HSSC Celebrates With Historic Gala

October 24th was an evening to remember as HSSC celebrated 100 years of incorporation with a gala reception and dinner at the Harry Chandler Auditorium at Times Mirror. "The evening was meant to thank members, friends and supporters, long-standing and new, whose love of history continues to make the Historical Society of Southern California a vital and viable force in our community," noted Powell Greenland, HSSC President.

And those supporters were there in numbers as 160 guests filled the Harry Chandler Auditorium. This was the Society’s second event held in the elegant hall; in 1988, HSSC presented its first five Fellows Awards there.

A reception featuring the Curtis Pegler Trio set the mood for dinner and the program following.

Guest speaker Kevin Starr,

(Continued on page 4)
NEW HOURS FOR THE LUMMIS HOME

The Lummis Home will be closed on Thursdays and Fridays and open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Watch for news of special weekend events: lectures, book signings, art exhibits, etc.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEONS AT LUMMIS HOME

Make your reservations now for our delicious and festive Holiday Luncheons at the Lummis Home, December 9 and 11. Seating is limited so call Margaret at (213) 222-0546.

PASADENA IMAGES:

Paintings and Sketches by Joseph Stoddard

The architecture and historic landmarks of Pasadena are Joseph Stoddard’s subject matter in a watercolor exhibition that opens at the Lummis Home in November. Following a reception for the artist on November 24th, HSSC will host the exhibition through December 22nd.

Moving from corporate designer to environmental graphic artist, Stoddard has worked with the firm of Sanchez Kamps Associates since 1984. He designed the Lummis Garden education panels and area signs, and is currently working on the covers of two HSSC publications.

HOLIDAY TIP

El Alisal Book Shop: Where The Best Present Is Often The Past

What used to be the “quiet corner” in the Lummis Home isn’t quiet anymore. The El Alisal Book Shop is alive with exciting new and used books, tote bags, crafts for youngsters, paperbacks, hardbacks and autographed volumes.

If your interest is local history, choose from titles on Los Angeles, Pomona, La Jolla, Montecito, Crown Hill or Hollywood.

For those whose curiosity spans the state, there are books by Judson Grenier, Sheldon Jackson, Kevin Starr, David Lavender, Gloria Lothrop and Lawrence Clark Powell.

The book shop also features a section on women in California and the West, with titles such as Adobe Days, A Victorian Gentlewoman in the Far West, and Women Poets of the West.

El Alisal’s ecology and gardening section is getting a reputation around town with books by Robert Smaus, Kevin Connelly, Robert Perry, Elna Bakker, Nancy Day, Dick Raymond and many others.

In addition to books, select from curiosity nature kits, craft kits, post cards, historical photographs, drawings and notecards. And let’s not forget our collection of books by and about Charles Lummis.

So visit the El Alisal Book Shop this holiday season. The shop is open from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Pasadena’s La Loma Road Bridge by artist Joseph Stoddard.
The Historic One Hundred

The Ahmanson Foundation
Alamitos Land Company
ARCO
ARCO Foundation
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Automobile Club of Southern California
Bixby Land Company
Carnation Company Foundation
The Carson Companies
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George A.V. Dunning Fund, California Community Foundation
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UNOCAL
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Wielding Foundation
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Gift Memberships

Are there history buffs on your holiday gift list? Consider giving them gift memberships in HSSC. Call the office at (213) 222-0546 and we will happily arrange this special holiday gift.

Wills and Bequests:

Remembering HSSC in your will or in a trust is a wonderful way to make a gift of history that keeps on giving. For information on wills and bequests, please call or write Tom Andrews at: HSSC, 200 East Avenue 43, Los Angeles, CA 90031, (213) 222-0546. There is no obligation and you will not be solicited.

MEMBERS

Welcome New Members

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Ernestine Workman

STUDENT
Kat Anderson

INSTITUTION
Cambridge University Library Wells Fargo History Museum
CENTENNIAL GRANTS
(Continued from page 1)

anthology of articles from the Southern California Quarterly, will document the Spanish influence on the settlement and growth of southern California. Edited by Doyle B. Nunis, Jr., this volume will be published in commemoration of the Columbian Quincentenary in 1992.

