

Culver Historical Highlights

Volume 31 No. 2

Published by the Culver City Historical Society

Spring 2010

CCHS HISTORIC SITE #12: CULVER CITY'S FIRST PARK SOCIETY CONTINUES TO CELEBRATE ITS 30TH!

CCHS 30TH ANNIVERSARY PART 2: OUR PRESIDENTS & THEIR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS

by Julie Lugo Cerra

Cathy Zermeno, as founding president, set the bar high for those who followed. The society had designed the officers' terms to be two years so that we could accomplish more.

Under Cathy's leadership, we had our first fundraiser, "Glamour that Made History" on May 31, in which Marti Diviak combined her fashion sense with the city's M-G-M costumes (rescued by Syd Kronenthal), with a late quiche supper following the fashion show. Many of our members modeled, like president Cathy, Darlene Wassertheur, Pat Clapp, Yvonne Abascal.

We marked the first historic site, the 1928 City Hall, and we went on to raise funds at a picnic on the front of what is now The Culver Studios. The bronze site plaques are primarily financed by our fundraising.

In 1982, I took the reins as president. With the help and energy of many, we stayed the course.

We started the historic bus tours of
(cont'd. on page 4)

CULVER CITY'S FIRST PARK TO BE HISTORIC SITE #12

The 2.66 acre park located at Braddock Drive and Motor Avenue in the East Park neighborhood of Culver City has had a very colorful history. Now named Carlson Park, it is also home to the Culver City Public Theater during the summer months.

The Society is pleased to designate this, the "First Park in Culver City," as Historic Site #12. The wording on the plaque that will soon be placed near the park's sign tells of its fascinating history:

This land was first traversed by Native Americans, called Tongva, (later known as the Gabrielinos). Under Spanish rule, it was settled as a portion of Rancho La Ballona. After Culver City was incorporated in 1917, the property became a horseracing track (1923-24), and in 1924, a reported 50,000 people attended the opening of "The Speedway," a board racetrack.

This section was designated as "Victory Park," the first park in Culver City in 1927. The name was changed in 1964 by the city council to honor United States medical missionary Dr. Paul Carlson, who was born in Culver City in 1928. Dr. Carlson was killed in 1964 while serving in the Republic of the Congo and he was survived by his wife and two children. In 1993, President William Jefferson Clinton addressed Culver City citizens in this park on health care.



Photo: Now Carlson Park,
the City's first park c.1940s.

**For more information on
the Society's Historic
Sites, see pg. 5.**

~ APRIL 21, 2010: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~

**Special Guest: Cali Rose
Presenting "Songs That Made Culver City Famous"**

The Culver City Historical Society's Spring General Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Veterans Memorial Building, 4117 Overland Avenue. Please park and enter from the rear of the building.

Our special guest will be Cali Rose, an award-winning songwriter, recording artist and professional entertainer, who will present a program of "Songs That Made Culver City Famous." Drawing on music "From the Heart of Screenland," she will talk about the songs everyone hums and adores that come from movies and television shows made in Culver City, and then will offer us her own exciting interpretations.

The public is invited and students are encouraged to attend. The CCHS Archives & Resource Center (ARC) will be briefly opened following the meeting. Light refreshments will be served following the program (but remember: NO FOOD in the ARC!). For more information, please call the Society at (310) 253-6941 or email us at info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org. See you there!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stu Freeman



This year is shaping up to be a lot of fun and we want you to join us.

On the Saturdays that the ARC is open – the first and third of each month – we will be screening DVDs of some of your favorite Laurel & Hardy and *Our Gang* comedies which were made right here at the Hal Roach Studios in Culver City (marked with a plaque at the SW corner of Washington & National Blvds.) Come laugh with us and have a good time (sorry, no popcorn in the ARC!).

We have a full calendar planned, including the following:

- In April, at our General Meeting, Cali Rose will present songs that made Culver City famous.
- In May, we will be marking Carlson Park as the Society's Historical Site #12 (full story on pg. 1).
- And in July, our annual picnic will have a little different twist this year. Steve Fry, our VP, Programs (who is planning all kinds of fun and interesting events) will provide us with a Dixieland Band and a catered dinner.

