

# Caminos

Summer 2013

Newsletter of the Arcadia Historical Society

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## THERE THEY GO!

*President's Message by Gene Glasco*

Thoroughbred racing is a spectacle, especially at Santa Anita Park. Purists sometimes go so far as to claim that racing is to be seen and not heard. If ever anyone offered a suitable challenge to that claim, it was Joe Hernandez, known for decades as the "Voice of Santa Anita." We used to thrill to his unique, "There they go!" and, when it was windy, the boom of Joe's voice could be heard over most of Arcadia. Alas, it has been forty-one years since Joe's death in February of 1972, but his calls echo in the drama, excitement, and occasional humor that to this day makes Santa Anita the "Great Race Place" that it is.

The Arcadia Historical Society is committed to seeing that the memory of those distant days of racing and the famous equines and jockeys of yesterday will not soon be forgotten. Names such as 1937 handicap winner Seabiscuit, the 1960 Triple Crown conqueror Citation, and many other iconic horses and jockeys will live on and be forever enshrined in the sidewalk plaques on the new Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions, the fulfillment of a dream realized through the diligence of "Walk of Champions" committee members Beth Costanza, Gail Marshall, and Sandy Snider. In this summertime edition of Caminos you will read more about our exciting undertaking and learn how your donations will ensure the completion of this sensational project. Tax deductible contributions to the Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions can be mailed to the Society's post office box or easily made through our secure website portal at: [www.ArcadiaHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ArcadiaHistoricalSociety.org). Another way to support our work is to join us as a volunteer. It's a great opportunity for anyone with a few spare hours each month to learn more about our local history. You can help organize our collections, preserve artifacts and photos, and support special projects. Students and retirees are most welcome! Call the Arcadia Historical Society office at (626) 446-8512 with your contact information or email us at: [info@arcadahistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@arcadahistoricalociety.org). We look forward to welcoming you with open arms.

Your membership and participation in the Arcadia Historical Society is essential. Our events and outreach to the community are made possible by the support of members like you. Sincere thanks to all of our Life and Annual members; your loyalty to the Arcadia Historical Society is so very much appreciated. I encourage everyone to renew their memberships—and invite their friends and neighbors to join—and enjoy the camaraderie and fun we have while learning and celebrating Arcadia's wonderful history.

With best wishes to all of you for a wonderful and safe Summer I remain...

Sincerely yours,

Gene Glasco  
President

## STORIES THE SAN GABRIELS TELL



*Darrell W. Vance of the US Forest Service holding certificate of appreciation given him by Arcadia Historical Society for his January 31st presentation, "Stories the San Gabriels Tell."*

Darrell Vance, Heritage Program Manager for the US Forest Service, drew a large crowd for the Arcadia Historical Society's January 31 General Meeting in presenting "Stories the San Gabriels Tell" held at the Lutheran Church of the Cross, Assembly Hall. Vance presented a historical panorama of our local mountains, using seventy-five slides chronicling the geological formation and composition of the wilderness within the Angeles National Forest, the Paleolithic transition, and California's very first discovery of gold and the emergence of mining camps and towns in the hills.

The audience reminisced as Vance went on to speak of the near-by twentieth century lodges and recreational locations. He also mentioned that Mount Wilson Observatory opened in 1908 with a 60-inch telescope, then the largest in the world. However, many were unaware of the secret 1974 disassembly of three local mountain nuclear missile silos, vital components of the North American Aerospace Command (NORAD) system deployed during the Cold War era with Russia. Darrell Vance also spoke of the dense chaparral at

lower elevations giving way to pine and fir covered slopes and majestic peaks, the rugged terrain ranging from 1,600 to 8,200 feet. As so happens, the San Gabriel Mountains are some of the steepest and most rugged mountains in the United States.

