

## FROM THE ARCHIVES by Robin Rudderow

### Faces of Bodega Bay

**The Faces of Bodega Bay** exhibit held on April 28 and 29, 2019 at the Grange was a fabulous success. After more than a year and half of preparation, John Hershey and I were pleased to present eighty-nine artful portraits of Bodega Bay locals. To convey a bit of each personal story, each person or family was pictured in their own surroundings, telling us what they find special about Bodega Bay.

Without the help and support of so many people, Faces of Bodega Bay would not have been possible. **BIG, BIG THANK YOU'S** go to all the portrait subjects, the financial donors who provided the funds to print, frame, and display the portraits, the amazing "Creativity Committee" who helped John set up the beautiful exhibit, the biography writers, the graphic designers, the people and businesses who donated food and liquid libation for the opening reception, the "bar tenders" at the reception, the delicious cookie bakers, the bake sale crew, and the Grange, which generously donated the space for the exhibit. We were thrilled that the bake sale raised \$970 towards the new code compliant commercial kitchen to be installed in the Grange.

A very special thank you goes to **Darris Nelson** who was an invaluable assistant to **John Hershey**, tirelessly hauling equipment up hills and down cliffs, setting up the lighting, recommending camera angles, and staging the portrait subjects. Another special thank you goes to **Nicole Gee**, who was John's capable and creative photography assistant early in the project. We are deeply grateful to videographer **Jason Windsor** for filming and producing the wonderful video centered for our fundraising effort and promote the exhibit. If you haven't seen the video yet, the four-minute watch is well worth your time. Check it out at: [www.tinyurl.com/faces-bodega-bay](http://www.tinyurl.com/faces-bodega-bay)

One purpose of the Faces project is to help us **get to know each other better**. So many people came to me during the exhibit to say "I didn't know ..." something learned from the short biography alongside the portraits. My favorite comment was that the exhibit **brought us together as a community over something positive**. Another purpose is to **create a record** of who we are for future generations of Bodega Bay residents. With eighty-nine portraits, we barely skimmed the surface of the many wonderful people who live and work here. We are hopeful that someone will step forward and take on **Faces Phase II**. John and I will gladly give our support and insight to a new team willing to continue the project as we focus our energy on the set of portraits that we put together.

To that end, we are actively seeking other venues to display **Faces of Bodega Bay**. We will reach out to local museums, libraries, and galleries to find places to display John's beautiful art as a way to encourage other communities to take on this project for their towns, as well as, display the project for those of you in Bodega Bay who missed the opening exhibit. If you have suggestions for venues, please let me know.

**When will we produce a book?** was a question posed over and over during the exhibit. The next step is to complete longer biographies about each portrait subject. In that vein, I'm asking for the community's help. Several folks have stepped forward to write a one-page biography about one or more, but more portrait subjects need interviews. **It's a lot of fun to get to know folks in a greater depth** than just a passing hello at our Post Office, so please contact Robin if this is something you can help with. ■

#### CALLING ALL WRITERS

The Faces Project needs members with good writing skills that are curious about other VIPs in Bodega Bay. Choose a person you would like to meet and write a one page biography. That's it !! and the Faces Project will be one step closer to a book.