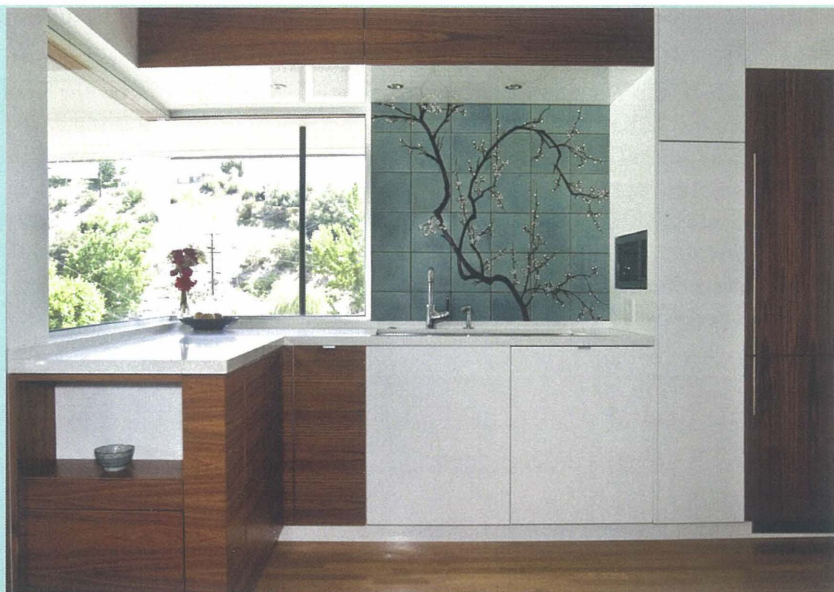

The Glendale Historical Society

Preserving and Celebrating Glendale's History and Architectural Heritage

Fall 2010

Adobe TO
ATOMIC:
GLENDALE'S RANCH HERITAGE



2010 Fall Home Tour

By Greg Grammer

ANNUAL HOME TOUR

Sunday
October 3, 2010
11:00 am-4:00 pm
Last tour begins
at 3:30 pm

Tickets are available online
www.glendalehistorical.org
and at Casa Adobe de San
Rafael, 1330 Dorothy Drive
on day of tour.

Please join us for The Glendale Historical Society's annual Fall Home Tour, which is scheduled for Sunday, October 3, 2010. This year's home tour, "Adobe to Atomic: Glendale's Ranch Heritage," celebrates the diverse architectural style of ranch houses in The Jewel City.

Each of the homes on this year's tour exhibits the signature elements of the classic Ranch style: long and low massing and a visual and spatial connection to the outdoors—but each expresses those elements in a different manner.

Four private homes will be open for docent-led tours from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, with the last tour in each house starting at 3:30 pm. Tickets will be available for sale the day of the tour at 10:30 am at one of Glendale's original Ranch homes, the historic Casa Adobe de San Rafael. The Casa Adobe landmark, built in 1871 and restored in 1932, is located at 1330 Dorothy Drive, and will serve as the starting point of the tour.

Tickets can also be purchased online in advance of the Home Tour at www.glendalehistorical.org. Pre-paid tickets will not be mailed, but can be picked up at the Casa Adobe on the day of the tour. Ticket holders will be provided with a map and directions to the tour homes.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer for this year's tour, please visit www.glendalehistorical.org or call 818-242-7447.

The tour has been organized and curated by TGHS President John LoCascio and Vice President Greg Grammer.

President's Message

We usually think of spring as the time of yearly renewal and re-growth, but here at TGHS that time is September. Our annual elections invariably bring change, a bittersweet juxtaposition of saying farewell to outgoing colleagues who have given admirable and much-appreciated service, and welcoming new faces who bring with them new ideas and new opportunities.