So please save the dates (see Page 6), and come celebrate this wonderful town that we all call home. We are looking forward to seeing you at these upcoming events and at the ARC on the first and third Saturdays of the month – and we invite you to become a CCHS volunteer!

Sincerely,

Notes from Your City Historian

by Julie Lugo Cerra



and since he had “flunked” retirement three times, he was a bit underfoot at home!

As we enjoyed our roles amongst the founding members, I learned a lot and yearned to know more. Researching historic sites was just the tip of the iceberg.

CELEBRATING OUR FIRST 30 YEARS

As we celebrate our first thirty years as the Culver City Historical Society in April, it brings back a lot of memories. I am so proud to be a part of this august group of people!

Everyone brings something to the table and you see evidence of that in our “stage of life,” as an organization. We started in a living room – and we have occupied space in a variety of sites thanks to the generosity of many. Our collection has grown and so have we.

ALWAYS “HISTORICALLY-MOTIVATED”

And when people ask me how I became the council-appointed “City Historian” (in 1996), it always brings a smile to my face as I tell them “I think I just answered too many questions.”

It was my mother who urged me to take Daddy (Charles Reyes Lugo) to the Society's formation meeting – because it was a natural fit, with his family history,

CCHS RAISED AWARENESS OF LOCAL HISTORY

Today, we are planning our twelfth site marking, which means some great bronze plaques offer “painless education” in Culver City. And we, as an organization, have the opportunity to facilitate lifelong learning in many ways – including our tours, displays and Living History programs.

We not only have an active historical society, but I think our presence has raised the awareness of local history. Culver City has surveyed its cultural resources, adopted a preservation ordinance, and finally established a Cultural Affairs Commission – which is a wonderful opportunity to deal with historic preservation and public art.

RUFUS HARRINGTON COLLECTION

A recent example of our usefulness to the city is this photo of the Gateway Station Post Office (c. 1940s). Because of the Rufus Harrington Collection in our archives, we were able to help the city verify some information about its

Culver Historical Highlights

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The Culver City Historical Society, founded in 1980, is a non-profit membership organization created for the purpose of collecting, preserving and exhibiting the history of Culver City and its cultural and civic accomplishments.

The CCHS Newsletter is published quarterly.

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Marc Wanamaker, Steve Newton

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Cathy Zermeno Immediate Past President
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Steven J. Rose Government Liaison
Louise Coffey-Webb Costumes
Martha & Sol Sigall Production Photos
Hope Parrish Projects Research
Fred Yglesias Photographer

Editor's Column

It's a special event when the Society marks an Historic Site – and HS #12 is the first park to be so designated.

In this, our thirtieth year, we are very proud of our many accomplishments and for the service we've provided and continue to provide to the City of Culver City and all of its residents – we *really* do a great job of bringing our city's very unique history to life!

Many new and innovative projects and programs are coming, so this is the time for you and your friends to become involved.

Remember, it's YOUR Historical Society—we can't succeed without YOU!

architectural elements.

I hope the next thirty years brings more fun, laughter, and insight as we facilitate reasonable historic preservation. ###



Photo: The Gateway Station Post Office was built in 1940. This photo from the Rufus Harrington Collection (donated by the family), shows the American Legion Band, whose uniforms were designed by Harrington, who worked in the Art Department at M-G-M.

REEL



CULVER CITY

by Marc Wanamaker

CULVER CITY AIR-LAW OF 1929

AVIATION & MOTION PICTURES – EARLY PARTNERS

Aviation in the Los Angeles area was pioneered with a partnership between the aviation and motion picture industries.

As early as 1914 when aviation became a primary interest of the U.S. Government and commerce, the motion picture industry also took great interest and produced films that featured airplanes.

