

Culver Historical Highlights

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Happy New Year 2002!

STEVE ROSE IS NEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT

• La Ballona School Designated Historic Site #10 •

CC COUNCILMAN STEVE ROSE IS 10TH CCHS PRESIDENT

Culver City Councilman and Chamber of Commerce President Steve Rose will be formally installed as the tenth CCHS President at the January 15th General Membership Meeting. The Installation dinner will be held at the Sagebrush Cantina in downtown Culver City at 7pm.

The other Officers to be installed are: Ross Hawkins, 1st VP, Programs; Marc Wanamaker, 2nd VP, Museum; Martha Gunther, 3rd VP, Ways and Means; Lynn Baril, Secretary; and Susan Deen, Treasurer. Committee Chairs will be announced that evening.

A COMMUNITY LEADER

A graduate of Culver City High School, Steve Rose has served the community as President of the CC Chamber of Commerce since 1987. (Cont'd page 3)



UNVEILING THE MARKER AT LA BALLONA SCHOOL

by Sandy Burton
Historic Sites Chairperson

November 27, 2001 was an exciting day for Culver City, the students at La Ballona School and the Historical Society – La Ballona School became the Society's tenth Historical Site marking!

Many Culver City residents, including City Councilmembers, the Mayor, School Board members and members of The Cultural Affairs Committee, attended the dedication of the plaque in the inner-courtyard at La Ballona School, located at 10915 Washington Blvd.

The students and faculty gathered around the grassy area and presented a program which included songs and readings. The program included a welcome

by CCHS President Don Rogers, an Invocation by Sandy Burton, CCHS Historic Sites Chair, the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mario Castillo, Student Council President, and introductions by Julie Lugo Cerra, City Historian.

Culver City Mayor Ed Wolkowitz acknowledged the historic importance of the dedication and La Ballona Principal Vidda Brough spoke of the deep appreciation felt by the school, which was echoed by the readings of students Karim Ali, Heather Goller and Emma Gonzales. A song was then sung by the third grade students.

The plaque commemorating La Ballona School, the first school established in the Culver City area, was unveiled by Mario Castillo, Shelby Anderson, Ryan Cho, Savannah Erskine and our honored guest, (Cont'd on page 3)



DEDICATION OF HISTORIC SITE #10 AT LA BALLONA SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE!

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS AT JANUARY 15TH GENERAL MEETING

The Historical Society will install its new slate of officers at the quarterly General Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2002, at the Sagebrush Cantina at 9523 Culver Blvd., downtown Culver City, beginning at 7:00 pm.

A plentiful South of the Border buffet will be served and some surprises are in store! Come meet our President-elect Steve Rose and the rest of the CCHS Board as we begin another great year.

Advance reservations are a must. Please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the Culver City Historical Society by January 11, 2002. Tickets will be held at the door.

For more information, please call (310) 287-4558.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Don Rogers



It has been a pleasure to serve as your President for the past two years, and now it is time to pass the baton of leadership on to your newly elected President, Steve Rose.

In the past two years there have been a number of significant programs and activities promoting the history of Culver City and drawing the community's attention to the progress of the Historical Society.

The latest example is the Historical Society's marking of the La Ballona School on Tuesday, November 27th. I wish to specifically thank Sandy Burton, Historic Site Chairperson, and Julie Lugo Cerra, City Historian, for their roles in making

this such a wonderful event.

We have secured a room at West Los Angeles College where we can store, identify, and catalog all of the many photos, documents, and other historic artifacts that have been donated to the Society over the years.

We have also written a grant application to develop a Historical Society Museum in the basement of the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. We should know if we have been awarded the grant sometime in April of 2002.

I would like to draw your attention to the Historical Society's installation of your new officers scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sagebrush Cantina in downtown Culver City.

I wish to thank all the members of the Historical Society Board who have served so diligently these past two years and urge all the members of the Society to continue to give your newly elected President, Steve Rose, the same fine support that you have provided me in the past two years.

