



"ARTS AND CRAFTS ALONG THE ARROYO" A SUCCESS

The Lummis Home and Garden, in conjunction with the Museums of the Arroyo, welcomed southern Californians on Sunday, May 21, 1995 to a premier event that celebrated the rich artistic culture of the area surrounding the Arroyo Seco.

Twenty different local artists, craftspeople and art organizations displayed and sold their work in the garden. There were also displays from the Judson Stained Glass Studios and the Robert Winter collection of Batchelder tile.

Exhibits inside the Lummis Home, which featured contemporary art from the Random Gallery of Highland Park and the Poulsen Galleries of Pasadena, provided a traditional art setting.

A special presentation was made to First District Councilman Mike Hernandez for his ongoing support of the cultural history of the Arroyo. Executive Director Tom Andrews made the presentation to the councilman of an original watercolor of the Lummis Home by Tracy Gibbons.

Continued on page 12



Photo: Ventura County Museum

Section of a panoramic photograph of St. Francis Dam site taken by Bernard Isensee on March 20, 1928. The two men standing are Deputy Sheriff Carl Wallace (west and white shirt) and a guide.

REASSESSING THE ST. FRANCIS DAM DISASTER

Prior to the January 1994 Northridge earthquake, the greatest disaster in southern California history was the midnight collapse of the St. Francis Dam, designed and built under the supervision of William Mulholland.

What caused the collapse? Was it a man-made or a natural disaster? Who or what was to blame? What can we know for sure, and what questions will remain unanswered?

Sixty-seven years later, the Historical Society of Southern California and the Ventura County Museum of History and Art have joined forces to produce a stunning publication on the St. Francis Dam disaster of March 12, 1928.

Available in August, this 200-page reexamination of the dam's collapse, features many unpublished photographs, which accompany insightful articles by J. David Rogers, Catherine Mulholland, and Abraham Hoffman.

Members of HSSC and the Ventura County Museum will receive copies as a benefit of membership. Extra copies will be available from both organizations in August at \$15 per copy.

Grants from the Department of Water and Power to HSSC and First Interstate Bank of California to the Ventura County Museum supported this project.



Jon Wilkman

MEET HSSC DIRECTOR JON WILKMAN

Jon Wilkman is a documentary filmmaker with a special interest in history. Jon began his career in 1964 at CBS in New York writing for Walter Cronkite on "The Twentieth Century" television series. Since then, along with his wife and partner Nancy, Jon has produced, directed and written documentary programs for CBS, NBC, ABC, HBO and PBS, including the Emmy Award-winning KCET series "The Los Angeles History Project." Jon is past president of the International Documentary Association, and the author of the pictorial history "Black Americans: From Colonial Days to the Present."

Raised in the San Fernando Valley, Jon has an undergraduate degree in English Literature and History from Oberlin College in Ohio. Along with his career as a documentary filmmaker, he has taught nonfiction filmmaking at Fordham University, and presently at the USC School of Cinema-Television. Jon and Nancy live in the Hollywood Hills where Nancy tends a newly-planted garden and Jon enjoys listening to a wide range of music.

HSSC RECEIVES AHMANSON FOUNDATION \$25,000 CHALLENGE GRANT

The Society's efforts to achieve balance in its outreach to both the scholarly community and the general public was recognized by The Ahmanson Foundation with a grant of \$25,000 to be used as leverage in developing a \$100,000 Publications Fund.

In his letter accompanying the check, Lee Walcott, foundation managing director, commented that HSSC's growth and

leadership "continues to enhance the potential that a living historical society should represent."

"The Ahmanson grant is most appreciated and very timely," said HSSC Executive Director Tom Andrews, "because we are launching an extensive publications program over the next eighteen months and will strive to build the fund to \$100,000."

\$40,000 GRANT PLEDGED FOR BOOK AND VIDEO ON MUSEUMS OF THE ARROYO

Associated Foundations Incorporated has taken a generous step to help the five Museums of the Arroyo—Heritage Square Museum, Southwest Museum, Lummis Home and Garden, Pasadena Historical Museum, and the Gamble House—develop a more integrated and effective public outreach.

