



Culver Historical Highlights

Volume 32 No. 3

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Summer 2011

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEIVES PROCLAMATION FOR "HISTORICAL PRESERVATION"

COLUMN ONE:

MARGARET CRUZ at 100

Descendents of our Early Settlers give us wonderful "pieces" of history by sharing memories that describe our cultural landscape. We are lucky to have many stories of the founding families of Rancho La Ballona: brothers Agustin and Ygnacio Machado, Felipe Talamantes and his son, Tomas.

Margaret Lamorie Cruz, a descendent of Felipe Talamantes, reached a milestone this past May when she turned 100 years old!



Photo by Cerra.

Seen here in this photo, Margaret proudly displays her "Nuestra Senora de Sapopa." In the case, she also keeps a piece of her

CITY OF CULVER CITY HONORS THE CC HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR ITS HISTORICAL PRESERVATION WORK AT MAY 2 MEETING

As May is national "Historic Preservation Month," it was most appropriate for the Culver City Council to present to the Culver City Historical Society at its May 2nd meeting a special Proclamation honoring the Society for its long history of historical preservation. President Stu Freeman accepted the proclamation with many of the CCHS Board and Society members in attendance. (See photo of proclamation on pg. 5.)



Photo credit: Shelly Wolfberg

mother's bridal bouquet and other meaningful memorabilia. Born in 1911 at her grandmother's home on a dirt road, now called Sepulveda Boulevard (near Washington Blvd.), Margaret is a wealth of information of the "olden days" – including memories of attending the first La Ballona grammar school.

Margaret still has a twinkle in her eyes, a taste for tequila, and she especially remembers the good times. Margaret, you are really something. Happy 100th birthday! And thanks for your memories!



CCHS Annual "Picnic in the Park"



• JULY 20TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING •

This year's annual CCHS meeting and picnic will again be catered on-site by Culver City's own Santa Maria BBQ restaurant. Jim Rodriguez, owner of the Santa Maria BBQ, will do his magic at the barbeque grill, with his Choice Grade tri-tips and plump Grade-A chickens. Soft drinks and conversation begin at 5:30 pm. Dinner is served from 6:30 – 7:30pm. (See accompanying story on pg. 7.)

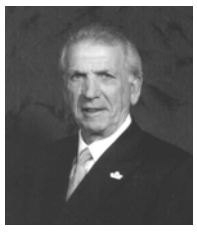
The Razzmatazz Dixieland jazz ensemble will be performing festive barbeque music throughout the event, and free gifts and door prizes will add to the fun. The price for everything is \$25 per person. Reservations are essential and checks should be made to the *Culver City Historical Society* and received no later than Wednesday, July 13.

The CCHS Board will hold a brief public meeting to discuss upcoming programs and projects, as well as updates on the many activities at the ARC.

The ARC will be open for brief tours *after dining (remember: no food allowed in the ARC)*. The public is invited and students are encouraged to attend. 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



First, let me thank those of you who responded so enthusiastically to my article in our last newsletter.

As you may recall, I requested that if you were doing some "spring cleaning" and happened to find anything that relates to Culver City history, to please consider donating it to the CCHS Archives & Resource Center (ARC).

I'm very happy to report that we have had some wonderful items donated and we are most grateful. We will now be able to protect and display these items in our Archives for you and your families and for future visitors to enjoy and study.

As our collection grows, the ARC becomes an important destination for historic research as well as becoming a more interesting place to visit.

I encourage you to continue to support the Culver City Historical Society with your membership renewals as well as with your donations. You might consider giving a CCHS membership as a graduation gift to bring the unique history of Culver City to new generations to appreciate.

YOU are making our Archives & Resource Center better by your participation.

Thank you!

Sincerely 

Notes from Your City Historian

by Julie Lugo Cerra



EL MARINO STUDENTS TOUR THE PAST TO SEE THE FUTURE

Our children are our future – and how important it is to offer them a window into the past, to help them make grounded future-oriented decisions.

