



The Glendale Historical Society

VOL. 8, NO. 3, 1987

TGHS BEGINS AN ACTIVE NEW YEAR

The beautiful garden of Dick Montgomery provided the setting for The Glendale Historical Society's second annual Awards and Installation ceremonies on Sunday afternoon, September 13.

Glendale Historic Preservation Commission Chairman Vonnie Rossman graciously installed the 1987 Board of Directors, presenting a living plant to each Director. President Dr. Robert Newcomb then presented awards to eight individuals and groups in recognition of their service to The Glendale Historical Society. Receiving awards were Frances and Wheeler Doll of Doll Electric Company, which has served Glendale for 65 years and refitted The Doctors' House electrical components; Sid Gordon, charter TGHS member and stalwart project supporter, enthusiastic promoter and photographer; Daphne Lindstrum, who expertly and reliably does our bulk mailings; Zab and Lorraine Zabaro, ever ready to do whatever is needed for The Doctors' House; and Karen Lynn, Doctors' House docent and Board Liaison. Not present but also receiving awards were Judy Cabrera and Margaret Hammond. Judy is a Doctors' House docent, member of the TGHS Preservation Action Task Force, and heads the Speakers Bureau. Margaret has long been a spirited defender of Glendale's historic buildings and, more recently, has been a TGHS Preservation Action Task Force member and Vice-President for Tours and Fundraising.

Vonnie Rossman presented the award for achievement in promoting the goals of TGHS to Sue Lazara, retiring Vice-President and Board member since 1982. Sue's extraordinary research efforts helped assure the authenticity of The Doctors' House restoration, and her ever-growing depth of knowledge and breadth of personal contacts have been of immeasurable value in our preservation activities.

One of our youngest members and supporters, Steven Abramians, received a scholarship award of \$100 to assist him as he enters California State University at Los Angeles.

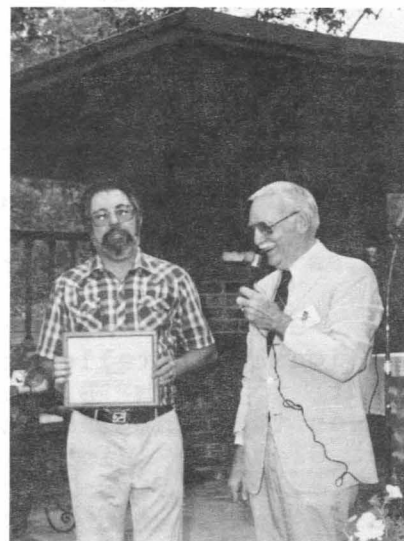
Finally, the Zelia Blanton Award for outstanding achievement in the field of historic preservation was presented by Vice-President Larry Meyer to Vonnie Rossman. Even before becoming one of the founding members of the (new) Glendale Historical Society in 1979, Vonnie had been active in the field of historic preservation, especially through her involvement with Glendale Beautiful and Casa Adobe de San Rafael. Her deep involvement in The Doctors' House restoration; her service as a docent on our public tours; her membership on the Board of Directors; and her pioneering role on the Glendale City Historic Preservation Commission have served and will continue to serve the people of Glendale as a model of generous,

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effective activism in the cause of historic preservation and civic pride.

The afternoon's celebrations were enhanced by Wallie Forstall's mandolin and vocal music and festive hors d'oeuvres brought by members. Many thanks to these people, to the Awards Committee under Bob Woodring and Margaret Hammond, host Dick Montgomery, and event co-ordinator Mary Sheppard for making the day a delightful occasion.

Dr. R. M. Newcomb
Suzanne McKay



Ruth Dodson (top left) congratulates Vonnie Rossman, recipient of the Zelia Blanton Award for Historic Preservation. Sue Lazara (top center) received the Award for Achievement in the Field of Preservation. TGHS president Dr. Robert Newcomb (top right) presented Service Awards to Sid Gordon, Zab and Lorraine Zabaro, Daphne Lindstrum, Karen Lynn, Frances and Wheeler Doll, and (not pictured) Steven Abramians, Judy Cabrera, and Margaret Hammond.

(photos by Sid Gordon)

"URBAN HIKEWAY" COULD INCLUDE HISTORIC SITES

Consultants Cardoza-DiLallo-Harrington and Ron Yeo, A.I.A., were recently hired by the City of Glendale to draw up plans for three complementary pedestrian routes within downtown Glendale for use by residents and those who work and shop in our city. An "awareness meeting" coordinated by the City Planning Department was held on July 16, and a follow up general discussion session took place on August 6. Then, on September 24, Cardoza-DiLallo-Harrington presented their final report to the City Council.

