



# The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY-MARCH 2015

## President's Message

*Claudia Heller*



It was as though a good friend had passed away. Teary-eyed residents gathered on Route 66 in front of a pile of weathered, broken limbs once affectionately referred to as “The

Hanging Tree.”

Rumored to be over 200 years old, this 50 foot oak was a staple on our main street bearing a reputation, whether fictional or fact, that it was used by Circuit Court Judges to order swift justice during Duarte's wild west days. It witnessed many changes on Duarte's Main Street from the days Andres Duarte rode his stallion along the dusty paths to the rise and fall of both the citrus ranches and Route 66. Pieces of this icon of the history of Duarte and Route 66 will be polished and sold at the museum as keepsakes.

## MEETING FEATURES TALK, ELECTION, INSTALLATION



Newly elected Board Members (L-R) Jack Ochoa, Dilip Tiwari, then Mayor Liz Reilly, Boyd Leeson, Claudia Heller, Steve Baker, Zoe Osburn and Sheri Uhlig.

Following a talk by author/publisher Elizabeth Pomeroy on November 23 at the general meeting, DHSM members approved and elected the slate of nominees for Board of Directors as well as approving the revised By-Laws. Duarte Mayor Liz Reilly installed the Board.

## HELLO KITTY EXHIBIT

The anthropomorphic white Japanese bobtail cat with a red bow, commonly known as “Hello Kitty,” will be on display at the museum in January and February from the collection of current



Mayor Tzeitel Paras Caracci. Join the grand opening on Saturday, January 10, at 2 p.m. at the Museum.

### Docent APPRECIATION Lunch

*By invitation*

**GUEST SPEAKER: Janie Duncan**  
“The History of Buttons”

**January 31, Noon**

RSVP by Jan. 26  
Sheri (626) 523-6622  
(sherihuhlig@earthlink.net)

## JACK OCHOA ELECTED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Jack Ochoa, a seasoned executive with over 20 years of experience in government sales and marketing, has been active in his community by contributing his time to a variety of charitable and educational

organizations. He is the newest member of the Museum Board of Directors. His expertise is fundraising and the Board is confident that 2015 will be the year we can execute some of our wish list projects.

## SEPTEMBER MIXER BRINGS CHAMBER TO THE MUSEUM



(L-R) City Manager Darrell George, Sheryl Lefmann, and current Mayor Tzeitel Paras

The September Duarte Chamber Mixer brought a business friendly crowd to the Duarte Museum to enjoy a warm evening of socializing. Slaw Dogs, Sushi Fire and Cabrerias served food while the Lemonade Brigade mixed up mint lemonade.



MUSEUM SPONSORED TOUR OF THE SRIRACHA HOT SAUCE FACTORY DURING CHILI GRINDING SEASON



THE DUARTE KIWANIS LUNCHEON MEETING AT THE MUSEUM.



AMAZING RACE PARTICIPANTS RUN THROUGH THE MUSEUM TO PICK UP CLUES ABOUT THEIR NEXT STOP



## CURATOR MARGILOFF REMEMBERED



The covered plaque above the Museum's Citrus Room was ceremoniously unveiled at a memorial party in honor of Irwin Margiloff on November 15. Nearly fifty guests were present as Reverend Neil Earle talked about the book he and Irwin co-authored: *Images of America: Duarte* and Historian Steve Baker talked about Irwin's detailed research ethic.

## CITY-MUSEUM SIGN MOU

Since 1988 when the Museum made its home in Encanto Park, there has never been a clear understanding with the City as to what is expected of the Historical Society and the City respectively. The recently signed MOU recognizes that the Museum is a special community asset and will continue to function as it has in the past. The City will pay \$2500 a year to help with maintenance costs, and consider additional sums if they become necessary.

Recognizing the house is old and sits on city property, this seems only fair. In the meantime we will continue to serve the public and keep our current schedule.



## VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT

**[www.RanchoDeDuarte.org](http://www.RanchoDeDuarte.org)**

Contact Us

Phone: (626) 357-9419

Email: [info@RanchoDeDuarte.org](mailto:info@RanchoDeDuarte.org)

Twitter: [@RanchoDeDuarte](https://twitter.com/RanchoDeDuarte)

Instagram: [@RanchoDeDuarte](https://www.instagram.com/RanchoDeDuarte)

## MUSEUM ANNUAL CRAFT & TREASURE FAIR ATTRACTS VISITORS FROM NEAR AND FAR!



## VIRTUAL WALK AMONG THE TOMBSTONES



Historian Steve Baker will lead a virtual tour through Duarte's history around the Live Oak Cemetery where many of Duarte pioneer families are buried. Their stories are engaging! This power point program will be presented at the Museum on March 7 at 3 p.m. Admission is free.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE MUSEUM BY  
PAYING YOUR 2015 DUES.**

Student/teacher: \$10; Individual: \$15;  
Family: \$25; Life Time Supporter: \$500  
(reserved for individuals and families);  
Business/Organization: (see  
[www.RanchoDeDuarte.org](http://www.RanchoDeDuarte.org) for details).

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**HELLO KITTY: Jan. 10, 2 p.m.** Grand opening at the Museum.

**BOARD MEETING:** January 21, 4 p.m.

**DOCENT APPRECIATION LUNCH** (by invitation) **Jan. 31, Noon** at the Museum "History of Buttons" by Janie Duncan.

**BIRD WALK: Feb. 28, 7:30 a.m.** - Meet at the Museum. Donuts and coffee at 7 a.m. Led by Ornithologist Kimball Garrett.

**TOMBSTONES:** March 7, 3 p.m. at the Museum. Virtual cemetery walk by Steve Baker.

**Duarte Historical Society & Museum**

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[www.RanchoDeDuarte.org](http://www.RanchoDeDuarte.org)

Twitter & Instagram@RanchoDeDuarte

Open: Saturdays: 1-4 p.m.

1st & 3rd Wednesdays: 1-3 p.m.

President: Claudia Heller

Vice President: Sheri Uhlig

Treasurer: Steve Baker

Secretary: Zoe Osburn

Asst. Curator: Dilip Tiwari

Director: Boyd Leeson

Board Member: Jack Ochoa

Docent Coordinator: Sheri Uhlig

Photographer: Alan Heller

Exhibit Coordinators: Pauline Montgomery,

Mark Montgomery

Branding Iron: Claudia Heller, Jim Kirchner

Webmaster: Jack Ochoa

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