

the newsletter of the
Historical Society of Southern California

EL ALISAL,

Los Angeles, CALIFORNIA

December 1977

The Passing of the Em Quad

If startled by this format, blame your new correspondent & our organization's dilemma - no other volunteer. I hate typing, enjoy script & feel it's more personal so, until there is a revolt and the nibs of my old Post Office pen are blunted I shall continue to express myself in the vaunted Palmer style.

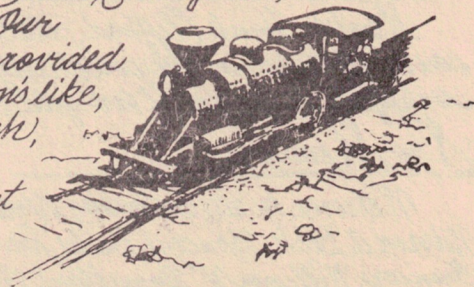
U.S. POST OFFICE

19th October, Avila Adobe

Tours of El Pueblo de Los Angeles, California Wines, and the smartly restored Avila Adobe were the overture to a sellout evening of marimba music, good fellowship, good food and a provocative, kaleidoscopic report of our Pueblo, then & now by historian, Dr. Doyce Nunez.

16th November, Srec Hall

The "Big Four" steamed into Srec Hall in a film, the Great Enterprise, made on the 100th anniversary of the Golden Spike at Promontory. Our speaker Richard Hall of the S.P. Public Relations Staff provided a neat capsule of the road's first 100 years & fielded questions like, "How long can a train block a crossing?" followed by punch, coffee and cookies prepared by our keen Ladies Aid Society. Check the Almanac for the next two presentations in the current series, Mt. Lowe in March & the Big Red Cars in April.



18th January Mission San Gabriel

If program chairman Katie Ainsworth touts an event, I've found missing the program tantamount to disaster. At the Christmas party she mentioned Dr. Norman Newburg's "How did he do it?" lecture on the Stations of the Cross painted by Gabrielino artist Juan Antonio in the magnitude of some 400 times - which suggests being present at Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, Wednesday 18 January.

4th February San Gabriel Civic Auditorium

Jazz trombonist, Cultural Heritage evangelist and Iron Horse zealot, Ward Kimball, has asked us to flag you down for a great evening, Saturday, 4 February at 8:30 to see the 1926 thriller, Webs of Steel, with Bill Shaw at the Warlitzer pipe organ. Proceeds from the Pacific Railroad Society/Cultural Heritage Foundation event go to the restoration of the Palms Depot. For ticket and timetable information, call (213) 284 3277.

15th February Pasadena Elks Lodge

A day too late to be our Valentine but, still a favorite, Dr. Carl Dentzel, El Gran Jefe of the Southwest Museum, will be our dinner speaker at the Pasadena Elks Club. Pester your postman for details. In Southern California you should visit your Dentzel twice a year. (oh no)

(more)

Our Circuit Riders

After 50 years of paying dues Harold Grieve & 15 comrades were presented Life Memberships in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. Our president, Bill Escherich has been named L.A.'s General Chairman of World Trade Week 1978. Stew Rogers, drum beater for Heritage Square, was interviewed by Channel 4 at the Square's 7th annual Christmas party, December 11th.

Around the Arroyo

The holiday wassail bowl was stirred in the usual good fashion by the Big 3 of the Arroyo Seco: First, there was the Annual Christmas Reception at El Alisal on December 7th where society members enjoyed a shoulder to shoulder late afternoon of holiday fun. Then, on December 11th Heritage Square staged its 7th annual Yule fest, a day long affair followed that evening by the lovely Posada, a yearly celebration at La Casa Adobe, Southwest Museum, complete with procession, pan dulce, chocolate and a Pinata party.

Notes from the Ledger

Too late to do yourself a good turn on your '77 tax return by an additional contribution to the Society (deductible) but, why not one in January for '78?

Speaking of contributions, eleven concerned firms: Arco, Automobile Club of Southern California, Carnation Co., Chevron USA, Ducommun, Cotman's Construction, M.C.A., Rockwell International, Walt Disney Productions, Security Pacific, and Wells Fargo Banks are much appreciated Corporate Patrons, which suggests your company may enjoy a membership. While on the gift theme, don't forget we're still accepting books and cash for the Emma Kittell Memorial Library Fund.

Smoke Signal from the Mesa

Member Hank Clifford, collector of Gold Rushiana is searching for other 49er buffs, kindred souls interested in the possibility of building a bonanza village but, more particularly, right now identifying the origins of two gold bars. Photos and details of the recent acquisitions at the society office. Help!

New Members

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Welcome to new Sustaining Members: Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Banning, Active Members: Miss Mary T. Ayers, Warren A. Beck, Bruce A. Bailey, David B. Brady, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Choate Jr., Miss Helen P. Dyer, Judson Grenier, William W. Hamilton, Charles W. Hammond, David A. Hess, Miss Dorothy D. Hughes, Mrs. D. I. Hurd, Mr. Robert E. Kendall, Miss Marian T. Lent, Miss Doris L. Martin, Miss Beverly L. McSwan, Gene S. Knight, James V. Mink, Miss Deborah F. Randall, Miss Barbara Rosien, Mr. & Mrs. John Swanfeldt, Merrill E. Tripp, Nelson Van Valen, Dr. Clyde Vineyard, Miss Mary E. Wilson, Daniel Woodward and Student Members: James Horvicka & Marilynn Van Schaack.

It's the end of another year, and the Officers, Directors, members of the Committees and Staff thank all of you for your participation, contributions of time and creativity and hope the holidays and New Year provide you with an abundance of all the good things.

The inkwell is running dry... Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo from your diarist

Richard Cunningham

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Almanac

18 Jan _____	San Gabriel Mission Dr. Norman Neuerburg, "How did he do it?" paintings of Stations of the Cross by Indian artist Juan Antonio.	15 March _____	Svec Hall, California Hospital. Film on the Mt. Lowe Railroad.
15 Feb _____	Dinner meeting, Pasadena Elks Club, Dr. Carl Dentzel, Director, the Southwest Museum.	19 April _____	Third in the transportation series, "The Big Red Cars" place to be announced.
		17 May _____	To be announced.
		3 June _____	Annual Trek.