



# The WESTERNERS

## Los Angeles Corral Roundup

### Wednesday, January 14, 2026

**Almansor Court - 700 South Almansor St, Alhambra, CA 91801**

**Social Hour at 5:00 PM, Dinner at 6:00 PM**



***Legends of the West: The True Story of the Lost Love Loot, and,  
A legendary Phantom of the Southwest, the Ghost Ship of the Desert!***

Matthew Smathers will present an intriguing talk with a mix of both legend and mystery. ■

The Lost Love Loot of Simi Valley 2017: There is mysterious loot from which gold pieces were thought to be found. The possible site will be revealed in this talk. Did a lovesick cowboy try to win over his love's affection by robbing a stagecoach then burying it? Does this legendary local treasure still exist? Or was it only a tall tale from the golden age of western lore? What does it have to do with an infamous fated 'bar room encounter'?

And what of the Phantom Galleon? or the "Ghost Ship of the desert"? It is a noted spectral Spanish galleon or treasure ship often sighted near the Salton Sea in the Southern California Colorado desert. It is said to sail from dune to dune with a belly full of treasure... lost over a hundred miles from the nearest sea. Is there any proof of this phantom? Is it even remotely possible that such a ship even exists?

Perhaps these are both mere legends... or are they? Come to the January RoundUp and listen to the facts and tales explained by Mathhew Smathers who has both explored and collected information through the years. Then you may decide.

Matthew is an historian and lecturer and a maritime historian and explorer of shipwrecks. He is the founder of "Storied Treasures", a Southern California based shipwreck and outdoor exploration group.

**Menu Choices** for 1/14/26 are:

**Beef:** Filet Mignon, ~ USDA Tender Filet Mignon, slow roasted with a Balsamic Reduction with a side of **Shrimp Scampi** in a Lemon Butter Sauce

**Fish:** Baked Atlantic Salmon, seasoned and topped with a Lemon Butter Cream Sauce

**Vegetarian:** Pasta Primavera with garlic cream sauce

Please indicate your preference when you reserve for the next RoundUp.

*Free Wine* will again be offered to all attendees.

When you receive your order blank in the mail, please indicate your dinner choice and put a check for **\$45.00** made out to **Westerners, Los Angeles Corral**, and mail it to **Michele Clark, 226 1/2 Beacon Ave., South Pasadena CA 91030-1702**. Walk-ins are welcome but entrée choices will be limited to the meal type available. The "late" price is \$50.00.

Or you can pay via PayPal at [www.lawesterners.org](http://www.lawesterners.org). Go to the **Members Only** tab, click on **Roundup Store**. The general password is **oldjoe**. Be sure to include your menu choice on the PayPal form. Please contact Michele Clark (email at [mclark216@earthlink.net](mailto:mclark216@earthlink.net)) or by telephone (626) 822-1522 and let her know you wish to attend and how you paid.

#### *L.A. Coral Presentations for 2026*

**February 11, 2026: Paul Spizzzeri, "Romance Never Dies in Old San Gabriel: History and Myths in Information with The San Gabriel Mission Play"**

**March 11, 2026: Paul McClure, "Tragic Heroes of Los Angeles History"**

**April 8, 2026: Mark Hall-Patton, TBA**

**May 13, 2026: Christian Rodriguez, TBA**

**Car-Pooling:** Many of older members no longer drive or find night-driving problematic. Please reach out to those nearby and offer them a ride to our monthly RoundUps.

**First-Time Visitors:** Please don't hesitate to invite non-member friends to RoundUps they might find interesting....first-time visitors qualify for a special, reduced rate for their sponsors.