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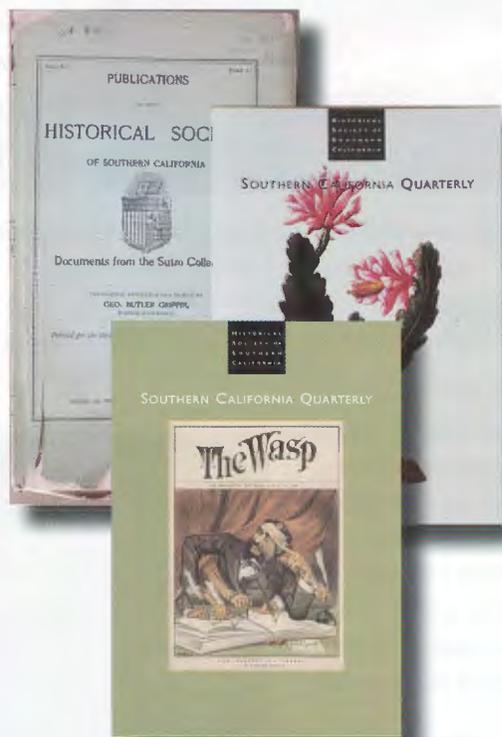
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The Southern Californian

The Historical Society of Southern California Summer 2011 Volume 23 Number 2

Southern California Quarterly: Past and Future



Beginning with the Spring 2012 issue all HSSC members will receive access to an online version of the *Southern California Quarterly* in addition to the regular printed version.

This will be made possible through our newly formed affiliation with the Current Scholarship Program initiated by JSTOR and the University of California Press. The Current Scholarship Program seeks to provide a single point for researchers, librarians and end-users around the world to access historical articles and to ensure the long-term preservation of the material.

Along with the new benefit of online service, HSSC members will gain open access to all our back issues. It is virtually impossible today to build a library of the *Annual Publications* back to 1884 due to the fragility of the old paper and

bindings. When publication changed to a quarterly basis in 1935 there were certain issues that were virtually impossible to find. During the depression and the war years of short press runs many valuable articles fell into oblivion.

Now the forgotten treasures will be coming to light. We will be able to read the first translation from Spanish of documents relating to colonial California, an eyewitness account of the Chinese Massacre of 1871, a sketch of the 19th century movement for the political separation of the two Californias, north and south, by an HSSC member engaged in the controversy, and a participant's account of the entry into Los Angeles of the United States First Dragoons in 1847 after a 2,200-mile march across country.

Our 127 years of continuous publication in the field of history will take us into the 21st century with an unbroken record of dedication to the story of California and the West.



Money & Magic in the Old Southwest

Games of chance with player's chances slim to none!

Join us Saturday, October 1st, from 6:00-9:00 pm for a special fundraiser celebrating money and magic in the West. Buy in and try your hand at classic games of chance like the shell game and three-card monte. The dealers will be Magic Castle magicians Pop Haydn and Phil Van Tee. All proceeds go to HSSC. There will be a silent auction as well as music, food and refreshments. Western outfits and period costumes welcomed. Hats, yes. Guns, no.

If you have any items you would like to contribute to the silent auction call the business office at (323) 460-5632.

Preservation Progress

John Griswold began his work on the front doors of the Lummis Home with several visits to analyze the condition of the wood and metal elements. He has found that the patina on the surface of the door needs to be treated with a sealant in order to maintain its finish and integrity. The iron monogram and spikes have been removed for further off-site analysis. This is just the beginning of his work, and in the coming weeks he will continue analysis and treatment of the entry doors to preserve them for another hundred years. This restoration project is possible because of the donations of local organizations and members of HSSC with matching funds from the National Trust.

1. Mounting nails pulled from Lummis Home front door for analysis
2. Griswold aid applying adhesive to test wood grain on Lummis Home front door
3. Iron insignia removed from Lummis Home front door for analysis



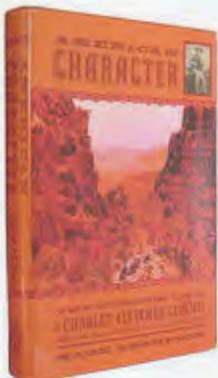


Afternoons At El Alisal A New Benefit of Membership

HSSC assumed the stewardship of the Lummis Home in 1965. Since that time we have been welcoming visitors without charge each and every weekend and have maintained the hundred year old structure as it was when Charles Lummis built it. Now we think it's time that our own members have a special opportunity to enjoy the charm of our famous headquarters in a members only clubhouse atmosphere.

