



MAD FOR MODERN HOME TOUR *Tickets Now on Sale!*

The Glendale Historical Society is pleased to present its “Mad for Modern” Home Tour, which will showcase six superb Mid-century Modern homes tucked away in some of Glendale’s most charming and historic neighborhoods. The 2015 Home Tour will take place on Sunday, September 27 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

We are grateful to returning sponsors **G&C Properties**, **The Walt Disney Company** and **Whole Foods Market**.

This year’s tour will feature Webber House, a prize-winning 1950 “Sun Villa” house designed by renowned architect A. Quincy Jones that is being restored by the current owners. Others on the tour include: Barker House, a sprawling 1958 hillside home with stunning city views designed by contractor and architect Edward Kirtlan; Conway House, a 1959 showpiece designed by architect William Duquette that was recently featured in *Los Angeles magazine*; Ruzicka House, a 1961 post-and-beam designed by Karl Schwerdtfeger of the prominent architecture firm Welton Becket and Associates; Peterka House, a striking two-story 1963 home designed by architect David Alexman and recently nominated to the Glendale Register of Historic Resources; and Markwith House, a 1965 home with loads of vintage charm designed as his personal residence by architect Denver Markwith, who is credited with the National Register-listed Huntington Beach Public Library at Triangle Park.

Three of the architects (Alexman, Markwith and Schwerdtfeger) graduated from the USC School of Architecture, while Jones was

on the School’s faculty for 25 years. In the middle decades of the 20th century the School was the epicenter of Modern design in Southern California.

Advance tickets are \$25 for TGHS Members and \$35 for the general public. After September 21, tickets are \$30 for Members and \$40 for the public. Tickets may be purchased online at www.GlendaleHistorical.org or www.GlendaleArts.org, or in person at The Americana at Brand Concierge Desk. Tickets may also be purchased on the day of the tour only at the historic Alex



Photo: Victoria Lasken

Theatre, 216 North Brand Boulevard in Glendale.

Guests will drive themselves to the featured houses for docent-led tours of each home. The tour will be held regardless of weather. Tickets are non-refundable.

For more information about the Home Tour, please

contact events@glendalehistorical.org or 818-242-7447 or the Glendale Arts box office at 818-243-2611, ext 11.

We look forward to seeing you on the tour!

Note our calendar on the back page for details on “Glendale Goes Modern,” a free presentation about modern architecture in Glendale, presented by former TGHS President and current Historic Preservation Commissioner Arlene Vidor. The September 17 program begins at 7:00 pm.

Laura Crook and Steve Hunt Join TGHS Board

Greg Grammer Re-Elected President



Photo: Jon Crook



Photo: Ralph Ziegler

Laura Crook and Steve Hunt were elected to initial terms on The Glendale Historical Society’s Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, held at the Doctors House in Brand Park on July 18. Crook will serve a two-year term, and Hunt will complete the remaining term of Jamie Anderson, who stepped down earlier this year. In addition, current Directors Greg Grammer, Catherine Jurca, Margaret Hammond and Marcia Hanford were re-elected to two-year terms at the meeting. Ron Cressy, Brian Haworth and Vrej Mardian round out the Board membership.

Crook has been a dedicated TGHS volunteer for the past several years, putting in many hours as a docent at the Doctors House Museum and during the annual Home Tour and serving on the Events, Gala and Home Tour Committees. She is so committed that she was even willing to (figuratively) die for TGHS, posing as a dead body in a coffin she helped her husband construct during the “Beneath the Veil” exhibit at the Doctors House. Crook

also conceived and organizes the popular “Raising the Bar” monthly mixers for TGHS members and potential members. Laura and her husband Jon reside in a 1926 English Revival within the El Miradero neighborhood that they are lovingly restoring.

Hunt brings a wealth of volunteer experience to the Board. He was involved with the Glendale Jaycees for 10 years and was chairman of the Days of the Verdugos Parade and the committee that created the Days of the Verdugos Association. He currently is a volunteer at Glendale Memorial Hospital, a member of the Board of the hospital’s foundation, President of the Altadena Senior Men’s Golf Club, and a member of TGHS’s Events committee—and he recently became a docent at the Doctors House. Hunt was born in Pasadena, and his family moved to Glendale in 1947 where he went through the school system, graduating from Hoover High, followed by Occidental College. That same year, he and his wife married and, after two years in Eagle Rock, moved back to Glendale, where he has remained since.

