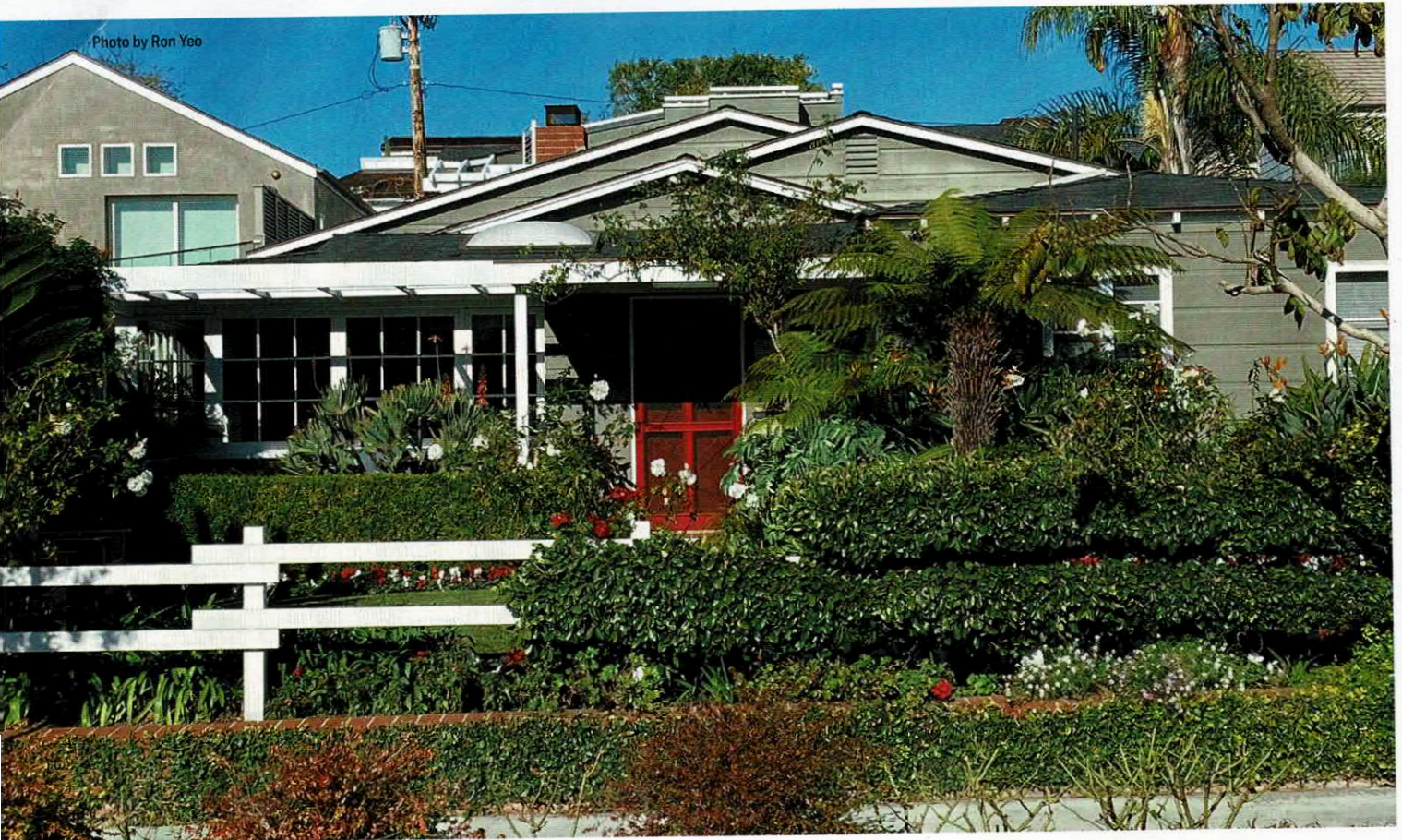
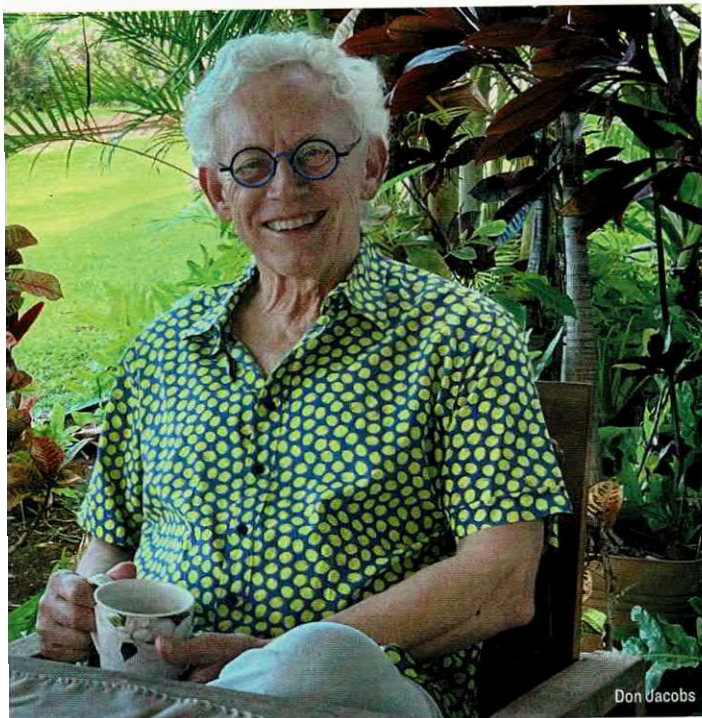


