

TGHS QUARTERLY

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Winter 1996

TGHS HEROINE SAVES DOCTORS' HOUSE TREASURES!!!

by: Isabelle Meyer

On January 5, 1997, one of our docents proved that you do not have to look like Arnold Schwarzenegger to be a hero. Iveta Petrosyan is twelve years old, under five feet tall and is the picture of femininity. She also has the kind of common sense and fortitude that every parent wishes for his/her child. Iveta joined our group a year ago as the youngest docent ever. From the start, it was obvious to all the docents who met her that this bright, cheerful and hardworking youngster has a presence far beyond her years. For one, how many docents do you get who take the initiative to help with maintenance of the museum, not one of the more glamorous jobs.

But, back to Iveta's adventure. On that Sunday, she was showing a group of ten adult visitors through the house. On her first stop - the parlor- she noticed that one couple handled several objects in spite of Iveta's reminder that no one is allowed to touch the artifacts on display. In the next room, it became obvious that the problem was more serious. Iveta barely managed to stop the woman from slipping the Doctor's eyeglasses into her purse, again politely stating that nothing was to be touched.

Fortunately Iveta had asked one of her school friends to join her that day. She recruited Jessica to observe the potential thieves closely while she led the group into the bedroom. Once again, one of the two picked up an antique razor and tried to hide it in a pocket. Thanks to Iveta's vigilance, he was unsuccessful in repeated attempts to steal one of our treasured items. The two girls managed to guide the problematic visitors through the house without giving them a chance to commit a theft, all the while remaining poised and polite.

(Continued on next page.)

HEROINE (Continued)

After the tours were concluded for the day, Iveta remained visibly shaken by her experience and was reassured that she handled the situation in the best possible manner.

We are very proud of Iveta who has proven on more than one occasion the ability to cope with unexpected problems. Iveta has hand-picked four young ladies to become docents and they have successfully completed docent training. We look forward to having our young recruits join our group and feel confident that they will also be a great asset to the Doctors' House Museum.

TGHS MOVES OFFICES TO HISTORIC GOODE HOUSE!

by: William Shepherd

On November 24, 1997 The Glendale Historical Society's offices were moved to the historic E.D. Goode House.

As TGHS members know, we advocated for the preservation and restoration of the Goode House for several years. When it was restored as the community center for the Crippled Children's Society's Ivy Glen Housing Project, TGHS was invited to move its offices and to help maintain the historic atmosphere of the site.

TGHS offices now occupy the House's front bedroom and the upstairs room. Most of our working operations will take place upstairs, with the downstairs being used for meetings and display purposes.

OFFICE (Cont.)

TGHS is now linked to two of the most significant historic sites in Glendale. First is our Doctors' House Museum which restoration is the reason TGHS exists today. Secondly, we are now part of the Goode House which we fought hard and long to preserve. Early Glendale pioneers lived in both houses. Now we live in both houses!

Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who helped with the move. Your hard work and effort was very much appreciated.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

by: William Shepherd

TGHS began it new Fiscal Year on December 1, 1996. This year's Budget was approved by the General Membership at the November meeting. Balancing revenue projections versus expenditures was a daunting task. The Budget Committee had lots of things to consider including funding of the office, this newsletter, our preservation advocacy activities, and our wonderful Doctors' Also included in this year's House. budget are the revenue and expenditure projections for the Gazebo Project.

Special thanks go to this year's Budget Committee composed of Art Fisher, Isabelle Meyer, William Shepherd, and David L. Smith.

by: Isabelle Meyer

Two recent exhibits at the Doctors' House were very successful. "Death and Grieving Customs in Victorian Times," during October and November, 1996, was an informative and interesting display which made a visit to the Doctors' House very rewarding. The exhibit would not have been possible without the team of docents who contributed their time and talents to the display. Special thanks go to Bonnie Fitzgerald, Merry Franzen, Isabelle Meyer, Bob Newcomb, Nancie Pike, Judy Sackson and Bill Shepherd. Also contributing to the display were our neighbors, the Little Landers Historical An extra thank you goes to Society. Cranberry House Antiques which loaned us some antique clothing and Tali Ilan who loaned us some jewelry. Both loans were welcome additions to the exhibit.

