

Tom Andrews, HSSC executive director, and Doyce Nunis, USC professor emeritus and editor of the Southern California Quarterly for the last 40 years, share a moment in the Lummis Garden.

# 40 Years as Pro Bono Editor of the Southern California Quarterly

AN HISTORIC MILESTONE has been reached this year—historic not only in the life of HSSC, but also within the discipline of history, and the publication of historical scholarship.

This year marks the fortieth (40th) year that Doyce B. Nunis Jr. has served as the indefatigable editor (pro bono) of the *Southern California Quarterly*. An amazing accomplishment! Plain and simple, it amounts to a million dollar labor of love on his part—a monumental gift to history, to Los Angeles, to Southern California, and to HSSC.

When Doyce took over as editor with the March 1962 issue of the Quarterly, he saved it from drifting further toward antiquarianism, made it fiscally responsible, and brought it back to the top level nationally as a regional journal of history.

There is no way to calculate the number of hours Doyce has spent

reading and revising manuscripts (sometimes three or four times) before accepting them for publication. Nor can we calculate how many hours he has put in reading galleys, page proofs, and

Check your mail for the details of HSSC's celebration of this milestone accomplishment.

Join us as we thank

Doyce Nunis, editor extraordinaire.

blue lines before the issue goes to the printer.

In addition he has been the book review editor, handing out review assignments, and photo editor, running down illustrations to augment the various articles. And he has done all of this while keeping in mind the Historical Society's limited finances these past four decades. It is truly a remarkable achievement by this servant of history.

If you counted the number of authors who have published articles and book reviews in the Quarterly, the number of authors who have had their books reviewed, the total would be amazing, reflecting one person's outreach and influence on the scholarship of history. Think for a moment what it would have meant not to have the *Southern California Quarterly* these past forty years. That almost happened, but for Doyce!

HSSC invites you to join with us in celebrating this milestone accomplishment. Details on the celebration will be forthcoming in the mail.

# Gentle Reader

t was spring, 1962.

I was a history major finishing my senior year at Pasadena College when a young historian at UCLA took over the editorship of HSSC's scholarly journal which he renamed the *Southern California Quarterly*.

On the surface the two events would seem unrelated, but today, 40 years later, Doyce Nunis is completing a remarkable four decades as pro-bono editor of the Quarterly as I complete 15 years as executive director of HSSC.

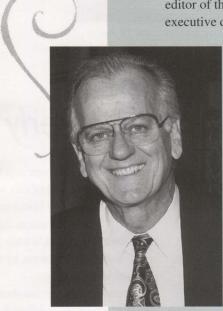
But there is more to this connection. A scholarship loan from Bank of America allowed me to attend graduate school at USC where Doyce joined the history faculty in 1965. I took his seminar, he chaired my doctoral thesis committee, and Gloria Lothrop and I became his editorial assistants on the Quarterly. Happily those relationships have continued to the present day.

I share this with you because Doyce's 40 year labor of love as editor constitutes a million dollar gift to HSSC—over a million if you

consider staffing and office expenses which he has handled himself. This milestone marks an appropriate time for us to both celebrate his gift of scholarship and to honor his accomplishment in a permanent way.

We will do this by endowing one of the four issues of the Quarterly in his name as a lasting tribute to his extraordinary achievement. In October you will be invited to help make this tribute to Doyce a reality. It will be special indeed.





Tom Andrews

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The offices of the
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are located in the
Lummis Home (El Alisal)
200 East Avenue 43
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### Clark Davis New Quarterly Book Review Editor

HSSC WELCOMES Clark Davis the new book review editor of the Southern California Quarterly, the Society's scholarly journal.

Davis received his Ph.D.in history at the University of Southern California and later, in 1994, joined the history faculty at CSU Fullerton. Serving as codirector of the Huntington Library's Los Angeles History Research Group, Davis has developed extensive contacts in the academic community—an asset that will serve him well in his new *pro bono* job.

Davis's dedication to Southern California studies is reflected in his published works. In them he has focused on the relationship between urban development and middle-class culture. In his latest book, Company Men: White-Collar Life and the Creation of Corporate Culture in Los Angeles, 1892-1941, Davis explores the rise of Los Angeles as a corporate frontier.

