



HOOVER HIGH STUDENTS AND TEACHER CREATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



From left: John Schwab-Sims, Trudi Abram and Katherine Yamada respond to students' questions during a lively panel discussion led by Kirk Sharma
PHOTO: Melanie Sanchez Romero

Kirk Sharma, Social Studies instructor at Herbert Hoover High School, was sorting through some long-neglected filing cabinets last year when he made a surprising discovery. Stuffed in a drawer were several school newspapers, some dating back to Hoover High's founding in 1929. Sharma also found several scrapbooks. One included a signed letter from President Herbert Hoover, for whom the school was named.

The former UCLA history major shared the exciting news with his students, who promptly volunteered to research the history behind the school's name, and the Hoover Historical Society was born. On her own initiative, Hoover student Elena Khudaverdyan looked up a 2004 Verdugo Views article about the school's early years and reached out to its author, former *Glendale News-Press* columnist and current TGHS

Board member Katherine Yamada. Sharma then contacted TGHS President John Schwab-Sims, seeking information on how best to preserve the Hoover memorabilia.

Schwab-Sims, Yamada and Hoover alumna Trudi Abram met with Sharma and student members of the Hoover Historical Society last fall. The trio responded to many thoughtful questions from the students about best practices for research and potential careers in the historical field.

Herbert C. Hoover, a northern California resident, had just been inaugurated as the 31st president when the new high school opened in what was then known as West Glendale. Perhaps the school board was influenced by Hoover's local appearance the previous August on a whistle-stop campaign circuit of the West. He was promoting construction of a massive dam on the Colorado River, part of the Boulder Canyon Project, which would bring vital energy to Southern California. (In 1931, it was officially named Hoover Dam, although political rivals for years insisted on referring to it as Boulder Dam, creating confusion over the name that persists today.)

TGHS is thrilled that these young people and their teacher have created their own historical society and look forward to following their progress. Stay tuned for news of exhibits and celebrations as Hoover High School approaches its centennial.

Painting the Doctors House, Junior Division

As a sequel to her successful Paint and Sip workshop for adults on June 4, Doctors House Museum Director Laura Crook invited young artists, ages 5-16, to Brand Park for a painting party of their own.

On November 12, 27 young VIPs ("Very Important Painters") had fun creating their own watercolor interpretations of the Victorian home, ably directed by guest artist/instructors David and Brianne VanTuyle. Brianne began by asking participants what shapes they saw. Rectangles, triangles and ovals soon appeared on paper as building blocks of the Queen Anne-Eastlake structure.

Docent Renée Leask then treated the young artists to a tour of the Doctors House. Thanks to all the participants and volunteers, the sold-out event was an artistic, educational and financial success.



Board member David VanTuyle and his wife, Brianne, leading the workshop

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

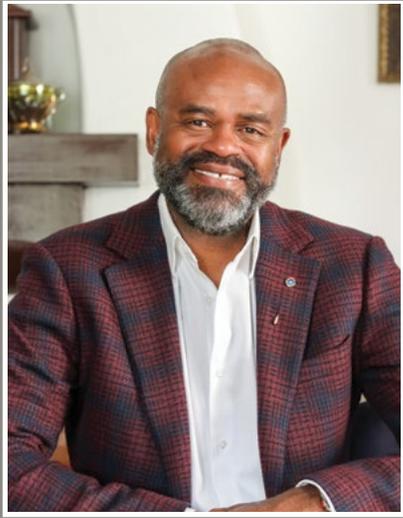


PHOTO: Matthew Letcher

One of my passions, and a key mission for TGHS, is to fight for the preservation of Glendale's historic districts and resources. Therefore, I am very pleased that there are now three neighborhoods currently in various stages of the process of achieving historic district status.

Bellehurst, located

between the Rossmoyne and Casa Verdugo Historic Districts, is a "pending" district, as the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has authorized a survey; it is currently in progress and the City is finalizing it with a historic consulting firm. When it is completed, a neighborhood and HPC meeting will be scheduled to discuss the results and to answer residents' questions. The HPC would then authorize the second petition.

Applications have been submitted for Selvas de Verdugo (the portion of the Verdugo Woodlands that is largely west of Cañada Boulevard) and for Cleveland Knoll, which is below the South Cumberland Heights Historic District. These districts are considered "proposed" but will become "pending" if the HPC authorizes a historic survey. Our hope is that these cases will be heard by the Commission early in the second quarter of 2024.

