



The Branding Iron

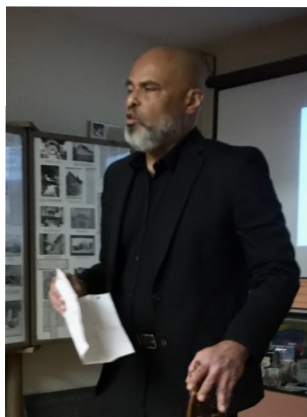
DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

APR-MAY-JUNE 2020

BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATES ADAMS, STOVALL, MILLNERS



(L-R) STEVEN, JEFF, DIANNE, CHARLES,
DARRELL = THE FIVE MILLNER SIBLINGS



Steven Stovall



Everett Adams

African Americans in the Military, presented by Charles Brister, kicked off the Black History Celebration at the Duarte Historical Society and Museum on February 22. Before a full house, Brister talked about the important contributions made by African Americans spanning from the arrival of the first enslaved Blacks during the colonial history of the United States. He talked of inventions which make America what it is today systematically

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MEET DUARTE'S NEW CITY MANAGER



April 18, 1-3 p.m. Dan Jordan will be at the Museum to meet residents and discuss your suggestions, questions, etc. about our City and future plans. He's now on the job and wants to hear from Duarteans!

BARBIE TURNS 61



Barbie turned 61 and her birthday bash at the Duarte Historical Museum attracted her friends and relatives from throughout the San Gabriel Valley. Little girls brought their Barbies to play with, but were outnumbered by grown women with their dolls. Karen Levein has a portion of her 1960 original Barbie collection on display, all dressed in

stiletto heels and topped off with fashionable hats. She talked about the birth of Barbie and friends and was joined by Duartean Penny Jung who managed the Barbie collection at Mattel Toys until she retired.

Favorites visiting the party were Kathy Kirchner's Dodger Barbie; and a Frank Sinatra Barbie. The group enjoyed cake and ice cream after a robust round of Happy Birthday.

WALKING TRAIL NAMED FOR DON & BERNICE WATSON



When the red cars ceased running, the right of way they utilized became available. While other communities gobbled up the land, Duarte opted to use that strip as a bicycle, equestrian, walking trail. Every day it is utilized by residents who get their exercise and meet their neighbors. Some people call it the Duarte downtown. Its very existence today is much due to the work of Don Watson. In 1968 he became the first African American council member, and 1971 he was elected Mayor, the first black mayor in Duarte and in the San Gabriel Valley.

His wife at the time, Bernice, is well known for her co-authorship of the book *On the Duarte*, a comprehensive history of Duarte up to the city's incorporation.. Bernice died in 2012. Through the efforts of their daughter, Paula Watson Gardner, the trail was renamed and a dedication held. It is a fitting tribute during Black History Month.

WARNING

All events in this newsletter are subject to postponement if need be for the safety and health of the community. Any cancellations will be updated on our website: www.RanchoDeDuarte.org. or call (626) 358-0329.



Museum Secretary Cathy Long has professionally restored and framed the Blueprint/survey Map of Ranchos Azusa de Duarte & Azusa de Dalton. It is now archival quality. The map was donated to the museum by Robert F. Penney of Bradbury and his wife Ruth.



THE BEAUTIFUL MAP ABOVE WAS RE-FURBISHED WITH MUSEUM FUNDS COLLECTED THROUGH YOUR DUES AND DONATIONS. DUES WERE DUE JANUARY 1. WE COUNT ON YOU. GO TO THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS:: www.RanchoDeDuarte.org.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Councilmember Liz Reilly will pour you a cup of coffee while you pour out questions about our city. Come join her at the Museum on Saturday, June 6 from 1-3 p.m. and learn about where our city has been and where it's headed.

(Cont. P. 1 Black History)

absent from history books and school lectures. Charles is a third generation Monrovia.