The \$40,000 grant will support a thirty-minute video on the five museums and a paperback history and guide to the museums. The video will be under the direction of Jon Wilkman of Wilkman Productions. The book will be written by Jane Apostol, author of centennial histories of South Pasadena, HSSC and Vroman's Book Store.

A March 1996 publication date is planned for the video and the book in anticipation of a major combined program by the five museums on Museum's Day in May of next year. HSSC appreciates the

commitment of Associated Foundations to the Museum's of the Arroyo, which is largely due to the vision of Barry Herlihy of Heritage Square Museum, who has given sustained leadership to the causes of the museums.



Photo: Herik Freizer

Barry Herlihy

PFLUEGER FAMILY TO ENDOW LOCAL HISTORY AWARD



Donald H. Pflueger

HSSC Board member Don Pflueger's sudden passing last October took from southern California one of the great champions of local history in this century.

Fortunately for all southern Californians, the memory of Don Pflueger will be preserved for future generations through a family gift to the local history award established by HSSC in his name. Tom Andrews received the happy news from Don's daughter, Leah, that she and her brother David will endow the Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award with a gift of \$25,000.

The Pflueger family gift will bring the endowment total to \$35,000 and ensures that the award can be offered biennially beginning in October, 1996. There have been fifteen previous winners of the Pflueger Award, which is given for distinguished accomplishments in the publication or production of southern California local history.

Photo: Jon Wilkman



Photo: Jon Wilkman



Photo: Jon Wilkman



DRAMATIC RAMONA PAGEANT DRAWS RECORD HSSC CROWD

A trip into southern California's historic past was taken by 110 HSSC members and friends on April 29. Three luxury coaches were boarded at Avery Dennison in Pasadena. Commentary was given enroute by HSSC President Martin Ridge or Jon and Nancy Wilkman, creators of the Emmy-nominated KCET program, *Ramona: A Story of Passion & Protest*.

The Mission Inn in Riverside was the first destination. After tours of the famed

historic landmark, a delicious lunch was served in the Spanish Art Gallery. Pageant-goers then heard more about Helen Hunt Jackson in stimulating talks by authors Valerie Mathes and Pamela Herr before continuing to Hemet.

With the weather cooperating beautifully the Ramona Pageant captured the attention of all. After visiting the Ramona Bowl Museum, box dinners were served while everyone relaxed on the return trip to Pasadena.



REMEMBERING ELNA BAKKER

Elna Bakker, distinguished naturalist, lecturer and author, passed away on May 27 in her Mt. Washington home. Elna was very active in the Theodore Payne Society in addition to HSSC, where she served as a board member from 1985 to 1991.

"She was present at the creation of the Lummis Home waterwise garden," recalls Tom Andrews, "and her advice was sought in writing a grant proposal to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to get it started." Elna also wrote to the Stanley Smith Horticultural Society and secured a

\$15,000 grant to support an educational component to the garden.

Elna participated in the first Garden Open House in 1987, lecturing and leading tours of the garden. Her expert advice helped ensure the success of this important event, which has attracted 11,000 visitors over the past nine years.

"Next year, at our tenth 'Garden Fair' - as it is now called - we will dedicate the day and Elna's favorite Lummis Garden tree to her memory," announced Tom Andrews. The legacy of Elna Bakker will live on in her writings, including the



Photo: Margaret Dickerson

Elna Bakker

classic, *An Island Called California* in the lives of all the people she touched.

TWO FRIENDS OF HISTORY

HSSC mourns the loss of two friends of history, Dr. James Robeson and Robert Weinstein.

JAMES ROBESON, M.D.

A life-long Californian, Jim Robeson was a familiar, friendly face at so many Historical Society and cultural events around our community. Born in Los Angeles April 21, 1938, Jim was a graduate of the University of Southern California and a physician specializing in diagnostic radiology. He worked in hospitals and in private practice.

Described by his close friend and colleague Dr. Stephen Kanter as a "plain down-to-earth person," Jim will be remembered by many southern California cultural organizations whose causes he

generously supported. He was an avid collector of Latino art.

Jim Robeson died December 27, 1994.

