

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIAN

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T · H · E
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA

MESSAGE FROM THE HSSC PRESIDENT



As we move into the second half of the year, we can look back on a series of events, tours, and a conference, and look forward to more tours and talks before the year is out. Of special note was our appearance at the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books at USC on April 9-10, which marks our first time since 2009 that we had a presence there. Many HSSC books and quarterlies were sold, and it proved to be a fine way of getting the word out about the Society, since over 100,000 people were at the Festival over the weekend, despite the rain. One of the advantages of USC over the festival's earlier location at UCLA is metro access, and the Expo line to USC was often packed. Several board members turned out to represent the Society, and we signed up new memberships and advertised our annual conference.

Ever had the opportunity of rubbing shoulders with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists? The audience at the HSSC conference on Saturday, April 16 at Occidental College, this year on the theme of "Journalism in Southern California," could do precisely that. An impressive group of speakers shared their knowledge and ideas on a broad range of topics, and generously responded to questions and comments from the audience. The first panel on Spanish-language journalism in 19th century Los Angeles featured David Hayes-Bautista (professor of medicine at UCLA), Félix Gutiérrez (professor emeritus of journalism at USC), and Paul Bryan Gray (board member and independent scholar). The presentations summoned a plethora of questions on the degree to which much Spanish-language journalism has been largely ignored by English-speaking histo-

rians, which panelists attributed largely to the marginalization of Mexican Americans in Los Angeles by the late-19th century. The panel in the afternoon, which featured former Los Angeles Times journalists Kevin Roderick, Bill Boyarsky, and Jim Newton (the latter two of whom belonged to Pulitzer Prize-winning teams), similarly elicited a spirited response from the audience, many of whom appeared very familiar with the columns of the journalists. Other speakers who gave presentations were writer Amina Hassan on Charlotta Bass, Loren Miller, and the *California Eagle*, CSUN professor of history Merry Ovnick on Progressive era journalism, and Jim Newton on the future of print journalism. The discussions that followed the presentations were both illuminating and fruitful.

Several journalists formed part of the audience, including Doug Smith, son of Los Angeles Times columnist Jack Smith and a longstanding reporter for the Los Angeles Times, and David Kipen, KPCC book critic and founder of Libros Schimbros in Boyle Heights, a book lending library. The conference ended with a marvelous wine and cheese reception, hosted by Jem Axelrod, director of the recently-founded Institute for the Study of Los Angeles at Occidental. This marked our second year at Occidental, with the first year made possible thanks to the efforts of former board member John Pohlmann. Paul Bryan Gray conceived of the idea for the conference and personally invited all of the speakers.

Our second tour of the year was in fact two

(Continued on page 7)

ANOTHER HSSC HISTORICAL TREASURE: ANTONIO MARÍA LUGO FUNERAL NOTICE

As noted in the last issue of *The Southern Californian*, the HSSC's move from the Lummis Home brought some unexpected surprises when it came to the rediscovery of historic artifacts donated to the Society over the years.

In one particularly surprising instance, an office file box was opened and, amid a host of unrelated materials and without any enclosure, an obviously old, creased, worn and dirty funeral notice was found lying unceremoniously at the bottom of the container.

The notice turned out to be for one of the most prominent *Californios* of his era, Antonio María Lugo (1778-1860). Lugo, the son of a Spanish soldier from Sinaloa, Mexico, was born a year after his family came to Alta California. After serving in the army and being stationed at Santa Barbara for seventeen years, Lugo, a corporal, was discharged and, in 1810, settled in Los Angeles.

He was the pueblo's alcalde six years later and served as a *juez del campo* (Judge of the Plains, presiding over roundups and common grazing of cattle and horses) and on the pueblo's governing council or *ayuntamiento*. Grantee of Rancho San Antonio, southeast of the pueblo, Lugo was a highly successful rancher and added the ranchos San Bernardino and Santa Ana del Chino to his holdings.

In 1851, his real estate holdings were conservatively valued at \$20,000 and on over 13,000 acres of land,

he had some 6,000 cattle and other livestock, valued at over \$60,000. The Gold Rush years were particularly profitable, due to the trade in beef for California's burgeoning population.