At the initial meeting of the new Board in August, all the officers of the Society were re-elected: Greg Grammer, President; Catherine Jurca, Vice President; Brian Haworth, Secretary; and Vrej Mardian, Treasurer. Sean Bersell will continue to serve as Executive Director.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Despite the unexpected deluge of summer rain, it was heartwarming to see so many of you at our Annual Meeting & Afternoon Tea at the Doctors House on July 18. With the day's unseasonable weather, Queen Anne-Eastlake Victorian architecture as our backdrop,

and a lovely selection of tea, finger sandwiches and homemade scones, for a moment it felt as if we had been transported to the other side of the Atlantic!

As I mentioned in my remarks, this past year has been another active one for The Glendale Historical Society and our efforts to promote and preserve Glendale's architectural heritage. The Doctors House continues to attract new visitors each year through its school tours, special events and exhibits. Approximately 3,000 visitors toured the house museum last year. We also had record attendance at our 2014 Home Tour and Holiday Party and an impressive turnout at our first-ever Gala & Benefit. In the spring, we held our fifth annual Taste of Spain Membership Drive at a beautifully restored Spanish Colonial Revival historic home, which brought in 28 new members.

We launched two new popular programs last year: Raising the Bar, a monthly meet-up and exploration of Glendale's interesting watering holes, and our Neighborhood Walk Series, which takes place on weekends throughout the year as we tour different areas of the city and highlight some of the architectural gems hiding in our neighborhoods.

Our core mission of preservation advocacy, however, continues to have its up and downs, as is often the case in the world of historic preservation, and last year was no exception. While we were successful in persuading the Historic Preservation Commission to deny the application to tear down a contributor to the Brockmont Park Historic District, that decision was appealed to the City Council, which ultimately voted to allow the home to be demolished despite our best efforts and the strong case made by our attorney.

The City took a big step toward restoring Rockhaven Sanitarium by soliciting ideas from qualified developers with experience in historic properties, but community apprehension prevented the process from moving forward. However, we remain committed to finding a preservation solution for this important and abandoned site.

On the old Woolworth's Building, the inappropriate 1980s pyramidal structure on the roof will be removed, but we believe the other alterations that were approved are too radical and did not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation; we also believe that the project was not properly reviewed under the California Environmental Quality Act. In a similar vein, the landmark Masonic Temple will undergo much needed rehabilitation work and the front façade will be restored closer but not exactly

to its original 1928 appearance; however, a more thoughtful approach should have been taken by both the developer and the City to ensure that the project met the Standards and that the review process complied with CEQA.

In a win for preservation, due in large part to your letters and emails, the City Council adopted Residential Window Replacement Guidelines, which prohibit the inappropriate internal grid vinyl and flush mount Z-bar frame windows on the front facades of older homes. In addition, when development plans for a 1910 American Foursquare were presented to the Design Review Board, TGHS was able to successfully advocate that the structure be properly restored and remain fully intact.

The list of properties on the Glendale Register continues to expand, and five homes were added last year, bringing the total to 109. Also, the proposed Niodrara Drive Historic District was found eligible for local and state designation, and the applicants have received City approval to circulate the petition among the 32 property owners. TGHS was proud to have supported the nomination and provide a grant to help defray the cost of the application fee.

For the first time in TGHS's history, we asked candidates for City Council to respond to questions about important historic preservation issues. As a non-profit organization, TGHS cannot endorse candidates, but can provide information to our members to help them make an informed decision.

I encourage all of you to remain engaged in the political and policy-making process and ask that you remind our local leaders that preservation of our historic architecture is important and should be made a greater priority. After all, it is our older, vintage structures and period homes and neighborhoods that help tell the story of our City and make our community a desirable place to live. And while we can't save every old building, adaptive reuse and preservation should be integral to the City's long-term strategy for growth and development. As such, TGHS will continue to call for a comprehensive, citywide historic resources survey that identifies, assesses and documents architecturally significant properties worthy of protection.