The process to establish these historic districts was started by neighborhood residents who are passionate about their

respective neighborhoods and want to preserve their historic integrity and charm. TGHS strongly supports them in their efforts.

I've asked the applicants of these three districts to introduce their neighborhoods to you, describing their historic significance and why they enjoy living there. You can read about them on Pages 4-5 of this issue.

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Historic district designation is a lengthy and complex process; the journey for these committed preservationists has just begun. I urge you to support them as they move through the approval process. As you know, our voices make a difference at City Council and it's important to ensure that TGHS's support for these preservation efforts is heard.

If you would like more information on historic districts or would like to inquire about starting the process in your neighborhood, please send your questions to preservation@glendalehistorical.org

Thanks for your continued support of TGHS.

Regards,

John Schwab-Sims

Remembering Michael Dougherty

TGHS is sad to announce the passing of Michael Dougherty, 88, on July 10, 2023. He was the husband of Carole Dougherty, TGHS Founding Member and Past President, who received the Society's first Lifetime Service Award in 2009, now called the Carole Dougherty Lifetime Achievement Award. Past TGHS President Greg Grammer stated, "Michael played such a critical, supportive role to Carole in saving and restoring the Doctors House."

A highly successful attorney, Michael Dougherty shared his wife's lifelong interest in architecture and commitment to historic preservation. Michael's childhood home, a Greene & Greene residence in Ojai, sparked an early passion for architecture. This led him to acquire Lloyd Wright's Derby House in Glendale, where he and Carole lived for nearly 40 years with their daughters, Bernice, Stephanie and Josephine.

The family requests that anyone wishing to honor Michael's memory should pick up a good book from a local bookstore and read it in bed, one of his favorite weekend activities.



Michael Dougherty
PHOTO: Courtesy of Carole Dougherty

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Arlene Vidor

*Deceased

Jeffrey Head Is Appointed to Historic Preservation Commission



Jeffrey Head (left) with the late Mark Stahl, at the Stahl House (Case Study House #22) in 2013
PHOTO: Jacques Stepanovich

On December 5, 2023, the Glendale City Council appointed Jeffrey Head to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC).

Head's diverse educational background (a BA in cinema and an MA in Education/Instructional Technology, both from San Francisco State University) led him to his current career of art and architectural writer and archivist. Subsequent work with the LA Conservancy, especially the Modern Committee, increased Head's appreciation for preservation.

Head has written several books and contributed to such publications as *The Architect's Newspaper* and the *Los Angeles Times*, among others. As a consulting archivist, he works with architects and designers to help place their archival material with various institutions, including the Huntington Library, The Getty Research Institute and Stanford University.

Having successfully completed Glendale Register and Mills Act applications for two different homes, Head believes that these experiences give him a perspective that he hopes the HPC and residents will find helpful. "Serving is an opportunity for me to contribute and to offer another voice to preservation in Glendale," says the Chevy Chase Canyon resident.

Head's involvement with TGHS began some 20 years ago, when he and Past TGHS President Arlene Vidor "did a windshield tour of Glendale's post-war Modern homes" and put together a Modern home tour brochure. Most recently, TGHS has benefited from Head's technology background; he created and managed the webpage for the past two Gala & Benefit silent auctions. "The best part is working with the Gala committee. Everyone brings something special...and it's fun!"

As everyone at TGHS who has worked with Jeffrey Head knows, the HPC's newest member definitely brings something special to the Commission. TGHS congratulates a valued colleague and friend on this important appointment.

Glendale Preservation Scores for City Councilmembers Updated

Score Range	Quality	Member	Score
90% - 100%	Excellent	Paula Devine	89%
80% - 90%	Good	Mayor Dan Brotman	89%
60% - 80%	Fair	Ardy Kassakhian	74%
0% - 60%	Poor	Elen Asatryan	58%
		Ara Najarian	58%

GLENDALE NEIGHBORHOODS SEEK HISTORIC DISTRICT STATUS

Three Glendale neighborhoods that were developed from 19th-century land tracts, one named for a woman and two owned by women, are in the process of becoming historic districts.



