

## Members' doings & idea exchange

To **Bill Burke**, our CCHS secretary: a special wish for a speedy recovery! You're doing an outstanding job for CCHS!

### CONGRATULATIONS!

To **Mary Lou Lyon**, our longtime CCHS Sites chair, on becoming a great-grandmother!

To **Mary Lou Pozzo**, CCHS RVP of Region 40, and her husband, **Richard**. They received the 2009 **President's Volunteer Gold Service Award** in recognition of their services to the Sunland-Tujunga community in Los Angeles County. The award honors the Pozzos' commitment to **Little Landers Historical Society, Pioneer Cemetery**, and Mary Lou's book *Founding Sisters*, a history of the local area.

To **Guy Ball**, *HISTORIAN* webmaster, on his retirement from the board of the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society after 19 years of faithful service, 18 of them as treasurer.

To **Torrance Historical Society**, whose museum was rated third best in Los Angeles County, behind the Getty and Heritage Square museums, by **MyFOXLA**.

To **Northern Mariposa County Historical Society**, who celebrated their 30th anniversary in February with a gala re-opening of their History Center.

To **Shafter Historical Society**, who recently celebrated their 30th anniversary as a society, and the 25th of their museum.

### FUNDRAISING NOTES

**Ridge Route Communities Museum** has designed a successful pledge program to support its continuing maintenance. Members are encouraged to sign a pledge of \$10 (or more!) per month, creating a known base of incoming funds.

**Lakeside Historical Society's** "Mrs. Claus' Christmas Resale Shop" was a merry success. Sales were buzzing during all of December 2009, with many happy shoppers carrying out some great bargains for their holiday decorations and gifts. People seem to love donating Christmas decorations they no longer want, so elves are again organizing, pricing and storing donated Christmas items all year long in preparation for next December's sale. Over \$2,500 was generated last December!

### NEWS

**President Barack Obama** proclaimed January 21, 2010 **National Angel Island Day**. Thanks to the **Chinese Historical Society of Southern California** for the following text. "One hundred years ago the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco Bay opened, beginning an important chapter of the American narrative. It would be written by those who walked through the station's doors over the next three decades. From the cities, villages and farms of their birth, they journeyed across the Pacific, seeking better lives for themselves and their children. Many arrived at Angel Island,

wearily but hopeful, only to be unjustly confined for months, or, in some cases, years. Remembering their struggle, we honor all who have been drawn to America by dreams of limitless opportunity. Unlike immigrants who marveled at the Statue of Liberty upon arrival at Ellis Island, those who came to Angel Island were greeted by an intake facility that was sometimes called the "Guardian of the Western Gate." Racially prejudiced immigration laws of the time subjected many to rigorous exams and interrogations, as well as detention in crowded, unsanitary barracks. Some expressed themselves by carving poetry and inscriptions into the walls in their native language — from Chinese, Japanese and Korean, to Russian, German and Urdu. These etchings remain on Angel Island today as poignant reminders of the immigrant experience and an unjust time in our history. If there is any vindication for the Angel Island immigrants who endured so many hardships, it is the success achieved by those who were allowed entry, and the many who, at long last, gained citizenship. They have contributed immeasurably to our nation as leaders in every sector of American life. The children of Angel Island have seized the opportunities their ancestors saw from across an ocean. By demonstrating that all things are possible in America, this vibrant community has created a beacon of hope for future generations of immigrants."

**Galt Area Historical Society** each year honors its **Young Historians** — students who have given over 40 hours of service to society projects. In a colorful ceremony the young folks are presented with a beautiful certificate, a year's complimentary student membership and a **GOLD SEAL** from **CCHS**. This year the student honorees were: Joshua Cross, Brandon Denier, Nathan Foster, Colby Jones, James Knight, Eric Leddy, Gordon Little, Shelby Schenck, Nathan Sliver.

**Western History Association 2010 Awards** application deadline is July 16, 2010. The awards include —

- **Arlington Prucha Award**: cash prize (\$500) and a plaque for the best essay of the year on religious history in the West.
- **Ray Allen Billington Prize**: cash prize (\$400 to the author, and \$100 to the journal in which the article was published) for the best article — essay of 10,000 words or less — on Western history published in any journal other than the **WHA's** own *Western Historical Quarterly*.
- **Bolton-Cutter Award in Borderlands History**: cash prize (\$500) for the best article on any phase of the history of the Borderlands, from Florida to California.
- **Jensen-Miller Award**: cash prize (\$500) for best article in the field of women and gender in the North American West.

To be eligible for an award in 2010, articles should have been published during 2009 in a scholarly journal or edited volume. Visit [www.westernhistoryassociation.org](http://www.westernhistoryassociation.org) for info.