



Culver Historical Highlights

Volume 33 No. 1

Published by the Culver City Historical Society

Winter 2012

"HAPPY NEW YEAR" ~ 2012!

LOUISE COFFEY-WEBB NEW CCHS PRESIDENT!

CCHS HISTORIC SITE #13: VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

COLUMN ONE

LOUISE COFFEY-WEBB BECOMES 12TH CCHS PRESIDENT

Louise Coffey-Webb has been elected the 12th President of the Culver City Historical Society. She brings an extraordinary background and expertise as an archivist and curator that will enhance the Society's goals and programs as she takes the reins for the 2012-2014 term.



Louise joined the Culver City Historical Society as a lifetime member, soon after buying her first house here in 1996.

For the past few years she has been Chair of the Costumes Committee, cataloguing the wonderful MGM costume collection and bringing student interns to help from Woodbury University where she was Department Chair for Fashion Design. (cont'd. pg. 4)

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING ~ RENOWNED LANDMARK BECOMES SOCIETY'S HISTORIC SITE #13

The Culver City Historical Society held a ceremony on Saturday, December 10, 2011 to designate the Veterans Memorial Building as Historic Site #13.

The building, located at the SW corner of Culver Boulevard and Overland Avenue (4117 Overland Avenue), is one of the most often-used structures in the city, and has had a vibrant history which is noted on the bronze plaque that was unveiled in the front of the building.

A COMMUNITY EVENT

CCHS President Stu Freeman opened the program with a welcome to the many guests in attendance and CC City Manager John Nachbar gave the Invocation, followed by the Flag Salute led by WWII Veteran and CCHS member, Fred Yglesias.



City Historian Julie Lugo Cerra introduced numerous city dignitaries and city staff, local residents, students, and, of course, several Veterans who attended as well as CC Historical Society members, including the Historic Sites Committee.

Among the guests were Culver City Mayor Micheál O'Leary; Vice Mayor Scott Malsin; Councilmembers Jeffrey Cooper and Andy Weissman; former mayors Jozelle Smith, Paul Jacobs and Steve Rose; along with Chamber Chair-Elect Goran Eriksson. Representing the Parks, Recreation & Community Services (PRCS) were Director Daniel Hernandez and Commissioners Laura Stuart, Rick Hudson and Catherine Yanda. Cultural Affairs Commissioner Michelle Bernardin and staff (cont'd. pg. 5)

JANUARY 18, 2012: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER-MEETING

~ INSTALLATION of OFFICERS ~

The Culver City Historical Society's Winter General Membership Dinner-Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 pm in the Dining Room of the historic Culver Studios in downtown Culver City at 9336 West Washington Boulevard.

This will be the Installation of President-Elect Louise Coffey-Webb and her Board as well as a *thank you* to outgoing President Stu Freeman. The Installing Officer will be our special guest, Dr. Janet R. Fireman, Editor, California History, and immediate past president of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. The Installation Co-Chairs will be Tami Eskridge and Steve Rose.

Seating is limited and reservations are a must for the buffet dinner. Please join us by mailing in the reservation insert (enclosed) which must be received no later than Friday, January 6, 2012. You may also call the Society at (310) 253-6941 or email us at info@CulverCityHistoricalSociety.org. Also, please visit our website: www.culvercityhistoricalsociety.org for updates.

See you there!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Stu Freeman



Dear members,

This will be my last message as President of your Culver City Historical Society. It has been four wonderful years of learning and working with a group of dedicated members (now friends) who together have improved and moved our Archives & Resource Center (ARC) significantly forward.

Movies that were made here in Culver City are shown at the ARC on the first and third Saturdays of the month; MGM costumes are displayed on a regular rotation; and personalized tours for our Sister Cities, school children, other historical societies and city employees are only part of the programs and events we now offer.

On January 18, 2012, we will be installing our newly-elected Board of Directors for a two-year term with a festive Installation dinner at the historic Culver Studios. I hope that you will all join us (see pg. 1 for more information).

We have elected some terrific people to serve and I know that with your continued support, your Culver City Historical Society will thrive.

I personally thank you all for your past support throughout my terms as President.

Sincerely,

Notes from Your City Historian

by Julie Lugo Cerra



2011 HAS BEEN A FULL YEAR!

This has been quite a year! The Society made great strides in so many areas, and we have been able to help researchers and life-long students with numerous projects.

