Endowment Campaign Moves Forward

Last fall the Historical Society embarked on a five-year, $3.1 million endowment campaign. Six months later, the endowment moves forward with pledges totaling $473,750 and payments totaling $239,275.

Three awards—Nunis, Pflueger and Wheat—have been endowed and an endowment for the support of the Quarterly has been started. Board support has been outstanding, accounting for a very high percentage of the nearly half million dollars pledged so far.

Much remains to be done, but President Martin Ridge, Chairman George Dunning and Executive Director Tom Andrews are encouraged by this initial support and optimistic about reaching their goal.

"The future of history in Southern California will surely be affected by whether we reach our goal," Tom Andrews says. "It is the most important challenge HSSC has faced in its 114-year history."


LUNCHEON continued on page 2
GENTLE READER

WHEN MOST of us took history in junior high and high school, there was no such thing as "History Day"—a program of local, county, state and national competition for awards.

Today is different. This year, on March 22, one thousand young students competed for top honors at USC. Believe me, it's an exciting time when the winners are loudly cheered during the awards ceremony.

The students compete in categories where they write papers, construct projects, present performances and produce videos, either individually or in small groups. Both individual and group prizes are awarded. The winners move on to state and national competition.

The Historical Society has been active in History Day for fifteen years, providing financial support and personnel with Elizabeth Marsh and Margaret Dickerson having served as treasurers.

LUNCHEON continued from page 1

Awards Underwritten
The Historical Society is grateful to Frank and Nancy Wheat for their generous bequest which ensures the continuation of the Wheat Award, and to the former students and friends of Doyce Nunis for their endowment contributions in his honor and in recognition of his 35 years as editor of the Southern California Quarterly.

This year the Historical Society is providing over $10,000 of its publications—in particular Angels Flight, Griffith Park and Museums Along the Arroyo—to serve as prizes for both participating teachers and winning students.

Few things are more important than the encouragement of young people to do history, to become active participants in the study of the past, to discover the power of history in their own lives.

This is why I am grateful for the opportunity HSSC has had to publish local history—and for foundations such as Ahmanson, ARCO and Haynes, for example, whose grant support has helped us place our publications in the schools. Reaching the young with history is not an option, it is a priority!

Authors Honored
The awards ceremonies concluded with the presentation of the Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award. Endowed by friends and family of Don Pflueger, the award was given to Michael Engh, S.J., Ruth Newhall, George Sanchez and Tom Sitton. Their story is told in more detail on page 9.

The Historical Society hopes to make this combined awards luncheon an annual spring event. It was an exciting day for history!

1997 History Conference a Success

The second annual history conference sponsored by HSSC and presented at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage is receiving rave reviews, if the evaluations made by attendees are any proof.

More than 200 people attended the one-day conference which focused on the collections and archives—both renowned and little-known—dealing with the city of Los Angeles.

Each person attending went home with a resource packet of books and brochures—all meant to increase awareness of where to go to study Los Angeles.

During the wine and cheese reception at the end of the day, hosted by the Southern California History Center at CSUN, attendees mingled with the people who curate the collections, who use them or who promote the collections by publicizing them. No one wanted to leave. It took dimming the lights in the Golden Spur to remind the crowd the conference was over.

The 1998 History Conference is already being planned and will focus on the people who made Los Angeles the city it has become. Be sure to look for details in a mailing later this year.

This year's conference was co-sponsored by Wells Fargo, California State University, Northridge, the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Southern California Social Science Association.

Museum Resources for Los Angeles History

Compiled by Robert W. Rose
Historical Society of Southern California

1997 History Conference

Museum Resources: just one of several items included in the History Conference resource packet
This year, the Judson Studios of Highland Park, world renowned as artisans of stained glass, faceted glass and mosaics, celebrate their centennial.