### ***Facts and Trivia about Angeles National Forest (taken from the Angeles National Forest Visitor Guide, US Forest Service)***

- *When the forest began in 1908, the surrounding Los Angeles County had a population of 425,000 people (4.3 percent of today's county population of 9.8 million).*
- *The Angeles has furnished locations for numerous motion pictures and TV shows. These include *The Fugitive*, *Bonanza*, *Duel*, *Star Trek: First Contact* and *Mission Impossible 2*.*
- *The Angeles has about 463 recreational residences; 25 picnic areas; 36 campgrounds; 5 ski areas; 548 miles of trails; 5 wilderness areas; 10 lakes and reservoirs; and 18 dams.*



*Attentive members and guests listen to presentation by US Forest Service Heritage Program Manager, Darrell Vance, at Arcadia Historical Society's program: "Stories the San Gabriels Tell."*

## FORMER CIVILIAN POW HOLDS AUDIENCE CAPTIVE WITH HER STORY OF COURAGE AND DELIVERANCE

### COURAGE & DELIVERANCE



OUR MOTHER'S STORY

Arcadia Historical Society members and guests came together on Saturday, March 9 at the Arcadia Association of Realtors' multi-purpose room to listen to the remarkable, ninety-two year old, Wanda Werff Damburg, a POW survivor of World War II. Wanda spoke of how she, along with her father, mother and sister, were arrested and incarcerated for thirty-six months in two

different internment camps during the 1941-1945 Japanese occupation of the Philippines. Damburg, whose father was a Dutch diplomat, was only twenty years old when Japanese soldiers swept her and her family from their Manila residence and interned them at Camp Santo Tomas (the oldest university in the Philippines turned into a prison camp). Before that, Wanda was accustomed to having servants, and having a life of privilege. "When we were rounded up by the Japanese, we were told that we would only be held for three days for registration. I was not really afraid; I was more curious to know what would happen next. I guess I was too young and naïve, and just looked upon it as an adventure." (Excerpt taken from "Courage and Deliverance, Our Mother's Story.")

Electing to stand during her hour-long presentation, Wanda astounded the audience as she related her story of courage as the anguish of paltry food and medical supplies took its toll on her and fellow internees. Wanda spoke of herself as a reluctant participant in Father Aherne's scheme to smuggle medicine. He lived in the Dominican Seminary next to the university, able to move freely in the compound; she was a volunteer assisting in the internee hospital. Time and time again, Father Aherne stashed medicine under a hibiscus bush and signaled Wanda with a hibiscus flower that he held in his hand. At night, she would retrieve the medicine packet in the cover of darkness, and deliver it into the hospital's supply cabinet. Some of the doctors marveled at the sudden appearances of medicines, but kept silent, as did Wanda. This was a secret she had to keep from both her family and hospital personnel. The audience sat awestruck as Damburg related atrocious war crimes of merciless punishment dealt fellow internees, citing one instance where an unsuccessful attempt at escape by two young men resulted in recapture, torture and

execution; an ordeal in which all internees were forced to watch. In December of 1944, General MacArthur invaded Leyte Island in the Philippines and the last of the internees at Santo Tomas were transferred to Los Banos. "At 2 o'clock in the morning, they woke us up and put us on a bus to the train station. They loaded us into cars with no windows, and we were packed in like cattle. You could feel every rotation of the wheels, and the trip took forever." (Excerpt taken from "Courage and Deliverance, Our Mother's Story.") In fact, it took nine hours to make the 40-mile trip and then the prisoners were required to stand lined up for five hours in the sun before being ordered to walk the last two miles to Los Banos in the foothills of Mount Makiling. After four hours of walking, they reached camp that night at 8:00 PM. "Only half of the group arrived, the others having fallen out during the March. Some of them we saw again; others we never laid eyes upon." (Excerpt taken from "Courage and Deliverance, Our Mother's Story.")

