org ♦

Harbor History Book on Sale

50 *Years of Safe Harbor: A Short History*—a collection of Santa Cruz Sentinel "Our Ocean Backyard" columns by O'Neill Sea Odyssey Executive Director Dan Haifley about the history of the Santa Cruz Small Craft Harbor—is now on sale at select locations and at www.oneillseaodyssey.org for \$16.95.



The book recounts efforts to establish the port, the selection of its location, its construction and stories of outlaw surfers, revolutionary boaters, Jack London's river tale and the fight against a river of sand over 50 years. It also contains beautiful, never before seen photos of the port's construction. "This book contains unique stories and dramatic, previously unseen photos that will entertain and delight readers," Haifley said. It's available at Bookshop Santa Cruz, Crossroads Books in Watsonville, the Santa Cruz Harbor office, the Santa Cruz Yacht Club, the SUP Shack at the harbor and at www.oneillseaodyssey.org. There will be a book signing and talk at Bookshop Santa Cruz at 7:30pm on Tuesday, April 29. A portion of the proceeds will benefit O'Neill Sea Odyssey. ♦



(*'Mural'* continued from front page) the permanent mural was unveiled on February 12, 2014 after a temporary mural had been installed in March 2013. The Dream Inn Hotel, which plays host to the mural and its new Jack O'Neill Lounge, joined O'Neill Wetsuits to make a joint \$5,000 donation to OSO. ♦

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Robert Stephens, President, California
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Coroner (ret.)

Leave a Legacy for Youth and the Ocean

You're part of the reason we're here and you can also be part of the reason we'll be here 100 years from now. Since 1996, O'Neill Sea Odyssey (OSO) has served nearly 75,000 youth with a free, ocean-going science and environment program.

This has been possible in part because you have provided much-needed and deeply appreciated support for OSO's program for area youth. In 2005 OSO's Board of Directors made a commitment to raise funds to ensure

our future by establishing a permanent endowment fund for OSO which is housed at the Community Foundation for Santa Cruz County.

We would like to invite you to help us build a future foundation for our program, for the kids, and for the ocean. You can do this by naming OSO's permanent fund at Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County in your estate plan. There are also many ways to leave a permanent legacy and reap some significant financial benefits before hand, including: a beneficiary designation in your retirement fund or insurance policy, gifts from a will or living trust, an annuity that provides you with lifetime income, gifts of real estate, and charitable trusts.

We would be honored to meet with you to discuss supporting our permanent fund in a way that works best for you. Please contact Dan Haifley at **(831) 465-9390** or at **dhaifley@oneillseaodyssey.org**, or fill out the attached form and mail it to us. Thank you! ♦

How You Can Influence One Child's Life

BY JACK, BRIDGET & TIM O'NEILL



There's a popular belief that most giving to charities comes from corporations, large foundations, and government agencies. Indeed, OSO is fortunate to have consistent support from respected institutions such as the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, PG&E, Comerica Bank, the O'Neill family and local government funds dedicated to watershed protection.

Over the last couple of decades numerous studies have found, however, that between 75% and 85% of all giving to charitable causes comes from individuals like to help us do our work. OSO's Board of Directors decided as part of its new 2014-2018 strategic plan to encourage and increase individual giving.

OSO has a mailing list that exceeds 3,000 people, many of whom generously reach into their pockets a few times a year to support the program. We'd like to ask you to introduce us to your friends, colleagues, family and neighbors who care about the environment. You can always contact our staff if you need help.

OSO has served more than 75,000 students, begun an endowed fund for our future, and renovated our education center and private tenant spaces that support the program on the second floor of the O'Neill Building at the Santa Cruz Harbor thanks to donations that we have received since 1996. That generosity from you and others has kept us going, and will carry our work into the future.

Thanks in part to you, we'll influence young people to a life of stewardship, one at a time. ♦

Enrollment Form

- I have named OSO in my estate plan (we will contact you relative to recognition)
- I would like to talk to someone about a gift to OSO in my estate plan
- I wish to learn more about the OSO/Community Foundation's gift annuity program
- I would like the recommended language for including OSO in my estate plan

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Email: _____

Please send to OSO, 2222 East Cliff Drive, Suite 222; Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Our Ocean Backyard: *Mile Buoy Will Stay Awhile*

BY DAN HAIFLEY

"...Now at 2 a.m. the fog has fallen, and the great roaring whistle calls up the distant answering notes all around us. Shall we, or shall we not find the buoy?"

