



The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

JAN.-MARCH 2017

President's Message



A medieval castle less than an hour away? This is a well-kept secret, unless you saw it on

Huell Howser! The Duarte Historical Society has arranged a tour of the Rubel Castle in Glendora on Saturday, February 5, 11:30 a.m.

Michael Rubel had a passion and fortunately he also had friends to help him realize his dream. For 26 years his friends helped build his castle completing construction in 1986. It is surrounded by a twenty-foot high cinder block wall and a massive steel and wood gate. Other features of the castle include a Santa Fe Railroad caboose, a 70-foot-tall clock tower - which rings every half hour - encased in rocks, automobiles dating to the 1920s, a blacksmith area, a printing press room, three underground "dungeons," a drawbridge, a retired citrus packing house and a bottle house tucked inside the castle keep. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

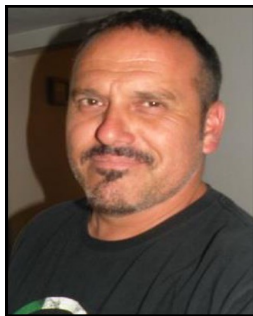
Michael Rubel passed away in October of 2000. He gifted his castle to the Glendora Historical Society. This is a special treat right in our back yard. Space is limited so sign up early. (See page 3 for registration details.)

-Claudia Heller

WINTER SOLSTICE CRAFT FAIR AND FLEA MARKET

CRAFTERS, VENDORS, FOOD TRUCKS, AUTHORS AND NEIGHBORS GATHERED AT ENCANTO PARK FOR FUN, FRIENDS, HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND SUPPORT OF THE MUSEUM AND ITS PROJECTS



**WELCOME NICK!**

Duartean Nick Montalvo was elected to the DHS Board at the December 2 general meeting. He is a collector of collections and recently exhibited his History of Marbles display.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Former Duarte resident Glenn Miller lived with his family on Betty Hill in Fish Canyon and it is said his band practiced there. When his plane

went missing over the English Channel, the world mourned the loss. The home burned down in the 1980 fire. The Museum sponsored a plaque in his honor and it is at Glenn Miller Park at the top of Melcanyon.

**HISTORY PARTNERS**

(L-R) Cheryl Madrigal and Debbie George of the California Citrus State Historical Park in Riverside visited our museum

recently and received as a donation from DHS&M several volumes of research books reflecting reports of the Agricultural Experiment Station, University of California from 1920 to 1932. These books will be kept in their museum which is dedicated to reflecting the citrus industry heritage

**ANN'S ANGELS**

The angel collection of Ann Valleroy remained on display during the holidays. A collector of collections, Ann is passionate about her angels and displays them year-round in her home.

ZOE'S DUMP CAKE RECIPE

1 can crushed pineapple 1 can cherries
1 stick butter 1 pkg yellow cake mix nuts
Spread cherries and pineapple on bottom of 9X12" pan. Empty dry cake mix on top, pour melted butter on top, sprinkle with nuts, bake for 20 min. at 350 deg. **PRINTED BY POPULAR DEMAND.**

HOLIDAY MEETING, DAM TALK

The horror of the loss of life in the 1928 collapse of William Mulholland's dam near Santa Clarita was described by historian/author Paul Rippens before a large crowd at the Museum's Annual Meeting on December 5. Poet Rick Whelan opened the meeting and among the few business items tackled was the election of Nick Montalvo as a Board Member. A holiday dessert table followed the program.

MORRIS DAM TOUR AND HISTORY EXCHANGE

MORRIS DAM was built in 1930 as a water supply facility for Pasadena. A tour will be scheduled for a very limited number of people. Dues paid members will have priority. Call for details. Claudia (626) 358-0329

**THANK YOU TO
ALL THE AUTHORS, CRAFTERS,
VENDORS, CITY STAFF AND
VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED
WITH THE WINTER SOLSTICE
CRAFT FAIR & FLEA MARKET**

WELCOME TO NEW DOCENTS

Richard Amadori

Tim Winship

Connie Heflin

Judy Blake

Sharman Warner

BIRD WALK YIELDS 35 SPECIES ALONG THE BIOSWALE & RIVER



It was a lovely fall morning in Encanto Park when about twenty birders walked the bioswale trail on a bird-walk led by ornithologist Kimball Garrett, Collection Manager at the L.A County Museum of Natural History. Black Phoebes, Bushtits, Anna's and Rufous/Allen's Hummingbirds were fun to watch. In all 35 bird species were spotted. The list is on the website: www.RanchoDeDuarte.org.



The bald eagle nest discovered last Spring in Azusa Canyon just off Highway 39 near the San Gabriel Dam remains intact and the eagles seem to be thriving. Photo taken December 15 this year by Candace Dougherty.

RECOGNITION DINNER HELD



Zoe & Carie Osburn



The Stallers

As a thank you to Duarte volunteers, then-Mayor Sam Kang held a dinner at the 888 Seafood Restaurant in Rosemead. A variety of Chinese food, entertainment and local dignitaries marked the night. The Museum was represented by Steve Baker, Zoe and Carie Osburn, Claudia & Alan Heller, Jack Collins, Mariellen and Bruce Staller.

CASTLE REGISTRATION INFO

REGISTER: CALL CLAUDIA HELLER AT 626 358-0329 OR ZOE OSBURN AT 626 999-7064 BEFORE JANUARY. *Space is limited.*

COST: \$10 PER ADULT, \$5 PER CHILD PAYABLE IN CASH OR CHECK AT THE CASTLE GATE. A WAIVER MUST BE SIGNED AT THAT TIME.

ALSO: THERE ARE SOME STAIRS AND SOME UNEVEN SURFACES BUT YOU CAN OPT OUT OF THOSE AREAS.

PLEASE MEET AT MUSEUM AT 10:30 AND CAR POOL OR MEET AT THE CASTLE GATE BY 11:30 A.M.



**VISIT OUR 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)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

February 5, 11:30 a.m.: Rubel Castle Tour.

February 8, 4:30 p.m.: DHS&M Board Meeting

March 4: Happy birthday Glenn Miller

TBA: Morris Dam tour

**WE COUNT ON YOUR DUES! 2017
DUES DUE JANUARY 1, 2017. Family
\$25. See website for other categories.**

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: Nick Montalvo

Docent Coordinator: Sheri Uhlig

Photographer: Alan Heller

Exhibit Coordinators: Pauline Montgomery,

Mark Montgomery

Branding Iron: Claudia Heller, Jim Kirchner

Webmaster: Jim Kirchner

Newspaper scanning project:

Dilip Tiwari and Kayko Jorgenson

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