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Representatives of various City Departments and public interest groups, including our organization, attended the meetings to hear the presentations, to view the detailed maps and charts, to give suggestions, and to ask questions. The goal of the proposal is to generate foot traffic (as a substitute for auto traffic) in the business, commercial and civic areas of downtown--areas which are also serviced by our BeeLine transit system. The consultants presented attractive ideas for improving the street-level settings in these three areas of our city by increasing plantings, making more sitting room, encouraging small "pocket parks", restoring the classic cast-iron street light standards, and allowing vendors to ply refreshment trades. The three proposed hikerways are a Fremont Park/Financial route, a Brand shopping route, and a Historic/Civic route. The Fremont Park/Financial route would extend in an "L" shape east from Fremont Park along Arden/Burchett and then south down Brand/Central to Lexington. Office workers could experience a lunch outing by walking, by taking the BeeLine and walking, and by using the park as well as the scenic areas to be developed along the route. The Brand shopping route would run along Brand and Central from Lexington to Colorado and would be designed to improve the window shopping experience, to provide alternative spaces for rest and light snacks, and to tie into the Galleria complex. The third route would extend from Brand along Harvard and Broadway as far east as Cedar and form the Historic/Civic route. Luncheon strollers would be encouraged to walk and look. Civic Center activity would contribute to the atmosphere, and the modern redeveloped areas at the western end of the route would be balanced by remnants of historic Glendale scattered along the route. TGHS representatives at the two general discussion sessions stressed the importance of including historic sites and places along the routes, and of providing information about old Glendale in the proposed brochure materials.

This was a state-funded pilot study, the goals of which were merely to present ways to encourage pedestrian movement in downtown Glendale and to create and promote enjoyable open space activities within downtown. It is encouraging that such a study, which acknowledges the value of Glendale's historic resources such as the Alex Theatre, the Goode House, and vintage street lights, has been commissioned and is receiving serious hearings.

Robert M. Newcomb

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLISHES RESEARCH GUIDE

An illustrated 27 page manual entitled How To Research Buildings In Glendale has just been produced by our organization. The manual is an expanded version of the research guide which was used by our volunteer researchers during our 1983-1984 architectural and historical survey, and which was included in the final report produced by that survey.

The manual includes a chronology of events in Glendale history, names and addresses of governmental and private sources of information, suggestions of steps to take in tracing the history of a building, names of helpful publications and organizations, descriptions of various records such as maps and city directories, sample research forms, and illustrations of some typical types of architecture found in Glendale.

Priced at \$3, the manuals can be purchased at The Doctors' House when it is open (regular hours are 2-4 pm Sunday afternoons). In addition, it will be available at our November 4 and January 6 general meetings.

UPDATE: TGHS PRESERVATION ACTION TASK FORCE

The task force met on October 14 to discuss the status of the various sites requiring the attention of TGHS. In addition to keeping an eye on the progress of the proposed changes to the Masonic Temple and the Civic Auditorium, the task force is actively involved in reviewing and developing recommendations regarding the proposed restoration and future use of the Alex Theatre and the Goode House.

The Goode House is currently in escrow pending a use variance. The buyer's current plans are to build a two story office building around the Goode House, leaving only the front of the house exposed to the street. In order to accomplish this, the house would have to be moved while the excavation for underground parking is done, and then returned to its original location. Issues the task force is addressing include: whether or not the house would qualify for "in place preservation" if it is moved from the original foundation; the acceptability of the design elements of the project; and the development of recommendations regarding the requested variances. The State Office of Historic Preservation is reviewing the plans and will be making its recommendations and ruling.

The future of the Alex Theatre is of major concern to TGHS. It is the consensus of the task force that the Alex can be restored to its original condition with the intention of using it successfully as a performing arts center. In 1985 the City of Glendale received a report from Mitze Theatre Projects Consultants which made restoration seem an undesirable option. For example, the report concluded that incorporating the restoration of the Alex could cost \$13MM, while to build a new theater would only cost \$15MM. In contrast, information obtained by the task force from the League of Historic American Theatres indicates that among comparable restorations done within the last few years, the most expensive was only \$7.5MM -- and that included an office building next to the theater. Moreover, the construction of a new theater in a nearby city is reportedly projected at \$24MM; and it is questionable whether its design will approach the beauty and function of an elegant vintage theater such as the Alex.

Several sub task forces were formed to gather the data needed to refute the errors in the Mitze report, and to develop alternatives that would be both acceptable to the State Office of Historic Preservation, and meet the commercial goals of the Glendale Redevelopment Agency. The task force is scheduled to meet again on November 10. Anyone interested in participating in the task force is encouraged to call the Historical Society at 242-7447.