FOR LOVE OF HISTORY

IN MEMORY OF
James W. Robeson, M.D.
Thomas F. Andrews
Stephen A. Kanter, M.D.

Denise J. Martin
E. Peter Mauk, Jr.
Doyce B. Nunis, Jr.

IN MEMORY OF
Elna Bakker
Thomas F. Andrews
Denise J. Martin

IN MEMORY OF
Edwin H. Carpenter
Thomas F. Andrews
Ruth and Harold Axe

ROBERT WEINSTEIN

Maritime historian, authority on photographic preservation and the history of the American West, curator of "Spectrum," the official Bicentennial photographic history of Los Angeles, and progressive activist, Bob Weinstein died on April 10. A former HSSC vice president, he was 80.

With the publishing firm of Anderson, Ritchie and Simon for 25 years, Bob was the author of nine books, including *Collection, Care and Use of Historical Photographs*, and *Grays Harbor, 1885-1913*. He also illustrated the definitive edition to *Two Years Before the Mast*.

Bob is survived by his wife, Vivian, brother Meyer, son David, daughter-in-law Nancy Fuller and grandson Jesse.



HSSC ANNUAL REPORT

Published by the Historical Society of Southern California

Summer 1995 Volume 7 No. 2

TO HSSC MEMBERS

Last year, HSSC continued to experience the effects of the state's recession, but also continued to develop and strengthen its programs, publications and presence in the greater southern California community.

The number of members has remained stable, and many members have increased their dues with the result that membership revenues have grown from \$32,000 in 1986 to \$57,000 in 1994. The Society now encourages members to pay their dues with credit cards to make renewal more convenient and automatic.

The Society's publications remain not only a source of pride but also of important revenue. However, HSSC's publications program is not self-sustaining, but is maintained by the generous support of southern California foundations, corporations, and individuals.

The economic climate of the past few years has tested HSSC's mettle. We continue to sponsor outstanding awards programs, prize-winning publications, and educational programs at the Lummi Home. The challenge is keep these services alive, well, and excellent.

Martin Ridge, President
June 1, 1995

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CASH FLOW ANALYSIS JANUARY 1, 1992 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1994

| | January 1, 1994 through December 31, 1994 | January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1993 | January 1, 1992 through December 31, 1992 |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Beginning cash | 98,781 | 123,134 | 80,863 |
| Membership dues | 56,925 | 58,273 | 58,765 |
| Investment income | 6,990 | 10,868 | 12,360 |
| Donations | 70,195 | 104,548 | 57,505 |
| Book sales | 44,847 | 63,323 | 57,045 |
| Quarterly Publication donations | 9,000 | 60,700 | 6,500 |
| Events and programs | 58,930 | 14,273 | 22,250 |
| Administrative fees | 7,688 | 18,184 | 15,044 |
| Increase in reserve and fund accounts | 0 | (76,569) | 11,786 |
| Stock sale proceeds | 38,846 | 100,044 | 41,155 |
| Receivables collected (incurred) | (200) | 0 | 0 |
| Decrease in book inventory | 30,316 | | |
| CASH RECEIPTS | 323,536 | 353,643 | 282,409 |
| Cash available | 422,317 | 476,777 | 363,272 |
| Operating expenses | (348,368) | (278,937) | (232,737) |
| Securities purchased | | (100,477) | (6,262) |
| Decrease (increase) in payables | (351) | 1,417 | (1,140) |
| Decrease in reserve and fund accounts | (1,302) | | |
| CASH EXPENDITURES | (350,021) | (377,997) | (240,139) |
| Ending cash balance | 72,297 | 98,781 | 123,133 |

The above information has been compiled from the tax returns as filed by the Historical Society of Southern California, Inc. for the years ended December 31, 1992, December 31, 1993 and December 31, 1994.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (unaudited)

| | December 31, 1994 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Cash, checking & money market | \$ 18,490 |
| Other current assets | 56,279 |
| Marketable securities | 88,377* |
| Restricted assets | 53,805 |
| | \$216,951 |
| LIABILITIES | |
| Current liabilities | \$ 3,464 |
| Long-term liabilities, fund accounts | 53,805 |
| Board reserved moneys accounts | 61,194 |
| Ending account balance | 98,488 |
| | \$216,951 |

*Market value as of December 31, 1994: \$129,600

CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The following donors have contributed over \$68,250 during 1994 in support of the publications, general operations and special projects of the Society.

