

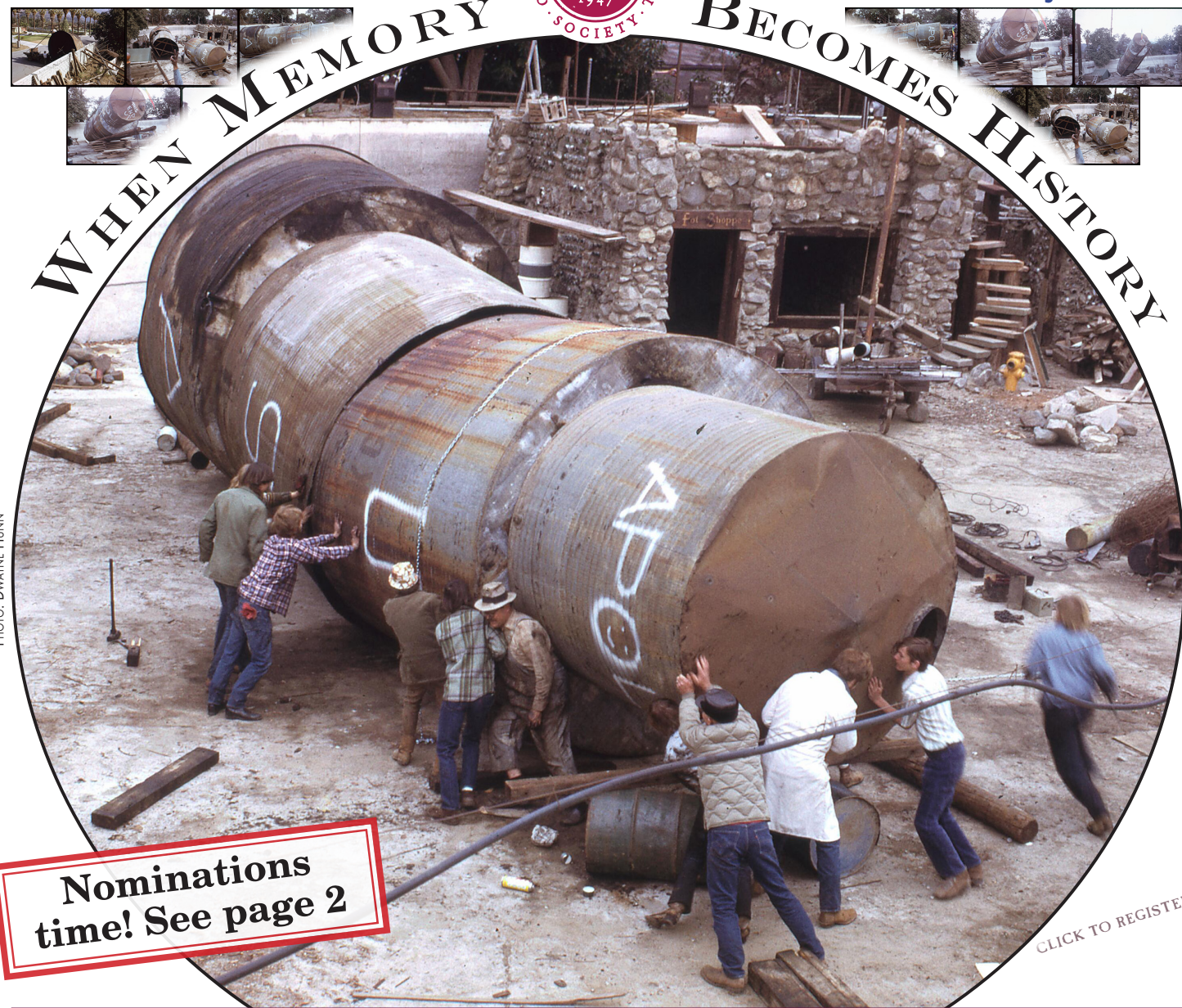
# THE GLENDORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January-February 2023

Newsletter & Archive



[ghs.news/230101](https://ghs.news/230101)



## HOW THE DWAYNE HUNN ARCHIVE SUPPORTS PRESERVATION OF RUBEL CASTLE

**When Time** Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30-8:00pm

**Where Cost** Bidwell Forum, 140 Glendora Ave, Glendora  
FREE and open to the public

**D**WAYNE HUNN HAD no idea how his life would change when he climbed a rotting wooden ladder and peered into the second story Tree House apartment in the fall of 1968, but he felt that Michael Clarke Rubel was testing him, and he really needed a place to live, "I'll take it," he said. Nearly four decades of friendship followed. [cont. page 3](#)

VALENTINE GATHERING



*You're  
Invited*

[PAGE 6](#)



# THE GLENDORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Preserving Our Heritage Since 1947*

## GLENDORA MUSEUM

314 North Glendora Avenue  
Glendora, California 91741-2601

For special tours of the Museum call  
(626) 963-0419

For details and reservations, visit our website  
[www.glendorahistoricalociety.org](http://www.glendorahistoricalociety.org).