On the third Sunday of every month, after the visitors leave, the staff and the HSSC board of directors would like to offer as a new benefit of membership an informal reception. We'll have a little music, wine and cheese and a chance to meet one another and talk about our common interest in history. We will invite authors, musicians, artists, architects, story-tellers and prominent people as our guests.

Join us
September 18
for the first of
many
Afternoons At
El Alisal.



American Character

The Curious Life of Charles Fletcher Lummis and the Rediscovery of the Southwest

by Mark Thompson

The extraordinary story of an American Renaissance Man--fire-breathing reporter, pioneering photographer, crusading editor, poet, anthropologist, librarian, archaeologist, and Indian rights advocate--who spent a lifetime battling injustice in the West.

With deft, grace and expert style, Mark Thompson has recreated the irresistibly compelling story of one of our nation's most fascinating characters. Romantic and contentious, mercurial and defiant, Charles Fletcher Lummis was a man of heroic proportions, a figure who both embodied and defined our vision of the West and of America itself. \$27.95 from HSSC bookstore.

Lummis Day

The 6th annual Lummis Day Festival took place at the Lummis Home and nearby Heritage Square Museum. The Festival takes its name from Charles Lummis, an active resident of Northeast Los Angeles who built his home along the Arroyo Seco and founded the Southwest Museum - the first museum in Los Angeles and one of Highland Park's cultural landmarks. Thousands attended the festival and enjoyed poetry readings, live music and performances, art exhibitions and refreshments.

1. Visitors sitting outside Lummis Home waiting for poetry reading



2. Lummis Home curator Ariel van Zandwedge, HSSC President John Pohlmann, South Pasadena CM Richard D. Schneider, Lummis Day Organizer Eliot Sekuler, and Assembly Member Anthony Portantino posing for picture



3. Suzanne Lummis reading her poetry outside Lummis Home



4. Traditional Tongva Indian blessing of the festivities



MOTA

Museums of the Arroyo Day

HSSC participated in the 22nd annual Museums of the Arroyo Day, in which the Lummis Home, along with four other museums in the Arroyo Seco neighborhood, opened its doors to hundreds of visitors. Guests enjoyed free admission and tours of the participating museums and learned about the rich history of Los Angeles. Local artists and special groups also participated with exhibits and activities such as woodcarving, Native American storytelling and Victorian crafts. A free shuttle service was provided to help guests visit all the museums.



Michele Clark, HSSC Executive Director Pat Adler-Ingram and HSSC Vice-President Linda Mollno



Lummi Home Curator Ariel Van Zandweghe giving visitors a tour of the Lummi Home



HSSC Book Exchange A New Community Service

Choose a book from our table, pay with a dollar or pay with a book of your own. All books welcome as long as they are clean and in good condition. Exchange a paperback for a paperback, hardcover for hardcover, comic book for comic book, or pay a dollar if you don't have a book.

HSSC wants to serve the community by providing an exchange point for books, so visit the Lummis Home and check out the Book Exchange table. We encourage ongoing participation; bring back those books and give someone else a read.

HSSC Hosts California Historical Society

On September 15, 2011, the California Historical Society in partnership with the Historical Society of Southern California presents a lecture and reception with author Steven Ross featuring a discussion of his newly released *Hollywood Left and Right: How Movie Stars Shaped American Politics*. We hope you can join us for this special event at the Lummis Home.

In his book, Steven J. Ross tells a story that has escaped public attention: the emergence of Hollywood as a vital center of political life and the important role that movie stars have played in shaping the course of American politics. Through compelling larger-than-life figures in American cinema, *Hollywood Left and Right* reveals how the film industry's engagement in politics has been longer, deeper, and more varied than most people would imagine, and challenges the commonly held belief that Hollywood has always been a bastion of liberalism. The real story, as Ross shows in this passionate and entertaining work, is far more complicated. An eminent historian of film, Steven J. Ross is recipient of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Films Scholars Award and author of the prize-winning book, *Working-Class Hollywood: Silent Film and the Shaping of Class in America*. *Hollywood Left and Right* will be available for purchase. RSVP to 415.357.1848, ext. 229 or rsvp@calhist.org.