With this publications grant, Ahmanson Foundation Vice President Lee Walcott urged the Society to “maintain its tradition of scholarship” while bringing history to the people!

Associated Foundations, Inc.: $10,000 for the Photo Archive Continuing its commitment to the preservation of history through photography, Associated Foundations granted an additional $10,000 to previous awards totalling $12,500 for the HSSC Photo Archive.

The grant will enable the Society to transfer thousands of nitrate negatives to modern safety film, continue cataloging the collection and mount a portable, changing exhibit.

The Society expresses its appreciation to President Brenda Oddou and all of the trustees of Associated Foundations, Inc.

Spring Street Foundation: $11,000 for Spanish Heritage Anthology The Spring Street Foundation will complete the funding for Southern California’s Spanish Heritage with its grant of $11,000.

The anthology, to be released in 1992, focuses on the substantial impact of Spain’s presence in this part of the new world. It showcases a number of distinguished scholars who have contributed much to our understanding of the Spanish legacy and will be a timely resource for the Latino community in Southern California.

The Society thanks Chairman and President Winston V. Morrow for his support in directing this grant toward publications.

The Weingart Foundation: $10,000 for General Support A grant of $10,000 from the Weingart Foundation is designated for the general support of the Historical Society.

The Society is pleased to acknowledge Chairman Harry J. Volk and President Charles W. Jacobson for their interest in promoting history through HSSC’s programs and publications.

Muir and Agnes Dawson, Ruth Malora and Ben Masuda at Centennial Gala.

Century II Founders

THE AHMANSON FOUNDATION
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ASSOCIATED FOUNDATIONS, INC.
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THE TIMES MIRROR FOUNDATION
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WATSON LAND COMPANY
WEINGART FOUNDATION

HISTORIC GALA
(Continued from page 1)

passionate chronicler of California’s nightmares and daydreams, was on hand to deliver a fascinating view of the historic context in which the Historical Society of Southern California was born over 100 years ago.

Preceding Kevin Starr’s talk, Executive Director Tom Andrews and HSSC President Powell Greenland presented the Society’s new Centennial Award to key donors, the Century II Founders. They also acknowledged members of the President’s Circle and sponsors of both the Southern California Quarterly and the new Centennial History.

The Society extends special thanks to Times Mirror, Stephen Meier and Lisa Reale for their assistance in making the evening such a success.
Past Presidents Attend Centennial Gala

Mike Dougherty  Dutch Holland
Bill Escherich  Joe O' Flaherty
Victor Plukas

The Historical Society is pleased to conclude its Centennial of Incorporation year by presenting a special Centennial Award of Merit. Designed by Joseph Stoddard of Sanchez Kamps Associates in Pasadena, the award is being given to individuals, corporations and foundations whose distinguished contributions have enabled the Society to fulfill the vision of its founders.

The first awards were presented at the Centennial of Incorporation dinner at Times Mirror on October 24, 1991. The Society will continue to present the award over coming months at open houses and programs of the Society.

HSSC Publishes Centennial History

Three-dollar dues, trap-door spider and donated spittoons! It's all here in the recently published *Centennial History of the Historical Society of Southern California* by Jane Apostol. The story covering 108 years of California's oldest, continuously operating historical organization is a fascinating account of people banding together to share a common love—history.

Author Jane Apostol's intensive research has netted her another readable volume, much like her *South Pasadena: A Centennial History*, that faithfully records the facts while vividly portraying the personalities and foibles of the founders along with the dynamism of their vision.

The final chapter of the history, "Presidential Profiles," brings together forty-eight biographies of the men and women who led HSSC during two centuries. "Presidential Profiles" has been printed as an excerpt and bound in a limited edition that is the official keepsake of the HSSC Centennial Gala. Renowned bookman, Ward Ritchie, designed the *Centennial History*, lending his hallmark touch to a volume that is at once elegantly traditional in feeling yet contemporary in form.

The HSSC *Centennial History* has been published in a hardback edition of 900 copies. A handsome collector's edition of 100 is slip-cased and signed by the author and designer.

