

HSSC's Award Luncheon at The Huntington a Success

MORE THAN 150 people attended the 2003 Awards Luncheon on Saturday, October 4, at The Huntington Library in San Marino.

Catherine Mulholland (*William Mulholland and the Rise of Los Angeles*) and the late Clark Davis (*Company Men*) received the Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award. The Martin Ridge Retrospective Award was given



Catherine Mulholland

to Remi Nadeau for his 1950 pathbreaking book, *The Water Seekers*.

Rose Marie Beebe and Robert Senkewicz (*Osio's The History of Alta California*) received the Norman Neuerburg Award for the best book on early California (to 1850).

The Carl I. Wheat and Frank Wheat Award for the best article by a senior scholar went to Gary Marmorstein for his article on Philip M. Lovell. Gary was back east and unable to attend.

The Doyce B. Nunis Jr. Award for the best article by a junior scholar was also won by Clark Davis for his article on the Friday Morning Club. Clark's awards were presented to his wife, Cheryl Koos.

Previous Pflueger Award winners in attendance included Jane Adler, Jane Apostol, Virginia Comer, Powell Greenland, Judson Grenier, Merry Ovnick, Len and Dale Pitt, and Tom Sitton.

The HSSC/Whitsett Student Fellows were introduced as was Merry Ovnick, the book review editor of the *Quarterly*, and Lydia Balian, the new intern for the *Quarterly*.

Tribute was paid to three individuals whose deaths this year robbed us of their presence at the awards luncheon: Siegfried Demke, Clark Davis, and Martin Ridge. Their enormous contributions to history and to HSSC live on and will continue to enrich the research and scholarship of history for years to come.



Clark Davis



Remi Nadeau



Robert Senkewicz and Rose Marie Beebe

Endowments and Bequests

Endowment Principal Reaches \$1.35 Million

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY of Southern California has achieved 67 percent of its goal for a total endowment of \$2 million.

Today the principal amount of the twelve endowments that comprise HSSC's endowment portfolio total \$1.35 million. This is in sharp contrast to the \$127,000 in total assets the Society had available 17 years ago.

Endowments that have reached or exceeded their goals are:

Publications	(\$300,000)
O'Flaherty Award	(\$150,000)
Dunning Lecture	(\$100,000)
Pflueger Award	(\$51,000)

Fellows Award (\$50,000)

Nunis Award (\$25,000)

Wheat Award (\$25,000)

Endowments that are closing in on their goals are:

Martin Ridge Award

Norman Neuerburg Award

Denise and Jack Smith Award

In addition, the general endowment is nearly 50 percent of its \$1 million goal and the *Quarterly* endowment is 25 percent completed at \$100,000.

The endowments are the barometer of the future for a healthy HSSC in the 21st Century. HSSC thanks all who contributed gifts to the endowments.

Recent Bequests to HSSC Total \$152,500

THREE INDIVIDUALS have recently included HSSC in their wills and their bequests have brought in \$152,000 this year to the Society.

Funds from these estates have been designated for both general support (\$82,500) and the endowment (\$70,000).

By remembering HSSC in their wills, Norman Neuerburg, Frank Wheat, and Siegfried Demke have helped to ensure both the current work of the society and

its future.

They join a growing list of donors who have left a bequest to HSSC, including Robert Scherrer, Henry Lippitt, Edwin Carpenter, and Ray and Florence Hay.

Naming the Society in your will is a very important way to assist and ensure the programs, publications, and educational outreach of HSSC far into the 21st Century.

George A.V. Dunning Lectures on L.A. Endowed at \$100,000

HSSC's annual George A.V. Dunning Lectures on Los Angeles each November are now endowed at \$100,000 thanks to a gift from The Ahmanson Foundation and a closing gift from Dunning, the major benefactor of the Lectures.

George Dunning served on the Board of Directors of HSSC from 1985 to 2000. In 1987 he was elected President, serving a two-year term. Dunning has been a substantial HSSC benefactor in

addition to his many community preservation and cultural interests.

An endowed lecture series is a dream come true for HSSC, and was made possible by George Dunning's enthusiasm and generosity for the idea. It is appropriately named for him.

Previous lecturers have included Doyce B. Nunis Jr., Michael E. Engh, SJ, Thomas S. Hines, and this year's lecturer, Raphael Sonnenshein. The 2004 lecturer will be Jennifer Watts of The Huntington Library.

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HSSC Launches New Program “Keeping History Alive!”

HSSC IS ADDING to its already impressive educational outreach to K-12 history teachers and their students with a new program launched this fall.

Keeping History Alive! is designed to revive and enrich history education in grades K-12 in the schools of Los Angeles County.

