



Photo: USC Photo Archives

Union Pacific Station opened in 1939 to throngs of train travelers. But after World War II, passenger service declined when airplanes and improved highways offered faster and more convenient service.

All aboooooard ... for Union Station!

ON SATURDAY, September 29, from 3-5 p.m., the Historical Society is presenting an "award winning" program of history in the Main Concourse Room of Union Station. You will want to mark this date on your calendar. Look for an invitation which will be mailed later this summer.

Relive the pre-World War II era of crowded ticket counters and lobbys in the great train stations of the United States as you help HSSC celebrate seven award-winning historians for their contributions to local, state, and regional history.

Winners of the Pflueger, Ridge, Neuerburg, Nunis, and Wheat awards will be honored for their scholarship and writing. Also, as a special treat, there will be a speaker on the history of Union Station.

Mark your
calendar
for this
very special
Historical Society
program.

This special event also serves as a new members reception for those who have joined the Historical Society this year. It will be a time to meet other members and rub shoulders with Southern California's renowned and up-and-coming historians, as well experiencing a lively setting.

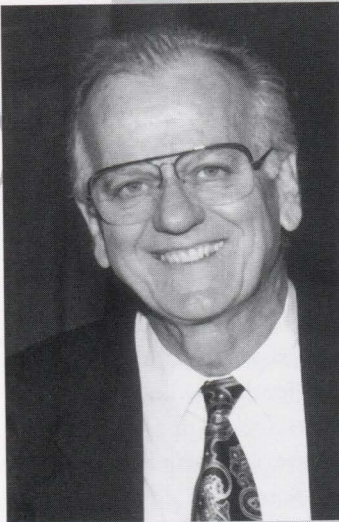
Union Station, built in 1939, is the last of the great American railroad stations. Designed in Spanish Mission and Moderne styles by architect Donald B. Parkinson, the station opened on May 7, 1939 and within three days 1.5 million people had used the facility.

A recognized national landmark, it is now used by Amtrak, Metrorail, and Metrolink. See pages 6 and 7 for more about the awards winners.

Gentle Reader

Award-winning history is a vital part of the mission of the Historical Society of Southern California.

Over the past 13 years we have presented more than 120 awards in eight categories, ranging from the teaching of history in grades K-12 to local history, from community enrichment to lifetime achievements, and from articles in the *Southern California Quarterly* to books about California history.



Tom
Andrews

The awards include the Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award, the Martin Ridge Retrospective Award, the Norman Neuerburg Award, and two awards for the best article in the *Quarterly*: the Doyce B. Nunis Jr. Award and the Francis M. "Frank" Wheat Award (formerly the Carl I. Wheat Award). In addition, the HSSC Fellows Award, the Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award, and the O'Flaherty Teaching Award complete the HSSC awards program.

It has been my privilege to preside over all of HSSC's awards, dating back to 1988. Each time I have come away impressed with how richly textured is our history and how responsive people are to it when it is done well.

And now L.A. is one of the hottest topics nationally for historical research and writing. What a great time to be Executive Director of HSSC and to live in Los Angeles!

I invite your active participation in our award winning history.

HSSC Executive Director

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Fridays by appointment



Thomas S. Hines

Thomas S. Hines Will Deliver Dunning Lecture

THE THIRD ANNUAL George A.V. Dunning Lecture on Los Angeles will be delivered by Thomas S. Hines, UCLA professor of history and architecture.

The date is Sunday, November 4, 2 p.m. at the Regal Biltmore Hotel. The title of Hines' lecture is "The Other Hollywood: Modernist Design in the Los Angeles Film Community."

Thomas Hines has been a major contributor to the growing body of scholarly literature on American architecture and society.

In addition, he has been in the vanguard of those studying modernist Los Angeles architectural culture in the 20th Century.

Hines' publications include *Burnham of Chicago*, *Richard Neutra and the Search for Modern Architecture*, and *Irving Gill and the Architecture of Reform*, among others.

This free lecture series, designed as a forum to provide a better understanding of L.A.'s past and present, is made possible through the generosity of George A.V. Dunning, a past president and board member of HSSC.

Invitations will be mailed in the fall. Please save the date.

