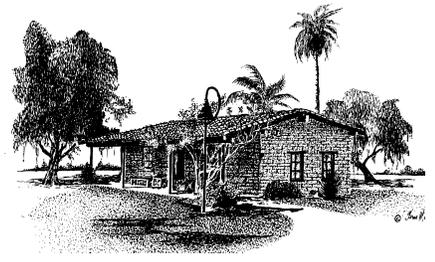


Fairview Register

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MEMBER: CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES, NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY



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Society volunteers Art and Mary Ellen Goddard lead the flag salute along with the Costa Mesa Fire and Rescue Honor Guard at the dedication of the Donald Dungan Library.

New Donald Dungan Library Opens in Lions Park to Serve the Next Generation of Patrons

It's been 20 years since society archivist and former Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries President Mary Ellen Goddard first championed the construction of a new downtown library. Those years of effort finally paid off Friday, May 24th, when the new Donald Dungan library opened its doors for the first time.

The new library meets the requirements for the evolving role of libraries in today's communities. Libraries today are no longer just a place for books. They also provide critical access to technology, meeting places, and child literacy programs. Accordingly, the new library offers computers, conference rooms, study rooms, teen center, a children's library, and even an outdoor recreation space.

Sitting in Lion's Park near the Costa

Mesa Historical Society Museum, the new two-story, 23,615-square-foot Johnson Favaro-designed building replaces the former single-story library nearby. The old library will soon be converted into a new community center.

Amid all the usual pomp for such ceremonies, including speeches from politicians and library representatives, Mary Ellen and her husband Art, also a society volunteer, led the audience in a salute to the flag. The pledge concluded an emotional and inspiring journey from idea to fruition.

"I'm amazed and it's wonderful," Mary Ellen Goddard told the *Daily Pilot*. "There were times when I didn't think it would ever happen, and so I'm really glad that it's here."

Early California Days

Noon - 3 p.m., Saturday, June 1

Join us in Estancia Park on Saturday, June 1 as historian Phil Brigandi speaks on a landmark event in Orange County history: Gaspar de Portola's journey through Southern California 250 years ago. The adobe will be open for tours, a mobile recreation van will entertain the kids, and adults can power up with a pleasant jolt courtesy of the Coffee Bean.

Don't Let Your Memories Go to Waste

We are very interested in anything related to Costa Mesa history, especially of places that don't exist anymore. This might be an item, such as a sign, theater ticket, merchandise receipt, yearbook and so on. It might also be a photograph of a place, people or thing. These are all pieces of history. Unfortunately, many of these pieces of history wind up in a thrift shop or dumpster. That is when history is lost. When it's gone it's gone. If you have a historic item, we would appreciate a picture of it. Bring it in and we'll take a picture of it. If you have an old photo which relates to Costa Mesa and you don't want to part with it, we'd be happy to scan it for you. We're asking you to help us preserve history. Don't wait till it's too late. – Bob Palazzola, Society Director

JUNE CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Museum	Adobe	California Days
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Promoting and preserving Costa Mesa's history is our mission

FAIRVIEW REGISTER, FAIRVIEW, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, MARCH 2, 1889

TALES OF ROY E. JUNE

In 1999, the Costa Mesa Historical Society recognized Roy E. June with a Living Memorial Award for his work as Costa Mesa's City Attorney and for his contributions to volunteer organizations throughout the area. Born in Montana in 1922, June first arrived in Costa Mesa as a cadet at the Santa Ana Army Air Base. In the late 1950s, tired of the cold, he returned to Orange County with his wife. Soon he found work at the law firm of then-city attorney Donald Dungan, later being hired on as city prosecutor, then rising from acting city attorney to city attorney himself, a position he held for 11 years. He "retired" in 1977, but it was hard to tell. It's said he set a record for incorporating the most non-profit corporations in Orange County — including our own society. The following lightly edited excerpts were taken from his 1978 oral history.



Costa Mesa City Attorney Roy June in 1975

On arriving in California after receiving orders for SAAAB

I was told to pack a suitcase with one change of clothing and razor and one shaving brush and one toothbrush and toothpaste and that was it. We first came to the Union Station in Los Angeles. I had come from Montana where the snow was about two or three feet deep at the station when I left, and got off the train in Union Station to see the green grass, orange trees, and palm trees. I will never will forget that. I wanted to go pick oranges immediately.

June earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for service in the Pacific theater, flying fighter-strafer and escort missions over Iwo Jima and Japan.

I flew one mission after the bomb had been dropped on Hiroshima and I can recall flying near that area—not over, but near it—and I could look down where there was supposed to be a city. There was just a huge black spot on the earth. I was probably 25 or 30 miles away from it.

June developed a rapport with the police department as city prosecutor in the mid-1960s. Many anecdotes illustrate his pride in the department.

We were the second city in California, the first in Orange County, to use sound-motion pictures on drunk driving cases. The guy would go and get his attorney and they would fight this all the way down to zero. I would say, "Fine. Did you know that your client starred in a rather interesting picture the other day?" So the attorney would go over and see the drunk driving film and then the attorney would call up and say, "What is the judge doing on sentencing these days?"

