

Culver Historical Highlights

Volume 30 No. 3

Published by the Culver City Historical Society

Summer 2009

CCHS "CELEBRATION OF THE MOVIES" ~ #2 SEPTEMBER 20TH GALA EVENT PLANNED

CCHS MEMBERS ARE A VERY ACTIVE GROUP!

On Memorial Day, CCHS Secretary Jeanne Conklin and CCHS Treasurer Tami Eskridge both finished walking the Los Angeles Marathon – and it was their 11th time! Jeanne's husband Ken ran the full Marathon and Paul Jacobs ran the 5K. All are rightfully proud of their accomplishments – as are we!



(L-R): Jeanne and Tami at Venice Blvd. & Fairfax Ave., Mile 14. (Cerra photo)

Jeanne has been especially busy as she also led a walking tour on April 28th of Olvera Street for CCHS members. All had a great time visiting this, the original "nucleus" of downtown Los Angeles. (cont'd. pg. 4)

THE POPULAR 1989 CELEBRATION WILL HAVE A REDUX!

In 1989, the Culver City Historical Society held its first "Celebration of the Movies," which honored the classic films of 1939. The event took place on a July afternoon, at the Laird International Studios, now The Culver Studios.

William J. Tomkin provided a selection of the Fred Parrish stills taken during the filming of *Gone With The Wind*. To further honor the 50th anniversary of classic films made in 1939, tours of Thomas Ince's second movie studio in Culver City, "The Heart of Screenland," were conducted by our own Marc Wanamaker (owner of Bison Archives and a major film historian).

Special guests were interviewed: Patrick Curtis, who played "Baby Beau Wilkes" in *GWTW* (see story on page 5); Victoria Fleming, one of Victor Fleming's daughters; and Jerry Maren – who sang "The Lollipop Song" to Julie Lugo Cerra! – among others.

CC Mayor Jozelle Smith emceed the "Rhett Butler Look-Alike" Contest, as the guys "strutted their stuff" for the celebrity judges: casting director

Marvin Paige and actors Jerry Maren and Jane Withers.



Above: Actress Jane Withers (R) holds a "GWTW" poster

Below: "Celebration of Movies 1989" sold out – what a crowd!

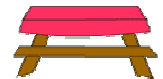


(cont'd. pg. 4)



CCHS Annual "Picnic in the Park"

• JULY 15TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING •



It's Summer Time – and time for the annual Culver City Historical Society's "Picnic in the Park!" Come join friends and neighbors to relax and enjoy delicious food and drink on a summer's evening for a great community get-together. A short meeting will discuss upcoming programs, projects and *happenings* – as well as updates on the many new developments at the CCHS ARC. Following the picnic, Fred Yglesias, VP Programs, will lead the parade to the ARC with Museum co-chairs, Martha & Sol Sigall for brief tours *after* dining (remember: no food allowed in the ARC).

We'll again be meeting at Veterans Park (NW corner of the park off Culver Blvd. at the B-B-Q picnic area) on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 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, dessert or other goodies, to serve about 10 small servings. As plates, utensils and soft drinks will be provided by the Society, please let us know how many people you will be bringing for a head-count. 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 Chairperson Cathy Zermeno at (310) 839-1413 no later than July 8th. **SEE YOU THERE!**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stu Freeman



I want to thank each and every one of you for your continuing support of *your* Culver City Historical Society. I realize that these are challenging times which make your generosity all the more valued and appreciated.

Know that your membership dues enable the Society to fulfill our commitment to improve the quality of our events, preserve and enlarge our archives, and expand our historic displays, as well as continuing our public service and outreach to the community. So again, let me say THANK YOU!

We have received many requests for reprints of photos in our archives, and are currently making arrangements to have a number of historic photos – such as the Meralta Theatre, the Culver Theatre, the Culver Hotel, the second La Ballona School and downtown Culver City – available for sale soon. More information to come.

