



Culver Historical Highlights

Volume 33 No. 3

Published by the Culver City Historical Society

Summer 2012

FOUNDING CCHS PRESIDENT CATHY ZERMENO TO BE HONORED BY LA BALLONA FIESTA BOARD

COLUMN ONE

CC METRO STATION OPENS WITH OFFICIAL DEDICATION

Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Antonio Villaraigosa joined Culver City Mayor Andy Weissman and other local elected officials at noon on Wednesday, June 20, to officially dedicate the opening of the Expo Line Culver City Station located in the heart of Culver City at the intersection of Washington and National Blvds.

TRANSPORTATION PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN CITY'S DEVELOPMENT

After intense study, city founder Harry Culver pinpointed this area for a city – between the pueblo of Los Angeles and Abbot Kinney's resort of Venice – and announced his plans for a new city at the California Club in Los Angeles in 1913.

When conducting his "due diligence" study of an area ripe for development, the factors he considered included climate, location, and transportation. One of his early ads proclaimed, "All Roads lead to Culver City – the home city."

(cont'd. pg. 3)

SOCIETY'S FIRST PRESIDENT HONORED FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORY OF THE CITY AND THE FIESTA

"The first President of the Culver City Historical Society (1980-82) and former chairperson of Fiesta La Ballona (1987), Cathy Zermeno will be honored at the 62nd Fiesta La Ballona on Saturday, August 25," said this year's Fiesta Chairman, longtime resident, Mike Cohen.



Ms. Zermeno said that Culver City needs to celebrate and collect our city's rich and varied history in an organized form for the present and future generations alike.

"People have to have roots. People need to learn how we got here. Preserving history is wonderful," Ms. Zermeno said.

A PERPETUAL TROPHY TO BE PRESENTED

A Trophy to honor these sentiments will be presented to Ms. Zermeno by the Historical Society at the opening ceremonies beginning at 11:30 am on Saturday. Cathy Zermeno's name will be engraved as its first recipient. This perpetual Trophy for historic contributions will be permanently displayed at the Society's ARC Museum and the names of new honorees will be added through the years.

(cont'd. pg. 4)

Right: A wonderful detail from a vintage Fiesta poster.



CCHS Annual "Picnic in the Park"

• JULY 18TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING •

This year's annual CCHS general meeting and picnic will again be catered onsite at the Vets Park Picnic Area by Culver City's own Santa Maria BBQ restaurant. Jim Rodrigues, 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. 4.)

The Razzmatazz Dixieland jazz ensemble will be performing festive barbeque music throughout the event, and raffle gifts and prizes will add to the fun. Reservations are a must. The price is \$25 per person with reservations received by Wednesday, July 11; \$30 per person without reservations. Children 10 years and under are \$10 each. Use the handy insert form enclosed to secure your place at this fun-filled event, and mail your checks to CCHS, PO Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428.

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. Reminder: bring your sweater or jacket for the evening chill.

The ARC will be open for brief tours *after* dining (remember: no food allowed in the ARC). The public is invited. 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 Louise Coffey-Webb



Dear members,

First of all, a warm welcome to all the new members, as well as those of you who renewed. It was fun to meet new faces at our last program of *Broadway Melody: The Songs & Stories* with tenor Winston Gieseke and accompanist Steve Fry. It was a superb program highlighting our ties to the early movie musicals and I

know I wasn't the only one singing and swaying along with the crowd!

Your membership dues cover the basic costs of keeping our ARC doors open, and our membership informed. Our four general meetings per year are usually accompanied with free entertainment – as with our annual Summer Picnic. Additional programs bring special experiences to our members as well as raise much-needed funds to help procure archival storage supplies and new displays. This past spring there has been a lot of activity in our Archive & Resource Center. Be sure to read Julie's column for the latest news.

We are always looking for new ways to bring the fascinating history of Culver City to our ever-expanding population. For starters, we will be mentioned in the new Culver City Visitors Map (to be published later this year,) and by the time you read this, we will have taken part in the Culver Chamber Expo on June 27th.

