

Culver Historical Highlights

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SUMMER 2000

"A Native American Gathering" Celebrates the Gabrielino/Tongva Heritage

GABRIELINO/TONGVA FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT MUSEUM CAMPAIGN

by Lupe Smith

The colorful history of the Gabrielino/Tongva Indians – the original inhabitants of Culver City and neighboring areas – will be celebrated through their music, dance, arts and crafts, and storytelling.

On Sunday, July 23, 2000, the Society will present "A Native American Gathering" at the Veterans Memorial Building, 4117 Overland Ave., from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

This will be an extraordinary opportunity to experience firsthand the culture of the Tongva tribe who were renamed "Gabrielinos" by the Spanish, who forced them to work at the San Gabriel Mission in the 1700s. Disease was introduced to these gentle people and half of their population was wiped out. Those who survived and remained in the area have maintained close ties, continuing to meet and celebrate their culture regularly since the 1850s.

A NATIVE AMERICAN BLESSING

The festivities will begin with a typical blessing of the event by our spiritual leader, Jimi Castillo. There will be performances by the Tongva Nation Dancers and Hilda Contreras' group of Azteca dancers, as well as Native American music.

Highlights include storytelling sessions which are an integral part of the Native

(Cont'd on page 4)

GABRIELINO/TONGVAS IN 2000

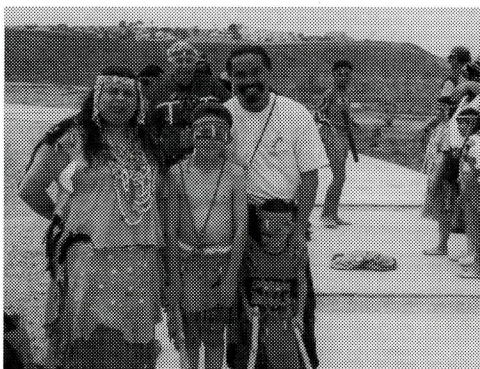
by Lupe Smith

My previous articles have been about the past, but I'm happy to be able to write one about the present.

This seems to be the year of the Gabrielino/Tongva. Positive things have been happening and we seem to be getting much deserved and long overdue recognition.

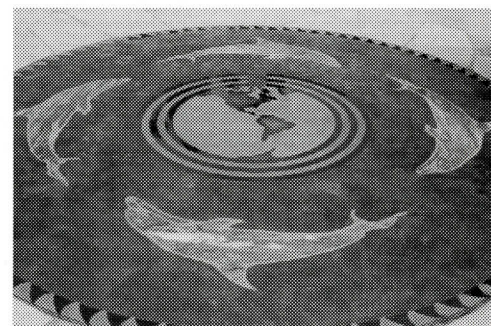
MEMORIAL SITE DEDICATED AT LMU

On April 28, Loyola Marymount University dedicated a memorial to the Gabrielino/Tongvas in the form of a med-



Tongva Nation Dancers

itation garden. I had the privilege of serving on the planning committee headed by Dr. G. Edward Evans, University Librarian and archeologist, along with three other Tongvas, two staff members and three students. Dr. Evans was asked to form this committee by Thomas O'Malley, S.J., for-



Tongva Memorial Centerpiece

mer President of LMU, in recognition of the fact that the sites I had written about earlier did, in fact, exist on the campus.

We worked on it for three years and are very proud of the end result. The central medallion was designed by one of us, Matthew Dorame. It depicts dolphins – which we believe are sacred – swimming around a map of the area where the Tongva lived.

The memorial is located on a cliff overlooking Playa del Rey and the Pacific Ocean. I encourage those of you who have an interest in our area's earliest history to visit the site. There is construction of new housing going on now, but when it is finished and access is possible, I will make it known.

In addition, the committee is working on a display case to contain artifacts, history and photographs which is being constructed in the University's Von der Ahe Library. It is planned to be unveiled in September when classes resume.

(Cont'd on page 4)

Annual "Picnic in the Park"

It's time for the annual Culver City Historical Society's "Picnic in the Park" and we hope you will join us in celebrating our 20th year!