Jane Apostol has written their history, entitled *Painting with Light*, and HSSC will publish it this fall. The book tells the exciting story of the studio since the time of William Lees Judson, Arroyo resident, artist and dean of USC’s College of Fine Arts.

The Judson Studios have provided notable stained glass creations for the Natural History Museum, the Ennis and Hollyhock houses, Hollywood Methodist Episcopal Church, Forest Lawn and Rose Hills memorial parks, the Sephardic Temple Tiferenth Israel, St. James Episcopal Church and the First Congregational Church of L.A., among others.

Equally important, the book tells the story of the rise of stained glass art in Los Angeles within the context of the culture of the Arroyo, the arts and crafts movement and early 20th century Southern California history. This is past history with a living presence among us today!

*Painting with Light* uncovers another local history treasure and makes its story available to teachers, students and the general public.

### Foundations Support History of Griffith Park

The Ahmanson Foundation and the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation contributed generously to underwrite the publication of *Griffith Park: A Centennial History* by Mike Eberts.

Their support also enables the Historical Society to make the book available to teachers. With large numbers of students visiting Griffith Park annually, Mike Eberts’ book provides an opportunity to use a well-known place as a vehicle for the study of local history. From its Rancho Los Feliz beginnings to the present, Griffith Park is a mirror for understanding Los Angeles.

Thoroughly researched and engagingly written, *Griffith Park: A Centennial History* is an impressive monograph of 460 pages, with more than 200 illustrations, that will command the subject for many years to come. It is the second in a series of volumes to be published to commemorate the State Sesquicentennial, 1996-2000.

The physical restoration of Angels Flight makes this book an ideal teaching tool for combining the study of the Flight’s history with a trip to the funicular itself, thus extending the teaching of history beyond the walls of the classroom.

The history of Angels Flight, as told by Virginia Comer, is closely tied to the history of Bunker Hill. This connection enables students to better understand the emergence, decline and rebirth of both the hill and its railway.

The book also offers students an exposure to the larger themes of continuity, change and preservation in the life of a city such as Los Angeles. Once more, it is past history with a living presence among us.
Guest House Cleaned Thanks to Eagle Scout

Last August, San Marino High School student, Chris Lord, asked Tom Andrews for a project at the Lummis Home that would benefit the community at large. Tom—never at a loss for ideas—came up with the job of cleaning the guest house, the building which had been used to house HSSC's photo archives before they were placed at The Huntington. According to a note on an old cyanotype photo, the building once was home to Jordan Lummis. Today it is used to store our publications.

With the help of two school friends, his parents and several others, Chris finished the job weeks later. First they moved boxes, filing cabinets and other furniture into the Lummis Home. Then, wearing masks and rubber gloves, Chris and his helpers scraped the loose plaster, swept and vacuumed, then washed the walls. City painters arrived next. They plastered, sealed and painted the walls. Then once again, Chris and crew became movers, returning furniture and books to the freshened cottage.

Partly as a result of his work on the guest cottage, Chris was inducted into the Eagle Scouts Court of Honor this past February. HSSC congratulates Chris Lord and we thank him heartily for a job well-done.

Grant to Restore Guest Houses Requested

Joining forces last October, Highland Park Heritage Trust and the Historical Society of Southern California applied for a grant from the California Office of Historic Preservation to restore the guest houses on the Lummis Home grounds.

The funds were available from a state park bond aimed at projects which would be used as models. The most fundable projects would have high visibility and extend the value of the grant by teaching methods of restoration.

Bob Ebinger, board member of both organizations, felt restoration of the guest houses fit the bill. He along with HSSC consultant Denise Martin and HPHT president Nicole Possert applied for funding. “Supervision of the project by private not-for-profit organizations is a bonus” says Ebinger.

Of 130 applicants, 17 were asked to submit full proposals for a grant. Our application was one of those few.

After an assessment of the final proposals, we placed seventh for funding. Sadly, right now, funding is available for only the first five on the list. The guest houses still need restoration. If funding becomes available they stand a good chance of being restored. HSSC congratulates Bob, Denise and Nicole for coming this far.