Upon the closure of the "Death and Grieving Customs in Victorian Times" exhibit, the House underwent its annual transformation for Christmas. The Docent Guild presented its 4th Annual Christmas Candlelight Tours of the Doctors' House on December 14 and December 21. A bake sale/holiday boutique was held both nights. Regular Sunday tours occurred on December 1, 8 and 29, 1996. Many thanks to all of those who contributed bake goods to the bake sale. And of course, very special thanks to the docents who donate so generously of their time to staff the House.

Some elves cleaned the house on February 1 under Marie Luft's direction. The Doctors' House thus shined for the lucky romantics who won the fourth annual "Valentine's Day Dinner." The dinner was provided by La Fontana Restaurant.

Nancie Pike and Isabelle Meyer have begun to update the inventory of every item in the House. This will aid us in ensuring everything is properly stored and preserved. They hope to have this project completed by the end of the year.

The annual docent tea was held at Isabelle Meyer's house on January 25, 1997 with ten docents in attendance. The results of a recently distributed docent questionnaire were discussed. Input from the docents continues to be helpful for new events and to make our program more effective and enjoyable for everyone.

The most recent docent training class was held on January 26, 1997. It was very successful with nine new docents joining our group. Five docents speak Armenian and two speak Spanish, a great help with so many visitors from other origins. A welcoming social was held at the Goode House on February 9 so that the new docents could meet the experienced docents. If you would like to become a docent, please contact Isabelle Meyer at (818) 242-4290.

A quilt exhibit in conjunction with the Glendale Quilt Guild is planned for this summer. More details will follow later in the year.

Editor's Note: The Doctors' House Museum is open on Sunday's from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. for docent guided tours. The last tour begins at about 3:40 p.m. Tours are free, but a \$1 per person donation is suggested to help cover TGHS' costs of operating the museum.

PROPOSAL: A DOCTORS' HOUSE GAZEBO

by: Marie Luft

TGHS has an exciting new project underway: a proposal to construct in Brand Park, adjacent to the Doctors' House Museum, an elevated 20-foot octagonal gazebo, customized to the Victorian period with details adapted from the House. Specifically, porch details from the House's moongate, or curved, arches and railings. These details will be modified in the other four openings to give full public access, three by means of steps and the fourth a ramp for disabled persons, the gazebo thus lending itself to a wide range of uses.

Its proposed site is in the vicinity of the existing flagpole. With the Doctors' House as a focal point and backdrop as seen from the gazebo, the addition of such a covered structure will provide an ideal setting for weddings, receptions, and film and photography use, with fees charged contributing to the maintenance of both the gazebo and museum. The gazebo will also be an ideal venue for concerts in the theatre performances park. and community functions. And, most importantly for TGHS, it will provide museum patrons with seating and much needed shelter from inclement weather. In the absence of such a structure, many tours must be cancelled during extended periods of rain or excessive heat.

Furthermore, since the Doctors' House is furnished with period antiques, the interior can be used only for small scale social events. With the gazebo, the potential for larger events exists, sponsored by either TGHS, the City of Glendale, or other community groups.

Not only would the facility generate increased income but also increased numbers of people visiting the museum.

The Gazebo Committee, consisting of Marie and Glenn Luft, Isabelle Mever, Nancie Pike, and Carol Eckert, worked closely with Nello Iacono, Director of Parks. Recreation and **Community** developing the gazebo Services, in The proposed project was concept. unanimously approved by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission and recommended for City Council approval by the Historic Preservation Commission. On September 24, 1996, it received approval by the Glendale City Council.