Summer is here and that means that our annual CCHS picnic will soon be here as well. This year's date is Wednesday, July 15th, and will again be held at the Vets Park. So mark your calendars and come share the fun. And be sure to take the time to visit the ever-growing CC Historical Society Archives & Resource Center (ARC) as well.

We always look forward to seeing you, so please join us and discover what "old things are new again."

Sincerely,

Notes from Your City Historian

by Julie Lugo Cerra



PRIMARY RESEARCH IS INVALUABLE

Not only does Culver City enjoy a rich and varied history, but since the city is relatively young, we have had the advantage of learning from the city's leadership first hand.

Primary research has also been possible through city records, the Society's own files which include bound copies and microfilm of local newspapers, and, perhaps most meaningfully, access to documents and photos saved by wise and far-sighted families who share our history on a very personal basis.

BEBE PERALTA COWAN & MERALTA THEATRE MEMORIES

A particularly exciting recent "find" is our introduction to Bebe Peralta Cowan. Bebe is the niece of Laura Peralta, who, along with Pearl Merrill, established the Meralta Theatre. The Meralta continues to evoke many happy memories for those who grew up in the city.

Although we have some photos of the theatre, our information on its founders

has been minimal until we started looking through some Culver City Woman's Club scrapbooks. Laura Peralta served as CCWC president in the 1930s, and the newspaper coverage of her parties and activities is detailed.

Marc Wanamaker recently wrote an article on the Meralta Theatre in his "Reel Culver City" column for our newsletter, citing Peralta and Merrill's fascinating and colorful vaudeville background.

Then, Jeanne Conklin, our CCHS Secretary, made a connection through a friend to Bebe's daughter, Victoria. This led to a wonderful meeting with Bebe at our Archives, where we were given a CD full of photos and notes that Victoria had put together for us. Bebe's recollections were taped by Steve Fry, who will also transcribe them as part of our oral histories project, which he has also volunteered to manage – thank you, Steve!



Culver Historical Highlights

PO Box 3428 • Culver City, CA • 90231-3428

Tel: 310.253-6941 • Fax: 310.253.6942

email: info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org

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.

Editor & Publisher.....Judy Stangler

Contributing Writers..... Julie Lugo Cerra

Marc Wanamaker, Steve Newton

Printed by.....Premier Print & Design

Officers and Committee Chairs

Stu Freeman President

Cathy Zermeno Immediate Past President

Fred Yglesias VP, Programs

Martha & Sol Sigall VP, Archives

Doug Newton.....VP, Ways & Means

Jeanne Conklin..... Secretary

Tami Eskridge Treasurer

Karen Coyle Parliamentarian

Lydia Spiegelman..... Membership

Joy Jacobs Public Relations

Judy Stangler..... Newsletter

Julie Lugo Cerra Historic Sites

Steven J. Rose Government Liaison

Louise Coffey-Webb Costumes

Editor's Column

What a great time to be a member of the Culver City Historical Society!

The ARC is open and hosting visitors from around the world as well as old friends near and far. And, we're having all sorts of events, lectures, displays, etc. that are allowing us to showcase the many wonderful items in our collections. It's bringing out the pride in all of us – for our associations and accomplishments in this terrific city!

With such volunteers as Hope Parrish and Lance Watsky among others, we're in the midst of much activity and it's very exciting just to be in the ARC! Please come and join us soon.

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

An added benefit is that Bebe also worked for the City Clerk in Culver City. Interestingly as well, she is related to the Saenz family. Sy Saenz owned the Boxing Arena that was located on the current site of Culver Center – adding information through another facet of our history.

This is just a teaser.....we will have a lot more to share soon! (cont'd. pg. 3)

PHOTO: Bebe Peralta Cowan (seated on the right) was pleased to see her old friend Pauline Lee (seated on the left). Crouching behind Bebe is her daughter, Victoria. Standing (L-R) is Pauline's daughter, Marilyn Lee-Schneider, CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman, and CCHS Sec. Jeanne Conklin (who arranged the visit). [Missing is Julie Lugo Cerra, behind the camera, and Steve Fry, who taped the oral history session, while making music next door.]