Two days toward the end of the school year, we "shared" busloads of students from El Marino School with CCPD for four tours. We were able to start all four tours in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers, which really helps set the tone.

Alice Horiba, teacher extraordinaire, has worked out an historic scavenger hunt from there, through our downtown. This exercise is a wonderful example of painless education, and nurturing good citizenship early (see photo below). Special thanks to City Manager John Nachbar and staff, Shelly Wolfberg and Jeff Wolf. CCHS member Catherine Yanda also joined in.



HISTORIC SITE #13

ANNOUNCEMENT SOON

Your Historic Sites Committee (Stu Freeman, Joy Jacobs, Tami Eskridge, Jeanne Conklin & Julie Lugo Cerra) met in June and will bring a recommendation to the Board at the end of the month. We should have an Historic Site #13 announcement soon. We are working on a variety of levels, to broaden the scope of our preservation efforts in support of our city.

HULL FAMILY VISITS HISTORIC BUILDING

Foster Hull, the son of Nebraska-born (1897) Dr. Foster Hull, visited our city recently and CCHS President Stu Freeman (owner of the Hull Building) arranged for a lunch at its current occupant, the Akasha Restaurant, where Foster felt right at home!

Although the Society marked the Hull Building as Historic Site #2 – Culver City's first hospital – we knew very little about the physician/builder. Dr. Hull was the man responsible for our first hospital.

We learned that Dr. Foster Hull received his medical degree from U.S.C. and subsequently served as a captain in the U. S. Army during World War I. He rode through France as a medical officer during his service, after which he moved to Culver City in 1919. He lived near the hospital he built in the 1920s.

Foster shared that his father's practice included caring for locals, "some of whom paid him in lima beans or goats," to silent film legends such as Tom and Harry Brown and the family of Myrna Loy.

Dr. Hull married Marion Dunlop in 1928. Their son Foster was born in 1930 – in

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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Contributing Writers..... Julie Lugo Cerra

Marc Wanamaker, Steve Newton

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Louise Coffey-Webb Costumes

Martha & Sol Sigall Production Photos

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Editor's Column

The Society is extremely proud to have been awarded an Historic Preservation Proclamation from the City – it is so rewarding to be recognized and appreciated by the community we serve.

It has been a very busy period for the CCHS with a variety of visitors coming to the ARC with real interest and curiosity for the unique history that is Culver City's. Our April meeting and program featuring the new book by Julie Lugo Cerra & Marc Wanamaker, "Movie Studios of Culver City," demonstrated how valuable our work is in preserving the "Heart of Screenland."

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

Culver City, of course! The Hulls moved to Hollywood in the 1930s, having lost the Hull Building during the Depression. (This was the beginning of Freeman family ownership). They later moved to Laurel Canyon.

Foster also shared that his father invented an antiseptic seaweed product called "Pyogon," used in China in the 1930s for dental purposes. Dr. Hull passed away in 1948.

Dr. Hull had two brothers and a sister. His brothers settled in the San Fernando Valley, raised horses, and had a lumber business on Melrose in Hollywood.

When asked about his father, Foster's memories include his father's love of music and singing. He had fond memories of horseback riding with his father, too. In fact, when Foster moved to Maui in 1972, he established stables (cont'd. pg. 3)

REEL



CULVER CITY

by Marc Wanamaker

[Editor's Note: With the recent release of *Movie Studios of Culver City*, co-authored with Julie Lugo Cerra, and several other film books to his credit and another to be released shortly, the CCHS thought it would be appropriate to turn the focus of this issue's *Reel Culver City* column on our own Marc Wanamaker and his internationally-known Bison Archives.

Marc and Bison Archives have served many varied filmmakers and film historians for more than four decades and *Reel Culver City* continues his mission to restore and preserve the vital art form of filmmaking – concentrating on the extraordinary part Harry Culver and Culver City have contributed, making *our town* truly “The Heart of Screenland.”]

