
The Glendale Historical Society

Preserving and Celebrating Glendale's History and Architectural Heritage Winter 2004/2005

Algamac's Restaurant

One of the last remaining examples of Googie architecture in Glendale

by John LoCascio

As this newsletter goes to press, Glendale's best surviving example of 1950s "Googie" architecture is the subject of a tentative but groundbreaking cooperative effort between the preservation community, the City Planning Department and a private developer. Algamac's Coffee Shop on San Fernando Road, once threatened with demolition, may become a preservation success story.

Urban Housing Alliance, LLP has proposed a 70-unit mixed-use affordable housing project for the property, and planned to demolish Algamac's to make way for the new development. Because Algamac's is not a registered historic landmark and is not identified by name on any historic resources survey of Glendale, the proposed project flew under the radar for several months until it was brought to the attention of the Historic Preservation Commission by Glendale resident Alan Leib. Leib, the chairman emeritus of the Los Angeles Conservancy's Modern Committee, presented evidence to the HPC last November 22nd that Algamac's is a potential historic resource eligible for inclusion on the Glendale Register of



Vintage postcard from the collection of Victor Stapf Jr.

This photo depicts Algamac's in its heyday when a large diamond-shaped sign topped the mid-section of the roof catching the eye of passing motorists.

Historic Resources and probably on the California Register as well. That evidence included a letter from Alan Hess, the author of *Googie: Fifties Coffee Shop Architecture* and *Googie Redux: Ultramodern Roadside Architecture*, who includes Algamac's in "A Guided Tour of Googie" in the appendix to the latter book—the only Glendale coffee shop so recognized. Hess described Algamac's as a "clear, sophisticated, well proportioned essay" in the Googie aesthetic.

The name "Googie" comes from a now-demolished Sunset Boulevard coffee shop designed by the late John Lautner, one of Southern California's preeminent mid-20th century architects. A protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright, Lautner also designed Henry's Restaurant in Glendale, a masterpiece of Modern design, demolished in the mid-

1980s. Also demolished in Glendale was the Wayne McAllister-designed "Googie" style Big Boy restaurant on Colorado Street. Both

PAGE 12:
Read about
the fictional Mildred Pierce
restaurant which was
modeled on an actual
Glendale
restaurant.

of these structures would have been eligible for landmark status today.

The Googie style is characteristic of one of the most important eras in the history of Southern California: the region's embrace of the car-oriented culture that fueled growth

ALGEMAC'S continued on page 4

President's Message

HAPPY NEW YEAR, everyone! First things first—A huge thanks to the *Board of Directors* and volunteers for their incredibly hard work and dedication in 2004! Last year we welcomed *Mike Resnick* to the Board and *Al Sophianopoulos* to the role of membership chair. We're grateful to *Carole Dougherty* for continuing to produce the newsletter. Our Vintage Home Tour in October was a great success thanks to dozens of volunteers, with special thanks to *Patricia Messina* and *Terrence Hines* for organizing the event and homeowners *Al Sophianopoulos*, *Jeff Trachta*, *Sally MacAller*, *Gary Nicholson*, *Dan Sosa*, and *Dennis* and *Carin Greco* for inviting us in to their beautiful period homes. The experience encouraged us to do another tour this year.

Glendale will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2006 and we are pursuing two key Centennial Year activities: First is publication of a new, long-awaited edition of *Glendale, a Pictorial History*, with 16 pages of new text and photos by *Katherine Yamada* and a snappy cover jacket. During the first quarter of 2005, we'll campaign to raise \$40,000 in seed money to sponsor a printing by our partner, Donning Publishing Company. Second is the development of a Glendale History Museum and Learning Center. The Board of Directors unanimously believes in working toward a history museum that engages Glendale's diverse citizenry and children in the discovery of our common heritage. Site assessment and project definitions are currently in the works. These will be followed by an appeal for capital and volunteers. Stay tuned and let us know if you wish to help.

Although some improvements have been made in the past few years, Glendale is still not where it should and could be in protecting our enviable and diverse architectural heritage. Glendale has been rightfully lauded for establishing many critical processes where previously, none existed. Many of these processes now need to be implemented and fine-tuned; the community and City staff must work together—hopefully with a supportive City Council—to make improvements. We've learned a lot along the way with many of our preservation projects—some successful, some not successful—and we need to capture and use what we've learned. Current hot topics in preservation as we go to press are summarized in the insert. Stay tuned to our informative website—www.glendalehistorical.org—for Preservation Alert updates.

