July-August 2014 Number 303



# West Adams Matters The Annual Report Issue

# Preservation Year in Review (And What A Year It Was)

WAHA Wins Bishop Mansion Lawsuit; 15 More West Adams Monuments Designated by Jean Frost

This has been a landmark year for West Adams Heritage Association. Each year in the summer, WAHA prepares an Annual Report (beginning on page 10) for its members, reviewing the past year's activities and events, our revenues and expenditures, and, especially, our historic preservation and cultural heritage advocacy activities.

WAHA's singular achievement, after many months of advocacy, is the success of WAHA's lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles for allowing issuance of a categorical exemption on a project that negatively impacted historic properties, the Roger Williams Baptist Church and Bishop Residence (1342 West Adams Boulevard.) WAHA won the case when the owners (the Real Parties in Interest in legal terms) agreed not to move forward with their project until the Department of City Planning conducts an environmental review of the Project under CEQA. This is what WAHA sought by its petition to the court and ends this phase of action. (See more information in a separate article on page 2.)

Much of the work undertaken to achieve this result was shepherded by the WAHA Historic Preservation Committee. The journey began in early 2013 when WAHA member David Raposa noticed that the Bishop Residence had been gutted on the interior, without permits. (continued on page 12)

#### A Gathering of the Blue and the Gray — Annual Living History Tour Showcases Our Civil War Heritage

At the Angelus Rosedale Cemetery, History Comes to Life on Saturday, September 27, as we commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, with stories told by those who witnessed it.

The War Between the States remains a touchstone event for Americans. According to Ancestry.com, one in 17 Americans has an ancestor who fought in the war that ultimately claimed 750,000 lives. The conflict began on April 12, 1861 when the Confederates attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina, and ended on April 9, 1865 when Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Virginia - just



Lest We Forget: This cannon commemorates the Grand Army of the Republic section at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery

a few days before President Abraham Lincoln's assassination. The Civil War's sesquicentennial has been remembered across America with events and exhibitions. In Los Angeles, the annual Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery has observed the anniversary each year with portrayals of Civil War veterans, both Blue and Gray, who now rest permanently at the cemetery.

At this year's Living History Tour, visitors will "meet" a variety of Civil War era personages, all of whom later made Los Angeles their home. These war veterans include both Union and Confederate soldiers, including two who fought at Gettysburg; along with a Civil War "Florence Nightingale" who became the oldest surviving Union Army nurse, a former slave who served as a Union chaplain, and a flamboyant Wild West pioneer (and former Confederate soldier) who was friends with Doc Holliday, mentored the "Apache Kid" (later a renegade), and captured Geronimo.

(continued on page 16)

#### Scoop Up Some Fun: WAHA's Ice Cream Social Saturday, August 16 2-5 p.m. 2410 4th Avenue (West Adams Avenues)

What better way to spend a summer afternoon than eating ice cream and other sweets, socializing with neighbors, playing games, and other old-fashioned entertainment? Please put on your summer whites or Victorian-inspired attire, and join WAHA at its annual Ice Cream Social.

Singer Dianne Lawrence will entertain with vintage tunes from the 1920s, '30s and '40s.

The Fenner-Robinson family -- Elizabeth, Brian, August and Theo -- will be our hosts at 2410 4th Avenue in the West Adams Avenues.

We are looking for volunteers (of course). Tasks include: ice cream servers, set up and clean-up. If you would like to donate baked goods (cookies to munch on and especially cakes for the Cake Walk game), please contact Suzanne Henderson at Events@WestAdamsHeritage.org.

All in all, this event will be a lovely way to relax on a summer afternoon in Historic West Adams.



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#### Welcome New Members:

**Michael Chapman** Marcia Curry **David Dubiczky** Mary Ann Hutchinson and Troy Quinn **Cassandra Malry and Thom Washington** 

#### Errata:

In the June issue of WAHA Matters, the photographs of Mitzi March Mogul as she accepted the Martin E. Weil Preservation Award were taken by Flo Selfman.

### Bishop Mansion Lawsuit Resolved — in WAHA's Favor

WAHA is pleased to announced that it has won what it sought in its Superior Court Case, WAHA v. City of Los Angeles. It has been a long and difficult journey for WAHA since the Bishop Mansion interior was gutted in early 2013. WAHA does not take legal action lightly and often is able to negotiate for better conditions through administrative process without having to take legal action. Over the past year, WAHA has taken every step necessary to see that a categorical exemption was not used for changes to a property that is surveyed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and do not meet historic standards. In this instance, all of WAHA's pleas to not use a categorical exemption fell on deaf ears, until the issues came before the court. The journey has resulted in a win for WAHA and preservation. But a long journey it was.

The developer/owners of the Roger Williams Baptist Church and Bishop Mansion (in legal terms the Real Parties in Interest - 1342 West Adams Holding LLC) have agreed not to move forward with their project until the Department of City Planning conducts an environmental review of the Project under CEQA.

WAHA petitioned the court last year, challenging how the Bishop Mansion and Roger Williams Baptist Church were treated environmentally for the proposed student housing project at 1342 West Adams Boulevard. WAHA believed, and the court agreed, that a Class 31 categorical exemption should not have been issued because the project failed to meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards and further that the developer ignored impacts of the project on the entire historic compound. The issues and details of the case have been extensively covered in previous WAHA Matters newsletters.

WAHA first challenged the City's use of a categorical exemption (CE) for approval of the project in early January 2013 by e-mails and at a meeting with Planning staff. Over WAHA's objections, the Planning Department issued a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA, with an accompanying CE) on January 30. On February 14, WAHA appealed COA to the South Area Planning Commission (SAPC.) At first, Planning staff, in its initial recommendation to the SAPC, appeared to support the appeal in their recommendation report: "This environmental analysis should encompass review of the totality of the project including all entitlements being sought. Staff recommends CE be denied." Further, "Categorical exemption ENV 2012-3129-CE is insufficient for the scope of work proposed given the additional entitlement and the significance of the cloister as a historic element of the property. Therefore staff recommend that the applicant submit an environmental assessment form to analyze the project in its totality."

WAHA members met with the developer at the corner of Adams and Menlo (the meeting was scheduled for the project site but no one could find a key) and discussed the issues with the developer, his architect and his attorney. The developer changed his design to retain the historic cloister but ignored other significant issues raised. They refused to rescind the categorical exemption.

When the developer revised the project to not demolish the cloister connecting the Roger Williams Baptist Church and the Bishop Residence, staff changed their position. A process of scheduling and rescheduling WAHA's appeal ensued, from mid-April until June 8. The SAPC then denied WAHA's appeal. WAHA appealed the environmental decision to City Council where again the appeal was denied. So, WAHA evaluated its legal options.

# President's Message by John Patterson

Summer is now officially in full swing, and it was great to see so many friends at WAHA's 4th of July celebration. Special thanks to our host Harold Smith, and to all the volunteers that helped Suzie Henderson out on such a fun afternoon.

This issue of WAHA Matters represents our Annual Report – a time that we review the results of our past year of efforts. It's very gratifying to conclude WAHA's fiscal year with a healthy financial record and three big neighborhood issues having been recently decided. Articles specific to these various stories will be found throughout this newsletter.

Perseverance was rewarded with regard to the Bekins/Public Storage issue, with a true win that prohibits the installation of cell towers onto the exterior of this prominent historic structure at the corner of Pico and Crenshaw. WAHA's lawsuit regarding the Bishop Mansion, and the appeals filed by Michael Salman and Steve Peckman with regard to the Murphy Oil drilling controversy are more nuanced in their respective outcomes, but are important successes nonetheless.