FILM PIONEERS EMBRACED AVIATION

When Universal City opened their newest studio in the San Fernando Valley in 1915, an aerial show entertained the thousands of visitors. Film pioneers Cecil B. DeMille, Thomas Ince, Charles and Sydney Chaplin, Mary Pickford and many others helped publicize their films with aviation stories and aviation stars. In 1922, Thomas Ince sponsored an air race from his own airfield in Venice, CA.

WWI interrupted the Hollywood aviation interest when many of the airplanes and pilots went to war. After the war, Cecil B. DeMille and Charles and Sydney Chaplin owned airfields and flew planes. New stars like Ormer Locklear became 'aviation' stars, and many films had aerial scenes within them.

"SOUND-FILMS" SIGNAL PROBLEMS

By 1929, with the coming of "sound-films," the use of airplanes continued, but with new technical difficulties. Microphones had to be placed either actually on the airplanes, or airplanes were hauled into sound stages for controlled sound with rear-projection. As can be imagined, the roar of the airplanes inside the stages played havoc with the sound equipment!

Interestingly, another major problem facing the studios at this time was the noise of airplanes flying *outside* over the

studios and disrupting sound recording in the stages below.

CULVER CITY'S "AIR COP"

It was reported in the *Hollywood Daily Screen World* of July 1929, "Culver City Now Has Air Cop To Arrest Air-Law Violators And To Aid Studios."



This announcement was made in Culver City by Culver City Police Chief W. P. Hendry due to the many airplanes that were flying over the city at a low altitude and interfering with sound recording of films at the MGM Studios as well as the other Culver City studios.

NEW LAW INTRODUCED

A new law was introduced in Culver City with the opening of an aviation police office headed by Major Bob Blair, a famous army aviator in WWI. Blair was sworn-in by the Culver City Clerk and a new badge was pinned on by MGM star Sally Starr at the Culver City airport.

The new aerial policeman also represented the U.S. Department of Commerce, which gave him the authority to have aviators' licenses revoked in case of a violation of the new law.

Blair would patrol the skies to prevent low-level flying and dangerous stunting over the city. He was also to warn aviators away from the studios during the filming of sound pictures.

The *Hollywood Daily Screen World* was quoted as saying; "Hereafter, the aviator who flies too low, or 'stunts' may

suddenly hear the "Whoo" of a siren behind him, and find himself followed by a black and orange plane with a great police shield on it."

Due to the new law and the aerial police plane, MGM painted on one of their largest sound stages (see photo) a sign that read, "QUIET PLEASE!"

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY LOGO COMPETITION

The Culver City Historical Society is seeking an appropriate logo to represent their unique function, location, and community role, and is initiating a public design competition. The design art should be suitable for use on the Society's literature, stationery, web site, plaques and other materials, and should incorporate a local building, site or other historical reference. A cash prize of \$300 will be awarded the winning design. The competition deadline is May 31, 2010.

For competition rules and guidelines, please contact Stephen M. Fry, CCHS Vice President for Programs, at smfband@yahoo.com or by mail to the Culver City Historical Society, P.O. Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428.

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ ~ ~

CCHS 30TH ANNIVERSARY: PART 2

"CCHS Presidents " (cont'd.)

the city for the Fiesta La Ballona that year. The city provided the bus while we provided the docents. Pat Culver Battle, Harry Culver's daughter, often rode along.

Culver City CAO Dale Jones also provided us with a small office in the E.V. Roberts building. We continued our research and marking sites.

In 1986, Lupe Smith became president and it was during her term that we designed and sold "The Game of Culver City," and the Willat Studios house *almost* returned Culver City as a museum, with help from Jody Hall-Esser, Carolyn Cole and Marti Diviak.

Marti presided the next two years, in which she did another fashion show, and led us into our first "Celebration of the Movies." For that 50th Anniversary of *Gone With The Wind* and *Wizard of Oz*, we hosted special guests and film historian/CCHS member Marc Wanamaker led tours of the famed lot (now The Culver Studios) that had been "Selznick Studios" among many other incarnations.

The 1990s began with a co-presidency, Linda Brady and Sam Cerra, who encouraged continued cataloging and tours. Bonnie Walsh was the next president and markings and oral history continued.