Two thousand five is a critical year in Glendale with four City Council seats up for grabs and we hope all Glendalians will vote in the April election. Although TGHS does not endorse candidates, we expect to participate actively in political forums to aid in enlightening the public on all the candidates' views on the place of architectural preservation and adaptive reuse in our City.

Finally, I'd like to encourage all our members to stay involved in our preservation efforts. Please email any of the Board Members (or leave a callback message at 818-242-7447) with suggestions or comments, or to volunteer your

time and services toward our work, including writing for our newsletter. We'd love to talk with you. On behalf of the Board, I wish everyone a prosperous and healthy New Year, and extend our sincerest thanks to all for your ongoing membership.

HOT TOPICS

in Glendale preservation
as of January 2005

Check www.glendalehistorical.org for details

MUNICIPAL SERVICES BUILDING SEISMIC RETROFIT

Environmental Impact Report being prepared by city

GRAND CENTRAL AIR TERMINAL (National Register Eligible)

Letter to Disney re concerns about deterioration; meeting being scheduled

ADAMS SQUARE BUILDING (National Register Eligible)

Discussions on improvements, uses and landmark status ongoing with owner

ALGEMAC'S COFFEE SHOP

Working with city, developer and LAC to preserve and incorporate most significant components of structure into new development

FIDELITY FEDERAL

Funding efforts in progress for adaptive re-use

GLENDALE FEDERAL

Current owners have made little progress toward stated goal of restoring Annex to habitability

FIRE STATION 12

July 12 Superior Court ruling in CEQA lawsuit

OTHERS TO WATCH

JoAnn Fabrics building on Orange St
Ritz Apartments on Central



TGHS Award Recipients for 2004

TWO THOUSAND FOUR recipients represent a diverse range of skills and passions.



DORIE BIGGS, a native Glendalian and 80-year Adams Hill resident, was recognized for her very long and dedicated service to TGHS as our Membership Chair. This responsibility can be a thankless and labor intensive job, requiring many mailings and tracking of each

individuals membership status, while growing the membership base. Dorie decided to step down so she could “slow down,” but we’re skeptical of that—at age 82, she is still working part time at Glendale High School and is active in many civic organizations, including TGHS.



SALLY MACALLER and **MIKE RESNICK** were recognized for their Glendale Federal Bank Building Annex Zoning Variance appeal. When the City of Glendale got ready to approve several zoning variances to allow the owners to deface the Annex and remove the distinctive skybridge, Mike and Sally filed a successful appeal. Mike retained counsel to assist in this matter and were able to save the renowned structure from destruction, thereby assuring that one of central Glendale’s most inventive architectural centerpieces lived on.

PHOTO: Glendale News Press



KATHERINE YAMADA, a long time Society member and local journalist-historian, was recognized for bringing Glendale’s history to the public each week via her *Glendale News Press* column while at the same time volunteering to update the book “*Glendale, A Pictorial*

History” by adding sixteen new pages of information to the next printing which will be distributed by TGHS in our Centennial year, 2006. Katherine has also been assisting Isabelle Meyer in sorting the TGHS archives located in the Goode House



FRIENDS OF SHOSEIAN was recognized for its work on the Shosei-An (Whispering Pines) Tea House and Garden in Brand Park. **Julie Bagish**, president of the group, accepted the award. Shosei-An was built by and bequeathed to

the City of Glendale in 1974 by “The Sister City Committee” which was comprised of Glendalians and residents of our sister city, Higashi-Osaka, Japan. The friends have brought it back as a cultural resource by restoring its defining tea house features, listing it on the Glendale Historic Register, and performing tea ceremony demonstrations for the public.

TOM EBERHARDT and **CHRISTINE VASQUEZ**, filmmakers, are native Angelenos with deep roots in Southern California and a love of trains, planes and automobiles. As owners of Sky City Productions, their first venture was the film “This Was Pacific Electric.” The film chronicles the development of LA’s famous Red Car Line, which spearheaded Southern California’s explosive growth in the previous century. TGHS sells the film at the Doctors House Museum store, open Sundays from 2pm-4pm. The other film “When Glendale Ruled the Skies” is about Glendale’s legendary Grand Central Airport. This film is available on loan at the Glendale Public Library. Check out www.skycityproductions.com

ANN DENIS was recognized for implementing the restoration and refurbishment of the **Verdugo Adobe Museum**. The Days of the Verdugos Association took on the task of making the Casa available for public tours under the leadership of President Ann Denis and TGHS member **Doris McKently**.