While the actual issues on these latter two matters are yet to be fully settled, the win comes in the form of having confronted the City of Los Angeles for repeated attempts to circumvent some of the numerous preservation statutes that we have worked so hard all these years to apply to our historic neighborhoods. In both of these cases, exemptions were granted to the requirement that the developer's plans be reviewed during a public hearing. The win, is that those reviews will now occur, and we will be able to express our views as to what is allowed. What is not yet clear is what the ultimate outcome of those reviews will be.

So we can look forward to an exciting year ahead, one in which we stay engaged and ever vigilant, all the while savoring the homes and neighbors we love!

John Patterson may be reached by e-mail at president@westadamsheritage.org

### Annual Living History Tour Plans Are Underway — Helping Hands Are Needed for September 27 Event!







Everyone has a story to tell. At WAHA's Annual Living History Tour, which takes place each autumn at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery, guests hear compelling accounts of American history, as experienced by the men and women who lived in Los Angeles from the 1850s to the 1950s. Amid the elaborate headstones and monuments of the cemetery, costumed actors bring to life — and tell the stories of — fascinating residents from Los Angeles' earlier times.

For 2014, the Living History Tour pays homage to the Civil War. Angelus Rosedale is the permanent resting place of more than 1,000 Civil War veterans, Union and Confederate alike (including the veterans pictured on this page). In remembrance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, we'll be portraying those who fought bravely on the battlefield, nursed the injured, experienced the privations of prison camps, and who bore witness to the nation's great divisions of the early 1860s.



Read about the historic personages who will tell the stories of their lives during and after the war in the story beginning on page 1.

Visitors also learn the history of this cemetery, and the role it has played in the lives of generations of Angelenos.

This year's tour is slated for **Saturday, September 27**, and we invite your participation now to help organize the event, and to volunteer on the day of the tour.

The tour is one of our organization's signature events, and has become known as a compelling way to tell the diverse story of Los Angeles' history. WAHA's Living History Tour Committee members research and write the scripts, cast the actors (well, twist their arms!), costume them, create graveside vignettes, and, of course, also organize the tour itself, with all the myriad accompanying tasks. These many tasks need many helping hands, both on the event day and over the next few months as we finalize our plans.

Are you a writer? Can you help write one of the scripts? Are you familiar with costumes, historical hair and/or make-up? We could use your help dressing our actors on the morning of the tour. How would you like to help set up, or strike, the sets in the cemetery? We also need "actor support" volunteers, docents, cemetery greeters and, not least, a small group to help throw an after party for all the other volunteers.

There will be a few random meetings scheduled in July, with a more regular schedule of meetings in August and September.

Would you like to help? Please contact Laura Meyers at lauramink@aol.com, or write the Committee at tours@westadamsheritage.org. ●

Portraits: (Left, Top to bottom) Harry S. Duffield; Welford Bridwell aka Clay Beauford; Lyman Stewart; (Right) Lt. Col. Allen Allensworth; Margaret Messeroll Hayes

# Community Matters

### In Memoriam: Don "Zig" Zigrang (1932-2014)

West Adams lost a longtime resident, and friend of preservation, in June, when Don "Zig" Zigrang died after a long illness.

We often write of "longtime" WAHA members, but Don truly was a longtime WAHA and West Adams resident: he lived here in childhood, and through most of his adult life, in two side-by-side homes, historic Tudor-Craftsman bungalows designed by architect Frank M. Tyler, on Ardmore in Harvard Heights that his grandparents and parents purchased almost a century ago.

Don Zig is not his birth name, but most of his friends, family, racing buds and business acquaintances know him by that name. Many WAHA members knew Don Zigrang as a font of historic information about our community, and as a man dedicated to restoration, preservation, friends and family, but Don Zig also was a car guy and former race car driver.

Zigrang not only slept in the same bedroom that was his as a child — he was surrounded by the evidence of his own family's history, the antiques and decor originally purchased by his grandparents and his parents to furnish two homes in Harvard Heights.

In 1919, Don Zig's grandparents, Sarah ("Sadie") and Dennis Zigrang, moved from Livermore, Iowa -- where Dennis had been a farm equipment salesman -- to this upscale streetcar suburb. The elder Zigrang invested in oil wells and a walnut grove. They invested in the property which is now next door to where Donald lived until his death. Dennis was enchanted with Los Angeles and encouraged more of the family to settle here. Three years later, Don's parents, Mary and Edward, a banker, did so, first renting in the neighborhood. Don was born in 1932. When Don was eight years old, his parents purchased the house next door to Sadie and Dennis. Young Don became the neighborhood paperboy, rising early every morning and riding his bicycle with the day's stash of *Herald Express* newspapers to toss onto neighbors' lawns.

He attended Loyola High School, and then a trade school.

Later, as a young man, Don went to work for Abell's Auctions (then on Adams Boulevard), where his taste for antiques was cemented forever.

He was drafted into the Army in 1951 during the Korean War and served until 1954. He wanted to serve overseas, but was sent to Fort Hood in Texas where he was a radio technician with the 3rd Armored Division, since he worked for a radio store prior to the Army modifying

radios for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. The Army wanted hot rodders who had skills and talents that they could use, and he was trained in communications. He rose to the rank of sergeant at the time of his discharge.



Upon returning to civilian life Don worked in garages, installed air conditioning units for dealerships before they became standard in new cars.

Back then Don Madden was the general manager of Howard Cams and the two struck up a long friendship. During this time Madden needed a Magneto for the Howard Cams Special to be worked on, so he sent Zig to the company, Hunt Magnetos. While there Zig successfully interviewed for a job and he worked for Joe doing magneto repairs for eight years. He then left Hunt and joined Arias Pistons and worked there until 1980 when he decided to work for himself and do magnetos forever. He formed Don Zig Magnetos in a small shop behind his home.

He grew up around race cars and racing, and was a crew member on the Jarvis' Earls' Top Fuel dragster. It had a Buick v-8 engine and the car was made by Ray Alley at Quincy's Speed Shop in Santa Monica.

His racing career started back in the '60s with his Willy's coupe in the G/Gas class, then his Angelia, the "Straight Ape" with the Straight-8 Buick engine. In the '70s he graduated to the BB/FC ranks with "Hawkeye." Bob Lilligard and Frank Harris drove his cars; he did the mechanics and along with partner Richard Dietz, they campaigned from California, to Canada, the East Coast and into Mexico...until 1980 when he decided to start his business. He used the proceeds of the sale of the car to build a full-fledged business, Don Zig Magnetos. He did magnetos ignitions for most of the big names in Fuel and Funny Car, like Basemore, Pedrogon, Bernstein and more.

Don did magnetos for almost every form of racing...for the likes of....Terry Nish's land speed record holder, Al Teague's car that went over 400 mph, George Bently's roadster going over 220, Don Ferguson, Kenny Bernstein, Whit Bazemore, Shaver Specialties, much of the SCRA Sprint car racers in the 80's. His office walls are adorned with fans of his workmanship.

In 2007 the SCTA honored Don by inducting him into the Dry Lakes Hall of Fame in Buellton, California as the Manufacturer of the Year.

His general manager, Joe Anderson, will keep the business going in his name. Don Zig is survived by his wife, Carmen Price Zigrang (who helped prepare this remembrance). ●

**Editor's Note**: Years ago, Carmen and Don Zigrang were involved in WAHA's efforts to acknowledge those individuals and businesses who helped improve the West Adams Community. In Don Zig's honor, WAHA is now relaunching our "Good Neighbor" awards program. If you have a Good Neighbor you'd like to nominate, please contact President@westadamsheritage.org.