## GENERAL MEETINGS

Next meeting & presentation March 27, 2023.

## BOARD MEETINGS

The next two regularly scheduled Board Meetings will take place the third Monday every month at 6pm online through Zoom. All members are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend, contact Craig Woods to get credentials to join the meeting.

Agendas, meeting minutes, and financial reports of previous meetings of the GHS Board are filed at the Museum, and can also be made available upon request in electronic format.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:..... Craig Woods  
Vice President of Administrative Services..... Linda Granicy  
Vice President Museum:..... Karen Fortus-Garcia  
Vice President of Development:..... vacant  
Vice President Castle:..... Scott Rubel  
Secretary..... Barret Oliver  
Treasurer:..... Susie Kramer  
Director:..... Jen Dunbar  
Director:..... Anita Enriquez  
Director:..... Ron Fleming  
Director:..... Sheharazad Fleming  
Director:..... Ian Lawrence-Tourinho  
Director:..... Nigel Raab  
Director:..... David Reiman  
Director:..... vacant

## SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

Castle Manager:..... Joe Asa  
Programs Chair:..... Jim Baker  
IT Chair:..... Larry Brewer  
Museum Education Chair:..... Karen Cullen  
Docent Chair, Museum:..... Steve Edwards  
Membership Chair:..... Anita Enriquez  
Publicity Chair:..... Sheharazad & Ron Fleming  
Docent Chair, Castle:..... Hans Hermann  
Gift Shop Coordinator:..... Cathy Jarvis  
Castle Curator:..... Sandy Krause  
Historic Preservation Chair:..... Barret Oliver  
Newsletter Editor:..... Scott Rubel  
Hospitality Chair:..... Sue Wolkins  
Castle Grounds Manager:..... vacant  
Corresponding Secretary:..... vacant  
Museum Curator:..... vacant

## SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

Custodian ..... Ashni Jarrosiak  
Custodian ..... Mary Lieu  
Castle Groundskeeper:..... Nick Nomic  
Administrative Assistant..... vacant

## SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS

**E**LECTIONS FOR THE 2023-24 Society Board of Directors will take place at the General Meeting on May 22, 2023. The Nominating Committee is now receiving nominations for the seven Officer positions and up to eight Director positions.

If you wish to be a candidate, you must be a Society member and submit notice of interest by February 28.

Nominating Committee, 314 N. Glendora Ave., Glendora, CA 91741-2601 **or** via e-mail to the Nominating Committee: [hermane-27@msn.com](mailto:hermane-27@msn.com).

*More complete information regarding responsibilities and time commitment can be obtained at the addresses above.*

## Thanks to our Donors

~ Anonymous ~

~ Wayne E. & Phyllis A Fritz ~

~ Willam & Janese Grady ~

~ Thom B. & Sheryl Hill ~

~ Daniel J. Kohne ~

~ Thomas E. & Laurie D. Merryman ~

~ Barbara E. Teater ~

~ Lavon Urbonas ~  
in memory of Dorothy, Dorchen,  
Christopher & Michael Rubel

## Memory Becomes History

Found on Social Media from Al Beauvais

The old packing plant was full of armor and old tapestry. My friend Dave Dedlow lived on the property from 1964 til 1967. Mike had us tear down the small houses with his old tractors. We had the run of the place, even the wine cellar downstairs. Dorothy Rubel always had Sally Rand over. She used to hit us on the head with newspapers for being in the wine cellar.

Glendora Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Federal ID #95-4182070

 GHS: [facebook.com/GlendoraHistoricalSociety](https://facebook.com/GlendoraHistoricalSociety)  
Castle: [facebook.com/RubelCastle](https://facebook.com/RubelCastle)

 [instagram.com/rubelcastle](https://instagram.com/rubelcastle)

 Castle: [rubel.io/RubelCastleCalifornia](https://rubel.io/RubelCastleCalifornia)  
GHS: [youtube.com/glendorahistoricalociety](https://youtube.com/glendorahistoricalociety)

If there are any suggestions, corrections or additions to the Newsletter, please contact **Scott Rubel** via email at: [scott@rubelcastle.com](mailto:scott@rubelcastle.com).