BARBARA KOURI accepted the award on behalf of the **Jewel City Doll Club**. Members of the Club furnished the Doctors’ House playroom with period toys. More recently, they exhibited their doll and teddy bear collections on special exhibit days.

ALGEMAC'S

continued from page 1

in the years following World War II. It is a dynamic, ultra-modern style of large-scaled shapes and contrasting forms designed to catch the eye of passing motorists, each a potential customer. As Alan Hess has said, "Googie buildings' form followed their function in keeping with Modern principles; their function was to advertise their buildings on the roadside using signs and popular imagery."

Algamac's features many of the typical elements of the Googie aesthetic. The dynamic elongated diamonds highlighting the entry canopy contrast with the more regular squares of the adjacent fascia signage. They are also slightly over-scaled, making them more easily visible to passing motorists—a critical function of the design. At night the illuminated underside of the cantilever gives the entry even more prominence from the street. The overhead sign (now removed) repeated both diamond and square motifs, tying the composition together. All of these forms appear to float above the expansive glass



Like Algamac's, Norms Restaurant on La Cienega sports a diamond motif

walls, "a startling and futuristic design concept" according to Hess, that also "performed an important function in putting the interior on display as a living billboard for the restaurant."

The building began life as a flower

shop in the 1920s, and was converted to a roadside diner in the 1940s when Algamac's moved there from Brand Boulevard. It was further enlarged and remodeled in 1953 and 1959, to keep up with changing times and modern tastes. The designer of the 1959 remodel was Ralph Vaughn, an African-American architect who worked with Paul Williams and also helped design the 1949 Lincoln Place Apartment complex in Venice, recently declared a Los Angeles City landmark. Algamac's may thus

THE LOSS of two outstanding Glendale examples of Googie architecture—Henry's Drive-in and Bob's Big Boy—makes the fate of Algamac's even more critical.

be the only surviving Googie structure designed by an African-American architect.

Three of Glendale's Historic Preservation Commissioners urged that Algamac's be preserved, and recommended that the Environmental Planning Board (EPB) order an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed development. Commissioner Eric Axene said that he has "not seen another structure in this style, from this period, that has evolved and does tell a story as well as this building does... It's the only building around like this." Commissioner Ruben Amirian noted that "One of the purposes of Googie-style architecture was to make it attractive for people to go in," and said of Algamac's "I really wanted to go in, by just looking at this—the entire façade was inviting me in." And Commissioner Beala Neal said



PHOTOS: Martin Schall

Farmer's boomerang-shaped roof is an example of the bold, eye-catching shapes characteristic of the Googie style

Algamac's is "unique and definitely fun. I don't know of anything like it around. Deny the demolition of the structure."

The City's Environmental Planning Board met in December and was presented with evidence from the Los Angeles Conservancy and The Glendale Historical Society that the proposed development, as planned, would result in a substantial adverse impact to an historical resource as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Faced with the evidence presented, and with the case law cited by City Attorney Scott Howard, the Board voted unanimously to require the preparation of an EIR to fully explore alternatives to the demolition of Algamac's. The preservation community had won a small but significant victory.


It was then that an even more encouraging development occurred. Urban Housing Alliance, anxious to avoid the months-long delay and expense of an EIR, agreed to meet with TGHS and the Conservancy to explore the possibility of preserving and restoring Algamac's and incorporating it into the proposed development. Although no definitive solution has yet been reached, the willingness of this developer to cooperate with the preservation community is an enormously promising step, one that can set a

positive example for future developments in Glendale. TGHS will certainly keep the lines of communication open with the developers of the Algemac's property, and will keep our membership informed of further developments.

The loss of two outstanding Glendale examples of Googie architecture—Henry's Drive-in (one of the settings for the film "Mildred Pierce") and Bob's Big Boy—makes the fate of Algemac's even more critical. In the words of Alan Hess, "The loss of other Googie buildings

in the Glendale area should give us pause before we demolish another one. These buildings tell us about an important era in Southern California life and development. Without them we create a kind of self-inflicted cultural amnesia. While they stand they help us understand who we were, and how we came to be the way we are now."

