



The Glendale Historical Society

TGHS QUARTERLY

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Winter 1999

GAZEBO CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY!

by: William Shepherd

Construction of The Glendale Historical Society's (TGHS) gazebo finally is underway. The gazebo will be located adjacent to the historic Doctors' House Museum and will compliment the restored 1880's Victorian home. When completed, the gazebo will be given to the citizens of Glendale for their use and enjoyment.

During the 1980s restoration of the Doctors' House, there were hopes of constructing a gazebo at the same time. But, the costs of and limited funds available for the restoration project prohibited the gazebo project at that time. A couple of years ago, the Society began the process of making the gazebo dream come true. Funds were raised and plans were drawn and submitted to the City for approval. Unfortunately, the plans needed to be revised and strengthened to meet current safety standards and the process was delayed. The revised plans were recently given the green light and the gazebo construction has begun. Long time TGHS members, Marie and Glenn Luft are the project managers overseeing the construction of the project. The gazebo was designed by Merit Engineering, Inc., John Ott & Associates and RHM Associates. It is being built by MCR Construction with Secure Roof doing the roofing and Rinaudo Reproductions providing the electrical fixtures.

Much of the funding for the construction has come from generous Glendale Historical Society members. Other important sources of funds are community organizations such as the Sunrise Rotary Club, the Waterman Foundation, the Glendale Community Foundation and donations from visitors to the Doctors' House. Additionally, all six of the companies taking part in the design and building of the gazebo have made contributions by donating their work or by reducing their. Contributions to the project are still being accepted. Checks may be made payable to The Glendale Historical Society Gazebo Fund and sent to TGHS, P.O. Box 4173, Glendale, CA 91202. For additional information, please call TGHS at (818) 242-7447.

Gazebos

Doctors' House Museum Report

by: Isabelle Meyer, Curator

We once again had a successful 1998 holiday season. Over 300 visitors admired the museum by candlelight; and thanks to many generous donations of baked goods, we raised over \$700 during the two night event.

This year's Valentine's Dinner raffle (which brought in \$775) was won by long-time member, Jean Felkel. Jean and her companion enjoyed the dinner provided by **La Fontana Restaurant**. It is always a pleasure to treat someone who supported our fundraiser to this exclusive night out.

I am spending many hours assembling research materials on the history of Glendale public schools (the first of which opened in 1879). Interviews with many "old timers" add color to what I am learning about what it was like to be an elementary student during the early part of this century in Glendale; and many of the interviewees have shared school photographs and even their report cards with me. It is a thrill to meet so many unique individuals who have amazingly detailed memories of their childhood. I hope to save these taped conversations as part of the TGHS archival collection for the future.

If you know of anyone who may be an interview prospect, please pass their name and telephone number on to me. I am trying to do at least two interviews per week and would love to reach as many people as possible. I am especially anxious to speak to some of the early teachers, if any of them are available.

The Society is planning an extensive exhibit about Glendale schools for next year. I am assembling all kinds of artifacts for this exhibit. All Glendale third graders will be invited to visit the museum on a field-trip. I will be training at least a dozen new docents to help facilitate these tours. If you are interested in this one-year commitment, please call me at (818) 242-4290.

We hope to get some support to finance this project and allow us to purchase some artifacts for the exhibit. We plan to contact several groups with a proposed budget. Again, if you know of anyone interested in funding an educational exhibit, please let me know.

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation for our wonderful docents, who make our tours possible. I also thank all of the TGHS members who come to enjoy the museum and support our events with donations of money and baked goods, etc. Please bring your family and friends for some of the special events listed in this year's agenda for the Doctors' House and come admire our lovely gazebo which should be finished by the end of April.

The Doctors' House Museum is operated by volunteers from The Glendale Historical Society. The museum is located in Brand Park, 1601 West Mountain Avenue, Glendale. The museum is open for public tours every Sunday from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (closed holidays and the month of July). Tours are free, but a \$1 per person donation is recommended.

DOCTORS' HOUSE AGENDA FOR 1999

- Sunday, April 25, 1999 Dedication of the TGHS Gazebo. Details being developed. Invitations will be mailed to TGHS members, donors to the gazebo and other organizations. Watch local newspapers for more details.
- Saturday, May 9, 1999 Live Performance of "A Victorian Romance" and afternoon tea. 3:30 p.m. \$10. For more information and ticket reservations call Isabelle Meyer at (818) 242-4290.
- July 1999 The Doctors' House is closed the entire month.
- Sunday, August 14, 1999 "Display of Doll Lovers' Favorite Dolls and Dolls Adoption." During regular Sunday hours, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- September 1999 Exhibit of Quilts an Quilting Demonstrations on the Lawn. During regular Sunday hours, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 11 Candlelight Tours and Bake Sales. 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 18

PASADENA HERITAGE TOUR

Our neighbors, Pasadena Heritage, will host their Spring Home Tour on Sunday, March 28, 1999. Featuring five exceptional homes from the first decades of the 20th century when Pasadena was the wealthiest community of its size in the country. Tour guests will drive themselves to each house where Pasadena Heritage docents will provide tours highlighting both interior and exterior features and the history of the home. Guests should allow three hours to complete the tour.