We believe young people are naturally attracted to history, and as author David McCullough argues, “their talent for history shouldn’t be allowed to lie dormant. It should be brought alive.”

Keeping History Alive! is a program that will enable more history teachers to visit historic sites and museums, and attend professional development workshops and conferences by providing the funds for those expenses. Funds will also be made available to these teachers for added books and resource materials.

Currently, with all the emphasis on reading and math, K-12 teachers have to pay out of pocket for enrichment opportunities connected to the study of history. Important as reading and math are, HSSC wants to ensure that history and the teaching of history is not left behind in terms of funding support.

Working closely with Michelle Herczog—consultant to the history/social sciences curriculum for the L.A. County Office of Education—HSSC plans to have the program in place by late spring of next year.

Donations from members this fall will be matched by grants from corporations and foundations in the spring and summer. Working together we can help to keep early history education from being depreciated through budget cuts, inferior supplementary materials, and the pressure of standardized tests in other subjects.

Remember Vroman’s Gives Back

Register as a supporter of HSSC and Vroman’s will give back one percent of your purchase. Vroman’s 695 E. Colorado Blvd.
Hastings Ranch Shopping Center
3729 E. Foothill Blvd.

Holiday Open House December 7, 2003

THIS YEAR’S Holiday Open House, always a wonderful festive occasion will take place between 3 and 5 pm on Sunday, December 7.

HSSC will recognize six special friends: Michelle Herczog of the Los Angeles County Office of Education; Jack McQueen of the Old Mill Foundation; Eleanor Muller, daughter of artist Duncan Gleason; Cecilia Rasmussen, writer for the L.A. *Times*, and long time-members Earl Nation, M.D. and Hugh Tolford.

A short program will take place at 4 pm, HSSC will celebrate its 120th Anniversary by giving a special gift to each one in attendance. Food, drink, and festivities make this a special way to start the Holiday Season.

Second LA River Trip Program

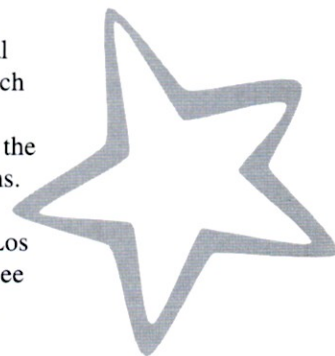
The Los Angeles River provoked enough interest to schedule Los Angeles River II on Saturday, October 18. It was again produced and hosted by Nancy and Jon Wilkman.

Our second group toured the Sepulveda Basin and Balboa Wildlife Preserve. The wetlands were full of migrating birds and we were surprised that there was a place where the river still runs free and vegetation flourishes. Kook Dean of the Los Angeles Department of Sanitation gave a special tour of the Tillman Water Purification Plant which processes and generates 65 million gallons of water per day for distribution into the wetlands, the river, Balboa Lake and various irrigation systems.

After lunch, the group continued to downtown Los Angeles stopping first at Coldwater Canyon to see one of the river revitalization efforts. Neighborhood activists have created a walkway, planted gardens and installed a small amphitheater where Nancy, Jon and LeVal Lund gave more information to the group. A stop at Los Feliz was next to see yet another part of the river and its wildlife.

The finale was a visit to “The Cornfield,” a large piece of land near the river in downtown Los Angeles which, among other interesting aspects, holds historic remains. Leonard Pitt, professor emeritus of history at California State University, Northridge, gave a talk on the history and future of this site.

by Michele Clark





THE HSSC/WHITSETT

Student Fellow program is a new outreach for the Historical Society of Southern California, now enters its second year.

The Society has joined resources with the W.P. Whitsett Foundation to provide membership in the Society to outstanding history students. Fifteen students have been selected to participate.

History departments of several local colleges and universities select the students to be honored. The students are invited to work with Tom Andrews, HSSC executive director, to promote history in the public arena.

Along with membership in the historical society, the 2003 HSSC/Whitsett Student Fellows also receive:

- The fall 2001 issue of the *Southern California Quarterly*
- A copy of the 1999 George Dunning Lecture on Los Angeles by Doyce Nunis
- A copy of the 2000 George Dunning Lecture on Los Angeles by Michael Engh, S.J.
- Three pamphlets on Los Angeles biography by Abraham Hoffman
- A copy of the monograph "Southern California Through the Lens of Charles Francis Saunders" by Jane Apostol
- A copy of the monograph "Rancho Los Cerritos" by Iris H.W. Engstrand



Eric Greenberg



Lauren Brown

Meet five of this year's

ERIC GREENBERG says that after 12 years as a "mildly successful professional entertainer" he returned to school intending to complete a BA in history so he could teach social studies. Along the way he received an internship in the education division at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage which resulted in a full-time job there. Now instead of pursuing a teaching credential, he is enrolled in the master's program at CSUN.