The first Society Picnic was held on the Culver Studio's front lawn in front of the big white "Selznick" building at 9336 Washington Blvd. in the summer of 1980. It was a huge community turnout and we look forward to this year to duplicate it. So come out and renew friendships, meet new people and make new friends, and enjoy delicious food and drink and a summer's evening for a great "get-together."

This year's picnic will again be held at Carlson Park on Tuesday, July 18, 2000 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm with dinner served at 6:00 pm. The picnic is potluck and members are asked to bring a main dish, salad or dessert for six people plus themselves. Plates, utensils and soft drinks will be provided by the Society.

The public is invited and members are encouraged to bring family and friends. For more information and to let us know what you'll be bringing, or if you would like to help with the picnic planning, please call Cathy Zermeno at (310) 839-7688.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Don Rogers



In my first message, I announced that there were three primary goals I would concentrate on: increasing the membership of the Society, laying a firm foundation for the development of the Culver City Heritage Museum, and to bring more public attention to the City's remarkable history.

With the hard work of Membership Chairman, Carolyn Cole, and her committee, new membership and renewals have increased by almost 10%. Great work, Carolyn!

Our next fundraiser, "A Native American Gathering," will showcase our earliest residents, the Gabrielino/Tongva Indians. Their rich and relatively unknown history will be revealed through music and dance performances, arts and craft displays and storytellings. I'm pleased that we are offering this wonderful event for young and old alike to discover another integral part of our City's extraordinary history, and I encourage you all to attend – and bring along potential new members!

Events such as "A Gathering of Native Americans" are the foundation of our chief goal: to create a long-awaited Museum. By attending this and future Society events, you will help us move steps closer to the realization of our collective dream.

We can't do it without you!

Sincerely, *Don Rogers*

Notes from Your City Historian

by Julie Lugo Cerra

Questions! Questions!



The quest for knowledge is great fun!

• Let me tell my Historical Society friends, first, that we have finally pinned down the reason Blair Hills was named "Blair." I was able to determine through city maps and records that the developers, Stone and Stone, first recorded that name as a street, Blairstone. Since the Stones listed on the maps were Edward and Leo, Anne and Gloria, my feeling was that Blair must have been another family member. In my weekly newspaper column, I was able to get the history to that point, but even calling on the Pitti family (Mickey and Carl, Paul and Shirley), former CC Mayor Ron Perkins, Dorothy Steiner and others, I fell short of the full answer.

After the column ran in the CC News, however, I got a call from Lois Soter, an original resident, and I also spoke with Mim Shapiro. Blair was a grandchild of the Stones. I further learned that the homeowners association, as it was forming, wanted the area to have identification. The two names offered in a vote were Blair Hills and Stonehenge. Blair Hills was the winner, and so it remains today. Thank you Mim and Lois!

I mentioned calling Ron Perkins, who is now serving his second term on the council in La Quinta. He and Barbara extend their best to all their CC friends. Ron reminded me that for the past 50+ years, there has been a Perkins on the CCPD! (Ron, Barbara and now son, Ron).

• Special thanks to Bill Hahn, who answered my call for help to find out more about submarines reportedly surfacing along our coast during WWII. He not only knew about the incident, he provided a copy of a 1992 Daily Breeze newspaper article, which reported the story of a Japanese submarine surfacing along the Santa Barbara Coast on February 23, 1942. Blackouts occurred along the coast

from Monterey south, in response.

• It was my pleasure to revise this year's tour of the city for the Fiesta. Special thanks to Culver City Bus for their annual partnership with the Society, which enables us to offer the bus tours free to the public, and to Sony Pictures for access through their historic studio lot. We also added a new docent, Sandy Burton, to our seasoned crew of Susan Berg, Michele Cerra, her mom, and Hal Horne. Thank you all!

• On Saturday of the Fiesta, it was a pleasure to spend time with Pat Culver Battle and playwright, Ain Gordon, who has a grant to write about Culver City and its development. Pat helped Ain get an understanding of her father, our city's founder Harry Culver, who will be integral to his play.

