

The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

JAN-MARCH 2018

DICK SINGER'S *RENAISSANCE* REVEALS LOCAL HISTORY



His "uniquely diverse career in Monrovia from 1986 to 2010" afforded Singer an intimate relationship with Monrovia's history, politics and residents. His insightful book explains the events, characters and decisions that brought our neighboring town from its sorry beginnings to its recent title: *All America City*. His book traces the changes, the people and the decisions that occurred, morphing the city into the envy of its neighbors.

Singer's honesty is admirable and will probably irk some of the players, but he is thorough, backing up his facts with hundreds of hours scouring newspaper articles, government documents, statements from long-time residents and his first-hand involvement.

The book is on sale at The Dollmakers in Monrovia and at the Monrovia Historical Museum for \$30. Proceeds benefit the Monrovia Museum. It is entitled: *The Renaissance Years: A History of Modern Monrovia*.

Claudia Heller

THE HISTORY OF DUARTE'S ROCK TOWN



Larry Walls, Esq
Photo by Dilip Tiwari

Was Duarte's Rock Town a haven for crime, or a family community with close ties? Or maybe it was both. Join us on Saturday, January 13, 4 p.m. at the Museum and meet Larry Walls, a product of that town.

What were our schools like in the 1950s to the 1980s? How did segregation fit in? When did things change and why? And how could a tough kid from Rock Town succeed? Learn about those first years when Duarte High School first opened. Walls will reveal facts that may surprise you. His talk will be followed by social time, and refreshments will be served. Questions? Call (626) 358-0329.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND HONORING LARRY WALLS

EXHIBIT GRAND OPENING, RECEPTION
AND BOOK SIGNING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018
4 TO 7 P.M. AT THE
DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
777 ENCANTO PARKWAY, DUARTE

PLEASE JOIN US ADMISSION IS FREE

TALK ON EARLY L.A. HISTORY EDUCATES MEMBERS



Katy and Dr. Bruce Phillips

How did the first residents of Los Angeles come to arrive at what is now *The Plaza*? Who were they and how did they get there? Dr. Bruce Phillips and his wife, Katy, docents at the present day Plaza, presented the colorful story of the founding of Los Angeles. The audience, many of whom were born and raised in the Los Angeles area, learned about an integral part of their history that had to date eluded them. "I didn't know that" was the phrase of the day!



HORSELESS CARRIAGE SHOW JANUARY 27 AT MUSEUM

Magnificent pre 1916 antique horseless carriages will be on display at the museum in Encanto Park starting 9 a.m. on January 27 by members of the Horseless Carriage Association of Southern California.

LIZ REILLY JOINS BOARD



Councilmember Liz Reilly is now a Duarte Historical Society Board member bringing with her fresh ideas, especially in the field of fundraising. Her Board appointment was ratified at the November 30 meeting.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR RETIRES



Boyd Leeson receives award from Zoe Osburn

After 20 years of dedicated service as the Museum Director Boyd Leeson has retired from the Board. His talents and dedication have kept our Museum in good.

Happy Birthday Glenn Miller

Born March 1, 1904, he was an American big-band musician, arranger, composer, and bandleader in the swing era. He was the best-selling recording artist from 1939 to 1943, leading one of the best-known big bands of the era. He built a home in Duarte on Bettyhill in 1954 which burned down in 1980. He started the U.S. Army band and while serving, his plane disappeared over the English Channel.





BIRDERS DISCOVER A KETTLE



This year's fall bird walk yielded a rare sighting, and it wasn't exactly a bird! The group of about 20 birders came upon a *kettle*. Also known as a *lift*, this meteorological phenomenon where air rises due to heat, is used as an energy source by soaring birds (and aircraft).

"It was about 15 total birds circling high up, so identification was based mostly on shape. Most of the hawks were Swainsons but was a mixed kettle with probably a couple Red Tails and one Sharp-Shinned also in the group. The whole kettle disap-

peared into the clouds after a few minutes," explains Chris Stahl. The walk took place in the Encanto Park bioswale trail, the Puente Largo Bridge and adjacent areas. Another exciting find was

a beautiful, bright green preying mantis, an insect which is found all over the world. It is harmless to humans.

Trip leaders Eleanor Osgood and David Lee provided a list of birds spotted on the walk which may be found on our website: www.Ranchodeduarte.org.

WINTER SOLSTICE FAIR AT DUARTE STATUE



With Andres Duarte looking over us, the Museum craft fair was a great day in town with more than thirty mostly local vendors peddling their wares. From handmade jewelry, to cactus, to clothing and baked goods, visitors stocked up on unique items.



Entertainment by Jim Constantian. The Author's booth was a great draw.



SUSIE LING AND CHRIS FRYE AND PAS-LARRY WALLS TOR RICKY, GFC

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.RanchoDeDuarte.org

Contact Us

Phone: (626) 357-9419

Email: info@RanchoDeDuarte.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

<u>January 13, 4-7 p.m</u>.—Black History Month celebration at Museum.

<u>January 27, 9 a.m</u>.—Horseless Carriage Car Show at Museum.

February 7, 4:30 p.m. - Board meeting

2018 DUES NOW DUE! P.O. Box 263, Duarte 91009 DUES DUE IN JANUARY

(See website for details) www.RanchoDeDuarte.Org Thank you for your support.

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



Duarte, CA 91010

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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www.RanchoDeDuarte.org
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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

Board Member: Nick Montalvo Board Member: Liz Reilly 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