He would like to continue his work in public history and eventually move into curatorial work. In the meantime, his master's thesis will examine the national culture during Cold War America.

This fall he travels to Kansas to begin research on the nineteenth century African-American experience in the Sunflower state in conjunction with the development of an exhibit at the Autry. Thanks to having been selected a Whitsett Fellow for the study of California and the West, he is currently writing a paper on the post-War development of two key Jewish educational institutions in Los Angeles.

HSSC welcomes Eric.

LAUREN BROWN chose Loyola Marymount University because of its renowned academic program, excellent professors, and devotion to the Catholic faith.

She became a history major because she says, "It is essential to understand the past of one's history since it is our ancestor's lives that will determine our future."

Lauren has visited Italy, England, Ireland and Mexico and enjoys learning about the richness of other countries' histories as well.

After completing a degree in history and a minor in communication studies in the spring of 2004, Lauren plans to work toward a master's degree in history at California State University, Fullerton.

Lauren would like to become an American history teacher at a junior college in Southern California.

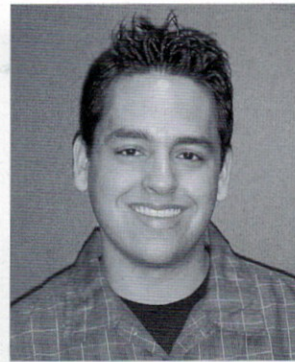
HSSC welcomes Lauren Brown.



Christina Mariscal



Miguel Angel Rivera



Jason Valle

HSSC/Whitsett Student Fellows

CHRISTINA MARISCAL is a senior at Loyola Marymount University and will graduate with a dual-degree in history and Spanish. She hopes to continue her education by earning a master's and a PhD in history. Then she would like to enter politics starting at the local level and continuing to the national.

Christina grew up on Olvera Street where her parents have a business. "Not only was I exposed to my Mexican heritage," Christina says, "but I also had the opportunity to interact with tourists, politicians and shoppers of various ethnicities and from various backgrounds."

She became involved in the restoration and preservation of Olvera Street and El Pueblo State Historic Park at a very young age. It was this experience that launched her excitement for history.

And it is this love of history that influences her life in every way—whether in a classroom setting, through community service or simply day-to-day interactions.

HSSC welcomes Christina Mariscal as one of this year's Whitsett Student Fellows.

MIGUEL ANGEL RIVERA is a senior at the University of Redlands majoring in history. For the last three years, Miguel has played football for the University. He is also a member of Sigma Kappa Alpha fraternity. Miguel has been on the Dean's List for three of his six semesters at the University.

Cesar Chavez has had a great impact on Miguel's memories. Miguel says, "I remember my grandmother telling stories about the marches." As a child, Miguel witnessed the death of the United Farm Workers leader.

He adds, "I also remember seeing a television program about Chavez's funeral and my grandmother being interviewed. I will never forget the passion in her eyes when she was speaking about the man."

After graduation, Miguel would like to teach. He plans to research Cesar Chavez's accomplishments and his inability to keep the UFW strong and powerful despite a successful boycott.

HSSC welcomes Whitsett Student Fellow Miguel Angel Rivera.

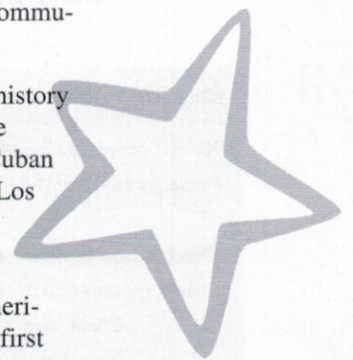
JASON VALLE is a history major at Loyola Marymount University with a minor in philosophy. Before coming to Loyola Marymount, Jason attended Don Bosco College of Science and Technology in Rosemead where he majored in electronics technology. After graduation, Jason plans to go to law school.

Right now, Jason is on the Dean's List with a grade point average of 3.54. He is the history department's computer supervisor and assistant webmaster. Jason also is a member of Sursum Corda, an organization dedicated to off-campus community service.

Jason says, "I have many history interests—among them the history of the Cold War, Cuban history and the history of Los Angeles."

Jason has just completed research on the Cuban Americans of Los Angeles—the first study of Cubans in LA from 1960 to present. He plans to complete his research and publish a book on the topic in the next few years.

Eventually Jason would like to be appointed judge in the Superior Court of Los Angeles.



In Memoriam



John T. Gurash

JOHN T. GURASH, member of the President's Circle and an ardent supporter of the Historical Society, died on October 21 after a fall the month before. He was 92.

Gurash, a former chairman and chief executive officer of INA Corp., an insurance carrier, helped implement the merger of INA and Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. to create Cigna Corp.