As another year draws to a close, I would like to thank Jamie Anderson for his three years of dedicated service on the Board and welcome newly elected Directors Laura Crook and Steven Hunt, who bring with them a bounty of energy and enthusiasm to the organization. I feel fortunate to be working with such a devoted group that also includes returning Board Members Ron Cressy, Margaret Hammond, Marcia Hanford, Brian Haworth, Catherine Jurca and Vrej Mardian; Executive Director Sean Bersell; and Doctors House Director Sonia Montejano and Assistant Director Peter Rusch. I also look forward to working with all of you as we face new challenges and celebrate new successes in the year ahead.

Regards,
Greg Grammer

"I encourage all of you to remain engaged [and] remind our local leaders that preservation of our historic architecture is important and should be made a greater priority."

PRESIDENT

Greg Grammer
greg.grammer@glendalehistorical.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Catherine Jurca
catherine.jurca@glendalehistorical.org

SECRETARY

Brian Haworth
bhaworth@glendalehistorical.org

TREASURER

Vrej Mardian
VrejMardian@glendalehistorical.org

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Laura Crook
laura.crook@glendalehistorical.org
Marcia Hanford
marcia.hanford@glendalehistorical.org
Margaret Hammond
Ron Cressy
ron.cressy@glendalehistorical.org
Steven Hunt
steve.hunt@glendalehistorical.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sean Bersell
sean.bersell@glendalehistorical.org

DOCTORS HOUSE DIRECTOR

Sonia Montejano
sonia.montejano@glendalehistorical.org

DOCTORS HOUSE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Peter Rusch
peterrusch@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER LAYOUT

Matthew Letcher
matt@mletcher.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Scott Lasken
scott@stratagemdesigninc.com

PRESERVATION UPDATES

Historic Preservation Commission Approves Addition to Historic District Contributor



The purpose of historic districts is to manage necessary changes, not freeze properties in time. Among other virtues, historic district designation helps to ensure that additions to contributing properties are appropriate to the character of both the house and neighborhood.

On July 16 the owners of 301 Lawson Place, a 1952 Ranch-style home and

contributor to the Brockmont Park Historic District, received permission to build an approximately 600-square foot addition to the side and rear of the existing 2,300 square foot house. The owners and their architect, Alen Malekian, proposed a sympathetic and thoughtful design that on the whole respected the historic features of the house. When TGHS spoke at the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) meeting, it noted their efforts represented “a model for how such projects should be approached.”

TGHS did propose a few changes to the design to improve compliance with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation and Glendale’s Design Guidelines for Historic Districts. These included maintaining the line of the historic roof ridge, which the applicant proposed to raise slightly and, if feasible, moving the original dovecote, which cannot be retained in place, rather than copying it elsewhere.

The HPC rejected TGHS’s proposed changes to the design, but the Commissioners did agree with TGHS that the staff report was inadequate. The report declared the project in compliance with all ten Standards for Rehabilitation but only addressed three of them in recommending it. Staff said they would be sure to address them all in the future.

The staff report further claimed that Standard 9, which states that “new work shall be differentiated from the old,” really only applies to large-scale projects. It failed to identify any documentation that would support that interpretation, which is unsurprising, because Standard 9 applies to all projects, whether large or small, commercial or residential. The community depends upon staff to assess projects thoughtfully and thoroughly; process matters and the letter and the spirit of the Standards are important.

Annual Training Required for Historic Preservation Commission

Glendale is a Certified Local Government (CLG), which means that it enjoys certain benefits from the state for agreeing to meet higher historic preservation standards. One of the requirements of a CLG is that commissioners participate in training at least once a year on a topic related to historic preservation. It should be pointed out that this is a *minimum* requirement; Historic Preservation Commission members who lack professional training in architecture, design or historic preservation would do well to exceed it to guarantee that they understand, among other essential things, the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and the California Environmental Quality Act. Training in how to read architectural renderings is also enormously useful in evaluating projects.

