



Las Angelitas del Pueblo Newsletter— Summer 2013

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument
www.lasangelitas.org

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Las Angelitas del Pueblo June Luncheon

Monday, June 17, we enjoyed our annual luncheon in the patio of the historic Avila house. The luncheon is organized and sponsored by El Pueblo's administrators and EPPA. The party was well attended by most of our active and associate docents and friends.

Frank Osmon introduced this year's elected board members: President, Don Sloper; Vice-President, Bruce Phillips; Treasurer, Les Hanson; Secretary, Maurya Moriarty.

The graduates from this year's docent training class were awarded their solid lanyards as provisional docents: Larry Boeria, Terrence Butcher, Christine Cano, Richard Magasin. When they fulfill their provisional tour obligations in the next six months they will receive their striped lanyards at the December Holiday Party.

The board created an honorary status as Special Angels (but non board members) for individuals who take responsibility for special jobs: Kate Probst (Marketing, Asst. Tours & Scheduling), Sheila Anthony (Merchandise), Michael Fujita (Membership Directory), Lester Probst (LAdP Representative at the L.A. Heritage Alliance).



**2013 Docent Training Class
receive their probationary lanyards:
Larry Boeria, Christine Cano,
Terrence Butcher, Richard Magasin**

**Docent of
the Year
Richard
Flores**

**Saturday
Docents of
the Year
Michael
Fujita
and
Josie Garza**





LA Heritage Day **by Kate Probst**

LA Heritage Day took place on our home turf Sunday afternoon, April 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It was the second year in a row that El Pueblo Historical Monument hosted this stupendous event. It was such a success that plans are already underway to continue this celebration at El Pueblo next year.

Seventy-five organizations, consisting of museums, preservation groups, historical and heritage societies, libraries, and historic houses, set up exhibits inside the Hellman/Quon Building, the Pico House, the courtyard of the Pico House, and the Plaza itself. Over 2500 people attended, and there were different activities and exhibitions for everyone. Children were given a space for arts and crafts projects. Historic cars from the Peterson Automotive Museum were on display. There were beautifully costumed people dressed as historic personages. There was music and dancing in the plaza, and music right outside the Pico House. Over a dozen speakers gave presentations in history and culture approximately every fifteen minutes in the side hallway of the Pico House. Diverse groups, representing native peoples, the first non-native settlers, Chinese, Italian and other immigrant communities, were present.

Las Angelitas was represented all day by Kate and Lester Probst, who were located inside the Pico House, and Richard Flores and Frank Osmon, who manned a table outside our docent office. They gave out information about Las Angelitas and gave shortened tours to many interested visitors. Frank Lai, Elizabeth Fenner, and Michael Fujita also gave several hours of their time, taking pictures, talking, and just being friendly. Paul Guzman and Phil Trujillo dropped by and stayed a while but had to hurry back to their respective tables, Paul with the Pobladores and Phil with the Homestead Museum.

If you want to see a list of the groups that attended from all over L.A. and Southern California, go onto the LA Heritage Website and check it out. Next year should be even better. So consider joining us for the information, camaraderie, fun, food, dancing, and all the frivolity that comes with celebrating Los Angeles' rich and varied history.

Friends of the Los Angeles River by Eileen Mendoza

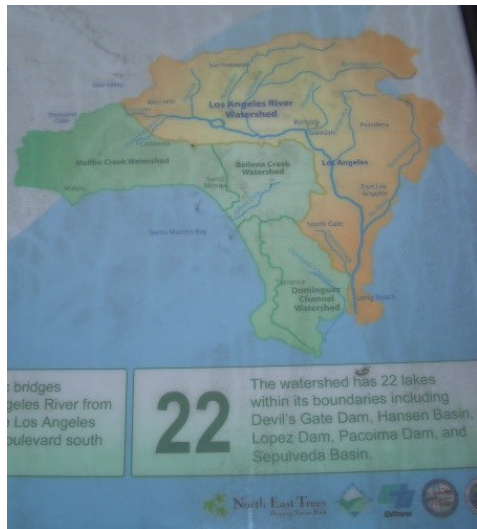
This past April I attended an Earth Day Festival at The Los Angeles River Center and Gardens. After an informative conversation with Shelly Backlar at FoLAR's booth I asked if I could interview her for the Las Angelitas del Pueblo Newsletter.

