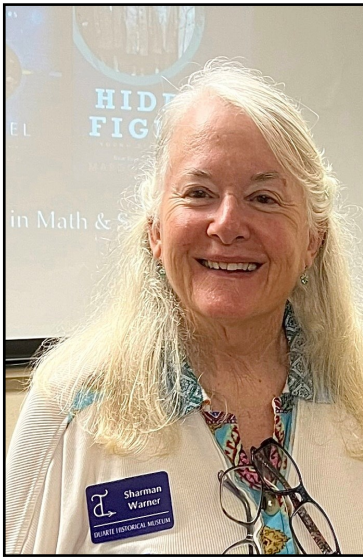




The Branding Iron

DUARTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JAN-MAR 2025



In Memoriam Sharman Warner

It is with a sad heart that I share with you that Sharman Warner died suddenly on Monday, October 14, 2024. Sharman had been Vice-President and Docent Coordinator for the Duarte Historical Museum for several years.

Sharman was born on April 20, 1950 at St. Joseph's Hospital, Burbank, California. She was a true Valley Girl - fun loving and high spirited.

On April 14, 1979, Sharman married Steve Warner. They had met at church. They were married for 45 1/2 years. Sharman was Steve's "trophy wife". He had won the prize when they were wed.

Sharman was the unofficial social secretary of the Duarte Senior Center. She enjoyed all the activities offered and attended most of the events. She was always calling Seniors, encouraging them to attend the different events. If someone was missing for a while from any activities, she called them to find out - Why? Were they sick? Could she help?

Sharman was the "Ping Pong Queen". She was very good and played almost everyday. She loved playing it so much that she convinced Peggie at the Duarte Senior Center to have an annual ping pong tournament.

Sharman was invited to DHS&M membership by Sherri Uhlig, and when Sherri passed away in 2018, Sharman stepped up and became Secretary of the Duarte Museum Board of Directors. In 2021, she became the Vice-President/Docent Coordinator. Her husband, Steve, credits Sherri with Sharman's volunteering conversion because she had



President's Message



Volunteers Needed

With the passing of longtime DHS&M Board Member, Sharman Warner, there is an open position for member-at-large. Are you interested?

The Duarte Museum Board of Directors meets every two months - January, March, May, July, September, & November. We meet on the second Wednesday at 4 pm at the Duarte Museum.

Get more involved.

Help select the path the Duarte Museum will take. Where should we spend our limited resources? Got ideas? We want to hear them. What projects should we focus on in 2025?

Docents Needed

The Duarte Museum needs more docents. We need three more docents for Saturdays and one more docent on Wednesday. Do you know anyone who would be dependable? Someone who wants to learn more about Duarte's rich history? Someone interested in serving their community?

Docents would serve once every 2 months.

Wednesdays 1-3 pm

Saturdays 1-4 pm

never volunteered for anything before.

On the Sunday before her death, Sharman had been at the Duarte Museum helping me clean up after a speaker event. She seemed to be her usual perky self. On Monday evening, out of the blue, she suffered a massive heart attack.

Steve told me that she was an organ donor and several people will be benefiting from her donation.

Love them while you can. You never know when they will be gone

MUSEUM SPEAKER SERIES



As we look ahead to 2025, the Duarte Historical Museum is excited about the upcoming Black History events scheduled through our continued collaboration with the Monrovia-Duarte Black Alumni Assoc. We truly value the relationship that’s been built and the programs being offered.

The theme for 2025 is “African Americans and Labor” which highlights the 100-year anniversary of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Maids, founded by A. Philip Randolph - the first Black Union to receive a charter from the American Federation of Labor.

Sunday, January 19, 2025; 1:00 - 2:30pm
Celebrating Dr. King’s Legacy

Sunday, February 2, 2025; 2:30 - 4:30pm
The unveiling of Black History Month’s Theme:
African Americans and Labor,
Featuring A. Philip Randolph

Sunday, March 16, 2025; 2:30 - 4:30pm
Women’s History Month

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

The Duarte Museum will be updating its bathroom to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards. A consultant will evaluate the space and then make suggestions as to what needs to be done to make the bathroom compliant, according to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Under the public accommodations section, the ADA protects people with disabilities from discrimination in public and private places that are open to the public. The ADA’s purpose is to promote inclusion, combat isolation, reduce stigma, and eliminate embarrassment by providing clear, strong, consistent, and enforceable standards

Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association (MDBAA)



Founded May 22, 1992, Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association’s (MDBAA) purpose is to establish unity and solidarity, to give support to our peers, to serve as positive role models for our youth, to provide a scholarship fund for Monrovia and Duarte High School students, and to establish a memorial to honor our deceased alumni.