History on tour:

• It was great fun to take Mrs. Gallegos and her third graders at El Rincon School on a tour of the city recently. They shared wonderfully related projects and we took time to do rubbings of historic markers as well.

• The Homeowners Association and the Lions Club requested information on the city's history. I was proud to take them on a visual tour via slides from old to new. Did you know that Harry Culver was a Lion?



Mrs. Gallegos & a 3rd grade student

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.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

A while back, our Culver City CAO, Mark Winograd, asked that we include more articles on our pre-city history. Well, Mark, this issue should be a real treat for you! Our resident authority on the Gabrielino/Tongva Indians, Lupe Smith, has written about the recent dedication of a memorial site on the Loyola Marymount University campus in honor of an ancient Indian village which once stood there. She is also the prime force, along with Ways & Means VP, Reba Yudess, and Program VP, Cathy Zermeno, behind the upcoming "A Native American Gathering." Mark your calendars – this is one shouldn't be missed!

We are especially proud and offer deepest congratulations to Edna Larkin on her being named "Woman of the Year" by the Soroptimists. Edna, our astute Parliamentarian, has long been a dedicated member of the Culver City community, serving as a member of the CCUSD Board of Education, the Planning Commission, the PTA and the Didi Hirsch's Guidance Clinic Guild among others. You are the best, Edna, and we salute you!

Your Board is feverishly working on an exciting Fall event. "Sneak Preview" of the planned Culver City Heritage Museum is scheduled for November 17 & 18, 2000. This two-day fundraiser will showcase the many displays and historic memorabilia which will be a part of our long-awaited Museum. Look for details in the next newsletter.

CALENDAR THESE DATES:

•Tuesday, July 18: "Picnic in the Park"
•Sunday, July 23: "A Native American Gathering"
•November 17-18: "Sneak Preview"

REEL LIFE IN CULVER CITY

by Ross Hawkins

AN APPRECIATION OF TWO "GOLDEN AGE" STARS

In May, two of the last remaining actors from the "Golden Age" of the movies passed away: Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. died on May 7th in New York and Edward Ashley passed away in San Diego on May 4th. I had the great pleasure of interviewing both Fairbanks and Ashley extensively for *Culver City: The Reel Hollywood*.

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. had strong ties to Culver City. His legendary father had



(L-R) Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Ross Hawkins & Marvin Paige

made his first film for Triangle Pictures in 1915 and it enabled Thomas Ince to build the studio that still stands on Washington Blvd. today as the Sony Pictures Entertainment. Doug Jr. later starred in *Gunga Din*, *Young at Heart*, *The Prisoner of Zenda* and *Sinbad the Sailor*, which were filmed in part at the Culver Studios.

Though he only made one film at MGM – the silent *Woman of Affairs* with



Fairbanks is buried with his famous father

Greta Garbo and John Gilbert in 1928 -- he went to school with Irene Mayer, daughter of MGM mogul, Louis B. Mayer. Doug recalled in our interview, "I wasn't terribly fond of him... terrified of him like everybody else, I suppose."

Of legendary producer David O. Selznick, he said, "I think he was one of the two or three best producers ever. I was a personal friend, so I'm prejudiced, but his record stands." Selznick even had Doug Jr. read for the part of Rhett Butler in *Gone With The Wind*. "My father



Behind the scenes on "Sinbad the Sailor": (L-R) Anthony Quinn, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Maureen O'Hara & Edward Ashley,

thought I'd be good in the part so I was considered for a very brief moment – not brief enough."

I was privileged to attend his memorial service on May 24th where Fairbanks was remembered as "a gallant man in an ungallant era." He was entombed with his famous father at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

Edward Ashley

Though not as famous as Fairbanks, actor Edward Ashley had a long and distinguished film and stage career as well.

Born Edward Ashley Cooper in Sydney, Australia on August 12, 1906, he was signed to a personal contract by L.B. Mayer in 1940 who ordered him to grow a moustache "and never to come on the lot without it." He made his American motion picture debut in the 1940 MGM classic, *Pride and Prejudice*, starring Greer Garson and Laurence Olivier.

