HSSC accepts Ahmanson $50,000 challenge

Lee Walcott, managing director of The Ahmanson Foundation, and Sig Demke, HSSC president, are pleased to present a challenge to members and supporters of the Historical Society.

The Ahmanson Foundation has granted $50,000 to the Society to underwrite the Fellows Award Endowment. At the same time it is challenging the Society to match the $50,000 to complete the Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award Endowment and the Dunning Lecture Endowment.

Part of the challenge has been quickly met. The Whitsett Foundation has given the Society $5,000 to be applied to the Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award Endowment and $7,500 received from the Hay Estate will go into the Dunning Lecture Endowment. This leaves HSSC with the goal of raising $37,500.

“I hope to complete the match within one year’s time,” says Tom Andrews, HSSC executive director, “by May 31, 2001.”

“Our members and corporate and foundation friends have always been generous in their support of history,” adds President Sig Demke, “and I have full confidence they will help us meet this challenge.”

Certainly The Ahmanson Foundation has generously supported the Historical Society of Southern California in numerous ways, but chief among them is endowing the society’s publications program.

The first book to be underwritten by The Ahmanson Foundation is the recently published *Golden Odyssey* by Judson Grenier, the biography of John Stroud Houston, California’s first state controller. The book is the seventh in a series celebrating California’s Sesquicentennial. Last month signed copies of *Golden Odyssey* were presented to state officials and members of the legislature.

“The preservation of Southern California history is in capable hands at HSSC,” says Lee Walcott, “and The Ahmanson Foundation is pleased to be a partner.”
Historical Society programs offer diverse experiences

Whatever your interest in history—whether deep or toe-dipping in nature, the Historical Society of Southern California has a program for you.

River Walk
In early April on a beautiful Southern California Saturday morning, HSSC joined other museums along the Arroyo in sponsoring River Walk Along the Arroyo. More than 57 people departed from the north end of the Arroyo Seco Park and walked south along the Arroyo to Avenue 43, guided by Joe Linton of the Friends of the Los Angeles River. Not a marathon or hike, the free program was billed as a casual event exploring the spirit of the Arroyo.

Ride the Arroyo
Later in the month on Saturday morning, April 29, the museums once again combined their resources and invited all interested bicyclers to join members in a bike ride departing from La Casita del Arroyo in Pasadena, ending at Heritage Square and the Lummis Home. After refreshments, riders rode back to their starting point.

Museums of the Arroyo Day
Museums of the Arroyo Day capped the spring events celebrating the Arroyo.

All five of the museums along the Arroyo—Heritage Square, the Lummis Home and Southwest Museum in Highland Park, and the Gamble House and Pasadena Historical Museum in Pasadena—were open free of charge and all offered special programs.

Tours of the Lummis Home by an enthusiastic group of docents were especially popular. The Lummis garden was more colorful than usual with drawings by fourth grade students from Mt. Washington Elementary on display. Grinning visitors who enticed bicyclers to join members in were delightedly clutching books a bike ride departing from La were probably winners of the free hourly drawings.

The Southwest Museum featured native crafts and Heritage Square offered period games for the younger visitors.

Pageant of the Masters
On Sunday, August 27, an animated group of art aficionados joined Nancy and Jon Wilkman on a luxury coach and motored to Laguna Beach.

The late afternoon and evening event began with a lecture and tour at the Laguna Art Museum led by Janet Blake, curator of collections, and was followed by dinner at the Tivoli Terrace and an informal stroll among the artists’ booths at the Festival.

This year’s pageant showcased California art—art by Californians or in California’s finest art collections.

The Laguna Beach Festival of the Arts began in 1932, featuring the work of local artists. In 1933 members of the Laguna art colony presented their first re-creation of a work of art using costumed actors. What started as a playful stunt has grown to one of the most long-lasting and popular Southern California traditions.
Twenty-seven HSSC/Haynes research stipends awarded in spring 2000

In May the Historical Society, assisted by The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation, presented 27 small grants to scholars of Los Angeles and Southern California history.

Inquiries arrive from Great Britain and Japan

Applications were submitted by academics, history professionals, graduate students and independent scholars from around the country. The Historical Society also received inquiries from candidates in Great Britain and Japan.

The grants were awarded to eleven professors, ten Ph.D. candidates and six independent scholars.

Los Angeles—now a topic of national interest

Executive Director Tom Andrews comments, "The distribution of funds to scholars across the country shows that research into the history of Los Angeles and Southern California is viewed as a topic of national importance."

While California recipients were concentrated mainly in the southern part of the state, out-of-state awardees represented state universities in Idaho, Delaware, Washington, Texas, Illinois, New York and Kansas, as well as Northwestern, Yale and Columbia universities.