Wanda told of her deliverance to freedom on February 23, 1945 by members of the US Army's 11th Airborne Division and her indebted gratitude for a nameless American GI who threw her over his shoulder "like a sack of potatoes" and carried her away to safety during a fierce but brief firefight between unyielding Japanese guards and her American liberators at Los Banos. At the war's conclusion, Wanda Damburg was the only female participant to testify at the Tokyo war trials that began on May 3, 1946 and lasted for two years. In Tokyo, Wanda was assigned a bodyguard after she received death threats, and even with that, someone still took a potshot at her one night as she was returning to her living quarters.

As a speaker, Wanda Damburg has shared her World War II experiences to many groups over the years. "After going through such a grueling experience, I thank the Good Lord for giving me the gift of enjoying life to its fullest." Wanda has been a dedicated volunteer for more than 25 years at Little Company of Mary Hospital in Torrance. In addition, Wanda became an avid traveler, and has visited all seven continents, including the Antarctic. With the help of her daughter, Alice Damburg Ewing, Wanda has told her compelling story in a book entitled, "Courage and Deliverance: Our Mother's Story."



## “A Dawn in the West”

### *Lucky Baldwin Statue and Marker Dedication*



“A Dawn in the West,” the statue of Lucky Baldwin, was dedicated on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 4:00 pm in the Rev. Monsignor Gerald M. O’Keeffe Rose Garden. This statue was commissioned and donated to the City of Arcadia by Lucky Baldwin’s family members, Margaux Gibson-Viera and Heather Gibson. Artist Alfred Paredes sculpted the 9-foot bronze statue. Members of the City Council, City Clerk, City Manager and Department Heads, along with a number of Baldwin’s descendants (both Anita and Clara’s lineage), participated in the dedication ceremony. Baldwin family members spoke briefly about the project and their desires to pay tribute to Arcadia’s founder and his legacy.

Following the dedication ceremony was the presentation of the Elias J. “Lucky” Baldwin Historical Marker, which was donated by the Arcadia Historical Society. Scott Hettrick, Historical Marker Chairman, and Sandy Snider, author, were introduced by Gene Glasco, Arcadia City Clerk and President of the Arcadia Historical Society.

Several hundred citizens had the opportunity to visit with the Baldwin family after the ceremonies and enjoy the light refreshments offered by the City and served by volunteers.



*The presentation of the Elias J. “Lucky” Baldwin Statue Historical Marker were introduced by Mayor Robert Harbicht and AHS President Gene Glasco*



*Karen Hou, Heather Gibson, Beverly Street and Carol Libby*



*Ron Street, an Arcadia resident admires Elias J. “Lucky” Baldwin Statue Historical Marker*



*Statue of Lucky Baldwin in the beautiful Rev. Monsignor Gerald M. O’Keeffe Rose Garden*



*“HISTORY LIVES HERE” Elias J. “Lucky” Baldwin Statue Historical Marker*

## FRIENDS' GARDEN PARTY

May 18, 2013

Over seventy guests enjoyed an afternoon in the gardens of the Libby home sipping gourmet teas, sampling dainty tea sandwiches and delectable desserts while visiting with friends. President Beverly Street, assisted by chair Jill Kendrick, had arranged unique centerpieces in vintage Breeder's Cup mugs following the party's theme, "A Focus on Champions." Raffle and door prizes were distributed to everyone and prizes were awarded for the most unusual hats. Hostesses for the event included Betty Hettrick, Carol Howard, Teri Tepfer, Mickey Ball, Sally Butler, Jaye Caldwell, Edna Curtis, Mary Hansen, Sylvia Ostronik, Gayle San Miguel, Karen Hou, Char Wong, Edie Slemmon and Carol Libby.

Proceeds from the event benefited the Arcadia Community Coordinating Council's Campership Fund and the Society's newly organized project, "Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions."

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 30, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Gene Glasco at 5 pm on the grounds of the Arboretum. A treasurer's report was read by Gil Stromsoe indicating the Society was solvent and that all bills have been paid. A Slate of Officers for 2013-2014 was read. There were no nominees from the floor and the slate was approved by voice vote. The Officers elected were: President, Gene Glasco, Beverly Street, 1st Vice President; Carol Libby, 2nd vice President; Karen Hou, Recording / Corresponding Secretary; and Gil Stromsoe, Treasurer.