Hal Horne took the presidency next, arranged for space at Lee Bixler's Antique Guild and at Stu Freeman's properties. Bixler also worked with newsletter editor Judy Stangler and they raised the bar so that we received accolades for our fine newsletter. Hal began a program of filming historic individuals with Ross Hawkins.

Another great fundraiser that decade was our historic "throws" (blankets). Reba Yudess worked very hard on that project which continues to be a best-seller for the Society.

In 2000, CC Human Services Director Don Rogers took the helm at a dinner installation for 90 at the Sagebrush Cantina. His focus was a secure a place for the Society. We had some great help, and our next stop was a protected classroom at West Los Angeles College.

Lupe Smith's oral history program continued – with such panels as members of the FMPU at "Fort Roach" during WWII). We were able to use the WLAC Arts facility so audiences could enjoy these wonderful reminiscences. Marc Wanamaker also did a special event to value antique treasures.

Former City Treasurer Lu Herrera took the helm next, followed by Steve Rose. We began our Living History program in the schools under Steve's leadership.

Founding president Cathy Zermeno took the reins again for a second term and it was during that time we negotiated the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) and Lease for the Culver City Historical Society Archives and Resource Center.

With the help of member/designer Stan Abrams, the former "Teen Center" transitioned into a secure display and storage space, and Louise Coffey-Webb began re-evaluating and re-packing the M-G-M costumes, with Pam Robinson, Cathy Zermeno and an intern, Karla Contreras.

Robin Turner became the first Museum Chair, followed by "Team Sigall" (Martha and Sol), who just handed over the job to our rising star, Winston Gieseke (who designed our template for cataloging and is working on a website).

2007 saw the Society hosting a special 90th Anniversary party of the city's incorporation at the Culver Hotel – and with a grant from Sony Pictures, it became a free event. The hotel's renovation is truly noteworthy under the new ownership, being managed by our own Doug Newton.

Two years ago, Stu Freeman became our president. The historic umbrellas became a major fundraiser, and we presented "Celebration of the Movies II," again at The Culver Studios (special thanks to studio chief James Cella and the Culver Hotel). In this, his second term, Stu continues innovative leadership and encourages new members to get involved.

And the beat goes on ... with research, cataloging, and continuing support of familiar faces – and many new ones.



Early CCHS "work party" at the "closet" in the E.V. Roberts Building (Jefferson/Duquesne), focused on identifying old photos, and the people in them. How many past presidents can you count? (Five: Cathy Zermeno, Julie Lugo Cerra, Marti Diviak, Lupe Smith, Bonnie Walsh).



1981: Julie Lugo Cerra moderates "Fashion Show" fundraiser at The Culver Studios with model Marti Diviak.

THE SOCIETY THANKS BILL LA POINTE

As Bill LaPointe, Director of Parks and Recreation, retires, the Society would like to express our sincere thanks for all the work he has done on our behalf. When the Society asked the city for space for our new ARC, Bill was instrumental in finding the space we now have in the Veterans Memorial Building complex, which had been a Teen Center. Bill has also been actively working with the Society as we mark the "First Park in Culver City" as HS #12 in May. We wish him well in his new endeavors and hope he will continue to support and work with the Society as we move forward.

~ ~ ~ CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY !"

The Culver City Historical Society will mark Historic Site #12: "Culver City's First Park" (Victory/Carlson) – this Spring. To date, eleven Historic Sites have been marked. They are:

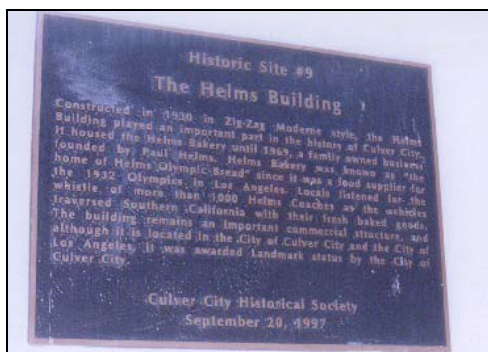
- Historic Site # 1: City Hall (marked November 21, 1981)**
- Historic Site # 2: The Hull Building (marked Jan 26, 1983)**
- Historic Site # 3: St. Augustine's Church (marked December 4, 1983)**
- Historic Site # 4: The Citizen Building (marked Oct. 18, 1984)**
- Historic Site # 5: The Legion Building (marked February 27, 1985)**
- Historic Site # 6: Main Street (marked February 21, 1986) ***
- Historic Site # 7: The Culver Studios (marked February 21, 1986) ***
- Historic Site # 8: The Lugo Ranch (marked September 27, 1992)**
- Historic Site # 9: The Helms Building (marked September 20, 1997)**
- Historic Site # 10: La Ballona School (marked November 27, 2001)**
- Historic Site # 11: Camp Latham (marked on November 12, 2006)**

** Note: Both marked on same day*



Far left: Marking of HS #1: Culver City Hall (Pres. Cathy Zermeno center & Charlie Lugo at far right).

Right: Marking of HS #2: The Hull Building (Bert Freeman, Stu Freeman's father is on the far right).



Far left: Marker for HS #9: The Helms Building.

Right: Marking of HS #4: The Citizen Building (Eugene Donovan, at far left with family members, built the Citizen Building in 1929 to house his Citizen Printing & Publishing Company which published the award winning Citizen Newspaper.



Sol Sigall's 90th Birthday Party!

On February 27th, CCHS Co-Chair, of Production Photos, Sol Sigall celebrated his 90th birthday with a party attended by his many friends and lots of CCHS members! His sons, Robert and Lee, and their families put out a royal spread and everyone had a great time!

Martha & Sol Sigall.

Photos by Robert Sigall.

L-R: CCHS newsletter editor Judy Stangler, CCHS member Claire Lockhart, Martha Sigall and Nick Santa Maria.



NEWS FROM THE COSTUME CHAIR . . .

by Louise Coffey-Webb
Costume Committee Chair

MGM COSTUMES ARCHIVED!

March 6th was a red-letter day for the costume collection at the Archives & Research Center (ARC), because it was the day that we finally completed the re-boxing of all 70-odd costumes from the famous MGM studio auction in 1970!

Why was re-boxing so significant? Well, it has been an ongoing project for the past couple of years, ever since we ordered special archival boxes of sufficient size and sturdiness not to crush some of the voluminous skirts and petticoats evident in mid-20th Century film costumes, often depicting silhouettes of bygone eras.

Metal-edged and acidic tags (sometimes original from the auction) were removed and replaced with archival tags, in keeping with current museum standards. Descriptions and condition reports were made and photographs taken – all of which information was then entered into our database system.

The old, decrepit acidic boxes, going back to the 1980s, were unceremoniously placed in the building's dumpster, and a great relief was felt by all!

THANK YOU KARLA & ASHLEY!

This feat was accomplished with the seasoned help of two Woodbury University Fashion Design graduates, Karla Contreras and Ashley Evans. While each has worked with cataloguing costume collections before, both commented on the extraordinary workmanship of these MGM costumes, the likes of which they had never seen before.

COSTUMES REPRESENT FILM HISTORY

In our ongoing effort to make available to the public as many of these costumes as possible, we rotate our mannequin displays so that you can enjoy them and learn a little film history while doing so.

Earlier this year, we mounted a gorgeous green and silver charmeuse (a high-quality satin silk originally from France) gown, in the early 19th Century style, worn by actress Jennifer Jones as Emma Bovary in MGM's 1949 film, *Madame Bovary*, co-starring Charles Boyer.

Ms. Jones, who passed away on December 17th, 2009 at the age of 90, was acknowledged at this year's Academy Awards. She was born Phylis Lee Isley in

Tulsa, OK, and had a film career that spanned almost four decades, earning her five Oscar® nominations and winning for Best Actress in 1944 for *The Song of Bernadette*, at the age of 25. Many of her films have become classics, including *Duel in the Sun*, *Love is a Many-Splendored Thing* and *Portrait of Jennie*.