All three neighborhoods feature vintage street lamps

Bellehurst Historic District (Pending)

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Bellehurst Ranch was one of the most prolific growers and shippers of citrus in California. It was owned by a Glendale founder and the 16th Mayor of Los Angeles, Cameron Erskine Thom, who named the ranch after his second wife, Belle.

The Thom family began to subdivide the property around 1912, ultimately selling to the Walter H. Leimert Company. The property, marketed as Bellehurst Park, was further divided and developed into housing by Leimert beginning in 1923. Early newspaper articles show lots plowed by horse-drawn cultivators. Leimert's ads for "Beautiful Bellehurst Park," still dotted with orange, lemon, grapefruit, olive and pomegranate groves, breathlessly claimed that "the elevated land at the edge of the mountains" was "more precious than rubies."

Bellehurst collectively displays a range of popular Revival styles such as Spanish Colonial, Tudor, French, Pueblo, Monterey and American Colonial. Unique and wonderfully designed homes range from elaborate to humble, displaying excellent examples of the fine craftsmanship of their respective eras. The proposed district includes 306 homes, positioned primarily between the Rossmoyne and Casa Verdugo Historic Districts on the east and west and East Mountain and Stocker Streets to the north and south.

One of the applicants finds the landscape particularly attractive. She says, "The unique lay of the land generates a distinctive mountainous feel as the orderly grids of homes climb in curving rows and the lots rise up the hillslopes from the southern boundary." Many of the original citrus and olive trees still grow there today, adding to the neighborhood's beauty and serving as a reminder of its agrarian history.

Please see www.bellehursthistoricdistrict.com for more information, antique real estate promotional ads and a delightful vintage 1898 photo essay on the ranch. If you own a home within the proposed district, please join the mailing list directly on the website.



Anderson House, Bellehurst

Cleveland Knoll Historic District (Proposed)

In February 3, 1923, the *Glendale Daily Press* featured a full-page article announcing the opening of a "Dream Tract of Northwest Glendale." Developers from Cleveland, Ohio, had purchased 20 acres of citrus groves from Dr. Kate Black, a Cleveland native who had moved to Southern California to practice medicine; she became a significant figure in the development of both Pasadena and Glendale.

The development, Cleveland Knoll, was located between West Kenneth Road on the north, Grandview Avenue on the west, Glenwood Road on the south, and Highland Avenue on the east.

PRESERVATION

Part of the continued development and expansion of Glendale in the 1920s–1940s, the neighborhood was intended to attract working-class buyers from both California and outside the state, particularly Ohio. The proposed Cleveland Knoll Historic District includes 238 homes comprising primarily Spanish Colonial Revival, English Inspired, Minimal Traditional and Craftsman. The district includes two Glendale Register properties, as well as charming original stamped sidewalks, macadam streets and Marbelite concrete lamp posts.

For one applicant, what’s special about Cleveland Knoll today is “the overall look and feel of the neighborhood. There’s nothing especially flashy about it, just nice homes, sidewalks, streets and those wonderful lamp posts that really are attractive!”



Cole-Carothers House, Cleveland Knoll

The Glendale Historic District Overlay Zone Ordinance requires that to be eligible as a historic district, an area must meet at least one of nine criteria. Applicants for Cleveland Knoll believe that the area meets five of them, including the significant figure and involvement of Dr. Black; a concentration of architectural styles popular during the period of interest; and the presence of Taylor House, built in 1893 and illustrative of early pioneer construction, with rustic channel redwood board siding, square iron nails and horsehair plaster on wood lath. For more information, contact clevelandknoll@gmail.com

Selvas de Verdugo Historic District (Proposed)



Willard House, Selvas de Verdugo

The proposed Selvas de Verdugo Historic District comprises a significant portion of the 3,300 acres allotted in 1871 to Catalina Verdugo, daughter of the original Mexican owner of the vast Rancho San Rafael, and her nephew Teodoro. The proposed district includes the Catalina Verdugo Adobe, an important reminder of the area’s rich Spanish and Mexican history. Another landmark is the now-deceased Oak of Peace, the site of negotiations in 1847 that ultimately led to the end of the Mexican-American War.

Early efforts to develop the area failed due to a lack of reliable public transportation, but in 1910, John A. Pirtle facilitated an extension of the Glendale-Eagle Rock Railway line. Development for his Verdugo Canyon Tract quickly ensued. Have you ever wondered why Cañada Boulevard briefly diverges, arrow-straight, from curvy Verdugo Road? That was to accommodate the railway tracks.