Gene Glasco spoke of Carol's endless involvement and commitment to the city of Arcadia:

- An active member in the Arcadia Historical Society since 1986, Carol also served as curator of the Society's museum from 1995-2001, and served on the Society's Historical Marker Committee since its inception.
- Carol's love of gardening led her to become a regular volunteer at the Arboretum, where she was a 25-year active member.
- In addition to raising a family and being involved in her community, Carol obtained a B.A. Degree in Education and a M.A. in Child Development.

In front of more than 90 attendees, along with Carol's son, Richard, and one of her daughters, Annie, Mayor Pro-Tem

John Wuo read a proclamation and then declared it to be Carol Libby Day in the City of Arcadia. Scott Hettrick, chairman of the Society's Historical Marker Committee and CEO of the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce, presented a Certificate of Appreciation plaque to Carol on behalf of the Chamber, and



Carol Libby and Scott Hettrick

president Arlynn Robinson of Century 21 Earll, noting the tribute was appropriate since Carol wears so many hats with so many different organizations.

Carol thanked the attendees, introducing some of those present, and telling of her connection with them throughout the years. Carol read a clever and gracious poem about her pleasure in serving and working with so many organizations and people of the community. At this point, those who wore hats doffed them off for "Hats Off to Carol." The meeting was adjourned to the terrace of the Peacock Café for a social hour and a buffet dinner.



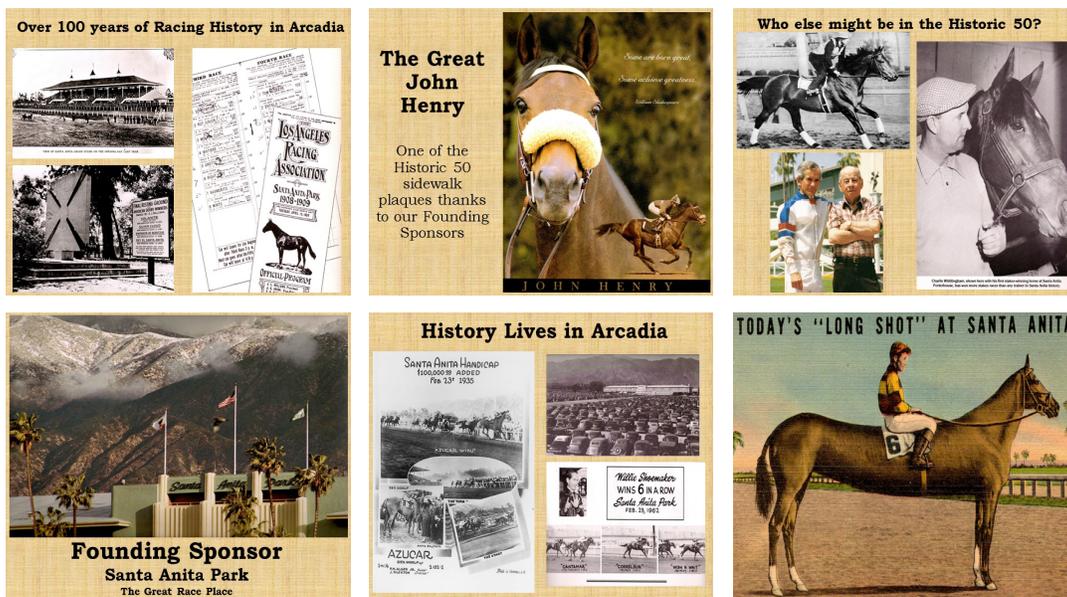
L to R - Gene Glasco, Society President / Arcadia City Clerk, Society Members Carol Libby, Council Member Gary Kovacic and his wife Barb, pose in front of a large decorated cake before serving to 84 plus people at the Arboretum's Peacock Cafe.