For more than sixty-five years Edward appeared in films, television, radio, and on stage on three continents. He appeared on the London stage with the likes of Laurence Olivier, Gertrude Lawrence and Rex Harrison, and was involved in developing motion picture scripts with directors George Pal and David Lean.

His was a life of true adventure. He was a race car driver, a "jackaroo" (an

Australian s h e e p ranch cowboy), a stunt man, a mechanic in the U.S. A r m y Aircorps d u r i n g WWII, and was tempted to hunt for gold in N e w Guinea with his

good friend Errol Flynn. An extremely charming and erudite man, Edward was close friends with many of Hollywood's greats such as Leslie Howard, Maureen O'Hara, Walter Pigeon and Danny Kaye, as well as Olivier, Garson and Flynn.

I first met Edward in 1979 when I was assigned as his associate producer for the Screen Actors Guild "Legacy" series pilot with Henry Fonda and Eddie Albert. He remained a good friend through the years and was a wonderful raconteur, sharing his many stories of his adventures around the world in more than four hours of video-taped interviews.

These gentlemen from an earlier, more genteel time, will be sorely missed - but their legacy lives on.



Edward Ashley & (a young) Ross Hawkins

CCHS LOOKING FOR HELP

Do you have or know people who have film and memorabilia treasures which may be sitting in their garages or attics? The CCHS and *Reel Life in Culver City* are searching for film footage and background documents for this extraordinary film history.

Please contact Ross Hawkins for more information or leads at (310) 839-5725.

BENEFIT (Cont'd from page 1)

Americanculture, displays of Gabrielino artifacts, vendors selling all sorts of arts and crafts they have made -- and face-painting for the kiddies! Basket-making demonstrations will show why the Gabrielinos are noted for their basket-making expertise. Tamales and soft drinks will be sold. As is typical for all Native American functions, no alcohol or smoking will be allowed.

Admission price is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. Funds raised will benefit the campaign to build the Culver City Heritage Museum which will preserve and display this heritage for future generations.

So come on out, support the Society and have an enjoyable afternoon. Bring the children so they can learn about the original inhabitants of Culver City. For more information, call: (310) 390-4798 or (310) 391-7031.

See you there!



Lupe Smith's three generations of Tongvas: (L-R) Glenn Smith, Lupe, grandson Jerry Maldonado, daughter Gloria Beverley & John Lassos

GABRILINOS 2000 (Cont'd from page 1)

OTHER GABRIELINO PROJECTS

As I said, this seems to be the year of the Gabrielino. I have recently been interviewed on video by a student at LMU for a paper on the Gabrielinos, and by another young person from UC Irvine, for the same purpose.

I'm currently serving on a Task Force to oversee the spending of \$250,000 for the preservation of *Kuruvungna*, the Gabrielino Village site at University High School. We also intend to build a Cultural Center there to be used for educational purposes. I encourage you to visit this site on the first Saturday of each month for a history tour. For information, call (310) 390-4798.

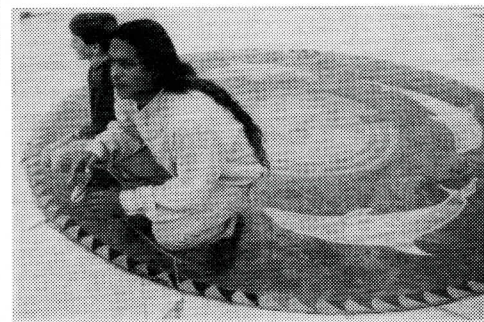
In addition, I've been attending planning meetings with the Playa Vista people as they intend to build a Gabrielino Cultural Center and a Ballona Interpretive Center. The prospects are very exciting!



View from the Memorial

GRANDFATHER SKY (THE CREATOR)

[A prayer] We give thanks and pray to our Creator for the very air we breathe, for the food that we eat, and the land that we live upon. We cannot ever own the land. Rather, the land owns us. Thank you, Creator, for all that you have given us. Grandfather Sky, we ask for your guidance in all that we do. Please bless our time here until we return, once again, to you.