BISON ARCHIVES

Bison Archives is a production and research consulting organization for motion picture and television studios, and production companies and related institutions, as well as museums, libraries, media and historical societies nationwide. It provides information, advice and intellectual property on all levels of involvement with film/television pre-production to post production.

Established in Los Angeles, California in 1971, Bison Archives adopted the trademark logo of “Bison Life Motion Pictures” or “Bison Films,” which was founded in New York in 1909.

CONSULTANT ON MORE THAN 100 DOCUMENTARY FILMS

Bison Archives' extensive historical motion picture and Los Angeles Area photograph library is used to provide services to various organizations. These unique materials aid private research and are a source for internally developed Bison Productions film/television projects and book publications internationally.

The Archives have been used to consult on more than 100 documentary films. From “Hollywood: The Pioneers,” a 13-hour history of Hollywood films of the silent era, to biography documentaries of Hollywood studio personalities, Marc Wanamaker has played an integral part in everything from script preparation to researching historical photographs. Bison Archives is a leading expert on art and antiques, “silent stars” in their own right that have enhanced film production values for some of the greatest motion pictures.

Marc is a passionate advocate of protecting Hollywood history and architecture. The following comes from a

1980 article that aptly describes his basic philosophy and dedication, citing the early beginnings of what Bison Archives has evolved into:

“UNFORGOTTEN”

Film archivist fights endless battle to preserve Hollywood's historic assets

by Christine Spines

“Los Angeles is a city that runs from its past. Like the movie business it provides a home to, L.A. creates a new set for each successive circumstance, rarely making use of the structures that already exist.

“Unlike New York and San Francisco, which capitalize on their histories and flaunt them like peacocks, the past of the nation's second largest city rarely exists in photographs, movies and myths.

“The reasons why L.A.'s history is so elusive – and often bulldozed – are many and complex. West Hollywood resident Marc Wanamaker has made it his life's work to preserve and make sense of what's left.

“L.A. is a transient society,” explains Wanamaker, a historian who studies the evolution of film, studios and cities. For more than 20 years, the L.A. native who attended University High School, Cal State Northridge and UCLA has been involved in researching and compiling the histories of art, architecture, and antiques relating to the movie business.

“Wanamaker has come to be known to preservationists, historians and film buffs as the man with all the answers through the use of his extensive collection of photographs and publications, Wanamaker has developed a system which helps him find out obscure facts like whether Rudolph Valentino actually lived in the Valentino Frank's.

“This information is extremely useful in determining the cultural significance of a building. Both preservationists and developers consult with Wanamaker to find out the true value of the property, which is sometimes hidden in history.

“Historic Resources Group, a private preservation-consulting firm in Hollywood, uses Wanamaker's expertise regularly. ‘Marc is very good at putting together materials that will go through the life of a building,’ says Christy McAvoy, who is a principal with the firm. The group most recently consulted with Wanamaker on its historic preservation plan for Twentieth Century Fox Studios. ‘Marc's verifications are precise because he does have records,’ adds McAvoy.

“But Wanamaker sees his work reaching beyond something's monetary or even cultural significance. The real gratification comes on a personal level.

“History can change people,’ says Wanamaker, emphasizing the necessity for L.A. to start realizing the value of its past. ‘Its use is not simply nostalgic, it has to do with enriching your life.’

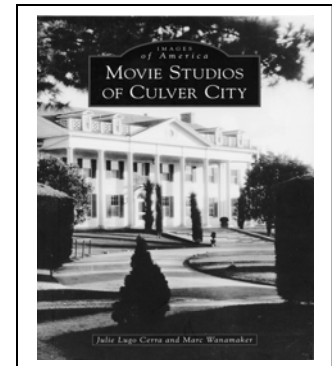
“But Wanamaker remains steadfast about the importance of creating awareness of the facts behind the business of fantasy. ‘People must learn to use history as an asset,’ he says. ‘The crux of the whole thing is how it relates to today.’”