The new city hall, fire house, and golf course required the issuance of new bonds. But the process to transfer the signed bonds from Costa Mesa to the trustees in San Diego ran into a little problem.

Once these bonds were all signed, they then became worth \$3,490,000. So after the signing was all done, it suddenly occurred to me. "How are you going to get these to San Diego?" The trust officer said, "Oh my God. I never thought of that." I said, "You are not going to just put them in the back of your car and go sailing off towards San Diego with \$3,490,000 in bonds." He turned as white as a sheet of paper. He was almost stammering. He said, "I guess I had better call my boss." I said, "Do you want your boss to know that we hadn't planned on this?" Finally we decided that we would get the Costa Mesa

Police Department and the arrangement was made that we would put half of the bonds in the trust officer's car with one police officer and we would put the other half of the bonds in a police car with another trust officer's car. On the way, before they left, I said to Ed Glasgow, the Assistant Chief of Police, "Ed, what is your armament? How are you ready to protect this?" He opened the trunk of the car and there was a machine gun. I said, "OK, that is good enough!"

June explains why some old timers know the section of Placentia from the high school to Adams as "Estancia Drive."

There was a large delegation of people who came from Mesa Verde down to the Council one day. "We don't like Placentia," [they said]. "We want Estancia because it is near the Estancia and also near Estancia High School." Well, they asked me to go find out how the street was named. Well, I started to trace it back and I found out that as part of a lawsuit to condemn the property with the State of California [for Fairview Hospital] and to get the right-of-way, I had to have a map to describe the streets. Some engineering draftsman had, just for temporary identification purposes, called it Estancia Drive because it started at Estancia High School. It is all resolved now. But there are still those people in Mesa Verde who say absolutely that it is Estancia Drive and they are not going to call it Placentia at all.

June drafted incorporation paper for the Costa Mesa Playhouse and numerous other groups, including the historical society.

I did that for my good friend Charley Priest. The Segerstrom family had the choice of just plowing the [adobe] under and making it part of a subdivision or giving it to the city. The city wanted a vehicle that could accept it and one that could buy insurance and one that could raise funds. The city wanted public participation and couldn't very well raise funds through public solicitation so we decided that we would form a historical society and incorporate it as a non-profit corporation.

Even after retirement, June couldn't stop working

I have to get out of the house and do something. I am not the type of person who can sit and vegetate. The idea of sitting looking at a wall for more than five minutes panics me.



Now On View: Bob Dorris' Photos of Old Newport Beach

Nancy Pedersen, curator of the Historical Society's Hull Story exhibit, has curated a new show of historical photographs taken by local boatbuilder Robert Dorris. The show displays classic sea-craft along with cameos by Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, with whom Dorris sailed in the 1940s. The exhibit is now running at Alta Coffee, 506 31st Street in Newport Beach – coincidentally the home of one of the Dorris' earliest workshops and residences.



Stanley Paher Spins Tales

Thank you to everyone who came out to Stanley Paher's talk on Southern California ghost towns. Against a backdrop of stunning photographs, Paher talked about many colorful towns like Skidoo, Rhyolite, and Beatty, and equally colorful characters like Death Valley Scottie and Hooch Simpson. Paher also discussed his friendship with Costa Mesa's own Nell Murbarger, whose beautiful writing first hooked the historian on ghost towns. Other treats of the day included the folk tunes of the Sweetwater Creek Band and a gorgeous spread of treats provided by Pat Thompkins. Thanks to all for making the event a success!

Share Your Story

We'd love to hear your Costa Mesa stories. Many changes have taken place and we want to hear from those who lived through them. Write the memories yourself or come to the museum and we'll transcribe them for you. It's that simple!

Temporary Parking Instructions

Entry to the historical society parking lot is currently limited to Anaheim Avenue, but this is subject to change. If Anaheim is closed, try Park Avenue. There is no estimated completion date at this time.

Make a Difference – Volunteer

We're looking for a volunteer to sit on two committees: the **Newsletter Assembly Committee** prepares the newsletter for mailing, while the **Adobe Committee** recruits volunteers to plan an event, become a docent, or work on exhibits. Committees meet monthly and are chaired by board members. Interested? Visit costamesahistory.org/volunteer. Isn't it more fun to work as a team?

Shop with us on Amazon

Every time you start your order with Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate to the Costa Mesa Historical Society – at no cost to you. Visit costamesahistory.org/smile before making your next purchase. You can use your existing Amazon account.

Dues Overdue?

Make sure your dues are up to date by looking at your **dues expiration date** on the address label to the right of your name. If your dues are due, renew online at costamesahistory.org/membership, mail in a check, c/o Susan Weeks, Treasurer, or drop it off on a Thursday or Friday from 10am to 3pm. Membership dues are listed on the back page.

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View a mind-boggling array of artifacts from 5,000 years of Costa Mesa history – from the first peoples to the City of the Arts.

* Or schedule an appointment at 949-631-5918.

I N S I D E

New Library Opens • Share Your Memories
Tales of Roy June, City Attorney
New Boat Exhibit, Stanley Paher & More!

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