Please come to our July 18th Picnic and BBQ at the Veterans Memorial Park. We welcome non-members too – and a little bird tells me that there will be some great raffle prizes.....

Be well and keep cool,

~ Louise



GIVE THE "GIFT OF HISTORY!"

Consider giving the "Gift of History" to your family and friends for any occasion.

SAVE THE DATE!
CCHS FALL FUNDRAISER
Celebrate
Culver City's 95th Birthday
at the
Historic Culver Hotel
Sunday, September 23, 2012
2:00 – 5:00 pm

RENEW YOUR CCHS MEMBERSHIP

by Tami Eskridge, Membership Chair

As January was CCHS Membership Renewal, we hope you will renew now and continue to enjoy the many new and exciting things coming up.

Your membership dues support the Society's diverse efforts to keep Culver City's wonderful history alive for future generations, as well as preserving memorabilia and maintaining our Archives & Resource Center (ARC). And, remember, a CC Historical Society membership makes a wonderful gift – especially for Culver-ites in distant areas!
(see form on pg.8)

Culver Historical Highlights

Web: www.culvercityhistoricalsociety.org

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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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Kevin Lachoff..... Photographer

Editor's Column

Our new CCHS Board has been very busy working on our outreach programs to students and the community – far and wide, and internationally. Our walking tour brochures are coveted souvenirs!

The wonderful ARC Committee has been concentrating an extraordinary amount of work on our many collections. Cataloging, archiving and presentation has been the main focus of these fabulous volunteers.

As proud members of the CC Chamber of Commerce we participate annually in the Chamber Expo. This year, it was nice to have it at the newly renovated Veterans Memorial Building on Wednesday, June 27th.

Remember to watch the Culver sky on July 4th as we are one of the few cities in the area to continue presenting a first rate fireworks program – it's fabulous!

With the many visitors and history buffs coming to the ARC monthly, new exhibits and displays will delight old friends and new. Make plans to come often!

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

"Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language."

~ Henry James

REEL CULVER CITY



by Marc Wanamaker

STUDIO RESEARCH LIBRARIES & THE BISON ARCHIVES COLLECTION



40 YEARS OF DEDICATION PRODUCES AN EXTRAORDINARY FILM ARCHIVE

Bison Archives – named in tribute to the Bison Film Company, an early motion picture studio (formed in 1909) that produced Westerns featuring Native American casts – was collected by this author over a 40-year period of time. About a third of the entire collection came from film studio research libraries where the author worked part-time during the 1980s.

While working at these libraries there was turmoil within the film industry. This was the time when the studios were downsizing, modernizing, and were developing into corporate entities owned by other non-motion picture or television companies.

STUDIOS' RESEARCH LIBRARIES ALMOST DISAPPEAR

Several of the research libraries were lost altogether, such as those of Columbia and Republic studios, while others were put into storage and later sold to George Lucas (Paramount and Universal), Francis Ford Coppola (RKO) and to Dreamworks (Goldwyn).

The 20th Century Fox library was twice placed in storage and almost sold. The MGM and Warner libraries are now together in a building in Burbank and will hopefully find a permanent home with the Art Directors Guild.

LIBRARIES USED BY ALL STUDIO DEPARTMENTS

Research libraries began in the early days of the film industry and were used by writers, producers, directors, actors, costume designers, art directors and even the heads of the studios because the libraries contained just about any information on any subject, historical or contemporary, that was needed by all studio departments.

While working at these departments, the author was encouraged by his department heads to quietly gather any information on the history of the motion picture and television industries as well as on the City

of Los Angeles and all of its surrounding cities. The goal was to accumulate and save many various subjects such as film locations/sites, buildings, houses, estates, railroad and streetcars, theatres, etc. before the libraries were sold, put into storage or destroyed.

