



The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

APRIL-JUNE, 2015

President's Message

Claudia Heller

Our town mourns the recent deaths of two honorary Duartean, both of whom served as Grand Marshals in a local Salute to Route 66 parade.

STAN CHAMBERS

Long-time KTLA newsman Stan Chambers was charming and humble as he led the 1997 parade in a 1955 Packard Convertible. At that time he was celebrating his 50th year on the air. Chambers' first big story was the rescue efforts in the Kathy Fiscus case in Pasadena where, for the first time, cameras were transported to a breaking news site and a revolution in the delivery of news began. Chambers died on February 9 at the age of 91.

RAUL RODRIGUEZ

Rose float designer Raul Rodriguez accompanied by a large bird perched on his shoulder served as Grand Marshal in Duarte's 1999 parade. His career as a champion float designer began at the age of 15 when he designed his first Rose Parade float. Since that time he designed over 500 more.

Raul died on February 18 of cardiac arrest at the age of 71. He is survived by his spouse, Robert Cash, and his sisters Irene Rodriguez Morgan and Teresa Arzola

DOCENTS THANKED AT APPRECIATION LUNCH



Recognizing the loyal docents who keep our Museum functioning, an appreciation lunch was held, catered by Villa Italia. Special speaker was Janie Duncan, president of the Monrovia Rockhounds who talked about the history of buttons.



Janie's fascinating facts about buttons conjured up memories of grandma's button box. Did you know Scottish warriors wore diamond shaped silver buttons on their kilts so if killed in battle the button was worth the cost of his burial? Until modern days, buttons were cut off discarded clothes to be reused. Uniform jackets had buttons sewn on the cuffs to prevent soldiers from wiping their noses on their jacket sleeves. A spellbound audience enjoyed this interesting talk!

OUR THANKS!



Yolanda Bowers for making new docent badges; to **Chuck Tipple** for the hanging tree pucks; **Judy Blake** for the first lifetime mem-

bership using our PayPal app; **Karen Ross** for reorganizing our house move album;

Debbie Gerwitz for designing the Hanging Tree plaques; **Bill Hyatt** for repairing



the museum branding iron; Sylvia Ruiz, her daughter Sheri and friend Winnie, for organizing the Museum library; Peter Rosenwald and Kayko Jorgenson for helping with the newspaper project.

THE WILD LIFE AND TIMES OF AVIATRIX PANCHO BARNES

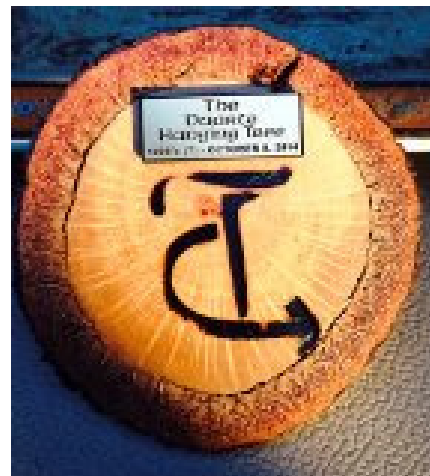
Born in 1901, Pancho Barnes (Florence Leontine Lowe) was the granddaughter of Thaddeus Lowe. Her life was so exciting and eccentric that, though true, it is hard to believe. She was a minister's wife, a composer, union organizer, record-setting air racer and owner of the Happy Bottom Flying Club. She rubbed elbows with Hollywood's finest. A visual program on this extraordinary woman will be presented by Historian Terry Terrell at the Duarte Museum, 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8. Free.



HELLO KITTY EXHIBIT
ATTRACTS YOUNG AND OLD!



DUARTE TEEN CENTER GIRLS' NIGHT
OUT—TO THE DUARTE MUSEUM



DUARTE'S BELOVED HANGING TREE WAS HAULED OFF AFTER COLLAPSING ON OCTOBER 8, 2014. PIECES HAVE BEEN PRESERVED AND PLAQUED. THIS YEAR'S NEW LEGACY ANNUAL SPONSORS (\$1000) WILL RECEIVE ONE WHILE THEY LAST.

POET RICK WHELAN PENS DUARTE TRIBUTE



ON THE DUARTE

By: RICK WHELAN

Between Mission San Gabriel
And San Bernardino,
Andres Avelino Duarte
Rode across the Rio Azusa
Stopping to water his horse
Along the west bank,
Gazing out over sloping foothills
Covered with huge oak trees...
This stretch of fertile land
Lush with green fields,
Brilliantly colored flowers
And golden sunshine
There truly is this magical place!
The story of his rancho Azusa de Duarte
Nestled beside the mountains
On the Duarte!

(PLEASE SEE THE MUSEUM WEBSITE
FOR THE FULL POEM
RanchoDeDuarte.org)



**Mirna de Lira
Lopez
Duarte Kiwanis
President**

KIWANIS

The Duarte Kiwanis original charter and memorabilia from Duarte's home division are on display through April. The Kiwanis will celebrate their 100 year anniversary at the museum March 28th.

BIRD WALK YIELDS THIRTY FIVE SPECIES



Kimball Garrett

Two dozen birders braved an impending storm to follow ornithologist Kimball Garrett through Encanto Park and the river bed area to observe the local birdlife.

The Museum-sponsored walk was graced with such sightings as Western Bluebirds, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Yellow-rumped Warbler and Mitred Parakeets. (Below (L-R) a pine siskin and two Cooper hawks.)



Photo by C. Dougherty



Photo by C. Dougherty

**VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT
www.RanchoDeDuarte.org**

Contact Us

Phone: (626) 357-9419

Email: info@RanchoDeDuarte.org

Twitter: @RanchoDeDuarte

Instagram: @RanchoDeDuarte

**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 for details).**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MAY 8, 7:00 p.m.—THE LIFE OF AVIA-
TRIX PANCHO BARNES AT THE MUSE-
UM (FREE).

APRIL 11, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. — FRIENDS
OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE AT THE
LIBRARY (FREE)

MAY 30, 3:30 p.m.—VDAY BY NEAL
EARLE AT THE LIBRARY (FREE)

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Duarte, CA 91010

Duarte Historical Society & Museum

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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

