

# The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

JULY, AUG, SEPT 2017

#### President's Message

Duarte's museum in Encanto Park is typical of many museums in small towns throughout the SG Valley. These museums and societies are repositories of important documents, artifacts, photographs, oral histories, city and county records, as set forth in a recent article by Andrea Blachman, President, California Conference of Historical Societies.

Usually run by a small group of dedicated volunteers, they are supported by residents who share their passion. These museums have common goals and common problems.

As Blachman points out, museums become gathering places for folks who want to research, discuss, plan and just reminisce about their home town. Most of these museums are small, underfunded and understaffed and run by people with little formal training. She says a recent national survey revealed that the core audience for historical societies and museums is white, older and upper middle class, a serious drawback in a country that is radically transformed in demographic and ethnic terms.

The Duarte Museum invites the public to become involved, volunteer as docents, exhibit hobbies and collections in our revolving display cases, join our nature walks, programs, meetings. We want everyone to feel welcome even if you just drop in during our open hours to chat. For every resident there is a story and a contribution to be made. So, don't be a stranger!

Claudia Heller

#### DUARTE'S ROUTE 66 PARADE SEPTEMBER 23, 2017



After skipping a year, the Duarte Route 66 Parade returns, thanks to the BeGroup which stepped up to the helm. With the theme Then and Now, equestrians, bands, cars, and hundreds of adults and children will proudly march from Cotter to Mt. Olive starting at 10 a.m. before reuniting at Royal Oaks Park for the City's Anniversary Picnic.

#### LOCAL ROAD HISTORIAN TO DISPLAY ROUTE 66 ITEMS

Duartean Richard Amadori, an amateur photographer and highway historian, gets his kicks studying, exploring and snapping photos of historic Route 66, and will share his passion with an exhibit at the Duarte Historical Museum in August and September. Since the 1980s he has traveled stretches of the mother road from California to the eastern border of New Mexico collecting authentic Route 66 items as well as contemporary memorabilia.

**NOTICE:** WINKLER HOUSE TOUR **POSTPONED**. The current homeowner had a family emergency so the June 10 tour was cancelled. A notice will be posted when a new date is determined.

### WHY CAN'T WE ALL GET ALONG?



#### RANGER KIM BOSELL TALK FRIDAY, AUGUST 4 AT 6:30 P.M.

Recognizing that bears are wild animals and danger could exist, Ranger Bosell sees the lovable side of these animals and suggests ways to live with them in harmony. She has stories to tell! Some are humorous, some scary and some just plain fun. Here in Duarte we are in bear country and many of us have had close encounters. What can we do to have a safe coexistence and treat them with respect?

JOIN US FOR THIS FUN AND INFORMATIVE PROGRAM. Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

#### **DEPRESSION GLASS DISPLAY**

Imagine opening up a cereal box and finding a lovely glass bowl or dish inside. This was common during the Great Depression when manufacturers offered dinnerware as an incentive for purchasing their product.

Duartean Karleen Daugherty began collecting clear and translucent depression glass 22 years ago and a portion of her collection will be on display at the Museum through July.



Donated by the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Authority, this lovely poster, which so adequately depicts Duarte, is the Museum's latest acquisition. The artist: J. Michael Walker.

#### SPRING BIRD WALK YIELDS 45 SPECIES



On a stunning Spring morning a few dozen birders followed ornithologist Kimball Garrett around the Encanto Park bioswale trail and into the San Gabriel River bed. Learning about the natural history of the area and spotting 45 bird species, the group peered through a scope and binoculars. The complete list is posted on the Museum website.



Councilmember Liz Reillypeers through scope

2017 DUES NOW DUE! P.O. Box 263, Duarte 91009 (See website for details)

#### ROYAL OAKS STUDENTS TOUR MUSEUM



Photo by Zoe Osburn

One of the museum's most important functions is to give personal tours to students. This year, under the supervision of Zoe Osburn, third and fourth grade classes from Royal Oaks School were our guests. Following is the teacher's response:

Dear Zoe: Just wanted to thank you and the other docents for a wonderful time in the museum today. All of you were so friendly and helpful. We couldn't have asked for a nicer group. The students and their parents really enjoyed the experience. Looking forward to next year. Sincerely, Lorri Rosenfeld, Krysty Leckrone, Kathy Covert, Tatiana White.

Thanks to the docents who helped with the tour: Ruby Shiroma, Lydia Carswell, Mike and Janet Jones.



#### CITRUS PARK IN THE WORKS

The old city hall and adjacent buildings on Third Street will soon be demolished to make room for a housing development. The good news: a park honoring Duarte's citrus history will be built. What is the significance of the Washington Orange? Who were the owners and workers at the many ranches, and why was Duarte so successful in this endeavor? Stay tuned for the progress of this park.



FOR SALE!

This lovely bronze sculpture of Andres Duarte on his stallion is for sale by the artist Richard Myer, creator of the 14 foot statute in the city plaza across from City Hall. The materials alone are worth \$2500, and Myers' asking price is \$5000. It is a table-top sculpture weighing 85 pounds, and is one of a kind. Myers is a famed artist, having created the headstone for the grave of John Wayne, and a life sized sculpture of Frank Miller, proprietor of the Mission Inn which was built by Frank's father. If anyone is interested in looking further into this sale, please call Mark Wood at (626) 825-0464.

#### THANKS TO OUR SCANNERS

The scanning of thousands of local newspapers dating from the 1940s through the 1980s is a big job. Volunteers are working to preserve our history. Welcome and thank you to our newest volunteers: Rose Gant and Dawn Siegel." They are doing a tremendous job," says Curator Dilip Tiwari. We can always use more help. Scanned papers will be offered to the public.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.RanchoDeDuarte.org

Contact Us

Phone: (626) 357-9419

Email: info@RanchoDeDuarte.org
Twitter: @RanchoDeDuarte
Instagram: @RanchoDeDuarte

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**August 1,** 6:00 p.m. National Night out in Encanto Park and Museum Open House **July 29,** 1 p.m. Route 66 exhibit of Richard Amadori begins

**August 4,** 6:30 p.m, "Living with bears: the dangers and joys."

August 9, 4:30 p.m. Board Meeting

September 23, 10 a.m.: Annual Route 66

Parade" Then & Now!

September 23, 11 a.m.: Annual City Picnic

(Visit our Museum booth)

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



#### **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.

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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