See you at the Installation Dinner on Tuesday, January 15th! *Don Rogers*

Notes from Your City Historian

by Julie Lugo Cerra



As 2001 melds into the new year, it seems like a good time to take stock of the Historical Society, its goals, resources and challenges.

• The Society's New Home

After two years of negotiations, under the direction of President Don Rogers and with the help of community-minded WLAC president Frank Quiambao, we have seen the Historical Society move to its new office at WLAC so that the entire collection can be housed under one roof. This offers us an increase in visibility and opportunities. Museum Chair Ross Hawkins, with the help of super-organizers Sandy and Chuck Burton, took leading roles to make the archival space ready for workshops. Susan Berg has moved the cataloging process forward. And speaking of cataloging and workshops, it reminds me of the "olden days" when we used to meet in the city facilities to identify photos. (How many can you name around the table in the photo?)

Our first workshop at WLAC netted us the expertise of Centinela Valley Archivist Jim Robertson and Fred

Machado. (Jim and Fred, a CV board member, spend one day a week at the Centinela Adobe and are wonderful resources.) Culver High grads of yesteryear like Martha Gunther, Steve Newton, and Steve Rose (our President-elect), are also willing participants with institutional memories.

Longtime supporter Marc Wanamaker brings his expertise, and becomes our new Museum VP in January. New Planning Commissioner Scott Malsin has a computer ready for our archival work. And we hope to see other regulars like Bill Reid there often.

The workshops are held on the second



AN EARLY VOLUNTEER MEETING



HISTORIC SITE #1 DEDICATION

Culver Historical Highlights

PO BOX 3428 • CULVER CITY, CA • 90231-3428
(310) 287-4558

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.

Publisher.....Lee Bixler
EditorJudy Stangler
Associate Editor.....Ross Hawkins
Contributing Writers.....Sandy Burton,
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Officers and Committee Chairs

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Julie Lugo Cerra.....Membership
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EDITOR'S COLUMN

While we are starting out 2002 with a brand new slate of CCHS Officers, let us convey our sincerest thanks to the outgoing Board which has brought about wonderful new advancements for the Society.

The most important event of the past few years must be the acquiring of our new office at the West Los Angeles College this past Spring. Under the leadership of outgoing President Don Rogers and the keen support of WLAC President Frank Quiambao, the Society has realized a major step toward our ultimate goal: The Culver City Heritage Museum. We now have a place to begin fulfilling our mission: "to collect, preserve and exhibit the history of Culver City and its cultural and civic accomplishments for future generations."

We wish our members, our friends and the community a happy and bountiful 2002 and we look forward to wonderful things ahead!

Saturday of each month and I cannot encourage you enough to come by Building B-1 around 9 am to share in the fun. You will find coffee and goodies and interesting people with a common interest.

• Markings

The marking of La Ballona School as Historic Site #10 was (Cont'd on page 3)

REEL LIFE IN CULVER CITY



by Ross Hawkins

MEMORABILIA DONATED TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARCHIVES

We have received some great contributions of Culver City historic items and memorabilia since we have moved into our office at West Los Angeles Community College and I want to convey our heartfelt thanks to:

Phyllis Olmstead of Pueblo, Colorado who donated a braided buggy whip belonging to Ignacio Machado.

J.C. Washington of Los Angeles, Ray Moselle's brother-in-law, who created 25 computer-generated photos of MGM's back lots and historic movie sets from his vast collection. The resolution is so good that these are virtually indistinguishable from actual glossy photos! Of particular interest to me were the photos of the Verona palace sets used in the 1936 version of *Romeo & Juliet*.

Fran Brevig, one of our great members, whose generosity transformed a chance sale on eBay into a donation of Culver City Rose Parade pins to the Society's archives.

Stan Abrams, longtime resident and design consultant who donated a large number of historic photos. Stan designed the original kitchen for Ship's Café Coffee



L-R: DON ROGERS, SANDY BURTON, JULIE LUGO CERRA, SUSAN BERG, SAM CERRA AND ROSS HAWKINS

"HISTORIC SITE #10" (Cont'd from page 1)

CCHS *Madrina* (Godmother) Clarita Young. Dr. Laura McGaughey, CCUSD Superintendent, made the closing remarks.