MGM RESEARCH LIBRARY HEAD AIDS THE AUTHOR IN PRESERVING DOCUMENTATION INVALUABLE TO CULVER CITY HISTORY

Of special interest to Culver City history, the MGM Research Library contained a great many files on Culver City, its studios and landmarks. Thanks to its department head, James Earle, this author was able to save many of the library's files containing photographs, clippings and memorabilia on such subjects as the railroad and streetcars that were Culver City landmarks. [see photo below]



Many of the location photographs were taken by the Location Department and used by the art department and set dressing department to prepare the location set for use as a background in a film. Thanks to the location departments, many of Los Angeles's landmarks, many long disappeared, are documented for historians' use to this day.

Location photographs and studio photographs contained in the research libraries helped to make Bison Archives an important source of unpublished photos on the history of Culver City as evidenced in Julie Lugo Cerra and Marc Wanamaker's latest book, *Movie Studios of Culver City*.



Above: A photo from the MGM Research Library of the old Pacific Electric Southern Pacific "Ivy Substation" on Venice Blvd.

The research libraries that still exist today are in danger of being sold, broken-up, or lost to those of us who work in the film and television industries and the Art Directors Guild is trying to find ways of preserving them for future filmmakers who are still in the need for "hands-on" research instead of "internet" sources that are not as comprehensive as the "old fashioned" research libraries. [For more information on Marc Wanamaker and Bison Archives, go to <http://www.bisonarchives.com/>.]

Ed. note: In March, 2012, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced that it has acquired more than 70,000 photographs from Marc Wanamaker and the Bison Archives.

Adding to the more than 10 million photographs in the holdings of the Academy's Margaret Herrick Library, the collection features rare images from more than 100 major and independent studios, many of which ceased to exist past the 1920s, including Biograph, Edison, E & R Jungle Film Co., Essanay and Vitagraph.

"These photographs, so many of which focus on behind-the-scenes studio activities, combined with the existing Herrick photographs, will provide unequalled coverage on all aspects of Hollywood filmmaking," commented Academy COO Ric Robertson. ###

"Metro" (cont'd.)

Fanning out from the new city's name were seven examples, "Del Rey Line, Washington Blvd., Venice Short Line, Pico Blvd., Putnam Blvd. (now Culver Boulevard), Air Line and Nat'l Blvd."

Originally named Ivy Substation on the Los Angeles and Independence Railroad, Pacific Electric later renamed it Culver Junction in the early 1900's when the stop was made a junction point with the addition of the Venice short line and others which continued west down Venice Boulevard to the South Bay (see photo at left).

While the new CC Metro Station does not follow the earlier train routes, it does touch closely upon the city's early public transport reflecting Harry Culver's original plans.

Culver Boulevard has changed, and the Red Car is no longer in existence. The only historic reference is the nearby Ivy Substation, which handled the electric current. It has been converted into the Actor's Gang Theater.

NEW STATION TO SERVE DOWNTOWN CULVER CITY

This station is located at the northeast edge of Downtown Culver City, a major retail, entertainment and arts district. Major attractions include the Hayden Tract, the Museum of Jurassic Technology and the Kirk Douglas Theater, among the newly developed "restaurant row."

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ ~ ~

"Fiesta" (cont'd.)

CELEBRATING THE CITY'S HERITAGE SINCE 1951

Fiesta La Ballona has been a Culver City fixture for over half a century. There have been changes through the years, but what remains is a happy community atmosphere and involvement.

"Fiesta La Ballona Days" began in 1951 as a week-long celebration of the region's early settlers. People went to events - and even to work! - dressed up as Native American Indians, rancheros, señoritas, cowboys and cowgirls. The early fiestas evoked pride among the descendants of the "first families" and offered the entire community a playful opportunity to connect with its history.

RECOLLECTIONS FROM CLARITA MARQUEZ YOUNG (CCHS's "MADRINA"):

"The Fiestas began in the early 1950s. Their purpose was to celebrate the Spanish 'first families' from the time of New Spain, Mexico and into the time this was the U.S. I never missed a Fiesta. They were the spice of my life! I rode in the parade, and so did my mother, Senaida Ybarra, and grandmother, Maria Jesus Ybarra."