Gurash served on the board of the Weingart Foundation for many years and was a director or trustee for numerous other organizations, including Occidental College. In July, the Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena renamed its emergency room after Gurash and his wife, Kay, who died in August.

Gurash was a graduate of Loyola School of Law.

From an article in the Los Angeles Times



Morgan Sinclair's photo of Clarkia, one of the many native wildflowers he liked to photograph.

MORGAN SINCLAIRE, a long-time member of HSSC died on March 17, 2003.

Morgan was born in Corning, New York, but his family moved to Colorado Springs when he was still a boy. He attended Fountain Valley School in Colorado Springs, and he was proud of being a student in its first class in 1930. An interest in photography enabled him to make a film, "Dawn to Dusk," documenting a day in the life of Fountain Valley School. This film is still shown by the school.

Morgan later attended Cornell University, where he graduated with a degree in chemistry in 1939. After moving to Santa Monica in 1940, he pursued his interest in photography by enrolling in Art Center School of Design which he attended from 1940 to 1942. His photography teacher was none other than Ansel Adams.

Morgan's affable personality, his many interests and his generosity were loved, admired and appreciated by all who knew him.

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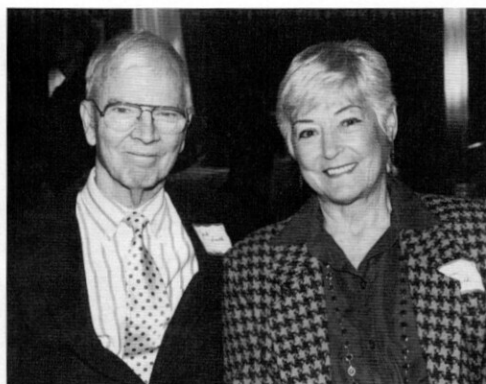
Membership contributions are tax-deductible within the limits allowed by law. For further information call HSSC at (323) 222-0546

President's Circle

The Historical Society of Southern California thanks President's Circle members who support the society annually at the \$1,000 or more level. The gifts are unrestricted and help to underwrite society programs and publications.



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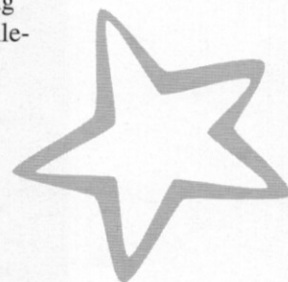
The Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award Renamed

THE JACK SMITH AWARD, given to recognize and honor those who have enriched our community, has been given a new name:

It is now **The Denise and Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award**. The change came at the same time that HSSC honored Denise Smith with a Founder's Award this fall.

For 26 years Denise was the administrative director of the Southern California Counseling Center and saw it through many important milestones. In addition she has found time to be involved with the L.A. Philharmonic, the Assistance League, and the South Pasadena Friends of the Library.

The first presentation of the newly renamed award will be made on May 13, 2004 at the City Club of Los Angeles.



The Carl I. Wheat Award Renamed

FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS the Carl I. Wheat Award was given for the best article published in the *Southern California Quarterly*. It was named for first editor of the *Quarterly*.

Recently two changes have been made in the award. It is now given for the best article by a senior scholar—to balance the Nunis Award which is for the best article by a junior scholar.

And its name has been changed to honor both Carl Wheat and his son, Los Angeles attorney, Frank Wheat whose bequest has endowed the award.

It is now the **Carl I. Wheat and Frank Wheat Award** to honor father and son who were both active in HSSC and in promoting the scholarship of history in California.

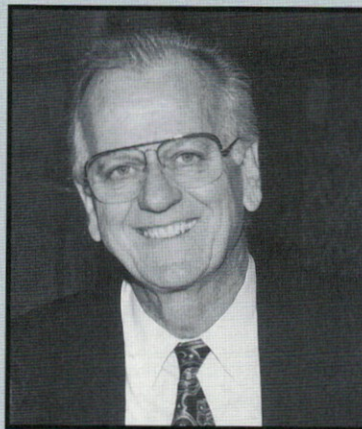
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Executive Director Completes 17 Years

ON SEPTEMBER 1, Tom Andrews started his 18th year as Executive Director of the Historical Society of Southern California.

Under Tom's leadership, together with that of a productive, stable staff and a generous and visionary Board of Directors, HSSC has made significant gains in its outreach to scholars, K-12 teachers of history, and the general public.

As several of the reports in this newsletter attest, HSSC has also made enormous strides financially, including the building of a million dollar endowment.

Tom expresses it this way: "I have been privileged to work with so many outstanding individuals who are the ones responsible for the growth of HSSC. It has been richly rewarding for me."

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