Photo by Ron Yeo



## Preserving a CdM Treasure at 309 Poppy Avenue

BY NAYAN PETRIME, JR. WRITER AND CDMHS STUDENT



Don Jacobs

At the beginning of this new year, I had the absolute pleasure of meeting a very special member of the CdM community, Mr. Don Jacobs, and his equally wonderful wife, Julie. Mr. Jacobs has lived in and has been an integral part of the CdM community for nearly 30 years! I was initially set to speak with Mr. Jacobs about his preserved CdM cottage that is filled with character, charm and a uniqueness much like Mr. Jacobs himself, but I quickly learned there is so much more he does for the CdM community!

First, I asked him about his lovely cottage home. Mr. Jacobs explained when he first moved into the cottage, everyone was telling him to tear it down. Not only did he decide against tearing down the cottage, but his masterful work also inspired two nearby homeowners to preserve their cottages as well! And with the help of Mr. Jacobs, they did just that! As an architect, he was able to see the charm and beauty of these one-of-a-kind cottages.

Mr. Jacobs shared with me the spectacular ocean view from the rooftop deck of his lovely home. He has been the architect of these and many other CdM projects. In fact, he has completed projects in Ukraine, China and Pakistan and is currently working on a tasting room in Shenandoah Valley in Amador County!

After hearing all these amazing stories of projects and travel, I asked Mr. Jacobs about his career as an architect and love for architecture. He explained that growing up in rural Indiana, he had never really seen tall architectural buildings until he went to Arizona as a high school student and that was

when he knew he wanted to become an architect. Lucky for him and us!

Not only did architecture allow Mr. Jacobs to travel the world, but it is also how he met his wife. He chuckles as he explains it may not seem like the most romantic way of meeting, but the two met at a homeless shelter. My head cocked in confusion; he expounded that this is because besides helping preserve the CdM community, he and his wife also strive to help and do their part to make sure everyone has a home. Mr. Jacobs devotes his time to "Homemade America," which has built over three hundred thousand beds and has over seven hundred facilities spanning from Hawaii to Florida all for the unhoused.

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Additionally, Mr. Jacobs has designed childcare centers for single mothers with the "Precious Life" Foundation and is in the process of designing his sixth homeless facility. Mr. Jacobs shared the reason he designs the shelters is because he feels the need to help the community in any way he still can. Being a one-time volunteer firefighter in his life, he feels as though it is always necessary to help your community for the better. As if that wasn't enough, Mr. Jacobs is also on the board for fundraising for our very own lovely CdM Sherman Gardens.

When Mr. Jacobs is not preserving homes, building shelters, traveling and generally giving to his community, he recharges by grabbing a cappuccino and walking Charlotte, his sweet King Charles Cavalier



breed, to the beach on Poppy Street to watch waves crash along the shoreline because it is one of "life's little pleasures." And for a little more speed, Mr. Jacobs and his wife can be seen cruising around town in their vintage 1950s Alfa Romeo.

Thank you for all that you do for our community Mr. Jacobs, for being an inspiration, and thank you for sharing your amazing CdM life!



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