

FACES OF BODEGA BAY

Meet Bob Miller at the Surf Shack

by Laura Rogers-Bennett

Bob has an infectious enthusiasm or in his words he is “stoked” about surfing and has been working here for 25 years teaching novices, intermediate students and surfing with world class surfers.

Speaking of great surfers, Bob’s wife of 22 years, Lauri, is an excellent surfer, beautiful to watch glide over the waves and a teacher and mom of two great young guys. Bob and Lauri’s sons Miles and Dylan are now at UC Santa Cruz and in high school, and by the way, they are both great surfers too.

Bob grew up in Bennett Valley in Santa Rosa, went to the Santa Rosa Junior College and has been coming to the ocean his whole life to surf and enjoy the waves. He says that “looking at the ocean puts it all into perspective how small we are and things that might stress me out don’t seem to be worth worrying about”.

In addition to his business the Surf Shack, Bob is very involved in the community in Bodega Bay and has been a volunteer firefighter,



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supporter of the local schools, the Surf Rider Foundation, migrant workers association and gives surf and kayaking lessons to at risk kids. His Surf Shack has grown into a family business and many local kids have worked there helping out when Bodega Bay hits the busy summer tourist season.

Bob enjoys music, learning to sail and is working on his house in Carmet by the Sea.

One thing you might not know is that when he was 5 years old Bob won a bicycle in an art contest put on by a local TV news station, but he did not yet know how to ride a bike.

One thing you surely know about Bob is his warm greeting for everyone. His big smile, his love of talking with people and most of all his love of the Pacific Ocean is easily shared for all. He says that we in Bodega Bay “all look at each other with a smile and know how lucky we are.” ■



A regular appearance in our quarterly newsletter, The Faces of Bodega Bay is a photojournalistic record of people in our town: school kids, surfers, shop owners, fishermen, restaurant workers; a whole gamut of people who live and work in Bodega Bay and help make it the wonderful community that it is. These “environmental portraits” portray the subjects in their natural environment, capturing their character and telling their story through their surroundings.

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