The scholars we support today are writing the history of tomorrow.

Sampling illustrates range

A small sampling of the winning topics illustrates the direction of scholarship of Southern California is taking. It ranges from the environment to ethnic studies, from the evolution of law to the impact of art, literature, and music. Here are a few of the topics:

- The Struggle for Civil Rights in California, 1941-1954
- Women’s Politics and the California Right, 1945-1966
- An Ecocultural History of the Modern American Suburb
- Japanese-Peruvian Migrants in Los Angeles
- Mexican American Women in World War II Los Angeles
- View from Boyle Heights: A Story of L.A.’s Eastside Jewish Community
- Institutional Design and Political Incorporation in Los Angeles
- Criminal Justice Administration in Los Angeles, 1850-1865
- Theater Music in Nineteenth-Century Los Angeles
- The Early Career of Zane Grey
- California Abstractionist: Agnes Pelton (1881-1961)

by Tara Fansler
A Katsina Legacy from Charles F

Upon reading Jane Apostol’s wonderful article, “Southern California through the Lens of Charles Francis Saunders,” Southern California Quarterly, (Spring, 1999), I was astonished with one particular photographic image that was employed in her article. This image (p. 36) shows the Saunders’ living room in their Pasadena bungalow, and states, “Some of the Indian artifacts now are in the Southwest Museum.” As I examined this photograph more closely I was overjoyed to discover that standing on the Saunders’ mantle, above the bookcase, adjacent to the fireplace, was one Indian artifact not at the Southwest Museum. This object is the Hopi Korowista (formerly Koroasta) katsina doll, which now stands in our home in Altadena, on a bookcase, adjacent to the fireplace.

About the Hopi

The Hopi are a Pueblo Native American Indian tribe located in north central Arizona. They live on three separate mesas, which from east to west are called First Mesa, Second Mesa and Third Mesa. Every year, between late December and late July, katsinas (kachinas) come to the Hopi mesas to help the villagers with the farming of their corn thus leading to abundance and prosperity. In exchange for their supernatural expertise the Hopis give these katsinas gifts of corn pollen, prayer feathers, etc. These meetings between the Hopis and the katsinas are in the form of elaborate ceremonies where the katsina participants come and are seen by the entire village group. Gifts are exchanged between the Hopis and the katsinas. Blessings for good weather and bountiful crops prevail. Some of the material gifts that the katsina participants give to the young Hopi girls are in the form of katsina dolls. These are made of carved and painted cottonwood root and are representations of the actual katsina participant. Currently there are approximately 300 or more known Hopi katsinas. There have been numerous books and articles written about Hopi katsina spirituality, rituals and dolls.

Collection acquired

My wife, Barbara Goldeen, and I have a Native American Indian arts and crafts business known as Santa Fe Crafts. Established in 1984 the emphasis of the business is on the purchase, sale and research of indigenous arts of the American southwest. Before joining the business I was actively studying and collecting Native American Indian arts and crafts. I was quite familiar with Charles Francis Saunders’ work, The Indians of the Terraced Houses, published in 1912.

In 1995 we were privileged to acquire a collection of Native American Indian objects. The collector had kept a detailed photographic journal of the
entire collection. Each entry contained an arbitrary number for the object, cultural, tribal or geographical data, name of the object, i.e.: bowl, cap, basket, etc., location of acquisition, person responsible for securing the object, circa date of acquisition and in some cases the price paid (including sales tax).

**Fascinating piece**
The one object that fascinated us most was object number 60. In the photographic journal this object was described as: "Hopi katchina [katsina] (Second Mesa?) acquired by Charles Francis Saunders from a Hopi child early in 20th century; bought from Mrs. Saunders, Nov. 26, 1966." This was the same Hopi Korowista katsina doll depicted in the photograph of the Saunders' living room in Pasadena! Fortunately, we had retained this piece for our own private collection.

**Katsina influences growth of corn**
This type of katsina must have had great appeal to Charles Francis Saunders' botanical interests as it is supposed to have influence over the growth of corn. When this katsina appears during a ceremony he often carries corn kernels in his sack. The participating audience is delighted to receive any of this seed corn that he chooses to disperse. This katsina is borrowed from the Rio Grande pueblos that speak Keresan. He appears at Zuni Pueblo in New Mexico and most often on First Mesa at Hopi. When he dances he carries a planting stick and seeds. As Saunders probably collected this doll directly after the turn of the century its carving is of a very simplified execution. In the early days of documented katsina doll carving these types of dolls were very simple with virtually no extra implements carried in the hands and virtually no action of the body. Today, Hopi katsina dolls are quite elaborate with much movement, accoutrements, such as rattles, dance wands and lightning sticks, and stylistic diversity. The discovery of this photograph was unbelievably fortunate. As I was talking about this image with Jane Apostol, it became clear that this doll has probably only moved within a five-mile radius for the past ninety-plus years, since its collection at Hopi in Arizona at the turn of the century. This kind of discovery makes research literally come alive. I am so pleased that Mrs. Apostol wrote such a wonderful piece on Charles Francis Saunders and chose to include that particular photograph. It is as if the final piece of the puzzle has been placed and this tiny story has a significant conclusion.
Welcome New Members