JOHN LOCASCIO is a Board Member and an architect practicing in Glendale. See more of VICTOR STAPF JR'S. postcards at his website: photosoftheforgotten.com. The Farmer's and Norms photos on page 3 come from MARTIN SCHALL an architecture buff who lives in Germany and whose website features his favorite Los Angeles buildings.





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Join The Glendale Historical Society and Support Historic Preservation in Our Community

THE SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT, tax exempt organization and we encourage you to join and volunteer. Please complete this form and mail it with a check payable to The Glendale Historical Society, PO Box 4173, Glendale CA 91202

<p>Jewel City Patron (\$500) Verdugo Patron \$(250) Tropico Patron (\$100) Sustaining (\$50) Family/Dual (\$30) Individual (\$20) Individual Senior or Student (\$10)</p>	<p>Organizational Memberships: (No voting rights)</p> <p>Non-Profit (\$25) Small Business (\$35) Corporate (\$100)</p>									
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<p>CHECK AREAS OF INTEREST:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Preservation</td> <td>Historic Districts</td> <td>Event Planning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fundraising</td> <td>Outreach</td> <td>Newsletter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Doctors House docent</td> <td></td> <td>Research Glendale history</td> </tr> </table>		Preservation	Historic Districts	Event Planning	Fundraising	Outreach	Newsletter	Doctors House docent		Research Glendale history
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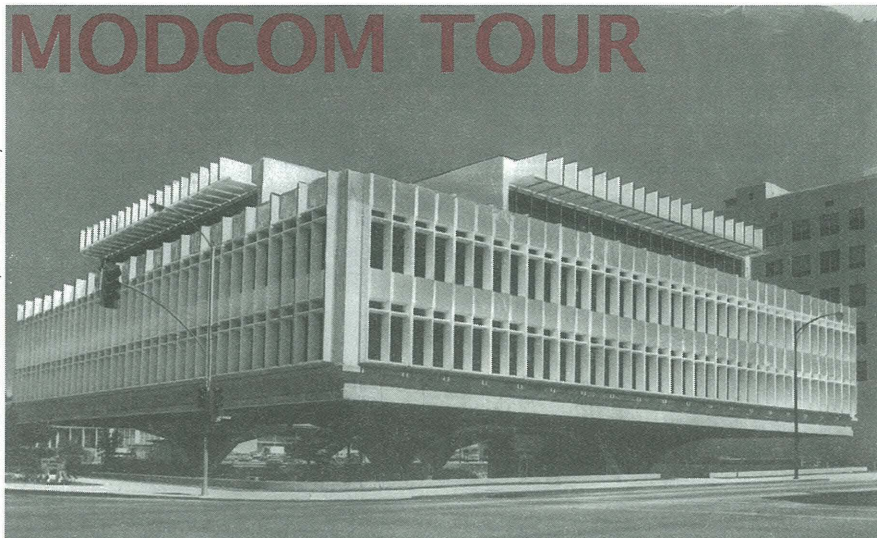
Visit us on the web at:
www.glendalehistorical.org

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is the official publication of
the Society*

Tours Galore in 2004

MODCOM TOUR

PHOTO: Herald Examiner Collection/LA Public Library



Municipal Services Building, Broadway and Glendale Avenue

LAST SEPTEMBER, The Los Angeles Conservancy's Modern Committee (ModCom) organized a self-guided tour of some of Los Angeles' most important modernist buildings. In partnership with the Glendale Historical

Society, the tour included Albert C. Martin's futuristic 1966 Municipal Services Building in the Glendale Civic Center. Other stops on the tour included the Cinerama Dome, the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, the Music Center as well as residential masterpieces such as Dion and Richard Neutra's house, the Charles and Ray Eames house and studio, and Julius Shulman's house and studio. It is indeed an honor for Glendale's Municipal Services Building to be included among such iconic modernist landmarks.

Glendale's "retro-futuristic" Municipal Services Building is a key structure in Glendale's modern architectural heritage. When it opened in 1966, the building was heralded as the latest in contemporary design, and it remains a head turner today. Located at the corner of Broadway and Glendale Avenue, the unique plan incorporates a slightly sunken public plaza that

buffers traffic noise, even while it is open to and visible from the busy streets. It also features decorative iron balconies and a large central fountain. The building seems to float, reflecting both the powerful vision and the dramatic execution of the engineering technology behind it. Former city manager C.E. Perkins, for whom the adjacent civic building and plaza is named, said "the Municipal Services Building reflects the evolution of Glendale from a suburban bedroom community to an independent city."