The construction of the gazebo will be supervised by Marie and Glenn Luft. Marie served as project manager of the Doctors' House restoration; Glenn is a engineer and served construction superintendent of the With their assistance. restoration. Isabelle Meyer, the Doctors' House Docent Coordinator and TGHS Director. and Nancie Pike, a lead docent, researched several manufacturers of gazebos, and numerous contractors were interviewed to determine the most cost effective combination of value and historical compatibility. Based on this research, TGHS plans to purchase the basic framework of the 20-foot octagonal "Pagoda" gazebo from Amish Country Gazebos of Ontario, California. company can customize the details of the gazebo to reflect the intricate Victorian craftsmanship of the Doctors' House Museum.

GAZEBO (Cont.)

As to historic accuracy, no attempt will be made to construct a gazebo exactly "to the period." First of all, the Doctors' House never had a gazebo on its original property, although such structures were common in that period, one, for instance, near the front of the Goode House. Secondly, because the Doctors' House now resides in a public park and not in its original location, more latitude is allowed in such secondary structures. attempt will be made to create a compatible, but not duplicate, structure, with enough distance (approximately 50 feet) between it and the Doctors' House to allow appropriate visual separation. In addition, when seen in its entirety, the gazebo itself - should announce its current time period. The detail ornamentations to give it compatibility, grace and beauty.

Cost estimates to complete this project are between \$40,000 and \$45,000. proposes to fund it primarily through grants obtained from foundations. Carol Eckert, TGHS Vice President, has taken on this aspect of the project and is currently submitting applications. Carol is the Director of Marketing and Fund **Development of the Camp Fire Council of** the Foothills, and it was because of her enthusiasm and belief in the viability of the project in terms of grant success that it was initially undertaken. David L. Smith, TGHS President and CPA and Hovic Khaloian, CPA, along with Dick Treasurer, have given Montgomery, generously of their time and expertise in preparing the necessary financial records required for the grant applications.

In addition to foundation grants, there will be an opportunity for TGHS members to support the project. A fundraising campaign, spearheaded by Bill Shepherd, TGHS Director, will get underway later this year. Recognition will be given to everyone who participates by being listed in TGHS Quarterly. Donations of over \$100 will be recognized on a placque such as was done for the Doctors' House. The plaque would be installed alongside those at Brand Park.

Annual Preservation Conference in Nearby Pasadena

The 22nd Annual California Preservation Foundation Conference, "Preservation Comes Home," will be held in Pasadena on May 29, 30, 31 & June 1, 1997. The conference features educational sessions focusing on neighborhood conservation, architectural history, economic development and technical issues in preservation. Those interested in historic preservation, planning, development and neighborhoods will find the conference rewarding.

The 1997 conference site DoubleTree Hotel in Pasadena's historic Civic Center, adjacent to Old Pasadena. Jointly sponsored by the California Preservation Foundation, the City of Pasadena and Pasadena Heritage, the conference will is cosponsored by the **California Office of Historic Preservation** and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Numerous California preservation groups, including The Glendale Historical Society, will be involved as participating organizations. For more information call CPF at (510) 763-0972 or Pasadena Heritage at (818) 441-6333.

PRESERVATION UPDATE

by Andrea Humberger

Byram House (227 North Everett Street): This property has been purchased by a private party for use as a 12-step house. The current plan is to do very limited rehabilitation work to the historic residence. The City may contribute rehabilitation funds. If so, TGHS hopes that the City will make sure that the rehabilitation is sensitive to the history and architecture of the residence.

San Fernando Road Corridor Redevelopment Area: The historic resources survey for the new San Fernando Road Corridor redevelopment area was released in August. TGHS submitted extensive comments on the survey in September. Comments from TGHS as well as other members of the public and the Historic Preservation Commission have been incorporated. The Commission has forwarded the survey to the Redevelopment Agency for approval. Following the Commission's final discussion on the matter on November 19, TGHS submitted additional comments. In our next issue, we will report on the findings of the survey, response to our final comments, and any Agency action.

TGHS has also received a copy of the Draft Design and Implementation Plan for the new redevelopment area. We are currently in the process of reviewing it and will comment.

