Records of Los Compadres

Finding aid created by Christopher McCluney
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Records of Los Compadres

Dates: 1958-

Collection Number: 2018_02

Creator/Collector: Los Compadres

Extent: 12 document boxes; 1 oversize folder.

Repository: Sherman Library & Gardens
Corona del Mar, California 92625

Abstract: The collection consists of the historical records reflecting the activities and interests of Los Compadres, a bibliographic society based in Orange County, California.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[identification of item], Folder [#], Box [#], Records of Los Compadres. Sherman Library, Corona del Mar, California

Acquisition Information
Portions of the collection were collected over the years by William O. Hendricks; additional materials were donated by Stuart F. Robinson in July 2007 and by Jim Lorson in October 2007.

Administrative History
On the evening of February 8, 1958, Hank Givens, publisher of the Santa Ana Independent, gathered a group together at his Tustin home to discuss books and book collecting. Originally calling themselves the Bibliophile Society of Orange County, the group was later renamed Los Compadres. The original members included Hank Givens, Dwight Hamilton, Pat Patterson, Horace Parker, Ed Rice, Bill Rasmussen, and Don Meadows. Although it was not until 1966 that Los Compadres would formally codify its existence through the creation of a Constitution, they adopted the motto, "United by a love of books, art, history, and literature."

It was not until the following year that Los Compadres began meeting monthly on Saturday mornings, and their meeting sites changed from private homes to public venues. First meeting at the Villa Marina in Newport Beach, they moved to the Saddleback Inn in Santa Ana in 1966 and then to Irvine’s Airporter Inn in 1972. Finally, Los Compadres settled in to a regular meeting schedule at the Sherman Library and Gardens, where the organization has gathered since 1976. Although founded as a men’s social organization, Los Compadres began holding an annual breakfast meeting in honor of their wives and sweethearts in 1969; today these special gatherings are held in February to coincide with Valentine’s Day. In 2008 the first female members were admitted.

The organization is administered by a Governing Board and three officers: El Viejo (President), El Jefe (Vice-President), and El Escribano (Secretary and Treasurer). Currently, there are forty-four members of Los Compadres, and the organization meets on the second Saturday of each month except during the months of July and August. Over the years, erudite bibliophiles, librarians, printers, writers, book dealers, historians, biographers, and scientists have presented a varied range of programs at the gatherings and occasionally excursions undertaken for meetings which included visits to binderies, personal residences, and other destinations of interest to Los Compadres.

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection consists of the historical records reflecting the activities and interests of Los Compadres, a bibliographic society based in Orange County, California. These include correspondence, organizational files, financial records, photographs, membership materials, meeting announcements and information, publication project files, and ephemera. Of note in the collection are materials related to the publication of the organization’s twentieth anniversary volume written by historian Don Meadows, Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years (1978) and photographs of an early trip to Anza Borrego by Los Compadres members in 1960. The records related to the organization’s meetings provide an excellent record of the group’s activities and documents a “who’s who” of distinguished speakers from various corners of the bibliographic world.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged into the following series:

1. Organizational Records
2. Financial Records
3. Correspondence
4. Membership Records
5. Meeting Records
6. Publications
7. Photographs
8. Keepsakes
9. Miscellany

Indexing Terms

Los Compadres

Book collectors – California – Orange County – History – Sources.
Orange County (Calif.) – History – 20th century – Sources.

A. Organizational Records

Box 1
Folder 1 Organizational records – Constitution and By-laws 1966-1991
Folder 2 Organizational records – Fictitious Firm Name Filing 1969
Folder 5 Organizational records – Insurance 1969-1975

B. Financial Records

Box 1
Folder 6 Financial records 1960-1969
Folder 7 Financial records 1970-1979
Folder 8 Financial records 1980-1989
Folder 9 Financial records 1990-1999
Folder 10 Financial records – Bank statements 1994-1998
Folder 11 Financial records – Bank statements 2000-2009
Folder 12 Financial records 2000-2007
Folder 13 Financial records – Bank statements 2010-

C. Correspondence

Box 2
Folder 1 Correspondence 1958-1964
Folder 2 Correspondence 1965-1969
Folder 3 Correspondence 1970-1974
Folder 4 Correspondence 1975-1979
Folder 5 Correspondence 1980-1983
Folder 6 Correspondence 1984-1988
Folder 7 Correspondence 1989-1994
Box 3 Correspondence (Cont.)
Folder 1 Correspondence 1995-1998
Folder 2 Correspondence 1999-2002
Folder 3 Correspondence 2003-2006
Folder 4 Correspondence 2007-2012
Folder 5 Correspondence 2013-
Folder 6 Correspondence n.d.-
Folder 7 Correspondence – letterheads n.d.-