This September, three outstanding Directors completed their terms on the Board. Secretary Elaine Wilkerson has been a whirlwind of activity since joining us in 2007; she reorganized our archives, worked on numerous committees and events and has generally kept the rest of us on our toes. Doctors House Director Sonia Montejano was appointed to the Board in 2008, working her magic on events planning and membership; she also took a keen interest in the Doctors House, last year succeeding retiring Curator Isabelle Meyer. And Peter Rusch, who postponed personal plans in order to fill the remainder of Isabelle's term, has

... all three
[retiring board members]
will continue to participate
in TGHS activities:
Elaine with events and our
speakers bureau;
Sonia as director of the
Doctors House; and
Peter as the
House's newly-appointed
assistant director.

been a dynamo, establishing our new Volunteer Coordinator position while simultaneously being everywhere else he was needed.

I will miss their contributions to the Board, but fortunately all three will continue to participate in TGHS activities: Elaine with events and our speakers bureau; Sonia as director of the Doctors House; and Peter as the House's newly-appointed assistant director. And I very much look forward to working with our newly elected directors - Scott Lasken, Victoria Lasken and Joe Selph - and welcome the fresh perspectives they will bring to our efforts.

This September also marked the 30th anniversary of the relocation of the Doctors House, the Society's first and undoubtedly most dramatic preservation success. The celebrations reunited several of the volunteers who restored the House, and gave some of us the privilege of meeting many of them for the first time. I was especially honored to at last meet the legendary Lufts, Marie and Glenn, who together led the restoration effort, and Sue Lazara, the project historian whose meticulous research determined the House's finished appearance. I've always wondered how they managed to accomplish such an extraordinary feat; now that I've met them, I understand.

In addition, on a more personal note, this September has opened an exciting - if somewhat overwhelming - new chapter in my career: I am enrolled in the master of historic preservation program at my alma mater, the USC School of Architecture. The next two years will no doubt be difficult, but also interesting, fun and, I trust, ultimately deeply rewarding.

So here's to fall, and new beginnings.

John LoCascio

Autumn 2010

THE GLENDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Effective to
October 1, 2010

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Visit us on the web at:
www.glendalehistorical.org

The Glendale Historical
Society quarterly newsletter
is the official publication
of the Society



Scott Lasken



Victoria Lasken



Joe Selph

TGHS Welcomes Three New Members to the Board

By Greg Grammer

TGHS is pleased to welcome its three newest members to the Board of Directors, who were elected at the Annual Members Meeting on September 19, 2010: Victoria Lasken, Scott Lasken and Joe Selph. With their different backgrounds, interests, and experiences, each of them will be playing a crucial role in carrying out the Society's mission of celebrating and preserving Glendale's history and architectural heritage.

President John LoCascio, first appointed to the Board in 2003, was re-elected to another two-year term.

SCOTT LASKEN

Scott is a graphic designer with 30 years of experience specializing in entertainment advertising and packaging design. He is also a musician and enjoys regularly playing with his band.

Scott and his wife Victoria have lived in Glendale for 17 years. They are passionate about preserving the character and architectural integrity of our cherished neighborhoods, which is what initially attracted them to Glendale.

VICTORIA LASKEN

Victoria Lasken is a native of Australia with a background in hair styling, makeup, film and fashion. The accumulation of her travels has informed her views on design, style, culture and beauty.

When Victoria and Scott wanted to start a family, they were drawn to Glendale for its close proximity to the city, its charming tree-lined streets, peaceful canyons and character homes.

Victoria has always loved the glamour and style of the Golden Era of Hollywood. She and her husband Scott live in a 1930s Spanish style home in Glenoaks Canyon which they continue to renovate to reflect their vision.

JOE SELPH

Joe has lived in Glendale for six years. He lives in Adams Hill in a 1931 Tudor Revival home with his partner of 27 years.

He is a supporter of historic districting and preservation, and has been very active in fighting overdevelopment and maintaining the character of his neighborhood through his five years on the Board of Directors of the Adams Hill Neighborhood Association.

Joe is a human resources manager for NBC Universal specializing in high-volume staffing and employee training.

The Story of the Volunteers Who Restored the Doctors House is Now Available

By Marcia Hanford

Readers of our newsletter will recall that three editions in 2009 included centerfold articles about how the Doctors House was rescued from the wrecking ball, moved to Brand Park, and ultimately restored. When John LoCascio began researching these articles with Carole Dougherty, who initiated the process, and Marie Luft, who became project coordinator, little did he know what was about to unfold.

