

# Fairview Register



Monthly Publication of the Costa Mesa Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3)  
Member: Conference of California Historical Societies, National Trust for Historic  
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## President's Message

### GOOD TIDINGS

With the holiday season upon us, my thoughts are only of good wishes, good times and spreading good cheer. Give a hug to those you feel might need one, call up a family member or friend you haven't talked to in a while, help a needy person, give to a charity, or have a family get-together. Count your blessings because there is much trouble in the world today. We need to reaffirm the things that make life matter.

I thank you all for being a member and for your constant support of the Costa Mesa Historical Society.

I wish all of you much happiness and good health during this holiday season and beyond into the new year.

Thank you, Bob Palazzola

## Thank You, Mighty Volunteers

6,515 hours were calculated by 25 people over 55 years of age during the past year. This great number of hours does not include time contributed by our volunteers that are under 55 years of age. We thank everyone who has helped out this year. Cheers to all of you for a job well done!

## 50th Anniversary Celebrations



Sunday April 3rd, 2016  
from 2 to 4:30pm at the  
Neighborhood Community  
Center; and,  
Sunday August 28th 2016  
from 2 to 6pm at the Diego  
Sepulveda Adobe.

## Mark Your 2016 Calendar

### Sunday Speaker Programs

*There will be no Sunday Speaker Programs until Sunday February 21st. Speaker to be announced.*

### Special Events

#### Installation Dinner



The annual Costa Mesa Installation Dinner will take place Friday, January 22nd, 2016, at the Captain's Table at Orange Coast College, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. Our guest speaker, Chris

Epting, (pictured here) will make his presentation ... *(for additional details see "Installation Dinner" page 2 as well as in the enclosed flier)*

**Changes to Annual Membership Dues:**  
*see "Changes" on page 2 and in Membership Information Box on page 4.*

**New Display** features *Prolific Costa Mesa Author and a Relic from a Favorite Iconic Part of Costa Mesa History...*(see "New Display" page 2)

## The Adobe Schedule

On the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month the Diego Sepulveda Adobe at 1900 Adams Ave. is open from 12 to 4pm. Individuals and groups can make appointments to tour the Adobe at other times by calling 949-631-5918. On regular open days, no appointment is necessary because the docents are there already.

**Promoting and preserving Costa Mesa's history is our mission.**

## “Installation Dinner” *continued*

from his newest book: 125 Years of “The Orange County Fair, A History of Celebration.” The cost is \$22 and reservations and payment must be made before January 15th; there are no accommodations for walk-ins.

## “Changes” *continued*

**What does your Costa Mesa Historical Society provide to you?** Among the many things we do, we: **Create** displays of memorabilia in our collection; **Develop** an ongoing inventory of photos for viewing, now at 30,000+; **Provide** copies of photos in our collection in several sizes at nominal fees; **Assist** the public with research projects; **Conduct** tours of the downtown Museum and at the Sepulveda Adobe on a twice monthly basis or more; **Provide** at least 8 monthly programs a year at our museum; **Publish** and mail a monthly newsletter to our members; and, **Set** up exhibits at community events such as the Fish Fry, Scarecrow Festival and Veterans Day.

*For the past 10 years, we have experienced increasing operating costs, but have refrained from passing these increases on to our members. However, our operating costs have risen to a level which requires us to take action. In view of this, the Costa Mesa Board of Directors has decided to make increases to our current membership fees (see [Membership Information Box on page 4 of this newsletter for changes](#)).*

As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, membership fees will be changed. All annual membership dues for 2016 paid prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 will be at the existing rates.