HOLLYWOOD LEFT AND RIGHT



HOW MOVIE STARS
SHAPED AMERICAN POLITICS

STEVEN J. ROSS

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For further information call HSSC at (323) 460-5632

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA QUARTERLY

FALL 2011 (vol. 93, no. 3)

FALL 2011 Quarterly Articles

HISTORICAL
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CALIFORNIA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA QUARTERLY



A Preview

TWO PARTY INVITATIONS: "SUPREME COURT OF OLD CALIFORNIA: CASE OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS, PLAINTIFF, VS. JOHN URI LLOYD, DEFENDANT," NOVEMBER 30, 1913, AND "MARCH HARES INVITATION," MARCH 2, 1919
BY CHARLES F. LUMMIS (EDITED BY MERRY OVNIICK)

WRITING THE SCRIPT FOR SURVIVAL AND RESURGENCE: RKO STUDIO AND THE IMPACT OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION, 1932-1933
BY EDWIN J. PERKINS

DAVID WEBER AND THE BORDERLANDS: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY/AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, BOSTON: JANUARY 8, 2011 *BORDERLANDS AND FRONTIERS*
STUDIES COMMITTEE PANEL HONORING DAVID WEBER

THE HISTORIAN'S EYE: WHAT DOES A HISTORIAN SEE IN A PICTURE FROM THE PAST?

Charles Fletcher Lummis (1859-1928), whose home, El Alisal, houses the Historical Society of Southern California, was variously city editor of the *Los Angeles Times*, editor of *Land of Sunshine* (later named *Out West*), author of a score of books, lover of the Southwest, romanticizer of California's Spanish era and Native American cultures, preserver of missions, and founder of the Southwest Museum—among other things. Merry Ovnick is editor of the *Southern California Quarterly* and associate professor of history at California State University, Northridge.

Edwin J. Perkins is emeritus professor of history at the University of Southern California. In 1998 he was Fulbright Distinguished Lecturer at Moscow State University, Russia. His main area of expertise is business history, with a sub-field in financial history covering the colonial period through the mid-twentieth century. He has authored numerous scholarly articles and books, among them *The Economy of Colonial America* (1988), *Wall Street to Main Street: Charles Merrill and Middle-Class Investors* (1999), and, most recently, a collection of key articles entitled *Perkins on U.S. Financial History and Related Topics* (2009).

Panel, "David Weber and the Borderlands":

Steven W. Hackel, the panel's moderator, is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Riverside.

William B. Taylor is the Muriel McKeitt Sonne Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley.

Amy Turner Bushnell is an Invited Research Scholar at the John Carter Brown Library; an Adjunct Associate Professor of History, Brown University; and an affiliate of the Center for Latin American Studies at Brown.

Cynthia Radding is the Gussenhoven Distinguished Professor of Latin American Studies and Professor of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Peter Onuf is the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation Professor of History at the University of Virginia.

Pekka Hämäläinen is Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara. In 2012 he will assume his responsibilities as Rhodes Professor of American History at the University of Oxford.

Benjamin H. Johnson, the Associate Director of the Clements Center at SMU from 2002 to 2010, is now an Associate Professor of History and Global Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

Remember

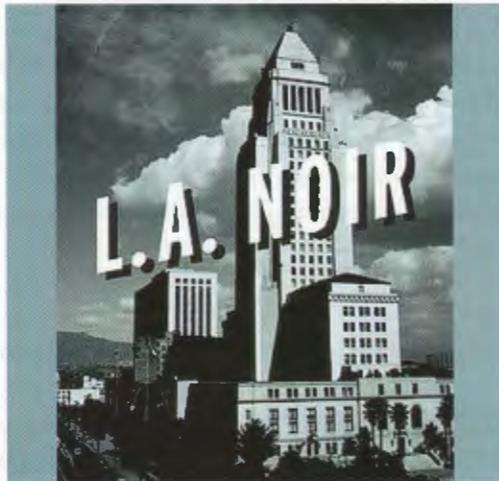
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**L.A. Noir: The Struggle for the Soul
of America's Most Seductive City**
by John Buntin

A fascinating examination of Los Angeles's
underbelly, the Mob, and America's most ad-
mired—and reviled—police department, *L.A. Noir* is
an enlightening, entertaining, and richly detailed
narrative about the city originally known as El
Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles.
\$26 from HSSC book store.

Save The Date

September 9, 2011

Admission Day at the Old Mill

September 15, 2011

Hollywood Left and Right

October 1, 2011

Money and Magic in the Old Southwest

November 6, 2011

Dunning Lecture