On 31 January 1860, Don Antonio María Lugo died. While he was said to have been suspicious of the conquering Americans who seized California in the late 1840s, he was respected by many in the American and European community. For example, Horace Bell, in his 1881 memoir *Reminiscences of a Ranger*, wrote that Lugo was "possibly in the most eminent Spaniard in California"; "a man of

princely possessions, of great generosity, and unblemished honor"; and behaved with "strict integrity." Henry D. Barrows, a chronicler of early Los Angeles and who attended Lugo's funeral wrote in 1896:

To rightly estimate the character of Señor Lugo, it is necessary for Americans to remember the difference of race and environment. Although he lived under three regimes, to wit, Spanish, Mexican and Anglo-American, he retained to the last the essential characteristics which he inherited from Spanish ancestors and, although . . . he had, as was very natural, no liking for

Americans themselves as a rule, or their ways, nevertheless, he and all the better class of native Californians of the older generation did have a general liking for individual Americans and other foreigners, who in the long and intimate social and business intercourse, proved themselves worthy of their friendship and confidence.

The death notice, bordered in black as etiquette called for, was written in Spanish and dated 3 February.

The translation (by the author, with assistance from HSSC board member Paul Bryan Gray) reads:

(Continued on page 3)

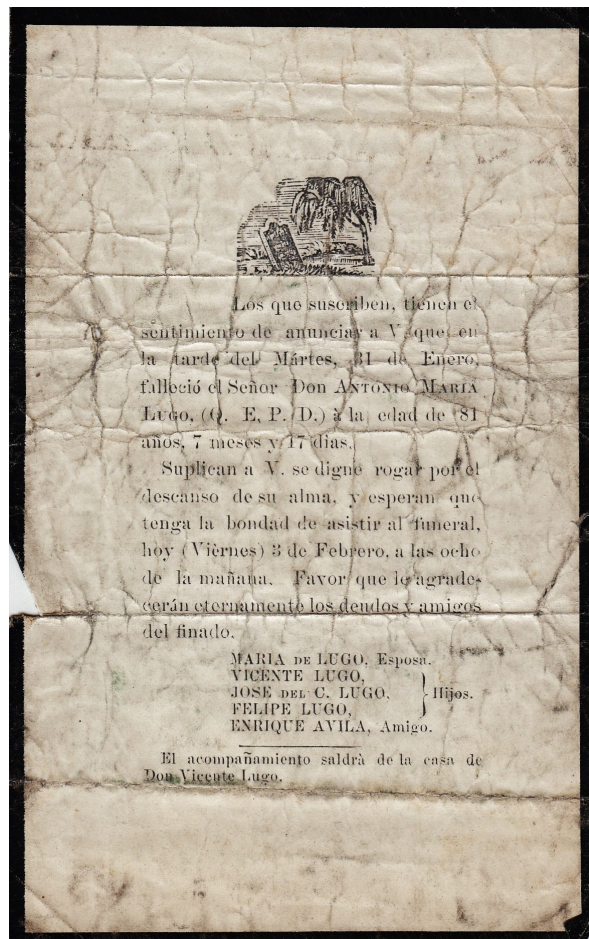
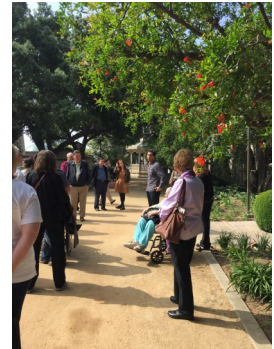


Image of Antonio Maria Lugo death notice from the HSSC Collection

HSSC TOUR REVIEW: HOMESTEAD MUSEUM AND ROWLAND HOUSE, MARCH 19, 2016

On Saturday, March 19, 2016, the HSSC hosted a tour of the six-acre site featuring the Workman House, an 1870s country home constructed around an 1840s adobe built by William and Nicolasa Workman, and La Casa Nueva, a 1920s Spanish Colonial Revival mansion noted for its architectural crafts, built by the Workmans' grandson Walter Temple and his wife, Laura.

The tour then moved to the Rowland House, an 1855 Greek Revival residence and is the oldest surviving brick building in southern California. John Rowland co-led a group of about sixty-five persons who came over the Old Spanish Trail in late 1841 and, with Workman, owned Rancho La Puente, comprising nearly 50,000-acres of the eastern San Gabriel Valley. The center of cattle ranching and farming for several decades, the Rowland House remained in family hands for over a century. Now owned by the La Puente Valley Historical Society and closed since 1990, the home has had exterior renovations done in recent years and the attendees had a rare opportunity to see this remarkable landmark.