In the spring of 2005 Glendale will begin a \$5 million seismic retrofit of the building. During the retrofit, the building will remain open and in full use. Glendale's preservation community will take a keen interest in the retrofit and work to make sure all possible measures are taken to mitigate impacts on the building's architecture.

TEXT: Jane Brown

Vintage H



Boulderhurst, 1913-14, designed by Alfred Priest



Left: Exterior steps of the 1929 Anderson House, designed by Harry Hayden Whiteley Right: Volunteer Pat Turner with actor Steve Watson, star of "Monster House"



Left: Ard Eevin, 1902, designed by Nathaniel Dryden Right: The interior staircase of the 1929 Carin and Dennis Greco home, designed by Glendale developer Daniel Campbell

See page 11 for two tour goers' comments on the Vintage Home Tour

Home Tour

IN OCTOBER TGHS sponsored a house tour in northwest Glendale. Thank you to home-owners for opening their homes: **Gary Nicholson, Sally MacAller, Dennis and Carin Greco, and Al Sophianopolos and Jeff Trachta.**

Hines and Hunt Entertainment—thanks to the enthusiasm of TGHS member **Terrance Hines**—provided scripts and secured actors to serve as docents. Thank you to docents **Chris Babers, Phil Boute, Josh Hammond, Gary Hart, Tommy Hobson, Ben Hogestyn, Laura Innes, Veronica Lauren, Ed Shen, Taylor Van Doorne, Steve Watson and Pete Wilson.** Thank you, also, to volunteers **Margaret Hammond, May Kwan, Odette Peters, Tammi Relyea and David Tochman.**

The Silent Auction was well stocked with gifts provided by the **Alex Theatre; Georges Plumbing, Pasadena; Linoleum City, Hollywood; Luigi's Pottery, Glendale; Pasadena Awning, Pasadena; Patrick's Cafe, Glendale; Ray's Copy Express, Burbank; SAVON Appliances, Burbank; and Terrance Hines** who donated two books—*Batchelder Tile* and *Just Linoleum.*

TGHS thanks the artists and craftsmen whose exhibits and demonstrations assisted homeowners in the renovation of irreplaceable vintage homes.

Thanks also to **Juliet Arroyo, Glendale Planning Division; George Ellison, Glendale Public Library Special Collections; Charles Perry, Culinary Historians Society of Southern California and Baxter Healthcare Corporation.**

A big thanks to the tour organizers **Patricia Messina, Terrance Hines, Mike Resnick, Sally MacAller, John Paul LoCascio and Arlene Vidor.**



Doctors House dining room with the table set for a holiday meal

CANDLELIGHT TOURS

THE WARM GLOW of candlelight welcomed more than three hundred visitors to the annual candlelight tours of the Doctors House Museum on December 11 and 18.

The entire house was decorated for a Victorian Christmas, starting with the natural Douglas fir in the parlor, hung with rare antique ornaments, including heavy glass German *kugeln*, pressed-cotton fruits, and small handmade gifts of needle holders, pen wipers, china pitchers, and watch holders. An exquisite feather tree, made by dyeing goose feathers green and gluing them onto a stick tree, adorned the dining room. **Sid Gordon** provided music of the season on his latest antique Victor phonograph. **Andrea Zaballero** played the harp and **Doris**

McKently brought the 1887 Steinway parlor grand to life. Docents acted out a scenario in each room, and provided answers to visitors' questions. **Craig and Layla Lighthizer** also supplied several of their most beautiful kerosene lamps, which were lit for the occasion. Docents served hot beverages and treats in the gazebo, including homemade German *Lebkuchen* and Swiss hazelnut cookies. Our thanks go to **Isabelle Meyer** and all the docents for once again providing the community with such a joyous holiday experience.

TEXT: Judy Cabrera
PHOTO: Isabelle Meyer



Architect and



n for interior e

PHOTOS: Top and right, Patricia Messina; Left, Arlene Vidor

PHOTOS Left: Sally MacAller

The Glendale Historical Society Logo Contest Entry Form

All entries must be received by Saturday, April 2, 2005

Please print legibly

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____

E-mail address _____

I agree to all contest rules and that should I win, my original artwork and all image reproduction rights will become the sole property of The Glendale Historical Society.

I certify that all work submitted is my original work.