A RARE PHOTO OF DR. FOSTER HULL

Everyone has a story, and we have learned so much! We actually know what Dr. Foster Hull looks like thanks to his son, Foster. He sent us the only photo he could find (pictured). Whether Dr. Hull is the "ghost" who slips through Akasha is another story, but maybe someone will recognize him – or not. (Hull built the landmark structure that currently houses the Akasha restaurant.)

DR. CHARLES ROZAIRE ALWAYS INTERESTING & INFORMATIVE!

Louise Coffey-Webb and I took the opportunity to visit the Lummis Home for the Historical Society of Southern California's annual holiday event. It was great to have a little time to visit with one

of our members, Dr. Charles Rozaire.

Charles, who grew up in Culver City and attended elementary school with Virgie Eskridge, is always generous with his personal collection. In fact he brought a wonderful scrapbook to our Fall General Meeting which featured Lt. Ron Iizuka who spoke on the history of the CC Police Dept. Charles makes a bit of a trek to visit, and it's always a pleasure to learn new things from him.



WORKING WITH OTHER HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

We have been able to help other historical societies, as well. Did you know there is a Marina Historical Society? They are diligently working to learn more about the history of that area and we were able to help with a question about our race track which was on the site which is now Costco.

Culver Historical Highlights

Web: www.culvercityhistoricalsociety.org

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.

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Contributing Writers..... Julie Lugo Cerra

Marc Wanamaker, Steve Newton

Printed by..... Premier Print & Design

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Julie Lugo Cerra Historic Sites

Steven J. Rose Government Liaison

Louise Coffey-Webb Costumes

Martha & Sol Sigall Production Photos

Hope Parrish Projects Research

Editor's Column

The New Year promises to be an active one for the Society on many fronts – expanding our ARC collections and displays; putting on programs of education and culture for the community and beyond; hosting more diverse visitors as well as other historical societies; and becoming involved with film preservation on many different fronts.

One recent example was the Society's showing of support at the Dec. 12th CC Council Meeting for the Wende Museum to not only remain in Culver City, but to encourage their efforts for a new location here which would benefit us all.

I echo our Founding President, Cathy Zermeno, who sends her warmest congratulations to our new Board, promising to maintain the support she has given the Society for the past 30+ years. She is a true treasure.

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

Of course, I am really delighted to see the marking of the Veterans Memorial Building. This is No. 13, and its history is so important to our city and to our Veterans! [see story on pg. 1.]

And I would like to thank all the people who contribute regularly to the Culver City Historical Society, through their volunteer hours, expertise, donations, acting as conduits for new acquisitions – and just plain hard work! Thank you all and have a wonderful holiday season!

REEL



CULVER CITY

by Marc Wanamaker

WILLAT STUDIOS IN EARLY CULVER CITY

THE WILLAT BROTHERS OPEN OWN INDEPENDENT STUDIO

Built from 1920-1921, the brothers, Carl and Irvin Willat, opened their own independent studio in Culver City at what is now Washington Boulevard, Willat and Hoke Streets.

Carl 'Doc' Willat, a former Technicolor executive and studio owner/builder in Fort Lee, New Jersey, arranged distribution with the Hodkinson Company for his brother's upcoming four-feature film deal.

Irvin Willat, originally began in the film business working with the IMP (Independent Motion Picture Company) of Carl Laemmle, later known as the future president of Universal Pictures. By this time Irvin Willat distinguished himself as an upcoming film director, having real time experience working for Thomas Ince for many years.

Carl and Irvin prepared four films for their independent releases: *Down Home*, *Partners of the Tide*, *Face of the World* and *Fifty Candles*, all to be produced in Culver City at their new studio.

A "STORY-BOOK" HOUSE

Their art director for the film program being prepared, Harry Oliver, was asked to build an administration building that could be doubled as a setting to save money. Oliver studied old English countryside bungalow architecture and came up with the idea of an "English cottage fantasy" architecture. The result was a "story-book" house that became a landmark in Culver City, fronting on Washington Boulevard. There were articles in the newspapers of the time that said the Willat Studio caused traffic accidents! Located across the street from the Thomas Ince Studio at what is now the Culver Studios, the Willat studio lot's address was originally 6509 Washington Boulevard.

The films starred several former Thomas Ince stars, one of them being Barbara Bedford. For the film, *Face of the World*, more than one hundred extra actors and



Above: Willat Studio Culver City 1920

One of Culver City's early studios that was once located at 6509 West Washington Boulevard and where the Willat brothers produced four independent films in Culver City that still exist today at the Library of Congress.