Memorial Centerpiece & designer Matthew Dorame

THE LEGEND OF TOROVIM

A Tongva Chieftain was being pursued by an enemy tribe, somewhere in Topanga -- "where the mountains meet the sea." He came to a cliff. Rather than submit to his captors, he dove into the sea. As he fell, he changed into the Dolphin, or Torovim, our brother of the ocean.

He now swims around the world, staying ever vigilant and alert to ensure the safety of our people. It is his duty as caretaker of the ocean. And, when Torovim is no more, our people will also cease to be.

GABRIELINO/TONGVA SITES IN THE CULVER CITY AREA

by Lupe Smith

There is documented proof in the Fowler Museum of Cultural History Archeological Collection Facility of Gabrielino/Tongva villages in the Culver City area.

Most of these sites were along Ballona Creek, as the creek meandered freely in those early days. Evidence of sites at the present day Lindberg Park, Raintree Plaza, the City Yard, Vinton Avenue, the Hayden Industrial Tract, and Culver High School, to name a few, is available. Data shows that villages dotted Blair Hills -- also called Indian Hill -- as well.

Documented proof exists of two villages on the present day Loyola Marymount University site. One of these villages has been scientifically dated to have existed about 1,000 AD, the other 1,000 BC. Both universities have extensive collections of human remains and funerary objects as well as midden (fragments of bones, shells, kitchenware) in their possession and/or control. (These materials will be turned over to the Gabrielino/Tongvas when they can provide a repository for them). There are also 20 village sites in the Marina area.

This data substantiates what I have long believed and often stated that the Gabrielinos usually established their villages near water. It is heartening to have such archeological information established, for it promotes continuing investigations and research.

Learn More About It

To learn more about the Gabrielinos, there are a variety of sources nearby. First, our City Hall at 9770 Culver Blvd., has a public art installation by May Sun which honors the Gabrielinos. Visit the Paige Museum and La Brea Tar Pits on Wilshire Blvd.

The Southwest Museum is a wonderful resource about our Native American cultures. For a real hands-on approach, look to the Gabrielino / Tongva Springs Foundation (www.onion-skin.com/gabrielino), which is restoring University Springs (at University High School) and offers programs for school children and celebrations, open to the public.