The costume on display was designed by Walter Plunkett, famous for designing the costumes for *Gone With The Wind*.



Above: The "Madame Bovary" costume with detail of sleeve at right.

Our second mannequin case features an elaborate, colorful and be-tassled dancer's costume worn by actress Sono Osato as Bianca in MGM's *The Kissing Bandit*, also from 1949. This musical starred Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson (who passed away on February 17, 2010, at the age of 88).

This film also depicted the early 19th Century, and its costumes too were designed by Walter Plunkett. It represented the clothing of the *Californios*, the early residents of New Spain before it (California) became part of the United States. Plunkett researched the period from surviving garments in rare collections at the Los Angeles County Museum of History, Science and Art, now known as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.



R: The "Kissing Bandit" costume & detail below.



We hope you will find time to visit these costumes (as well as many other historical delights on display) on the first and third Saturday afternoons of each month.

~ LC-W

Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society. ~ Mark Twain

MARK YOUR "2010" CALENDAR

APR. 11: CCHS AT LA HERITAGE DAY
(HERITAGE SQUARE IN PASADENA)

APR. 21: CCHS PROGRAM MEETING

CURRENT: PHOTO EXHIBIT AT ABBOT
KINNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
(INCLUDES PHOTOS FROM THE FRED
MACHADO COLLECTION)

JUL. 21: CCHS PROGRAM MEETING
& PICNIC

OCT. 20: CCHS PROGRAM MEETING

• Watch for notice of marking of
CCHS Historic Site #12 of the first
park in Culver City: "Victory" Park
(now Carlson Park).

For more information on any of these
events, please contact the CCHS:
info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org or
Tel: 310.253.6941.

2010 ARC Volunteer Dates

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 pm

Call to confirm dates: 310.253.6941

Apr. 17	May 1	May 15
Jun. 5	Jun. 19	Jul. 3
Jul. 17	Aug. 7	Aug. 21
Sep. 4	Sep. 18	Oct. 2
Oct. 16	Nov. 6	Nov. 20
Dec. 4	Dec. 18	

• Thank You for your membership:

George Burges
Jeff Cooper
Greta Dean
Scott and Anne Malsin
Kenny Stein
Deborah Weinrauch

A Reminder:

RENEW CCHS MEMBERSHIPS!

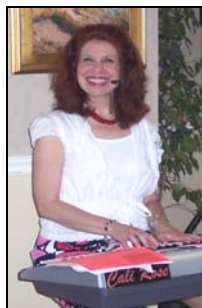
by Lydia Spiegelman,
Membership Chair

The CCHS Membership renewals are due at the beginning of the year. This is a great Historical Society, wonderful things are happening and we want you all to be a part of it!

Please consider becoming a Patron, a Lifetime Member, a Corporate Sponsor or a Benefactor. Being a member of the Culver City Historical Society is more important and rewarding than ever before.
(see Membership form insert)

PROFILE: CALI ROSE

Cali Rose, an award-winning songwriter, recording artist and professional entertainer, will present a program of "Songs That Made Culver City Famous" at the April 21st CCHS General Meeting



(see pg. 1). Drawing on music "From the Heart of Screenland," she will talk about the songs everyone hums and adores that come from movies and television shows made in Culver City, and then offer us her own exciting interpretations.

She and her husband Craig Brandau, a history teacher at Venice High School, are long-time residents of Culver City. She has spent many years performing in hotels and night clubs, including the Queen Mary in San Pedro, and now presents unique one-woman shows for social clubs, organizations, corporate events, and private parties. About her music, she says, "I have been entertaining audiences over half my life and the great standards of the American Songbook are part of my DNA."

(Visit Cali's website to learn more:
<http://www.calirose.com>.)

In Memoriam

The Society sends our warmest condolences to CCHS members who have recently lost beloved family members...

To the family and friends of Cathy Duncan Lugo on the passing of her mother, Dorothy Duncan.

To the family and friends of Paul and Joy Jacobs on the passing of Paul's mother, Miriam Jacobs.