To preserve the area’s remarkable natural features and insure that no live oaks or sycamores were removed, Pirtle hired noted San Francisco horticulturalist John McLaren. Later development picked up rapidly with F. P. Newport, who renamed the area Selvas de Verdugo. “A touch of old Switzerland,” Newport rhapsodized in a promotional pamphlet, “with chattering brooks of sparkling mountain water...laurel-covered foothills...great gnarled sycamores...” His 1924 ad in the *Glendale Evening News* proclaimed that the place “appeals to those who want to get away from the commonplace.”

Proposing that the Niodrara Drive Historic District be included in the larger one, the applicants state, “While the landscaping along Niodrara is particularly striking, a similarly bucolic atmosphere pervades the rest of the proposed historic district.” With its curving streets, lack of sidewalks and river rock enclosures protecting trees in the middle of two streets, today’s Selvas/Woodlands neighborhood beautifully retains the “picturesque, sylvan ideal that sought to marry proximity to the city with a rejuvenating life in nature” of its early developers.

TGHS congratulates the applicants on their fine work and applauds their dedication to preserving these beautiful and historic neighborhoods.

EVENTS

GALA FUN CONTINUES! TOP BIDDERS ENJOY THEIR PRIZES

Last year's Gala & Benefit, TGHS's "Swanky Soiree at Barker House" on October 7, launched several subsequent events courtesy of the special experiences offered via the silent auction.



The UNESCO plaque at the Hollyhock House. Front: Hilary Sbei, Joemy Wilson, Greg Grammer. Back: Jon Harvey, Steve Hunt, Karan Davies, Jon Grayson, Cathy Grayson, Laura Crook, Jon Crook.

Hollyhock House Tour

On November 4, Cathy and Jon Grayson shared their winning prize of a private tour of Hollyhock House, Los Angeles's only UNESCO World Heritage Site, with some fortunate friends.

Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright for oil heiress and theatrical producer Aline Barnsdall (whom Wright said was "as domestic as a shooting star") and constructed between 1918 and 1921, the home took inspiration from Pre-Hispanic and Pueblo styles. In celebration of his client's favorite flower, a hollyhock motif appears throughout the house. Barnsdall gave the 12-acre site to Los Angeles in 1927; today, Barnsdall Park has become the dynamic arts center that she originally envisioned.



Seated, from left: Patrick Kubiak, Claire Hieber, Ben Stanley, Cecile Kubiak, with wine steward Laura Crook

Heritage Wine Tasting

Doctors House Museum Director and irrepressible wine docent Laura Crook led a private tour of the Museum followed by a Heritage Wine tasting for Ben Stanley and his wife, Claire Hieber, and their guests, Patrick and Cecile Kubiak, on January 21.

As described on the silent auction website, a Heritage Wine Tasting curated by Crook "celebrates your cultural heritage and favorite places in the world, wherever fine wines are created: the story of you!" In honor of her guests' heritages and personal tastes, Crook chose a sparkling wine from England, a Napa Valley Chardonnay and a Spätburgunder and a Frey Ortega Trockenbeereauslese, both from Germany.



From left: Scott Halloran, Bruce Merritt, Valerie Merritt, Scott Fraser, Cathy Jurca, Don Snyder, Peter Rusch, Glenn Yamada, Katherine Yamada

Salmon Feast and Cabaret Evening

The stately American Colonial Revival residence of Katherine and Glenn Yamada, a highlight of TGHS's 2014 Home Tour, was the site of a salmon feast on January 26. A prosecco toast, along with homemade hummus, preceded the elegant dinner of wild salmon, line-caught by Glenn off the shores of Sitka, Alaska, with homemade brownies for dessert.

Peter Rusch gave a tour of the home to auction-winning bidders Bruce and Valerie Merritt and their guests. After dinner, cabaret artist Don Snyder played and sang a set of favorites that included "My Funny Valentine," "Begin the Beguine" and "The Impossible Dream," to rapturous applause from all.

WELCOME!