# COME JOIN US



*Upcoming activities for Glendora Historical Society Members and Friends.*

~ Monday, January 23 | 7:00pm ~

**THE DWAYNE HUNN COLLECTION DIGITIZED BY USC, Bidwell Forum**

~ Monday, February 20 | 6:00pm ~

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Rubel Castle Bennett Room (or request a Zoom link)**

~ Monday, March 27 | 7:00pm ~

**HISTORY OF OLD UPLAND, Bidwell Forum & Zoom**

## Hunn Archive at USC continued from first page

From the ground up during the era of Castle building, Hunn took photos, wrote about his experiences, and saved letters from Michael. In 2019 he donated his extensive archive to the Glendora Historical Society.

Please join us at Bidwell Forum as Castle Curator Sandy Krause shares never-before-published photos of Castle life with Michael Rubel, his Pharmhands, and the construction of the Rubel Castle Historic District (RCHD). Learn what it takes to complete a digitization project, why archives are vitally important, and where to find and search the Dwayne Hunn collection in the USC Digital Library.

Dwayne Hunn completed high school in Cleveland, Ohio then studied Economics at a small college in Indiana. He then joined the Peace Corps, volunteering two years in urban community development in Mumbai, India.

Employment as a high school teacher brought him to Glendora, where he rented a studio apartment from Michael Rubel. Hunn lived and helped with building projects at what would become the RCHD. He continued his education at San Francisco State University and Claremont Graduate University earning a Ph.D. in Government in 1984. He became Executive Director of People's Lobby Inc., advocating for political and environmental reform and lobbying for the creation of American World Service Corps. In 2010, Hunn published a memoir titled *Every Town Needs a Castle*, which captures rare glimpses of construction and transformation of the monumental folk-art environment, Rubel Castle. Dwayne currently lives in Colorado.

*Sandy Krause holds a Masters of Library and Information Science from San Jose State University and has worked*

*as a librarian since 2005 with a focus on archives, digital and special collections. In 2019, Sandy Krause accepted the role of Curator for the RCHD. She co-chairs the Museum Assessment Program Committee, working to improve collections management and care. She also served on the Board of Directors of the Glendora Historical Society from 2011-2014 and assisted with efforts to successfully gain listing on the National Register of Historic Places for RCHD in 2013. Since 2007 Krause has been instrumental in bringing the museum practices at the RCHD into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, streamlining cataloging processes as well as making significant contributions to the preservation plan.*

*Krause's immersion in the Rubel Castle space has inspired her work as an artist as well, utilizing found and repurposed objects. She makes functional ceramics (many of which are donated to the Castle gift shop) and sculptures created from discarded books.*



Michael Rubel with Dwayne Hunn during the Big Dam Flood

**Support the work of the Society: [ghs.news/gift](https://ghs.news/gift)**

## MISSION/PURPOSE

The specific purposes of the Glendora Historical Society is to preserve, and hold in the public trust, a record of the history of the City of Glendora, the region prior to its incorporation, its changing land use, and its diverse fluctuating population. The Society will house its main collections in and operate the Glendora History Museum and will be the steward of the Rubel Castle Historic District, including the buildings and objects within.

## CORE VALUES

We Value Mutual Trust; Historical Preservation; Cooperation and Teamwork; Effective Communications and Dreaming for the Future.

## VISION

We see our Society becoming a renowned, well-funded educational and cultural center; an easily accessible resource providing a wealth of historical information for our community.



## TALK SOFTLY AND CARRY A BIG ROCK

*Sermon by Dwayne Hunn delivered at First Presbyterian Church of Novato, 10-19-86*



**Dwayne Hunn on the Kubota tractor, hauling rocks to the Castle project.**

**I WAS RAISED IN** an alley on the rough east side of Cleveland, educated by Jesuits at St. Ignatius. My best friend, Frankie Boris, was 5-6 years older than me. He was the toughest kid in the neighborhood. He could take any two kids his age in a real fight, and play fight four kids my age and teach us all new tricks.

Frankie was so tough he never had to fight. He was soft spoken, never swore or raised his voice. He was skilled. He could fix bikes and kites, knew sports, and he even knew how to talk to girls. He was accessible and always helpful to others. He made friends easily.