Herb Garden to be Renovated

Herb gardens periodically need to be renovated and our twelve-year-old one is no exception. Thanks to a generous gift from Kathy Crowne, the herb garden in front of the Lummis Home will be replanted. Kathy is one of the waterwise garden’s earliest volunteers and has made the gift in memory of her husband.

The first phase of the renovation will entail moving a specimen twelve-foot-tall euphorbia. The height and tenderness of the plant present a challenge to the movers. Kevin Regan, plant manager for the city, and his crew will carefully move the euphorbia four feet from its present location to a four-foot-square hole which will be backfilled with sand. The sand serves both to anchor the plant and to provide a medium through which the new root system can expand.

The next step will be to replace the plants along the front of the house. A new design by landscape architect Jane Frimodig is based on the waterwise garden’s original concept first created by her Cal Poly professor, landscape architect Bob Perry.

Jane and the garden volunteers welcome your participation in the renovation—whether it’s down and dirty planting or providing plants specified in the design. To sign up and dig in, call (213) 222-0546.
To HSSC Members

We can look back on 1995 with a sense of fulfillment. The highlight of 1995 was the presentation of the Community Enrichment Awards at the Biltmore Hotel. The honorees were Joanne Hale, chief executive officer of the Autry Museum of Western Heritage; Irene Hirano, executive director of the Japanese American National Museum; Bill Huston, chairman of the board of the Watson Land Company; Albert Martin, past chairman of the Los Angeles Bicentennial Committee and Christine Shirley, who was responsible for the restoration of the Hale Laboratory.

Former mayor Tom Bradley and the Honorable George Deukmejian joined Gloria Lothrop, Doyce Nunis and William Ouchi in introducing the honorees. The response to the awards from the community and membership was entirely positive.

This has also been a banner year for the Society's publication program. The Quarterly retains its reputation as an excellent historical journal reflecting the most recent trends in scholarship.

It has also been a great year for books. That the book publication program is supported by corporations and foundations attests to the quality of the books. The books sell well, and many are now available in the schools.

It has been a pleasure for me to see the Society take the lead in encouraging historical work at all levels. I know that we will continue to recognize and meet future challenges and find ways to serve the Southern California community.

MARTIN RIDGE
President
March 1, 1997
Corporations, Foundations and Organizations

The following donors have contributed more than $101,250 during 1995 in support of the publications, general operations and special projects of the society:

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The Historical Society thanks the following Major Donors whose generous support in 1995 has enhanced programs, publications and operations in the amount of $40,000.

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HSSC Board Support for the Year 1995

The Board of Directors proudly reports 100 percent participation in its annual Board Giving Campaign. The following board members have collectively given $25,580 to special projects and Society operations:

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Joseph Stoddard and Albert Martin

Photo: Suzanne Hudson
Four teachers—Mark Elinson, Jerrie Martin, Lee Rosental and Catarina Spiess—received the 1997 O’Flaherty Distinguished Teaching Award at the March 8 Awards Luncheon.

The O’Flaherty Award recognizes and encourages excellence and innovation in the teaching of history in the public, private, and parochial schools of Los Angeles County.

The recipients are outstanding teachers who seek to give their students the ability to continue to discover their personal histories throughout their lives.

A Vital Part of Education
The O’Flaherty family believes that an understanding of history is a vital part of education, and that the elementary, intermediate and secondary teacher can make a difference in the way students see themselves as historical beings.

The O’Flaherty Award includes a cash stipend of $500, membership in the Historical Society of Southern California, a certificate and the two-volume history of Los Angeles by Joseph O’Flaherty.

Mark Elinson
Mark Elinson, who teaches at the Monroe High School Law and Government Magnet in Sepulveda, was recognized in 1994 as Teacher of the Year by the California Law Affiliates. For ten years he generously gave of his time to coordinate History Day L.A., an annual history fair involving over 1,000 junior high and high school students competing for awards.