TGHS knows that Glendale’s HPC has not consistently received even the minimum required training, which compromises the ability to review staff recommendations with an informed and critical eye. If city staff are not making sure the required training takes place, TGHS urges that the commissioners take the initiative and educate themselves as much as possible so that they can be effective guardians of the public interest.

EVENTS



Photo: Claes Lilja

Guests Attend Fun & Fabulous Gala & Benefit!

An Evening at Villa Farinacci took place on August 15 beneath starlight and sparkling chandeliers at the 1926 residence of Tatevik and Vartan Achabashian. Guests enjoyed the Italian Renaissance Revival home and spacious grounds along with music by Strut, a silent auction, plus food and beverages. That night, TGHS recognized outstanding work in the community with the presentation of its annual Preservation and Volunteer Awards.

The 2015 Preservation Award went to the Irving Air Chute Company Building, a 1929 Art Deco brick structure designed by noted architect Henry Gogerty. Located at 1500 Flower Street (formerly 641 Sonora Avenue), the building was recently restored and rehabilitated by owner Weston Cookler.

Victoria and Scott Lasken received the 2015 Volunteer Award for their contributions including photography and graphic design. Their talents are evident on nearly every printed piece of TGHS material in the past several years.

Proceeds from the Gala & Benefit will be directed to TGHS endowment fund and preservation fund. TGHS is grateful to sponsors **G&C Properties**, **The Spot Gourmet** and media sponsor **Glendale News-Press**.

Photos: Claes Lilja



Pictured: Greg Grammer, Leanne Reynolds, Paula Devine & Chris Cragnotti



Pictured: Melissa Goodnight, Vartan & Tatevik Achabashian



Pictured: Victoria & Scott Lasken



Pictured: Weston & Hillary Cookler

Neighborhood Walks: Tour-Goers Experience Eclectic Adams Hill *Casa Verdugo Next in the Series*

The 2015 Neighborhood Walks series continued in July with a tour of Adams Hill in South Glendale. Historic Preservation Commissioner and former TGHS President Arlene Vidor led the walk along the Cottage Grove Historic District, a cluster of houses in the Tudor Revival style, and through the hills, where guests discovered other Period Revival, Ranch and Mid-century Modern architectural highlights and enjoyed views of downtown Glendale and the San Gabriel mountains.

Adams Hill also has historically significant commercial buildings, which include the beautiful Art Deco Adams Square Building (1928), designed by the celebrated architecture firm Morgan, Walls and Clements, now a public library, and the nation's first Baskin-Robbins, which has endured an unfortunate remodel. The tour began at the Streamline Moderne Richfield Oil Co. Gas Station, which was saved from demolition by the Adams Hill Neighborhood Association and TGHS in 2005 and is now an exhibition space and center of a mini-park.

The Neighborhood Walk Series resumes on October 10 with a tour of the Casa Verdugo neighborhood, named for the popular restaurant that operated there from 1905 to 1930. Tour details will be announced by email in late September.



Photo: Scott Fraser

Members Gather for Annual Meeting & Afternoon Tea

The Annual Meeting & Afternoon Tea on July 18 at the Doctors House was accompanied by record-breaking rainfall, but more than 80 intrepid guests participated, including plein air painters from the Glendale Art Association.

Ernest Berger, President of the Community Foundation of Verdugos, presented TGHS President Greg Grammer with a disbursement check from TGHS's Endowment Fund.

Grammer provided a brief overview of the 2014-15 year, which was followed by the election of this year's nominees to the Board of Directors.



Photos: Ralph Ziegler

TGHS Honored as National Preserve America Steward for Doctors House

In April TGHS was designated a Preserve America Steward in recognition of the outstanding use of volunteers in preserving and promoting the historic Doctors House. A certificate of recognition, signed by First Lady Michelle Obama, was presented to TGHS President Greg Grammer at the Annual Meeting on July 18 by City Council member and former Historic Preservation Commissioner Vartan Gharpetian.

Built in 1890, the Doctors House owes its existence to the work of scores of volunteers who saved the building from demolition, moved it to Brand Park and restored it. The Doctors House opened as a museum in 1984. Today docents are trained in Victorian customs, fashion, architecture and early Glendale history, and they lead numerous tours for school children as well as other visitors.