During our friendship, Mom forced my dad to take what to Dad was a huge monetary gamble and move from that alley to the then fastest growing suburb in America; Parma, Ohio.

It was prettier living in Parma. We had a much nicer house, even though only 12 feet separated ours from the next house. In Glendora most Neighborhood Groups would fight and die to stop such tracts from devaluing their neighborhood.

I haven't forgotten Frankie. As years piled on I made other best friends.

One was **Michael Clarke Rubel**. In 1959 he bought a couple of acres with some run down tin shacks and a two million gallon reservoir on it that used to be the citrus packing factory for a tract of citrus groves.

Michael was probably the strongest man I knew. For years he had been lifting boulders to build his dream — a Castle.

Five of us lived on the ranch property with him for many years. While living there, he let us build whatever we wanted for ourselves — never asking or requiring us to help him with this dream.

The materials we used were America's throwaways; bottles, rocks, railroad ties, used lumber, recycled tools...

The neighbors opposed us. We were an...eye sore, junk collectors, motor bike riding hippies...strange...different.

Today Michael's dream Castle is

*continued next page*



7.5 stories high. Built from river rock and repurposed materials, it is a National Historic Resource. Harry Reasoner's done a TV special. Barbara Walters tried to... Michael pushed her away for being too pushy. "That's Incredible," "Believe It Or Not," "The Washington Post" and the "LA Times" have all done more than one special on the place.

Michael seldom has anything harsh to say about anyone. He lectures me when I drop a word that sounds the least bit foul to him, and he lets me tell only the most sanitized of dirty jokes.

Sitting in his castle, sipping wine with him is one of the most tranquil things I, or his army of friends, do.

I love Michael and Frankie. You probably all have best friends who elicit similar responses in your soul. They are strong — yet gentle. They build for themselves and ask for little — yet teach you to build so you too will need little. They give — not material things — but things so much more essential.

They make friends — not by catering to your whims and desires, — not by flexing their muscles or using their power, but by merely being the good persons they are.

By sharing the good that they know and love doing with those who gather around...

By sharing, they make everyone who comes in contact with them better.

Just two people who, on a larger scale, are like perfect nations.

America is like Frankie Boris. The toughest kid on the block. America can knock anybody out. Frankie & the neighborhood knew how tough he was but also how fair... so he never had to hit anybody. Instead he just went around on his bike making friends and breaking up fights. Like America often is...but always should be.

Everyone, except maybe Michael's mom and a couple old timers who raised him, was against Michael's dream of building a castle. Everyone from neighbors to banks to City Councils attacked him, but he just kept piling rocks in search of completing his dream.

He used the few resources he had at any one time to build his dream — river bed rock, bags of bottles people left in the driveway, lumber discarded from tunnels and collapsed freeways...