PATRONS - \$10,000 - \$20,000

Associated Foundations Incorporated
Weingart Foundation

ASSOCIATES - \$5,000 - \$10,000

Automobile Club of Southern California
John Randolph and
Dora Haynes Foundation
Les Dames de Champagne
Spring Street Foundation

SPONSORS - \$2,500 - \$5,000

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FRIENDS - \$1,000 - \$2,500

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Arroyo Arts Collective
California Community Foundation
Tom and Valley Knudsen Foundation
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Will J. Reid Foundation
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The Historical Society thanks the following Major Donors whose generous support in 1994 has enhanced programs, publications and operations in the amount of \$82,475.

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HSSC BOARD SUPPORT FOR THE YEAR 1994

The Board of Directors proudly reports 100% participation in its annual Board Giving Campaign. The following members of the Board have collectively given \$51,484 to the operations and special projects of the Society.

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\$1,000 PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE MEMBERS IN 1994

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COMMUNITY LEADERS CHAIR AWARDS LUNCHEON

HSSC's third Community Enrichment Awards Luncheon was held at The Biltmore on March 29. Co-chairs of the luncheon, Tom McKernan, president of the Automobile Club of Southern California, and Jim Greene of O'Melveny & Myers greeted 175 guests.

In keeping with its commitment to recognize community leaders for making a difference in southern California, the Society honored Joanne Hale for combining the research and history of the frontier with the imaging of the American West in movies and westerns, and Irene Hirano for her vision and leadership in the development and effective outreach of the Japanese American National Museum.

The Society paid tribute to William Huston for being instrumental in preserving the history of a pioneer southern California family through the publication of *A California Legacy* and the preservation of the Dominguez Adobe, and Albert Martin for his leadership during the 1981 Bicentennial of Los Angeles which brought history to the public's awareness and gave

new life to volunteerism in the community.

The Society also recognized Christine Shirley for her leadership in creating a docent-training program for the historical interpretation of the Banning Residence Museum, for the critical help she has provided to First Century Families in the preservation of their history, and for her careful restora-

tion of the Hale Solar Laboratory.

Each of the honorees was presented with an original watercolor by Pasadena artist Joseph Stoddard. The paintings depicted the Autry and Japanese American National museums, the Dominguez Adobe, the DWP building (Al Martin's choice), and the Hale Solar Laboratory.

The Historical Society is grateful to Tom McKernan and Jim Greene and to all who attended for their support of this important community recognition event.



Photo: Suzanne Huddleson

Artist Joseph Stoddard, left, showing his painting of the DWP to honoree Al Martin.

THE LUMMIS HOME 9TH ANNUAL GARDEN FAIR

This year's Garden Fair featured plants for sale from the Lummis Home nursery. Jane Frimodig, shown here, tends to the many varieties of plants.

Visitors enjoyed tours of the garden given by Melanie Baer-Keeley, Mayita Dinos, Rick & Becky Fisher, Gordon Nunnally and Robert Perry.

HSSC wishes to thank the following for their support of the garden fair:

*Roth Family Foundation
Metropolitan Water District
Department of Water & Power
Highland Park Chamber of Commerce
Mt. Washington Association
Quick'r Print'r
Packard Grill
Robert Perry
Burkard Nurseries, Inc.
Hortus
Blair Haynes Nursery
Maleene Desert Gallery
Planned Land Designs
Armstrong Garden Centers*



Jane Frimodig

BOOKS



SEPTEMBER BOOK AUCTION PROMISES TO BE THE BEST EVER!

On Sunday, September 10, HSSC will hold its Fifth Annual Book, Photo and Art Auction at the Lummis Home. The auction will start at 2 p.m. with a preview at 1 p.m. A catalog of the auction items will be available in August at a cost of \$3.50. Please request your copy.