Director Sonia Montejano deserves the credit for nominating the Doctors House. She recognized that its activities and mission perfectly embody the Steward program's emphasis on the creative use of volunteers in the work of "car[ing] for our nation's important historical resources," in the words of the letter that Mrs. Obama sent to the volunteers of TGHS.

Our thanks go to all of you for making this distinction possible.



Photo: Ralph Ziegler

New Exhibit: How the Stereopticon Changed Victorian Lives



This new exhibit at the Doctors House traces the origins of the stereopticon invented in 1838 by Sir Charles Wheatstone as a contribution to the enrichment of Victorian lives, through the invention of 3-D photography, to modern day applications like the Viewmaster viewer. People of the day lived vicariously through stereopticon adventures and witnessed many of the great archeological discoveries and newsworthy events through this marvelous medium.

Please come visit the Doctors House and join in the adventure! The exhibit will be on display through November 15, 2015.

Sheila Murray – In Memoriam

by Peter J. Rusch, Assistant Director of the Doctors House

Sheila Murray and I were soul mates, but it took several years and a lot of schmoozing (her word) to realize that everyone she touched felt that way about her. Although I was well acquainted with Dick, her beloved husband, through City Council meetings and Chevy Chase Canyon activism, Sheila was unknown to me until I was a docent with her on a TGHS Home Tour a few years ago. It was Derby House, Carole Dougherty's magnificently preserved Lloyd Wright home in the Canyon, and Sheila showed up fashionably late to get her assignment. Before the end of the day she had talked me into repairing a sculpture for a Glendale Symphony fundraiser at the Oakmont Country Club coming up in a few weeks. That was Sheila; always volunteering, always championing a cause, always moving the spotlight from herself to her favorite projects. A few months later I was privileged to serve Sheila, Dick and two close friends "Dinner at the Doctors House," after which she requested to stay overnight in the upstairs bedroom rather than going home. Always the wry humor; always her ability to make you feel you were the most important person in the room. Even while dealing with a cancer that had ravaged her body, Sheila still volunteered for home tours, raffles and fundraisers, until she left this life on her own terms.

Merry Franzen – In Memoriam

Over the course of 22 years, from 1985 to 2007, Merry volunteered as a docent at the Doctors House. During this time Merry volunteered more than 375 hours, making her one of only six to ever reach that impressive number of volunteer hours. Her love and appreciation for the Doctors House and the community were evident by her dedication. Not only did she guide visitors through the house, she was also instrumental in preparing various vintage clothing exhibits over the years. She will always be remembered as a special friend of the Doctors House, and her passing is a loss to us all.

WELCOME

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS: MAY 2015 - JULY 2015

JEWEL CITY PATRON (\$500)

Rima & Donnell Cameron
Steven Chapman & Ricardo Ordoñez
Catherine Jurca & Scott Fraser
Heather Norris & Sean Bersell

VERDUGO PATRON (\$250)

Peggy Dionne
Nancy Hathaway

TROPICO SUPPORTER (\$100)

Jeri Anderson
Faline England & David Miller - N
Vrej Mardian
Elizabeth Morris & Rebecca Maxwell
Jim Newman & Michael Williams
Vanessa O'Brien
Maureen Palladini - U
Nancy & Leonard Schaustal - U
Donna Stuckert
Larry Tison
William Troiano - U
Rondi Werner & Bill Redman

SUSTAINING (\$50)

Margie & Rick Barnes
Nadia DeWees - U
Roland Kedikian - N
Sarojini Lall

Matthew Letcher - N
Lisa Schultz & Ayre Gross - U
Martha Thompson - N

DUAL (\$40)

Alek Bartrosouf & Alex Calleros
Cindy & Jonathon Beres
Paula & Art Devine
Karen Goodman & Norman DuFort
Meri Grigoryan - N
Anita & Russell Harnden
Carol & Richard Heyes
Shanna & Scott Igoe
Patricia Marsh & Michael Morgan
Patricia Messina & Terrence Hines
Zara Rostomian & Varand Balasarian
Christina & Patrick Ross
Curtis Schwab & John Sims
Cynthia & Frank Soldwedel
Dorothy Sundbye & Dee D Trent
Julie Webber
Sharon & William Weisman
Sandy & Woody Wise