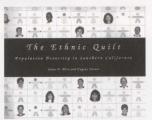
## Two CSUN Professors Win Pflueger Award

IN 1990 "A FIFTH OF ALL foreign-born people in the United States lived in Southern California," state James Allen and Eugene Turner, geography professors, California State University, Northridge, in the preface of their award-winning book, Ethnic Quilt: Population Diversity in Southern California.

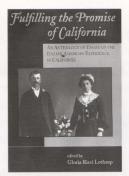
Allen and Turner will be honored with other 2001 Pflueger award recipients on Saturday, September 29, at Union Station during HSSC's Award Reception.

What sets *Ethnic Quilt* apart as a scholarly resource is its historical narrative of the 34 racial and ethnic groups and their settlement patterns in Southern California.

Allen and Turner's statistical documentation, structural



perspective, and resourceful bibliography make *Ethnic Quilt* both an indispensable reference work on Los Angeles and Southern California and a worthy addition to the Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award winners.



### California Legacy of Italians and Italian Americans Documented

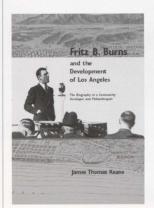
FULFILLING THE PROMISE of California, published last year and edited by Gloria Ricci Lothrop, is an anthology of essays on the Italian American experience in the Golden State pulled from the journal of the California Historical Society.

Lothrop, W.P. Whitsett Chair of California History, CSUN, is a major contributor to the story of Italians in California.

She has given leadership to the restoration efforts on the historic Italian Hall, and last year she received the Wheat Award for her article in the *Southern California Quarterly*, entitled "Unwelcome in Freedom's Land: The Impact of World War II on Italian Aliens in Southern California."

Signed copies of this important book are available from HSSC (while they last) for \$25 including tax and shipping.





# LMU and HSSC Co-Publish Biography of Fritz Burns

OCTOBER 1ST MARKS the publication date of an important new history monograph, the biography of Fritz B. Burns, Los Angeles community developer and philanthropist.

The Thomas and Dorothy Leavy Center for the Study of Los Angeles at Loyola Marymount University and HSSC have joined forces to publish this long-awaited biography of Burns, one of the pioneer builders who created the "suburban revolution that forever changed the face of Southern California."

Thoroughly researched and splendidly written by James Thomas Keane, a Research Fellow at the Center, *Fritz B. Burns and the Development of* 

Los Angeles adds significantly to our understanding of the growth of Los Angeles from the 1920s through the 1980s.

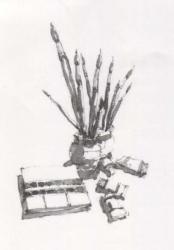
The Fritz Burns biography is available from the Historical Society of Southern California for \$25, including tax and postage.

Sketching the Arroyo with Joseph Stoddard Seventeen art enthusiasts interested in sketching, watercolor, and the "plein air" style of painting spent a recent July Saturday in Lower Arroyo Park under the expert guidance of Pasadena artist and graphic designer, Joseph Stoddard. In addition to a beautiful outdoor setting, the day-long workshop featured instruction in composition and technique, demonstration sketching and painting, and a chance for students to try out newly acquired skills.

And it was an opportunity to explore history also. The Arroyo Seco is an ideal spot for savoring the views that have contributed to the area's richness. Favorite sites for sketching are the Colorado Street bridge against the Sierra Madre mountains, the archery house, the Vista Del Arroyo perched on the edge of the canyon, and the casting pond.

The class was purposely kept small to allow for personal attention and interaction between teacher and student. This resulted in a waiting list and the need for additional sessions. The next workshop will be held on Saturday, October 13. For information and/or reservations, please call the Society at (323) 222-0546.