June 1999 - July 2000

Mr. Eric Abner
Mr. Chris Ackerman
Mr. Douglas J. Adrian
Devin Agran
Ms. Annette Alender
Ms. Nancy Arneil
Ms. Lois M. Atwill
Ms. Helen Auerbach
Miss Susan Baker
Ms. Patricia Bales
Mr. Bill Barbour
Ms. Wendy Beadel
Sydney and B.D. Bennett
Ms. Meredith Berbee
Mr. Richard L. Berger
Mr. Dean Billman
Ms. Miriam Bloom
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Boken
Ms. Verna Borrud
Arland Bragg
Ms. Elizabeth Brainard
Jennifer Brancato
Ms. Diane E. Brandt
Mr. Timothy Brandt
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bryne
Ms. Lori Buchanan
Ms. Patricia Burnside
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bzovy
Mr. Denis Cagna
Mr. Mark Capehart
Mr. Dick Carey
John Carson, M.D.
Ms. Julie Lugo Cerra
Ms. Diane Chierichetti
Ms. Suzanne Childs
Mr. Robert Clifford
Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Cohen
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Cohn
Blair A. Cohn
Ms. Claudia Conroy
Mr. Bryan Cooper
Victoria Dailey/
Steve Turner
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Darling
Mr. Clark Davis
Dr. Ann Deegan
Ms. Patricia Dillon
Mr. Robert Dockson
Ann and Ed Dorr
Mr. Michael Douglas
Dr. Robert Drabkin
Mr. Michael Duchemin
Mr. Jon Duim
Ms. Claudette Earl
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Estridge
Mr. Eric Evavold
Ms. Frances Lomas
Feldman
Mr. John Frye
Ms. Cornelia Fuller
Ms. Lois Gaines
Ms. Janice Gammell
Mr. Roberto Garza
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Gilman
Ms. Betty Goldstein
Mr. Bob Goldstein
Mr. Scott Goldstein
Mr. Lawrence de Graaf
Ms. Dorothy Green
Feris Greenberger/ David Dolinko
Ms. Martha Gruft
Mr. Kay Guyer
Mrs. Maria Cristina Halstead
Ms. Shirley Hammer
Mr. Curtis Hanson
Ms. Lee Harsh
Ms. Leanne Harriett
Mr. Donald Haydu
Mr. Jim Hayes
Ms. Shari Hearn
Mr. Jon Bentley
Helmich
Ms. Barbara Henry/
Mr. Steve Carr
Ms. Michelle Herzog
Ms. Ramona S. Hill
Mr. Richard E. Hitz
Ms. Beverly Holzman
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Houk
Mr. Eugene Huber
Ms. Donna Humphrey/
Mr. Kevin Maloney
Mr. Richard Intekofer
Mr. Larry Jacobson
Ms. Alison McMahon
Johnson
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Ms. Tara Jones
Mr. Jerome Joseph
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Juhas
Mr. Russell Kaldenberg
Mr. Richard Kaltenbrun
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Mr. David Katzenelson
Mr. Bruce Kelly
Lamar Kerley
Mr. Richard Kiel
Mr. Elliot Klein
Ms. Suzanne Kleinbub
Mr. Jeff Kline
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Knapp
Mr. and Mrs. David Kopf
Ms. Judy Kotecki
Ms. Erika Kotite
Mr. Kay Kuter
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Lamkins
Mr. James D. Laur
Mr. Stephen R. Lawson
Ms. Portia Lee
Ms. Nancy Leman
Ms. Kristin Leuschner
Mr. Leonard Levine/
Mr. Matt Ledezma
Mr. Richard J. Levy
Ms. Betty Lieu
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Mr. Henry Louria
Ms. Lyndia Lowy
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Parke Skelton
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Mortezae
Ms. Elizabeth Moue/
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Mr. Andre Stojka
Ms. Ruth Sugerman
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Mr. Mark Thompson
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Mr. Jim Tranquada
Ms. Reva Trevino
Dr. Sally Turner-Miller
Mr. Tony Valdez
Ms. Michael Valent
Mr. Chris Vargas
Ms. Susan Kelly Volpe
Ms. Cynthia Walters
Mr. Jim Walters
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Warren
Mr. David Weinstein/
Ms. Nancy Fuller
Mr. David Weich
David and Peggy Whitaker
Ms. Ingrid P. Wicken
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Willard
Ms. Martha W. Williams/
The Capital Group
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Ms. Mary Kay Williams
Winchester Historical Society
Mr. Wim de Wirt
Mr. Ted Wolfe
Myra and Page Wood
Ms. Joanne Scott Wuerker
Ms. Martha M. Yee
Ms. Lynne Zaccaro

For Love of History Tributes

The HSSC Tribute Program to honor or remember family and friends.