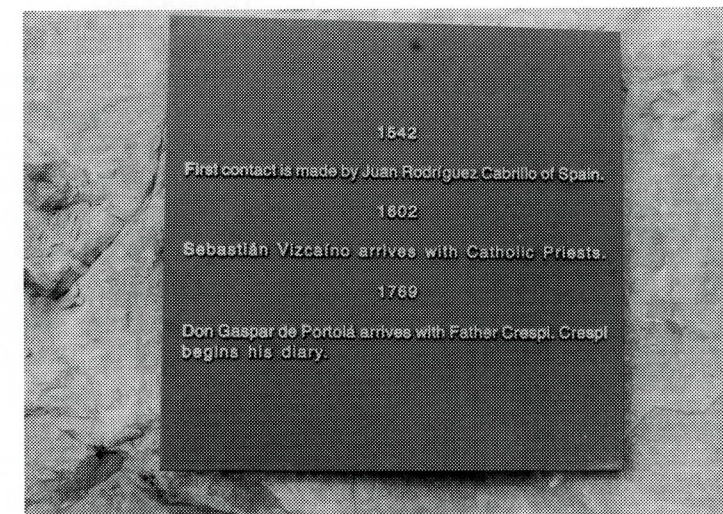
- Julie Lugo Cerra



View from the Memorial



Close-up of one of the plaques set around the Memorial Garden



Timeline Plaques

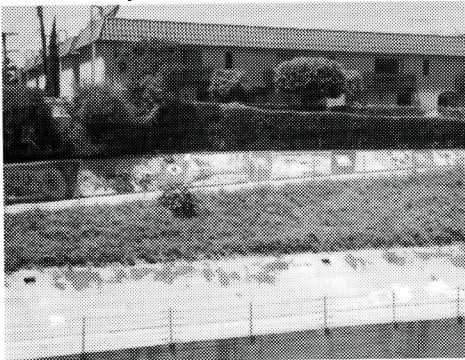
- 1542 - First contact is made by Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo of Spain.
- 1602 - Sebastián Vizcaino arrives with Catholic Priests.
- 1769 - Don Gaspar de Portola arrives with Father Crespi. Crespi begins his diary.
- 1779 - Father Junipero Serra arrives from Mexico via Spain to establish the first missions. He is to forever change the way of the Tongva.
- 1771 - Fathers Somera and Cambron arrive. Missions San Gabriel and San Fernando are founded, and the name "Gabrielino" is born.
- 1781 - El condado de la reina de Los Angeles (Los Angeles) is founded. Tongva Indians already living there call it "Yangua."
- 1785 - San Gabriel Mission Indians stage a revolt against the Spanish. Led by a female Chief, Toy Purina, the revolt is soon crushed by the Spanish. All Indians who participated in the revolt are either killed or exiled to Santa Barbara Island.
- 1824 - Mexico gains independence from Spain. Mexican culturalization of Gabrielino/Tongva Indians continues. Many Indian religious rites, customs, and languages (dialects) are lost.
- 1833 - Missions are secularized and Indians are left to work on rancherías owned by Spanish soldiers and noblemen. In as little as two hundred years, a great and caring Indian culture has been almost virtually destroyed.
- 1850 - Few full blooded Gabrielino/Tongva Indians remain. Some intermarry with the Spanish. Some cultural artifacts of the tribe survive, such as clamshell bead money, waterproof baskets, and seashell jewelry, cooking vessels, bowls, and pipes.
- 1906 - Tribal elders struggle to keep the old traditions alive, continually meeting as a tribe in San Gabriel and Los Angeles.
- 1994 - The Gabrielino/Tongva Indians are recognized as the indigenous people of Los Angeles by the city of San Gabriel and the state of California.

"RIVERS of the WORLD" MURAL DEDICATED

by Jim Lamm

Sponsored by the City of Culver City and La Ballona Creek Renaissance Program in cooperation with the Culver City Unified School District, the newly completed "Rivers of the World" mural was dedicated on June 12, 2000.

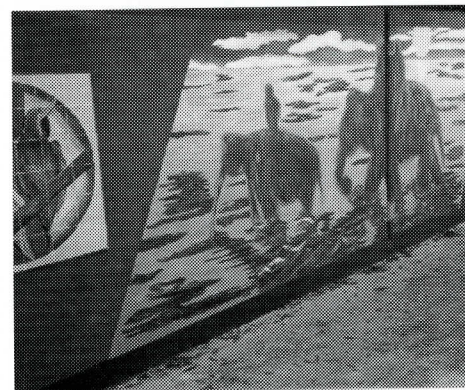
Situated along the Duquesne Avenue entrance to the Ballona Creek bike path, the colorful tile and acrylic mural -- a water-themed mural with scenes and symbols from the Amazon, the Nile, and other "Rivers of the World" -- was hailed by Mayor David Hauptman as part of the city's commitment to help transform the creek environment into a positive community asset.



"Rivers of the World" Mural

The Society was well represented at the dedication ceremony. It was hosted by our Government Relations Chairman, Jim Lamm (who is also President of the Ballona Creek Renaissance Program), and our own President and Culver City Human Services Director, Don Rogers, spoke, praising the community-building aspect of the project as well as Project Manager Pam Robinson's role.

The mural was created by more than 40 student and community artists under the direction of professional artists Lori



Close-up of "Rivers of the World" Mural

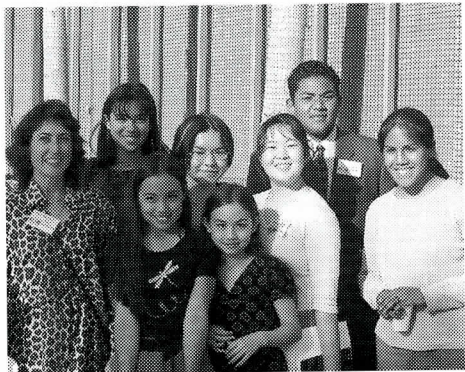
Escalera, Lucy Blake-Elahi, David Fairrington and tilesetter Paul Reich. Before presenting students with certificates of appreciation on behalf of the city, Ms. Escalera, the Mural Artist Team Leader, highlighted the strong educational value of such a multi-faceted project for the youth involved as they engage in research, design, and execution as part of a responsible team. Along the same lines, Jim Lamm noted the enjoyment of adults and youths working alongside each other in a common cause, learning about each other's lives and our shared community.