Fine press, autographed, and limited edition books will be featured in the auction including those designed by Ward Ritchie and Saunders Press, those signed by John Caughey and Robert Cleland, and those related to southern California local history.

A dozen historical panoramas, cleaned and mylar-protected by the Huntington Library staff, will be offered to the highest bidder along with some attractive art objects.

The previous book sales and auctions of the Society have contributed over \$40,000 to the publications program of HSSC—in addition to providing an exciting way to acquire choice items.

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 10

5th Annual HSSC Book,

Photo & Art Auction

2:00 p.m. Auction

1:00 p.m. Preview

Lummis Home

NEW ANTHOLOGY ON SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMEN

In September, the Society is publishing another of its attractive and substantial anthologies, this one entitled, *Women in the Life of Southern California: An Historical Anthology*.

Introduced by Iris Engstrand, edited by Doyce Nunis, with Jennifer Watts as photo editor, designed by Ward Ritchie, and printed by Dana Cordrey, *Women in the Life of Southern California: An Historical*



Photo: HSSC Collection

Anthology is an impressive volume of 500 pages of text and photographs that will enhance any library. It is designed to

complement the three previous anthologies published by the HSSC.

Articles by Salome Hernandez, Gloria Miranda, Valerie Mathes, Jane Apostol, Ellen Lee, Gloria Lothrop, and Ingrid Scobie, among others, define the contributions of a number of women who have had a significant impact on the development of southern California.

This publication is made possible by the generosity of a number of individuals and by Les Dames de Champagne who made an \$8,000 contribution to *Women in the Life of Southern California*. The Society is grateful for this support.

A special, pre-publication offer for this handsome, autographed, slipcased, limited edition anthology will be mailed to you in June. Watch for it.

SMILEY LIBRARY AND HSSC REPUBLISH *LETTERS FROM THE ORANGE EMPIRE*

The A.K. Smiley Public Library of Redlands and the Historical Society are copublishers in paperback of an important book on the early years of the citrus industry in southern California.

Letters From the Orange Empire, first published in hardcover by HSSC in 1990 and soon out-of-print, assembles the letters of G. Harold Powell, who solved the problems of spoilage that were plaguing the citrus industry, thereby saving growers millions of dollars.

Powell's letters are full of detail about people and communities of southern California at a critical point in the region's development.

Edited by Richard Lillard, with an Afterword by Lawrence Clark Powell, the new paperback will feature an attractive cover designed and painted by Joseph Stoddard and will sell for \$12.95 when it becomes available in late August or early September.



Letters From the Orange Empire

EL ALISAL BOOK IS 8TH HSSC PUBLICATION TO WIN PRIZE

The Rounce & Coffin Club has selected *El Alisal: Where History Lingers* for inclusion in their thirty western books of 1994. The Rounce & Coffin Club's Western Books Exhibition tours libraries in the western states for two years showcasing the finest examples of print and design.

El Alisal was written by Jane Apostol, designed by Ward Ritchie, and printed at Premier Printing in Brea. Underwritten with grant support from The Ahmanson Foundation, *El Alisal* tells the story of Charles Lummis the man, his house, today's garden, and his artistic Arroyo neighbors.

It is available in hardcover and paperback from HSSC. Please call (213) 222-0546 for information or to order by credit card.

WARD RITCHIE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

On June 4, Ward Ritchie, southern California's longest-lived and most distinguished design printer, celebrated his 90th birthday in the presence of 200 friends at the Doubletree Hotel in Pasadena.

Hosted by the Zamorano Club, and presided over by Zamorano President (and HSSC Executive Director) Tom Andrews, Ward was honored for his fine-printing accomplishments and for his writings on the history of fine printing.

Ward Ritchie played a leading role in the cultural renaissance that enriched southern California in the 1930s and has enjoyed a long relationship with the Historical Society of Southern California.

When HSSC changed from an *Annual* to a *Quarterly* in 1935, Ward was chosen as the printer. When Doyce Nunis became editor in 1962 he again chose Ward as the printer. Ward, who has designed six of the Society's book publications, was honored with the HSSC FELLOWS medallion in 1988.