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**OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

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PHOTOS: Suzanne Huddleston
HSSC Past President
Bill Escherich Puts History First

"History" might as well be Board member Bill Escherich's middle name. With an M.A. in the history of California and Mexico from UC Berkeley, Bill has ably incorporated his love of history in his professional life and his volunteer activities.

Bill joined HSSC in 1970 and was elected to the Board of Directors in 1972. He served as President of the Board from 1972-75 and has organized Annual Treks and other programs throughout his tenure.

Now retired, Bill was manager of travel publications for the Automobile Club of Southern California and served as a Latin American Trade Commissioner for the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

Bill and Mary Escherich travel widely. He is also a trustee of the Pasadena Historical Society and the Idyllwild Arts Foundation.

HSSC Director
Phil Swan Invests In History

For the past ten years, Phil Swan has brought to the HSSC Board of Directors his professional skills in overseeing the Society's investments and serving on a number of Board committees.

A graduate of Pomona College and the Stanford Graduate School of Business, Phil has enjoyed a career as investment counselor for over 35 years. His civic-mindedness has led him to serve also on the board of the Braille Institute and USC Cancer Research Associates.

Because of his avid interest in historic photographs, Phil has been particularly supportive of HSSC's Photo Archive. Phil's wife, Sally, also a history devotee, is a collector of children's books.

HSSC Director
Stan Penton, History and Garden Enthusiast

Since 1984, Stan Penton has assumed an active role in HSSC as both a Board member and a garden volunteer.

Stan's hands-on involvement with the Lummis Water-Conserving Garden makes him a strong advocate of educating children, particularly school groups visiting the Lummis Home, in the importance of waterwise gardening.

As co-owner of California Metal Enameling Co., founded in 1905, Stan has supported HSSC's recognition of businesses with historic roots in Southern California.

Stan is also active in the Society of Architectural Historians, Los Angeles Beautiful and the Men's Garden Club of Los Angeles.
Puck Photo Collection Progress Report

The last we heard of Jack Moore, volunteer curator of the HSSC Photo Archive, he was at 2,901 and still counting!

One year into the project of organizing the thousands of negatives and prints taken by Charles Puck, Jack can attest to the progress he has made.

Aided by volunteer Paul de Villiers, Jack made his first order of business the filing 2,900 of 5,000 nitrate negatives into acid-free envelopes for protection and ready retrieval. Eventually, the negatives will be converted to modern safety film.

Then began the tedious task of matching the negatives with their corresponding prints, if prints existed. Finally, our undaunted volunteers integrated those photos with their negatives into the larger collection.

"Puck seemed to be incapable of organizing and cataloging the photographs he took in such abundance," bemoaned Jack, who has headed the archive project for nearly five years. "Luckily Paul's computer expertise was equal to his love of old photos, so we are on our way to a well-documented collection."

The HSSC Photo Archive Project has been generously supported by two grants from Associated Foundations, Inc. and contributions from HSSC members and friends.

The bones, no longer in articulated skeleton form, were laid on a table and examined by a physical anthropologist and a forensic pathologist. Most Reverend Thaddeus Shubsda, Bishop of Monterey, conducted a comparison with 1943 findings and photographs. With the dozen experts and witnesses busily engaged, Joe Hinojos, photographer for the 1943 exhumation, asked Bishop Shubsda if he could recreate the 1943 photograph of himself standing next to the bones, and most prominently the skull. Bishop Shubsda agreed, and as I was composing the shot, I realized I would have to move the skull closer to Mr. Hinojos for best advantage.

As my mind raced on the task of taking quality photograph that would serve as part of the historical record sent to Rome, I quickly but gently cradled the skull in the palms of my hands and moved it across the table. Only after I set it down was I overcome by history. This was the founder and "Apostle of California," a mythic, legendary and even controversial figure. For the brief moment I held the "cradle of California civilization" in my hands, I never felt more a witness to, and a participant in California history.
A. MAXSON SMITH (1897-1991) died peacefully in his sleep on August 23. A successful attorney, he served with distinction on the Board of the Bixby Land Company for forty-seven years. Maxson was an enthusiastic supporter of the Historical Society.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
FOUNDED 1883 · INCORPORATED 1891

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HSSC Office Hours
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Lummis Home
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For further information call HSSC at (213) 222-0546.