The Chosen Twelve: 2001 HSSC/Haynes Grant Winners

A DOZEN SCHOLARS, working on Los Angeles and Southern California history topics, have been awarded HSSC/Haynes Research Stipends in round one of the competition this year.

The winners are Virginia Comer, Gabriel Gutierrez, Brian Herrera, Kenneth Marcus, Michele Nickerson, Becky Nicolaides, Thomas Pauly, Jennifer Price, Anne Richardson, Ralph Shaffer, Theodore Strathman, and John Wills.

Their topics range from the art of Channing Peake and Zane Grey to the founding of the Hollywood Bowl; from women and conservatism in Cold War Southern California to Latinas/os in popular performance; from California Indians and the military experience to the 1871 Chinese massacre, and from water politics in San Diego and grass roots environmentalism in Southern California to a history of L.A. in the 20th Century.

The HSSC/Haynes Research Stipends carry a maximum of \$300 a week for up to four weeks or \$1,200.

A second round for applicants will be held during July and August. The Historical Society is grateful to the Haynes Foundation for its support of this important program.

HSSC Donates \$16,000 of History Books to K-12 Teachers in L.A.

FOR THE PAST HALF DOZEN years, HSSC has been donating books to K-12 teachers throughout L.A. County.

This year with assistance from the Wells Fargo Foundation, HSSC donated \$16,000 worth of local history books to the Los Angeles County Office of Education for use by K-12 teachers of low income and at-risk students.

Siegfried Demke, HSSC President, is quick to point out that placing books in the schools for students "is one part of the Society's educational outreach to Los Angeles teachers. Our outreach also includes the annual History Conference at the Autry Museum, HSSC's website, and the O'Flaherty Teaching Award."

The Historical Society commends Wells Fargo Foundation for its focus on meeting the educational needs of low income and at-risk students in L.A. County.

Tom Andrews, executive director, affirms that "with help like this from the Wells Fargo Foundation, I believe HSSC can do even more in the coming years for these very special teachers."

Summer Reading

a suggestion from HSSC Member Chris Carson

The Los Angeles River: Its Life, Death and Possible Rebirth
by BLAKE GUMPRECHT

We live by it, drive over it and every so often it has water in it. But how much do

most of us know about the River? This pioneering work in eco-history traces the history of this elusive river and how efforts to use, and control it, have shaped the history of greater Los Angeles.

MOTA Day 2001 attendance breaks records

A record number of people enjoyed the 12th annual Museums of the Arroyo Day at the Lummis Home Sunday, May 20, 2001. The admission-free museum day celebrated the history, art, architecture, and culture of the Arroyo Seco with food, music, dancing, and activities for children and families. Museums of the Arroyo include the Gamble House, Heritage Square Museum, the Lummis Home, Pasadena Historical Museum, and the Southwest Museum. More than 1,600 people passed through the Lummis Home, 500 more than last year, and mild weather made for happy crowds as visitors waited for docent guided tours or to catch a free shuttle to neighboring museums.

Visitors to the Lummis Home enjoyed guided tours of the house and waterwise garden, an annual sale of water-conserving and California native plants at the

outside El Alisal Bookshop, and a program of speakers and performances.

As part of the day's special events Mark Thompson, author of a new biography on Lummis, American

Character: The Curious Life of Charles Fletcher Lummis and the Rediscovery of the Southwest, addressed a packed courtyard at noon. Thompson's 45-minute talk was a real treat to Lummis enthusiasts who turned out to greet the new author and have him sign copies of their book.

