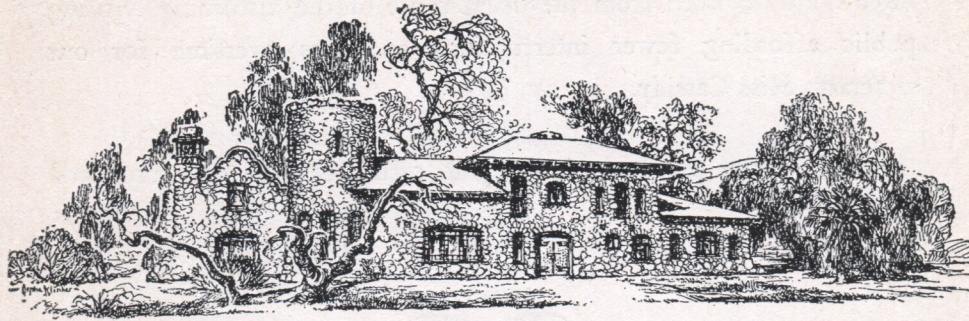


NEWSLETTER



El Alisal

The Historial Society of Southern California

Anna Marie Hager

Editors

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The wheels of progress have rotated slowly, surely and satisfactorily.

The Lummis home has been rejuvenated inside and out by the Los Angeles City Department of Parks and Recreation. Their activities here have put two rooms, here-to-fore unused, at the disposal of our society, which are now functioning as an office and workroom.

The office, a small room, has been lighted, carpeted, and draped by us. A gas fireplace log (gift of Sandy Turner) for decoration and comfort has been added along with a small unit of shelving.

The workroom has been lighted and shelved. A filing cabinet (donated by David Rocks), with some alterations, accomodates all of the membership cards and addressograph plates. This together with three desk sections (moved from upstairs) perform as the legs of an eight foot worktable. Hopefully two of the desk sections will be replaced by donation of standard two drawer letter-file cabinets.

All of our cabinets have been removed from other parts of the home into the workroom. This arrangement leaves our work force quite divorced from the usual route of the disturbing, visiting public affording fewer interruptions and less overtime for our secretary, Miss Cassidy.

This entire program seems quite satisfactory to both user and budget.



We are happy to report that no earthquake damage occurred to any of the Society's holdings, nor to the Lummis Home, other than in the loss of several rather valuable examples of Indian pottery.

Some historical monuments and residences in San Fernando Valley suffered severe damage from the February earthquake. Among them were the Mission San Fernando and the newly organized Archival Library under the direction of Archivist-historian the Reverend Francis J. Weber, located in the Mission complex. Closed until further notice includes the William S. Hart County Park and Museum in Newhall.

For recent donations

THANK YOU

Harold Greives—willoware china, about 80 pieces.

Mrs. Henry Guzman—willoware china.

Mrs. Walter Hertzog—willoware china.

Henry F. Lippett II—a substantial number of the fine Catalina prints to sell.

Joseph O'Malley—\$10.00

Mrs. Barbara Paul—a much needed vacuum cleaner.

A. R. Phillips Jr.,—willoware china.

David T. Rocks—filing cabinets.

Burnett C. Turner—gas log heater.

The Automobile Club of Southern California—11 pieces of office furniture.

It is easy to get into this column.

A Salute of recognition goes to E. Kenyon DeVore, George Dowell, Mrs. Henry Guzman, Mrs. Walter S. Hertzog, Mrs. Raymond Lewis, Mrs. Paul O. Matzen and Mrs. George T. Richardson.

These loyal members and volunteers have been giving their time in the afternoons from Monday to Friday as docents to keep the Lummis Home open for the public visitors.

Judge Harold F. Collins, Los Angeles Superior Court, has been reappointed to a four-year term on the Commission on Judicial Qualifications. This is a constitutional agency consisting of five judges appointed by the Supreme Court.

Congratulations are very much in order to our director member, Judge Collins!

Something very special has been planned by our Editor Dr. Doyce B. Nunis, Jr., to commemorate the bicentennial of the founding of Mission San Gabriel. The September issue of the Society's *Quarterly* will be devoted exclusively to articles and illustrations relating to the history of that famous landmark in Southern California. A unique feature of this issue will be a portfolio of pictures which will graphically detail the physical appearance of famed Franciscan Mission San Gabriel from the first known drawing down to the present. Contributors to this special edition will include, W. W. Robinson, Reverend Francis J. Weber, Reverend Maynard Geiger, O.F.M., Raymond F. Wood and Donald Nuttall.