The entire story was documented by Marie in meticulous records and photos, from the first meeting with city officials in 1979 until the ribbon cutting at the restored house in 1984. As Marie continued to email John with details that she recalled, it was evident that this rich story would not fit into three newsletters. As TGHS celebrates the 30-year anniversary of moving the house from its original location in downtown Glendale to Brand Park, we are thrilled to announce that the complete story is now available to all: Marie has authored a 31-page booklet, with beautiful design and layout by Carole, and it is now available for purchase.

Memories of Glendale's Doctors House 1979-1984 - A Labor of Love will be on sale at the Doctors House and at future TGHS events. The price is \$10, but TGHS members will receive special pricing of \$8.

Inside the Doctors House, new exhibits include a room dedicated to the move and restoration, illustrated by additional materials from Marie's records. From now on, visitors will not only experience a restored Victorian house, but they will also learn how it came to be preserved. The story of these amazing and dedicated volunteers lives on inside their labor of love.

Memories

of
GLENDALE'S
DOCTORS HOUSE
1979-1984:

A Labor of Love

AVAILABLE

at the Doctors House
1601 West Mountain Street
Glendale CA 91207

Sundays

2-4 pm

Non-members \$10.00

Members \$8.00

COMING SOON -
an option to purchase
the booklet online



Historical Society Pioneers Return to Celebrate

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Doctors House move to Brand Park are Portland, Oregon residents Glenn and Marie Luft. Glenn was supervising engineer for the restoration and Marie was project coordinator. They were joined by Carole Dougherty, chair of the Ad Hoc committee formed to gauge community interest in saving the Doctors House, and Sue Lazara. Sue did the research to assure an authentic restoration of the interior and now lives in her hometown of Linden, Texas. TGHS welcomed the foursome with a private tour of the Doctors House giving them a first look at the new permanent exhibits. Later they enjoyed a champagne reception at Ard Eevin, a Colonial house listed on both the National Register and Glendale's Historic Resources Register.



Glenn Luft, Marie Luft, Carole Dougherty and Sue Lazara

Annual Meeting Report

By Marcia Hanford

Our September 19 annual meeting of The Glendale Historical Society began early for a few intrepid members who walked or biked 4.75 miles retracing the September 16, 1980 overnight journey of the Doctors House to its new location. Upon arrival at Brand Park, they joined TGHS members and guests, which included volunteers and contractors who participated in restoration of the House from 1980-1984. Nearly 100 people enjoyed an ice cream social in the gazebo, followed by the unveiling of three new permanent exhibits in the Doctors House.

Marie Luft's scrapbooks are included in a room newly dedicated to those who restored the House. The

office now contains a panel profiling the four doctors who lived in the house and inspired the current name. Upstairs, a master bedroom has been created in the era of Nell Shipman, an actress/writer/director/producer who inhabited the house from 1917 to 1920.

A champagne toast followed business and awards presented at the annual membership meeting. Departing guests were treated to the debut of a new kiosk installed at the entry gate. Designed by incoming board member Scott Lasken and outgoing board member Peter Rusch, "Why is This House Here?" will be seen by hundreds who pass by the House every month. Information regarding TGHS and the

story of the House will now be communicated during hours when it is not open.

TGHS is enormously grateful to Peter Rusch and Scott Halloran who donated materials for the kiosk exhibit. The Nell Shipman and Four Doctors exhibits were underwritten by Arlene Vidor and Peter Rusch. All the materials for the Doctors House Move & Restoration exhibit, and an enormous amount of time, were donated by the talented Beverly and Frank de Lucia of FastFrame La Canada-Flintridge/Glendale, facilitated by Doctors House Exhibits Curator Dorothy Sundbye.

By Sonia Montejano



Doris McKently

Docent Celebrates Her 90th Birthday!