Signature _____

Date _____

Send entries to:

Logo Contest
The Glendale Historical Society
Post Office Box 4173
Glendale CA 91202

The Glendale Historical Society Logo Contest Call for Entries

IN PREPARATION FOR THE GLENDALE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, The Glendale Historical Society (TGHS) marks the occasion with a new logo to represent our organization. Help the cause of preserving all of our diverse architecture in Glendale and our city's illustrious history—and showcase your design skills as well—by submitting a logo design that you think best conveys the spirit of The Glendale Historical Society.

About The Glendale Historical Society

The Glendale Historical Society was reestablished in 1979, after many years of dormancy, to save the beloved Victorian Doctors House from demolition. The members of TGHS moved the house from central Glendale to Brand Park and completely restored it. Our current TGHS logo, depicting the restored Doctors House, is a beautiful symbol of a preservation crisis resolved with great success. This logo will remain the symbol for the Doctors House Museum which will remain an integral part of TGHS.

Currently, TGHS advocates preserving, using and building upon our diverse physical environment, our landmarks, our historic neighborhoods. We also advocate adaptive re-use; finding new creative uses for existing older buildings to retain the character of our city and its sense of place—where we've been, where we are, where we are going. We prefer restoration of period architecture, as opposed to remodel. Glendale has every architectural style—a small inventory of Victorian structures, many Craftsman bungalows, a huge amount of intact Period Revival structures—especially Spanish and English—and wonderful mid-century modernist buildings. Southern California is famed for all of these styles and our city is exemplary—something to be proud of. The individual buildings and residential neighborhoods tell the story of our history, growth and development. We celebrate and champion all of it.

We sponsor tours and presentations as well as advocate to raise awareness of our period architecture and preservation issues. We also rally support for threatened landmarks, and other advocacy efforts. TGHS is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. For more information, see our website at www.glendalehistorical.org.

Entry Deadline

All logo design entries must be *received* (not postmarked) by *Saturday, April 2, 2005*

Eligibility

Anyone (amateur and professional) can submit a logo design. Membership in The Glendale Historical Society is encouraged, but not required, for entry. There is no application fee.

Design Requirements

- The design must include the words "*The Glendale Historical Society*"
- The design must be in two colors but able to translate well into black-and-white.
- The design must be original work created by the entrant, and not include any preexisting copyrighted or trademarked material.

Entry Format

Submit the designs in digital format with high-resolution color printouts, prepared as follows:

- Print-ready, high-resolution digital files (350 dpi; CMYK; TIFF) on a PC-compatible CD-ROM (preferred) or Zip Disk (either 100MB or 250MB).
- Include a high-resolution 8" x 10" color printout of each image, with the name of the sender typed or printed legibly on the back.
- Label the CD-ROM or disk—the disk itself, not the case—with sender's name.
- Enclose a printed list of the disk's contents.
- Enclose a completed entry form. Submissions without an entry form will not be considered.

Mailing and Contact Information

Send entries to The Glendale Historical Society, Post Office Box 4173, Glendale CA 91202. Entries must be received (not postmarked) by *Saturday, April 2, 2005*.

If you have questions, please contact Carole Dougherty at czdougherty@sbcglobal.net

Selection and Notification

The winning design will be selected in April 2005 by a committee selected by the TGHS board. We'll announce the winning design by e-mail to TGHS members, on the TGHS website, in the historical society newsletter, and in other media as appropriate. We'll also notify all entrants after the final selection, whether or not they submitted the winning entry. In addition to receiving credit for designing The Glendale Historical Society logo, the designer of the winning entry will receive a prize yet to be determined.

Terms and Conditions

By entering the contest, you agree to all of the following terms and conditions.

Property of Entries

We cannot return any items entered and are not responsible for their loss or damage.

All entries become the sole property of The Glendale Historical Society. The Entrant grants The Glendale Historical Society royalty-free, exclusive license throughout the world to publish and use the winning entry in any TGHS publication, advertisement, marketing or promotional material, by any means the Historical Society chooses, including, without limitation, print, electronic media, broadcast, and merchandise, in perpetuity and without obligation. We will credit the designer of the winning entry as appropriate, and may use the winning designer's name and image in related promotion or advertising.

