

**LOS COMPADRES
RECORDS**

1958 - 2007

FINDING AID

The Sherman Library
614 Dahlia Avenue
Corona del Mar, CA 92625
(949) 673-1880

Administrative Information

Extent: 8 document boxes and 1 oversize folder.

Date Span: 1958-2007.

Provenance: 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.

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

Processed by: Jennifer Martinez Wormser, October 2007.

Historical Note

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.

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 Note

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.

Organization and Arrangement

- A. Organizational records (Box 1)
- B. Financial records (Box 1)
- C. Correspondence (Box 2)
- D. Membership (Box 3)
- E. Meetings (Boxes 4-6)
- F. Publications (Box 7)
- G. Photographs (Box 8)
- H. Miscellany – Ephemera, Notes, Keepsakes, etc. (Box 8)

Container List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
1	1	Organizational records – Constitution and By-laws	1966-1991
1	2	Organizational records – Fictitious Firm Name Filing	1969
1	3	Organizational records – Governing Board – Minutes and Notes	1972-1984, n.d.
1	4	Organizational records – History	1970-1995, n.d.
1	5	Organizational records – Insurance	1969-1975
1	6	Financial records – 1960s	1960-1969
1	7	Financial records – 1970s	1970-1979
1	8	Financial records – 1980s	1980-1989
1	9	Financial records – 1990s	1990-1999
1	10	Financial records – 2000s	2000-2007
1	11	Financial records – Bank statements – 1994-1998	1994-1998
2	1	Correspondence – 1969-1983	1979-1983
2	2	Correspondence – 1984-1988	1984-1988
2	3	Correspondence – 1989-1994	1989-1994

2	4	Correspondence – 1995-1998	1995-1998
2	5	Correspondence – 1999-2002	1999-2002
2	6	Correspondence – 2003-2006	2003-2006
2	7	Correspondence – 2007- [currently empty]	2007-
2	8	Correspondence – Undated	n.d.
2	9	Correspondence – Los Compadres letterheads	n.d.
3	1	Membership	1981-1995, n.d.
3	2	Membership – Biographies of members – A-G	
3	3	Membership – Biographies of members – H-K	
3	4	Membership – Biographies of members – L-N	
3	5	Membership – Biographies of members – O-Z	
3	6	Membership – Biographies of members – Blank forms	n.d.
3	7	Membership – Collection interests	1990-1995
3	8	Membership – List of governing board, current officers, inactive or former members, and deceased members	2003, n.d.
3	9	Membership – Mailing labels	2005-2006, n.d.
3	10	Membership – Prospective members	1992-1995
3	11	Membership – Questionnaire	1996
3	12	Membership – Rosters – 1960s	1960s
3	13	Membership – Rosters – 1970s	1970s
3	14	Membership – Rosters – 1980s	1980s
3	15	Membership – Rosters – 1990s	1990s
3	16	Membership – Rosters – 2000s	2000s
3	17	Membership – Rosters – undated	n.d.
3	18	Membership – Widows of former Compadres	1979-2000
4	1	Meetings – Announcements – 1969	1969
4	2	Meetings – Announcements – 1970	1970
4	3	Meetings – Announcements – 1971	1971
4	4	Meetings – Announcements – 1972	1972
4	5	Meetings – Announcements – 1973	1973
4	6	Meetings – Announcements – 1974	1974
4	7	Meetings – Announcements – 1975	1975
4	8	Meetings – Announcements – 1976	1976
4	9	Meetings – Announcements – 1977	1977
4	10	Meetings – Announcements – 1978	1978
4	11	Meetings – Announcements – 1979	1979
4	12	Meetings – Announcements – 1980	1980
4	13	Meetings – Announcements – 1981	1981
4	14	Meetings – Announcements – 1982	1982
4	15	Meetings – Announcements – 1984	1984
4	16	Meetings – Announcements – 1985	1985
4	17	Meetings – Announcements – 1986	1986

