



Grace
Dee May
MUSEUM &
LIBRARY

ILLUMINATIONS

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2024

HIGHLIGHTS OF CALIFORNIA GRAND LODGE 2024

*"Masons Behind
the Badge"*

Grace Dee May Museum & Library • 665 W Jefferson Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007 • www.gracedeemay.org

ILLUMINATING THE LEGACY OF THE WEST

Grace Dee May

**MUSEUM &
LIBRARY**

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Grace Dee May Museum

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Museum Graphics
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Audrey Marie Stein

In 2004, Audrey Marie Stein established the Grace Dee May Museum. Audrey believed that she had been richly blessed by the *Grace* of God.

Audrey's nickname was *Dee* and she had been born in the month of *May*. So, as Director of the Foundation, she named the Museum the *Grace Dee May*.



Grace Dee May Inc. (EIN: 03-0591428) is a qualified tax exempt entity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

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'The secret of getting ahead is getting started.'

– Mark Twain, Writer, Freemason & Western Adventurer

Masons Who Tamed the West

Samuel Clemens, better known by his pen name, Mark Twain, was one of the first writers to report on life in the wild, wild West. After

moving to San Francisco in 1864, Twain's reporting as a journalist and his colorful stories on life in the mining towns of the Sierra Nevada inspired thousands of adventurers from across the globe to stream into San Francisco during the Gold Rush era.

More than five years ago, before the Grace Dee May Museum had even opened it's doors, our Board of Directors got started on a plan to inform the Family of Freemasonry of our mission of illuminating the art and history of the West by designing an exhibit for the Annual Communication of California Masons in 2019. That exhibit, "Masons of the West" was unique and well-received. In subsequent years, we have created yearly exhibits on Masonic history focused on the film industry, civic leadership, icons in transportation, viticulture, and more.

Last month, our exhibit at Grand Lodge was, perhaps, our best yet as we shared the life and lore of the sheriffs, deputies and marshals who brought law and order to the Western frontier. Hundreds of Masons who stopped by our exhibit booth, were entertained and inspired to hear the stories of "Law of the Six Gun".

I'd like to invite you to view our new video "Masons Behind the Badge" on the Grace Dee May Museum's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/@gracedeemaymuseum).

This fun 2-minute video will bring you some of the highlights of legendary Freemason lawmen.

Sean Foran
Curator & Board President



<https://youtu.be/SZy1TOlc2ww>

The Grace Dee May Museum's display on the Exhibition level at the Annual Communication of California Masons hit the bullseye! We presented a panorama of Masonic lawmen who changed the history of the West. Some were gunslingers, gamblers, and risk-takers others doctors and farmers but they all did their part to tame the wild, wild West.

**MASONS
BEHIND
THE BADGE**





Stephen Fuller Austin
November 3, 1793 – December 27, 1836
"The Father of Texas", sought to establish Freemasonry in Texas, and founder of the Texas Rangers
Louisiana Masonic Lodge No. 111, Ste. Genevieve, Missouri



Samuel Houston
March 2, 1793 – July 26, 1863
American General, Statesman, and supporter of the Texas Rangers
Cumberland Masonic Lodge No. 8, Nashville, Tennessee
Holland Masonic Lodge No. 36, Brazoria, Texas



Francis Augustus Hamer
March 17, 1884 – July 10, 1955
Texas Ranger Captain who led posse to track and kill Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow
Navasota Masonic Lodge No. 299, Navasota, Texas



Morgan Seth Earp
April 24, 1851 – March 18, 1882
Served as Special Policeman for Tombstone, Arizona
King Solomon Territorial Masonic Lodge No. 5



Virgil Walter Earp
July 18, 1843 – October 19, 1905
U.S. and City Marshal for Tombstone, Arizona
King Solomon Territorial Masonic Lodge No. 5



Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp
March 19, 1848 – January 13, 1929
Lawman for Dodge City, Deadwood, and Tombstone
King Solomon Territorial Masonic Lodge No. 5