The first Historical Site to be designated by the Society was the City Hall, dedicated on November 21, 1981. This was followed by The Hull Building, St. Augustine's Church, The Citizen Building, The Legion Building, Main Street, The Culver Studios, Lugo Ranch and the



LA BALLONA SCHOOL: FIRST IN THE AREA

Helms Building.

Special thanks also goes to the Historic Sites committee who selected La Ballona School as Historic Site #10: Ross Hawkins, Susan Berg, Julie Lugo Cerra and Sam Cerra.

Refreshments courtesy of the Culver City Unified School District.

What an exciting day of celebration for the residents and students of Culver City!

"STEVE ROSE"

(Cont'd from page 1)

He has supported and participated on the Boards of such community organizations as the Exceptional Childrens Foundation, the CC Exchange Club, the Brotman Medical Center Advisory Board and the Board of Managers Culver-Palms YMCA. He is a Life Member of the CC Jaycees.

Steve is a member of the Culver City Charter Review Committee and has served on the committees for the CC Civil Service, Public Finance, the City's 75th Anniversary and the Film Festival Committee, among many others. Steve has been involved in numerous City Council campaigns and is an Advisor to the Downtown Business District.

His professional affiliations include the WACE Western Association of Chamber Executives, the Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce, the California Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Currently, Steve serves as a member of the Culver City Council 2000 and is the Chairman of the Culver City Redevelopment Agency.

"NOTES"

(Cont'd from page 1)

wonderful, particularly because of the children's participation. As I was going through old Historical Society photos, I was reminded of our first marking, 20 years ago of the 1928 City Hall. Fond memories! (see photo on page 2: L to R: Councilmembers Richard Alexander, Paul Netzel, Ron Perkins, Richard Brundo, Historical Society Pres. Cathy Zermeno, Councilmember Paul Jacobs, and Historic Sites Chair Charles Lugo.) The marker is still in place on the corner of Duquesne and Culver. Conrad Cerda did the concrete monument.

CALENDAR

JAN. 15: INSTALLATION : 7 pm

FEB. 9: Volunteers Workshop at WLCA: 9am-1pm

MAR. 9: Volunteers Workshop at WLCA: 9am-1pm

APR. 13: Volunteers Workshop at WLCA: 9am-1pm

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

As of January, 2002, all memberships will be up for renewal. Thereafter, all memberships will be renewed each calendar year in January.

No more red dots.... no more letters.... just easy to remember. And you can renew at the January 15th Installation!

IN MEMORIUM

PAT CULVER BATTLE

We've lost a good friend. Pat Culver Battle, the daughter of the founder of Culver City, Harry H. Culver, died on December 12, 2001, at the age of 84. She passed away peacefully after a struggle with bone cancer. A memorial service was held on Saturday, December 15th at the Glendale Christian Fellowship in Glendale.

Pat was born on August 11, 1917 (the year the city was incorporated), and was an active member of the community and a founding member of the Historical Society.

She is survived by her sons, Dr. John Battle and Brian Battle and grandchildren.

Become a member of the Culver City Historical Society Today!

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

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

☐ Benefactor (\$1000)
☐ Family Lifetime Member (\$500)
☐ Patron Member (\$100)
☐ Family Member (\$25)
☐ Individual Member (\$15)

☐ Corporate Sponsor (\$500)
☐ Individual Lifetime Member (\$250)
☐ Business Member (\$50)
☐ Organization (\$15)
☐ Student Member (\$5)

Name/Company: _____ Telephone: _____
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Please make checks payable to **The Culver City Historical Society** and mail to
P.O. Box 3428, Culver City, CA 90231-3428. For further information, call (310) 287-4558.

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

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.

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Culver City Employees Federal Credit Union.....	City Hall	The Antique Guild	(310) 838-3131
Flanigan Farms	Patsy Flanigan (310) 836-8437		

Culver City Historical Society

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