Clarita wore beautifully detailed Spanish costumes, and mantillas to match. She said she had thirteen costumes, some of which she made herself. Her favorite was the red one, which was trimmed in black lace. Clarita worked hard to educate the community about the early settlers. She was a member of the Beverly Hills Parlor of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, which placed the marker on the colonnade of M.G.M. studios. She was also a founding member, later named Madrina (godmother) of the Culver City Historical Society.



"Madrina" Clarita Marquez Young

RECOLLECTIONS FROM JULIE LUGO CERRA, VP ARC/MUSEUM AND CULVER CITY HISTORIAN:

"Floats, marching bands, scout troops, and mounted horsemen in festive costumes moved down the boulevards to lively music. The Fiesta Queen rode with her court, and other floats included the Downtown Merchants Association and local service clubs. Because the Fiesta was established to honor local history, descendants of the old families were privileged to ride in the parade.



(L-R) Fiesta Parade c. 1950s; the "Pokey;" and CCHS members Cathy & Carlos Lugo with his grandmother's branding iron which was authorized by the State of California in 1887.

"On Saturday there was a 'Kiddie Parade' at Vets' Park. Parents made 'floats' from wagon bases and kids in costume pulled these decorated tributes to our parents' creativity through the park.

"One of the nights, there was an Aquacade at the Plunge. Synchronized swimming, clowns, and water ballet thrilled the cheering spectators. Other nights offered a Barbecue, a Square Dance, and a Teen Hop. A Thieves' Market at Culver Center benefited charity.

"There was a Queen's luncheon, a hobby show in the Armory, and an antique car show, too. One day of that week, generally Friday, everyone was expected to 'dress.' That was the day the 'pokey' drove around town, and those without costumes were 'arrested' and given a ride in this jail on wheels. One who always made me smile was the manager of the water company, Firley Cleveland, dressed in monk's robes!"

AS THE COMMUNITY CHANGED SO DID THE FIESTA...

In 1985, the fiesta was reinvented as a "Festival of the People" and the one-day event took on an international flavor. Five or six years later it became a weekend fair in May.

In 2003, the Fiesta was once again revived by offering events during the entire week with a culminating festival in Veterans Park. In 2004, amusement rides were added to attract families to the event, and in 2005, the Culver City Lions Club opened the first Beer and Wine Garden.

The Fiesta La Ballona continues to be a celebration of the past, present and future of Culver City, showcasing both its warmth and its sophistication. It continues to offer people a place for food and fun and sharing.

~ ~ ~ PRESERVING HISTORY FOR OVER 30 YEARS !"

CITY TAVERN'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY BENEFITS CCHS

City Tavern, the newest "resto" incarnation by the dynamic duo of Brian McKeaney and Ken Kaufman, celebrated its first anniversary on Tuesday, April 3 – and it was truly an evening to remember!

The Culver City Historical Society was extremely fortunate to be the beneficiary organization of the private cocktail reception and a portion of the proceeds from dinner that was open later to the public.

The restaurant was packed from 5:00 pm onward, and all had a wonderful time – enjoying the cocktails specially designed for the party, as well as any and all of the 20 craft beers on tap, plus wonderful tray-passed appetizers. For many of our members, this was a first introduction to City Tavern, but after that evening, we know it won't be their last visit. If you are looking for a fun and delicious dinner to enjoy al fresco this summer, we highly recommend City Tavern!

City Tavern is located at 9739 Culver Blvd., Culver City. Tel: 310.838.9739. Web: www.citytavernculvercity.com.



Left: Co-Host Ken Kaufman, Patti Nachbar & CC Mayor Andy Weisman.

Right: Chuck Martinez & Co-Host Brian McKeaney.



Below (L-R): CCHS Board members, Jeanne Conklin, Lisa Nevins, Lydia Spiegelman & Tami Eskridge.



Left: Manning the CCHS merchandise table is Nicholas Lachoff and Adrienne Bernardin.