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“Historian ” (cont'd.)

called the “Rainbow Ranch.”

CCHS HISTORIC SITE #2

The Hull Building, which we know as “Akasha” Restaurant today, was constructed as the first hospital in Culver City. Dr. Foster Hull, a physician/surgeon who served the city as its second health officer, built the structure in 1925. The Culver City Historical Society marked it as Historic Site #2 in the early 1980s. When Historic Preservation was added to the municipal code in 1991, the building earned city “Landmark” status.

The wedge-shaped Neo-classical-style building was purchased by Louis Freeman during the Great Depression. The tan and rose-colored brick structure has remained in the ownership of the Freeman family, for three generations.

Over the years, the first floor housed many businesses, including Sunset Drugs (with a soda fountain), Al Simon's Sada's Flowers (1930s), Ed Tinger's Culver City Flowers (1940s), Kamin's Shoes, and in 1978, the Bank of Orange County, which gutted the building and brought it up to earthquake standards.

More recently, it was reconfigured to become a restaurant, (Riccardo's, Bella Pasta, San Gennaro, and now Akasha). The upstairs housed offices and a boarding house at one time. (See photos on pg. 4.)

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ ~ ~

Once again, the CC Historical Society, a proud member of the Chamber, was pleased to participate in the Culver City Chamber of Commerce Expo on June 22nd at Media Park. This year marks the Chamber's 90th Anniversary!

Pictured below, L-R, Alan and Lydia Spiegelman, Steve Fry and CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman. Also working the CCHS booth were Tami Eskridge, Jeanne Conklin and Julie Lugo Cerra.



ARC SCREENING SCHEDULE

[COMPLIMENTS OF THE SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT 40" FLAT SCREEN]

(Please note that titles are subject to change and seating is limited. Programs will start at 1:15 sharp.)

7/16 – *Citizen Kane* (1941)

8/6 – *North By Northwest* (1959)

8/20 – *Les Girls* (1957)

9/3 – *Jailhouse Rock* (1957)

9/17 – *Singin' in the Rain* (1952)

10/1 – *Batman* (1966)

10/15 – *King Kong* (1933)

Welcome New CCHS Members

- Maureen Genteman, *Patron*
- Jan Harmon and Dave Lehman, *Family*



HISTORIC HULL FAMILY VISIT

*Left: L-R: Akasha restaurant owners, Alan Shulman & Akasha Richmond, welcome Dr. Foster Hull's son, Foster Hull and June Huntington, Foster's sister for a luncheon visit hosted by current owner, CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman, to the building their father built in 1925 to be the first hospital in Culver City. [Note: This entrance was made famous in the film *Tron!*]*

Right: L-R: Lynn and Foster Hull with his sister June Huntington, in front of the Hull building looking at the bronze plaque placed by the CCHS to mark the building as Historic Site #2 in the early 1980s.

~ Photos by Cerra



ATTENTION CCHS Members: The October General Meeting will be Elections for New Officers

Based on the Culver City Historical Society's By-Laws, Article IV, Section 1 which covers Nominations and Elections of new officers, in July, President Stu Freeman will form an Election Nominating Committee. This committee will make inquiry calls to members in good standing who wish to be part of a slate of CCHS Officers who will be installed at the Annual Meeting in January, 2012, serving two-year terms.

If interested in working with the Society as an elected officer, please call 310.253.6941 or send an email to info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org. The proposed nomination of officers will be voted on by the full Society membership at the October 19th General Meeting.

~ ~ ~ PRESERVING HISTORY FOR OVER 30 YEARS !”

“MOVIE STUDIOS OF CULVER CITY” BOOK SIGNING

At the April 19th General Membership Meeting, our special program featured a most unique event: The book signing of a wonderful new book by two of our most prestigious members: Julie Lugo Cerra and Marc Wanamaker. “Movie Studios of Culver City” is the latest edition to the “Images of America” series and another focusing on the Culver City area.

