

# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION OF  
LAD HANDELMAN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO OUR LOCAL MARITIME HISTORY**

*WHEREAS, Lad Handelman was awarded with the NOGI Award by the Academy of Underwater Arts and Sciences (AUAS) in November 2014; and*

*WHEREAS, Lad arrived in Santa Barbara from New York City in the 1950s and went to work as a tender on abalone boats. He soon joined the elite Black Fleet of abalone boats out of Santa Barbara Harbor, during a period when Santa Barbara supplied two-thirds of the world's abalone; and*

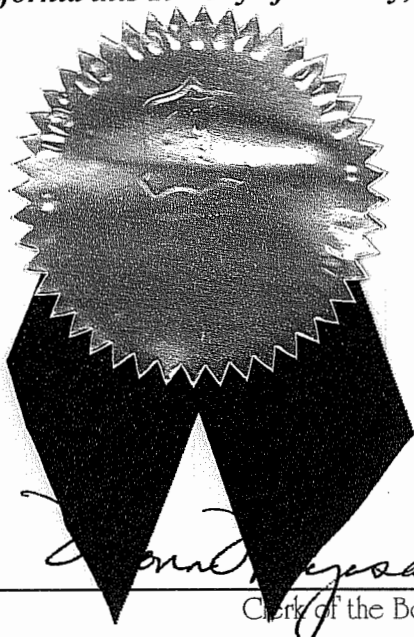
*WHEREAS, when the oil companies began looking to drill in the Santa Barbara Channel, Handelman joined with several other divers to form CalDive. From their offices on Stearns Wharf, CalDive became the first Santa Barbara based international diving company, and helped put Santa Barbara on the map as the birthplace for deep-water commercial diving; and*

*WHEREAS, Lad then went on to co-found another international dive company, Oceaneering, again based here in Santa Barbara. Though now based in Houston, Oceaneering continues to be one of the largest commercial diving companies in the world; and*

*WHEREAS, AUAS is an international, multi-discipline, nonprofit organization dedicated to recognizing pioneers and leaders who have had a global impact on the exploration, enjoyment, safety, and preservation of the underwater world. The NOGI Award is bestowed on exceptional people for their contributions to diving each year.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors congratulates Lad Handelman for receiving the NOGI Award and thanks him for his contributions to our local maritime history.*

*PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016 by a unanimous vote of all members present.*



ATTEST:

*Donald J. ...*  
Clerk of the Board

*L. O. C. E. L.*  
Supervisor - 1st District  
*Jant Wolf*  
Supervisor - 2nd District  
*Richard ...*  
Supervisor - 3rd District  
*Pete ...*  
Supervisor - 4th District  
*G. ...*  
Supervisor - 5th District