Beverly Street, Program Chairman, introduced Emily Smith, a docent at Heritage Square, who displayed many of the hats in her vintage collection, and told of their unique histories. Richard Schulhof, CEO of the Arboretum, spoke of the on-going historical preservation of buildings in the Arboretum. Then the Society paid tribute to one of its own with "Hats Off to Carol" a tribute to the longtime former President and current Second Vice-President, Membership. Carol, an author and co-author of several books chronicling the history of Arcadia, has been the backbone of the Society and most of its notable endeavors for many years.

## THOROUGHBRED RACING WALK OF CHAMPIONS

Updating our members on our exciting progress this spring and summer, we are reporting that even though the Walk has come a long way, there is still much to do. The collaborative effort between our not-for-profit Arcadia Historical Society and the newly formed Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions committee (an arm of the Society) is gaining momentum. Our commitment is to pay special tribute to thoroughbred racing's place in Arcadia's history, and the project is gaining community support. The Walk will honor our most accomplished race horses, jockeys, trainers, breeders and owners with bronze sidewalk plaques similar to those best known in Hollywood's Walk of Fame. The Walk is tentatively scheduled to be unveiled in downtown Arcadia on Huntington & First in late 2013 or early 2014.

The project will open with a core "Historic 50" horses and horse racing notables whose plaques will be underwritten not only by our Founding Sponsors, but also with the help of grassroots donations. We welcome contributions to the funding of the project in any amount by going to our website: [www.arcadahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arcadahistoricalsociety.org) and clicking on the Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions tab. Donations of \$1,000 or more will be recognized publicly.



We are proud to announce that Santa Anita Park has agreed to be the first Founding Sponsor with a generous donation to the Walk of Champions. Mr. George Haines, Santa Anita's enthusiastic executive, and Mr. Sherwood Chillingworth of Oak Tree Racing Association, have both extended their support and encouragement for this endeavor, City Council has unanimously approved the concept, and the City of Arcadia has agreed to provide installation and maintenance services for the Walk. With such solid support, our financial goal is in sight, but we still need to go that extra mile to meet the projected budget. Supporters have sent us donations of \$25 to \$10,000 and more, but to cover all the costs of manufacture, freight, installation, and educational materials, more donations are urgently needed. This endeavor is a project that has been near and dear to the committee's hearts. Gail Marshall, Sandy Snider and Beth Costanza have discussed, plotted and planned, researched and met with a wide variety of local organizations, elected officials, and city staff in our quest to make the Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions a reality. Finally, we are over half way to our goal of totally funding this project, a project that will put Arcadia on the tourist map and give Gold Line riders a reason to stop, shop, and dine in our town. We are confident that spotlighting racing's champions on the sidewalks of Arcadia will both celebrate a history that dates back to "Lucky" Baldwin's 1907 Santa Anita Park and bring in new racing fans to reinvigorate interest and pride in the sport. It is envisioned that the Walk will be enlarged annually by up to 24 new plaques, and after the sponsored historic 50 installations, future plaques will have a nomination and qualification process plus an entry fee to sustain future growth.

You are invited to become a Sponsor at any level to help pour the foundation for the Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions, a one of its kind equine endeavor. Details may be provided by calling the Arcadia Historical Society at (626) 446-8512. Please watch for future updates on the progress of the exciting Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions.

# ARCADIA BUSINESS ICON

Earlier this year the Arcadia Historical Society created an ongoing partnership with The Arcadia Chamber of Commerce to present a monthly tribute to an Arcadia Business Icon. The certificates are presented jointly by representatives of the Society and the Chamber at the Chamber’s monthly Networking Breakfasts in the Sunset Room of the Santa Anita Golf Course.