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# $\operatorname{S}$ tepping Out

# West Adams MusicFest '14

Labor Day Weekend --

Friday, Saturday and Sunday Nights, August 29-31 2500 Block of 7th Avenue (just north of Adams)

Thirteen years ago, an event was created that changed the dynamics of the largest historic neighborhoods in Los Angeles: The West Adams Avenues Jazz Under the Stars, sponsored by the West Adams Avenues Association (WAAA). As the first culturally diverse neighbors gathered with picnic baskets and lawn chairs, local musicians from the community began their music sets.

A lot has changed since then.

Last year's event shattered all expectations: There were more than 1,300 attendees—some coming from as far as Australia. The event was covered by the L.A. Weekly. Visitors were treated to two full nights of music, with activities for children, arts, crafts and jewelery offered by local artisans for sale, and fabulous food was sold by local restaurants.

This year, with a new name — "West Adams MusicFest '14," — the event is returning to the 2500 block of 7th Avenue on Labor Day Weekend, with a twist: it's expanding to three days, with a Local Showcase Night on Friday, Blues, Jazz and Latin on Saturday, and Gospel and Zydeco on Sunday. Musicians include fan favorites: the Wellington Square Quartet, Michael King Trio and the V.I.P. Gospel Choir (Crenshaw Cathedral).

And, WAHA is one of the community partner sponsors.

Everyone is invited to attend this free community event -- do bring blankets or portable beach chairs (or similar) to sit on. (Please note: also bring cash to partake of the many different foods available for sale!) Please do plan to come: it is West Adams' own "Ravinia."

WAAA welcomes help if you would like to be involved in a larger way. For entertainment sponsors, please contact Gavin Glynn, 323-603-1520, ekeout@aol.com. If you would like to be a vendor or help in other ways, please contact Donna Jones, WAAA Chair, 323-734-6473, westadamsdonna@gmail.com. ●





David Raposa • Broker/Owner 323-573-4202

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Rare Landmark in Wellington Square — Arts & Crafts Masterpiece once owned by Ruby Dandridge, now restored/upgraded. Asking \$1,399,000 — David Raposa Edwardian Duplex, Chas. Victor Hall Tract aka"Halldale" neighborhood. Asking \$599,000 — Adam Janeiro, 323-401-3952

Historic Art Deco Era Condo, Wilshire District — 1 BD with classic details, walk to subway, restaurants, etc. Asking \$535,000. — David Raposa Harvard Heights Gambrel Craftsman — 1905 charmer, 4 bds, finished attic.Asking \$715,000 — David Raposa

#### IN ESCROW

**Jefferson Park Craftsman in HPOZ** — Richly detailed bungalow on great block. \$555,000 — *David Raposa, seller's agent* 

Victorian Cottage in HPOZ — 3BR/1BA; many upgrades. Near USC and Downtown. \$675,000. — *David Raposa, seller's agent* 

**Restored Craftsman in Jefferson Park HPOZ** — Multiple offers. *Adam Janeiro, sellers' agent* **Santa Monica condo** — *Adam Janeiro, buyer's agent* 

#### SOLD

Jefferson Park Craftsman in HPOZ — Museum Quality Restoration. Adam Janeiro, seller's agent. SF Valley Traditional. Suzanne Henderson, seller's and buyers' agent

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# **Preservation Matters**

# THE FORTHMANN HOUSE: MOVING-ON

#### By Jim Childs

The relocation of a historic home is almost always a stealth operation. Few ever know that it happened at all. The moving of houses along a city's streets is done as a practical matter during the early morning darkness to reduce potential conflicts with traffic. Aside from the house-movers themselves and their cadre of ancillary city and utility employees from the Police, Department of Water & Power, Department of Transportation, Telephone Company, Cable Company, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Streets, only a few very surprised citizens witness the rare event.

Just the opposite of Cinderella's pumpkin, the magic starts after the stroke of midnight and ends by the dawn's breaking light — theoretically. In mid-November of 1988 a truly monumental house move was undertaken by the University of Southern California and its Real Estate Development Corporation (REDC). They had embarked on the relocation of the FORTHMANN HOUSE, a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument (No. 103, declared 10/4/72), from its historic site at 629 West 18th Street to their then nearby vacant lot on the southwest corner of Hoover and 28th Street in the North University Park Specific Plan District.

Given the short distance between the two sites and only wide boulevards to navigate (Figueroa to Adams to Hoover) the planned move was for the intact structure with no cutting of the parts deemed necessary. The magnificent 3-story stately

Thursday, November 24, 1988



Motorists headed up Figueroa Street, above, on their way into downtown Los Angeles were startled Wednesday morning to find the Forthmann House, a three-story, Victorian resting temporarily on the island at 23rd Street after those towing it ran into some difficulty. The house had been towed earlier down Figueroa, right, from its old site at 629 W. 18th St. to its new home at 1102 W. 28th St., where it will be restored as an office building.



Victorian mansion had spent months being readied for the move: the interior plaster removed to reduce the weight, brick chimneys disassembled, bearing walls reinforced, exterior porches shored-up, and its separation from the foundation to accommodate the steel carriage and wheels.

Little in life comes off as planned, and the Forthmann move was delayed from the midnight start. But when she finally slipped off her hundred-year-old site and made the right turn heading south along Figueroa, it was an awesome sight. She bid farewell to her towering neighbor, Patriotic Hall, and glided down to Adams where the unforeseen glitch occurred. The turn proved more technically difficult than anticipated and the move stalled, leaving her sitting between St. John's, St. Vincent's and the Auto Club. Great company.

The crew sought an immediate chain-saw resolution, but cooler preservation minds prevailed, and a decision to park the house on the 23rd Street overpass was made. Come sunrise, and the morning commuters

From the Los Angeles Times, November 24, 1988

Photos by LARRY BESSEL and MIKE MEADOWS / Los Angeles Times

# **Preservation Matters**



were confronted by a baffling and bemusing sight: a grand old Victorian stranded over the 110 freeway. The technical problem was resolved and the Forthmann was moved to its new site several days later without any cutting.

USC spent many hundreds of thousands of dollars restoring and rehabilitating the historic structure into an adaptive reuse as their Community Outreach Center offices. Their decision for an adaptive reuse was influenced by the demands of the North

University Specific Plan Design Review Board (DRB). The DRB at that time was overseen by Kristen Belko and Bob Byers, who refused USC's initial attempt to construct a new office building.

This strong position by the DRB was based on USC's long-term benign neglect of the original historic residence on the site. Left derelict and abandoned by the University, the late Victorian home suffered a predictable series of fires by vandals and squatters, which left it economically unsalvageable. Benign neglect of their historic building stock had been a University practice for decades. The negative effect on the surrounding neighborhoods was becoming unbearable to the point of the DRB exerting its approval power and stating enough was enough. The DRB refused to consider any plan for the site that did not relocate a replacement historic structure of "equal or greater" historic significance.

The relocation and financial investment by USC with the Forthmann House adaptive reuse set a benchmark for future development in the University Park historic districts. However the struggle has never ended and it is incumbent on the preservation community to remain both vigilant and insistent when our historic resources are at risk as we now review USC proposals for development on the 3000 block of Royal Street.