The project was funded by the Los Angeles County Graffiti Prevention Competitive Grant Program of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1996. Local businesses donors included Albertson's, Apple/Balian Market, D'Water Fountain, Mushu Taste, Pacific Rim Printing, Ralphs, San Gennaro Cafe, Sorrento Italian Market, Stellar Hardware, Staples, and Trader Joe's. Suppliers included Nova Color, Aardvark, Graphids, Staples, Kinko's, Culver City Hardware, Ceramic Tile Center, Daltile, Eagle Hardware, and Lakeshore.

For more information about Ballona Creek Renaissance, call Jim Lamm at (310) 839-6896 or e-mail at JWLamm@aol.com.



Mayor David Hauptman commends the mural team: (L-R) David Fairrington, artist; Paul Reich, tilesetter; Lori Escalera, lead artist; Lucy Blake-Elahi, artist; Mayor Hauptman; Dr. Marvin Brown, Culver Park High School Principal; & Don Rogers, Culver City's Human Services Director.



Team Leader Lori Escalera and some of the proud student artists

Business Membership 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:

Albertson Oldsmobile	Bruce Albertson (310) 398-5721
Alliance Bank	Curteis Reis (310) 410-9281
Brundo Interiors	Richard Brundo (310) 391-1888
Byco	John Byers (949) 645-2251
Cavanaugh Realtors	Esther Tarn (310) 837-7161
Robert L. Duitsman, Atty. At Law ..	Robert L. Duitsman (310) 645-6223
Flanigan Farms	Patsy Flanigan (310) 836-8437
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Ken Harada, DDS	Ken Harada (310) 837-5121
Agnes Huff Communications Group	Agnes Huff (310) 838-7137
JW Party Pictures/Photo Lab	Jeff Wilson (310) 216-2820
Jake & Joan Jakubowski	(310) 397-5812
Walter N. Marks	(310) 204-1865
Newton Plumbing	Jack & Winnell Newton (310) 839-1132
Playa Vista	(310) 448-4626
Spartan Supply Co.	Rick Betts (310) 837-5351
The Antique Guild	(310) 838-3131

A PAST PRESIDENT REMEMBERS ...

by Hal Horne
(Presedient, 1994-1998)

The period from 1994-1998 was very exciting for the Historical Society as we moved onto new ground to increase our exposure to the community and beyond.

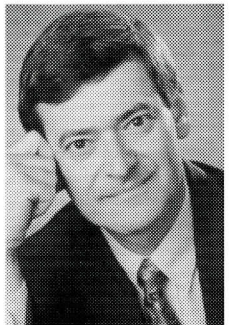
In 1993, the Society's Board approved the initial funding of our video documentary project, Culver City: The Reel Hollywood. Over the next six years, producer Ross Hawkins would tape over 100 hours of interviews and make contacts with major players in the entertainment industry, many of whom have given us their strong support. We consistently received positive comments and press coverage on our efforts.

This hard work culminated in the 1999 premiere of the first installment, "Visions of Grandeur," and the honoring of Roger L. Mayer of Turner Entertainment Co. with the Society's first "Star of Screenland" Award. But even before the first episode was completed, we had finished a half hour video history entitled Historic Culver City, which aired on the local cable channel -- and further heightened public awareness of the Historical Society and our efforts to secure a museum.

We introduced the "Heart of Screenland" license plate frames which can be seen all over town -- including on all the CC Fire Department's vehicles. We also continued our participation at the City's annual Fiesta La Ballona, and, under the guidance of Julie Lugo Cerra, we expanded our popular bus tours of the City. The tours have become a highlight of the Fiesta.