Advance ticket prices are \$30 for general public and \$25 for members. For tickets and more information call Pasadena Heritage at (626) 441-6333.

NEW MEMBERS

TGHS welcomes the following individuals and families who have joined us since the last edition of *TGHS Quarterly*.

Warren Binzley
Carmelita Johnson
Nat Read
Art & Inez Truger
Edith Young

Thank You

THE CLEAN COMMITTEE

by: *Robert M. Newcomb*

What has the CLEAN Committee to do with The Glendale Historical Society (TGHS)? First, a bit of CLEAN history. Founded in 1988, as a result of a 1985 State of California initiative regarding urban litter control programs, Glendale became a CLEAN City, meaning that we worked within the California Litter Education and Action Network. The Glendale Clean Committee initially was tasked with advising the City on litter and waste reduction programs within the City. At that time, representatives from various community organizations were selected to participate on the committee. TGHS had an early role. Even when the State discontinued the city CLEAN Program in 1991, Glendale continued to build on the established solid foundation of its committee and has continued its work through this present day and visualizes a working future for CLEAN.

The spectrum of activities of CLEAN has broadened as has its membership. Today, there are 14 members who represent a broad range of organizations including the Glendale Unified School District, Glendale Beautiful, the Association of Realtors, Citizens for Law & Order, the Glendale Beautification Advisory Council and TGHS. Six citizens-at-large are also members. The Committee is supported by City staff.

What does CLEAN actually do and in which programs does it participate? From its initial work with litter abatement and control, CLEAN absorbed, in 1998, KOGG, a City program to Knock Out Graffiti in Glendale. CLEAN mounts a Community Graffiti Paint-Out Day in the early Summer each year here in Glendale and in the early fall in La Crescenta. Litter abatement is an ongoing concern and is reflected in one of the Committee's subcommittees which deals with Neighborhood Pride/Adopt-A-Block efforts. The Neighborhood Pride/Gem Awards are part of this effort also when special honor is paid before City Council to residents whose residences have been nominated and

selected for recognition of outstanding attractiveness which adds positively to their neighborhood.

Glendale is now a Tree City USA and Healthy City USA and CLEAN is involved with both programs. Glendale has a year-long program of tree planting curbside throughout the City and is enlisting Tree Trustees to care for the trees after they have been planted. CLEAN's contributions to the on-going Healthy City programs are directly towards AIDS awareness, the need for vaccinations among the citizenry, and outreach programs in public health education. Contributing to Glendale's Youth Coalition as well as our In School Education Program also requires the time and energy of CLEAN members.

CLEAN's annual Poster Contest with the theme "I Love My Neighborhood" was a great success in 1999 with over 6000 entries. Since part of one's neighborhood is the historic buildings within it, TGHS is right at home in this CLEAN endeavor.

At the present time, CLEAN is contributing to the development of a Neighborhood Identification Booklet which, when completed and distributed, will inform new residents of the facilities, resources and history of our town. During each monthly meeting, CLEAN committee members have an opportunity to speak about the activities of their respective organizations. As TGHS' representative, I always make a point of telling my fellow committee members about our current activities and the exhibits at the Doctors' House.

In July 1992, when I was recruited to assume the representation of TGHS on the CLEAN Committee, I succeed Vonnie Rossman. I have learned a great deal about Glendale and about the role of CLEAN in trying to make Glendale a more attractive and safe place to live. Also, I have had the on-going opportunity to tell others about TGHS and its work, major portions of which relate very nicely to the mission of the CLEAN Committee.

TGHS LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES

by: Bonnie Fitzgerald

The 1998 - 99 TGHS Lecture Series continues to provide informative and interesting speakers each month. During the past few months, TGHS members and guests have heard about the history of Glendale College, celebrated Black History Month and most recently enjoyed Women's History Month.