ANTONIO MARÍA LUGO FUNERAL NOTICE CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

The undersigned, are saddened to announce that Señor DON ANTONIO MARIA LUGO (may he rest in peace) died on the afternoon of Tuesday, January 31, 1860, at the age of 81 years, 7 months and 17 days.

They ask that you say prayers for the repose of his soul and hope that you will have the goodness to attend the funeral, today (Friday) February 3, at eight in the morning. They will be eternally grateful to the family members and friends of the deceased.

Maria de Lugo, wife

Vicente Lugo

Jose del C. Lugo, sons

Felipe Lugo

Enrique Avila, friend

The funeral procession will leave from the house of Don Vicente Lugo.

It is presumed that Lugo was buried in the old Calvary Cemetery at the base of the Elysian Hills, where Cathedral High School is now located, but whether his remains were transferred to the new Calvary in East Los Angeles or not is not known. As for the two-story adobe house of his son, Vicente, mentioned in the notice, it was long a landmark on the east side of the Los Angeles Plaza, but was demolished in 1951.

The Antonio María Lugo funeral notice is one of many noteworthy artifacts in the possession of the Historical Society of Southern California. A sorting, organizing, inventory and assessment of the Society's objects will soon be undertaken, so look for more about these artifacts in future issues of *The Southern Californian*.

By Paul Spitzer

CHARLES JENKINS, A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY



Photos of Charles Jenkins made available by Wayne E. Sherman

Charles Myers Jenkins was one of southern California's most remarkable men. Although he was born at Circleville, Ohio, he lived eighty-two of his ninety-three years in the Southland. His stepfather, George Dalton, moved the family to California in 1850, so he could manage the ranchos for his brother Henry Dalton (aka Don Enrique). Growing up in the San Gabriel Valley Charles adopted the Californio life style; he learned how to handle a horse; could speak Spanish fluently; became a Catholic; and liked to be called Carlos Jenkins. As a young man he worked for the *Los Angeles Star* as a printer. In 1863, he left Los Angeles for San Francisco, where he enlisted in the Second Massachusetts Cavalry. Because of overwhelming pro-secession sentiment in Los Angeles, he had to sneak out of town.

The Second Massachusetts fought in northern Virginia, their chief antagonist being John Mosby and his rangers. At a skirmish fought at Goodings Tavern, east of Fairfax, Jenkins shot Mosby out of his saddle. Mosby survived, but Jenkins was taken prisoner. He was first sent to Libby Prison, then to Belle Island, then Andersonville and finally Melin before he was paroled. Thereafter he rejoined the war effort, more out of revenge than out of patriotism.

He returned to Los Angeles in the fall of 1865. In 1869 he married Phoebe Sprague. Employed by the city water department, he worked his way up to become superintendent. Superintendent was the highest paying job in city government, but was also a political plum. Jenkins, a life long Democrat, lost his job when the Republicans took over the city government. Because of his fluency in Spanish, he worked as an interpreter for the federal district court. By the time of the Great Railroad Strike of 1894 he was sworn in as a deputy federal marshal. After his "retirement" he worked several jobs, which included working for the Los Angeles County sheriff.

Perhaps because of the injuries he suffered during the war and all his other ailments, he was not pleasant to live with; the older he got the more unpleasant he became. Also putting stress on his marriage was his involvement in various business ventures. In 1906, he separated from Phoebe, their adopted daughter, Gabriella sided with her mother; the couple never formally divorced. Jenkins passed away in January 1933.

Among the veterans organizations he belonged to were the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Andersonville Survivors. He also was an early member of the Historical Society of Southern California.

The recent discovery of the Jenkins' diary, covering his time at the Annapolis parole center until his return to Los Angeles, fills in a large number of gaps in his life story. Paul Spitzzeri of the Homestead Museum has done an excellent job in summarizing the diary entries in the museum's blog.

