



# CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 42, No.3  
Winter 2022

### Memories from the Culver City Bike Path

By Maureen Fleming

I recently rode my bike down the bike path and was flooded with memories from the 1970's.

I remember roller skating to work at Hot Dog on a Stick in the Fisherman's Village and laugh when I think about skating in that yellow, blue and red striped uniform. I always shoved the embarrassing hat in my pack. I miss the lemonade.

Hot Dog on a Stick isn't there anymore, but El Torito still is! So, I treated myself to a different kind of lemonade, a margarita, and watched the boats. From here, you can catch a glimpse of Mother's Beach, the spot where most of the kids from around here learned to swim.

I had one more stop in mind so I forced myself to get back on that hard bike seat and pedal in the opposite direction.

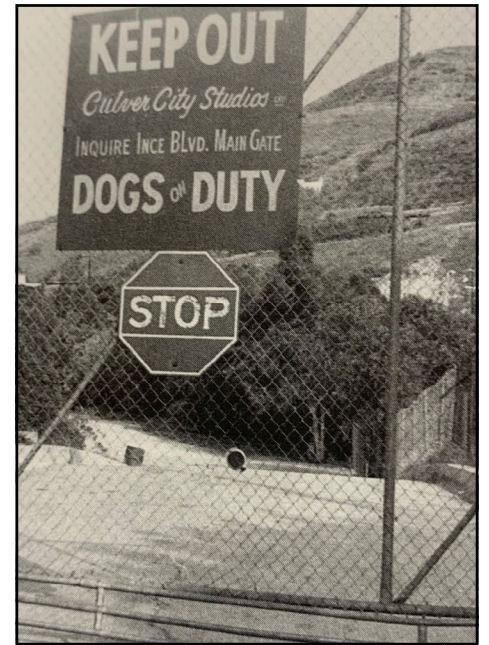
Passing Sepulveda, I imagined the smell of hamburgers. In the old days

you could hang a right for Bob's Big Boy. Further, there's a bridge that connects you to Lindberg Park where the kids used to play on a big green (monster) slide.

The Ballona Creek was one of the borders to Desilu Studios. I stopped here for a memory and smile. I remember in 1974, before the bike path was even here, my friend Donnie and I climbed into Desilu from right here (see photo), disregarding the "Dogs on Duty" signs. Well, he disregarded them—it was pretty much on my mind the entire time. We explored Gomer Pyle's camp and the Hogan's Heroes set. I wonder how many teenagers can say they went on a "date" in Stalag 13?

What a beautiful bike path. I pondered the thought of continuing to Syd Kronenthal Park, which we just called McManus Park back in the day, but that trek would have proven a

bit ambitious for this old gal. I decided to leave it for next time, after I invest in some padded bicycle shorts!



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### January 19, 2022 Annual Meeting and Program Tongva Historic Sites presented by Anissa di Vincente Multipurpose Room, Veterans Memorial Building, 7PM



Photo courtesy of Anissa di Vincente

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Indigenous People of the area, specifically the Tongva? Come hear Anissa Di Vincente speak about historic Tongva sites and markers in Culver City and the surrounding area. Di Vincente has worked at the City of Culver City as their Webmaster for over 15 years.

As the Culver City Employee Association Vice President, she also holds the labor seat on the Culver City Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee (EHRAC). With her background in art and photography, she volunteered to research and photograph the local Tongva sites to present as part of the Indigenous People event sub-committee programming.

Following COVID guidelines, masks will be required for everyone indoors. Proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within the last 72 hours will be required for those 18 and over. The public is invited to this free program.

# YOUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Hope M. Parrish



Hello Members, Friends, and Neighbors,

Here we are, December 2021, saying goodbye to another year! For me, 2021 in comparison to 2020 was so much better and I hope we continue on this path.

2021 was productive for your Historical Society. We are thrilled to have Madisen Matsuura join our Culver City High School internship program. Abigail Cregor and Madisen have been researching and updating

exhibits, giving history a fresh look through the eyes of our local youth.

Mark Morris has done it again; he fixed our internet problem! We have gone from slow, a step above dial-up, to a much faster internet service. This upgrade has made researching for all of us fun again! Thank you, Mark and Ken!

We reopened to the public with enormous success! We had the Culver City High School class of 1971 reunion as guests, spending time and sharing stories. We also successfully collaborated with Jim Shanman and the Culver City Walk and Rollers, hosting a walking tour of downtown.