Exemption of Churches from Glendale's Historic Preservation Ordinance: The City has proceeded with the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on this important matter. TGHS attended the scoping session for the EIR in August. The Draft EIR was released in December. TGHS submitted a comment letter and spoke at a public hearing on the matter on January 21, 1997. TGHS maintains its longstanding position, adamantly opposing de-listing of the three churches from the landmark list. On March 3, 1997, the Historic Preservation Commission postponed action. It is still tentatively scheduled to go before City Council on March 18, 1997.

Downtown Strategic Plan: In September, the Preservation Advocacy Committee met with representatives of the GRA and the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consultant to discuss the EIR on the Plan as well as the Plan itself. Based on the meeting and the Committee's input, TGHS submitted extensive comments on both the EIR and the Plan. Since that time, the Final EIR, including responses to public comments, and redrafted versions of the Plan have been released. On November 19, City Council approved the fourth draft of the Plan and certified the EIR. The Final EIR was responsive to TGHS comments and added language to the document which would have required additional efforts to be made to preserve and incorporate historic buildings into the Plan. However, we are disappointed to report that the City Council adopted findings which undermine the majority of the preservation language which was added.

Glendale Railroad Depot (Gardena Avenue at Cerritos Avenue): We commend the City for its completion and submittal of a National Register nomination for the landmark depot. The nomination will soon be considered by the State Historical Resources Commission.

IN MEMORY: ANNALEE GARDNER OLMEDO By: Isabelle Meyer

A few weeks ago the Acquisitions Committee received a phone call from a young gentleman who, following the wishes of his recently decease mother, offered several items to the Doctors' House Museum.

His mother, Annalee Gardner Olmedo, a long-time Glendale resident, had visited the museum on several occasions and was particularly enchanted with our candlelight tours. She, therefore, decided to pass on some of her many collectibles to the museum so they could be enjoyed by our many visitors.

We do not often get a chance to view an extensive collection of antiques and to be told to select whatever we would like to have. For the Acquisitions Committee this is a dream come true! With the help of our expert appraiser, Bonnie Dunlap, we narrowed our selection down to five items. They include a turn-of-the-century microscope and wooden chest of medicines perfectly suited to the doctors' office.

I did not get a chance to personally meet Mrs. Olmedo, but thanks to her son who provided some information about her and her family's life in our town, I feel that I have come to know her a little bit.

Annalee was born in 1936 and spent all 58 years of her life here. She attended Glendale High School and later Stevens College and USC. She was the dedicated manager of local charity thrift shops, including the American Cancer Society thrift shop in Sherman Oaks and the Assistance League of Southern California thrift shop in Hollywood.

She must have had a great love of historical artifacts to have accumulated such an extensive collection and variety of things. We appreciate her thoughtfulness in sharing them with the Glendale historical Society and the public.

Annalee's grandmother, Grace Gardner, named Alpha Road near Glorietta Park and her father, Donald L. Gardner, was a well known dermatologist. In return for sharing his expertise with trainees, he was the first doctor commissioned by the Atomic Energy Commission to use radioactive isotopes in his practice. His wife was an active in the Oakmont Country Club.

We would like to thank Annalee's only child, Mark, for fulfilling his mother's last wishes and hope that he will feel a little bit at home when he visits his family's belongings at the Doctors' House Museum.

EDITOR'S THANK YOU

The Editor would like to thank the contributors to this issue of *TGHS Quarterly*: Andrea Humberger, Marie Luft, Isabelle Meyer, and David L. Smith. Thanks also to Daphne Lindstrum for the bulk mailing.

The editor invites contributions from TGHS members and others who are interested in Glendale's history and in the preservation of our historic structures and settings.

For deadlines for submission of articles for future issues of *TGHS Quarterly*, see the last page of this issue.

NEW HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSIONERS

by: Andrea Humberger

Two new commissioners have been appointed by the Glendale City Council to the Historic Preservation Commission. New commissioners Shirley Owen and Jennifer Davis began service on the Commission in November.