Council member Liz Reilly awarded certificates to the honored guests: Giselle Adams for her father Everett, Steven Stovall for his grandfather Dr. Leonard Stovall, and the five Millner Siblings. Special guest was Larry Walls.

THE FIVE MILLNER SIBLINGS

CHARLES MILLNER: The oldest Millner sibling graduated from Duarte High School in 1963. He started teaching at his alma mater, Cal Poly Pomona, in September of 1972 where he remained for 42 years. He was Chairman of the Chemistry Dept. when he retired.

DARRELL MILLNER: Graduating from DHS in 1964, He attended UC Irvine and graduated from Cal Poly. At the University of Oregon he received his D.Ed. Degree and worked at Portland State University in 1974 in the Black Studies Dept., retiring in 2014.

STEVE MILLNER : A 1966 DHS graduate, he attended San Jose State University before transferring to the University of California at Berkeley and earning a Doctorate in Sociology. He was the first African American to teach at the University of Mississippi.

DIANNE MILLNER: She graduated from DHS in 1967, She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from UC Berkeley, and earned a law degree from Stanford Law School in 1975.

JEFF MILLNER: He graduated from DHS in 1969, attended San Jose State University and graduated with a B.A. in sociology, then attained a teaching credential. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1977 and received a law degree in 1980.

YOUR DUES ALLOW US TO CONTINUE PROJECTS, CREATE OUR NEWSLETTER, KEEP UP OUR EXHIBITS AND REMAIN OPEN. DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR. SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS—www.RanchoDeDuarte.Org.

ANNUAL BIRD WALK APRIL 26



Ornithologist Kimball Garrett, collections manager LA County museum of Natural History, will lead a walk through Encanto Park, along the bioswale trail and into the adjacent river bed, starting at 8 a.m. Meet at the Museum at 7:30 for coffee and donuts. On a past spring walk our sightings included Cinnamon Teal, Vaux's Swifts, a Merlin, Great Egrets and a common yellowthroat.

OUR SCANNING PROJECT NEEDS YOUR HELP

The museum scanning project involves the scanning of local newspapers dating back to the 1940s. Our scanner, Jan Buck, painstakingly scans the newspapers into a computer and some day they will be available to the public. However she needs a "cutter" who will simply cut newspaper pages with scissors so that she can scan them.. If you can help with this, please call Dilip Tiwari at: (818) 482-9335. It is done when the museum closed to the public.

MONROVIA HOME TOUR SET FOR MAY 3

If you can volunteer to serve as a docent on this annual event, contact Martha Rund at (626) 848-4342. Ticket sales will start April 1. See (www.mohpg.org).

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
www.RanchoDeDuarte.org

Phone: (626) 357-9419

Email: info@RanchoDeDuarte.org

Instagram: @RanchoDeDuarte

Twitter: @RanchoDeDuarte

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

April: Barbie on exhibit all month.

April 18, 1-3 p.m.—Meet the new City Manager Dan Jordan at the Museum.

April 24, 6-8 p.m. Duarte Woman's Club Spaghetti Dinner at Elk's Lodge. CANCELLED

April 26, 8 a.m.—Bird walk led by Kimball Garrett—7 a.m. coffee/donuts, 8 a.m. walk.

May 3—Monrovia Mother's Day Home Tour

May 6: Taste of Duarte. Call Chamber of Commerce for tickets. (626) 357-3333.

June 6—1-3 p.m. Coffee and Conversation with Councilmember Liz Reilly .

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.

Closed holidays

President: Claudia Heller

Vice President: Sharman Warner

Treasurer: Steve Baker

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Asst. Curator: Dilip Tiwari

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Exhibit coordinator: Mark Montgomery

Photographer: Alan Heller

Student Tour Coordinator: Liz Reilly

Branding Iron: Claudia Heller, Jim Kirchner

Webmaster: Jim Kirchner

Newspaper scanning project:

Dilip Tiwari, Kayko Jorgenson

Janice Buck

Craft Fair Director: Karen Levein

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