The Los Angeles River flows from Bell Creek at the west end of San Fernando Valley, east along the north side of the Santa Monica Mountains, turning south around Griffith Park, through downtown Los Angeles onward south to the San Pedro Bay. It passes through many different areas and picks up additional water from other rivers and washes.

In early June I sat down with Shelly Backlar (Executive Director) to find out more details of Friends of the Los Angeles River. The organization was founded in 1986 by Lewis McAdams (journalist, poet, filmmaker) who is the current president of FoLAR. His original vision as an artist saw the river as the cultural spine of Los Angeles and its surrounding communities. But, as environmental issues developed, a vision was created of the river as a healthy ecosystem in a natural setting for local communities and neighborhood activities. Current developments concentrate on restoring the river's flow of water, with a natural bottom (by removing concrete floor), which can sustain boating, fishing and even swimming in designated areas. Many cities and neighborhoods along the river are dedicating park space with walking and biking paths along the riverbanks. Examples of these include: Sepulveda Basin (kayaking and river access available), Los Angeles River State Park, Glendale Narrows Riverwalk (see pix below), Atwater's Sunnynook River Park. Future parks will include: NBC/Universal contributing a small park on its riverbank and a park celebrating the confluence of the Arroyo Seco and Los Angeles River just north of downtown L.A.

Shelly also spoke about various activities the group sponsors: Great L.A. River Clean-up Days at 15 different sites and education programs of conservation and water shed studies for teachers and students (student tours are interactive walks with students down in the riverbed in Elysian Valley). FoLAR initiates and supports various river policy issues with public access as the most important aspect. This October FoLAR will have a new mobile unit, the L.A. River Rover. This will bring the 'River to the People and People to the River'.

FoLAR's membership is over 7,500. Basic membership is a \$35 which includes Bi-monthly Newsletter and Announcements. They do have decent training for river walks and various activities. Website is www.folar.org and information is also available on Facebook and Twitter. Shelly also mentioned a marvelous book ***Down By The River*** by Joe Linton (2006) and said it is the bible of Los Angeles River access.





April General Meeting Special Guest Speaker, Andrew Salas The Kizh Nation

Our April general meeting presented a wonderful speaker, Andrew Salas. He spoke about his family heritage and the Native American culture here in Los Angeles County and neighboring areas. The main topic of their talk was "We are not Tongva/Gabrieleno but call ourselves the Kizh."

Gabrieleno was used to associate the Native Americans with the San Gabriel Mission founded in 1771. Tongva, as a native American word, was popularized in the last 30 years for the same group of people. The word Tongva comes from an 1903 interview made by Clinton Hart Merriam (an ethnographer) of a Mrs. James V. Rosemyre (an elderly woman with a Native American heritage). When Merriam asked her what was the name of her people she replied Tongva. But the only other reference to 'Tongva' is from Cindi Alvitre (Professor of Native American Studies) who states the meaning as 'people of the earth' and was not a specific tribal name. The word may be a derivative of a local native village, Tovscanga.

Several other historical references use Kizh (or close variations) as the name local Native Americans use for themselves. Kizh means 'people of the willow branch or tule houses.' Hugo Reid, married to a native woman, referred to local natives as the Kizli in a series of letters dated 1852. Horatio Hale, an ethnologist, referred to the natives as Kizh or Kij in 1846. Johann Buschmann, a German anthropologist, whose documents date to 1863 called the Gabrieleno language Kizh or Kij. The original Kizh nation stretched from the Santa Susana Mountains to Riverside and along the coastline from San Juan Capistrano to the Ventura County line including the islands Santa Catalina, San Nicolas and San Clemente.