The presentation brought out an especially large and diverse audience – of CCHS members and guests alike. We were delighted to welcome Chris Wilde, Harry Culver’s second grandson, who brought greetings from the Culver family. Others enjoying the evening were Darrell Rooney (co-author with Mark A. Vieira of the recently released book “Harlow in Hollywood”), Kristin Cavanaugh from Sony Pictures, and CCHS members with an extensive history in filmmaking, Maxine Mytar, and the Parrish Family, Dennis, Willy & Hope. The City was well represented by Councilmember Jeff Cooper, City Attorney Carol Schwab, Deputy City Attorney Heather Baker, City Manager John Nachbar, Public Works Director Charles Herbertson (who made a donation of a wonderful book of maps) and Cultural Affairs Commissioner Michelle Bernardin. Nodding their heads in “joint memories” were Paul Pitti, Ken Ruben, Gerald & Betty Salius, Dorothy Steiner, Marguerite Castro, Carol Gustin, Jin Kwak and, from Anaheim, the Jobs.



A happy and attentive crowd came out to hear the extraordinary story of the “Movie Studios in Culver City.” [Even Nicholas, Julie’s grandson (left), wanted an autographed copy!]

And a special thanks to CC PRCS Director Daniel Hernandez and Commissioner Rick Hudson for stopping by to say hello!

~ Photos by Lachoff

“Historic Proclamation” (cont’d.)



L-R: Culver High Alum Dan Bloom (’63) who built the “visually historic” screen for the ARC (behind them) and Ron Crawford (’61) visited the ARC in June – and were happy to see the growth. Danny lives in Dana Point and Ron was visiting from Folsom (the city not the prison).



NEWS FROM THE COSTUME CHAIR . . .

by Louise Coffey-Webb
Costume Committee Chair

THE ANNUAL COSTUME SOCIETY OF AMERICA SYMPOSIUM

I have just returned from rainstorms in Boston where I was attending the annual Costume Society of America Symposium. I presented a lecture on Ganna Walska, a well-known Polish opera singer and socialite, whose designer of choice was the legendary Erté – famous for his Art Deco sinewy figures and fantastical ornaments.

Erté was also contracted to design sets and costumes for MGM in 1925, and his credits include *The Mystic*, *Bright Lights*, *Time*, *the Comedian*, *Dance Madness*, *La Bohème*, and *Paris* – all made during that one year! He was often partnered with designer Andre-Ani.

Even though his Parisian studio was replicated on the MGM lot to help him feel comfortable, one year was all he could bear!

NEW DISPLAYS OF COSTUMES OF HEDY LAMARR & ELEANOR PARKER

There are a couple of new costume displays in the ARC that I wanted to tell you about.

The first is an outfit made for Hedy Lamarr that looks like a two-piece skirt and top, but is actually made in one piece of a pretty red printed flower on black silk.

Hedy Lamarr was born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler in Vienna and was a star in Europe before signing with Louis B. Mayer, who changed her name. She was a contracted star with MGM from 1937 through the end of World War II. [In 1942, at the height of her Hollywood career, she patented a frequency-switching system for torpedo guidance that was two decades ahead of its time; but that's another story!]

We do not know the designer, as the production number written inside: "3684" belongs to a production that never came to fruition. It's possible that this outfit was made for PR purposes. I have dated it circa 1940.

The other costume looks like an Asian pajama set, and is superbly finished to couture standards with a pale green chiffon silk lining. It is from *The Seventh Sin* (MGM, 1957) and was worn by Eleanor Parker as "Carol Carwin." The hand-written labels sewn to the interior seams, say "Eleanor Parker" and the film

production number "1710." The designer was Helen Rose.



Above: Hedy Lamar's one piece outfit of a pretty red printed flower on black silk (Prod. #3684).

Below: An Asian pajama set worn by Eleanor Parker in the 1957 film "The Seventh Sin," designed by Helen Rose. (Prod. #1710).