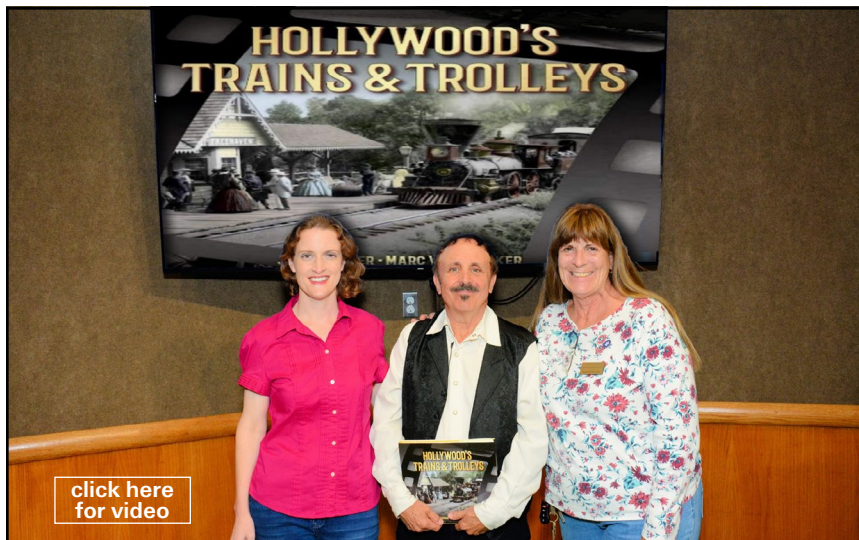
October brought back our first in-person program in the beautifully updated Rotunda Room. Marc Wanamaker shared his new book, *Hollywood's Trains & Trolleys*. If you missed the program, we are selling his book at the museum, and the program is on our YouTube channel.

Our Museum Committee continues to go through boxes of donated items. A reminder for those who may have free time and love digging into the past, become a volunteer and join us.

In closing, I want to thank all of you, and especially our volunteers, for the dedication and support that you give to our Culver City Historical Society. We are so grateful for the growth that we have had and it's all because of you!

I want to wish each of you a joyful holiday season and a bright and happy 2022!

– Hope



click here  
for video

VP of Programs Clare Denk (left), historian Marc Wanamaker (center), and President Hope Parrish at our October 20 General Meeting and Program. (Kevin Lachoff)

## OUR MISSION

The Culver City Historical Society was created for the purpose of collecting, preserving, and exhibiting the history, cultural, and civic accomplishments of Culver City and its environs.

## Newsletter Editors

Michelle Bernardin, Ryan Vincent

## Newsletter Design

Sue Slutzky

## OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Hope M. Parrish, President

Michelle Bernardin, Immediate Past President

Denice Renteria, VP, Development

Tami Eskridge, VP, Museum and Archives

Clare Denk, VP, Programs

Carolyn Wispe Burns, Treasurer

Mara Bommarito, Secretary

Denice Renteria, Costumes Chair

Julie Lugo Cerra, Historic Sites Chair

Jeanne Conklin, Membership Chair

Andrew Weissman, Government Liaison

Michael Laase, Parliamentarian

Kevin Lachoff, Photographer

Mark Morris, Media Archives

## INTERNS

Abigail Cregor, Madisen Matsuura

## HOW TO CONTACT US

T (310) 253-6941, leave a message

F (310) 253-6942

info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org

P.O. Box 1356, Culver City, CA 90232

## STAY CONNECTED

CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org

facebook.com/CulverCityHistoricalSociety

twitter.com/histofculvrcity

instagram.com/culvercityhistoricalsociety

## MEMBERSHIP

The Culver City Historical Society exists because of the involvement and generosity of people like you. Please help strengthen our voice for preserving Culver City's architectural and cultural heritage by becoming a member.

CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org/membership

## In Memoriam

Daniel Munoz

Dr. Jeffrey Penso

Sandra Wager

## Welcome Our New Members

Wendy Bryden

Kate Cregor

Chiqeeta Jameson

Kay Kunzler

Dean McAdams

Anna Maria Orzano

Joanne Sheding



# The Archives Come Alive Again

By Mark Morris

The first official use of the historic movie backdrops obtained by the Culver City Historical Society from the Motion Picture Art Directors Guild occurred this past summer in a very public manner.

Musical theater workshops are held year-round at Vets Auditorium by dee-Lightful Productions, Culver City's own theater education program for kids ages 7-17. Involving weeks of work, two plays were presented last summer, presented to large public audiences who very likely had not experienced live performance in several months

due to the pandemic.

The season's inaugural production, "Honk!," enjoyed added production value when it was performed in front of the Historical Society's 30-foot landscape backdrop.

Dolores Aguanno, program director of dee-Lightful Productions, produces the workshops. She was overjoyed at the enhancement to their stage setting and noted that the visual quality of the backdrop made all the kids more enthusiastic about the show.



Photos courtesy of  
dee-Lightful Productions

## Might You Know?

Society hive mind! Check out this photo of the large mural that has hung in the back workroom of the Archives and Resource Center for as long as we can remember. During the pandemic, we gave it a little TLC—reinforced the backing and the frame—and we're putting out a clarion call for any information about the painting. Email us at [info@culvercityhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@culvercityhistoricalsociety.org).