"BROADWAY MELODY" SING-ALONG AT THE APRIL 18TH GENERAL MEETING – A HUGE SUCCESS !



Left: Tenor Winston Gieseke, CCHS Pres. Louise Coffey-Webb, & pianist Stephen Fry.

Below: A full audience enjoying participating in the sing-along with our musical guests and song sheets.



~ SANTA MARIA BARBEQUE ~

Jim Rodrigues, owner of Culver City's Santa Maria Barbeque restaurant (9552 Washington Blvd.), prepares genuine Santa Maria style barbeque. Jim himself, will be doing the barbequing.

The dinner includes tender Choice-Grade tri-tip beef and plump Grade-A chickens with Santa Maria's special BBQ sauce (if you really have to have sauce), plus his tasty chili beans, potato salad, green salad and garlic bread. His home-made cookies and soft drinks complete the dinner.

There are many types of barbeque in this country. Most are defined by their region, type of meat, preparation, sauces, and side dishes. We refer to the styles of North Carolina, Kansas City, Memphis, Kentucky, St Louis, Texas and many other regions, as well as imports from such areas as Cuba, Jamaica, Brazil, Hawaii, and Australia.

However, the original American barbeque style was created in early California when vaqueros would gather for barbeque dinners after a long day of branding calves and rounding up steers, or at the ranchos for summer parties.

Out of this tradition came the Santa Maria style barbeque, originating in the Santa Maria Valley, between Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo in the mid 1800s.

A modern TV demonstration, you can visit the "California Coasting on the Grill" episode of the Food Network show "Bobby Flay's Barbecue Addiction." Better yet, come watch Jim Rodrigues do barbecue magic in person.

NEWS FROM THE COSTUME CHAIR...

by Sharon Shore
Costume Committee Chair



RARE ESTHER WILLIAMS COSTUME

When you next stop by the ARC this summer be sure to see the body suit worn by Esther Williams in the film *Neptune's Daughter*, produced by MGM in 1949.

This might be the one and only opportunity we have to display this spectacular but very fragile costume made of delicate gold elasticized net studded with gold sequins. Due to the inherently unstable chemical makeup of most stretchy pre-polyester era fabrics, the net is dry and somewhat brittle overall. In order to protect the suit from further deterioration during the current display period, it is loosely fitted on a partial torso form and gently draped within the display case.

However, when worn by Esther Williams, the suit would have fit "like a glove" right down to the tips of her toes, as illustrated in our copy of a color drawing by the famous costume illustrator Walter Plunkett.

"BATHING BEAUTY" WEAR

Also included in the summer costume display is an emerald green one-piece swim-like costume embellished with a white starfish made of glass studs and sequins. Although the film attribution for the costume is unknown, it is another reminder of the glamorous "bathing beauty" films made in the 1940s and '50s.

A DRESS FIT FOR A FIESTA "PRINCESS"

From the same era, made in 1951 by Rosalie Utterback, is one of the Historical Society's collection of six Fiesta La Ballona dresses displayed on a mannequin on the center platform in the museum. The dress would have been worn by a "Princess" attendant in the Fiesta Queen's court and features a skirt with several deep layers of flounce. The fitted, lace-covered bodice with short cap sleeves and point at the center front waist is exemplary of a popular 1950s cocktail dress style.

COSTUME CARE TIP FOR SUMMER

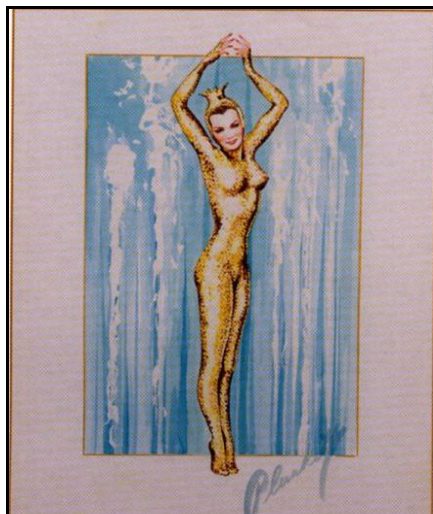
Make time to empty and vacuum out boxes, drawers and bins of your costume and textile collection before the summer arrives. Those insects most likely to cause damage to your collection – namely moths, carpet beetles and silver fish – thrive in dark undisturbed spaces (such as

the lowest drawer in a chest where wool sweaters might be stashed during the summer).