When you next enter the ARC, look for the photograph on the left of the old Meralta Theatre on Culver Boulevard, which is displaying on it's marquee, the film *The Seventh Sin* with Eleanor Parker! The theatre was near the old City Hall and we can date the photograph to 1957 - as that was the film release date. This coincidence was noticed by Justine Scupine, Editor of www.culvercitytimes.com when he visited the ARC last month.

VISIT THE NEW DISPLAYS AT THE PACIFIC THEATRE

I hope you have had a chance to look at our new display in the window of the Pacific Theatre, opposite The Culver Hotel. We will be changing sections every couple of months, to keep you up-to-date with our events and activities.



Have a wonderful summer!

~ LC-W

MARK YOUR "2011" CALENDAR

- JUL. 7: FREE SUMMER CONCERTS BEGIN AT CITY HALL
- JUL. 20: CCHS PICNIC AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- AUG. 20.: HELMS BAKERY 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
- AUG. 24 : CULVER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 90TH ANNIVERSARY
- AUG. 26-28: 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LA FIESTA LA BALLONA
- SEPT.: CCHS FUNDRAISER AT CULVER HOTEL (DETAILS TO COME)
- SEPT. 17: MACHADO FAMILY REUNION AT DOMINGUEZ ADOBE
- SEPT. 20: CULVER CITY'S ANNIVERSARY OF INCORPORATION
- OCT. 19: CCHS PROGRAM AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- OCT. 22: LA AS SUBJECT ARCHIVES BAZAAR AT USC
- 2011.: VENICE HIGH SCHOOL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The CC Cultural Affairs Commission meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Council Chambers, City Hall

For more information on any of these events, please contact the CCHS: info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org or Tel: 310.253.6941. Or visit our web: www.culvercityhistoricalsociety.org

2011 ARC Volunteer Dates 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 pm

Call to confirm dates: 310.253.6941

Jul. 2	Jul. 16	Aug. 6
Aug. 20	Sep. 3	Sep. 17
Oct. 1	Oct. 15	Nov. 5
Nov. 19	Dec. 3	Dec. 17

"HISTORIC QUESTION"

Remember this early Ice Rink?

When I was a child I took ice skating lessons from a woman on a small rink on Sepulveda Blvd. prior to the Culver City Ice Arena opening. I've been able to find that there was a small rink at 5575 Sepulveda Blvd. at Jefferson, run by Harlan & Margaret Parker. I have not been able to find anything more on the rink's name or its owners and hope someone may remember this rink and share more details.

Thank you, Bob Bourdon
bbourdon1@gmail.com or 909-981-4619

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. Help preserve our history.

PROFILE: SANTA MARIA B-B-Q

Jim Rodrigues, owner of Culver City's Santa Maria Barbeque restaurant (9552 Washington Blvd), prepares genuine Santa Maria-style barbeque.

Again this year he has agreed to cater the Culver City Historical Society's annual picnic dinner at the Vets Park picnic area Wednesday evening, July 20. Soft drinks and conversation begin at 5:30 pm, and dinner is served from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. The public is invited.

Jim himself will be doing the barbequing. Come watch a skilled master at work. The dinner includes tender Choice-Grade tri-tip beef and plump Grade-A chickens, his special chili beans, potato salad, green salad, garlic bread, Santa Maria's special BBQ sauce (if you really have to have sauce), home made-cookies and soft drinks.

Now, there are many types of barbeque in this country. Most are defined by their region, type of meat, preparation, sauces, and side dishes. Out of this tradition came Santa Maria-type barbeque, originating in the Santa Maria Valley, between Santa Barbara and San Louis Obispo in the mid-1800s.

The style was based on simple preparation with high quality top sirloin meat, red oak coals, a dry rub, simple side dishes, and no sauces. It was only in the last 50 years that the tri-tip slab of beef, the triangular cut from the corner of a top sirloin, supplanted the whole top sirloin as the meat of choice, and became the defining factor in Santa Maria barbecue.