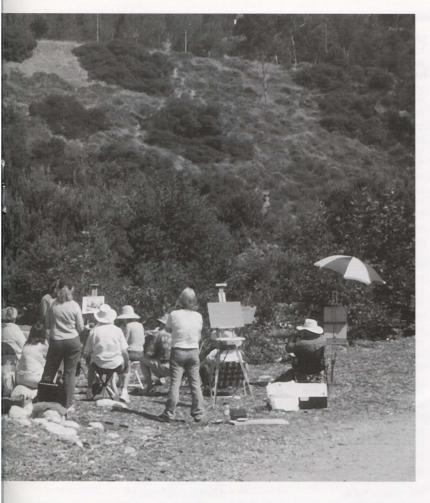






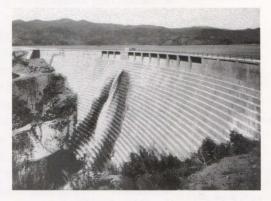


Photos and text by Michele Clark





# St. Francis Dam Tour Coming Up





The St. Francis Dam before and after March 12, 1928

HSSC IS PLANNING A TRIP TO THE Los Angeles Aqueduct and Saint Francis Dam on Saturday, October 27, 2001. The tour will be guided by HSSC member Paul Rippens, for many years chief of the forestry division, Los Angeles County fire department, and an expert on the disaster.

The trip will last from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and will include viewing the Cascades in the San Fernando Valley where the opening day ceremonies for the aqueduct were held, Bouquet Reservoir, and a rare, inside look at Power Plant #1. Then participants will proceed to the actual dam site where those who wish can take a short hike to view the west wing wall. Before returning, the group will have a chance to explore the area below the dam site and view the remains of the dam carried downstream by the water.

Prices for the outing will be \$35.00 for members and \$45.00 for non-members. Lunch is included. For further information or reservations, please call (323) 222-0546.

# Ms. Phyllis L. Absalom

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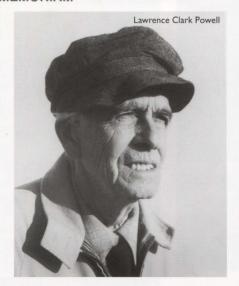
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LAWRENCE CLARK POWELL, named a FELLOW of the Historical Society of Southern California in 1989—one of the first ten inducted into the prestigious program—died on March 14 of this year. He was 94.

Usually referred to as LCP by his professional colleagues and Larry to his intimates, Powell was a man of all seasons for many reasons. He was a hilarious raconteur, a mesmerizing speaker, a highly gifted wordsmith, an omnivorous reader, a dedicated librarian, a brilliant administrator and teacher, and above all, a bookman's bookman.

Through his many essays and books, he established a reputation as a writer of exceptional ability and skill. One critic observed that in his writings, Larry "presents the case of 'reading happiness' about as persuasively as ever it was done."

He was the founding dean of UCLA's School of Library Service in 1959. While serving as University Librarian, Powell wrote that during twenty-eight years of service "I saw the University Library's stock of 285,000 volumes increase to 2,000,000, the Clark Memorial Library transformed from a bookish mausoleum to a center of bibilioscholarly activity, a staff of 35 grow to 300, a library school come into being, and UCLA become known internationally as a dynamic place of books and learning."

On his retirement in 1966, UCLA recognized his invaluable contribution to the university's libraries by naming the University Library in his honor. Today the Powell Library is UCLA's undergraduate library.

In addition, in recognition of his writings, he was the first recipient of the Clarence Day Award (1960) from the American Library Association for his encouragement of a love of books and reading.

With retirement at age sixty, it was Powell's intent to turn to full time writing. He and his wife, Fay, had a home in Malibu which would be their retirement retreat. But such was not to be. The house, his book collection, personal papers and effects were destroyed in the devastating Malibu fire of 1978.

At the time, Powell was in Tucson where he was "professor in residence" at the University of Arizona's Library School.

Powell and his wife decided to make Tuscon their permanent home. And it was there that Powell died.

Thanks to Doyce Nunis

#### Presidents Circle

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> by Claire Dunkel E. Peter Mauk Jr. Doyce B. Nunis Jr.

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

HSSC says "Thank you" to Scout Pack 507 from Garden Grove. The Saturday before Museums of the Arroyo Day the pack spent a morning weeding the Lummis Garden. Big sisters, little brothers, parents and even grandpas pitched in. Before a tour of the house, the youngsters identified plants and pasted leaf samples on cardboard to complete requirements for merit badges.







# Scouts Weed Lummis Garden



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Saturday
October 27, 2001
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