



The Glendale Historical Society

NEWSLETTER VOL. 7, NO. 2, 1986

DOCTORS' HOUSE DOCENTS PROGRAM CELEBRATES SECOND ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday, May 17, the following docents received certificates of appreciation for serving 40 hours or more: Lois Austin, Judy Cabrera, Karen Cline, Karen Lynn, Elaine Duell, Merry Franzen, May McPherson, Lee Sale, Luanne Sauter, Mary Sheppard, and Lorraine Zabaro. We enjoyed a delicious brunch at the home of Judy Johnson.

Everyone knows what our docents do. . . right? They meet our visitors every Sunday, or on special weekday tours, and tell them about each room in the Doctors' House. But, what about those small, distinctive, highly personal moments--those memories that make the experience of one docent different from those of any other? Some are gratifying; some come under the heading of "Life's Most Embarrassing." Here are a few highlights:

. . . the little girl who looked into the playroom and asked, 'But why didn't Dorothy put away her toys?'

. . . walking into a room that I had told about dozens of times before and going completely blank."

. . . promising two boys who wanted to tour the house that I would guard their skateboards with my life."

. . . realizing that the special tour of history students knew far more about Glendale's history than I did."

. . . all the summer visitors who didn't really want to see the house; they just wanted to cool off."

. . . how often the same Sunday tour group would range from people who were themselves restoring houses and who wanted to see and hear about every detail, to people who had just wandered in from the park and who weren't interested in anything except glancing at a few of the rooms."

. . . the man who, because he had been born in the house, thought that gave him license just to wander through the house on his own and touch everything."

. . . the charming Mr. Cornwell, who looked at the school photographs that hang upstairs and recognized himself, his classmates, and his teachers."

. . . all the people who are so proud to have some personal connection with the house--someone whose relative had crocheted the bedspread, or whose family had owned the piano."

. . . the little boy on the Cub Scout tour who looked at the medical examining table with the stirrups and asked, 'Did they do exercises there?'

. . . the older visitor who, while waiting downstairs for the rest of her group, decided she preferred the antique bathroom to the public restroom."

. . . several people who became indignant when we told them they were not welcome to bring their dogs with them into the house.

. . . the many people for whom the house brings back memories of their parents and grandparents."

(continued)

Does all of this sound like fun? It is! And being a docent is rewarding in many ways: as you contribute to your community and add to the quality of life in Glendale, your personal cultural awareness also grows. And joining in a service effort is a great way to make new friends. If you are interested in joining the new group of docents who will begin training this fall, call Judy Johnson at 244-4802 and add your name to the list. Remember--we need men as docents too.

Karen Lynn, Doctors' House Liaison

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REHABILITATION FOR DOWNTOWN GLENDALE LANDMARK

"The building will be substantial, ornamental and a real addition to the dignity of the principal business of Glendale."

-- Glendale Evening News, February 3, 1923

Glendale's first high-rise office building is 62 this year and, thanks to a \$2 million rehabilitation project, it now wears its age with pride. An extensive face-and-body-lift has transformed the Security Building at 100 North Brand Blvd. into an eye-catching example of restoration in the midst of modern construction activity in the downtown Redevelopment area.

Although small by modern standards, the six-story, 43,311 square foot office building designed by Alfred F. Priest has been a major landmark in downtown Glendale since it was built in 1924. For several decades it was among the city's tallest buildings, and it helped define Brand and Broadway as Glendale's main intersection.

An ambitious project, the building was commissioned by Security Trust & Savings Bank and included basement vaults, safe-deposit department and other customized amenities that have served the original ground floor tenant well through its own evolution to the Security Pacific Bank today. The evolution of the building itself, however, took a less honorable course. Changing fashion brought layers of paint to cover marble, brass, and wood interior fittings. An earthquake in the early 1950s forced removal of ornamental parapets and classical fluted columns. The exterior became grimy.

Then the Howard-Platz Group, with the blessings of the Glendale Redevelopment Agency, stepped in. Architects of the Feola/Deenihan Partnership brought their expertise to the project. The exterior walls were cleaned, and the interior areas were renovated to attract tenants. The lobby walls, ceiling, and brass and marble fixtures were restored to their original lustre. The \$2 million rehabilitation represented four times the original construction cost of \$500,000. The bank that has called 100 North Brand home since the building first opened could probably best appreciate the effect of 62 years on both the building and the dollar.