The initiative is drumming up good publicity for the Society with newspaper stories profiling some of our recipients and the Chamber promoting the partnership with the Society in all its publications and social media. The first business icons have been, in order, Arcadia Tires, celebrating more than a quarter century of auto repair service on Duarte Road, just east of Santa Anita Avenue; Fasching’s Car Wash which has been around for 38 years; and Nordstrom, offering high-end fashion and personalized customer service in the Westfield Santa Anita mall since the mid-1990s.



*Carol Libby of Arcadia Historical Society (l) and Chamber CEO Scott Hettrick (r) present Arcadia Business Icon plaque to Mike Boyadjian of Arcadia Tires and his family.*

Next up are Perini’s Hair Plus on Foothill Boulevard on Aug. 15, where owner Frank Perini is approaching the 60th anniversary of his barber shop next year, followed by Wells Fargo on Sept. 19, which features a 20-foot historical mural of Arcadia history in its lobby at the branch on Baldwin Avenue and Duarte Road, in part depicting the company’s support of Chinese businesses since the 19th century. Please join us to help pay tribute to Arcadia Business Icons, and we encourage you to make recommendations of additional worthy candidates.

# MURAL DEPICTS ARCADIA AND WELLS FARGO HISTORY

Most customers of Wells Fargo do their banking online these days. Those who visit the branch at 1200 S. Baldwin Avenue in Arcadia often don’t even pay attention to the beautiful and historically fascinating wall mural installed in 2010 even though it is massive at 20 feet wide and 5 feet high. If they did, they would see and learn a lot. For instance, the collage of historic images includes the old Pacific Electric Railway line that went through the center of Arcadia, a 1926 panoramic view of

the long-gone marble-columned Arcadia City Hall, the Santa Anita Racetrack, and Arcadia founder “Lucky” Baldwin, for whom a statue was dedicated a few blocks away earlier this year. A sizable adjacent “key” to the mural offers some descriptions of the images. Of particular note, given Arcadia’s demographic shift over the last 20-plus years to a majority Chinese population, is an early 1900s photograph of Chinese participants in the Los Angeles Fiesta parade, and to the left a vintage “Chinese Business Houses” directory from the previous century.

Mural Program Director Beth Currie says Wells Fargo was one of the first California companies to serve Chinese customers in their native languages and was also publisher of the first directory of Chinese-owned businesses on the West Coast in 1871. That was just a few years after the bank’s agents first began offering express and banking services to residents of Los Angeles County in the 1860s.



*Wells Fargo Mural at the branch office located at 1200 S. Baldwin Avenue in Arcadia*

Wells Fargo takes its history seriously. It’s not all about that iconic Old West-style stagecoach from their logo that you see on billboards and which they send to various events to offer horse-drawn rides. The mural is part of a companywide Wells Fargo Community Mural Program “dedicated to creating unique, custom designed, historical artwork that respects the community’s legacy, celebrates its diversity, and honors the past upon which the community was founded.” The murals, which have been installed in more than 1,800 locations nationwide, are graphically-designed photo collages, printed on a variety of materials and incorporated into many different settings. From small towns to big cities, custom murals reflect the joint effort of many people, including Wells Fargo regional leadership and local historical societies, libraries and museums. Images for the mural in the Arcadia branch on Baldwin Avenue were provided by the California Historical Society Collection at the University of Southern California, and the Los Angeles Public Library Photo Collection. The mural also features photos of historic documents from Wells Fargo’s own Corporate Archives.

## ARCADIA HISTORY

### 100 Years ago - 1913

- Anoakia, the estate of Anita M. Baldwin was completed. The main building consisted of three stories and 50 rooms. On the nineteen beautifully landscaped acres were situated a swimming pool with bathhouse, an aviary, tennis courts and kennels.
- A low of 16 degrees recorded in January 1913, caused the loss of many citrus orchards.
- In 1913, the Grier tract, located east of Tenth Avenue and south of Duarte Road, opened for subdivisions.