Below: Willat Studio 1921

Barbara Bedford and Irvin Willat pose in front of the newly built studio that was later moved to Beverly Hills in 1926 and became a Beverly Hills landmark.



personnel, many dressed in various costumes, made working at the small lot seem like it was working at a major studio.

STUDIO SOLD TO PRODUCER WARD LASCELLE

By 1924, Irvin Willat was offered a chance at directing Paramount's first Technicolor film, *Wanderer of the Wasteland*, starring Jack Holt. He signed a contract for a number of pictures for Paramount and by 1926, Carl Willat sold the studio to film producer Ward Lascelle. Lascelle subsequently moved the entire Administration building to Culver City in

1926 and remodeled it into a house where he lived until he died.

HOUSE MOVED TO BEVERLY HILLS & BECOMES A LANDMARK

His wife remarried and she continued to live there with her new husband, Mr. Spadina, until the Green family purchased the house in the 1960s.

Today the house, being relocated to Walden and Carmelita Drives in Beverly Hills, has been restored and will continue to act as a major landmark, harkening back to another age in film history.

CULVER CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ ~ ~

"LOUISE COFFEY-WEBB BECOMES 12TH CCHS PRESIDENT" (cont'd)

Currently the US Representative for the British designer, Zandra Rhodes, Louise is also on the board of The (American couture designer) Galanos Foundation, as well as a member of the National Board for The Costume Society.

Raised in England where she worked for the BBC, Louise has also worked variously as Curator, Collections Manager and Archival Advisor to such institutions as the LACMA, the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising (FIDM) Museum, the Audrey Hepburn Estate Collection, Sony Pictures Entertainment Archives, and Warner Bros. Museum.

Her costume history lectures have been heard throughout the US, Canada and Great Britain, and she appeared on PBS, E! Entertainment TV and A&E, discussing Hollywood costume. Her mini-documentary on Victorian underwear was released in the boxed DVD of John Wayne's classic *McClintock*.

Louise is so excited about being the next President, that her hair now stands on end!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The new CCHS Board for 2012 – 2014

At the Fall General Meeting on Wednesday, October 19th, 2011, the CCHS membership elected a new Board to lead the Society for the next two years (see above story). The new Officers will be:

President:	Louise Coffey-Webb
VP, Programs:	Stephen M. Fry
VP, Museum & ARC:	Julie Lugo Cerra
VP, Ways & Means:	Michelle Bernardin
Secretary:	Lisa Nevins
Treasurer:	Linda Forman
Immediate Past President:	Stu Freeman

The new Committee Chairs will be announced at the Installation Dinner on Wednesday, January 18, 2012.

For more on the CCHS designated Historic Sites, please visit the Society's website at:

www.culvercityhistoricalsociety.org

Welcome New CCHS Members

- William Barnett
- Samuel James
- Donie Nelson
- Bob & Ellen Renga

Thanks to

- Dannie Cavanaugh for helping to access two 1928 photos of Stern's BBQ & market for the ARC
- Pat Clapp who donated several historic items for our memorabilia collection
- Bill Barnett for joining the ARC Committee and assisting in donations

Veterans Memorial Building Ceremony (cont'd. from pg. 5)

The bronze plaque (at left) which was unveiled in the front of the building reads as follows:

Historic Site No. 13: Veterans Memorial Building (VMB)

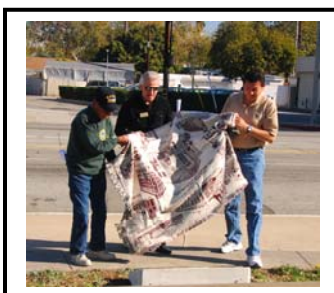
Culver City purchased a major portion of this land, known as Exposition Park, in 1938. It was officially designated as Veterans Memorial Park on August 8, 1949. Bond financing of \$550,000 guaranteed the construction of the Veterans Memorial Building on the corner. The original plans promised a "recreational building with a stage, restaurant, film museum, playroom, and a large gymnasium." The "tourist tower" was designed to view "back lot" movie sets at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios across the street. The cornerstone was laid on April 15, 1950. The VMB was dedicated on March 9, 1951, with Goodwin Knight, Lt. Governor at the time, in attendance. The Gold Star Mothers were guests of honor. This structure, designed to serve the entire community, once included a "Tower Restaurant." The entry proudly exhibits a growing number of markers, placed to honor and remember veterans who served our country, and who fought for our freedom in many wars.

