



May 28, 2021

"Twenty-six miles across the sea, Santa Catalina is a-waitin' for me..."

Dear Museum Supporter,

When lead singer Bruce Belland and Glen Larson sat down to write the song *26 Miles (Santa Catalina)* in 1957, they had no idea it would propel their group the Four Preps to international fame and help put Catalina Island on the map.

The song was an inspiration for what became known as the California sound and led many to visit Catalina, which they described as the 'Island of Romance.' There is a tribute display to the Four Preps and their hit song in the lobby of the museum.

The song was also an inspiration to Catalina Island Museum which names its 26 Mile Club for loyal donors who give 5 consecutive years or more. Each spring, Catalina Island Museum conducts its 26 Mile Club appeal asking friends to renew their support.

A special opportunity awaits 26 Mile Club members. The museum will host a virtual social in June with Bruce Belland and will share a recently digitized film of the Wrigley Ocean Marathon from 1927. Invitations to follow with date and time. There is much more that we offer with nationally renowned exhibitions like *Titanic: Real Artifacts, Real People, Real Stories* (through February 13, 2022), First Friday Films, *adDRESSING Titanic: Appearance and Identity in 1912* lecture, and our annual Día de los Muertos Family Festival to name a few.

May we count on you to join me and other Board members in supporting the excellent exhibitions, displays and programs of Catalina Island Museum? An anonymous donor has made a \$26,000 challenge grant that we are asked to match by June 30, 2021. That means every dollar you give will have double effect because it will be matched!

Please make your gift online at CatalinaMuseum.org/donate or send your donation in the enclosed gift reply envelope. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the museum.

Sincerely,

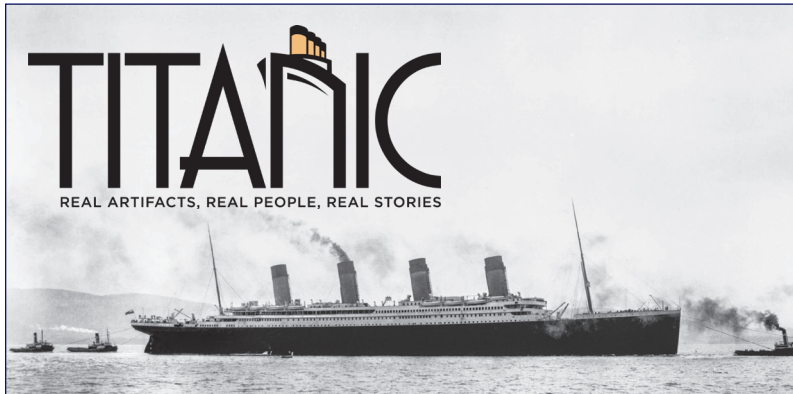


A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Bevins".

Ron Bevins
Board Chair
Catalina Island Museum



FEATURED EXHIBITIONS



Titanic:

Real Artifacts, Real People, Real Stories

Extended through February 13, 2022

The drama of the RMS *Titanic*'s maiden voyage haunts history with its dualities of ambition and failure, opulence and oppression, tragedy and hope. Through artifacts, images and personal belongings, *Titanic* shares the stories of the individuals from that fateful crossing and offers viewers an opportunity to touch the lives of those who set sail on the "unsinkable" ship.



Gayle Garner Roski:

Journey to the Titanic

Extended through October 24, 2021

In 2000, Gayle Garner Roski had the opportunity to explore the depths of the North Atlantic Ocean to visit the haunting remains of the RMS *Titanic*. Aboard the MIR I submersible 12,500 feet below the surface, she became the first artist to paint the notorious ship from life. *Journey to the Titanic* is the first public display of the watercolors that document her journey to the bottom of the sea.

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This club was inspired by a longtime donor who annually donates in honor of the distance between the Los Angeles County shores and Avalon, as so stated in the beloved Four Preps song *26 Miles (Santa Catalina)*. This donor has challenged us to raise \$26,000 by June 30th and they will match it. Donate today and your gift will have double the impact!



Those who have donated 5 years in a row receive:

- Name(s) listed on the Catalina Island Museum website
- Recognition on the digital display in the *Hagenah Family Lobby*
- A 26 Mile Club lapel pin
- Bragging rights as long-term supporter of Catalina's sole institution devoted to art, culture and the rich history of Santa Catalina Island