In 1924 all the necessary money and technology was available to create what promised to be, and did, become the most prestigious business address in the area.

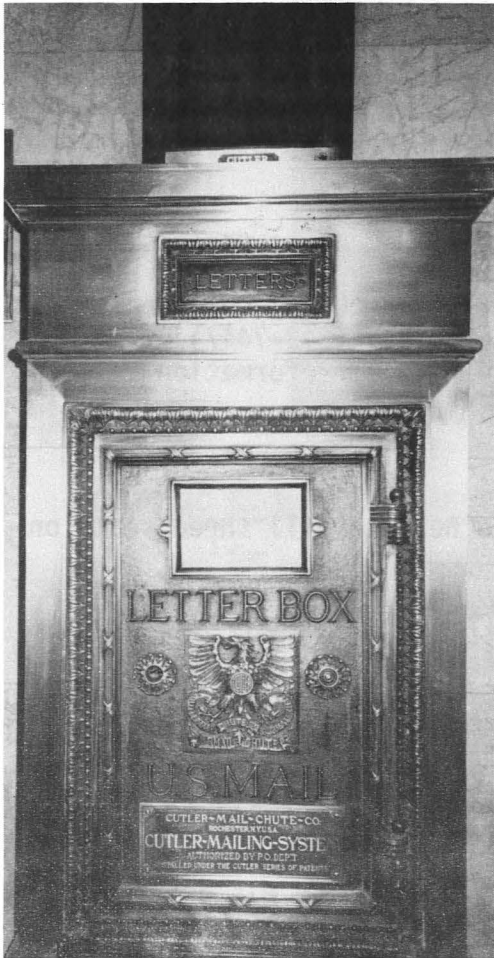
Security Trust & Savings Bank was not alone in having space built to order. Many of the 114 offices on the upper floors were pre-leased to physicians and dentists. In anticipation of their needs, each office was equipped with water, gas and compressed-air lines.

One man who watched with great interest as the new building rose was C. Raymond Lusby, a busy and highly-respected dentist with a 10-year practice in Glendale.

Dr. Lusby polled his patients when they visited his offices above the old Owl Drug Store on the southeast corner of the Brand-Broadway intersection.

"I asked them if they thought I should move into that new building," Dr. Lusby recalls. "They all said 'of course--we'd expect you to be in the best new building in town,' so I was happy to make the move. It really was the best building in town."

Dr. Lusby, now 95, was one of the first in the pre-lease line and was able to choose his space and the amenities that would be built into it.



The letter box (*left*) and the ceiling (*below*) in the Security Pacific Bank Building reflect the careful interior restoration work on the 62-year-old landmark.



"Before they installed the elevators I climbed up to the fifth floor and chose the corner office for mine. It was a wonderful place--very modern and beautiful. I'm happy to see that they've remodeled it and made it beautiful again."

Dr. Lusby continued to practice in that corner office until 1941 when he built a building of his own four blocks north, and he fondly recalls "many happy, happy years" in the city's first skyscraper.

Not all the early tenants were in the medical field. Dr. Lusby shared the building with a wide variety of other professionals throughout the years.

One, a lawyer and justice of the peace named Harry W. Chase, later made his mark as a judge. But he made his mark among literary buffs in January, 1930, when he officiated at the first wedding of author John Steinbeck in room 320 of the Security Building at Brand Boulevard and Broadway in Glendale.

The Security Building holds many memories for Glendale residents, and they are now able to continue to enjoy its imposing presence in the heart of our city.

Reported with thanks to
New Image Public Relations

FALL TOUR SPOTLIGHTS FAMOUS SITES

In conjunction with Glendale's 80th birthday celebration, the Glendale Historical Society will be holding a bus tour on Sunday, September 21, featuring several of Glendale's most interesting historic buildings. The tour, "Glendale: Our Pride and Joys", will include stops at several sites associated with the various eras of our city's past.

From its days as a quiet farm community, through the madcap and booming 'twenties, to the years when we had fun sharing Hollywood's glamour, Glendale offers a wealth of colorful history preserved in its buildings -- particularly along Brand Boulevard and San Fernando Road. The tour committee, chaired by Margaret Hammond, is presently engaged in researching the sites and compiling photographs and other material for use on the tour.