For more information please see their website: www.gabrielenoindians.org

COMING EVENTS

Please note on your 2013 calendars to save these important dates.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| July 9 | Autry Museum Exhibit
<i>Jews in Los Angeles</i>
free tour |
| Sept. 16 | General Meeting |
| Nov. 18 | General Meeting |
| Dec. 14 | Holiday Party |

Andrew Salas and his father Chief and Spiritual Leader, Ernie Perez Tautimes Salas



ANGEL NEWS & NOTES



The estate of **Irene Tresun**, who died March 2, has given Las Angelitas del Pueblo her extensive collection of the quarterly publication of the Historical Society of Southern California. They are located in the cabinet behind the counter in the front of the office. This is another valuable source of historical material available for docent use.

Irene Tresun was the longest serving member of the board of the Los Angeles City Historical Society, editor of the society's Newsletter and, until recently, chaired the Marie Northrup Lecture Committee. She was born in the Ukraine in 1919 and moved with her family to Austria, Belgium and Germany. In 1935 she moved to Los Angeles. She graduated from UCLA in 1939.

Las Angelitas welcomes **Lisa Sarno** as Assistant Director of El Pueblo. Many of us met this new enthusiastic staff member at the June Luncheon.

Board of Directors for the coming year (July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014) are:

Education
Newsletter & Social Secretary
Tours & Scheduling
Events
Technology
Speaker's Bureau

Katy Phillips
Eileen Mendoza
Frank Osmon & Elizabeth Fenner
Carmela Funicello & Katy Phillips
Elizabeth Fenner
Bruce Phillips

The last page of this newsletter contains the instruction sheet for our new easy internet signup procedure at VolunteerSpot.com. Those few docents who do not have internet access can always contact our Schedule Coordinators: Frank Osmon, Elizabeth Fenner, (Assistant Coordinator is Kate Probst).

Gene Autry Museum
Special Exhibit
Jews in Los Angeles

Free Admission &
Special Tour
Tuesday, July 9
Be there at 10:45 am
For an 11:00 am Tour

Arranged by Bob Wagner
who is an Angelita
and an Autry docent.

RECENT TOUR STATS

Total Touring Stats

	2013	2012
March		
Docent Hours	168	192
Persons Toured	1044	1279
April		
Docent Hours	186	171
Persons Toured	1216	1102
May		
Docent Hours	165	219
Persons Toured	2467	2477

Editor: Eileen Mendoza
Ideas for the Newsletter? Contact me with
history tidbits, news or notes, and interesting
articles written by you!
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Las Angelitas del Pueblo

How to Schedule Your Tour Days

In order to allow easier sign-in and improve communications, we moved to a new **on-line Docent sign-in**, using a system by VolunteerSpot. The new system will show open days, indicate who else is already signed in, and allow sign in from home. An automatic E-mail reminder will be sent to you two days in advance of your sign-in day. It will also allow us to determine who is on duty on a given day in order to forward information, such as filming schedules and other events.

Step 1—Sign-in the VolunteerSpot WEB site.

1. Go to VolunteerSpot WEB site: <http://www.volunteerspot.com>
2. Save (bookmark) the WEB site address. You will need to return to this site in the future when you sign-in for tours.
3. First time sign-in:
 Enter your email address and submit
 An email will be sent to you with a personal access WEB address
 In this email select Las Angelitas del Pueblo Schedule which takes you to your personal sign-in site
 OR
4. Subsequent sign-ins — Confirm your E-mail address and next screen will be your personal site.

Step 2—Sign-up for tour days

From the calendar, select the first day you want to be a docent. A screen will appear for that day.

1. If you are the first to sign-in for that day the screen will be:
 3 Open Sign Up Here!
 0 Filled 3 Spots Available

To sign-up, press **Sign-Up Here**, then depress **Save and Close**

2. If others are signed in for that day, the screen will be:
 2 Open Signed Up 1 _____ +
 1 Filled Spot -

To sign-up, **press the + button, then depress Save and Close**. (Note: You can find out who else is signed in for that day by depressing the Filled icon.)

3. The first time you sign-in, please fill in your name and telephone number. Click to uncheck the two boxes that ask if you want to receive promotional material.
4. Close the WEB page.