### 75 years ago - 1938

- In February, five days of continuous rain dropped fifteen inches of rain, causing massive flooding and destruction in the area.
- The Los Angeles Turf Club staged a special day of races with all proceeds given to flood sufferers.
  - Arcadia County Park was dedicated on July 4, 1938.

### 50 years ago - 1963

- In 1963, Arcadia was considered one of three wealthiest cities in Los Angeles County, the other two being San Marino and Beverly Hills.
- Land north of Foothill Blvd and Second Avenue was purchased for the new "Junior" High School.
- A new department store, The May Company, could be built on Michillinda and Sunset Blvd. in Arcadia.

### 25 years ago - 1988

- The Arcadia Historical Society Museum opens in the Rose Garden.
  - City purchased five Arcadia Dial a Ride sedans for \$71,924.91.
  - Plans are underway to construct a Community Center.



*Anoakia, the estate of Anita M. Baldwin completed in 1913*



*The Arcadia Historical Society Museum*



*Golf Course*



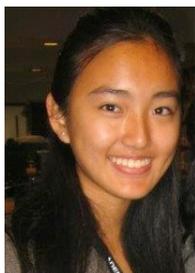
*Arcadia County Park Swimming Pool in 1938*



*Lawn Bowling Field*

## DIVERSITY OF HISTORY IN ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL

By Emily Zheng



Emily Zheng

History is a part of our lives, and paves the paths for our futures. However, amidst challenging college-level courses and extracurricular activities, the average high school student must find a way to balance their school lives with their social lives among their priorities. Yet, many students in Arcadia High School have a passion for history, and apply this interest by joining organizations such as Academic Decathlon, History Bowl, and Student Council Historical Commission. These students share why they love history and what they do in and out of school to learn more about the subject they love.

### ACADEMIC DECATHLON

Ten subjects. One historical theme. Academic Decathlon, commonly known as Acadeca, is an academic team that covers subjects such as science, social science, music, art, literature, economics, interview, and essay, all of which center on history with the exception of math and often times, science, says Goldie Shen, one of next year's co-captains.



Acadeca Team

Shreya Udani, second from left; Goldie Shen, far right.

"Every year we are given an historic theme which the ten subjects revolve around; this year it is World War 1, and previous examples include Imperialism, the Great Depression, and the French Revolution," explains Shreya Udani, also a co-captain. "We compete against other local schools in our annual regional competition in multiple choice test format for the 7 objectives [such as science, music, and economics]."

Both captains enjoy history-related hobbies in their free time. Shen blogs about art history and enjoys historical fiction, movies, and older music. Udani collects souvenir cups during her travels to new states and new countries, and has collected around twenty so far.

"I have always admired history's ability to relate the past and present and predict the future," remarks Udani. "History has been a great quencher for my thirst for knowledge. To me, history is more than a bunch of dates and names; it is the study of humans from the beginning to now, the analysis of our progression and adaptation to our world."

Shen agrees, adding, "Just take any random object and phenomenon and you can hook a "history" onto the end of it. It's documentation, and most of all, a story (after all, histoire is story in French). It's good to remember that everybody will be a part of history, so they should strive to leave a positive legacy. On the other hand, in a purely aesthetic sense, there's a lot about the past and its immutability that's grand and romantic. Quite often, I have nostalgia for years that I didn't even exist in just by viewing artifacts, listening to a song, or reading a book."

### HISTORY BOWL

One of the newest organizations on campus, History Bowl is a "buzzer-based academic quiz tournament competition whose fundamental gameplay is somewhat similar to Jeopardy," says Yuqiao Zhao, one of next year's co-captains. However, the questions are much more detailed and focus only on history. Two teams of four play against each other, with about seven games per tournament.