Jerrie Martin
Jerrie Martin teaches fourth grade, including California history, at the 74th Street School in the L.A. Unified School District. She has participated in developing models for teaching fourth grade history at UCLA and has served as a facilitator in the California History/Social Science Project at California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Lee Rosental
Lee Rosental has taught for 22 years at Jefferson Middle School in San Gabriel. He has helped to build an interest in History Day at his school so that now over 300 students participate. Since 1983 his students have won a number of impressive awards in History Day competition at the county, state and national levels.

Catarina Spiess
Catarina Spiess teaches fourth grade at Jerry Voorhis Elementary School in El Monte. She has served as a Mentor Teacher, presented a number of workshops at the district level, is a consultant for the gold rush exhibit planned by the Oakland Museum, and has participated as a facilitator in the California History/Social Science Project at CSU, Dominguez Hills.

Congratulations
Their willingness to spend extra time with students, combined with the support they receive from their principals, make our honorees outstanding teachers who seek to give their students the ability to continue to discover their personal histories throughout their lives.

The Historical Society congratulates Mark, Jerrie, Lee and Catarina and thanks the O’Flaherty family for making their recognition possible.
Four new local history award winners—Michael Engh, S.J., Ruth Newhall, George Sanchez, and Tom Sitton—were presented with leather-bound copies of their books and checks for $500 at the March 8 Awards Luncheon.

Focus on Local History
The Donald H. Pflueger Award recognizes significant publications and film productions on the local history of Southern California. The award focuses on a single work that was published at least three years ago.

A variety of genres, including community, institutional and corporate histories, biographies, autobiographies and generational histories, and regional and specialized histories are eligible for consideration.

George Sanchez
George Sanchez, who has taught at UCLA and the University of Michigan adds an impressive title to the growing list of works on the Mexican-American and Chicano experience in Los Angeles with his book, *Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles.*

Michael Engh
Michael Engh, history professor at Loyola Marymount University was recognized for his book, *Frontier Faiths,* an important study of church, temple and synagogue in Los Angeles between 1846 and 1888.

Ruth Newhall
Ruth Newhall, a journalist by trade, authored *A California Legend: The Newhall Land and Farming Company,* a book that makes important contributions to the study of Southern California as a corporate, family and regional history.

Tom Sitton
Tom Sitton, curator at the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum, has written extensively on Los Angeles and the Progressive reform movement. Both come together in the person of John Randolph Haynes, the subject of his prize-winning biography, *John Randolph Haynes: California Progressive.*

Servant of Local History
The award is named for Don Pflueger, former HSSC board member, professor at Cal Poly, Pomona, and a servant of Southern California local history. Don set a standard for writing local history with his histories of Glendora and Covina.

The Historical Society is grateful to the family and friends of Don Pflueger for the establishment of this endowment in his memory and honor.

Pflueger Local History Awards Presented
Pasadena City College is one of the oldest and largest of California’s 106 public, two-year community colleges. Pasadena Junior College, as PCC was long known, enrolled its first students—267 of them—in 1924. During the next seven decades, the institution grew to when now, it has more than 20,000 students. That explosive growth mirrors developments in the Southland.

Because the college was at first part of the Pasadena Unified School District—in the beginning, sharing the Pasadena High School campus—it drew significant numbers of students from Pasadena itself. By the 1960s, however, when voters approved the formation of an independent district, the college embraced Pasadena and five neighboring communities. This meant a larger pool of students, with somewhat more diversity. Then, in the 1980s, the California legislature mandated open enrollment which allowed students to come from anywhere in the state. This, plus population changes statewide, prompted fascinating demographic developments.

For example, as late as the 1960s, although the numbers of men and women were comparable, whites made up 80 percent of the student body. Today, the male-female ratio is still comparable, but whites constitute 23 percent of the total. African-Americans are eight percent, Asians 30 percent, and Hispanics 34 percent.

