



The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

APRIL-JUNE, 2017

President's Message



There is a big change in the works for the Duarte Historical Museum.

When the

1920 Buron Fitts home was moved from Royal Oaks & Cotter, it was plopped down on what was to become Encanto Park. Alone in a dirt and boulder field, volunteers worked for months to install exhibits and make it the cozy historical house it is today. Since 1988 the Historical Society volunteers have maintained the building, knowing that they would not be able to keep up the work and expense indefinitely.

With the help of Cesar Monsalve of Duarte Parks & Recreation Department, the Museum Board asked the City to take ownership of the Museum building. At the January 24 City Council meeting, this was approved. You will probably see no change, but this will free up the Historical Society to carry on with operation of the usual museum activities. Your dues and donations will go directly to those projects.

While details are yet to be decided, we feel this arrangement will assure that our mission will continue for the years to come. That mission is "to collect and preserve materials pertaining to the City of Duarte through exhibitions, educational programs and publications..."

- Claudia Heller



HISTORIC WINKLER HOUSE TOUR SCHEDULED

There have been a series of colorful owners of this house including Arthur Savage who, in this house, invented the first hammerless lever action rifle, the United Rabbitries Marketing Corp., and an owner that opened the house to the public as a restaurant and dance hall. In 1944 it was purchased by well-known Duartean Adrian and Louise Winkler and Adrian's parents. In 2001, Louise, then a widow, died at the age of 98. At one time the street we call Royal Oaks was named Foothill and was also Route 66 when that highway was first constructed.. The current owners, Sandy and Al Reyes, have graciously invited us for a tour on **JUNE 10, 2017**. Space is limited and museum members will be given preference. Call 626 358-0329 for a reservation. Free.



Al & Sandy Reyes



1632 Royal Oaks

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GLENN MILLER BORN MARCH 1, 1904



Former Duarte resident Glenn Miller lived with his family on Betty Hill in Fish Canyon where he would practice with his band and write music. When his plane went missing over the English Channel in 1944, the world mourned the loss. His family remained for a while and then sold the home which was later destroyed by a 1980 fire. The Duarte Museum sponsored a plaque in his honor and held an epic dedication ceremony in what was then Valley View Satellite Park later re-named Glenn Miller Park.

OUR SCANNING PROJECT NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We are dedicated to scanning local newspapers going back to the 1940s, but we need help. If you are interested, please call Curator, Dilip Tiwari, for information. (818) 482-9335.

BIRD WALK SET APRIL 29

Donuts and coffee 7 a.m. Walk starts at 8. Led by Kimball Garrett. Call 626 358-0329 for details. Free.

RUBEL CASTLE TOUR ECLECTIC AND HISTORIC



(L-R) Karon Ross, Judy Blake, Will Martin and Douglas Ross, trek through the Santa Fe Caboose which Rubel used as a guest room.

Michael Rubel had a dream, one that members of the Duarte Historical Society recently visited! He built a castle!

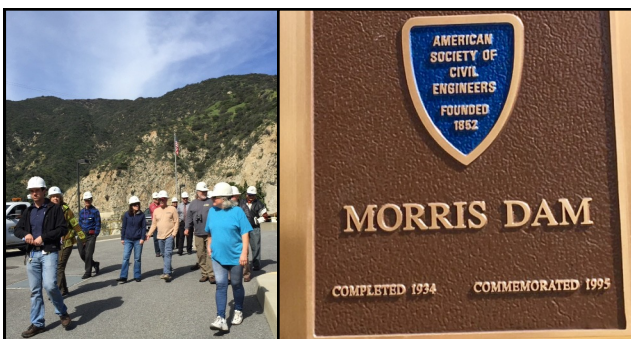
Rubel willed his castle, located in Glendora, to the Glendora Historical Society and tours take visitors to unbelievable sites such as the windmill, a bottle house, a tree house and box factory. Our tour explored the clock tower, the tractor barn, a sixteen ton bird bath, and a variety of antique cars and trucks. The castle is nestled behind a rock wall and features dozens of nooks and crannies, all hiding treasures galore. Our thanks to the docents that day who led an educational and fun tour.

To arrange your own tour, log on to the Rubel Castle Tour site at <http://glendorahistoricalsociety.org>.

MUSEUM MEMBERS ATTEND MORRIS DAM EXCHANGE



As part of a cultural exchange program, a dozen museum members toured Morris Dam in San Gabriel Canyon. Principal Engineer Sterling Klippel and his staff explained the many safety features which keep the facility safe and well maintained. The dam, originally built by the City of Pasadena, has as its mission flood protection and secondarily water capture and conservation. Following the tour, the group gathered at the San Gabriel Dam and from there enjoyed a good look at the nesting bald eagles.



Says Curator Dilip Tiwari: "Being an architect and in close proximity of the 'fault line,' I was curious to know how the dam design addressed earthquake movement. The project manager, explained how seismic separations are being integrated into the design of the dam and how they have been upgraded."

HISTORIAN STEVE BAKER LEADS DOCENT TRAINING



Historian Steve Baker conducted a docent training session for new and old docents. Going from room to room he talked in depth about the exhibits. Above, he explains how to greet visitors.

STAR TREK AND BEYOND

How did the Star Trek series encourage Dr. Beth Singer to earn a degree in biochemistry? Join us Friday, April 28, 6:30 p.m. at the Museum for this fascinating story.

TOKUO NAKAMOTO RIDES THE GOLDEN STREETS FROM PASADENA TO AZUSA



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MEMBERS DON & SANDY PARA**

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

April 28, 6:30 p.m.: Star Trek & Beyond
presentation by Dr. Beth Singer

April 29, 7:30 a.m.: Bird walk led by Kim-
ball Garrett

May 3, 4:30 p.m.: Board Meeting

June 10, 1 p.m.: Winkler House Tour

2017 DUES NOW DUE!

(See website for details)

**ANNOUNCEMENT: ROUTE 66 MAGA-
ZINES NOW ON SALE AT THE
DUARTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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: Nick Montalvo

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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

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