Doris McKently has volunteered as a tour guide with the Doctors House for the past 20 years. She has graciously invested over 280 hours of her own time, and without reservation, has served the community in this capacity. For her dedication, Doris was presented with a framed award at the annual meeting. Doris is a retired school teacher and also volunteers her time with Glendale Beautiful and is an active member of numerous community organizations.

This past June, countless members of the community, friends, and family joined together at her home to celebrate her 90th birthday. Everyone who knows Doris is, without question, delighted to engage in conversation with her, as she has many wonderful stories to share. Frequently, visitors send thank-you notes, or e-mails expressing their appreciation in having Doris lead their tours.

We treasure her continued dedication and devotion to the Doctors House, where she continues to lead tours, and handles crowds of visitors with great poise.



Armine Isakhanyan



Sona Davtian

New Volunteers Meet Our Bi-Lingual Needs

On any given Sunday, the museum receives visitors who are not fluent in English. We are fortunate to now have on our team of Docents two new volunteers who lead tours in foreign languages.

Armine Isakhanyan, who is a new immigrant herself, has only lived in Glendale for 1 year after relocating from Armenia.

In her native country, she studied language at the University of Foreign Languages, where she majored in translation. She is fluent in various languages, including Russian, French and English. As most volunteers who have experienced the lure and historical interest of the Doctors House, Armine instantly knew she had to be involved with it.

Armine is youthful, enthusiastic, very reliable, and leads tours on Sundays, as well as for numerous special events. She is interested in the arts especially dance and poetry. Armine has proven to be a valuable addition to the museum, and we look forward to having her with us for many years to come.

Sona Davtian, a native from Armenia, and a former elementary school teacher, is fluent in Farsi and Armenian. Sona has lived in the United States for the past 15 years, and is very proud of her Armenian roots and culture. Volunteering at the Doctors House gives her great joy in serving her community. Sona prefers to greet visitors in her native language since she feels her English evokes too much of her native accent to be understood properly. Sona is an outstanding Docent, and we appreciate her bi-lingual talent. All of us involved with the museum are grateful for her dedicated service.

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS (MAY 2010–AUGUST 2010)

Welcome New and Renewing Members
and Members who have Upgraded

JEWEL CITY PATRON

Glendale Adventist
Medical Center

VERDUGO PATRON

International House of Pancakes
(IHOP #708)
Larry Tison
(Tison and Associates Landscape
Architecture)
Bill & Elaine Wilkerson - U

TROPICO

Sean Bersell & Heather Norris - R
Irene Blore - N
Pam Elyea - R
Greg Grammer & Simon Wright - R
Marcia Hanford - R
Thomas McIntyre - R
Joe Selph & Marty Bracciotti - U
William & Leann Warner - R

SUSTAINING

Dan & Judy Cabrera - U
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Clauss, Jr. - R
Mark & Rachel Fabulich - N
Doyle Kutch - R
Vic & Barbara Pallos - R
Donald & Beatrice Penniall - R
Byron & Louise Peebles - R
Susan Wolfson - U

N - New Member
R - Renewing Member
U - Upgrading Members

FAMILY/DUAL

Paul & Marshall Ayers - R
Cherie Lee Gordon - R
Dennis Greco - U
Roger Harmon - U
Richard & Carol Lee - R
Holly Keenan & Jordan Levine - R
Eileen & John Manus - R
Patricia Messina & Terrance Hines - R
Larry & Isabelle Meyer - R
Steven & Cecilia Myles - N
Lila & Rich Ramirez - R
Allan & Desiree Shier - R
Beth Tapper - N

INDIVIDUAL

Matthew Clark - N
Ruth Campbell - R
Sona Dautian - N
David F Eisenberg - N
Valarie Gardner - R
Margaret Hammond - R
Jack Kandel - R
Charles Perry - R
Alyssa Resnick - N
Michael Resnick - R
Mireya Romo-Bowen - R
Dorothy Sundbye - R
Richard Threlkeld - R
William Troiano - N
Sandra Weggeland - U
Patricia Zeider - R