# LIVE, WORK

MID-CITY

ACTIVE: 1241 S Bronson Ave, Craftsman Bungalow — Offered at \$549,000
ACTIVE: 1927 Buckingham Rd, Wellington Sq. — Offered at \$899,000
<b>IN ESCROW</b> : 4712 Mascot Street, Airplane Bungalow — Offered at \$565,000
IN ESCROW : 1050 N. Edinburgh Avenue #110, Townhouse — Offered at \$875,000
IN ESCROW : 1921 S. Victoria Ave, Wellington Square — Offered at \$898,000
<b>COMING SOON</b> : 3+2, Craftsman Bungalow in Hollywood – Offered at \$599,000
<b>COMING SOON</b> : La Fayette Square, 3500 Sq. Ft. Mediterranean — Offered at \$1,350,000

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# **Preservation Matters**

# Los Angeles Conservancy Gives Starr Dairy Farmhouse in Jefferson Park A 2014 Preservation Award

When the Los Angeles Conservancy announced the recipients of its 33rd Annual Preservation Awards in June, which recognize outstanding achievement in the field of historic preservation, West Adams' own David Raposa received one of the awards for the restoration of the Joseph Lee Starr Dairy Farmhouse located on Arlington Avenue in Jefferson Park.

Laura Meyers served as the historic consultant for the project, and Derek Japha was the architectural designer. Restoration architect Martin Eli Weil had also consulted on the project before his death in February 2009. Carpenters Taidgh O'Neill and Bob Gangl, among other talented craftsmen, rebuilt the Victorian era farmhouse, which is the oldest house in Jefferson Park and the last remnant of the neighborhood's agricultural history.

The Joseph Lee Starr Dairy Farmhouse was built in 1887 for a dairy operation started by Texas cattleman J. L. Starr. At that time, the dairy spanned twenty acres on what was then the western edge of Los Angeles. The farmhouse was designed in the Folk Vernacular Victorian style by fellow ex-Texan Jasper Newton Preston. The well-known architect had moved to Los Angeles to complete commissions for the County Hall of Records (1887), the Andrew Glassell residence (1887), and Los Angeles High School (1890). He is also known for many works in Texas, such as the Driskill Hotel in Austin (1886).

By 2008, after decades of neglect, the house stood vacant, had been partially demolished, and was rapidly deteriorating. The City of Los Angeles deemed the home a public nuisance, and it was in danger of being razed. During its vacancy, the building was occupied by drug users and vagrants. Then a subsequent owner demolished not only a garage and out-building, but also the farmhouse's early service porch





The Farmhouse as found (above); today its Victorian nature re-revealed

addition and many interior elements. It had decayed rapidly to the extent that the public questioned whether the site could, but more importantly, *should* even be saved.

According to the Conservancy's description of why he won an award, Raposa "rescued it from the brink of demolition, painstakingly restoring it in an effort that redefines determination. He even used the project to educate the community, providing public access then and now to promote the value of preservation."

Yet he didn't stop with just the restoration: he used the project and the home to educate the neighborhood about the value of historic preservation.

Striving for the greatest possible historical accuracy, the project team conducted extensive research, from pulling records from the nineteenth century to peeling back the layers of the house to determine its original structure and colors.

They also preserved cosmetic alterations done by the original family in 1910, and repopulated a barren lot with traditional Victorian flora, native California vegetation, and edibles befitting a farmhouse.

An informational banner and website informed neighbors of the project and helped foster support for the proposed Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ).

"The restored J. L. Starr Dairy Farmhouse provides enthusiasm and encouragement for future historic preservation projects in the local community, and was also open for public tours and training for HPOZ staff," according to the Conservancy. "It is a shining example for others who dream of saving neglected landmarks."

The awards are selected by an independent jury of leading experts in architecture, historic preservation, and community development. This was another competitive year, with 26 nominations submitted and many deserving projects. As always, this year's projects reflect a wide range of efforts to preserve L.A. County's architectural heritage. Among other award recipients are the Ace Hotel and Ace Hotel Theatre in Downtown; the reinvented Forum in Inglewood; the Dunbar Hotel on Central Avenue; Rancho Los Alamitos' Barns Area and Rancho Center; and Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, along with a special award for the Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

The Conservancy presents the awards at its sold-out Annual Preservation Awards Luncheon at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles on July 31. The luncheon is a rare opportunity for hundreds of business and community leaders to hear inspirational stories of how historic preservation strengthens communities and fosters economic development. City National Bank serves as presenting sponsor of the luncheon for the fourteenth consecutive year.

# igwedgeAHA Matters

### PAINT AND GARDEN CONTEST: Everyone's A Winner!









#### **Michael Chapman** 3425 West 27th Street, Jefferson Park

The Glen Lukens House/Raphael Soriano, Architect: Bringing an abandoned landmark and its gardens back to life (above, left).



Harold Greenberg 2263 South Harvard Blvd., West Adams Heights

This grand 1902 Chateau was recently updated with not just paint, but also extensive replantings, with an

eye for drought tolerance. The design is supplemented by numerous container plants (above).



#### Susan Arena and Jonathan Blaugrund 2101 4th Avenue, Arlington Heights

Artist Susan Arena surrounds herself with bright colors, so when it became time to repaint the family's 1910 Craftsman earlier this year, it was to serve as a beautiful background for an eclectic collection of colorful plants, artworks and furnishings. Drive by to see her palette (left).

#### Steve Rowe

3458 3rd Avenue, Jefferson Park

1910 Arts and Crafts Bungalow I wanted to have a Drought Tolerant garden to replace the existing weeds and lawn. It took me 5-6 months to dig, weed, turn 12 inches of soil, design, plant, etc. It was a true labor of love (right).





The vote is in, and each nominated garden and paint job was so terrific that we decided to declare everyone a winner. Here are our winning homes and gardens.



Michael Salman and Sharon Hayashi 2533 S. 4th Avenue, West Adams Avenues

When the current owners purchased this 1910 Colonial Revival, there was no garden at all. Now it has a beautiful swath of California natives, and an extensive vegetable garden in the rear.

West Adams Heritage Association | WAHA

\* Members Only

Members of West Adams Heritage Association have received a copy of the organization's annual fiscal report. WAHA welcomes your membership and support. To join the organization, mail in a check with the application on page 18 of this newsletter, or to join and pay online, log onto www.WestAdamsHeritage.org and click on the "To Join" link.



# WAHA's Fiscal Health: It's Been A Good Year\*

for your ongoing support, encouragement and efforts to "Create Our Future By Preserving Our Past."



# $\Delta$ nnual Report

# Annual Report Issue

Welcome to our annual review of West Adams Heritage Association's activities, preservation advocacy, volunteer and committee news, tours, and the annual financial report. WAHA is active in numerous community-based events and activities, ranging from tree-plantings, historical research, cultural heritage education, member-support activities (including parties and guest speakers), and, not least, fighting for historic preservation causes.

involved in all of our activities, and especially in our efforts to preserve the legacy that is Historic West Adams. Thank you, as always,

The Annual Report continues on pages 12-15. In many ways historic preservation has never been as threatened as it is today. WAHA thanks you for stepping up and getting

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HE BLUE AND THE GRA

# CIVIL WAR: BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD

### LIVING HISTORY TOUR 2014 ANGELUS ROSEDALE CEMETERY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

WAHA presents the 24th annual Living History Tour, with costumed actors, at graveside, portraying historic personages in one of L.A.'s oldest cemeteries. You'll meet witnesses to America's War Between the States:

• MARY DAVIS FLOURNOY, Confederate President Jefferson Davis' cousin, and LINA CARLISLE, President Abe Lincoln's cousin

• COL. ALLEN ALLENSWORTH, escaped slave who joined the Union Army, became a chaplain, and founded the town of Allensworth, CA.