By Louis DiDonato

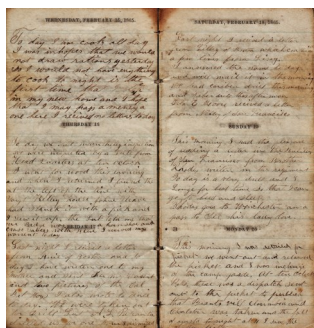


Image of page of the Charles M. Jenkins Diary from the HSSC Collection

Louis DiDonato's article "Charles Myers Jenkins: A Sketch of the Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man," appeared in the *Southern California Quarterly* 88, no. 2, (Summer 2006): 125-160. Jenkins's diary was not available to DiDonato having only been re-discovered in the HSSC archival material in 2015. The article is available through the HSSC website for HSSC members at the Regular level and above.

Paul Spitzzeri has posted ten blog entries about Jenkins and the diary at the blog of the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum at <https://homesteadmuseum.wordpress.com/>

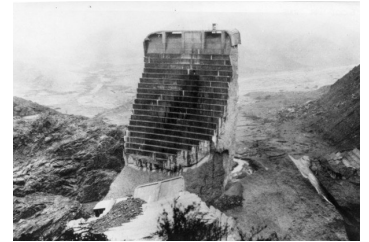
HSSC TOUR: ST. FRANCIS DAM AND WILLIAM S. HART MUSEUM AND RANCH JUNE 4, 2016

The HSSC is sponsoring a tour of the St. Francis Dam and William S. Hart Ranch and Museum on Saturday, June 4th.

Just after midnight on March 12, 1928, the recently completed St. Francis Dam collapsed, sending a 12-billion gallon wall of water through the narrow canyon and ultimately to the Pacific Ocean. The disaster killed at least 450 people and effectively ended the storied career William Mulholland, who designed the dam and presided at opening ceremonies just two years earlier. The tour of the dam site will be led by geologist Mark Vincent. Mr. Vincent, a graduate of CSU-LA and an engineering geologist for GeoLogic Associates, will discuss the history and the geology of the area and the engineering and geological issues that led to the dam's failure. The tour will commence approximately 1.5 miles beneath the dam site. Participants will be able to explore remnants of the dam itself – immense blocks of concrete which were washed down the canyon by the force of the water.

The second part of the day will include a tour of the William S. Hart Museum and Ranch. The site is the former retirement home of the famed silent film actor and director who produced a series of hit Western movies in the early 1900's. His beautiful Spanish Colonial Revival Style Mansion – now the Museum – exhibits an impressive collection of Western artwork by noted artists Charles M. Russell, Frederic Remington, and Joe de Yong, as well as mementos from early Hollywood, personal furnishings and effects, and artifacts representing multiple Native American cultures. The Museum also includes an historic 1910 Ranch House that exhibits Hart's tack and saddle collection, personal furnishings, and additional Hollywood mementos.

Updated information- This tour was posted on our website and Facebook page and sold out in just a few days. The registration system Eventbrite does have a waiting list, which can be accessed at <http://hsscjune4tour.eventbrite>. On-site registration will not be available for this tour.



HSSC EVENT: THE JENKINS BROTHERS: AN EYE TO THE SUBSTANTIAL AUGUST 27, 2016

The HSSC is co-sponsoring a lecture with the Santa Clarita Historical Society on Saturday, August 27, at the Old Town Newhall Library at 2:00 pm. The event is free, but you can register at <http://jenkinsaug27.eventbrite.com>

For 80 years, from the 1850s to the 1930s, Charles and William Jenkins were notable figures in greater Los Angeles. Come hear a panel of speakers talk about these remarkable and controversial brothers and their impact on Los Angeles and the Santa Clarita Valley.

Speakers include: Louis DiDonato, retired educator and author of a Charles Jenkins biography; Alan Pollack, Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society president and author of an article on William Jenkins and the Castaic Range War; Wayne Sherman, Drum Barracks Board of Directors vice-president and collector and researcher on Charles Jenkins.; Paul R. Spitzzeri, Homestead Museum assistant director, transcriber of Charles's Civil War Diary and researcher on early Los Angeles criminal justice, including a well-known incident involving William Jenkins.



ORANGE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In its two and a half centuries of recorded history, Orange County has produced many colorful personalities, innovative businesses, remarkable events and important ideas. Local historians have their work cut out for them.

Since 1919, the Orange County Historical Society (OCHS) has been doing its part as “a research, archival, and educational organization, dedicated to the discovery, preservation, and dissemination of the history of Orange County, its people, and the surrounding area, for the benefit of its members and the general public.”

