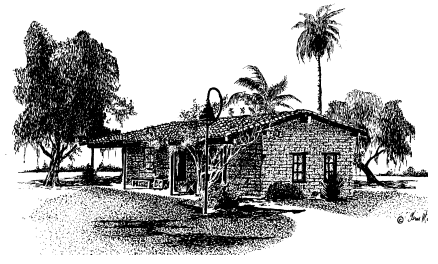


# Fairview Register

Monthly publication of the Costa Mesa Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3)

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



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## The Year in Review

BY DAVE GARDNER, PRESIDENT, COSTA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

What a year the Society has had!

- January's Installation Dinner was a success. We heard all about the life of Richard Nixon from speaker Jim Kubalik.
- A plaque presented by the Orange County Historical Commission was unveiled at the Adobe after a February rainstorm.
- In March, author Craig MacDonald spoke on his latest book, *Trailblazing Women in the Old West*.
- Historian Stan Paher, on a rare visit to Costa Mesa, entertained us with memories of his friend Nell Murbarger and a slide presentation *Ghost Towns of Southern California*.
- In early June, we were up at the adobe for Early California Days with speakers Phil Brigandi and Eric Plunkett discussing Portola's Expedition through Orange County 250 years ago.
- After a summer break, our fall speaker series opened with Tom Titus, legendary theater critic.
- Our annual salute to veterans program in November brought you U.S. Air Force Captain Gary Barnhill and his talk *Hostile Skies - the F-105 in Vietnam*.

More highlights of the year:

- We joined in community events throughout the year, including booths at the 72nd Annual Fish Fry, Concerts in the Park, the OC History Roundup, and the Halecrest Chili Cook-off.
- Mary Ellen and Art Goddard represented the Society at many functions including the dedication of the new Donald Dungan Library.
- We hosted the Orange County Docent League for a behind the scenes look at the Society Museum and Adobe.
- We opened the Adobe to visitors during public

events including Artistic License Fair and Polar Express in Estancia Park.

- Society volunteers surpassing 6,000 hours of service to the community in 2019.

And speaking of service, I feel it is now time to talk about the real heroes of the Costa Mesa Historical Society, the volunteers.

**Society officers and directors:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Terry Shaw; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Tess Bernstein; Recording Secretary Estelle Hughes; Treasurer Susan Weeks; Archivist Mary Ellen Goddard.

**Members at large:** Dave Rusher, Bob Palazzola, Cynthia Humphreys, Jean Nomura, & Pat Tompkins.

**Docents:** Kathy Bequette, Alex Golson, Vicki Alcalá Kelley, Lynn Alcalá, Helen Humphreys, and Alana Turingan.

**Volunteers:** Nancy Pedersen, Karl VonHerzen, Hope VonHerzen, Sid Hallburn, Craig Nomura, Jan Rován, Dolores Minerich, Ursula Hartunian, Beth Refakes, Mona & George Hill, Rob Braun, Julie Foster, Mari Page Palazzola, Mark Bernstein, Emily Bernstein, Alyssa McKnight, Rex Tompkins, Steve Hughes, Will Humphreys, Kevin Vidal, Amy Goddard, Andrew Goddard, and D. Colon.

**Interns:** Agustin Espinoza and Jared Comini.

Also many thanks to volunteer Art Goddard for all that you do. And last, but not least, thanks to centenarian Gladys Refakes for her many years of service.

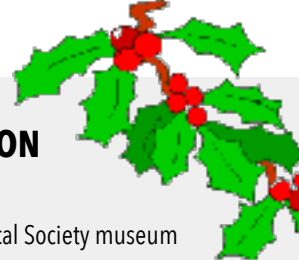
Thank you all for your hard work. It has been a pleasure working with you. I have enjoyed many years as a member of the Society and served as president for 9 years.

Happy Holidays! ■

### INSTALLATION DINNER

#### SAVE THE DATE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

Join us for one of our most popular events of the year: the 2020 installation dinner! This year, keynote speaker Letty Rodella, President of the Society of Hispanic, Historical and Ancestral Research, will discuss "Spanish Patriots during the American Revolution." In this fascinating talk, Rodella will bring this under-studied part of our nation's history to light. Tickets can be purchased online at [costamesahistory.org/dinner](http://costamesahistory.org/dinner). See flier for details.



### UNIQUE GIFTS ON SALE NOW

The Costa Mesa Historical Society museum offers a variety of unique items perfect for the holiday season, including books, postcards, pins, and our popular potholders. We also sell 11"-17" custom prints from our 27,000+ photo collection. Just come down to the museum and we'll help you find the perfect photo. We're open Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. or by appointment.

### DECEMBER 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	31	1	2	3	4

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

# Making Spirits Bright

*In this excerpt from Alvin "Pink" Pinkley's 1978 oral history at the Costa Mesa Historical Society, the beloved mayor, city councilman, and pharmacist remembers the spirit of giving in 1930s Costa Mesa.*

The people of Costa Mesa were just down-to-earth, fine people. Not too many of them had too much education, but honest, hard-working. And I can remember this was in the days of the WPA and the PWA and those were jobs that the Government had them rake leaves from one side of the road to the other to give them a small check. It took care of it to a degree, but there were a lot of people who had nothing.