D. Membership Records
D. Membership Records

Box 4
Folder 2  Membership - Biographies of members - A-G
Folder 3  Membership - Biographies of members - H-K
Folder 4  Membership - Biographies of members - L-N
Folder 5  Membership - Biographies of members - O-Z
Folder 6  Membership - Biographies of members - Blank forms n.d.
Folder 7  Membership - Collection interests 1990-1995
Folder 8  Membership - List of governing board, current officers, inactive or former members, and deceased members 2003, n.d.
Folder 10 Membership - Prospective members 1992-1995
Folder 11 Membership - Questionnaire 1996
Folder 12 Membership - Rosters 1960s
Folder 13 Membership - Rosters 1970s
Folder 14 Membership - Rosters 1980s
Folder 15 Membership - Rosters 1990s
Folder 16 Membership - Rosters 2000s
Folder 17 Membership - Rosters 2010s
Folder 18 Membership - Rosters n.d.
Folder 19 Membership - Widows of former Compadres 1979-2000

E. Meeting Records

Box 5
Folder 1  Meetings - Announcements - Sample envelopes 1991-2004
Folder 2  Meetings - Announcements n.d.
Folder 3  Meetings - Attendance lists 1973-1989
Folder 4  Meetings - Attendance lists 1990-1996
Folder 5  Meetings - Attendance lists 1997-
Folder 6  Meetings - Attendance lists - Compilations 1971-1995
Folder 8  Meetings - Handouts (folder 1 of 2)
Folder 9  Meetings - Handouts (folder 2 of 2)
Folder 10 Meetings - History n.d.
Folder 11 Meetings - Program lists 1971-1972, n.d.

Box 6
Folder 1  Meeting Handouts 1974-
Folder 2  Meeting Handouts n.d.

Box 7
Folder 1  Meetings - Announcements 1958
Folder 2  Meetings - Announcements 1959
Folder 3  Meetings - Announcements 1960
Folder 4  Meetings - Announcements 1963
Folder 5  Meetings - Announcements 1964
Folder 6  Meetings - Announcements 1966
Folder 7  Meetings - Announcements 1967
Folder 8  Meetings - Announcements 1968
Folder 9  Meetings - Announcements 1969
Folder 10 Meetings - Announcements 1970
Folder 11 Meetings - Announcements 1971
Folder 12 Meetings - Announcements 1972
Folder 13 Meetings - Announcements 1973
Folder 14 Meetings - Announcements 1974
Folder 15 Meetings - Announcements 1975
Folder 16 Meetings - Announcements 1976

Records of Los Compadres
E. Meeting Records

Records of Los Compadres

F. Publications

Box 10
Folder 1 Publications 1962-1987
Folder 4 Publications - *Los Compadres, an Orange County-Based Bibliophilic Society* 2005
Folder 5 Publications - *Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years* (folder 1 of 2) 1978
Folder 7 Publications: Galley proofs of *Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years* [Withdrawn to oversize folder] 1978
Folder 8 Publications - *The Story of Los Compadres* by Don Meadows 1973
Folder 9 Publications - Works about Los Compadres and Los Compadres members 1968-1992
F. Publications

Folder 10  Publications - Works by Los Compadres members 1973-1998
Folder 11  Publications - Richard Buffam newspaper articles 1980s-1990s

G. Photographs

Box 11
Folder 1  Photographs - Anza Borrego trip 1960
Folder 2  Photographs - Group portrait 1970s
Folder 3  Photographs - Group portrait 1962-1987
Folder 4  Photographs - Meetings 1981
Folder 5  Photographs - Meetings 1982
Folder 6  Photographs - Meetings 1988
Folder 7  Photographs - Meetings 1989
Folder 8  Photographs - Meetings 1992
Folder 9  Photographs - Meetings 1999
Folder 10 Photographs - Meetings 2005
Folder 11 Photographs - Meetings 2006
Folder 12 Photographs - Meetings 2007
Folder 13 Photographs - Meetings n.d.
Folder 14 Photographs - Novemberfest 1984
Folder 15 Photographs - Novemberfest 1989
Folder 16 Photographs - Novemberfest n.d.
Folder 17  Slides - Temecula trip 1983

H. Keepsakes

Box 12
Folder 1  Keepsakes - various members 1979-, n.d.
Folder 3  Keepsakes - Gene Freeman 1982-1994
Folder 5  Keepsakes - Wm. Erik Voss 1984-1990
Folder 6  Keepsakes - artifacts n.d.

I. Miscellany

Box 12
Folder 18 Ephemera n.d.
Folder 19 Ephemera - Business cards n.d.
Folder 20 Ephemera - Los Compadres membership cards n.d.
Folder 22 Quizzes 1988, n.d.
Folder 23 Other book-related organizations and events 1974-1986
Folder 24 Miscellany: Proclamation recognizing William O. Hendricks on his semi-retirement from Sherman Library [3 copies] [Withdrawn to Oversize Item] 1992
Folder 25 Miscellany: "All's Not Gold That Glitters" [with signatures of attendees at presentation by Gary Kurutz][Withdrawn to Oversize Item] 2003

Withdrawn to Oversize Items

Box:Fld 10:7

Publications: Galley proofs of Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years 1978

Box:Fld 12:3

Keepsake by Gene Freeman: The First Shakespere Biography [3 copies] 1982

Box:Fld 12:4
I. Miscellany

Box:Fld 12:5

Box:Fld 12:5

Box:Fld 12:24

Box:Fld 12:25

Miscellany: “All’s Not Gold That Glitters” [with signatures of attendees at presentation by Gary Kurutz] 2003
Box:Fld 12:26

Miscellany: Leather bookmarks n.d.