Susan Boyd

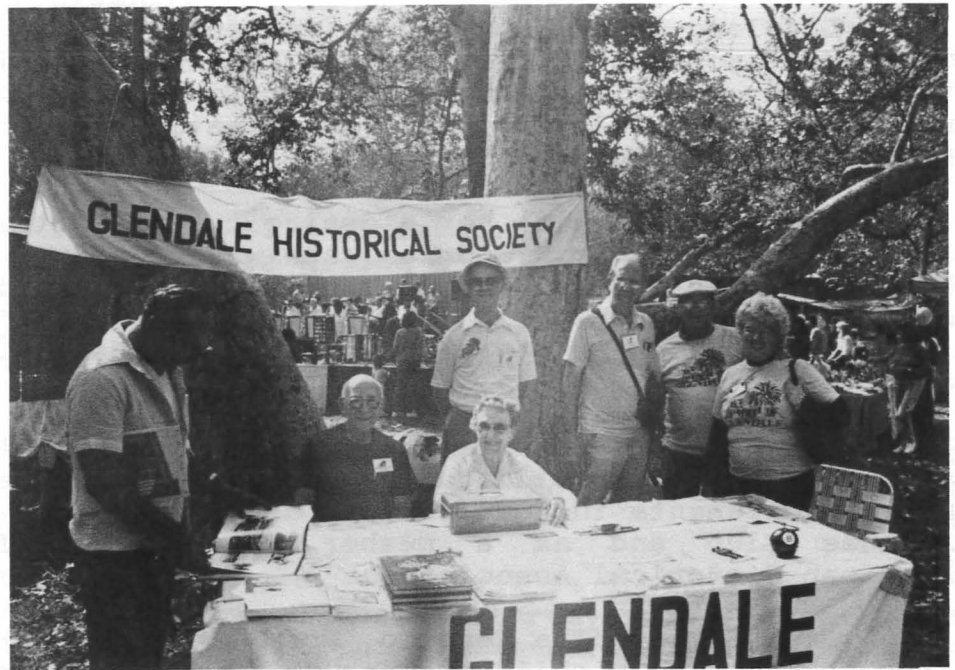
TGHS Preservation Action Task Force

HELP "SAVE THE BOOKS"

Those who attended our October general meeting received a very enlightening, although sad, presentation by Marilyn Ayala regarding the L.A. Central Library fire. Marilyn is part of the "Save the Books" effort to help restore and replenish the thousands of damaged and destroyed books and other materials.

This "Save the Books" campaign is largely run by volunteers. If you would like to join in the project, telephone Marilyn at (213) 486-3781. Currently, volunteers are being recruited to do the packing of campaign fundraising items which were ordered by mail. This is being done at ARCO Plaza in downtown L.A. For those who would like to help by purchasing merchandise, a "Save the Books" gift shop is opening on level C of the Plaza.

Working and Discovering Together



The Days of Verdugos festival provided an opportunity to tell people about TGHS and to offer our merchandise for sale. These Sunday representatives at our table were Zab and Lorraine Zabaro, Dick Montgomery, Shannon Pedlow, and Fred and Margaret Hammond.

(photo by Archie Trowbridge)



Vonnie Rossman (rear) presents the TGHS Board of Directors of 1987-1988: Bob Woodring, Larry Meyer, Audrey Hales, Jamee Harasick, Mary Sheppard, Dick Montgomery, and Dr. Robert Newcomb. Not present were Margaret Hammond and Suzanne McKay.

(photo by Sid Gordon)



Participants in the TGHS Fall Tour to Santa Barbara enjoy a catered luncheon in the garden of former TGHS member Bill Troiano.

(photo by Shannon Pedlow)

BOARD WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

Lifelong Glendale resident and enthusiastic historian Jamee Harasick was recently selected by the Board Nominating Committee and appointed by the Board to fill the unexpired (one year remaining) term of Director Karen Lynn. In July the Board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Karen, who has moved to San Marino.

Jamee brings with her a desire to work with historical artifacts and information. As our Historian, she will continue to compile our scrapbooks and to collect, where appropriate, historical artifacts from Glendale residents. She is particularly interested in obtaining a central location at which to store and display Glendale historical information and artifacts.

For nine years Jamee has taught with the L.A. Unified School District as a Spanish bilingual elementary school teacher. Her other community involvements include serving as President of the Glendale Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Polish American Historical Association.