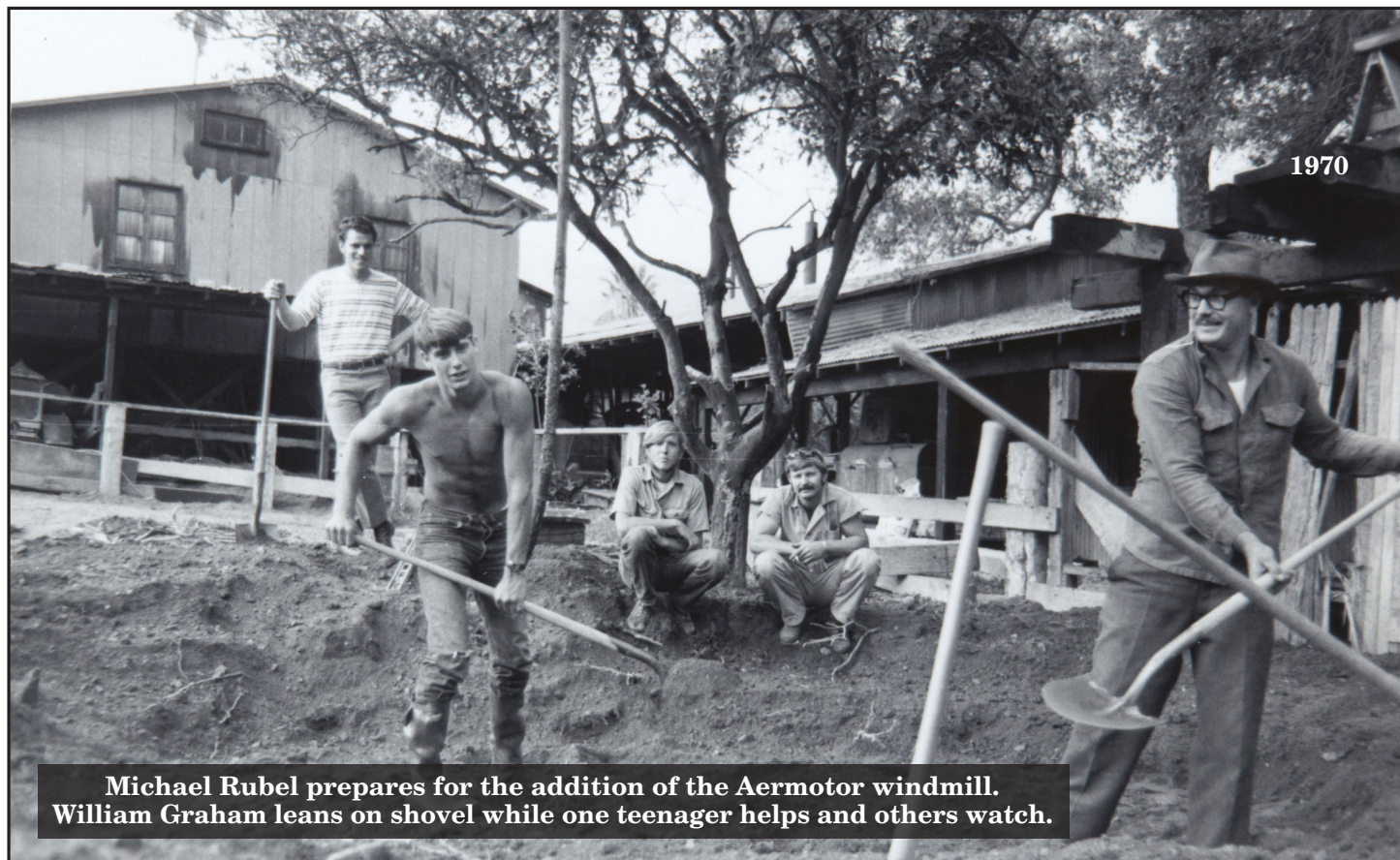
He got stronger.

His friends and helpers grew. His resources expanded.

His opponents got weaker.

His opponents became his admirers & the community became a richer place to live.

Michael was a lot like America — when she started out..."



Michael Rubel prepares for the addition of the Aermotor windmill. William Graham leans on shovel while one teenager helps and others watch.

PHOTO: DWAYNE HUNN



# SOCIETY VALENTINE'S DAY MEMBERSHIP POTLUCK

*Come join your Glendora Historical Society friends  
in celebrating Valentine's Day. We are hosting a potluck lunch.  
Bring a friend and servings for eight.*

## Where

RUBEL CASTLE  
844 N. LIVE OAK

## When

TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>  
11-2



*If your last name begins with:*  
A-G bring a salad for 8.  
H-K bring a main dish for 8.  
L-P bring a vegetable dish for 8.  
Q-Z bring a dessert for 8.

## Guests Invited

*R.S.V.P. to* [ghs.news/memberapp](https://ghs.news/memberapp)

or call (626) 963-0419, line #1 if the internet is unavailable

*Not a member?  
Take care of that here:  
[ghs.news/memberapp](https://ghs.news/memberapp)*

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH THE SOCIETY

The Glendora Historical Society is seeking a part-time Volunteer Coordinator. Responsibilities include recruitment, training, volunteer placement, and developing standards and operating procedures. Desired experience includes 1-2 years working with volunteers and non-profits.

This is a 10 hour per week, \$20 per hour position.

Please contact Linda Granicy at [vpadmin@glendorahistoricalsociety.org](mailto:vpadmin@glendorahistoricalsociety.org).



Halloween is popular at the Museum with a table set up out front to welcome all trick-or-treaters.

Susie Kramer,  
Karen Fortus  
Garcia,  
Linda Gold  
dispense  
treats.





DEDE TOMORY  
MAY 24, 1940  
AUGUST 1, 2022



Heritage Square  
2018

DeDe was a stalwart of the Society, supporting us in many roles over decades, giving impetus to the ongoing gift shop program.

*I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one,*

*I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.*

*I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways, of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.*

*I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun, of happy memories that I leave behind when day is done.*

— "Afterglow" by Helen Lowrie Marshall

**It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that things are difficult.**

—Seneca

THE GLENDORAN MAGAZINE  
*An Historical digest of the People,  
Places and Events in and Around Glendora*

**Glendoran**

A Historical Digest of the People, Places and Events, In and Around Glendora magazine



To our dear advertisers, subscribers, writers, staff, and community members...