Native Americans traversed this land before it was claimed as a portion of Rancho La Ballona in 1819. The Spanish Period yielded to Mexican control, followed by California Statehood in 1850. This site was part of the original land acquired to incorporate as Culver City in 1917.

The Culver City Historical Society, Fall 2011

Photos clockwise from right: THE PLAQUE; covered plaque; Carlos Lugo (R) helps Mike Machado pick up the plaque; unveiling of plaque by Fred Machado, Stu Freeman & Daniel Hernandez.

~ Photos by Kevin Lachoff



~ ~ ~ PRESERVING HISTORY FOR OVER 30 YEARS !”

“VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – HISTORIC SITE #13” (cont’d)

member Christine Byers also attended. A very special guest who played such a large part in getting the Veterans Memorial Building built was Syd Kronenthal, the “legendary” Director of the CC PRCS!

Mayor O’Leary then spoke of how fitting the marking of the Veterans Memorial Building as Historic Site #13 was, citing a bit of our national history by noting that there were originally 13 colonies, 13 stars on our first flag and 13 stripes on our current flag.

Julie Lugo Cerra followed with a history of the site and then the bronze marker (situated on the NE side of the building facing Overland Ave.) was unveiled by President Freeman, Fred Machado, a Veteran who served in the Navy and Army in WWII and in the Korean War, and Daniel Hernandez, Director of the PRCS.

CORNERSTONE LAID IN APRIL, 1950

The iconic building’s cornerstone was laid on April 15, 1950, and the building was dedicated on March 9, 1951.

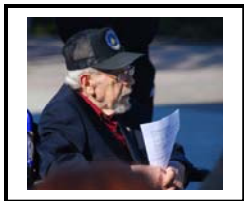
The VMB was renovated in 1980. At that time, a number of changes occurred, including the rounding of the Garden Room (formerly the Tower Restaurant) wall for a mural and installation of glass to view the adjacent patio. Most notable from the outside was the placement of a sculpture on the Overland/Culver corner, a stainless steel work by artist Natalie Krol, entitled “Filmstrip USA,” dedicated in 1981. Rooms within have been renamed to honor our sister cities.

For the support and assistance given to the Society to make this event happen, special thanks to The City of Culver City: City Council; City Manager’s office: John Nachbar and Shelly Wolfberg; Parks, Recreation and Community Services, Commissioners and staff: Daniel Hernandez, Patrick Reynolds and Scott Jacobs; Public Works: Charles Herbertson, Steve Orozco, Mike Machado, Sean Newman, Michael Jamar and Enrique Delgado; and the Cultural Affairs Commission and staff. We also thank the Culver City Chamber of Commerce and the Kemp Monument Company.

(cont’d. on pg. 4)



Photos clockwise from top left: CCHS Pres. Stu Freeman welcomes all to the Historic Site #13 marking; Julie Lugo Cerra introduces special guests; CC Mayor Micheál O’Leary shares significance of the number “13;” the group stands for Invocation; Julie Lugo Cerra tells of the history of the VMB; the VMB Tower and “Filmstrip USA” sculpture; group reading plaque; special guest Syd Kronenthal; (L-R) CCHS members Fred Yglesias, Founding Pres. Cathy Zermeno, Martha Sigall and Joy Jacobs.



~ Photos by Kevin Lachoff

NEWS FROM THE COSTUME CHAIR . . .

by Louise Coffey-Webb
Costume Committee Chair

THE DEBBIE REYNOLDS AUCTION

Some of you may have been aware that Debbie Reynolds has been auctioning her famous "Hollywood" collection this year, at the Paley Center in Beverly Hills (formerly the Museum of Television and Radio). She began collecting in 1970 at the time of the famed MGM auctions.

I was working at the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising when Ms. Reynolds lent her incredible collection for an exhibition there in the late 1990s. She has made numerous attempts to begin museums, and for a short while, had one in Las Vegas, and there was also a valiant attempt in Hollywood. But in spite of her efforts, it never became a viable project.

I mention this because, having worked in museums for decades, I know how expensive they are to maintain, and how labor-intensive the curation of costumes is. To put it succinctly: nobody every gets rich running a museum. So, most of them are charitable organizations, helped by beneficent donors and docents.