4	18	Meetings – Announcements – 1987	1987
4	19	Meetings – Announcements – 1988	1988
4	20	Meetings – Announcements – 1989	1989
4	21	Meetings – Announcements – 1990	1990
4	22	Meetings – Announcements – 1991	1991
4	23	Meetings – Announcements – 1992	1992
4	24	Meetings – Announcements – 1993	1993
4	25	Meetings – Announcements – 1994	1994
4	26	Meetings – Announcements – 1995	1995
4	27	Meetings – Announcements – 1996	1996
4	28	Meetings – Announcements – 1997	1997
4	29	Meetings – Announcements – 1998	1998
4	30	Meetings – Announcements – 1999	1999
5	1	Meetings – Announcements – 2000	2000
5	2	Meetings – Announcements – 2001	2001
5	3	Meetings – Announcements – 2002	2002
5	4	Meetings – Announcements – 2003	2003
5	5	Meetings – Announcements – 2004	2004
5	6	Meetings – Announcements – 2005	2005
5	7	Meetings – Announcements – 2006	2006
5	8	Meetings – Announcements – 2007	2007
5	9	Meetings – Announcements – Sample envelopes	1991-2004
5	10	Meetings – Announcements – Undated	n.d.
6	1	Meetings – Attendance lists – 1973-1989	1973-1989
6	2	Meetings – Attendance lists – 1990-1996	1990-1996
6	3	Meetings – Attendance lists – 1997-2006	1997-2006
6	4	Meetings – Attendance lists – Compilations	1971-1995
6	5	Meetings – Attendance lists – Uncompleted forms	2005-2006, n.d.
6	6	Meetings – Handouts (folder 1 of 2)	
6	7	Meetings – Handouts (folder 2 of 2)	
6	8	Meetings – History	n.d.
6	9	Meetings – Program lists	1971-1972, n.d.
6	10	Meetings – Speakers	1989-2007, n.d.
6	11	Meetings – Speakers – Lottery	1991-1993
7	1	Publications	1962-1987
7	2	Publications – <i>The Bibliophile</i>	1972-1988
7	3	Publications – History of Orange County newspapers (proposed)	1968-1969, n.d.
7	4	Publications – <i>Los Compadres, an Orange County-Based Bibliophilic Society</i>	2005

7	5	Publications – <i>Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years</i> (folder 1 of 2)	1978
7	6	Publications – <i>Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years</i> (folder 1 of 2)	1978-1979, n.d.
7	7	Publications – <i>Story of Los Compadres</i> by Don Meadows	1973
7	8	Publications – Works about Los Compadres and Los Compadres members	1968-1992
7	9	Publications – Works by Los Compadres members	1973-1998
8	1	Photographs – Anza Borrego trip – 1960	1960
8	2	Photographs – Group portrait – 1970s?	1970s?
8	3	Photographs – Group portrait – 1990s?	1990s?
8	4	Photographs – Meetings – 1988	1988
8	5	Photographs – Meetings – 1989	1989
8	6	Photographs – Meetings – 1992	1992
8	7	Photographs – Meetings – 2005	2005
8	8	Photographs – Meetings – 2006	2006
8	9	Photographs – Meetings – 2007	2007
8	10	Photographs – Meetings – Undated	n.d.
8	11	Photographs – Novemberfest – 1984	1984
8	12	Photographs – Novemberfest – 1989	1989
8	13	Photographs – Novemberfest – Undated	n.d.
8	14	Slides – Temecula trip – 1983	1983
8	15	Ephemera	1958-2006, n.d.
8	16	Ephemera – Business cards	n.d.
8	17	Ephemera – Los Compadres membership cards	n.d.
8	18	Keepsakes	1973-2006, n.d.
8	19	Notes	1976-2004, n.d.
8	20	Quizzes	1988, n.d.
8	21	Other book-related organizations and events	1974-1986, n.d.
Oversize		Three leather bookmarks	n.d.
Oversize		Galley proofs of <i>Los Compadres: The First Twenty Years</i>	1978
Oversize		“Of Love – An Essay” [keepsake by Erik Voss]	1986
Oversize		Ink, Lead & Paper: Twelve Books by Wm. Erik Voss [broadside]	1990
Oversize		Reprographic processes [two copies of two-page handout]	n.d.
Oversize		All’s Not Gold that Glitters [enlarged bookplate image with signatures of attendees at presentation by Gary Kurutz]	2003

Subjects

Los Compadres – Archives.

Book collectors – California – Orange County – History – Sources.

Books and reading.

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