REEL



CULVER CITY

by Marc Wanamaker

MICKEY ROONEY ~ A CULVER CITY TREASURE!

I can't think of any living personality that so identifies with Culver City's history as Mickey Rooney. He spent most of his childhood and young adult life at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, spanning over 26 years.

Beginning with *The Beast of the City* made at MGM in 1932, Rooney was one of MGM's leading stars, appearing in countless features, musicals and shorts. One of his last films made at the studio in 1958 was *Andy Hardy Comes Home*.

Mickey Rooney not only was an MGM star he was an accomplished musician, singer, dancer, writer, producer and general overall entertainer – making him one of Hollywood's greatest talents ever.

AN ENTERTAINER FROM THE BEGINNING!

Rooney was born Joe Yule on September 23, 1920, in Brooklyn, New York. The son of vaudevillians, he made his first stage appearance at 15 months and before long became an indispensable part of the family act – singing, dancing, mimicking and telling jokes. He made his film debut at six, playing a midget in the short, *Not To Be Trusted* (1926), and in the following year, appeared in the silent feature, *Orchids and Ermine* (1927) for First National Films.



**Mickey Rooney ~
entertaining
since he
could walk!**

Between 1927 and 1933, he starred in some 50 two-reel comedies playing the famed comic strip star, *Mickey McGuire*. He became Mickey Rooney in 1932 when he began appearing in small roles in feature films at various studios until he was signed by MGM in 1934. He was loaned to Warner Brothers in 1935 to appear as 'Puck' in Max Reinhardt's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Dick

Powell and Olivia De Havilland among others.

THE "ANDY HARDY" SERIES

In 1937, Rooney became a household name when he appeared in the first of a film series, *A Family Affair*, as "Andy Hardy." After 15 successful Andy Hardy films, Rooney's popularity rose steadily and was crowned with his wonderful performance in *Boys Town* (1938), as well as in several co-starring musicals with Judy Garland (often called the "let's put on a show" series!).



Mickey Rooney welcomes Shirley Temple (L) to MGM with Judy Garland (R) circa 1938.

In 1938, he won a special Academy Award for his overall work in the industry – a great honor indeed. By 1939, Rooney became America's most popular star, topping the prior box office super-star, Shirley Temple.

1940s AND WORLD WAR II

With the coming of the 1940s, Rooney continued to star in such popular films as *The Human Comedy* (1943) and *National Velvet* (1944). His career stopped for short time when he entered the armed service during WWII, appearing at the Hollywood Canteen in Hollywood as well as in camp shows throughout the European War theater.

In 1948, he started his own production company and made many appearances on early television shows. Rooney starred in his own television show entitled, *The Mickey Rooney Show*, which lasted almost two years.

HITS BROADWAY WITH "SUGAR BABIES"

Mickey Rooney made his Broadway debut in 1979 in the very successful musical show, *Sugar Babies*. In the same year he was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for the *Black Stallion*, and in 1982, he won an Emmy Award in the television movie, *Bill*. He continued to tour with the *Sugar Babies* show and later joined the cast of Broadway's *The Will Rogers Follies* in 1993.

CAREER CONTINUES

Rooney has continued his career, recently appearing in the hit film, *Night at the*

Museum (2006), and *Bamboo Shark* (2007), and in two films for 2009, *Driving Me Crazy* and *Now Here*. He hasn't stopped entertaining for almost a century and is beloved by several generations the world over!

But it was in Culver City that Mickey Rooney became one of its most famous celebrities. He worked on all of MGM's back lots. From its Lot #2 on Overland Avenue to Lot #3 on Jefferson Boulevard, Culver City was his playground and the studio his home. Everyone in town knew him and were proud that he was among them. Mickey Rooney became one of the few MGM stars to be known around the world along with his work 'home', *Culver City*.



MGM/Culver City Fire Department honors Mickey Rooney as a volunteer fireman in 1937. Note Rooney's official badge on his suit pocket.