FUNDRAISING ESSENTIAL TO ADD TO OUR WONDERFUL COLLECTIONS

The Archive and Resource Center (ARC) of the Culver City Historical Society likewise survives through its membership and fundraising programs. And thanks to our fundraising events (such as the recent "Doozy" evening at the Culver Hotel), we were able to bid on some items at the Debbie Reynolds auction to add to our collection.

I made a whole list of items that might be appropriate – and affordable – and we managed to acquire one costume! [By the time you read this, our purchase will be in the ARC awaiting cataloguing.]

I recognized many of the costumes in the auction, because they had previously been exhibited at the first major film costume exhibition on the west coast: "Hollywood and History: Costume Design in Film," which I worked on while at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, in the late 1980s. Since that time, the collection and appreciation of film costumes has grown enormously.

GWEN VERDON

I know you are wondering what we acquired: It was the corset worn by Gwen Verdon in *The Merry Widow* (MGM, 1952) during the can-can scene at Maxim's in Paris. Ms. Verdon was born in Culver City

in 1925 and went to Hamilton High. She later married Bob Fosse (who first cast her in "Damn Yankees").

The costume is black with a large pink silk bow and trimmed with black lace, and was designed by Helen Rose. How do we know it belonged to Ms. Verdon? It has a handwritten label inside: "G. VERDON."



Above: Culver City-born stage & screen actress Gwen Verdon's corset from the 1952 MGM film, *The Merry Widow*.

Below: A wonderful poster from the film.



THE CCHS WELCOMES SHARON SHORE AS NEW COSTUMES CHAIR

In the previous newsletter, I introduced you to our new Costume Chair, Sharon Shore, and we are all looking forward to her presence and expertise at the ARC.

During this "changing of the guard" I wanted to take this opportunity to invite you to write and let us know what you, our members, would like to read about in this, the costumes column.

As we all make vows to diet in the new year – so we can fit into our own costumes – I want to wish you an extraordinary 2012 and I look forward to meeting more of you at our programs, or when you visit the ARC to see our latest displays.

~ LC-W

THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

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

A CCHS membership will show your pride in our great city's history. Also, we have our popular "throws (see photo at right)," license plate holders, note cards and great new books.

MARK YOUR "2012" CALENDAR

**JAN. 18: CCHS INSTALLATION
DINNER MEETING**

APR. 18: CCHS SPRING GEN. MEETING

**JULY. 18: CCHS PICNIC & GEN.
MEETING**

OCT. 17: CCHS FALL GEN. MEETING

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

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

Call to confirm dates: 310.253.6941

Jan 7	Jan .21	Feb. 4
Feb. 18	Mar. 3	Mar. 17
Apr. 7	Apr. 21	May 5
May 19	Jun. 2	Jun. 16
Jul. 7	Jul. 21	Aug. 4
Aug. 18	Sep. 1	Sep. 15
Oct. 6	Oct. 20	Nov. 3
Nov. 17	Dec. 1	Dec. 15

A Reminder:

JANUARY IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH

by Lydia Spiegelman
Membership Chair

January is Membership Renewal Month – and with the many new and exciting things coming up, being a member of the Culver City Historical Society is more important and rewarding than ever.

Because 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), the CCHS Board is following the lead of our sister historical societies with a slight dues increase as of January 2012.

Your support is more important than ever, so please send in your membership renewal and consider becoming a Patron, a Lifetime Member, a Corporate Sponsor or a Benefactor. And, remember, a CC Historical Society membership makes a wonderful gift – especially for Culver-ites in distant areas!
(see form on pg.8)



Look for Movie
*Studios of Culver
City*, co-authored
by our own Marc
Wanamaker and
Julie Luao Cerra.

PROFILE:

THE CULVER STUDIOS

A BRIEF HISTORY

After **Thomas Ince's** alliance with D. W. Griffith and Mack Sennett went sour, he entered into a five-year lease agreement with Harry Culver for a new 14-acre studio fronting on Washington Blvd., east of the first studio (which became MGM). It took two years to build the Thomas H. Ince Studio at 9336 Washington Blvd. Reminiscent of Mount Vernon, a December 1, 1918 Los Angeles newspaper called it a "motion picture plant that look like a Beautiful Southern estate."

Ince, a visionary in the industry, and actor turned producer, promoted the glamour of moviemaking with a reverence. He entertained the King and Queen of Belgium, and President Woodrow Wilson. The administration building became a well-known landmark, and Ince was rapidly expanding his successful facility. But in November of 1924, amidst clouded circumstances, Ince fell ill on William Randolph Hearst's yacht, and reportedly died of a heart attack at home within the week. His wife Elinor K. Ince, once a talent agent, took the reins until the next year, when it became **De Mille Studios**.