In Memory of
Mr. Dirk Cable
Marrie L. Caldiero

In Memory of
W. Turrentine Jackson
E. Peter Mauk Jr.
Doyce B. Nunis Jr.

In Memory of
George H. Whitney
Jean & Hugh Tolford
Meet Nancy Arnheim

Nancy Arnheim is proof the past impacts the present. Nancy is a volunteer for the Los Angeles Conservancy and gives tours of Pershing Square, the same downtown Los Angeles park where in an earlier renovation her grandfather donated the funds for two fountains. A widow for ten years, this West LA native stays busy both mentally and socially. Give her a good novel or a book of nonfiction (“I love ‘em all,” she says.) and Nancy plunges in—when she’s not playing her twice weekly game of tennis, swimming, or working in her garden, that is.

Before she retired six years ago Nancy, a UCLA graduate with a masters degree in educational psychology, was a career counselor in a variety of public schools, ranging from high school to Trade Tech College.

In 1997 Nancy joined Friendship Force, an organization founded with Roslyn Carter to foster world peace by bringing people together. Most recently Nancy spent time living with two families in New Zealand. Soon she will travel to Costa Rica and Japan.

Nancy joined HSSC because she loves Southern California and Los Angeles and would like to share her enthusiasm for history with others. HSSC welcomes Nancy Arnheim.

Garden volunteer honored

Midge Morash, a Lummis Home garden docent since 1994, has been honored by the Sierra Madre Commission on Aging. Though deserving for giving so much of herself, she seems too young for such an honor. Midge is ageless.

She is always ready to step in as a garden guide. Whether she has plenty of advance notice or a few days, Midge invariably says “yes” to requests.

Her grace is only one of Midge’s assets. Her knowledge of the garden is another. It has been honed in classes at the Lummis Home led by Bob Perry, Lili Singer, Rick Fisher, Jane Frimodig and other experts. Ever since those classes, Midge has promoted water-wise gardening to hundreds of adults and students.

Former house docent in the news

Suzanne Bourg, who was a house docent at the Lummis Home for several years, was acknowledged by the Los Angeles Times as one of the top twenty female executive chefs in the Southland.

When Suzanne bought Pasadena’s Raymond Restaurant 21 years ago, “I didn’t know of a single other woman chef,” she says.

Setting a standard while leading the way, Suzanne transformed a historical Craftsman cottage from an unassumimg sandwich place to its current award-winning mix of French and California cuisine.

No wonder history is made in the Southland. We are open to making new traditions. It’s here where female chefs have broken into the traditionally male ranks of high-profile cuisine. Of the 3,873 accredited executive chefs in the United States, only 157 of them are women. Congratulations, Suzanne.

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Lectures and receptions featuring noted historians

Membership contributions are tax-deductible within the limits allowed by law. For further information call HSSC at (323) 222-0546
Tara Fansler celebrates one year

It hardly seems a year since Tara Fansler joined the staff of the Historical Society. Cheerful, productive and efficient, Tara came to the Historical Society of Southern California from the Banning Residence Museum.

Tara received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1997. She first worked for a major retail chain, but after two years decided she would like to pursue a career which would include her interest in history. As an intern at the Banning she worked with former HSSC membership manager Michael Sanborn who highly recommended her to the Society.

Now Tara is in charge of membership and is largely responsible for successful membership campaigns that have brought in 250 new members.

Happy anniversary, Tara.

New member reception

New members are invited to a reception at the 1926 Derby House designed by Lloyd Wright, the son of Frank Lloyd Wright. The house, in Glendale, features the use of textile blocks juxtaposed against plain stucco.

Both Wrights thought the blocks would be a boon to affordable housing because they could be hand-made by homeowner/builders with material found on site. It turned out, though, making and laying the blocks required more skill than the average person could muster.

Dana Hutt, coauthor of a recent book on Lloyd, will be on hand to tell us about the Wrights. The Derby House is on the National Register of Historic Places and is owned by former HSSC president Michael Dougherty and his wife, Carole.