• MARGARET MESEROLL HAYES, the last living Civil War nurse who died at age 101 in 1934

• LYMAN STEWART, who fought at Gettysburg, and later struck oil — he was the founder of Union Oil Co., BIOLA college and the Union Rescue Mission

• LOUIS F. GOTTSCHALK, Union veteran, Missouri lawyer and legislator who served as the state's Acting Governor before moving West

• ELIZA GRIFFIN JOHNSTON, widow of famed Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston, who died at the Battle of Shiloh

• HARRY DUFFIELD, actor who made his first footlight bow at age 12 but ran away from home to become a Confederate drummer boy at age 13; he later spent a lifetime in the theater • CLAY BEAUFORD/WELFORD C. BRIDWELL, ran away (and changed his name) to join the Confederacy at age 14; later a Medal of Honor recipient for heroism in the Indian Wars; out West, he helped capture Geronimo, mentored the Apache Kid, and was friends with Doc Holliday

### **HISTORY COMES ALIVE!**

Please visit www.WestAdamsHeritage.org for more information.



TICKETS: BY ADVANCE RESERVATION ONLY \$30 general admission (children under 10 free)

After Sept. 10 or at the door (if available): all tickets are \$35

Angelus Rosedale Cemetery is located at 1831 West Washington Blvd. in Historic West Adams. This is a walking tour over uneven terrain; please wear comfortable shoes. More information: 323-735-WAHA, tours@westadamsheritage.org, or visit www.WestAdamsHeritage.org.

Purchase tickets online at www.WestAdamsHeritage.org or mail this filled-out form and a check payable to "WAHA" to: WAHA Angelus Rosedale Living History Tour, 2410 Fourth Avenue • Los Angeles, CA 90018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_

CITY/STATE/ZIP

E-MAIL (required)

PHONE (required)

No. of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which general time slot you prefer. We will have several guided tours departing within each slot and will assign one to you. The tours each last 2-3 hours. We will confirm your time via e-mail after September 15.

Early morning (departing between 9 a.m. & 10 a.m.)
Late morning (departing between 10 a.m. & 11 a.m.)
Mid-day (departing after 11 a.m.)

# Annual Report

### **Preservation Year in Review**

#### continued from page 1

Another achievement and singular win was negotiated with AT&T for the Bekins Building (4174 Pico Boulevard) when the new design placed the antennas on the roof, painted grey, not affecting the concrete parapets, which provided an alternative that in WAHA's view would meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. In this instance planning staff, the AZA and the project applicant were able to arrive at an agreed project alternative. (More on next page.)

The Herman Kerckhoff Residence (1325 West Adams Boulevard) was successfully designated as a Historic Cultural Monument. Councilmember Bernard Parks called for its designation from the Council floor, and the Committee members Mitzi March Mogul, Laura Meyers and Jim Childs launched into action drafting the nomination.

These are just three of the many big and little victories that WAHA has achieved this past year. WAHA's key advocacy committee is the Historic Preservation Committee. This committee often addresses planning and zoning matters as well since our local issues are often intertwined with planning and land use rather than isolated issues of preservation. Committee members are actively engaged: they comment on development applications, stay abreast of land use initiatives, respond to issues as they arise, keep track of historic buildings needing to be moved and find possible sites to move them to, and keep up to date on changes to California's environmental laws as they relate to historic properties. Importantly, the Historic Preservation Committee also spearheads the designation of historic resources, working with WAHA members and, at times, professional outside consultants, preparing nominations.

The Committee members are Jim Childs, Rory Cunningham, Laura Meyers, Mitzi Mogul, David Raposa, Roland Souza, John Patterson, and myself, Jean Frost. New members are always welcome (please contact me at preservation@westadamsheritage.org).

The Historic Preservation Committee traditionally hosts a May preservation meeting for all WAHA members, with a program highlighting current historic preservation topics. This year's Preservation Month celebration, held at the Stearns Dockweiler Residence, recognized the preservation advocacy of Mitzi March Mogul with the Martin Eli Weil Award. Founding principal of Historic Resources Group Christy Johnson McAvoy was the informative guest speaker.

We continue to observe the trend of converting large single-family historic homes into student housing: in some instances by gutting interiors that are character-defining features of the historic property; but in other instances developing housing applying the Secretary of Interior's Standards and preserving significant interior spaces.

WAHA continues to be involved in the West Adams Baldwin Hills Leimert Park Community Plan update and its SurveyLA component. WAHA will continue to participate in the South Community Plan update process as well. At the time of this writing, both plans are stalled due the lawsuit lodged by Hollywood environmental groups and the resulting Superior Court decision which found the Hollywood Community Plan flawed.

WAHA routinely comments on any circulated environmental document affecting West Adams and adjacent neighborhoods. A committee member does the initial drafting, the committee reviews the position(s) points, and after review by two other Board Members in addition to the Chair, comment is submitted to the "lead agency," be it the City of Los Angeles, or other jurisdictional entity. The Committee reports regularly to the WAHA Board at its monthly meetings. The sources of the environmental documents are often the City of Los Angeles Planning Department web site, notices in newspapers, a neighborhood council member, or a WAHA member. (Please note: You are our eyes and ears in your neighborhood. In many cases, only residents within a 100-foot to 500-foot radius of a property, depending on the type of case, will receive a hearing notice. If YOU receive such a notice, please do contact WAHA right away and let us know.)

The HPOZs in West Adams continue to be a key structural element in keeping preservation a priority and insuring that infill properties are developed and properties are rehabilitated pursuant to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. WAHA, in partnership with the UNNC, sponsored a "Gathering of HPOZs" which afforded a dialogue for all of the twelve West Adams HPOZs to share concerns and experiences.

WAHA continues to identify and support the preservation and relocation (when absolutely necessary) of historic properties. When a property cannot be maintained and restored on its original site, it can be moved and rehabilitated to an area of similar period, architectural design, and significance.

The WAHA Historic Preservation Committee believes that it is always helpful to designate historic sites and districts before development issues arise. In addition to the Herman Kerckhoff Residence, other West Adams District HCMs designated this year include: the Haight Dandridge Residence, the Roberta Apartments (2424 Fourth Avenue), a dozen buildings owned by USC on and near the campus, and, now in process, the owner-nominated Charles Hurd Residence, a unique 1909 Gothic Craftsman in Victoria Park. (WAHA thanks James Cain for his stewardship.)

WAHA's historic preservation budget funds nomination and research, appeals, and an annual event. These costs can include consultant costs, Xeroxing, filing fees, travel, and parking. This year, with Board approval, WAHA accrued legal fees. To offset such costs, WAHA has established a Preservation Advocacy Fund where donations can been specifically targeted for advocacy action.

The Preservation Committee meets, as needed, at a time and place to be determined. As noted above, we actively encourage YOUR participation, especially to help with new HCM nominations (research and preparation of the applications) and attendance at public hearings. Historic preservation advocacy is WAHA's primary mission, and with your help, we can continue to be successful. ●

### **Bishop Mansion Case Resolved**

#### continued from page 2

There being no furthered appeal rights, WAHA engaged attorney Amy Minteer of Chatten-Brown & Carstens and petitioned the court: "The wholesale violations of CEQA by the City have necessitated the filing of this action to obtain a writ of mandate setting aside approval of the Project until proper environmental review has been prepared and other appropriate relief. Accordingly, Petitioners request that this Court issue a peremptory writ of mandate to prevent the City or Real Parties in Interest from taking actions based on the faulty Project approval and to require the preparation of environmental review for the Project."

The Superior Court granted a temporary restraining order barring the developer (1342 W Adams Holdings, LLC) "from demolishing, renovating or performing any construction work on 1342 West Adams Boulevard, except for work necessary to ensure structural integrity of the property." On March 4, the parties returned to Superior Court to hear several motions including a preliminary injunction to replace the temporary restraining order.

