

Point Loma Assembly

We represent the Point Loma Assembly, a non-profit civic organization founded in 1913. In 1911, 28 Point Loma women assembled to organize a local improvement society, creating the Point Loma Assembly. In 1913 Mr. Jennings offered to lease four lots to the Assembly for 1cent annually *if the Assembly would incorporate* and build within a year. It did, and in 1913 the Point Loma Assembly organization located at 3035 Talbot St. was born. The Assembly hall became the meeting place for social engagement in Point Loma. It hosted a variety of functions including Camp Fire girls, civic meetings, election polls, dancing, music and plays. During WWI and WWII the Assembly became a Red Cross distribution center where women would gather to sew and knit for our troops overseas. Dances were held for our soldiers on leave. In 1935 the building was “sold” to the Point Loma Community by the generous Jennings family for \$5. Over the next 50 years, the Assembly organization grew to 60 members. Philanthropic work, gardening classes, flower shows, music, plays and square dancing all continued to be held at the Assembly Hall. The famous Mr. Benjamin’s Cotillion classes, where many Point Loma children learned about manners and etiquette, were held there.

In recent years, membership at the Assembly had languished and, due to deferred maintenance, the hall at 3035 Talbot has many needs. In November 2011, under the leadership of Point Loma philanthropist Dottie Laub, the Point Loma community rallied to restore membership in the Assembly and to work to restore this one of a kind, 100 year old beautiful building to its past glory. With this restoration its role as an important and historic site for community civic engagement is starting to blossom again.

There are many needs for building refurbishment, but exterior painting is a high priority. We respectfully request \$5,000 to continue this project. Event rental income is key for maintaining and restoring the building, so integrity and appearance are paramount. The painting work would be done immediately. The overall budget for the painting is close to \$15,000.

The Assembly hall now provides a venue for civic meetings, community education as well as social and cultural events. The building itself is a living piece of San Diego history.