Warranties

By submitting an entry ('Logo'), the Entrant hereby warrants that:

- The Logo was created solely by and is original with the Entrant;
- Neither the Logo nor any element thereof infringes the copyright or trademark of any other work;
- The Entrant owns all rights assigned to The Glendale Historical Society free and clear of any liens, encumbrances, or other third-party interest of any kind;
- The Entrant has the full right and power to make and perform this agreement without the consent of any third party; and

Indemnity and Nonliability

The Entrant agrees to indemnify The Glendale Historical Society, and each of its members against any and all liability, loss, damage, cost, or expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs) incurred by reason of any claim arising in connection with the breach of any of the foregoing representations and warranties.

Right to Withdraw Entries

The Glendale Historical Society reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any entry for any reason.



**TGHS
WELCOMES ITS
NEW
MEMBERSHIP
CHAIR**

TGHS MEMBER, **Al Sophianopoulos**, whose beautiful home was one of the houses featured at our recent Vintage Home Tour, has graciously volunteered to be our new Membership Chair. Al's "day job" is as a writer for TV and radio. On the preservation front, Al has lovingly restored his own home, and has been a resource to other TGHS members who have needed guidance in restoring various elements of their own houses.

Al lives in a home he landmarked in the Rossmoyne area of Glendale and is part of the neighborhood's districting movement. To those who have submitted email addresses to us, Al will start emailing out membership renewal reminders (this will be done quarterly now). Al is loaded with new ideas and will be presenting them to the Board. Al, we're glad to have you on board!

by Rosemarie Ibanez

**Winter 2004/2005
Welcome Renewing Members**

TROPICO PATRON (\$100)
David Smith

CORPORATE (\$100)
Rossmoyne Properties

SUSTAINING (\$50)
Los Angeles Public Library
Howard Anderson
Mike & Peggy Barclay
Sydney & Bill Bennett
Jane Brown & Gary Hart

FAMILY (\$30)
Mary & Robert Bush
Evelyn & Norm Cecere
Sylvia & Michael Dickerson
Doris & Melvin McKently

INDIVIDUAL (\$20)
Marie Fish
Marcia Hanford
Victor King
Dr. Ingrid Maughon
Anna Rundle
Richard Threlkeld
Mary Underwood

SENIOR (\$10)
Shirley Darling
Merry Franzen
Dr. Ray Galloway
Beth Knok
Mary Miller
Marian Simpson

**TGHS TOUR
GETS KUDOS**

Nov. 03, 2004

Dear Terence & Patricia,
You really outdid yourselves this time. The weather was perfect for a most incredible Vintage Home Tour. We know it "takes a village" to get things done, but you two really made it all happen, and we really appreciate it! All four residences had so much to offer, and truly represented what the Historical Society is all about! We had a hard time pulling ourselves away from each place, and found that each of the docents was helpful and interesting. Plus, we were provided with lots of good ideas on how to complete some of our "projects" with integrity. We know how much work you both put into this project - our only regret is we didn't spread the word to more people to attend. Hopefully there will be a "next time" to do that.

Thanks Again!

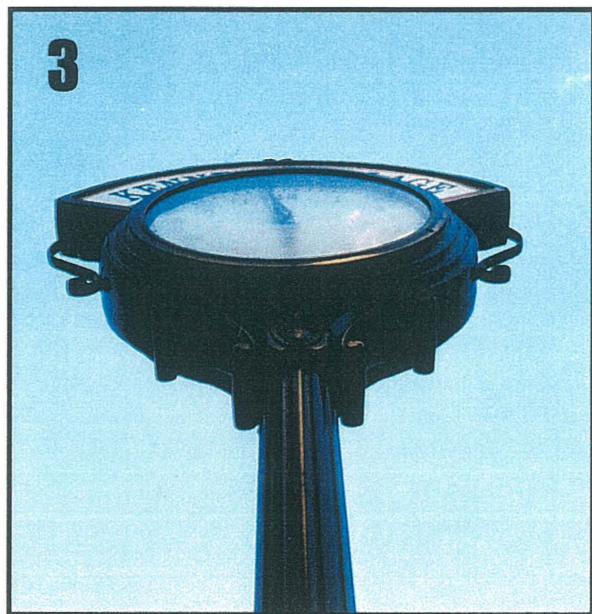
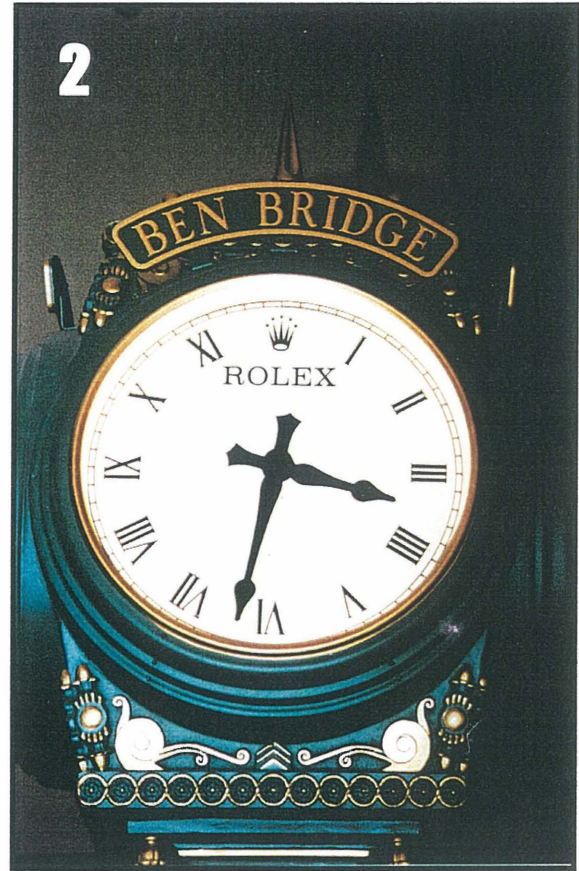
Best Regards,