—Robert Louis Stevenson, Memoir of Fleming Jenkin, 1896

In his book *Gaff-Rigged Remembrance*, harbor historian Ed Larson described the Santa Cruz mile buoy as originally located "exactly one mile and exactly due south of the Municipal Wharf" at the 10 fathom (60-foot) depth line.

Built 50 years before the harbor was dedicated, the municipal wharf, as well as the railroad wharf that once stood to its west and nearby waters, served as an anchorage for boats whose skippers used the buoy as a path marker for their forays out to sea and back home.

Today, the Santa Cruz Lighted Whistle Buoy, as it's officially known, is about a mile and a half south of the harbor, secured by a weight on the sea floor. The U.S. Coast Guard had been considering a proposal to remove it to save maintenance costs, arguing that many boats now have navigation technology and that as a visible marker it was redundant with the Walton Lighthouse on the harbor's west jetty. It would have remained as a point on navigational maps.

But there's good news. Rep. Sam Farr successfully lobbied the Coast Guard after it received a tsunami of

objections from the public asking that the buoy remain. As a result, the Coast Guard put its decision to remove it on hold.

Initiating the wave of protest were the five-member Santa Cruz Port Commission and Port Director Lisa Ekers. I learned about the proposal from boaters Al Carlson and Niels Kisling, who made well-reasoned arguments against the buoys removal. There was also face-to-face lobbying by some including former Port Commissioner, sailor and O'Neill Sea Odyssey Board member Jim Thoits.

Their arguments were compelling. Skipper Ken Stagnaro told me that the buoy "denotes a safe path to port. Mariners should steer toward this buoy first before heading for the harbor." Sitting atop more than 60 feet of water it's what skipper Tim O'Neill called a "safe water" mark and it has the official red and white vertical stripes to prove it. At night it can also be located due to its flashing light. Niels Kisling, whose children sail, said that it marks their outer boundary outside the harbor; an argument any parent can understand.

Boater Al Carlson said that kayakers are close to the water and may not be able to see other navigational aids at a distance, so having mile buoy provides the safety of another available fixed point.

He also said that many vessels don't have GPS. Lisa Ekers said it's important for marine rescues. "The mile buoy is visible from shore, providing a valuable reference point for emergency responders and others reporting

distressed vessels, such as paddlers," she said. "You can't 'dead reckon' (calculate one's position using another) or otherwise sight something using a buoy that exists only as a point on an electronic map."

For O'Neill Sea Odyssey, the ocean science program for area elementary schools that I direct, the buoy has been part of the curriculum that has served more than 75,000 students. It helps teach mathematics learned on the Team O'Neill catamaran using the ancient art of navigation.

We're safer with the mile buoy. Even if you don't spend time on the water, you may know someone or has, or will. Or, you may just enjoy that low, bellowing whistle you can sometimes hear at night that Larson described in his book. "All whistle buoys use the same cast bronze whistle," he wrote. "The air in the counterweight tube of the buoy rises and falls with wave action. The downward motion of the buoy forces air through the whistle, and the escaping air causes the familiar drone."

Listen for that whistle, and you'll find the buoy. It's still there.

This column appeared in the Santa Cruz Sentinel on January 18, 2014. ♦

Ocean Odysseys: Jack O'Neill, Dan Haifley and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

An edited oral history of Save Our Shores and O'Neill Sea Odyssey, as told through the eyes of Jack O'Neill, Bridget O'Neill and Dan Haifley has been published in a 156-page paperback by the University of California Santa Cruz. The book retails for \$7.95. Purchase at www.oneillseaodyssey.org ♦

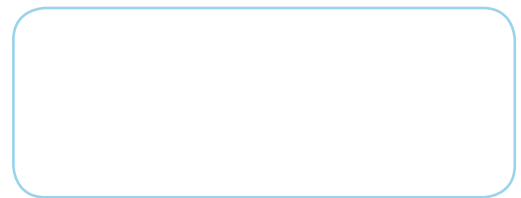




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