John Henry "Doc" Holliday
August 14, 1851 – November 8, 1887
Dentist, gambler, and gunfighter at Tombstone's OK Corral
Atlanta Masonic Lodge No. 59, Atlanta, Georgia



James R. Barton
1810 – January 23, 1857
Second Sheriff of Los Angeles, Barton was the first law enforcement officer to die in line of duty
First Treasurer of Los Angeles Masonic Lodge No. 42, Los Angeles, California



David W. Alexander
June 22, 1812 – April 29, 1886
Third Sheriff of Los Angeles and First President of the LA Common Council
Los Angeles Masonic Lodge No. 42, Los Angeles, California



Count Agoston Haraszthy
August 30, 1814 – July 6, 1869
Adventurer, pioneer winemaker, first elected Sheriff of San Diego County, served as city Marshal, and built jail for the city
San Diego Masonic Lodge No. 35, San Diego, California



Henry Dwight Barrows
February 23, 1825 – August 7, 1914
U.S. Marshal (appointed by Pres. Lincoln), Scholar, School Superintendent, Musician (organist for LA 42)
Los Angeles Masonic Lodge No. 42, Los Angeles, California
Los Angeles Chapter No. 33, Royal Arch Masons



William Richard Rowland
November 11, 1846 – February 4, 1926
Youngest to serve as Sheriff, captured bandit Tiburcio Vasquez
Lexington Masonic Lodge No. 104, Los Angeles, California
Los Angeles Chapter No. 33, Royal Arch Masons



James Franklin Burns
September 27, 1881 – January 5, 1921
Heroic Sheriff who decisively dispersed mob attacking Chinese and arrested 150 rioters, also appointed by President Buchanan as U.S. Marshal
Los Angeles Chapter No. 33, Royal Arch Masons
Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, Knights Templar



Eugene W. Biscailuz
March 12, 1883 – May 16, 1969
Organized the California Highway Patrol, served 26 years as Sheriff, and revamped the Aero Squadron
member of West Lake Masonic Lodge No. 392, Los Angeles
Al Malaikah Shrine, Los Angeles