Peter Busch

Scott Halman

It's All in the Details . . .

BEGINNING WITH THIS ISSUE of The Glendale Historical Society newsletter we will include a feature about little noticed architectural elements scattered around Glendale. The brainchild of Doctors House curator, Isabelle Meyer, this series will test your awareness of the beautiful, the eccentric or the merely interesting details everywhere around us. Here is your first test. Where are these stunning clocks?



Glendale's CLOCKS

- Glendale Hilton
- Southern Pacific Railway Station
- Adams Square
- Montrose
- Grand Central Airport
- Glendale Galleria
- Kenneth Village
- Forest Lawn

ANSWERS: 1. Southern Pacific Railway Station (b)
2. Glendale Galleria (f) 3. Kenneth Village (g)

Mark your Calendar!

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 26
2PM and 8PM
FILM "MILDRED PIERCE"
starring
JOAN CRAWFORD at
THE ALEX THEATRE**

HIGHLIGHTS:

2pm Renowned food historian and LA Times writer Charles Perry opens the show with a look at Southern California's restaurant legacy and explains the "chicken and waffles" phenomenon of the Mildred Pierce era.

8pm The Alex Film Society sponsors a Joan Crawford look-alike contest. Contestants will be judged on looks and style, and the winner will be announced on stage before the screening. (To enter the Joan Crawford Look-Alike contest, call The Alex Film Society voice mail at 818-754-8250 or email afs@alexfilmsociety.org with your name and phone number.)

The Glendale Historical Society
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Mildred Pierce

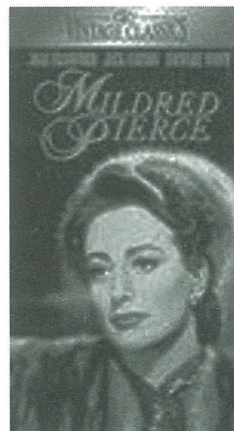
that most famous Glendale gal to screen at the
Alex Theatre on February 26th

"IN THE SPRING OF 1931, on a lawn in Glendale, California, a man was. . ."

The opening line of James M. Cain's novel, *Mildred Pierce*, lets you know immediately that the main setting for the pulpy page-turner is the Jewel City. Cain paints a cynical, if not blatantly critical, portrait of the scheming nouveau-riche of Depression-era Glendale, "the endless suburb," the poor cousin of the classier, wealthier Pasadena. Come to think of it, his description of the rich snobs in Pasadena isn't that flattering either.

The Alex Film Society (www.alexfilmsociety.org) will screen the film version of "Mildred Pierce" starring Joan Crawford in her 1945 Oscar-winning role as Mildred, the martyred mom and restaurateur.

TGHS will display a storyboard on



the Glendale restaurant scene of the 30s era, including the famous local restaurant model for Mildred's joint. Later remodeled into an architectural icon, it was

demolished in the 1980s. Do you know what it was?

TGHS members can purchase discount tickets (\$8.00) with proof of membership at the Alex box office (216 N. Brand Blvd.) which is open daily from noon to 6 pm. See Calendar at left for more highlights about associated events.