Says Jamee, "The Verdugo Woodlands and Brand Boulevard were my 'backyards' as a child growing up in Glendale and now, as an adult and a member of The Glendale Historical Society, the preservation and the historical background of my 'backyards' are of great importance to me."

A warm welcome to Jamee, and many thanks to Karen for her years of service, especially as related to The Doctors' House and its docents. Jamee, as Historian, joins 1987-1988 Board members Dr. Robert Newcomb (President), Larry Meyer (Vice-President, Administration), Margaret Hammond (Vice-President, Tours and Fundraising), Audrey Hales (Secretary), Dick Montgomery (Treasurer), Suzanne McKay, Mary Sheppard, and Bob Woodring.

CHRISTMAS SEASON HAPPENINGS AT THE DOCTORS' HOUSE

Saturday, December 12

Yuletide Festivities for Children at 10 am and 11 am. The tall green tree will be twinkling with its authentic Victorian decorations. The kitchen will weave its magic spell and Santa's elves will give special old fashioned cookies to take home. Enjoy Victorian customs at no charge.

Open House Celebration from 12 noon to 4:30 pm. Soar above the season's obligations! Visit The Doctors' House to enjoy the Yuletide spirit. Walk at your leisure through the house to the music of holiday bells and voices.

Sundays December 6, 13, 20

Extended Tour Hours from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Hours have been extended to help you and your friends enjoy the yuletide Victorian atmosphere. Note: The Doctors' House will be closed December 27.

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THANKS TO DOCTORS' HOUSE CLEANUP CREW

A round of applause to the cleaning crew under the direction of Lorraine Zabaro who gave the Doctors' House that squeaky clean "spring cleaning" on July 11. The crew included Zab Zabaro, Bill and Mary Sheppard, Dick Montgomery, Dorothy West, Bill and Ruth Dodson, Suzanne McKay, Carole Dougherty, Ken Hamasaka, and new docent Almetta Hames.

THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Calendar of Events for Fall, 1987

- NOVEMBER 4 General meeting of TGHS. A representative of the Glendale
Wednesday Fire Department will be giving a slide presentation about
the history of that stalwart group.
- NOVEMBER 15 "The Mid-Wilshire Corridor: Reflections on Religious Archi-
Sunday tecture". Shuttle bus tour of 4 churches and a synagogue,
given by the L.A. Conservancy. \$25 Conservancy members, \$30
non-members. Reservations necessary. For further information
phone (213) 623-CITY.
- NOVEMBER 27 "Old Pasadena Celebrates". Festivities include an antique
29 auto show, fashion shows, and a Saturday food festival feat-
Friday uring the specialties of about 50 restaurants. Tickets \$4 in
Sunday advance, \$5 at the door. For further information phone
Pasadena Heritage, 793-0617
- DECEMBER TGHS annual holiday celebration! Watch the mail for your
invitation.
- DECEMBER An Edwardian Christmas at the Fenyes Mansion, 470 W. Walnut
Sundays St., Pasadena. 1 pm - 4 pm. By the Pasadena Historical
Society, 577-1660.
- DECEMBER 12 "An Old Fashioned Christmas" childrens' party at The Doctors'
House. Children are invited to see the decorated house and
its tree, and experience a morning in a Victorian kitchen.
Refreshments: a Victorian surprise! Free. Two sessions:
10 am and 11 am. Following, 12 noon to 4:30 pm, open house
for everyone. See related newsletter article.
- DECEMBER 11 "Fiesta de Las Luminarias" at Casa Adobe de San Rafael, 1330
13 Dorothy Drive. Annual celebration presented by Glendale
Beautiful, in the festive Hispanic tradition. Hours are 6 pm
Friday - 9 pm Friday, featuring mariachis; 2 pm - 9 pm Saturday,
Sunday open house; and 2 pm - 5 pm Sunday, with a childrens' pinata
party. Refreshments all three days. Free.
- JANUARY 6 General meeting of TGHS. Business meeting. Committee
Wednesday reports and plans for the 1988 Doctors' House Centennial.

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Sundays The Doctors' House, Brand Park. Open free to the public from
2 pm to 4 pm. Docent-guided tours of the restored Queen
Anne-Eastlake style 1890 home. Note: Closed December 27.

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Newsletter editor: Suzanne McKay Assistant editor: Dr. Robert Newcomb
Thanks to Helen Wrede for typing the newsletter, and to Bob Woodring and
Daphne Lindstrum for their help in the bulk mailing.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new members David Smith, Mark Armstrong, and Dorothy Chadney.

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 December, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Carrillon Room, Glendale Federal Savings, 401 North Brand Boulevard. Telephone: 242-7447

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

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