



The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCT-NOV-DEC. 2015

President's Message

Our museum is a source of historical information which often provides answers to questions from all over the U.S. A recent example came from Chuck Colman who inquired about a packing shed "that was located at the south east side of what is now the intersection of Royal Oaks and Las Lomas." He said that it was adjacent to the Southern Pacific/PE tracks and may have been the Duarte Foothill Citrus Association. He recalls that when he was growing up in Duarte in the early 1950s the packaging shed packed bananas "that arrived green by rail car and I believe shipped out by truck." He says that later Deforest of California built a pottery factory there. He also inquired about the Southern Pacific station in Duarte.

Another recent inquiry was from a man producing a documentary about the "Shorty's Basketball Game" which was a fundraiser at the high school in the 1980s. The midget team played some community members in the gym.

The museum has also been contacted for information on Sam Shephard, actor and playwright, who went to Duarte High School in the 1960s.

These type queries are usually researched by our historian Steve Baker or Curator Dilip Tiwari.

Recently we provided photos to the Goldline to use in their recent publication which was distributed at the Depot dedication.

-Claudia Heller

LING BRINGS THE RACIAL HISTORY OF DUARTE-MONROVIA ALIVE



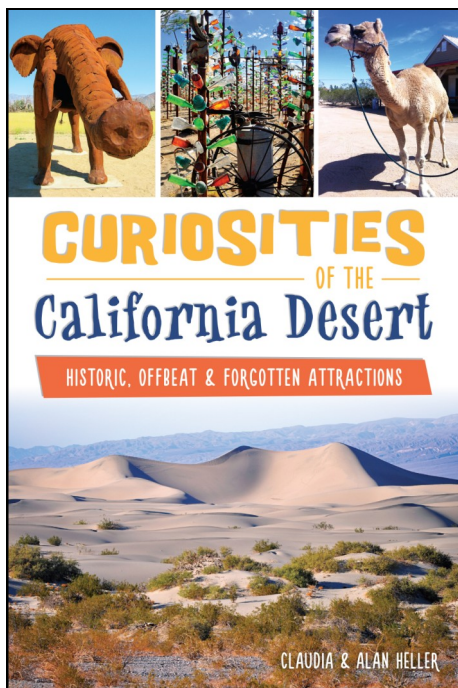
L-R - Pat Lee's sister on bike, Bruce Reynolds, Pat Lee, Kent Browner, Donnell Walls, Larry Walls, Hardy Lee, and Doc Walls. This is at Lee's garage on Elder Street in Duarte circa 1960-61. On left is Maxine Lee's Thunderbird.

Before a packed house, Susi Ling, Associate professor of history at PCC talked about "Our Community's African American History" on August 7.

She recounted how John I.W. Fischer came to the area by 1876 as Lucky Baldwin's farrier and later became the first African American police officer.

Her descriptions of the obstacles to Blacks during the 1960s, 70s and 80s were riveting.

Many in the audience lived through those times and were familiar with the families or indeed were members of the families featured in Ms. Ling's program. Her research included dozens of oral interviews and historic photos.



BOOK LAUNCHING PARTY
FRIDAY OCTOBER 23 - 6:30 p.m.
At the Museum
Public invited — Free
Book sale and signing



BIRDWALK

Ornithologist Kimball Garrett, collections manager at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, will lead the walk on October 25, leaving the museum at 7:30 a.m. Donuts will be served at 7 a.m. The walk is not strenuous and will cover Encanto Park and the adjacent river bed trail. Binoculars are helpful. Free. For more information call (626) 358-0329.

BRILLHART CLOWN COLLECTION DEBUTS



For years Jan Brillhart, long time Duartean and museum supporter, collected clown dolls, and they are on display at the museum until November. Since her death earlier this year, her husband Bob has tried to find a home for the collection and was unable to make contact with the Klowm Museum in Plainview, Nebraska or the Clown Hall of Fame in Wisconsin. “At the museum the community can enjoy the collection,” says Bob. “It’s what Jan would have wanted.”



ANNUAL MUSEUM CRAFT FAIR SET FOR DECEMBER 5

Just in time for holiday shopping local crafters and vendors will sell their goods at the Museum from 10-3 on December 5. Food, candles, books and a host of treasures will be available for purchase.

Vendors call (626) 358-0329 for details.

DUARTE SALUTES ROUTE 66 IN 20TH PARADE



Douglas Ross grew up in Duarte's Rock Town and has captured memories of those days in his writings. He represented DHS&M in the 20th Salute to Route 66 Parade on September 26, along with his son Alexander, and his niece Donna Howard.



PIN-TAILED WHYDAH SPOTTED



The Save Our Mountain group spotted this African bird at the river near the Museum. A brood parasite, it lays its eggs in the nests of other birds. They are not uncommon in Orange County.

“A DRIVE THROUGH DUARTE IN 1900” SET FOR 12/4



Historian Steve Baker will lead a visual drive through Duarte at the Society's General meeting on Friday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. After a short business meeting, see what our town was like at the turn of the century.

MUSEUM MOVES FORWARD WITH WISH LIST PROJECTS

The scanning of hundreds of local newspapers from the 1940s-90s is a project undertaken by Dilip Tiwari, Peter Rosenwald and Kayko Jorgenson. More help is needed. Clearing out the Museum storage room to make way for a future "ROUTE 66 ROOM" has been tackled by Jack Ochoa, Dilip Tiwari and others. Look for good things in our future!

BAKER HONORED BY BOY SCOUTS

Congratulations to Steve Baker, historian and treasurer of the DHS&M. He received the 2015 Distinguished Citizen Award by the Lucky Baldwin District, San Gabriel Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT

www.RanchoDeDuarte.org

[Contact Us](#)

Phone: (626) 357-9419

Email: info@RanchoDeDuarte.org

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

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

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE MUSEUM BY
PAYING YOUR 2016 DUES. Student/
teacher: \$10; Individual: \$15; Family:
\$25; Life Time Supporter: \$500 (reserved
for individuals and families); Business/
Org. (see www.RanchoDeDuarte.org).
Secure PayPal Payment Process available**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

OCT. 14, 4:30 p.m.: Board Meeting.
OCT. 23, 6:30 p.m.: Launch Party for
Curiosities of the California Desert.
OCT. 24, 10 a.m.: MOHPG meeting.
OCT. 25, 7:30 a.m.: Birdwalk led by Kim-
ball Garrett. Pre-walk donuts will be served
at 7 a.m.
DEC. 4, 6:30 p.m.: A Drive through Duarte
in 1900, and general meeting.
DEC. 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.: Annual Craft Fair.

Duarte Historical Society & Museum

P.O. Box 263, Duarte, CA 91009-0263

777 Encanto Parkway, Duarte

(626) 357-9419

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

Duarte Historical Society & Museum
c/o Claudia N. Heller
277 Opal Canyon Road
Duarte, CA 91010
RanchoDeDuarte.org