Andrew Leung



L to R: Yuqiao Zhao and Andrew Leung

Founded only two years ago, Arcadia High School's History Bowl team has been undefeated in California and ranked 17th in the nation this year. "[History Bowl] fosters an interest in the study of history among students by creating a sense of achievement that can be associated with the study of history," says Zhao. Many of its members are very enthusiastic about the learning of history, such as Andrew Leung, the most decorated player in Arcadia's History Bowl. "History is fun in the sense that it's just stories, but with real people. As the famous philosopher Santayana once said, 'Those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it.'" History also allows incoming sophomore Joshua Jen,

(Continued) **DIVERSITY OF HISTORY IN ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL**

who played in Nationals this year, to “connect to the past and learn about so many different cultures and people” and to “learn about my Asian background by studying all the Chinese dynasties and the emperors.”

“This interest in history does not only apply in school related activities, however, I used to read historical fictions and books on warfare for fun when I was a child,” says Leung, who now studies college level history and frequently visits Wikipedia. Jen enjoys traveling through Asia to “relive the history in real life,” in addition to reading about history online. Zhao chose to spend a part of his summer this year at Stanford University, where he is doing research on the Chinese Revolution of 1911.



*History Bowl Nationals Team*

“The study of history is routinely overlooked in society in favor of something more ‘marketable’ like science or engineering,” remarks Zhao. “The study of history allows us to realize how we got here and why we got here, and it is this process alone that allows us to truly understand our surroundings, and come up with a vision for the future.”

**STUDENT COUNCIL HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

A part of Arcadia High School’s Student Council, the Student Council Historical Commission (SCHC) is dedicated to documenting and recording the history of Arcadia High School. Emma Li, one of SCHC’s members, helps to achieve this goal through interviews with alumni, former teachers, and current teachers.

“SCHC’s mission is to document the history of Arcadia High School, but the history of Arcadia High is often influenced by decisions regarding the city, and vice versa,” says Li. “Thus, in essence, a secondary goal of SCHC would also be to record some of the Arcadia’s history.” But history is not only a school activity for Li.



*S.C.H.C. Member Emma Li*

She also volunteers at the Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage, where she helps expose children to history through the Hands on History program. She will be learning to organize and preserve the museum’s artifacts and collections in another year. “To me, history is a part of our identity. It has helped define society, which in turn, has influenced how each of us has developed as a person.”

Thank you to all the students for sharing your experiences! Best of luck to all of you and your organizations.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15 | Business Salute to Frank Perini  
7:30 am Sunset Room at the Golf Course**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 | Business Salute to Wells Fargo Bank  
7:30 am Sunset Room at the Golf Course**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | Taste of Arcadia  
5:30 - 9:00 pm Arboretum Grounds**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3 | General Membership Meeting  
4:30 pm Realty Board Offices, 601 South First Avenue, Arcadia  
Topic “ Thoroughbred Racing Walk of Champions” with Beth Costanza, Gail Marshall and Sandy Snider.**

## CALLING ALL DONORS



The 1959 Ford Galaxy 500 Police car that the Arcadia Historical Society adopted has been displayed at many functions and events around our city and Los Angeles County. It has quite a following and fan club. Cameras and cell phones click as dads, kids and families smile and wave from behind, beside and inside the car. Many stories are told about “the 59 Ford we had.”

On July 4th, the Galaxy’s starter malfunctioned and sadly it couldn’t join the other vintage cars in the Sierra Madre Parade. Fortunately, we got the starter repaired the next day and it played an important part in the memorial service of Arcadia Police Lieutenant Edward Ostashay, its former owner, on July 12. As with all vintage things, the

1959 Ford Galaxy 500 requires TLC and its needs are met by donations. These donations are essential to keep this unique and valuable “piece of Arcadia’s History” in the limelight to receive the acclaim it deserves.

Won't you consider making a donation, of any amount today?

**Send your donation to the Police Car Fund to the: AHS, P.O. Box 661332, Arcadia, CA 91066**

## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS:

**Eddie Garcia**  
Marketing Representative

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## MEMBERSHIP IN THE ARCADIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Membership runs one year from date of renewal / new membership application.*

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*The Arcadia Historical Society is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.*  
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