CHRIS TOLKIEN

Chris Tolkien, a firefighter by vocation with a surfer's heart for the ocean, passed away on Feb. 9, 2010 after a long battle with cancer at the age of 68.

Chris, the son of longtime CCHS members, Martha and Woody Tolkien, moved to Culver City in 1945 from Las Vegas with his family when comedian Jimmy Durante suggested that Woody come to California to meet producer Joe Pasternak to get into the movie business!

A Culver City High School graduate and a sergeant in the Air Force, Chris worked as a firefighter at the Kwajalein Missile Range in the South Pacific, and earlier, at Hughes Aircraft. (He also enjoyed chatting with the Stangler family about their 1972 GMC ¾-ton truck, as he had one himself.)

Chris is survived by his mother, sister, Muffye, and brother, Eric, both of Nevada.

An ARC Update

by Winston Gieseke
Vice President, Museum/ARC

2010: A NEW YEAR AHEAD!

As the new year races to the midway mark, it continues to be an exciting time at the CCHS Archives & Resource Center (ARC), and as the new Vice President, Museum/Archives, I'm thrilled to have joined the roster of hardworking and dedicated people seeking to preserve the rich history of Culver City and keep it alive and accessible to us and future generations.

I've always had a passion for history and artifacts – especially those related to the movie industry – and I'm looking forward to furthering the terrific work begun by Martha & Sol Sigall, who are thankfully still very much involved in the process.

GOALS FOR THE ARC

One of my main goals for the museum this year is to continue exploring, organizing, and cataloguing the Society's collection of valuable city artifacts and research tools. With our electronic database up and running, all we need is the time and manpower to bring these important historical pieces to the electronic age.

This goes for everything from 3-D objects like the MGM & Fiesta La Ballona costumes and books to two-dimensional ones such as photographs, newspapers and personal papers from the collection of Harry Culver – all of which illustrate the museum's unique and important role in the cultural life of Culver City.

Martha & Sol will be focusing their attention on the museum's vast collection of photographs, while Louise Coffey-Webb will continue her painstaking work with costumes. I will be tackling the rest with the help of other board members and volunteers who are interested in helping us with this exciting and valuable process.

Photos: Dr. John battle, grandson of City Founder, Harry Culver, recently visited the ARC. Top: With CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman & Steve Rose in background. Below: With photos of Culver Hotel.

DISCOVERING OUR CITY'S PAST

Archiving is worthwhile work, as every piece can be a doorway to discovery into our city's past. But it's not an overnight process by any means. A true archive is never really finished as there is always something new to be learned or accessioned into the collection.

This is where Society members come in to the picture. Your history, memories, and information are extremely vital to this project, and we welcome you to visit the museum during our public hours and share them with us.

As the collection grows, so will the museum's exhibits, allowing us to rotate displays and share additional history with you on a regular basis.

CCHS & THE INTERNET

Another goal is to expand the CCHS's presence on the Internet, building a website to provide up-to-date information on Society events and museum goings-on to keep everyone informed.

As always, the ARC will be open to the public on the first and third Saturdays of each month as well as by appointment. We look forward to seeing you there.

~ Winston



CCHS ARCHIVES & RESOURCE CENTER (ARC)

Veterans Memorial Building • 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA

Open 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 pm, and by appointment
Free admission. (Enter from parking lot behind the VMB.)

Mail: PO Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428

Tel: 310.253.6941 • Email: info@culvercityhistoricalsociety.org

Become a Member of the Culver City Historical Society Today!

Join others in preserving the history of the "Heart of Screenland" and to support the Culver City Historical Society Archives & Resource Center (ARC).
We can't do it without YOU!

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

_____ Individual Member (\$15)	_____ Individual Lifetime Member (\$250)	_____ Organization (\$15)
_____ Family Member (\$25)	_____ Family Lifetime Member (\$500)	_____ Business Member (\$50)
_____ Youth Member (\$5)	_____ Patron Member (\$100)	_____ Corporate Sponsor (\$500)
	_____ Benefactor (\$1000)	

Name/Company: _____ Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State/Zip) _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to **The Culver City Historical Society** and mail to

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