In this context, it is useful to recall that California’s population grew from 3.4 million in 1920 to 29.8 million in 1990. If the state’s population is surging, and, as is said, minorities are becoming the majority, PCC is ahead of the trends.

The college has traditionally offered a solid list of academic subjects. At the start, however, courses were neither as numerous nor as diverse as today. In 1924-25, there were only four courses in history, whereas now there are 30. But whether few or many, academic courses have provided firm foundations for hundreds of transfer students. PCC is currently the third-largest contributor of transfers to the state university system and the very largest to USC.

Vocational subjects have also been available and valued. In 1924-25, these included citrus culture and poultry husbandry; now, they run the gamut from automotive electronics to zone system photography. Southland business and industry, more and more rely on PCC for skilled workers.

Nine presidents have managed it all—with a tenth, James Kossler, recently named. The second served 23 years; the tenures of the rest have been shorter, averaging six years, a figure above today’s California average. Two of the presidents have held doctorates in history.

While the California legislature and a state board of governors set broad policy, a district board of trustees has local responsibility, possibly the most important element of which is financial oversight. At the start, the college’s budget was $42,718; today, it exceeds $59 million.

The college continues to look ahead. With master plans for academics and facilities already in hand, it is completing one for technology. As its 75th anniversary approaches, as does a new century, PCC remains both responsive to change and caring about the best of the past.

David T. Leary received his Ph.D. in history from USC. He teaches United States history at Pasadena City College, writes and travels extensively.
Stephen Loew, Jr

Stephen Lowe, Jr., who operated Capitol Milling Co. in the oldest commercial structure in Los Angeles, died last October.

The mill was a landmark on the edge of Chinatown, built by Abel Stearns and owned by the Loew family since 1883.

Stephen was a long-time member of the historical society and supported its commitment to the history of Los Angeles.

Josephine Smith

Josephine Smith died on February 26, following her husband's death by five and a half years. Her husband, A. Maxson Smith, was the son of Sarah Bixby Smith whose reminiscences of life in Southern California during the late 19th and early 20th centuries make the period come alive.

Both Josephine and Maxson were admirers of the Historical Society, often attending luncheons and special events at the Lummis Home.

Harris Newmark

Harris Newmark was the grandson of the first Harris Newmark, whose book, Sixty Years in Southern California, is an important reference on the development of Los Angeles from 1853 to 1913.

The younger Newmark studied economics at Stanford and was a Los Angeles businessman and stockbroker for sixty years.

Harris Newmark was a supporter of the Historical Society, playing a role in bringing grants to help underwrite publications. The Society mourns his death on February 28.

David Cameron

David Cameron, chairman of the State Historical Resources Commission, died on February 27. He was an ardent preservationist and expert on electric railways. When he represented preservationists on Angels Flight's last run in 1969 and its first run after restoration in 1996, he was serving both his passions.

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Woolsey Book Talk & Signing Draws Crowd

One of the Historical Society's largest audiences at a booksigning gathered in the museum of the Lummis Home on Sunday, March 2, to hear Ron Woolsey, author of Migrants West speak about his recently published and well-received book.

Ron told of early pioneers involved in the settlement of the Southland whose lives mirrored the tensions and themes which shaped the region. He also discussed problems he encountered in his research before taking questions from the audience.

During a wine and cheese reception, Ron signed copies of his book.

Whitsett Lecture Announced

Dr. Iris H.W. Engstrand will present the W.P. Whitsett Lecture on the subject “The 18th Century Enlightenment Comes to California.” The lecture is scheduled for Friday evening, April 11, at the University Club, CSUN.

Iris, a long-time member of HSSC, and a distinguished scholar on Spanish North America, wrote the introduction to our recent publication, Women in the Life of Southern California.

For more information, call (818) 677-3566.