The Court issued a preliminary injunction which would prevent "demolishing, renovating, or performing any construction work on the subject property, except for work necessary to ensure the structural integrity of the property while the case is pending." In determining whether to issue the injunction "the trial court is to consider the likelihood that the plaintiff will prevail on the merits at trial and to weigh the interim harm to the plaintiff if the injunction is denied against the harm to the defendant if the injunction is granted." WAHA was required to post a bond within ten days which was set at one thousand dollars.

WAHA continues to be concerned that categorical exemptions are being overused by the City and that this case is a glaring example of when a CE ought not to be used. As the Court ruled: "Categorical exemptions, however, are subject to important exceptions based on factors such as location, cumulative impact, or unusual circumstances....An agency should decide whether a project is eligible for a categorical exemption as part of its preliminary review of the project without reference to or reliance upon any proposed mitigation measures." In addition, "The City should not be permitted to evade standards governing the preparation of a mitigated negative declaration by evaluating proposed mitigation measures in connection with the significant effect exception to a categorical exemption."

In the March 4 ruling, the Court acknowledged that "Petitioner seeks to preserve the historic nature of the subject property and its individual components. This is the same goal sought to be achieved by the CEQA Guidelines which seek to preserve the historic nature of properties through adherence to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards."

As a result of the determinations by the Court, the developer has stipulated that he will undertake environmental review and has so stated in a binding agreement lodged with the Court in June, 2014. WAHA has persisted, and after many challenges, won an environmental victory. ●

#### New Design Achieved for the Art Deco Bekins Building

The iconic Art Deco-era, Gothic Revival-inspired Bekins Bulding towers over the intersection of Pico and Crenshaw, an iconic landmark seen from every direction. The building is a historic resource, and has been determined eligible for the California and National Register(s) of Historic Places.

For nearly two decades, the structure has hosted a rooftop wireless (cell phone) facility for AT&T. But as technology has changed, the company decided it needed to update its antennas to accommodate 4G. However, the original proposal, to place large new antennas on the façade of the building, installed across the character-defining features of the parapet, would have been visually interruptive and risked damaging the building itself.

So, in late December, when the City Planning Department issued an initial approval of the project, over the objections of WAHA, the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles and the local neighborhood council, UNNC, WAHA filed an appeal.

Over the many months since, WAHA noted that it was not opposed to the upgrade to technology but preferred a solution that would place the antennas on the rooftop. We insisted that exterior changes to the historic Bekins Building at 4174 Pico Boulevard, to install new AT&T 4G antennas, should meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards and that mounting antennas on the exterior parapets failed to meet those Standards.

Luckily, this story has a happy ending. Through a collaborative effort with AT&T and Planning staff, WAHA was able to gain the cooperation of AT&T to produce a design that met both AT&T's needs and the requirements of the Standards.

We had hoped this would not go to a hearing. AT&T asked to meet with WAHA's Preservation Committee, in order to gain not just WAHA's approval of the new design, but also to craft an agreement for the Zoning Administrator — which we did.

As a result, at the appeal hearing before the South Area Planning Commission on June 3, Associate Zoning Administrator Jim Tokunaga recommended to the Commissioners that they adopt the agreement between AT&T, WAHA and OHR, and thus grant the appeal in part, modify the original decision and add a condition that requires the antennas be roof mounted and painted gray; and a finding be made that in order to comply the Secretary of Interior's Standards the antennas need to be mounted on the roof and any antennas on the facade would trigger an environmental assessment.



**Annual Report Issue** 

### The Year in Review: Events

For 30 years, WAHA has been throwing great parties and this year was no exception. Our crowning achievement was the fabulous 30th anniversary celebration at the Doheny Mansion. It was an elegant evening under the Tiffany dome of the Pompeian Room. The champagne flowed and classical music from the vintage Steinway filled the air. It was truly a night to remember.

Other events included the ever-popular 4th of July party, which was huge last year and stretched across 3 front yards on 20th Street. The ice cream social with yummy treats and a barbershop quartet was a fun summertime afternoon, at the Lentinis. Lots of great food was enjoyed at the post holiday bash at Georgia Toliver's lovely home.

Another popular event was the fundraiser at El Cholo. It was casual and everyone had a great time and we raised some money, as well. It has been requested that we repeat this and we will be doing that in the fall, as well as having similar events in other locations.

Our annual election meeting in April was very well attended and we had several wonderful presentations. It was an opportunity to get feedback from our members and the response was gratifying. Our events are popular. Members have also said they would like to have some informational events for do-it-yourself restoration, as we have had in the past. Watch your newsletter for some upcoming opportunities to learn, as well as party.

These are some of the highlights from our very full social calendar. We appreciate all of the homeowners who welcomed us throughout the year. We would love to hear from you and get a chance to see your home, as well.

I am very hopeful that this year we can have a whole committee to help with events, as they are very labor intensive for just a few of us. Please do contact me at Events@westadamsheritage.org, to volunteer your home, to help with even just one event or to serve on the planning committee. We can do lots more fabulous things with just a bit more help. Thank you.

Submitted by Suzie Henderson, VP of Events

### The Year in Review: Membership

The WAHA Membership Committee continues to expand its efforts and its committee. Committee members include Regina Berry, Jean Cade, SeElcy Caldwell, Lora Davis, John Kurtz, Candy Wynne, and Jerry Kvasnicka, chair. John Patterson, WAHA President, often attends meetings to provide input and support.

Membership numbers increased over 11% last year and our goals for the coming year include another increase as well as assuring that current members remain active. In addition, many members have increased their membership level to provide additional support for preservation activities. New members and members of the Preservation Circle and above levels are now listed in every issue of WAHA Matters.

The "New Member Welcome" event has been re-established and we plan to host at least two or more of these intimate events are not only to welcome new members but to encourage active participation in WAHA activities. Membership levels and benefits were clarified and published on the website.

WAHA has been represented at various local events as well, as citywide events such as Heritage Day in downtown Los Angeles. Our volunteers have been welcomed because of increasing interest in preserving architecture and the culture of Los Angeles; WAHA offers a model for other communities to appreciate and emulate in their own unique way.

The Membership Directory was published and is currently being distributed through attendance at events and a mailing to insure that members have this community resource.

- For the coming year, the Membership Committee has set some goals:
- a. Insure that current members remain active and have a voice in the activities of WAHA.
- b. Encourage new residents and tour/event attendees to join WAHA and enjoy the community.
- c. Host Welcome New Member events to provide a personal introduction to WAHA.
- d. Update the WAHA brochure and other member materials.
- e. Explore new ways to outreach and involve the community in WAHA. ●

#### The Year in Review: Volunteerism

WAHA always is actively recruiting members to roll up their sleeves and get involved by volunteering time/effort to support the legacy and success of WAHA. WAHA is a 100 percent volunteer organization. It is members like you who volunteer their time to ensure the organization's success -- whether it's rescuing architectural landmarks, hosting social events, or producing our signature tours throughout the year. We need more hands and heads to meet the organization's goals.

Some of the benefits of volunteering with WAHA:

• Meet other volunteers/neighbors – you share a vested interested in the community and you can learn valuable information from neighborhood experts – a wonderful resource for learning about happenings in the community.

- Share your talents with the organization.
- You'll have the satisfaction of providing a real community service.

Let's work together to achieve a shared purpose...Get on our list! We invite you to sign up to volunteer – please e-mail volunteer@westadamsheritage.org. ●

#### The Year in Review: WAHA Tours

WAHA presents tours to showcase many aspects of the Historic West Adams District, and to raise funds for our important historic preservation advocacy efforts.