Often a gentle shake and refolding of each item after cleaning out drawers, boxes or bins, will be enough to encourage the pesky few to leave the premises. The clean-out will also reveal any seriously entrenched infestation, hopefully before structural damage has occurred.

If an infestation is serious, you might want to consider seeking the advice and/or help of a professional collections manager, museum conservation staff etc.

~ Sharon



Above: Famed costume illustrator Walter Plunkett's drawing of golden body suit worn by Esther Williams in *Neptune's Daughter*.

In Memoriam

PAUL PITTI –
THE LAST OF CULVER CITY'S COWBOYS



Shirley & Paul Pitti

Born and raised in Culver City, Paul Pitti of the famed Pitti family died peacefully at his home on April 19th at the age of 88.

The Pitti family was among the first 500 families to settle in the town that would become known as the "Heart of Screenland."

His father, Bennie Pete Pitti, was renowned in the movie industry for his expertise with bullwhips, roping, stunt riding and knife-throwing. Paul worked with his father and older brother, Carl, in the entertainment business.

However, after marrying his wife Shirley and following the birth of his first child, Paul decided to try a different line of work which led to a successful 35-year career at Hughes Aircraft.

When World War II broke out, Paul enlisted in the Marine Corps on Dec. 8, 1942. He proudly

MARK YOUR "2012" CALENDAR

JULY. 18: CCHS ANNUAL PICNIC AND
GENERAL MEETING

AUG. 24-26: FIESTA LA BALLONA

SEPT. 23: CCHS FALL FUNDRAISER

OCT. 17: CCHS FALL GEN. MEETING

OCT. 22: 6TH ANNUAL LOS ANGELES
ARCHIVES BAZAAR

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

Welcome New CCHS Members

- Bill Reid
- Earl Eskridge (*Life*)
- Shiloh Eldridge (*Life*)
- Stuart Freeman (*Life*)
- John Riordan (*Life*)
- Rita Zide (*Life*)

Good News!

Harry Culver's family is growing! The first great-grandchild was born this year, and named Addison Grace McMillan. Congratulations to the Battle/McMillan family!

Sunshine Wishes

Warm wishes go out to Tammie Battle and Jeanne Conklin – be well soon!

Reminder: The Culver City High School class of 1962 will be celebrating its 50th Reunion from Sept. 28-30. For more information, contact Robbin Smith @ 310.390.1980 or Joy Thorn Agnew @ 760-249.6068.
Email: cchs62.50@verizon.net.

2012 ARC Volunteer Dates 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 pm

Call to confirm dates: 310.253.6941

Jul. 7	Jul. 21	Aug. 4
Aug. 18	Sep. 1	Sep. 15
Oct. 6	Oct. 20	Nov. 3
Nov. 17	Dec. 1	Dec. 15

served his country fighting in the South Pacific. He used to say "I made four beachhead landings and walked away without a scratch." His last battle was in Okinawa.

In 2001, Paul returned to the world of entertainment, forming the New Westernaires. The popular group played the old-time cowboy campfire music at such venues as the annual Cowboy Poetry and Cowboy Music Festival.

The Historical Society sends our sincerest condolences to his daughter and son-in-law, Pam and Randy Turner, his son Ben, grandchildren Robert and Jennifer Pitti, Nickolas and Ashley Turner, and great grandson Dylan Huybrecht.

An ARC Update

by Julie Lugo Cerra
Vice President,
Museum/ARC and
City Historian



NEW FLAT FILES WILL PRESERVE RARE ITEMS

The acquisition of new flat files has augmented our ability to safely store many precious items, including the oversize book on City Founder Harry Culver's trip across the country in 1929-30. It contains an amazing collection of HHC's press clippings from this yearlong trip – when he served as head of the National Real Estate Association.