Thank you for 39 amazing years. Due to ever-rising costs, we are sad to announce that the Glendoran Magazine had ceased publication. Effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, after nearly four decades of chronicling the people, places, events, and history of our wonderful city and surrounding communities. we have worked with and met so many wonderful people and have made so many dear friends through the magazine.

From our family to yours, thank you for being part of this journey with us for so many years. We couldn't have done it without you!

With much love to all,  
Ida Fracasse, Editor/Publisher

**The secret is to act beautifully, without attachment to the fruits of your actions. That is the place of freedom.**

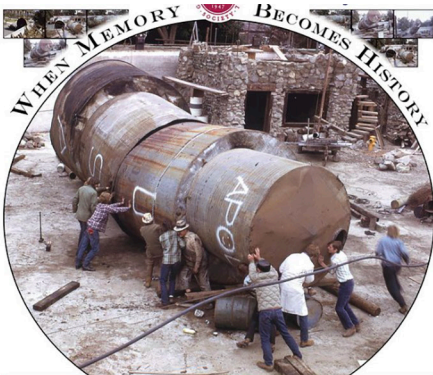
—Jack Kornfield



# FOLLOW US! — OLD TIMEY STORIES THE MODERN WAY



Since our social media report last newsletter, we have covered more tidbits of town and Castle history on Instagram and Facebook. Follow us by clicking on the icons above or the photographs below to reveal their stories. Reading this on paper? [Go to ghs.news/230101](https://ghs.news/230101)



**HOW THE DWAYNE HUNN ARCHIVE SUPPORTS PRESERVATION OF RUBEL CASTLE**  
**When** Monday January 23rd **Where** Bidwell Forum, 140 Glendora Ave, Glendora  
**Time** 6:30-8:00pm **Cost** FREE and open to the public

**When Memory Becomes History**



**National Geographic 1969**



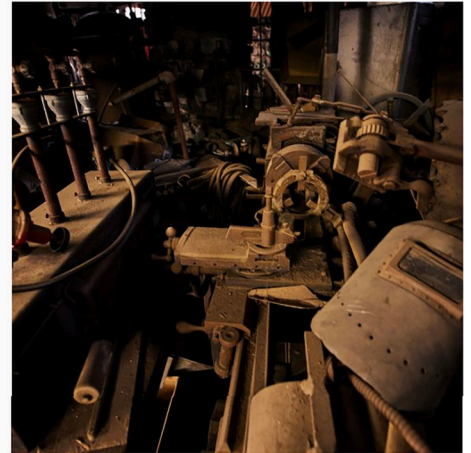
**Memory of Barbara Walters**



**Michel Claus**



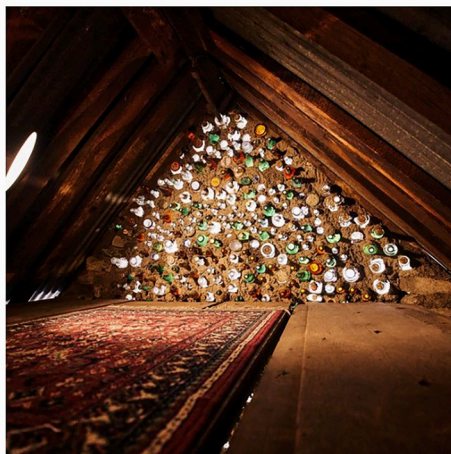
**New Sentry Oak**



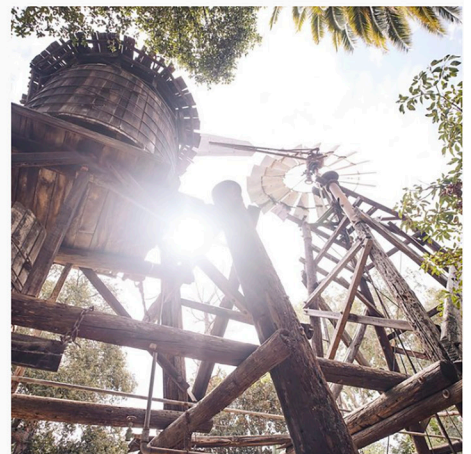
**Machine Shop Junk Shot**



**Tin Palace Decor**



**Bottle House Bedloft**



**Serenity**