SENIOR/STUDENT

Betty Albu - R
Minerva Astengo - R
Karen Bartl-Grammer - R
Virginia Bengston - R
Jan Craig - R
Shirley Darling - R
Carol Jean Felkel - R
Shelley Filian - N
Marie Fish - R
Merry Franzen - R
Mary Rose Grim - R
Robin Lee Hansen - R
Elizabeth Hickman - R
Ben Hubbard - N
Richard & Laura Lovick - R
Bob & Ann Oliphant - R
Madison Leigh Paine - R
Mary Ann Prelock - R
Terry Richman - R
Diane Spurlock - R
Frank & Bonnie Tortorelli - R
Anita Weaver - N
Pat Wright - R
Odette Zakarian - R

PAST PRESIDENTS

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Deborah Dentler
Carole Dougherty
Andrea Humberger
Marie Luft
Steve Preston
Bill Shepherd
David Smith
Arlene Vidor

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

Jewel City Patron (\$500)

Verdugo Patron (\$250)

Tropico Patron (\$100)

Sustaining (\$50)

Family/Dual (\$40)

Individual (\$25)

Individual Senior or Student (\$15)

Nonprofit (\$35)

*Nonprofit organizations are encouraged
to join TGHS as Associate Members*

(No voting rights)

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City/Zip _____ Email Address _____

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS?

Preservation advocacy

Historic Districting

Fundraising

Special events/Tours

Outreach/Education

Doctors House volunteers

Historic research/Surveys

Archiving/Organizing

Membership/Outreach

The Glendale Historical Society
PO Box 4173
Glendale CA 91202
www.glendalehistorical.org



Glendale Noir Film Series

Landmark films shown in landmark Brand Park

By Arlene Vidor

This summer TGHS hosted three fun-filled evenings of cinematic entertainment under the stars in Brand Park, on the lawn in front of the Doctors House Museum. Each of the films carried some link to Glendale either by story, film location or both, and all featured murder, mayhem, and intrigue in the finest film noir tradition. The three mid-century masterpieces, *Mildred Pierce*, *Double Indemnity*, and *Gun Crazy* are all inductees into the Library of Congress's National Film Registry, defining each as an American cinematic landmark. TGHS plans to repeat its popular outdoor film series next year with a different selection of Glendale-related motion pictures.

Three New Exhibits Now on Display at the Doctors House Museum

By Greg Grammer

In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the preservation and relocation of the Doctors House, one of Glendale's last two remaining Queen Anne Victorian structures, TGHS is pleased to announce the opening of three new exhibits that focus on key aspects of the House's history.

Now on permanent display at the Doctors House Museum, the new exhibits illustrate the House's significance in the City's early history and development, and the critical role it played in Glendale's historic preservation movement.

THE FOUR DOCTORS

One exhibit looks at the four physicians who inhabited the house when it was located at 921 E. Wilson Street during its first two decades. On display in the doctor's office, the exhibit provides a face and a story to each of the doctors who lived and practiced in the House that bears their name.

NELL SHIPMAN

Another exhibit, on view in the newly decorated upstairs bedroom, showcases the multi-talented silent screen actress, writer, director and producer Nell Shipman, who lived in the house from 1917 to 1920 along with her family and menagerie, which included two bear cubs.

THE MOVE & RESTORATION

Placed in the downstairs bedroom with the "scar" in the floor on proud display from when the Doctors House was cut in two, the third exhibit chronicles the House's inspiring move from the corner of Wilson and Belmont to its current location at Brand Park, and the subsequent four-year, all-volunteer effort to lovingly and meticulously restore the House to its late 19th century Victorian glory.

The three exhibits were made possible by the hard work of the volunteers who researched and assembled them—Peter Rusch, Dorothy Sundbye, Jolene Taylor, Arlene Vidor, Greg Grammer and John LoCascio; and by the generosity of Peter Rusch and Arlene Vidor, who together sponsored the framing and display of the Nell Shipman and Doctors exhibits, and of Beverly and Frank de Lucia of FastFrame LaCanada-Flintridge/Glendale, who framed all the exhibits and donated their time and all the materials necessary for framing the Move & Restoration exhibit.