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIAN is published quarterly by the Historical Society of Southern California which is a California non-profit organization (501)(c)(3)

Executive Director Thomas F. Andrews

Consultant Denise J. Martin

Contributors: Robert Blew
Margaret Dickerson
Carole Dougherty
Michael Sanborn

Design Consultant Margaret Yasuda

Printing & mailing Licher Direct Mail

The offices of the Historical Society of Southern California are located in the Lummis Home, 200 East Avenue 43, Los Angeles, CA 90031 • (213) 222-0546

HSSC Office Hours 9-5 Monday - Friday

Lummis Home Open to the Public
12 - 4 Friday - Sunday

Group Tours Friday morning
by appointment



TOWARD A MULTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVE OF LOS ANGELES

by Ronald C. Woolsey

Over the past two decades a multicultural perspective in historical scholarship has broadened the interpretation of ethnic themes in American history. The subject certainly speaks to the richness of southern California's past. Nowhere is this more evident than in the analysis of the Mexican American barrio since the American conquest.

Three historians stand out as leaders in this field: Richard Griswold del Castillo, Ricardo Romo and Albert Camarillo. A review of their works is worthwhile in understanding the larger context of the Mexican American experience in our locale.

Castillo's *The Los Angeles Barrio, 1850-1890* is a studied approach to the dynamics of change in the Los Angeles pueblo. The author looks at the Spanish-speaking peoples in transition, caught between two cultures and struggling to forge an identity of their own. Castillo painstakingly explores government documents and church records to reconstruct a people grappling with a new social order in Los Angeles.

For the barrio, this evolution resulted in economic exclusion, and, for the larger community, it reinforced old myths. Anglos thus saw the barrio in simple terms, as a "sleepy Mexican village" and not as an underclass society of poverty and segregation.

The Los Angeles Barrio 1850-1890

A Social History

RICHARD GRISWOLD DEL CASTILLO



The Los Angeles Barrio 1850-1890

Romo's *East Los Angeles* begins with the barrio experience at the turn of the century, defining the Mexican American populace as integral to the industrialization of southern California. He places the Mexican American within the larger context of the city's drive for domination of international trade in the Western Pacific region. Mexican labor was critical in this equation of economic expansion.

Yet the slow assimilation and arbitrary deportation that occurred during the 1930s served to create a "metropolis within a megalopolis" in our own time.

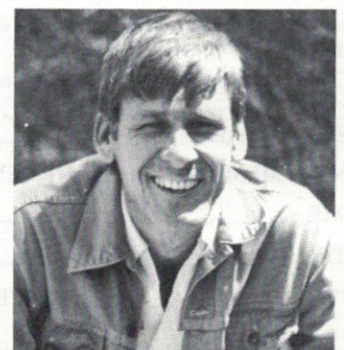
Camarillo's *Chicanos in a Changing Society* complements the Romo and Castillo studies, bridging the larger chronology of the Hispanic experience from the Anglo American conquest to the Depression Era.

For Camarillo, the historical legacy of the conquest produced an underclass exploited in labor, politics, and society at large.

The Mexican American barrio is a story of migrant workers who widened the barrio experience, creating a larger work force vulnerable to the economic downturn of the Great Depression.

Richard Griswold del Castillo, Ricardo Romo and Albert Camarillo each explores the competing themes of acculturation and exclusion within the larger development of Los Angeles, thus providing us with insights into East Los Angeles today, as a community in search of opportunity and acceptance with the larger locale.

Ron Woolsey teaches at Bishop Amat Memorial High School in La Puente and is a recipient of the O'Flaherty Distinguished Teaching Award. He has written extensively on the American western frontier.



Ron Woolsey

FOR LOVE OF HISTORY

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IN HONOR OF
Christine FV. Shirley
Nancy Banning Call

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Continued from page 1

Free refreshments and live music from the Pasadena Mandolin Society added to the festivities for the 650 visitors in attendance.

The Southwest Museum, Heritage Square Museum and the Pasadena Historical Museum were also open free to the public with each location providing their own special activities and entertainment. With record attendance coupled with the unique blend of artists and craftspeople made the first *Arts and Crafts Along the Arroyo* a complete success.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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