Shelly Owen is a California Archeologist who has specialized in the field of Cultural Resource Management for the past seven years. She has served on over resource 100 cultural management projects, the majority of which she managed as field director or project manager. She specializes in preservation planning and archeological and historical studies as they apply to state and federal environmental requirements. Owen has authored or co-authored over 100 technical reports, research cultural resource management plans, and environmental impact documents. has lived in Glendale since 1972 and graduated from Cresenta Valley High School She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology from UCLA.

Jennifer Davis has worked as an Associate Urban Planner for the City of West Hollywood since 1990. Among her diverse responsibilities in that position, Davis was the first staff person to implement West Hollywood's Cultural Heritage Preservation Ordinance. In that capacity Davis helped form the City's founding Cultural Heritage Board and educated the Board. staff. and public on Ordinance. Her initial tasks also included introduction of the West Hollywood's first landmark designations and certificate of appropriateness applications. Davis grew

up in Cincinnati, Ohio. A Glendale resident of two years, she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati.

The two new commissioners have replaced Georgia Abelmann and Marlene Roth who have both recently completed their second terms. Owen and Davis join Chairman Richard Dell, Michael Dougherty, and Dolly Carl on the Historic Preservation Commission. We look forward to working with the new commissioners on important projects which impact Glendale's historic resources.

1997 Preservation Week

The National Trust has declared the week of May 11 - 17, 1997 as the 1997 Preservation Week. According to National Trust President, Richard Moe, this year's theme, "Preservation Begins at Home," celebrates the role of historic preservation in saving and enhancing the buildings where we live. Mr. Moe also sates that "Preservation Begins at Home," is also a call to activism - that we must take an active, informed role in the discussions and decisions that shape the future of the community that we call home.



TGHS FALL CAMPAIGN

By: William Shepherd

Thanks to all of our members who contributed to our 1996 Fall Campaign. Due to their generosity we raised over \$1,600 to fund development of new TGHS programs including our long range plan and proposed walking tours.

TGHS members who contributed to the campaign are noted below!

Vision Supporter (\$100 or +)

Carol Eckert

Stephen & Christy McAvoy

Richard Montgomery

William Shepherd

David L. Smith

Mike Smith

The Waterman Foundation

Downtown Walker (\$51 - \$99)

John W. McKenna

Robert M. Newcomb

Township Walker (\$25 - \$50)

David Ahern

Caroline Beniasians

Mr. & Mrs. B.D. Bennett

Doris Biggs

Paul Burkmeyer

Marjorie Chesney

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Croft

Township Walker (Cont.)

William Croft

Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Delaney

Pamela & Brian Ellis

Kathleen Fallstrom

Mrs. Daphne Linstrum

Glenn & Marie Luft

Mary O. Miller

Ruth Priest

Anna Rundle

George A. Rutter

Elaine & Bill Williams

Goode House Mover (\$1 - \$24)

Patricia L. Bates

Shirley Darling

Robert R. Inslee

Colin N. Legerton

Virginia O. Scott

Cheryl Witzig

Membership Update

A special welcome the following new members who have recently joined our organization.

Norma M. Blair

Colin N. Legerton

Mary K. La Rue

Mary Miller

Dorothy Peniston

Hyda L. Rudd

Kitty Shannon

Richard Slavett

Alberta Stoup

E. V. Wallis

DOCTORS' HOUSE WISH LIST!

The Doctors' House Museum is in need of several items and we have put together a "wish list." If anyone comes across one of these items, please let Isabelle Meyer know. We especially appreciate donations because of limited funds to purchase things. But, we may be able to purchase a few of the items if the cost is reasonable. The following items would complement our antique collection:

Bookcase for Doctors' office (approximately 4 feet high and 3 feet wide)

Coffee grinder (for kitchen)

Quilt (to be placed on master bedroom full size bed)

Framed hair wreath

Leather pad for examination table (Doctors' office)

End for a speaking tube (needed for the upstairs side of our speaking tube)

We also need the following items to help operate the House and to facilitate some of our special exhibits:

Standing mannequin

Telephone answering machine

To protect the integrity of the Doctors' House collection, all of the above requests (except the mannequin and answering machine) must date from the turn of the century (circa 1900).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 21 - 23, 1997. Glendale Quilt Guild presents "Quilt Show of Glendale." Burbank Hilton Hotel Convention Center, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank. Parking and admission \$5 each. (818) 897-7232. (Note: The Quilt Guild will be at the Doctors' House Museum this summer.)