This tour promises to be a fascinating one. Needed are site and bus docents, ticket takers, merchandise table staffers, a brochure artist, and a refreshments committee. We also welcome any other type of help, or information which could be part of the tour. To assist phone The Glendale Historical Society (242-7447) or Margaret Hammond (242-7334). Watch the mail for further updates and information about taking the tour.

NEW DIRECTORS JOIN BOARD

At the Annual General Meeting on June 4, elections were held to fill three seats on the Board of Directors of The Glendale Historical Society.

Member Audrey Hales was re-elected, and new Board Members chosen were Dr. Robert Newcomb and Margaret Hammond.

Dr. Robert M. Newcomb has lived in Glendale since 1975, when he and his wife, Karen, decided to live in Karen's home town after a decade of living and teaching in Denmark. It was in Denmark that he developed an interest in historic preservation. That country has been working for over a century to make certain that as many as possible of her treasure trove of relics remain to delight and enlighten her citizens and her visitors. From the time of the first announcement in the Glendale News Press of the revival of The Glendale Historical Society, Robert has been an active member. The Historic Preservation Element of the City of Glendale was his introduction to the valuable historical resources in our city, and the efforts of TGHS to save and then to restore The Doctors' House strengthened the Newcombs' interest in preserving Glendale's history. Robert established our newsletter and for the past several years has contributed his talents as assistant editor. In addition, he has served as Program Chairman for our monthly general meetings. He looks forward to being a Director who will be able to contribute even further to our continuing work of assuring a future for Glendale's past. He is at present a part time Lecturer in the Department of Geography at California State University, Northridge.

Margaret Hammond brings to the Board an extensive knowledge of and interest in Glendale's history and a knack for getting things done. She grew up in Glendale and for many years has been a community activist, getting involved wherever she sees a need. She joined TGHS after taking our very first Glendale tour. Since then she has worked as House Chair on five tours and served as Chairwoman of the Tropico tour. At present she serves on the Awards Committee and the TGHS Preservation Action Task Force as well as serving as Chairwoman of our Fall Tour Committee. She firmly believes in the importance of preserving Glendale's history for future generations.

Margaret, Robert and Audrey join continuing Directors Dick Brouillard, Sue Lazara, Karen Lynn, Suzanne McKay, Larry Meyer, and Dick Montgomery.

We are most appreciative of the impressive contributions of vacating Directors, Steve Preston and Bill Dodson. Our heartfelt thanks go to them for the dedication and inspiration they brought to the Board during their years of service.



HISTORIC E. D. GOODE HOUSE ON THE MARKET

One of our most important historic buildings, the Goode House at 119 N. Cedar, is for sale. Built in 1897 for early civic leader E. D. Goode, the Queen Anne-Eastlake style home and its surrounding array of bungalows are for sale through Dorn Platz Real Estate (242-2152).

Because of its location on a large and well-located lot, we are very concerned for the future of this house. It was found by our 1984 Architectural and Historical Survey to appear eligible for National Register listing, and our TGHS Preservation Action Task Force compiled a feasibility study on possible uses for it. The resulting report is available for inspection by any interested persons.

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NEW PHOTO DISPLAY IN DOCTORS' HOUSE

Thanks to the talent and efforts of Doctors' House docent Mary Sheppard, the upstairs exhibit room west wall now features ten large framed photographs of the relocation of the house. Mary was prompted to mount the exhibit by the great curiosity and interest which visitors expressed about the unique background of the house as it is today. Mary's fine job will contribute greatly to the visitors' understanding and appreciation not only of the house but of restoration in general.

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MACINTOSH AVAILABLE?

It would increase our flexibility and help to reduce our production costs for the Newsletter if we could find an available Macintosh with laser printer upon which to do our text. Any suggestions can be passed to Suzanne McKay, (244-9456) or Robert Newcomb, (241-3421).

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Newsletter Editor: Suzanne McKay Assistant Editor: Dr. Robert Newcomb
Thanks to Susan Read for typing the newsletter, and to Daphne Lindstrum, Karen Newcomb, and Bob Woodring for their help in the bulk mailing.

TGHS REPRESENTATIVES TRAVEL TO MONTEREY CONFERENCE

The 11th annual California State Historic Preservation Conference was held this year, May 1 through May 4, in Monterey. It was jointly sponsored by the California State Office of Historic Preservation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the City of Monterey. TGHS members Margaret Hammond and Greta Reed, represented our organization at the conference, and they returned with valuable insights and information which will assist us in our current and future projects.