Because of the importance of the occasion, book reviews will be omitted. A special cover will be used to mark the 200th anniversary of the Mission San Gabriel.

Mission San Gabriel and the City of San Gabriel are busily involved preparing for the forthcoming 200th Anniversary. More details will be made available as soon as plans are firmed up. For those who collect such memorabilia an interesting commemorative medallion is now available, at a most modest price, from the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, 534 W. Mission Drive, California, 91776.

The first joint meeting of our Society with the California Historical Society, in Pasadena, brought many interesting and noted historians, writers and members together to share in recognition due those societies and individuals elected to receive special awards. The American Association for State and Local History Awards were given Friday evening, February 5th, at the Huntington Sheraton Hotel.

The 17th Annual Meeting of the Conference of California Historical Societies will be held June 24 through 26, in Oakland. Judging from past meetings this should prove a very important event for all historical buffs.

At the recent Congress of History held in San Diego we noted the following H.S.S.C. historian-members listed on the two-day program devoted to the Spanish-Victorian period in Southern California, Glen Dawson, Richard F. Pourade, Doyce B. Nunis, Jr. Robert A. Weinstein and Anthony Lehman. Other members who have been serving on the "lecture-circuit" include Mrs. Doris Harris, Edwin H. Carpenter, Dr. Albert Shumate, Dudley C. Gordon and Anna Marie Hager.

Joint ventures for the Historical Society of Southern California prove stimulating and exciting. Such a one was shared recently with the Cultural Heritage Board of Los Angeles. A Sunday tour of that richly ornamented architectural gem, the Estelle Doheny Mansion in Chester Place, was well over-subscribed.

Those who remember our member Ella Cole will share in a bit of jubilation and pride in reading about the remarkable 4,500-pound bronze "Door to Life," which will be seen for the first time by the public. The work created by an immigrant Italian artist, Felix Peano, will be on view this season at the Inglewood Park Cemetery, Florence and Prairie Avenues. She worked so tirelessly and industriously to save for posterity this wonderful piece of work, jeopardizing her health and life savings to insure its safekeeping. Her voluminous notes, photographs and studies have now been placed in younger hands. It is to be hoped that in the forthcoming years her work will appear in print for all to share and treasure.

Mrs. Cole succumbed to pneumonia before she could enjoy the fruits of her hard won labors—to see Felix Peano's work on display.

Thomas V. Reeve, II, former director for the Young Historians of the Conference of California Historical Societies, cannot complain of idle time on his hands. Tom and his charming wife, Christina, have prepared a delightful and original cook book, *El Camino Real: Special Occasion Recipes dedicated to the 21 California Missions*, published through the courtesy of the El Camino Bank, 203 E. Lincoln Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92805. This charming collection of recipes and historical notes is offered gratis by the El Camino Bank to all who request copies.

Mention of Missions reminds us to pass along the gracious and happy invitation extended by Father Maynard Geiger to you to visit the beautiful new and wonderfully well-designed archival library at the Mission Santa Barbara. So many years were spent in the planning and dreaming stages it is small wonder that Father Geiger takes such pleasure and pride in escorting visitors through the new Library and Archival Center located within the "Queen of the Missions," in Santa Barbara.

Ever hear of "Tommyknockers"? They were well known to miners of old and at long last full scale recognition has come to these mythical, mischievous little men who were said to dwell in the abandoned gold mines and upon whom all mineshaft troubles were blamed. Former state highway, known as California 49, linking all of the old mining towns will henceforth be officially known as Tommyknocker Road.



Quality Quotes and Quaint Quips from Queer Quills:

In the middle of the eighteenth century, John Coakley Letsom, a famous physician in London, had the following on his door post: "When patients come to me, I physics, bleeds and sweatsem. But, if they choose to die. What's that to I."

I. Letsom.

The Historical Society of Southern California



200 East Avenue 43
Los Angeles, California 90031

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Historical Society of Southern California
200 East Avenue 43, Los Angeles, Calif. 90031

Date _____

To the Board of Directors:

Please accept my membership as a _____ Member in the
Historical Society of Southern California. I enclose my remittance in the
amount of \$ _____ for dues for the fiscal year of _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Proponent (if any) _____

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

Active Member	\$15.00	Patron Member	\$100.00
Sustaining Member	\$25.00	Life Member	\$300.00
Contributing Member	\$50.00	Student Member	\$ 7.50

Dues include subscription to the Society's *Quarterly* and *Newsletter*. All
dues, contributions, bequests are deductible under State and Federal tax
provisions since the Society is a non-profit organization supported solely by
membership dues and contributions.