Dressed in his green corduroy

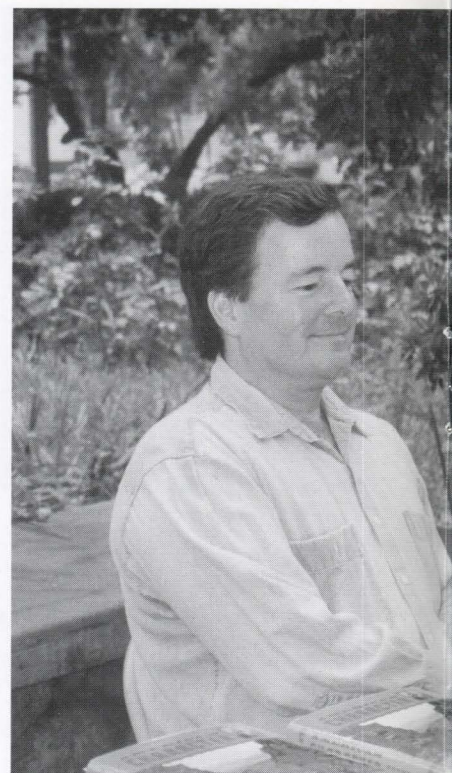
suit and sash, Charles Lummis himself made an appearance. At 3:00 p.m., cigar in hand, Professor Daniel Lewis of Cal Poly Pomona took the stage to present "Charles F. Lummis in Chautauqua." Everything stopped as Lewis took on the character of Lummis and told spectators about his early life, journey to California, and crusade for Native American rights. The audience then had the opportunity to question Lewis/Lummis. As the presentation ended visitors came away with a truer sense of how Lummis viewed the time in which he lived.

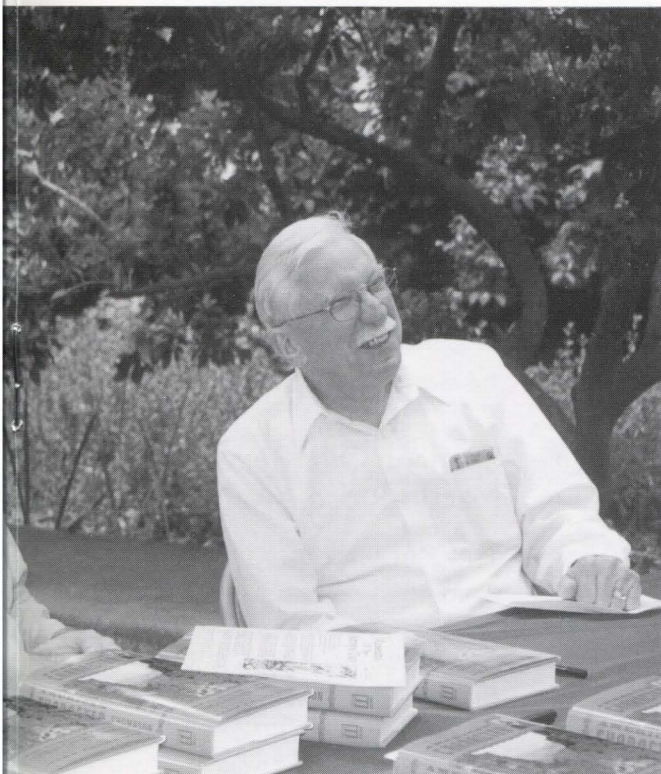
An all-day treat for those in attendance was an outdoor exhibit by Pasadena artist Joseph Stoddard. Stoddard is the author of HSSC's most recent publication, Pasadena Sketchbook, a full-color art book and guide to rediscovering the Crown city's history and beauty. Stoddard displayed the original watercolors featured in the book, and set up a make-shift artist studio where passers-by could watch a work in progress or talk to him about his plein-air style of painting.

More than 50 volunteers worked both in-front and behind the scenes to help make MOTA Day possible. Board members Jerry and Shirley Prescott, and HSSC President Sig Demke came to greet visitors and share information about the Historical Society. A raffle of prizes donated to the Museums of the Arroyo Consortium raised \$1,600 to help support MOTA Day 2002. The winner of the grand prize, a Saturday stay at the Mission Inn with dinner and Sunday brunch, was Mr. A Jokela of Irvine.



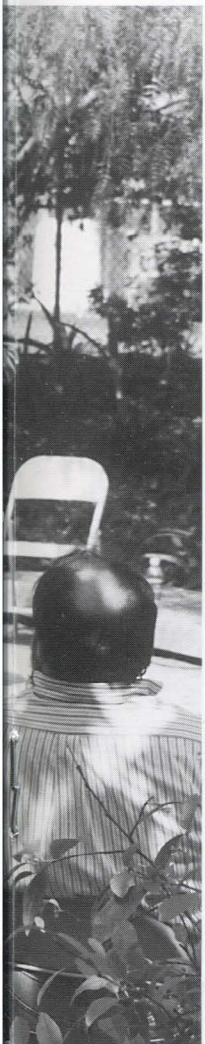
Tara Fansler, MOTA Day coordinator at the Lummis Home gives directions to a caller.