TO BE HONORED BY FESTIVAL

It should be noted that Mickey Rooney will receive the prestigious "Thomas Ince Award" at the 2009 Backlot Film Festival on October 10th, here at the historic Veterans Memorial Building. The "Thomas Ince Award" is named for the pioneer producer of early filmmaking who introduced production procedures and quality of standards that set the model and helped mold the distinct image of Hollywood films to this day, and who built two movie studios that still stand in Culver City – the current Sony Pictures Entertainment and The Culver Studios. ###

"Historian " (cont'd.)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On other fronts, my city historian work has included speaking to the folks over at Raintree on the history of their property (formerly, MGM's Lot #3), YMCA Adults, and helping the City's Engineering Department with research. And most recently, I met with a grad student from USC who is doing her thesis on some of the studios, the sale of their backlots, resulting land use issues and the Culver City/Hollywood rivalry . . . who has more fun?

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ ~ ~

2009 ~ ANOTHER HISTORIC YEAR

CCHS "CELEBRATION OF THE MOVIES" ~ #2 (cont'd.)

It was a sold-out event, not surprisingly, as our own CCHS Joy Jacobs was publicity chair then as now. The rest of the Committee included Mike Balkman, Julie Lugo Cerra, Pat Clapp, Marti Diviak, Debi Edell, Rosalind La Briola, Diane Pannone, Jim Quirarte, Beverly Machado Szabo and Darlene Wassertheur.

There was also an auction of movie memorabilia to raise funds for the Society's work – the preservation of local history. And since the emphasis was on GWTW, we offered a trivia quiz as well. It was quite a day!

2009 "CELEBRATION OF THE MOVIES" SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 20TH

The 2009 "Celebration of the Movies" promises to be equally as memorable. The event will be held in downtown Culver City at The Culver Studios and the Culver Hotel, with community-oriented events being planned to compliment the City's "Made in Culver City" screening of the *Wizard of Oz* (see pg. 6). The 1989 celebrity interviews will be shown and the popular CCHS Walking Tours are also scheduled. An auction along with some surprises are in store. And, September 20th marks the 92nd Anniversary of Culver City's Incorporation, so we'll have lots to celebrate!



The ARC will be open for visitors. A special treat will be an over-sized poster of Clark Gable as he appeared as "Rhett Butler" in *Gone With the Wind*, from The Fred Parrish Collection – and *you* can have your photo taken with Clark Gable! This, along with several historic photos from the classic 1939 film will be on loan to the Culver City Historical Society's ARC until the end of 2009, courtesy of Rodney Gottlieb, curator for the collection. Mr. Gottlieb is a photographer and artist who lives and works in Palms.

If you would like to help in the planning of this celebration, sign-up sheets will be available at the July 15th Picnic as well at the ARC. We welcome all!

Photo: CCHS President Stu Freeman with oversized poster of Clark Gable as "Rhett Butler" in "Gone With The Wind" which will be set up in the CCHS ARC through 2009 ~ can you tell which is Stu?

CCHS MEMBERS ARE AN ACTIVE GROUP (cont'd.)



Jeanne Conklin took the time to give some of our members a private tour of Olvera Street. Lunch afterwards was fun too! Thanks, Jeanne.

Above (L-R): Hope Parrish, CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman, CCHS Treas. Tami Eskridge, and Jeanne.



Above: CC Rotary Club Pres. Kathy Haworth presents a check for \$250.00 to CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman at the ARC. The Society is very grateful for this community support.

A special thank-you to Walter Marks Realty for its donation of \$1000.00 to the ARC.