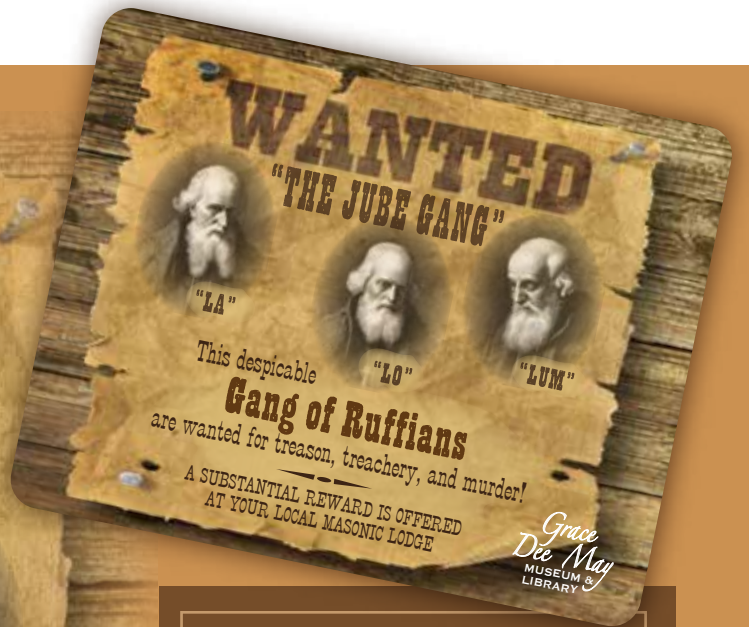
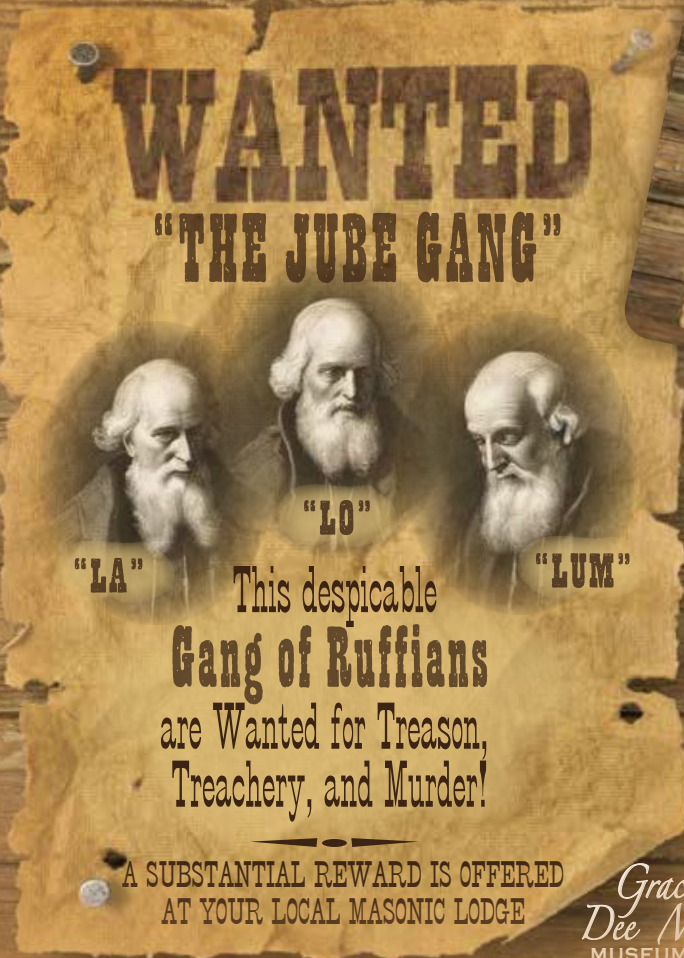
LAW OF THE SIX-GUN

Visitors to Our Exhibit



And More Visitors





These "Ruffians" are on the Wanted Posters that are available only from the Grace Dee May Museum. We also have hats, t-shirts, buttons, bookmarks, and mouse pads which you can only find in the GDM Museum's Gift Shop. Help track down this villainous trio that will only be spotted by Master Masons. You'll be "in the know" when you display these unique Masonic items. Order today!

www.gracedeemay.org



Resources for you from the Grace Dee May Museum

At the 175th Annual Communication of Masons in California the Grace Dee May Museum offered to officers and members of Lodges and other organizations many suggestions and resources including:

1 Free use of the Museum's library of videos on Masons in the Movies, Masons on the Move, Freemasonry in Early Los Angeles, Raise a Glass to Masonry (early winemaking), the award winning Knights of Early Los Angeles and more.



2 Free power point presentations on a variety of historic and Masonic topics.

3 A presentation in your Lodge on Early Winemaking in California - perfect for your next table lodge or festive board.

4 Historic theatrical plays with a live cast of actors that can presented in your Lodge at no cost.

5 Guest speakers provided without charge to give brief talks on significant Masons in a variety of fields including Policemen, Firemen, Education, Medicine, Transportation, the Film Industry, Vintners, Entertainment, Sports, Music, and more.



For more information contact
Curator Sean Foran.

Our Vision:

The Grace Dee May Museum will seek to present a thematic look at the American West by utilizing its extensive collection of Western Art, and incorporate California history to broaden and deepen the public knowledge and appreciation of the men and women that settled the western part of the United States.

Our Mission:

The Grace Dee May Museum is committed to advancing the public knowledge and understanding of the American West and the contributions that Freemasonry has played in its development.

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Sean Foran, BOARD PRESIDENT AND CURATOR
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located at the historic Shrine Auditorium
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