If you're in the neighborhood on one of our open Sundays and would like to see the painting up close, just ask one of our volunteers!



## PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

The envelope in this newsletter will make it convenient for you to send back your membership renewal, which is due in January 2022. You can also do this online! Please go to our website at [CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org/membership](http://CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org/membership). There, you will be able to pay instantly with your credit card and save a stamp! You don't need to renew if you are a Lifetime member, but please consider making a donation. We count on the support of our members to be able to maintain the Archives, and to continue the promotion and preservation of Culver City history. Rates for individual and family levels will increase beginning January 2022.

*Your continued support is always greatly appreciated.*

P.O. Box 1356  
Culver City, CA 90232



CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org  
(310) 253-6941

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**January 19 – Annual Meeting and Program**  
Multipurpose Room, VMB, 7PM

**April 20 – General Meeting and Program**  
Multipurpose Room, VMB, 7PM

**ARC OPEN DATES**  
**1st and 3rd Sundays, 1–3PM**

Jan. 9 and 23 (NOTE Jan. open dates are 2nd and 4th Sundays), Feb. 6 and 20, March 6 and 20, April 3 and 17



Support (at no extra cost to you!)



We depend on your membership and donations to keep the archives running. You can also build on your support in two small ways that don't cost extra. If you are a Ralphs shopper and have an online account you can designate the Culver City Historical Society as your "Community Contribution." If you are an Amazon shopper, go to smile.amazon.com and login to your account. Under "Your Account," go to "AmazonSmile." From there, you can designate Culver City Historical Society as your charity. Every dollar counts! Both programs are a great way to help your Society without any extra cost to you.

### Business Member Roster

These fine Culver City area businesses support our work to preserve Culver City history for future generations.  
Please show your support by your patronage of their services and products.

#### Benefactor

The Culver Studios ..... Ryan Smith (310) 473-8900

#### Supporting Corporate and Non Profit Sponsors

Culver City Exchange Club ..... Dr. Bob Montgomery (310) 499-4840  
History For Hire ..... Pam and Jim Elyea (818) 765-7767  
Sony Pictures Entertainment ..... Kristin Cavanaugh (310) 244-5368

#### Supporting Business Members

11 of Twelve ..... James Finn (917) 951-6699  
Appletree Music LLC ..... Amy Loftus Panchansky (615) 268-8050  
Cantalini's Salerno Beach Restaurant ..... Lisa Schwab (310) 821-0018  
Cavanaugh Realtors ..... Dannie Cavanaugh (310) 837-7161  
Culver City Flower Shop ..... Mike Eskridge (310) 839-2344  
Culver City Neighbors ..... Chiqeeta Jameson (310) 801-3445  
Freeman Properties ..... Stuart Freeman (310) 839-7593

George Petrelli Famous Steaks ..... Marie Petrelli (310) 902-5899  
Göran Eriksson / Techtrans ..... Göran Eriksson (310) 841-2901  
Ken Harada, D.D.S. .... Ken Harada (310) 837-5121  
Hillside Memorial Park and Mortuary..... Lori Larcara (818) 424-1619  
JLF Appraisals & Estates..... Joel and Linda Forman (310) 837-7455  
John Riordan Plumbing ..... John Riordan (310) 838-4656  
Keller Williams Silicon Beach ..... Noel Boix (310) 463-4242  
RE/MAX Estate Properties ..... Michele Walman (310) 704-0811  
Santa Maria BBQ ..... Jim Rodrigues (310) 559-5709  
S.A.V.E.S. .... (310) 838-2702  
SendOutCards ..... Richard A. Marcus (310) 397-4696  
Sorrento Italian Market ..... Albert Vera (310) 391-7654  
Tower Insurance Associates ..... Janice Beighey (310) 837-6101  
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage ..... Jeff Cooper (310) 606-9479  
The Wende Museum ..... Justin Jampol (310) 216-1600

### Please Renew or Become a Member of the Culver City Historical Society Today!

Join others in preserving the history of the "Heart of Screenland" and support the Culver City Historical Society Archives and Resource Center (ARC). We can't preserve local history without you!

- ☐ Benefactor (\$1,000 +)
- ☐ Corporate Sponsor (\$500)
- ☐ Family Lifetime Member (\$500)
- ☐ Individual Lifetime Member (\$300)
- ☐ Patron Member (\$100)
- ☐ Business Member (\$50)
- ☐ Family Member (\$35)
- ☐ Individual Member (\$25)
- ☐ Non Profit Organization (\$15)
- ☐ New Member   ☐ Renewal

Name/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Contribution to Museum Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please check type of membership and enclose your check payable to:  
The Culver City Historical Society, P.O. Box 1356, Culver City, CA 90232

Tax Deductible 501 (c)(3) #95-4188800