They are a non-profit organization whose focus is on the education of youth in the Monrovia and Duarte Communities. MDBAA members are committed to reinvesting in the youth of their alma maters - Monrovia High School and Duarte High Schools. Each year, MDBAA awards annual monetary scholarships to graduating seniors attending Monrovia and Duarte High Schools to assist with their continuing educational pursuits. This year alone, as of June, they have awarded over of \$150,000.

These scholarships are made possible through fundraising efforts and generous community donations. Throughout the year, MDBAA hosts events that celebrate heritage, bring community together, and raise funds for scholars.

addressing discrimination.



Secondly, we will continue to update the exhibits in the Route 66 Room. The plan is to add photos of the important buildings that existed along Huntington Drive in the early days- the Trails, the Blvd. Cafe, Swiss Park, and many others.

**Do you have a favorite place to add?
Let me know.**

LOTS HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM

Judy Ann Blake has been appointed unanimously as Vice-President by the Duarte Historical Museum Board of Directors. Her duties include calling docents to remind them about their schedules.

She will also assist in planning our Speaker Series and field trips.

Judy has been a Member of the Duarte Museum since 2011, a docent since 2016, and on the Museum Board of Directors since 2019.



In 2025, the Duarte Historical Museum will be closed April 19; May 24; July 2, 5; August 30; November 22, 27, 29; and December 20, 24, 27, 31.

The Duarte City Picnic will be held on September 21, 2025.

WELCOME HOME AGAIN

The Duarte Blvd Café sign has returned to its home in Duarte. The sign had been exhibited at the Barstow Route 66 Museum until their closing, caused by unrepairable storm damage, last October. It has been on loan to them for over 30 years. More about its history will be available in the next edition of the Duarte Museum newsletter, the Branding Iron. Welcome back.



REFLECTIONS ON 2024

As I reflect on this past year and the memories shared throughout 2024, I am reminded of what truly makes the Duarte Historical Museum special - our people and the community we proudly serve.

To our valued docents and volunteers, thank you for supporting the Duarte Museum and our vision. We truly are the luckiest museum in the world because of the incredible individuals who are our docents and volunteers. They are the heartbeat of this museum; the driving force behind every achievement, milestone, and success. We are deeply grateful for your efforts and dedication.

To our Duarte Museum membership and community - we wish you a New Year filled with love, laughter, and togetherness. May 2025 bring even more opportunities to serve, grow, and celebrate together. Museum programs and resources are costly and your generosity is crucial and much appreciated. We are deeply grateful to our Duarte Historical Museum members, without membership we could not survive. Thank you for being a vital part of creating a brighter future.

As we begin this year, we are filled with anticipation and excitement for what lies ahead. We can't wait to return in 2025 with more exciting updates and fresh energy to kick off another amazing year together!

Here's to the people, the passion, and the purpose that make it all possible. Cheers! Here's to making an even greater impact together in 2025!

I look forward to continuing this journey with you in the New Year.

With love and appreciation,

Liz Reilly

DUARTE MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP DUE IN JANUARY

Individual: \$20 Family: \$30

Lifetime Membership: \$500

Business/Organization: \$100

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

www.RanchoDeDuarte.org

OR MAIL A CHECK TO

Duarte Historical Society

P.O. Box 263, Duarte, CA 91009-0263

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE MUSEUM
BY PAYING YOUR DUES.**

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THANK YOU

Duarte Historical Society & Museum
Open: Wednesdays: 1-3 p.m.
Saturdays: 1-4 p.m.

President: Liz Reilly
Vice President: Judy Ann Blake
Treasurer: Evette Arcaro
Secretary: Connie Ream
Director: Ellen Worley
Director: Yusuf Mansuri
Curator: Dilip Tiwari
Docent Coordinator: Judy Ann Blake
Exhibit Coordinator: Mark Montgomery
President Emeritus: Claudia Heller
Photographer: Alan Heller
Branding Iron: Liz Reilly
Webmaster: Jim Kirchner

Duarte Historical Society & Museum
c/o Liz Reilly
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