Perhaps the most important accomplishment during my watch was the settling of the Society's status as a tax-exempt, non-profit organization. The IRS determination that we were tax exempt as of 1980 protected not just past donations made, but will enable the Society to raise funds in the future and apply for grants.

There were many people who served on the Executive Boards during this time. They worked very hard to



Hal Horne

advance the Historical Society to where it is today and to make sure the community knew of our events and our efforts with the museum campaign. To them I give my deepest thanks: Bonnie Walsh, Ross Hawkins, Connie Powell, Julie Lugo Cerra, Sam Cerra, David Henderson, Esther Tarn, Judy Stangler, Lupe Smith, Cathy Zermeno, Joan Jackubowsky, Linda Edell and Carolyn Cole.

"Historic Sightings"

by Sandy Burton

Historic Site #2
The Hull Building
(9543 Culver Blvd, Culver City)

In our continuing series on the work of the Historic Site Committee, we will examine The Hull Building which became Historic Site #2 on January 26, 1983. It has Landmark status under Chapter 38 of the City Code, which deals with historic preservation.

Built as the first hospital in Culver City, the Hull Building was constructed by Dr. Foster Hull at a cost of over \$10,000 as reported by the Culver City



The Hull Building Historic Site #2

Daily News (November 24, 1925). Its architecture is in the Neo-Classical Style, constructed of tan- and rose-colored brick.

The hospital was set up to treat patients who were injured in automobile accidents as well as patients suffering from industrial accidents. It could accommodate 15 patients plus 8 private rooms. The two types of rooms at the hospital were the electrical room and the Turkish baths. In the electrical room, ultra violet rays were used to cure tuberculosis, bronchitis and boils. In addition to the operating room, there was an x-ray department. The second floor was used as a kitchen where meals were prepared.

An incline was made in order to

accommodate patients from the upper story into the operating room in which the stretchers were wheeled. The incline was used in place of steps.

Dr. Hall installed a complete line of equipment that cost more than \$25,000. In all, the Culver City Daily News reported that Dr. Hull invested nearly \$50,000 in his hospital. The value to the community was many more times the amount he invested.

The Hull building was sold to Louis Freeman in the early 1930s for use as a furniture store. Later, about 1980, it was gutted and rebuilt inside to bring it up to earthquake standards. It has also been the home of Sunset Drug, the Bank of Orange County, Riccardo's Restaurant, and Bella Pasta. Today, it is the home of San Gennaro Restaurant.

* * *

The Historic Site Committee has the important job of designating City landmarks as worthy of public recognition. Its criteria is twofold: the site must be at least 50 years old and it must be deemed to be of "historic significance." The second criteria was specifically designed to allow a certain amount of leeway when making such selections as a myriad of considerations often come into play when considering a site for designation. We encourage open dialogue with our readers and welcome recommendations of possible sites for consideration.

To participate in researching historic backgrounds, please call Sandy Burton at (310) 641-0440.

REMINDER:

Come visit the Helms Bakery memorabilia display at The Antique Guild in the historic Helms Building at 3225 Helms Ave. between Venice & Washington Blvds.

BEQUEST BENEFITS MUSEUM ENDOWMENT

Consider remembering the Historical Society in your will or trust with a bequest of monies and/or memorabilia. Your gifts will help us to build the Culver City Heritage Museum and secure its future and the legacy of our City's history for generations to come. For more information on how you can help, call the Society at (310) 838-1073

Become a member of the Culver City Historical Society Today!

Join others in preserving the history of the "Heart of Screenland" and the efforts to create the Culver City Heritage Museum. ***We can't do it without you!***

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| _____ Benefactor (\$1000) | _____ Corporate Sponsor (\$500) |
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Please make checks payable to **The Culver City Historical Society** and mail to P.O. Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428. For further information, call (310) 838-1073.

Name/Company: _____

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Contributions of both historic and social significance as well as monetary donations are encouraged, and the CCHS IRS tax exempt status may make such contributions tax deductible.

Culver City Historical Society

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