We have also purchased a new display piece – a free-standing swing panel display unit. This will be “loaded” with history very soon! It will be especially helpful for our tours and it will free up some cabinet display space as well.

CC PARKS & REC. SCRAPBOOKS GOING “HOME”

The Society has kept in “protective custody” many scrapbooks containing the history of the Culver City Parks and Recreation Department (PRCS). These oversize books are going “home” – and into the same building we share! We are delighted that PRCS Director Dan Hernandez has such a keen interest in history, and we know they will be well cared for and enjoyed. Watch for interesting displays soon!

ARC DISPLAYS & EXHIBITS OFFER SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Special thanks to member David Pelayo for assisting with a display to complement our musical program on *Broadway Melody* for the April 18th General Meeting. It is always a pleasure to host guests after our program meetings, and to offer relevant exhibits is always our goal. (The Arthur Freed and Cole Porter contracts with MGM are spectacular!)

Our next exhibit will be geared towards summertime and the historic Fiesta La Ballona. We will be open from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm on both Saturday and Sunday of the

Fiesta (August 25 & 26). Our own Cathy Zemenko will be honored – so try to join us in celebration at the main stage at 11:30 am on Fiesta Saturday.

THE EXPO WILL HIGHLIGHT EARLY CC TRANSIT HISTORY

Look for touches of your Historical Society in the history of Culver City being presented by the Metro Transit System for the opening of the Culver City portion of the EXPO line – what's old is new again – or should that be more in the line of history repeating itself?!

RECENT DONATIONS

Last year, numerous contacts pointed us in the direction of the Mann Theatre on Washington Blvd. (just outside the city limits), and to a collection of oversize movie photos. The property owners donated them to the Society and Stu Freeman was able to transition them to our space.

We've kept some of the smaller photos for background display in the oak cabinets. As the VMB has been so nicely renovated, what better way to help dress up our home facility than to share with the city?

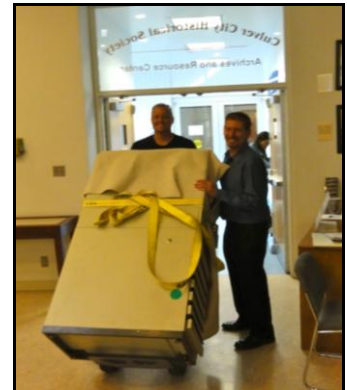
Look for some fine evidence of Culver City, “the Heart of Screenland,” in black and white soon! We are working with the PRCS staff including Diego Cevallos, Tom Dunham and Susan Obrow, who is now located in the VMB complex.



Above: The oversize photos were ably moved out of the ARC by PRCS staff under the direction of Diego Cevallos, on the left.

Also In the area of donations, we have received some very pragmatic things – such as a gift of tools in a box from Bill Barnett. Bill put together the new display rack, and is also very adept with online research! Thank you, Bill.

And thanks to David Starkman, we will be doing a little adaptive reuse of a fine cabinet. For backup support and transportation, Kevin Lachoff was assisted by Marc Naylor. More good space to help organize the collections!



Our new slide file, donated by member David Starkman, was carefully transported by Marc Naylor and Kevin Lachoff (L-R)



Above: Visitors on a recent Saturday at the CC Historical Society Archives and Resource Center.....from Washington state to local Culverites.....



Left: One of our museum committee members Carol Schwab busy organizing in the workroom!

Things are poppin'! With a recommendation of our hardworking Treasurer, Linda Forman, we are hoping to have two new volunteer interns, both of whom have experience with the Getty Museum. I just want to add that we have a fine Museum Committee, and I am SO grateful for our Costume Chair, Sharon Shore – thank you all for pulling together!