The keynote address was delivered by J. Jackson Walters, president of the National Trust. He discussed how changes in the world of preservation are setting new rules for old buildings. He told how the National Trust is taking a leading role in developing the creative responses necessary for issues ranging from dealing with Federal and State tax policies to helping solve the new problems facing owners of historic houses.

Margaret and Greta attended twelve of the various workshops at the conference, which covered such topics as the State Historic Building Code, the Secretary's standards in tax act projects, Main Street type projects, the National Register and its new directions, new State Office of Historic Preservation initiatives, fund-raising for historic preservation, the control of land and property, and contemporary preservation frontiers. A topic which Margaret found particularly interesting was a talk given on tourism and historic preservation.

Margaret is one of our new Directors, and both she and Greta are very involved in our TGHS Preservation Action Task Force. They will be sharing their knowledge with us and enabling us to become a more effective organization.

Reported by Margaret Hammond

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Sid Gordon, Kerri Lynn Schmick, Margaret Hammond, and Shannon Pedlow really got into the spirit when they represented The Glendale Historical Society at the Angelino Heights Historic Preservation Week celebration on May 18.

TGHS MEMBER ON NEW CITY BOARD

Georgie Kajer-Weis, active member of TGHS, has recently been appointed to the new Design Review Board for the City of Glendale. The Board, consisting of two five-member boards, reviews builders' proposed construction plans for commercial buildings and multi-family housing. The purpose of the Board is to help improve the appearance of Glendale by setting design standards.

Georgie is an architectural designer who is a member of our TGHS Preservation Action Task Force. She was instrumental in the transfer of the Egyptian Village Cafe artifacts to W.E.D. (Walt Disney) Enterprises.

Our Congratulations to Georgie as she takes up this important position.

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AWARDS PROGRAM BEING SET UP

To give recognition to those who have furthered the cause of promoting and preserving Glendale's history and architectural heritage, we have established an Awards Committee. The purpose of this committee is to present awards to those very special people, groups or agencies which have done the most in these areas for our city or for our organization. We are asking you, our members, to submit nominations for the awards.

Members, including Board members, and non-members are eligible for the awards. The Zelia Blanton Award, established in memory of our late past president, is for a student or advocate of preservation. Other awards will be given to members of our organization who have given in a special way to The Glendale Historical Society. A third type of award will be for any individual or group, member or non-member, who has been a significant force in furthering our goal of promoting community awareness and involvement to preserve Glendale's rich history and to preserve its historical structures.

During the summer, the Awards Committee, chaired by Sid Gordon, will be selecting those deserving individuals and groups to be honored by our organization at our September general meeting. Below are nomination forms which will aid them in their choices. Please complete, clip, and return them to the TGHS Awards Committee, P. O. Box 4173, Glendale, CA 91202. Thank you!

TGHS AWARDS NOMINATIONS

I hereby nominate _____
(TGHS member doing the most for our organization)

I hereby nominate _____ for the Zelia Blanton Award.
(Preservation student or advocate)

I hereby nominate _____
(Any individual or group who has contributed in a noteworthy way to either The Glendale Historical Society or to the cause of promoting an awareness of Glendale's heritage)

Submitted by _____

JULY IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

July 1 begins a new membership year, and membership renewal forms have been mailed to all members. As the forms are the basis of our mailing roster, completing and returning the forms will ensure that TGHS mailings will be sent to you at your current, complete mailing address and that your name will be listed as designated by you.

Membership in the Glendale Historical Society is open to all persons interested in learning about, promoting, and preserving aspects of Glendale's history. Members receive quarterly newsletters, announcements of events, discounts on TGHS tours, and the opportunity to work on a variety of projects. Annual dues are \$15 for single active, \$25 for family active, \$50 for sustaining, \$5 for student/senior, \$25 for non-profit organization, and \$100 for corporate.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ () New Member () Renewing Member

I would like to assist in the following areas:

EDUCATION	PRESERVATION ACTION	MEMBERSHIP
RESEARCH	PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	WAYS AND MEANS
CLERICAL	NEWSLETTER	OTHER: _____

General meetings are held monthly (except July, August and December) at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Carrillon Room, Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, 401 North Brand Boulevard. Telephone: 242-7447.

The Glendale Historical Society
P. O. Box 4173
Glendale, California 91202

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