Here’s a look at some of what OCHS offers:

Monthly Programs: OCHS’ regular meetings feature expert speakers on various aspects of local history, followed by refreshments and fellowship. Programs are held September through May, on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. – generally at Trinity Episcopal Church in Orange. However, the season kick-off each September is traditionally held at Sherman Library & Gardens in Corona del Mar. (OCHS takes July and August off.) Past programs include...

The Birth and Growth of Little Saigon – Thuy Vo Dang, UCI Special Collections

Last of the Old West: Los Alamitos Lawman Gunned Down and Forgotten – Phil Brigandi, historian

Early Disneyland – Jack Lindquist, first president of Disneyland

Growth of the African American Community in Santa Ana – Kevin Cabrera, Heritage Museum of O.C.

Eichler Homes of Orange County – Alan Hess, architectural historian

Judge Towner, Free Love and the Founding of O.C. – Manny Escamilla, Santa Ana Public Library

The Original Villages of Irvine – Ellen Bell, historian

The Architecture of Richard Neutra in Orange County – Dion Neutra, architect

Special Programs: Occasionally, OCHS forgoes a monthly speaker in favor of events like Authors’ Night, the O.C. History Quiz, or the popular annual Show & Tell program.

Orange Countiana: OCHS members receive a free copy of each new issue of the society’s annual journal. *Orange Countiana* features in-depth articles researched and written by local historians.

History Hikes: Historians guide and interpret on hikes to historic sites that can’t be reached in other ways. Examples include Brea’s oil fields, the WWII bunker at Crystal Cove, the Trabuco Adobe, and the Blue Light Mine in Silverado Canyon.

Field Trips: Day trips to places like Rancho Los Cerritos, Calico Ghost Town, and other historic sites with Orange County ties.

History Mystery Tours: Without knowing where they’re going, participants pay one fee (covering transportation, lunch, etc.), get on a comfortable bus and are taken on a day-long, historian-led tour of historic sites they might never have access to any other way. This year’s History Mystery Tour will be held May 14.

Annual Dinner: The Society’s annual dinner is held each June at various historically-significant locations. Features vary but often include historical programming, music, silent auctions, brief historical tours, and more. “The Counterculture in O.C.” will be the theme at this year’s event, on June 10 at the Historic Friends Church in El Modena. Longtime local journalist Jim Washburn will share stories ranging from Aldous Huxley’s experiences at Trabuco’s Ramakrishna Monastery to the day-long hijacking of Disneyland’s Tom Sawyer’s Island by Yippies.

The County Courier: OCHS’ monthly newsletter is mailed to all members. It features information about upcoming and ongoing Society activities and occasional historical features.

Historical Collections: OCHS maintains a historical library and an extensive collection of photos and other materials documenting local history. The Society’s collections and office are currently moving into space at the Heritage Museum of Orange County.

Oral History Program: OCHS adopted the oral history program started by the Orange County Pioneer Council. The first interviews conducted by Society volunteers are complete and transcripts are expected soon.



OCHS history hikers at a Portola camp site, Trabuco Creek



A Tiki-themed OCHS annual dinner at Don the Beachcomber’s

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OCHS CONTINUED

(Continued from page 6)

So the Orange County Historical Society has local history pretty well covered. But the future of the Society depends on its members. Membership is only \$30, or \$20 for students and seniors. If you would like to join, learn more about OCHS, register for events, or read historical articles, visit www.orangecountyhistory.org.

By Chris Jepsen

Chris Jepsen is president of OCHS, a local historian, and the Assistant Archivist at the Orange County Archives. He can be reached at CJepsen@socal.rr.com. (OCHS is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.)



Clark County Museums Director Mark Hall-Patton, of Pawn Stars fame, lectures at OCHS on the future of museums

HSSC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE CHANGE

The process of membership renewal for the HSSC will be undergoing a change in the next six months. All members will switch from a twelve-month membership to a yearly membership from November to November. With all members renewing at the same time, it will be easier to remember the membership renewal date. Hopefully, it will require less mailing of membership renewal reminders and eliminate any missed SCQ issues for those whose renewal falls during the SCQ mailing period. Current members will receive a membership renewal letter with a pro-rated renewal rate for 2016. Everyone will be asked to renew at the full price in October for the November 2016 to November 2017 membership year.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

tours: the Homestead Museum and the newly-opened John A. Rowland House, both in the City of Industry, and took place on Saturday, March 19. The sold-out event was led by board member Paul Spitzzeri, who began with the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum before inviting people to visit the nearby Rowland House, which was the home of John A. Rowland from the Workman-Rowland party that arrived in California in 1841. Built in 1855 and reputedly the oldest brick building still standing in southern California, the Rowland House is in the process of renovation by the La Puente Valley Historical Society, and period furniture has been placed in the downstairs rooms. A fine lunch at the nearby Casa Blanca restaurant followed the tour.