Harry Culver spoke at the rededication, and Cecil B. De Mille became famous for his big budget movies, like *King of Kings*, (the first movie shown at the Grauman's Chinese Theatre). DeMille eventually merged various interests into **RKO** in 1928 and **RKO-Pathe** in 1930. Backlot acreage was added just south of the studio in 1931.

Joseph Kennedy, who attempted to raise movies to an art form, had a financial interest in the studio during the **Pathe** years. Some of the stars working in those early years were Bette Davis, Robert Mitchum, Cary Grant, Carole Lombard, Katharine Hepburn, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. *King Kong* was released in 1933, and those sets were later torched to make movie magic as "the burning of Atlanta" for *Gone with the Wind*.

By 1935, the studio was known as **Selznick International**, run by David O. Selznick, the son-in-law of MGM studio chief, Louis B. Mayer. *A Star is Born*, *Rebecca* and *Citizen Kane* also contributed to the studio's fame. Orson Welles and Alfred Hitchcock enjoyed great success on the lot. In the early 50s, even with Howard Hughes' backing, RKO went downhill.

The **Desilu** name appeared on the lawn about 1956, and for the next 15 years, television was most important. The back lot provided locals with peeks at series like "The Untouchables", "Hogan's Heroes", the "Real McCoys," and "Lassie." The studio was sold in 1968 to **Perfect Film and Chemical**, which unloaded the back lot, then to **OSF Industries** in 1969, and become **Culver City Studios** in 1970.

[More detailed history of the studio can be found at:

<http://www.culvercity.org/Visitors/CulverCityHistory/9336Washington.aspx>

An ARC Update

by Winston Gieseke
Vice President, Museum/ARC

IT'S BEEN A WONDERFUL YEAR AT THE ARC

From screening classic films made in Culver City to showing off pieces from our collection of priceless Fiesta costumes and fabulous wardrobe gems from the MGM vaults, it's been a memorable year at the Archives & Resource Center (ARC).

SONY'S DONATION MAKES OUR FILM SERIES POSSIBLE

Thanks to the generous donation of a 40" flat screen Sony Bravia Television and a Blu-ray player from Sony Pictures Entertainment, our movie screenings (which start at 1:15 on the first and third Saturdays of each month) kicked off in April with the Judy Garland classic *Easter Parade*.

Other cinematic gems we watched this year included Orson Welles's masterpiece *Citizen Kane*, the original *King Kong* with Fay Wray, and my personal favorite: *High Society* with Bing Crosby, Grace Kelly, and Frank Sinatra. Thanks to those who came by and enjoyed these presentations with us.

LOTS OF VISITORS!

It's also been a year of memorable visitors. From the local "Red Hats," who integrated us into their picnic event at Vets Park in June, and the "Foodie Group" folks, who enjoyed a walking tour of historic downtown Culver City, to L.A. Marathon participants from our sister cities of Kaizuka and Uruapan, and all the celebrants who stopped in during the 60th annual Fiesta La Ballona celebration.

A slew of diverse organizations were fabulously hosted by Julie Lugo Cerra, Stu Freeman, Cathy Zermeno, and others. Thanks to you for sharing your valuable time and knowledge.

And finally, thanks to all of you who have shared treasured pieces of Culver City history through your generous donations. If you have other items of historical significance that you'd like to donate to the

Society, please bring them to the ARC during open hours, the first and third Saturday of every month from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Look forward to seeing you there in the New Year!

~ Winston



Above: The Fiesta costume display for the 60th Anniversary of the annual event.

Below: CC Sister City Student Exchange group who visited in August.



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.)

12/17 – *Meet Me in St. Louis* (1944)
1/7/12 – *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1958)
1/21/12 – *The Wizard of Oz* (1939)
2/4/12 – *Ninotchka* (1939)
2/18/12 – *An American in Paris* (1951)
3/3/12 – *After the Thin Man* (1936)
3/17/12 – *Kiss Me Kate* (1953)

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 to support 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.

Brundo Interiors Richard Ross Brundo (310) 391-1888
California Bank & Trust..... Lyn Caron (310) 410-9281
Cantalini's Salerno Beach Rest. ... Lisa Schwab (310) 821-0018
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Culver Center Flowers Mike Eskridge (310) 839-2344
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