# **Pacifica Riptide**

Covers the Coastside

October 30, 2012

## **Assemblyman Jerry Hill Honors Pacifica Beach Coalition**



Assemblyman Jerry Hill has honored Pacifica Beach Coalition (PBC) with the 19th Assembly District's Environmental Leadership Award for PBC's many years of volunteer service in the community. Hill presented the award to PBC President Lynn Adams at "Java with Jerry," a community gathering on October 27 at Mazzetti's Bakery in Pacifica.

"San Mateo County is rich in natural beauty, and some of its greatest treasures are here in Pacifica, with its more than six miles of beaches and shoreline habitats," Hill said. "Much of it is staggeringly beautiful, and were it not for some key organizations in the community and their members, those very beaches could well be a staggering mess. Today, I'd like to recognize an organization that has been a great environmental leader, working with the city and residents – that's the Pacifica Beach Coalition."

Founded in 1997, PBC expanded its annual Earth Day in 2005 into a citywide event to remove litter from the streets before it reaches the beaches. PBC's Earth Day 2012 cleanup brought more than 8,100 people to Pacifica beaches and creeks, and Coastal Cleanup Day drew more than 1,100 volunteers.

Since 2005, almost 35,000 volunteers have participated in PBC's annual Earth Day and Coastal Cleanup Day projects, removing more than 115,000 pounds of garbage from Pacifica beaches, creeks, parks, parking lots, and streets.

PBC has five monthly cleanups at Pacifica beaches, and special activities throughout the year, like gathering 35 gallons of fireworks debris by two members on the Fourth of July, and cleanup of more than 250 pounds of plastic bags and other trash from Pacifica's "Secret Waterfall" after the first heavy rain.

PBC praises Hill for his support of efforts to reduce waste and preserve the imperiled Pacific leatherback sea turtle. Hill was among lawmakers who voted for legislation by Assemblyman Paul Fong (AB 1776) to declare the Pacific leatherback sea turtle California's official state marine reptile. Under the new law, October 15 is now officially Pacific Leatherback Sea Turtle Conservation Day.

**Caption for photo above:** Left to right, Pacifica Beach Coalition members Tom Whitaker and Steve Fairbairn, Coalition President Lynn Adams, and Assemblyman Jerry Hill.



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