During the 2013-2014 fiscal year, WAHA presented two distinct tours. In late September we conducted one of our most successful Living History Tours to date at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery; and December began WAHA's celebration of the season with our biggest event, the Annual Holiday Historic Homes & Progressive Dinner Tour in incredible Oxford Square.

Over the last couple of years, the Living History Tour's committee has matured and grown into a strong and viable group of dedicated volunteers who are building on more than two decades of work by previous (and some still current) team members. Each year, WAHA "tells history" with actor portrayals, in costume and at graveside, of the many historic personages buried at Angelus Rosedale, the second-oldest still active cemetery in Los Angeles (it opened in 1884). Visitors also learn about the beautiful architecture (and symbolism in the monuments) seen in this and other historic cemeteries. Read more about this year's Living History Tour, "The Blue and the Gray," and its focus on the Civil War, beginning on page 1 of this newsletter. And, if you'd like to help, please do contact tours@westadamsheritage.org.

Also reach out to tours@westadamsheritage.org if you would like to help plan and/or participate in the 2014 Holiday Historic Homes Tour (we'll tell you more about it in early autumn, but keep on reading below to learn more about the 2013 Holiday Tour.

WAHA is also seeking volunteers to organize next June's (2015) Spring Historic Homes & Architecture Tour, as well as a renewed effort to have occasional Coffee Strolls in West Adams' many diverse neighborhoods. Please do let us know if you can help.

# A Truly Jolly Holiday in Oxford Square, 2013

#### by Lore Hilburg

The 2013 Holiday Tour of Oxford Square offered an amazing variety of incredible homes, each with a terrific story to tell as well as incredible architecture and design details. It began with the check-in house at the home of Chris Elwell and Kory Odell on Windsor Boulevard in the fabulous Frank Tyler designed craftsman aptly named Casa Apocalyptica for the gardens. Chris and Kory put in the gardens themselves and did much of the restoration as well. It included all three floors of this grand home. Guests were invited to go up to the third floor and view the Hollywood sign from the balcony with their handy telescope. The waterfall, koi pond and native plant garden were a wonder to behold.

The tour continued at the appetizer home owned by Gary and Stephanie Gonzalez. A faithful restoration of this beautiful home which had incredible original fixtures and a very authentic and large kitchen with great windows throughout. The front porch was large enough to host the champagne bar. Our hosts were generous in allowing the tour to ascend to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and view the mother-in-law suite.

We continued on Victoria to the oldest home in the neighborhood, a lovely c. 1901 Victorian transitional that was moved to Oxford Square in the 1920s, which is owned by Meg and Randy Palisoc and the tour's soup house. The salad house was a charming English cottage, incredibly decorated by its owners, John Pratt and John Bassett. Their gardens also were lush and beautiful having been the scene of at least one wedding. But it was their guest bedroom in the attic decorated as befitting of Norma Desmond or Bridgette Bardott that was fun and intriguing.

Dinner was held in a magnificent tent on the tennis court of the home owned by Allison Cohen, a traditional style home with a most untraditional basement used as a speakeasy. The dinner tent was festive with chandeliers provided by Joe McManus and Lara Elin Soderstrom, which turned it into a magical setting with an incredible meal delivered by Eric Bronson and a crew of thousands.

The final house where dessert was served is owned by Murray Cohen and Mary Beth Fielder. This quintessential Craftsman was lucky to find Murray and Mary Beth as its owners. Murray's woodworking capabilities came in very handy in restoring the woodwork and making period appropriate furniture. The restoration was stunning right down to the original wallpaper in the living room and the beautiful tooled copper on the mantel. Their new kitchen included butcher-block counters made by Murray, which would be the envy of any kitchen. And the outside was just as magical. There were porches everywhere and a garden of numerous "rooms" including one with a fire pit that was enjoyed by many.

Oxford Square itself has a glorious history with the founders of Vons market as early residents, along with Marlon Brando's aunt whom he used to visit on occasion and pop in on the neighbors.

The volunteers did a Herculean job and the weather cooperated as well. Everyone who took the tour agreed that this was the best tour ever, although I seem to hear that every year. One of the things that made this tour even more enjoyable was that the home owners participated to a great extent and were usually there to welcome the tour guests and tell their stories of the restoration, the furniture and art objects, some of which were collected from all over the world. Although a couple of these house gardens have been on the Theodore Payne Garden Tour for native gardens, most of the houses themselves have not been on any prior home tours. I think the homeowners were really gratified to see how appreciated all their efforts were by the tour goers, many of whom were very knowledgeable about what they were seeing. A truly jolly Holiday was enjoyed by all in this little slice of England set down in historic Los Angeles.

# History Matters

# The Blue and the Gray: Living History Tour 2014

continued from page 1

In later life, one of this year's personages became a wellknown thespian, a star of screen and stage; another founded a major oil company, a Christian college, and the Union Rescue Mission, all of which survive to this day; and a third became Acting Governor of Missouri before moving to the Golden State.

Not all of this year's portrayals will be of men who fought at war. A Confederate general killed at Shiloh left behind in Los Angeles his children and his widow, a strong Southern woman who witnessed how the war tore asunder relationships (both business and social) in the former Pueblo. And visitors will also meet the female cousins of President Abraham Lincoln, and Confederate President Jefferson Davis, who, like the others portrayed this year, are buried at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery.



Some 450 Union veterans were laid to rest in the Grand Army of the Republic section of the cemetery. Many other Civil War veterans, Blue and Gray alike, are buried elsewhere at Angelus Rosedale.

Because the battles largely took place east of the Mississippi River, few people today realize that the Civil War actually played out right here in Southern California. Some 17,000 Californians enlisted in the Union forces, including in the California 100.

But the Civil War found the fledgling City of Los Angeles, incorporated in 1850, deeply divided in its loyalties. Although California was a pro-Union free state, Unionists were in the minority in Southern California. Many Southern lawyers, Southern Democrats and other Confederate sympathizers lived in Los Angeles, and as a result a majority of Angelenos favored the proslavery "Chivalry" wing of the Democratic Party. The *Los Angeles Star* newspaper staunchly opposed the state's anti-slavery



This prominent Celtic Cross at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery marks the grave of Henry Thomas Lee, Union veteran who fought with the Army of the Potomac and later became a well-known water rights attorney in Los Angeles.

senator, William Broderick, and in the 1860 presidential election Republican Abraham Lincoln received but 350 votes in Los Angeles.

Southern sympathizers and Northern partisans in Los Angeles formed competing voluntary military units. U.S. soldiers from Fort Tejon were called to quiet their skirmishes, and in 1862 the Union Army took a further step, establishing Camp Drum (Drum Barracks) in Wilmington as army headquarters for Southern California and the Arizona Territory. The U.S. government purchased the land from Phineas Banning (whose own 1864 Greek Revival mansion still stands nearby) and spent \$1 million constructing the military post, now a Civil War museum. The hospital at Camp Drum came to be recognized as the best-equipped and staffed medical facility west of the Mississippi.

From 1862 until 1866, some 13,000 Union soldiers were processed through the Drum Barracks. But even with the military presence, Confederate sympathizers continued to conspire and clash in Southern California – even attempting to take charge of Santa Catalina Island for a period, in order to loot ships transporting gold along the coast. Several high-profile Secessionists were arrested, and in 1863 lawyers, judges and litigants in Los Angeles were required to sign a Union loyalty oath or be prevented from appearing in courthouses.

In Pasadena, two streets remind us of the Civil War heritage: Fair Oaks was named for southern sympathizers, while Union Street gives a nod to northern sympathizers.