Article: Tara Fansler

Photos: Margaret Dickerson



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Author Mark Thompson signs copies of his book on Charles Lummis while Robert Blew, El Alisal bookshop manager, chats with visitors.

Daniel Lewis, professor at Cal Poly Pomona, portrays Charles Lummis before an appreciative crowd in the courtyard.

This year crowds waiting for buses to take them to other museums enjoyed the shade of umbrellas, water and bigger buses.

One of the full-size buses used to take visitors to Pasadena.

Franklin High School Key Club members enliven the Lummis Home with a bouquet of flowers from the garden.



Kudos
to HSSC
supporters
and the
authors
and
historians
researching
and
writing
the history
of
Los Angeles
and
Southern
California



Denise Martin

Denise Martin Receives Award

FOR A DECADE PLUS, Denise Martin served the Historical Society with distinction as consultant to the staff and board. So it was with great pleasure that the board and staff surprised Denise with the Founder's Award and other gifts during a small luncheon at the Oakmont Country Club, hosted by Vice President Denver Markwith.

President Sig Demke presented the Founder's Award to Denise and thanked her for investing so much of herself in the cause of Southern California history.

Tom Andrews served as emcee, recalling the many contributions Denise made to HSSC, including fund raising, membership, programs, and launching the endowment campaign.

"In those critical first years of my administration," Tom noted, "Denise poured her energies into all of our operations. She is as responsible as anyone for the success HSSC currently enjoys."

Denise Martin presently serves as director of development at the Center for Early Education.

Nunis & Wheat Award Winners Announced

THE DOYCE B. NUNIS JR.

Award is for the best article published in the *Southern California Quarterly* by a junior scholar. The Nunis Award for 2001 goes to Edward A. Byerly who teaches history and geography at Victoria College, Victoria, Texas.

Byerly's article, "The Politics of Topographic Mapping," may be found in the winter issue of the *Quarterly*. Byerly earned his Ph.D. under Albert Hurtado at Arizona State University.

The Francis M. Wheat Award (formerly the Carl I. Wheat Award) is for the best article published in the *Quarterly* by a senior scholar.

The Wheat Award for 2001 goes to Abraham Hoffman who teaches California history at Los Angeles Valley College.

Hoffman's article, "Water Famine or Water Needs: Los Angeles and Population Growth, 1896-1905," was published in the fall issue of the *Quarterly*.

Hoffman gave the keynote address at the March History Conference held at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage.

CALIFORNIA'S PRODIGAL SONS

HIRAM JOHNSON AND THE
PROGRESSIVES, 1911-1917

Spencer C. Olin, Jr.



The cover of Spencer C. Olin Jr.'s book

Spencer Olin Receives Martin Ridge Award

THE 2001 MARTIN RIDGE Retrospective Award goes to Spencer C. Olin Jr. for his 1968 book, *California's Prodigal Sons: Hiram Johnson and the Progressives, 1911-1917*.

Enlarging upon the work of George Mowry at mid century, Olin more deeply examined the content and character of California's Progressive Movement, thus setting the tone for all future studies of California politics and government in those first two decades of the 20th Century.

Recent works by scholars, including Tom Sitton and William Deverell, demonstrate the impact

OLIN continued on page 7

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Three Books & Four Individuals Win the Local History Award

THE 2001 DONALD H. Pflueger Local History Award for the best books published about Los Angeles and Southern California was announced recently by HSSC.

Paul Bryan Gray, an attorney in Claremont, won for his investigation into the legal struggle over Rancho Santa Margarita. His book, published in 1998 by The Arthur H. Clark Company, is entitled *Forster vs. Pico*.

Richard Longstreth, Professor of American Civilization at George Washington University, won for his analysis of architecture, the automobile, and retailing in Los Angeles between 1920 and 1950. Published by The MIT Press in 1997, *City Center to Regional Hall* has become an L.A. classic.

The third award goes to the husband and wife team of Leonard and Dale Pitt, whose *Los Angeles A to Z: An Encyclopedia of the City and the County* published in 1997, is an indis-

pensable reference work on the City of Angels.

