



Stu News Laguna

Stu Saffer's Laguna Beach News and Community Forum



Longtime Laguna Beach resident David Walker funds local causes through Laguna Beach Community Foundation fund

After hearing Peter Kote's financial presentation about charitable trusts at the newly opened Susi Q Center in 2009, David Walker was sold on the idea. The longtime Laguna Beach resident learned that by establishing his own donor advised fund (DAF) through the Laguna Beach Community Foundation, he could save on taxes and support the local causes he cares about most.



Photo by Barbara Kimler

David Walker

Walker set up his fund in 2014 and the Community Foundation helped him research nonprofits to determine which organizations were best aligned with his passion of ocean preservation and the arts. Another factor that appealed to him was designating funds to specific uses such as education and research.

Earlier this year, five local nonprofits including Laguna Canyon Foundation, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Community Concert Band, Sally's Fund and the Ocean Institute received grants from Walker's fund.

Walker said, "I couldn't be more impressed with the Community Foundation's accounting practices and knowledge of nonprofits. It is extremely satisfying to

know that while I'm receiving a tremendous tax benefit, I am helping nonprofits and important causes in town."

Walker is often seen riding his bike around Laguna Beach as this is favorite mode of transportation. Born in New Mexico, Walker grew up in San Diego and moved to southern Orange County in 1965 eventually making Laguna Beach his permanent home in 1972. He taught shop at Marco Forster Middle School in San Juan Capistrano for 36 years and is a general contractor in Laguna Beach. He plans to continue funding his DAF and hopes to expand his support of local causes in the future.

The Laguna Beach Community Foundation strengthens the community by encouraging philanthropy. They provide expertise and resources to assist local charities, connect donor passions with nonprofit needs, and work with local professional advisors in assisting their clients in giving now and beyond their lifetimes with a legacy gift. For more information, call 949.715.8223 or visit www.lagunabeachcf.org