THE ARC HOSTS BOOK-SIGNING EVENT WITH MICHAEL SRAGOW

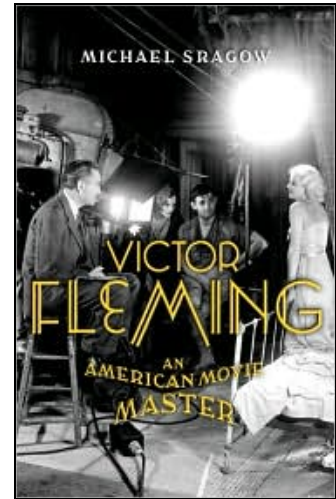
On Saturday, May 16, 2009, the Historical Society hosted a book-signing event with author Michael Sragow for his new biography, *Victor Fleming: An American Movie Master*. Mr. Sragow's book is the definitive biography of the legendary director of *Gone With the Wind* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

From the publisher, Knopf Publishing Group:

Victor Fleming was the most sought-after director in Hollywood's golden age, renowned for his ability to make films across an astounding range of genres—westerns, earthy sexual dramas, family entertainment, screwball comedies, buddy pictures, romances, and adventures. Fleming is remembered for the two most iconic movies of the period, *Gone With the Wind* and *The Wizard of Oz*, but the more than forty films he directed also included classics like *Red Dust*, *Test Pilot*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and *Captains Courageous*. Paradoxically, his talent for knowing how to make the necessary film at the right time, rather than remaking the same movie in different guises, has resulted in Victor Fleming's relative obscurity in our time.

Michael Sragow restores the director to the pantheon of our greatest filmmakers and fills a gaping hole in Hollywood history with this vibrant portrait of a man at the center of the most exciting era in American filmmaking. The actors Fleming directed wanted to be him (Fleming created enduring screen personas for Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy, and Gary Cooper), and his actresses wanted to be with him (Ingrid Bergman, Clara Bow, and Norma Shearer were among his many lovers).

Victor Fleming not only places the director back in the spotlight, but also gives us the story of a man whose extraordinary personal style was as thrilling, varied, and passionate as the stories he brought to the screen.



Along with Mr. Sragow who is the movie critic for *The Baltimore Sun*, and contributes regularly to *The New Yorker*, other special guests to attend were Victor Fleming's daughter, Sally Fleming, and Mickey Kuhn and Patrick Curtis, who both played the "Baby Beau Wilkes" character in *GWTW* at different ages as children. And what great stories they all had to share!



Above: Julie Lugo Cerra welcomes author Michael Sragow.



Above center: Mr. Sragow discusses the career of director Victor Fleming.



(L-R) Patrick Curtis and Mickey Kuhn who both played "Baby Beau Wilkes" in *GWTW*.



Sally Fleming



(L-R) Actor Mickey Kuhn, CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman, founding president Cathy Zermeno, Sharon Thurgood (a former studio teacher who taught Patrick Curtis' children on location in Spain), and actor Patrick Curtis in the ARC.



An attentive audience came to hear wonderful stories from the Golden Age of Hollywood – and Culver City!

NEWS FROM THE COSTUME CHAIR...

by Louise Coffey-Webb
Costume Committee Chair

WONDERFUL TRAVELS TO CHINA!

Summer is a time when many people travel abroad. For me, it's time for a "Staycation" because, luckily, I have been traveling a lot this year – beginning with spending the new year in Brazil with my extended family.

In March, thanks to the Maxine Frankel Foundation, I traveled to Beijing and Shanghai, China, with two students and another professor from Woodbury University, where I am Chair of the Fashion Design Department.

It was a thrilling trip over Spring Break, first visiting the cultural highlights to understand some of the very long history of Chinese culture, followed by fashion-focused visits to Chinese Vogue, Image consultants, couture designers, the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology and tea with the first lady to bring western-style fashion shows to Beijing in 1980.

Overall it was enormously stimulating. It is an extraordinary time for Chinese fashion right now, as they integrate their incredible history with their enormous appetite for new fashions and styles, resulting in a unique sensibility.

A STUDY IN PEACOCKS.....

At the end of May, I was invited to give a lecture on peacocks in fashion and costume at the annual Costume Society of America Symposium, this year in Phoenix, Arizona. The Costume Society of America*, founded in 1973, is devoted to the encouragement and support of the study of dress.

Interestingly, Cecil B. De Mille's inspiration for the extravagant peacock cape worn by Hedy Lamarr in *Samson and Delilah* (Paramount Pictures, 1949), came from the gown worn by the Indian Vicereine, Lady Curzon, to the Dunbar Ball in 1903. The ball celebrated King Edward VII as Emperor of India, and the gown was entirely embroidered to create golden peacock feathers and each "eye" was created with the wing of a scarab beetle.