The taste and texture of the tri-tip roast is unlike any other cut of beef. It combines the strong and bold flavor of beef with the perfect texture of a great steak. So unique is this particular cut of beef and barbeque style that, as the Santa Maria Times wrote, "A copyright, held by the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce, protects the name, the concept, and the menu. This action came about to stop commercial ventures from advertising their barbecue when it wasn't 'the real thing.'"

Reservations are required for the Culver City Historical Society's Santa Maria Barbeque picnic dinner. Call (310) 253-6941, e-mail to info@culvercityhistoricalsociety.org, or send your name, phone number, and check for \$25 per person to Culver City Historical Society, P.O. Box 3428, Culver City, CA, 90231-3428. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, July 13.

In Memoriam

Warmest condolences to the family of Lillian Patacchia, widow of Culver City's Mayor Emeritus, Dan Patacchia, on her recent passing.

Get Well Wishes

The Society sends "Sunshine Thoughts" and best wishes to our members and good friends Tammie Battle, Jean Barker, Fred Machado, Richard Marcus, Fred Yglesias, the Zermenos, and the Jakubowskis. Hoping tomorrow is brighter for all.

An ARC Update

by *Winston Gieseke*
Vice President, Museum/ARC

NEW FILM SCREENINGS KICKS OFF WITH "EASTER PARADE"

It's been a busy season at the Archives & Resource Center (ARC). We're especially happy to have kicked off our Saturday afternoon screenings with the April 16th screening of the 1948 classic *Easter Parade*, thanks to the generous donation of a 40" flat screen Sony Bravia Television and a Blu-ray/DVD player from Sony Pictures Entertainment.

MANY VISITORS TO THE ARC

We've been fortunate enough to host some very special guests, including out-of-state Life Member Millie O'Shea and her husband, who dropped in with former museum chairs Martha and Sol Sigall.

And then there was the "Foodie Group" folks who followed up their recent walking tour of historic downtown Culver City led by Julie Lugo Cerra with a request for a visit to the CCHS ARC which Julie was more than delighted to give. The group then continued their quest for culture by heading across the street to the Mayme A. Clayton Library & Museum, another wonderful local historic resource.

THE CCHS SETS DISPLAY FOR CC JULIAN DIXON LIBRARY

The Society has been asked to place a special display in the Culver City Julian Dixon Library to celebrate the newly enlarged photo plaque of our former congressman and assembly member. We are proud to be loaning some of the items we received from the congressman's estate, including a personalized clock from his office, books from his library, photos, a letter from then (*and now*) Governor Jerry Brown, and the voting mechanism from his time as a California assembly member. The Society was fortunate to receive these items through the efforts of Ed Johnson, former staffer to the congressman, and CCHS member Neil Rubenstein.

Let me underscore the importance of those donations as the museum is made possible in large part by such donations. If you have anything of historical significance that you'd like to donate to the Society, please bring them to the ARC during open hours.

And please bring yourself! Our Costume Chair, Louise Coffee-Webb, has new wardrobes on display, and we're also working on a special exhibit for the 60th Anniversary of the Fiesta La Ballona, which will take place on the last weekend in August. Check out CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org for a schedule of special museum hours.

Remember, if you enjoy classic movies – and don't mind seeing them for free (!), visit our website for the movie schedule and drop in on our next open Saturday.

We are always looking for volunteers to greet the guests to the ARC and to help catalogue our valuable collection which is always growing!

Hope to see you soon!

~ *Winston*



Above: CCHS Sec. Jeanne Conklin (rear left) shows off the wonderful costume display to the "Foodie Group" folks. **Below:** Members of the CC Woman's Club visit the ARC.



DO SOMETHING HISTORIC!

Take an active role in the Culver City Historical Society: Become a CCHS Docent, conduct a downtown walking tour, be a "Living History" presenter. If you're good at organizing or filing, help at the ARC.

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

Web: www.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

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|---|---|--|
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