Please keep your eye out for future events, notably a tour of the St. Francis Dam and Hart Museum on June 4, and the George A.V. Dunning lectureship by Professor Vicki Ruiz on November 5. In my column in the last newsletter I erroneously placed the Humanities Gateway -- the location of the talk -- at UC Riverside rather than at UC Irvine, and regret the error. Professor Ruiz, who is Distinguished Professor of History and Chicano/Latino Studies at UC Irvine and a former Dean of Humanities at the University, will speak on "Why Latino Studies Matter."

Much remains for the Society to tackle, including the completion of a full inventory of all HSSC-owned items (manuscripts, photographs, artifacts, paintings, etc.), which we hope to begin in summer 2016. One expected result of the inventory will be to place items in the collection on display for the general public and also make them available to scholars for research. Fortunately, some items have already formed part of several exhibitions at the Homestead Museum, where much of the collection remains in temporary storage. We shall keep our members updated on the inventory and future goals.

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 T · H · E 
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA

Upcoming HSSC Events

Tour of St. Francis Dam and the William S. Hart Museum

June 4, 2016

This event has sold out. A waiting list is available through Eventbrite. On-site registration will not be accepted.

The Jenkins Brothers: An Eye to the Substantial

Co-Sponsored by Santa Clarita Historical Society

Saturday, August 27, 2016

Old Town Newhall Library

See enclosed flyer.

18th Annual George A.V. Dunning Lecture

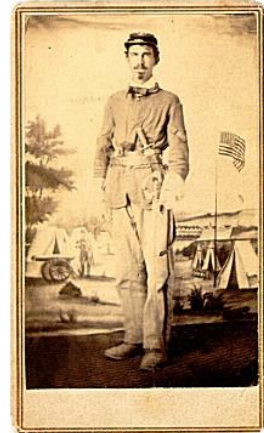
Saturday, November 5, 2016

Professor Vicki Ruiz

“Why Latino Studies Matters”

University of California, Irvine

Check thehssc.org for event details.



Charles Jenkins

HSSC Book Sales End May 25, 2016

The HSSC will discontinue sales of available HSSC-published books on May 25, 2016. Orders must be received by that date. Go to our website see the list of available books and order form.

HSSC Selling Pre-1951 SCQ/Annuals Until May 25, 2016

The HSSC is selling pre-1951 issues of the *Southern California Quarterly/Annual*. Stock is not guaranteed. Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Orders must be received by Wednesday, May 25, 2016. Inventory and order form available on our website. The cost is \$5 per issue plus shipping and tax. Email hssc@thehssc.org with any questions.

HSSC Awards

The HSSC gives eight awards in three categories. The HSSC Board has approved guidelines for each of the awards, which are now posted on our website. The 2016 awards will have an application/nomination process, depending on the award. This material will be posted on our website in May with an August submission deadline. Check thehssc.org for more information.

Books

- The Norman Neuerburg Award honors the best book on California history before 1848.
- The Martin Ridge Award honors the best book on California history from 1848.
- The Donald H. Pflueger Local History Award honors an outstanding scholarly book or project (print or electronic) on Southern California local history.

Articles

- The Doyce B. Nunis, Jr. Award honors the best demonstration of significant scholarship in the *Southern California Quarterly* by a rising historian.
- The Carl I. Wheat and Frank Wheat Award honors the best demonstration of significant scholarship in the *Southern California Quarterly* by an established historian.

Service

- The Denise and Jack Smith Community Enrichment Award honors an individual who has enriched the community of Los Angeles by their dedicated service and accomplishments.
- The Joseph O’Flaherty Teaching Award honors creative excellence in the teaching of history in grades K-12 in the schools of Southern California.
- The Fellows Award honors exceptional lifetime achievements that have brought distinction to history.