According to Edith Head, the peacock feathers used for Hedy Lamarr's gown as Delilah, were gathered from the Demille's estate. *Samson and Delilah* won the Costume Oscar® for all six of its costume designers: Edith Head, Dorothy Jeakins, Elois Jenssen, Gile Steele and Gwen Wakeling.

Now, back to the Culver City Historical Society and the wonderful MGM costume collection! The Society will be working with the city on plans for the future which may include a costume exhibition on Woodbury University's Campus, in conjunction with the Second Annual International Burbank Film Festival in March of 2010. Stay tuned – and have a wonderful summer!

~ LC-W



The photograph above is from the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology where one of the professors was also one of the designers for the opening ceremony of the Olympics last year, and some of the designs were on her studio wall.



ABOVE: Here I am (R) and one of the lucky students, Tabitha Wong, on the Great Wall.

BELOW: Here is a photograph of a silk factory we visited. This shows the silk being spun directly from the cocoons.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- JUL. 15:** CCHS SUMMER
"PICNIC IN THE PARK" &
GENERAL MEETING
- Jul. 28:** ARC open to visiting
students from Sister
City, Kaizuka, Japan
- Aug. 10:** ARC open to visiting
CC Woman's Club after
their picnic in the park
- AUG. 28-30:** FIESTA LA BALLONA
- Sep. 12:** "Made in Culver City" -
Tribute to Films of 1939
(see box below)
- Sep. 20:** • Culver City's 92nd
Anniversary of Incorpor.
• CCHS "Celebration of
the Movies ~ #2"
- OCT. 17:** LA ARCHIVES BAZAAR
- OCT. 21:** CCHS FALL
GENERAL MEETING

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

2009 ARC Volunteer Dates 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 pm

Call to confirm dates: 310.253.6941

Jul. 18	Aug. 1	Aug. 15
Sep. 5	Sep. 19	Oct. 3
Oct. 17	Oct. 31	Nov. 14
Nov. 28	Dec. 12	

"Made in Culver City" Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009

The Culver City Redevelopment Agency presents the third annual *Made in Culver City* film screening on Saturday, September 12 at 7:30pm in Culver City City Hall Courtyard.

Made in Culver City is a free event that celebrates the golden classics that were produced in "The Heart of Screenland," and the 2009 event will feature the MGM classic film, the much-beloved *Wizard of Oz*.

For this special weekend family event, the CC Historical Society will open the ARC for visitors to learn more of the city's film history.

~ ~ ~

For more information on *Made in Culver City*, please call the Cultural Affairs Hotline at 310.253.5716 or visiting the City's website at www.culvercity.org.

SPRING GENERAL MEETING:

At the April 15th Spring CCHS General Meeting, we had the pleasure of hosting Ralph Cantos who shared a most informative history of the streetcars and trolleys of Los Angeles which also serviced Culver City. He presented a fascinating slide show which brought back many memories! Thanks again, Ralph.



Above: Guest speaker Ralph Cantos.

Below: The audience enjoying the slide presentation & the memories!



In Memoriam

Our long-time CCHS member and friend, Reba Yudess passed away earlier this year. Among many things, she was instrumental in helping to create the Society's historic-motif throws which have been such a popular gift item. She will be missed.

~ ~ ~

Sunshine thoughts go out to our good friends, Stan Abrams, Lorraine Henderson, Jim Kwak and Virgie Eskridge. We wish them all well.

- Thank You for your new membership:
Marion & Sam Feingold

An ARC Update

by Martha & Sol Sigall
Vice President, Archives

THE ARC HOSTS SPECIAL VISITORS & EVENTS

A very welcome and surprise guest was Culver City's former Director of Parks and Recreation, Syd Kronenthal, who came with CCHS member Ross Hawkins. President Stu Freeman and Julie Lugo Cerra had the pleasure to greet him and hear his favorable comments. Due to Syd's formidable efforts through the years, our Society has acquired many important memorabilia and artifacts.