Angelus Rosedale Cemetery was founded two decades later, in 1884, and is now home to many generations of Los Angeles's citizens, representing every race, faith, and creed. Along with family plots that are the permanent resting places for both Confederate and Union veterans, some 450 Union soldier veterans are buried in a plot at Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic. Each year, WAHA tells some of their life stories while touring the historic grounds and elaborately-carved monuments of L.A.'s first lawn cemetery.



This year's Living History Tour portrayals include:

• Mary Davis Flournoy, the widow of Confederate Col. Robert Flournoy and cousin of Jefferson Davis, and Lina (Salina Catherine Hall) Carlisle, cousin to Abraham Lincoln and widow of Union vet William Carlisle;

• Col. Allen Allensworth, who was born into slavery in 1842 in Louisville, Ky., escaped during the Civil War and joined the Union Army, later serving as a military chaplain; in 1908 Allensworth founded a self-named town designed for African-Americans where they could live free of political and social persecution;

Margaret Meseroll Hayes, the last living Civil War nurse who died at age 101 in 1934;

• Lyman Stewart, a tanner's apprentice and would-be religious missionary who joined the Pennsylvania Cavalry and fought at Gettysburg; after the war, he became an oil wildcatter who founded Union Oil, and

then used his wealth to establish the "Jesus Saves" BIOLA (Bible Institute of Los Angeles) College and the Union Rescue Mission; • Louis F. Gottschalk, who was a Missouri lawyer, judge and legislator who fought on the Union side and later served as the state's

Acting Governor before moving West; while in Los Angeles he was appointed by President Harrison as American Consul to Stuttgart;

• Eliza Griffin Johnston, the widow of one of the most famed Confederate Generals, Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, who died at the battle of Shiloh;

• Clay Beauford/Welford Chapman Bridwell -- Bridwell changed his name to "Clay Beauford" and joined the Confederacy at age 14 (he didn't want his parents to find him). As Beauford, he later joined the U.S. Army to fight in the Indian Wars, and received the Medal of Honor. He helped capture Geronimo and became a

colorful legislator in Arizona; and

• Harry Duffield, an actor who made his first footlight bow at age 12, but a year later ran away from home to become a Confederate drummer boy; after the war, he spent a lifetime in theater, eventually settling in Los Angeles as an actor on the screen ("*Rio Grande*" directed by Edwin Carewe in 1920) and became a permanent member of Morosco's Burbank Theatre stock company.

Along the tour route visitors will also hear the stories of many other witnesses to the Civil War, veterans both Blue and Gray, whose narratives form a chronicle of American life before, during and after the war.

Tickets will go on sale in early August and cost \$30 apiece, by September 10; after that date, \$35 (space available). Purchase online or download a mail-in form at www.WestAdamsHeritage.com.

WAHA members enjoy a \$5 discount if ticket is purchased by September 10. Tours will depart approximately every 25 minutes, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (Advance reservations are REQUIRED; each tour group's participants are pre-assigned.) Visitors are asked to register for "Early Morning," "Mid-Morning" or "Mid-Day" tours; WAHA will assign specific tour times after September 10, to be sure everyone's choice can be accommodated.





THE CATBAGAN-NEITH TEAM SELL-A-BRATING 25 YEARS! Bringing Great New Neighbors to Historic West Adams and Los Angeles

### AVAILABLE:

**1724 So. Harvard Blvd** Harvard Heights HPOZ Classic Craftsman 4+2.5 \$750,000

#### **IN ESCROW:**

**2902 So. Hobart** Adorable restored Craftsman 2+1.5+FDR, Den, Done to the 9's! \$555,000 (over asking immediately)

**2531 Tenth Ave** SPECTACULAR 1915 Craftsman 5+4+apt \$887,500 Featured in LA Times online

#### JUNE AND JULY CLOSINGS: 1642 Buckingham, Lafayette Sq Terrific Tudor 4+2 Listed \$1.078.000

Terrific Tudor 4+2 Listed \$1,078,000 Multiple offers over asking (in a week!)

**2011 Vineyard, Mid-City** 2+1 Cutie Listed \$175,000 24+ offers over asking (in a week!)

**3887 Mount Vernon Dr, View Park** 3+2+Bonus rooms Mid-Century with VIEWS! \$695,000

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John Aaroe Group does not guarantee the accuracy of square footage, lot size, or other information concerning the condition or features of the property provided by the seller or obtained from public records and other sources and the buyer is advised to independently verify the accuracy of that information. This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another broker. CaBRE 010450391 CaBRE 01940161 We support preservation of the West Adams community's architectural heritage and beautification activities, and seek to educate Los Angeles' citizens and others about cultural heritage and restoration techniques.



2263 S. Harvard Boulevard Historic West Adams Los Angeles Califomia 90018 323-735-WAHA (323-735-9242) www.WestAdamsHeritage.org

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#### **ADVERTISING RATES**

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# WAHA CLASSIFIEDS

**Estate Sale!** Great collection of antique furniture, lamps and more — private sale on Saturday, August 16, 4 to 6 p.m. at 2405 4th Avenue (right after WAHA's Ice Cream Social, and located conveniently across the street). Proceeds help support award-winning filmmaker Micki Dickoff's new documentary on at-risk children. Call Christie at 323-314-6765.

Art Deco Gaffers & Sattler Stove for sale. Classic cream and black Deco. Looking for a good home -- moderately priced, make your best offer. -- call Laura to see photos. 323-868-0854.

Roommate Wanted? Vintage Stove for Sale? Garden Plants in Search of New Home? Place your classified ad here to reach preservation-minded readers. Contact lauramink@aol.com, NO LATER THAN the first of the prior month.



# $\mathbf{C}$ alendar

#### Upcoming Events AUGUST

Movies in the Park — "Despicible Me 2" at Benny H. Potter/West Adams Avenues Park (2nd Avenue @ 25th Street) Friday at dusk, August 1

WAHA's Ice Cream Social — Saturday afternoon, August 16



#### West Adams MusicFest '14 ---

Jazz and More Under the Stars on Labor Day Weekend! Three evenings, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 29-31. (see story, page 5)

#### SEPTEMBER

WAHA Potluck — Saturday, September 14

Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery — Saturday, September 27 (see story, page 1)

#### DECEMBER

Holiday Historic Homes Tour & Progressive Dinner — Saturday and Sunday, December 6-7

#### WAHA'S ICE Cream Social Saturday, August 16 2 to 5:00 p.m. 2410 S. 4th Avenue (Just north of Adams, West Adams Avenues)

What better way to spend a summer afternoon than eating ice cream and other sweets, socializing with neighbors, playing games, and other old-fashioned entertainment? Please put on your summer whites or Victorian-inspired attire, and join WAHA at its annual Ice Cream Social.

Singer Dianne Lawrence will entertain with vintage tunes from the 1920s, '30s and '40s. The Fenner-



Robinson family -- Elizabeth, Brian, August and Theo -- will be our hosts at 2410 4th Avenue in the West Adams Avenues.

All in all, this event will be a lovely way to relax on a summer afternoon in Historic West Adams. •

# WAHA....Creating Our Future by Preserving Our Past

The WAHA Matters Newsletter is a publication of the West Adams Heritage Association. Members and supporters of WAHA are invited to submit articles to the Newsletter. Letters will be published subject to space constraints and will be cut for length if necessary. Articles will be published subject to acceptance by the editors of the WAHA Board. Advertising is subject to the approval of the publishers. Although the Association appreciates its many fine advertisers, the Association does not accept responsibility for claims made by advertisers. Services and products are not tested and appearance of advertising does not imply, nor does it constitute, endorsement by the West Adams Heritage Association. Copyright 2014. All rights for graphic and written material appearing in the newsletter are reserved. Contact Director of Publications for permission.



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