If you would like to become an ARC volunteer, please call or email the Society

~ Julie



Left: Does this vintage banner remind you of early Fiesta La Ballona? Visit the Archives during the Fiesta La Ballona to take a look back into Fiesta history!

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



Time to Renew or Become a Member of the Culver City Historical Society Today!

Join others in preserving the history of the "Heart of Screenland" and supporting the Culver City Historical Society Archives & Resource Center (ARC).

We can't do it without YOU!

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

_____ Individual Member (\$20)
_____ Family Member (\$30)
_____ Youth Member (\$10)

_____ Individual Lifetime Member (\$300)
_____ Family Lifetime Member (\$500)
_____ Patron Member (\$100)
_____ Benefactor (\$1000)

_____ Organization (\$15)
_____ Business Member (\$50)
_____ Corporate Sponsor (\$500)

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.

Richard Brundo Interiors..... Richard R. Brundo (310) 391-1888
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 City Animal Hospital Dean Gebroe (310) 836-4551
Culver Hotel Seth Horwitz (310) 558-9500
Freeman Properties Stuart Freeman (310) 839-7593
FRESH PAINT Art Advisors..... Josetta Sbeglia (310) 558-9355
Ken Harada, DDS (310) 837-5121

JLF, LLC Joel & Linda Forman (310) 837-7455
George Petrelli's Steak House..... Marie Petrelli (310) 398-9777
John Riordan Plumbing John Riordan (310) 838-4656
Roll 'N Rye Rest. & Delicatessen Rita Zide (310) 390-3497
Santa Maria Barbecue Co..... James Rodrigues (310) 842-8169
SendOutCards Richard A. Marcus (310) 397-4696
Tower Insurance Assocs. Janet Chabola (310) 837-6101
Valley Investigations Shiloh Eldridge (520) 457-3500
Wells Fargo Private Mortgage Bank..... Lisa Nevins (310) 415-6836

Corporate Sponsor

Sony Pictures Entertainment..... Kristin Cavanaugh (310) 244-4000



Culver City Historical Society

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

Culver City Historical Society

ANNUAL PICNIC MEETING & GALA

Wednesday Evening, July 18, 2012

Veterans Memorial Park Picnic Area

Soft drinks and conversation: 5:30 p.m.

Catered dinner served: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

- ▶ **Come watch Jim Rodrigues from Santa Maria BBQ do his magic at the barbeque grill on-site in the picnic area. His Choice Grade tri-tips and plump Grade A chickens go on the grill at 5 p.m. Lots of side dishes!**
- ▶ **Come hear the famous local RAZZMATAZZ Dixieland ensemble play great Down South ditties.**
- ▶ **Local celebrities & VIPs. Raffle gifts and prizes. Fun & glamour.**

This year's Annual Culver City Historical Society meeting and picnic will be catered on-site by Culver City's own Santa Maria BBQ restaurant (9552 Washington Blvd). Dinner includes tender Choice-Grade tri-tip beef and plump Grade -A chickens, their tasty chili beans, potato salad, green salad, garlic bread, Santa Maria's special barbeque sauce, home made-cookies and soft drinks.

Reservations are a must. If reservations are paid for in advance by Wednesday, July 11, the price is \$25 per person, and \$30 per person at the door. Children under 10 years are \$10 each. Use the handy form below to secure your place at this fun-filled event.

Jim Rodrigues himself, owner of the Santa Maria BBQ restaurant, will be doing the barbequing. The Razzmatazz Dixieland jazz ensemble will be performing, and local celebrity guests will be on hand. Free gifts and door prizes add to the fun.

The CCHS Board will hold a brief public meeting, and guests will have the opportunity of visiting the ARC museum

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Reservations and Tickets for the Annual Picnic. Tickets will be picked up at the event.

NAME(S) _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

NUMBER ATTENDING @ \$25 PER PERSON IF RECEIVED BY JULY 11: _____

NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 10 YRS @ \$10 PER CHILD: _____

- AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Check, Money Order): _____

Mail to: CCHS, P.O. Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428.

Tel: 310.253.6941 Email: info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org