INDIVIDUAL (\$25)

Danielle Baker - N
Ute Baum
Joyce Briscoe - U
Anna Donlin
Linda Dorn

Daniel Fagan
Nicola Gargani - N
Isabelle Meyer
Dave Robles - N
Pat Rogers
Kelly Salloum - N
Katherine Shiban
Laura Stotler - N
Mona Vasiloiu
Erik Yesayan

SENIOR/STUDENT (\$15)

Ross Adams & Djanet Stumreiter
Elizabeth & Richard Berry
Margaret Bickmore
Loretta Chicoine
Sharon Hyder Dorris & George White
Joyce Goodwin
Sandra Haggerty
George James
Erika Jarjour
Claudia Jefferies
Richard Johnson
Harriett J. Kahan - N
Linda & Edward Knutson
Kumiko & John Mayhew
Don McDonald
Mary McVay
Robb Morgan
Irene Munafo

Robin Oates
Carol Pullis - N
Diana Schillinger
Diane Shamhart
Raymond Shinn
Katherine Wolfe
Bella Yegian

PAST PRESIDENTS LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Deborah Dentler
Carole Dougherty
Andrea Humberger
John LoCascio
Marie Luft
Steve Preston
Bill Shepherd
David Smith
Arlene Vidor

N - New Member
U - Upgrading Member

PLEASE CONSIDER A MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE THE NEXT TIME YOU RENEW.

THANK YOU CORPORATE/BUSINESS SPONSORS AND PATRON MEMBERS!

GLENDALE GEM

G&C Properties

HERITAGE CIRCLE

The Spot Gourmet
The Walt Disney Company
Whole Foods Market

JEWEL CITY PATRONS

Anonymous
David Brooks & John LoCascio
Rima & Donnell Cameron
Steven Chapman & Ricardo Ordoñez
Guy DeConte & Ammar Kharouf
Greg Grammer & Simon Wright
Catherine Jurca & Scott Fraser
Heather Norris & Sean Bersell
Corinne Sánchez & Efren Manjarrez
Paddi & Jeff Thomas

VERDUGO PATRONS

Polly & Jamie Anderson
Derek Arteta & Brian Haworth
Derek Cato & Mark Taraborelli
Shannon & Vic Cistulli
Christie & Sean Crahan
Peggy Dionne
Pam & Jim Elyea (History for Hire)
Gary Gilbert
Maya Gulbekova
Atul Gupta
Nancy Hathaway (The Wine Vault)
Eric Jacobson & Roy Luthringer
Victoria & Scott Lasken
Valerie & Bruce Merritt
Adriana Mucic
Margi Simpkins
Bonnye LaPenotiere Sirk (Rossmoyne Properties, Inc.)
Pam & Keith Sorem
Arlene Vidor
Mana & John Vulchev
Elaine & Bill Wilkerson



PO Box 4173, Glendale, CA 91202-0173
www.glendalehistorical.org



2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
7:00 PM

“GLENDALE GOES MODERN”
Presentation + Slideshow with Speaker: Arlene Vidor
Vallejo Drive Seventh-day Adventist Church
300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale; Free

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

“MAD FOR MODERN” HOME TOUR
Tickets Now on Sale
Members: \$25; General Public: \$35
Prices Increase by \$5 after September 21

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19
6:30 - 8:30 PM

CANDLELIGHT TOURS
Doctors House Museum, Brand Park
1601 West Mountain Street, Glendale
\$10 Donation Requested



You “LIKE” Us!

*The Glendale Historical Society's Facebook page recently exceeded 1,000 “Likes.”
Thank you to all who are keeping up on TGHS's activities through Facebook.*

*To get the most up-to-date information on TGHS's events and preservation alerts, check out
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ GLENDALEHISTORICALSOCIETY](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GLENDALEHISTORICALSOCIETY)*