

Annual PBC fundraiser returns with big wave surf movie

By Jean Bartlett | Features Correspondent

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Each year the multi-award winning Pacifica Beach Coalition (PBC) hosts and organizes an Earth Day of Action. A sampling of statistics reveals that in 2009, 3,744 PBC Earth Day volunteers collected 8,364 pounds of total trash and recycle from our coast, streets, hills and byways. In 2011, 7,200 volunteers recovered 15,000 pounds of trash and recycle. In 2014, 7,500 volunteers removed over three tons of trash, recycle and green waste. This year PBC will hold its 11th Annual Pacifica Earth

Day of Action and EcoFest, "Bee the Change, Bee an Earth Hero," on the 18th of April. How do they do it? How do they get the word out to bring so many people together? How do they supply volunteers with cleanup and planting tools and the information needed to tackle the various projects? How do they bring so many world-renowned speakers not only to the stages of the event's EcoFest but into local classrooms in the weeks leading up to event? A huge part of getting it all off the ground is the Beach Coalition's annual and extremely popular Surf Movie event, a benefit that allows the local nonprofit to benefit our city.

The Surf Movie event not only presents extraordinary films, it also brings in phenomenal speakers and an audience that is one of the greatest mixes of the residents of our town — City officials, surfers, teachers, students, environmentalists, business owners, and the list goes on.

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"This PBC fundraiser is not just a movie, it is an event," said Greg Cochran, president of Pacifica's Pedro Point Surf Club. "Year after year it shares an inspiring insight into the ocean and the surfers and volunteers who love the ocean."

This year's film is "Step Into Liquid."
Written and directed by Dana Brown, the



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son of surfer and surf film pioneer Bruce Brown, "Step Into Liquid" is a "competition documentary on surfing obsession," photographed by John-Paul Beeghly and takes viewers along a surfer's ride to such places as: Hawaii's surf reef break, the Pipeline; a shallow seamount 96 miles southwest of San Pedro, Los Angeles, called Cortes Bank; and to the beaches of Vietnam. Rolling Stone Magazine called "Step Into Liquid," the best surfing documentary ever made.

Released in August of 2003, the film features an extraordinary lineup of surfers including Taj Burrow, Kelly Slater, Rob Machado, Rochelle Ballard and Keala Kennelly. There are no stunt men or women. There are no special effects. There is simply, in all its deep fulfillment, surfing.

"(Surfing) is not a part of this world," one of the surfers in the film explains. "You are stepping into liquid. You are stepping off of concrete ground and into an element that is always changing and moving and surrounding you. And it feels good."

The event will also include a trailer for a new surf movie, "It Ain't Pretty," a film about women who surf in San Francisco's Ocean Beach. In addition, the directors of both films, joined by several Mavericks pro surfers, will be on hand to talk "surfing" films, love of the ocean and the thrill of big wave surfing. The evening will additionally introduce several Pacifica "Earth" heroes.

If you go:

Event: Annual Surf Movie Fundraiser to benefit PBC's Earth Day of Action 2015.

Features: "Step Into Liquid" and a preview of "It Ain't Pretty."

Guests include: Directors, producers, photographers and Mavericks pro surfers.

Where: Pacifica Performances Mildred Owen Concert Hall, 1220 Linda Mar Blvd., Pacifica.

When: Sunday, March 1. Two showtimes: 1 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Doors open at 12:30 p.m.)

Additional: Raffle prizes and no host wine and beer.

Tickets: \$15 in advance (recommended). \$20 at door. Tickets available at: Sonlight Surf Shop, 575 Crespi Drive, Pacifica; Cafe Pacifica, 1821 Palmetto Ave., Pacifica; Mavericks Surf Shop, 25 Johnson Pier, Half Moon Bay; or online at www.pacificabeachcoalition.org

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