Sonny and Pat Clapp, who just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, visited the ARC recently. Pat, a founding member, modeled an MGM costume in one of our early fashion shows.

Paul Pitti, a long-time CC resident and CCHS member stops by the ARC often. He always has interesting stories to share about the Pitti family and their connection to Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show.

We had a special opening of the ARC on June 20th for the 40th reunion of the Culver High Class of 1969, and will open for student guests from our Sister City of Kaizuka, Japan on July 28th. It's always such a pleasure to have these special visits.

BOOK-SIGNING FOR NEW BOOK ON DIRECTOR VICTOR FLEMING

We had a full house recently for a book signing by Michael Sragow, movie critic for the Baltimore Sun, who wrote the book, "Victor Fleming: An American Master." It was so interesting to learn about the accomplishments of the well-known director, who directed *Gone With The Wind* and *Wizard of Oz*.

He also showed an amazing 1919 clip of Fleming's directorial debut – which was filled with unique and *early* special effects! Joining him were Mickey Kuhn and Patrick Curtis, who appeared in *GWTW* when they were very, very young. Sally Fleming, one of Victor Fleming's daughters, was also a special guest. A very lively Q&A session followed. Those of you who were there could attest to the enjoyment of that afternoon (see *more of the event* on page 5).

On June 22nd, the CC City Council was scheduled to take action on Historic Preservation programs. We will discuss this more at the Picnic meeting.

As you know, the ARC is open on the first and third Saturdays of each month, and by appointment. We look forward to seeing you soon – and, if you have some time to give, we need volunteers to sort and catalog our many treasures.

NOTE: The ARC will be open for visitors following the July 15th Picnic/Meeting – but, remember, NO FOOD allowed!!!

~ Martha & Sol



L-R: "Uncle" Syd Kronenthal and CCHS President Stu Freeman survey the displays at the ARC.



Sonny and Pat Clapp visiting the ARC. Pat is a founding CCHS member.



Nicholas Ryan Lachoff is pictured on one of his visits to the ARC before he even was a month old, with his parents, Michele (Cerra) and Kevin Lachoff, who hold a family membership. Fellow members Stu Freeman, Tami Eskridge, Steve Rose, Cathy Zermeno and Fred Yglesias pointed out the new fourth generation member.

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

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

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

P.O. Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428. For further information, call (310) 253-6941 or email: info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org.

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

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.

Brundo InteriorsRichard Ross Brundo (310) 391-1888
California Bank & Trust..... (310) 410-9281
Cantalini's Salerno Beach Rest. ... Lisa Schwab (310) 821-0018
Cavanaugh Realtors Dannie Cavanaugh (310) 837-7161
Culver Center Flowers Mike Eskridge (310) 839-2344
Culver Hotel, The Douglas Newton(310) 838-7963
Culver Studios, The (310) 202-1234
Robert L Duitsman, Attorney At Law (310) 645-6223
Flanigan Farms Patsy Flanigan (310) 836-8437
Freeman Properties Stuart Freeman (310) 839-7593
Fresh Paint Josetta Sbeglia (310) 558-9355

Harold Hanslmair Ins Agcy, Inc (310) 837-8144
JLF Appraisal ServicesJoel Forman (310) 837-7455
Ken Harada, DDS (310) 837-5121
Walter N. Marks Realty..... (310) 204-1865
Marcus Accounting Services (310) 397-4696
Netzel Associates Paul & Diane Netzel (310) 836-7624
Jeffrey S. Penso, M.D. (310) 204-6897
Petrelli's RestaurantGeorge Petrelli (310) 398-9777
Santa Maria Barbecue Co. James Rodrigues (310) 842-8169
Carol Schwab, CC City Attorney (310) 253-5660
Sony Pictures Entertainment.....Kristin Cavanaugh (310) 244-4000

Culver City Historical Society

PO Box 3428 • Culver City, CA • 90231-3428