## “New Display” *continued*



Yes, right when you walk into the museum you will see our latest display which combines some selections from Costa Mesa’s prolific writer Nell Marburger’s collection of books, diaries, scrapbooks and other literary



works in a display case that was originally in Pink’s Drug Store on Newport Blvd. The case was bought in 1979 by Scott Morlan when the Pinkley’s closed their store and retired. The Morlans recently donated the case to the Society when they



moved away from Orange County. The society has had the Marburger Collection since 1989 and for the last couple of years Society volunteer Dave Rusher has been working on it and worked on the new display. Her writings date back to when she was a young girl growing up as an only child on a farm in South Dakota. Most of her work is non-fiction about her travel experiences and she wrote

thousands of articles for magazines. However during the fifties to the late sixties she focused more on writing books. Her collection includes a book length piece which was not published; the Society has the original manuscripts. Nell lived from 1909 to 1991. She developed Parkinson’s disease in her later years which curtailed her activities. (*Pictures on Column 1 Clockwise: Nell Marburger writing as she travels and while reading a book on natural history in her home; the display case with several featured items.*)

## Costa Mesa Historical Society News

### Election Results

Election Chairman Dave Gardner conducted the Society elections at the November Sunday Speaker Program. There were no nominations from the floor so the Society Officers and Board of Directors for 2016 will be as follows: Officers—President: Dave Gardner; 1st Vice President: Terry Shaw; 2nd Vice President: Dana Kurzbard-Kelsen; Secretary: Nancy Pedersen; Treasurer: Vacant at the this time; and, the Board of Directors—Mary Ellen Goddard (Archivist); Bob Palazzola (SAAAB chair); Cindy Humphreys, Dave Rusher, Tess Bernstein and Ed Baume.



### A Veteran’s Poignant Story

The Society’s November Sun-



day Speaker Program always features a veteran who poignantly tells of his war experiences. This year’s speaker was Robert “Bob” Davis (pictured left), U.S. Air Corps Technical Sergeant, and his personal story as a WWII radioman/gunner and POW made us feel like we were there with him and his buddies throughout their life threatening situations.

Robert was just 20 when he began his military duties and then in 1945 he was captured in a field met with armed farmers. He was in the prisoner’s camp for eight months and in July of 1945 the camp was evacuated and he had to participate in a 550 mile march until the end of the war. The soldiers were sleeping in the woods and barns in below 17 degree weather; they became malnourished and were not able to shower or bathe. When they were finally liberated he said, “I was so embarrassed by the way I looked.” He and the others were so happy to be able to get cleaned up and start getting decent food. At this time his weight had gone down to 85 pounds. When the staff at the field hospital could not find any place on the soldiers’ bodies to put the needle to give them shots they broke down in tears at the very sad spectacle in front of them. On a warm June night in 1945 he came home; he sat on his steps before going in and he said to himself, “I’m home.” When asked what saved his life during this difficult time he answered, “Shoes. Some shoes I had received and water-proofed. These saved my life.”

He went on to college and a successful professional life in the aerospace industry. About fifteen years ago he started using a wheelchair and writing books. When he spoke about one of his buddies who died right before the end of the war, he choked up, and one could see that long kept memory and others such as traumatic will never be forgotten. It was a wonderful program again reminding us all what is owed to our military heroes who fight for our freedom. *Robert is a member of The Freedom Committee of Orange County whose members reach out to community venues and share their wartime experiences—especially with school children.. (Pictures Clockwise on Column 2 of page 2: Robert Davis speaks and our audience listens intently to his presentation; Robert Davis and Bob Palazzola)*

## “Living Memorial” Award



Hank Panian mentioned that the Society created the “Living Memorial” Award at the “Flashback” 1st Anniversary Celebration event in September. This article is a “step back in time” to that moment in our history.

The Historical Society Living Memorial Award was finalized at a meeting held June 29, 1971 at the home of Leonard and Virginia

Logsdon; she was chairman of this committee. It is a special award with the following qualifications: a person who has given volunteer service over a period of time/an individual who has made a creative contribution of historical value. It may be presented annually. Since 1972 the following people have been presented this revered award: Donald Dodge, Bessie Lounsberry, Irving Meyer, Robert Fisher, Mildred Fisher, Jacob Shiffer, Goldie TeWinkle, Albert Ogden, Lucy Pinkley, Alvin Pinkley, Edrick Miller, Donald Dungan, Henry Segerstrom, Fred Sorcebal, Betty Jean Beecher, Helen Humphreys, Henry Panian, Mary Ellen Goddard, Charles A. Beecher, Charles Kiser, Harold “Bud” Hohl, William “Bill” Maloof, Alvin “Bud” Anderson, Gladys Refakes, Roy E. June, Doris Reeg, Margaret Peterman, Beverly Barck, Katharine Bequette, Arthur Lambert and Arthur Goddard. For those of you who have lived in Costa Mesa for a long time, this list represents a real “walk down memory lane” with people who contributed so much to our Society and the City of Costa Mesa. *The Award (part of which is pictured above) is located to the left of the entry-way before our first historical vignette.*