I remember that my wife got interested about that time, and she served for about thirty years on the Salvation Army board. Salvation Army did a lot to help people who needed the money for milk, for food and so forth.

She also organized through a woman's club, Lions Club, churches, the merchants in town, what few merchants there were — there weren't many — the Alpha Beta being right next door to where my drug store is now, for Thanksgiving baskets and Christmas baskets for food for people who did not have any food. The Lions Club would donate \$25 — of course, you have to realize you couldn't carry twenty-five dollars worth of groceries out with a truck, hardly!

They would get a list of these people — oh, yes! The Elks Club down at Newport Beach for the whole area was very helpful, too. And the American Legion. And they would get together and make up a list and maybe there would be 75, 100, 125 people who had nothing to eat. The grocery stores would give them the groceries at cost and then throw in a ham or something so they would have meat. And they took them basic food, nothing fancy — it was staples, dried beans and flour and bacon and sometimes meat and vegetables. But they had something for kids for Thanksgiving and Christmas. They did this for about, I suspicion, ten years until the Depression got over. It was very satisfactory... It was a community effort of service clubs, churches, and so on, and very well done. And everybody did their share.

The other thing — and I have got to mention this because it is something you don't see very often — right next door to my drug store, was Charley and Goldie TeWinkle's hardware store. I came down there in October, Friday the thirteenth, and the day before Christmas, I looked out in back of the store where there was nothing but dirt. They had a little three-quarter ton truck, TeWinkles' Hardware Store did, and heavens to Betsy, they had that thing piled with Christmas-wrapped packages. And I said to a fellow who worked for him, George Mealy... — I said to George, "Business must be pretty good at TeWinkle's Hardware Store."

He looked at me kind of funny and he said, "Pink, if you ever tell TeWinkle that I told you this, I will go in and get a rifle



Newport and 18th during holiday season in the mid-1960s, showing TeWinkle Hardware and, down the street, Pink's Drug store. Photo courtesy Orange County Archives.

and shoot you. This is stuff that I am taking out for them to kids that have no Christmas."

I said, "When you give it, what do you say?"

"I say, 'Someone came in and bought this and told me to deliver it here. It is all paid for.' I don't tell them TeWinkle's sent it."

And they did that for quite a number of years. And these are some of the kinds of things that you don't forget very quick because there were many, many kids who would have had nothing at all. ■

## Giving Back in a Season of Giving

BY TESS BERNSTEIN

As we were winding down the OC Docent League event at the adobe last October, where we hosted archivists and museum specialists from across Orange County, I had a wonderful conversation with Helen Humphreys. Helen is one of our founders and has been dedicated to the society since its inception.

She told me that her heart was warmed. She felt like a mother that raised her children right and that she can let go. She wanted me to know how pleased she was with all the volunteers working so well together to pull off this special event. She felt good about passing on the torch to a new crop of volunteers. I was almost in tears at her words. To have such a wonderful lady say how proud she was meant so much.

This is the reason why our efforts to recruit more volunteers is so crucial. There are so many things that need to be done and — although our volunteers are dedicated — we are so few. To ensure our history is preserved for the next generation, we need the help of passionate people like you. If you'd like to lend a hand and join our volunteer family, please email us at [cmhistory@sbcglocal.net](mailto:cmhistory@sbcglocal.net) or call us at 949-631-5918. Together, we can help carry our past into the future. ■



### Society Enters Halecrest Chili Cook-off

Estelle Hughes, Tess and Mark Bernstein represented the historical society at the annual Halecrest Chili Cook-off with their famous White Turkey Chili. They didn't win, but they did make it to the *Daily Pilot*!



### A Costa Mesa Tradition Comes to a Close

A 60+ year Costa Mesa tradition came to an end this October, as the Artistic License Fair gathered in Estancia Park for the last time. Local artisans Jo and Esther Dendel began the fine arts and crafts bazaar in the late 1960s as the Denwar Craft Fair. The event will move next year to the Muckenthaler Cultural Center in Fullerton. Lucretia Mahan, the Dendel's niece (pictured), stopped by the adobe and spoke highly of her aunt and uncle. Jan Washington and Victoria Stone – Dendel Scholarship trustees – also stopped by, coming all the way from Healdsburg. Vendors included four artists original to the East 16th St. location.

### 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](http://costamesahistory.org/smile) before making your next purchase. You can use your existing Amazon account.

### Temporary Parking Instructions

Please note: entry to the historical society parking lot is currently limited to Anaheim Avenue.

### 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](http://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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\* Or schedule an appointment at 949-631-5918.

I N S I D E

The Year in Review

Spanish Patriots in the American Revolution  
Making Spirits Brights, News & More

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	<b>Annual</b>		<b>Lifetime</b>	
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