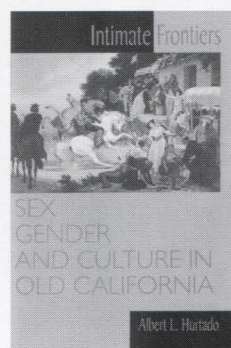
Each award includes \$500 and a hand-crafted, full-leather copy of the book. The number of Pflueger Local History Award winners now totals 30 since the award was established a decade ago.

"Promoting Southern California local history is a vital part of the mission of HSSC," notes Sig Demke.

OLIN continued from page 6

Olin's book continues to have on efforts to define and interpret the Progressive Movement in our state.

Spencer Olin, professor of history, the University of California, Irvine, is also the author of *California Politics, 1846-1920*, and co-editor of *Postsuburban California: The Transformation of Orange County Since World War II*.



The cover of Albert L. Hurtado's book

1st Neuerburg Award Goes to Albert Hurtado

THE RECIPIENT OF THE first Norman Neuerburg Award is Albert L. Hurtado, Travis Professor of History at the University of Oklahoma, for his 1999 book, *Intimate Frontiers: Sex, Gender, and Culture in Old California*.

The Neuerburg Award is given for the best book on early California history through the 1850s. It is given in memory of Norman Neuerburg and in honor of his many scholarly contributions to the Hispanic period of our state's history.

In *Intimate Frontiers*, Hurtado looks at California under Spain, Mexico, and the United States to explore how men and women of various ethnic groups "fit into or reshaped the roles and identities set by their race and gender."

As a result, Hurtado has not only changed the way we think about early California history, he has moved us toward a fuller understanding of that past. *Intimate Frontiers* is a volume in the "Histories of the American Frontier" series published by the University of New Mexico Press.

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salute
the
recipients
of
HSSC
awards

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For further information call HSSC at (323) 222-0546

Ramona Pageant Trek



Pageant in progress

Photo: Margaret Dickerson



Dr. Kate Phillips

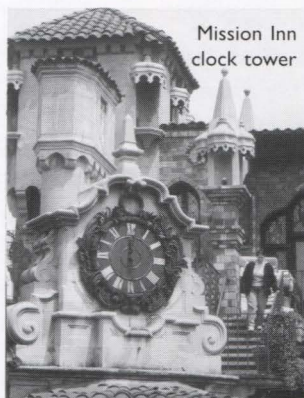
SINCE HELEN HUNT Jackson's *Ramona* was the first novel to be set in Southern California, the pageant which it inspired is an ideal destination for local history enthusiasts. On Saturday, April 28, a group of Historical Society members and friends set out

on a day-long trip which culminated in a viewing of one of six performances which have been presented every year since 1923.

The outing also included a stop at the Mission Inn in Riverside, itself a famous and often visited historical destination. Guests were entertained on the way with a screening of the video, "Ramona: A Story of Passion and Protest," a segment of

the Los Angeles History Project which was written and produced by our gracious and knowledgeable tour guides, Nancy and Jon Wilkman.

After exploring the celebrated Mission Inn, visitors enjoyed lunch and a talk on Helen Jackson by historian, Dr. Kate Phillips. Everyone enjoyed hearing about the life of the



Mission Inn clock tower

author, one of America's most well known, critically acclaimed and financially successful writers. Jackson also wrote short stories, poetry and travel essays, was deemed the first to treat the new American West in the manner of

"worthy literature," and was a high-profile advocate of Native American rights.

Then it was on to Hemet's pic-

SAVE THESE DATES

Saturday
September 29, 2001
3-5 pm
AWARDS RECEPTION
Union Station
Main Concourse Room
Los Angeles

Sunday
November 4, 2001
2 pm
DUNNING LECTURE
presented by
Tom Hines
Regal Biltmore
Los Angeles

Saturday
December 8, 2001
3-5 pm
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
Lummis Home
Los Angeles

turesque outdoor setting to watch a cast of nearly 400 re-enact the tale of forbidden love between an Indian and a woman of mixed heritage, the romantic blend of fact and fiction that enthralled readers across America and so profoundly influenced the settlement and growth of Southern California.

Article and photos
(except where noted) by
Michele Clark

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