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS NOVEMBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024

SAN RAFAEL PATRON

Greg Grammer & Simon Wright
Valerie & Bruce Merritt

JEWEL CITY PATRON

Maria Chua & John Krause

VERDUGO PATRON

Wm. Richard Anderson
Susan & Richard Blasco – U
Cameron Carothers
Carolyn & John Clauss
Pam & Jim Elyea
Toni & Vince Espinoza
Nancy Hathaway
Wendy Juleff
Rondi Werner & Bill Redmann

TROPICO

Aparna Bhargava
Lolly Gallup & Simon Miles
Susan & Carlos Garrett
Marcia Hanford
Laurie Hasencamp
Ann Howitt
Susan Kirk
Blake & Rob Lamb
Catherine L. & Martin N. Montoro
Tammy & John O'Connor

Joanna Pringle
Marian Scully – N
Patty Silversher
Leann & William Warner
Joemy Wilson & Jon Harvey

HOUSEHOLD

Graziana & John Barker – N
The Beyer Family
Susan Bolan & Family – N
Mark Bridges
Jane Brown & Gary Hart
Pauline Callahan
Megan & Dennis Chapman
Claire Hieber & Ben Stanley
Carol Koopman & Family
Isabelle & Lawrence Meyer
Sarah & Robin Oates
Louise Peebles
Jayne Roses & Mitch Landau
Melody & Ron Scott
Scott Smissen & Don Snyder
Lee Straus & Gregory Thieme
Rebecca & Chuck Weiss
Brian Welsh
Marsha Wong & Rick Stern

INDIVIDUAL

Janet Armitstead

Russell Cinque, Jr.
Charles Cooley
Vartan Gharpetian
Shannon Harvey – N
Kama Hayes
Kay Heitzman
Ivar Johnson
Lala Klopping
Katherine Loomis – N
Suzanne McDonnell
Denise Miller – N
Maria Sahakian
Armen Sarkissian
Matt Widmer

SENIOR

Trudi Abram – N
Susan Dasso
Diane Dixon
Pamela Ellis
Patrick Grant
Robin Lee Hansen
History-Periodicals LAPL
Roseanne Kalaba
Barbara Malone
Eileen Mendoza
Stephen Montgomery
Jennifer Muirhead
Gail Nelson

Robert Paris
Elaine Pease
Kenneth Perrin – N
Judy Rao
Magdalena Sokolowski – N
Candice Stein
Bonnie Tortorelli
William Vasquez
Joylene Wagner

STUDENT

Elizabeth Avila – N
Katherine Hobbs
Ani Mnatsakanyan

*TGHS also welcomes 81
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through the Glendale
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U - Upgrading Member

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Stacey & Darren Merritt
Jim Newman & Michael Williams
Coleen Novak & Daniel Garnett
Maureen & Mario Palladini
Vic Pallos

Mary Kay Prather & Thomas Jacobsmeyer
Francesca & Lee Smith
Karin & Dennis van Bremen
Chris & Steve Warheit
Rondi Werner & Bill Redmann
Elaine & Bill Wilkerson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 24, 2024
1:30-3:30

VICTORIAN EASTER

Featuring the famous Easter Egg Hunt
Doctors House Museum & Gazebo Brand Park

Tickets: \$10 members, \$15 nonmembers
No tickets will be sold at the event. Advance ticket purchase required: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-victorian-easter-egg-hunt-at-the-doctors-house-tickets-806232000617>



Pottery by Glendale artisan AC Davey
PHOTO: Laura Crook

Spring 2024
CERAMICS OF GLENDALE
The next special exhibit at the Doctors House will display works of such notable Glendale artisans as Avis Wright, AC Davey, Genevieve Tully and many others.

Don't miss the tenth episode of Katherine Yamada's ongoing Glendale history saga on TGHS's website:
"STILL STANDING AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, PART X"

First City Marshal Was Son of Founding Family

In 1906, residents gathered to decide, once and for all, whether or not to incorporate. One hundred and twenty votes were cast and the measure was approved nearly 2 to 1. That same day, Orrin E. Patterson, son of one of Glendale's founding families, was elected as marshal and sworn in by the new mayor.

Read the full article at: <https://glendalehistorical.org/still-standing-10>

If you missed any of TGHS's great events, you can access the archived videos at glendalehistorical.org/past-virtual-events



To get the most up-to-date information on TGHS's events and preservation alerts, check out facebook.com/GlendaleHistoricalSociety AND instagram.com/TheGlendaleHistoricalSociety