## Visit our Gift Shop



Our Society's Gift Shop is



the perfect place to find great gift items for the special people in your lives. There are books and other items for the person who loves history—especially Costa Mesa history. Stop by, you won't be disappointed.

## Bookmarks



Special bookmarks have been made to commemorate our Society's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They are really nice and would make excellent “little somethings” to give to your friends and relatives. They are priced at \$2 apiece.

## Welcome Grocery Outlet

Grocery Outlet, a bargain market, featuring Dairy, Meat, Produce, Beer, Wine and affordable Organics became active in the community before it even opened. The owners, Marc and Denise Dionio participated in the business category at the Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival and just recently they became business members in our Society. They are near the CVS in the shopping center across the street from the Donald Dungan Library. Stop by and welcome them to our fair city! Their business information is as follows:

Marc and Denise Dionio  
Independent Owners/Operators  
Costa Mesa Grocery Outlet  
1835 Newport Blvd., Ste C140  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

**Grocery Outlet**  
*bargain market*

(949)642-5800 Office [costamesa@groceryoutlet.com](mailto:costamesa@groceryoutlet.com)  
(949)642-5803 Fax [groceryoutlet.com](http://groceryoutlet.com)  
[facebook.com/CostaMesaGroceryOutlet](https://www.facebook.com/CostaMesaGroceryOutlet)

## Thank You, Copy4Less

Our newsletter printer, Copy4Less at 4360 Campus Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 near the John Wayne Airport, is discounting our printing costs throughout our 50th Anniversary Year. Their phone number is (949)252-8960. Thank you so much for this; we appreciate this very much, Copy4Less.

## In Search of More Sponsors

Our Society is looking for sponsors to help us create our very special events throughout the year. If you or a business you know would like to help us with donations and discounts, please let us know. As a non-profit our budget is very limited so additional financial assistance will be greatly appreciated.

## Are Your Dues Overdue?

**Your dues are important** because they help to support the Society's major programs and projects. You can locate your Dues Expiration Date by looking on **YOUR NEWSLETTER LABEL**...it is there to the right of your name... as a reminder. If your dues are due, just send a check to our Museum (see [mailing address below](#)); Attention: Susan Weeks. Or drop by in person on a Thursday or a Friday from 10am to 3pm.

*The Costa Mesa Historical Society Museum is located at 1870 Anaheim Avenue in Costa Mesa; this is a [non-mailing address](#). Museum hours: 10-3 Thursdays and Fridays and by appointment. [Our mailing address is: Costa Mesa Historical Society P.O. Box 1764, Costa Mesa, CA 92628. Questions? Call 949-631-5918, email us at \[cmhistory@sbcglobal.net\]\(mailto:cmhistory@sbcglobal.net\) or find us on Facebook.](#)*

COSTA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O BOX 1764  
COSTA MESA, CA. 92628  
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**Costa Mesa Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 1764**  
**Costa Mesa CA 92628**  
**— Membership Form —**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership Fees:**

	<u>Prior to 01/01/16</u>	<u>Effective 01/01/16</u>
Individual - regular	\$15.00	<b>\$20.00</b>
Individual Senior (60 +)	No special rate	<b>\$15.00</b>
Individual Student (under 16)	\$5.00	<b>\$10.00</b>
Family	\$20.00	<b>\$25.00</b>
Contributing	\$50.00	\$50.00
Business and Professional	\$100.00	\$100.00
Public Agency	\$100.00	\$100.00
Benefactor	\$250.00	\$250.00
Life Membership	\$1000.00	\$500.00
<b>Annual SAAAB Wing</b>	\$10.00	\$10.00

Make your checks payable to the Costa Mesa Historical Society.  
The Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, operates under the Corporation Laws of the State of California.