April 2, 1997, 7:30 p.m. - TGHS Educational Meeting. "The Armenian Diaspora from the 19th Century to the Present." Presented by Greg Krikorian. Boy Scout Service Center, 1325 Grandview Ave., Glendale. Free. Call (818) 242-7447.

May 7, 199, 7:30 p.m. --TGHS Education Meeting. "Dateline 1900: The Next 100 Years" a revealing, and sometimes humorous, look at what your forbearers thought life would be liken in the year 2001. Presented by Marilyn A. McGinnis, Heritage House Antiques. Boy Scout Service Center, 1325 Grandview Ave., Glendale. Free. Call (818) 242-7447.

May 10, 1997 9:00 a.m. -- TGHS Vision Day. Help develop a quality future for TGHS. More details to follow. St Mark Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall.

June 4, 1997 7:30 p.m. TGHS Annual Membership Meeting. Boy Scout Service Center, 1325 Grandview Ave., Glendale. Free. Call (818) 242-7447.

July 12, 1997 9:00 a.m. TGHS Annual Awards Program. Doctors' House.

An Invitation to Join the Glendale Historical Society

The Glendale Historical Society was formed in 1979 by a group of citizens who banded together to save the Doctors' House from demolition. The Society led the grass roots efforts of the 1980s to relocate the house to Brand Park and to authentically restore and furnish the house to its 19th century appearance. From this beginning, the organization quickly grew and initiated other programs related to the preservation of the heritage of Glendale.

The goals and objectives of the Glendale Historical Society are to:

- Advance the study and appreciation of local history.
- Promote the preservation of structures and sites that are culturally significant for their historical or architectural importance.
- To be an advocate for the preservation of historical resources.
- To insure the continued public access and enjoyment of the Doctors' House.

The Glendale Historical Society is a non-profit tax-exempt organization and membership is open to men and women of all ages. Members receive the *TGHS Quarterly* newsletter, announcements to all meetings and events, discounts on selected TGHS merchandise and tours. Special membership events include the annual Christmas party, Awards Program, Fall Picnic and Installation Ceremony. New members will receive an initiation to a special welcoming reception. Members joining at the sustaining and higher levels will receive special recognition in the *TGHS Quarterly*. All new members will receive a copy of the TGHS map *Historic Sites in Glendale*, *California*.

Membership Application

Annual Dues

Addres	ss	City, State & Zip	
Name		Telephone	
	☐ Family/dual (\$30)	☐ Corporate (\$100)	•
	□ Sustaining (\$50)	☐ Small Business (\$35)	
	☐ Tropico Patron (\$100)	☐ Non-Profit Organization (\$25)	
	☐ Verdugo Patron (\$250)	☐ Individual Senior or Student (\$10)	
	☐ Jewel City Patron (\$500)	☐ Individual (\$20)	

Please return this form to:
The Glendale Historical Society, P.O. Box 4173, Glendale, CA 91202
For Information Call 818-242-7447

Its our heritage...please join us in saving it

The Glendale Historical Society Officers and Directors

Officers

David L. Smith - President
Carol Eckert - Vice-President
Margaret Hammond - Secretary
Richard Montgomery - Treasurer

Directors

Frances Doll
Carol Eckert
Margaret Hammond
Isabelle Meyer
Richard Montgomery
Robert Newcomb
William Shepherd
David L. Smith

TGHS Quarterly Editor William Shepherd

Editorial Deadlines

Spring issue — April 30 Summer issue — July 15.

The editor welcome letters and articles relevant to Glendale heritage from members and other interested parties. Please mail to:

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