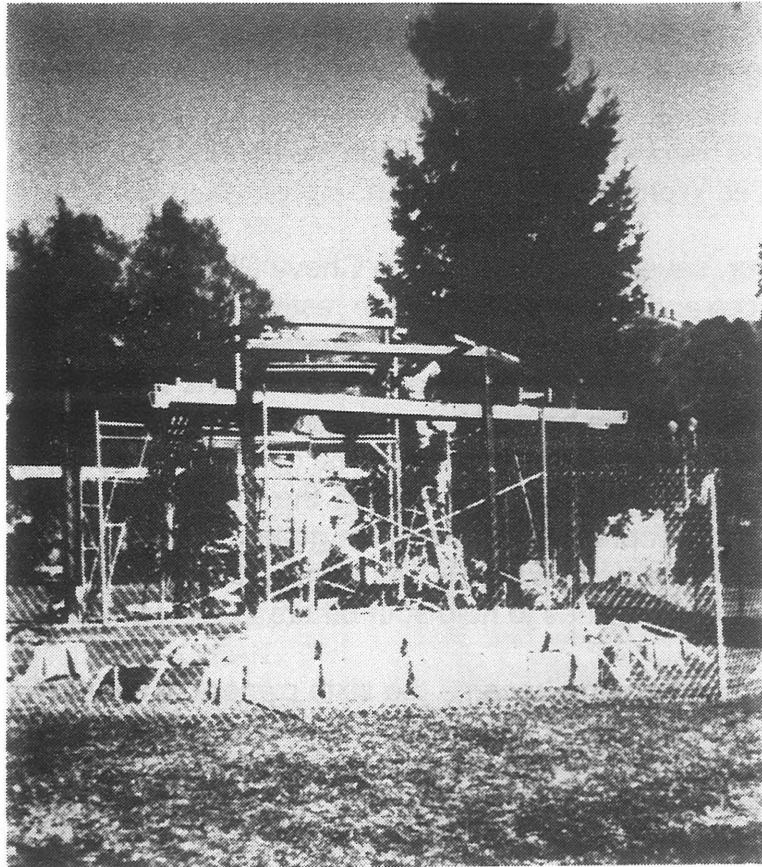
Last November, several residents of the Chevy Chase Canyon area shared some of their experiences and tips on historic home restoration. Ron Gucciardo, a Los Angeles based International Interior Designer, shared the restoration of his two story Mediterranean home that had been built in 1926. He removed several of the 1950s features and returned the house to the elegance for which it was built. The following are some of Ron's restoration adventures and discoveries: seeking a pedestal sink and older style plumbing fixtures, replastering the downstairs and adding a color tint; restoring the wood floors, have the custom gutters relined, painting and repairing the roofing tile. He nicknamed his house "the Money Pit," but loves it and loves to share his experiences and discoveries to help spur others to restore their homes.

Edgardo and Jean Simone became the sixth owners of their 1925 unreinforced brick home built by Bert Farrar, the Chevy Chase Developer. The living room walls seventeen inches thick, sixteen foot ceilings and eight sets of French doors in the living room. Because of the extensive restoration and many tradespeople used, "It's been a breakfast depot for the construction industry."

Another person sharing life in an historic Chevy Chase home was Helen Gregory who, although she no longer lives there, lived in the Canyon for eighteen years. Helen sold her 1936 house to the Nickolls family who had work done to the kitchen and turned a closet into another bathroom. A more recent Canyon dweller is TGHS' member, Bonnie Fitzgerald, is busy learning about her house, learning the different processes of building, selecting repair people with experience in older homes, and trying to have maintenance done that preserves the older style. She is enjoying her adventure of sharing her findings with her neighbors, visiting other local historical places to expand her knowledge, taking tours of restored homes and talking to people.

The adventures of our Chevy Chase neighbors were interesting and informative. We thank them and all our guest speakers for a fun evening. Future talks scheduled fare on April 7, "Native California Plants in the Local Area and Their Uses" and on May 5, "Myths Regarding the California Mission System and the Renaissance of the Southern California Gabrieleño Community. Talks will take place at the Boy Scouts Hall, 1325 Grandview Avenue, Glendale. There is no admission cost and the public is welcome.

The Gazebo in Progress



Bits and Pieces

This year's National Preservation Week is May 9 - 15. The theme is "Protecting the Irreplaceable."

If historic preservation is important to you, let your elected officials know about your concerns.

Vote for your favorite candidates in the upcoming City Council election.

TGHS Tour Committee needs some volunteers. Call TGHS if able to help.

More Bits and Pieces

We currently have a vacancy on the Board of Directors. Anyone interested in serving should contact Dave Smith at (818) 507-1999.

Once upon a time, we had a crew who was getting the office organized. For a variety of reasons, this effort fell by the wayside. We need a volunteer to take charge, coordinate with others, and run the office. Call Bill Shepherd, TGHS Historian, at (818) 241-8086, if interested.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

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 re 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 persons of all ages. Members receive the *TGHS Quarterly* newsletter, announcements of all meetings and events, discounts on selected TGHS merchandise and tours. Special membership events include the annual Holiday party and annual Awards Program. All new members will receive a copy of the TGHS map *Historic Sites in Glendale, California*.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Categories

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewel City Patron (\$500) | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$20) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verdugo Patron | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior or Student (\$10) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tropico Patron | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organization (\$25) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (\$50) | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business (\$35) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Dual (\$30) | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate (\$100) |

Name

Telephone Number

Address

City, State, and Zip Code

Please return this form to:
The Glendale Historical Society
P.O. Box 4173
Glendale, CA 91202

For information call: (818) 242-7447

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