

West Adams Matters

Behind the Garden Gate

Take a peek behind the garden gates during this year's Garden Conservancy Open Days tours, which take place in the Hollywood Hills, Larchmont Village, and West Adams on April 25, in West Los Angeles May 8, and Pasadena May 16.

Historic West Adams is host to five of the Open Days Gardens, plus a special event – the Blooming of the Roses Festival in Exposition Park, slated for April 24 and 25 (see story, page 4). Tour visitors will see a bevy of beautiful gardens, plus they'll glance inside several historic homes, in West Adams – for just \$5 per garden. WAHA, along with the Los Angeles Conservancy and St. Agatha's Church, is a beneficiary of a portion of the tour proceeds at our local gardens, so we encourage you to invite all your gardening friends to tag along as you tour. Let's show off West Adams to people near and far.



There is a story to be told behind every garden, which is especially true of these 26 Los Angeles County properties. The Hamilton Garden in the Hollywood Hills was once a barren picnic area that now features contemporary sculpture, roses, gardenias, bougainvillea, and trumpet flowers. The Erin Lareau Garden, also in Hollywood, has a magical element – 7,000 pounds of glass, creating a winding river of light from sea green to sky blue to deep cobalt.

In West Adams, at the Peace Awareness Labryinth & Gardens at the Guasti Villa-Busby Berkeley Mansion at 3500 West Adams Boulevard, visitors will walk through the entry court and grand ballroom and out to the two-level flagstone courtyard comes into view with reflecting pools, fountains, flowering plants, and a hand-cut stone labyrinth fashioned after the Chartres Cathedral Labyrinth. The Hutchinson Family Garden was once a barren and dusty yard with but one tree – and plenty of rusting appliances! The Childress-Weggeman Garden boasts over fifty bonsai that have been cultivated over thirty years, and

(continued on page 10)

WAHA's April Event: Elections *Plus* A Look at the City's Budget

WAHA's annual elections will be held on **Tuesday evening, April 13, at 7 p.m.** at Jean Cade's always-inviting Lafayette Square manor, 1821 S. Victoria Avenue. A representative from the Mayor's office will also be on hand to discuss the City's financial situation and the proposed budget, which will be submitted to the City Council on April 20.

As always, we need Board members with fresh, upbeat, in-the-know ideas. This community was founded by the best volunteers in the nation, and now is the time for newer members especially to come forward. You need not spend an extraordinary amount of time doing tasks, but you must be committed. Generally speaking, Board members must commit to attend all WAHA Board meetings (usually held the fourth Thursday of each month) and also will be given specific responsibilities for certain of WAHA's events and social functions, on a rotating basis.

We don't have many requirements: a love of old houses, an enthusiasm for community activities, and membership in WAHA for at least six months. WAHA always needs expertise in fundraising, zoning issues, and preservation. But if you have a program you'd like to initiate, those ideas are welcome, too. If you'd like to run for the Board, do come to the meeting and sign up then. You'll be asked to present yourself in a very short (one-two minutes) speech. ●

Exploring the Heights

Historic Homes & Architecture Tour in Arlington Heights, Angelus Vista and West End Heights, Saturday, June 5

In the heart of Historic West Adams sits the vast Arlington Heights, Angelus Vista and West End Heights tracts. Bounded generally by Western Avenue, Crenshaw Boulevard, Pico Boulevard and the 10 freeway, these neighborhoods are linked historically by their association with Arlington Avenue, which runs directly north and south through the center of the community.

During the 1880s and 1890s, a great surge of interest in the Civil War generally and in Robert E. Lee (whose hometown was

(continued on page 13)

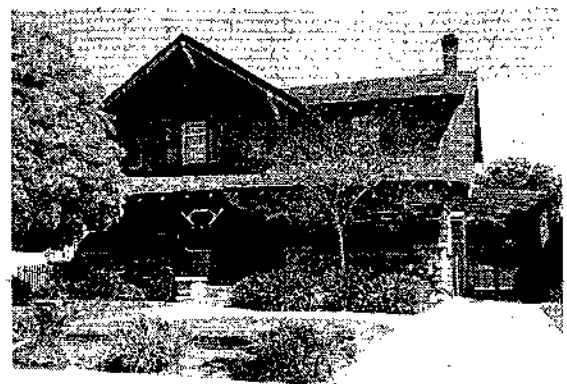


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Treasure Hunting in Lafayette Square

by Lisa Auerbach

Between lawn care, painting projects, hosting backyard dogfights, and salvaging moldings and what-have-you from the local dumpsters, the neighbors haven't had much time to get to the mall. So when we heard about the Lafayette Square Coalition Yard Sale Extravaganza on March 20, we were all over it like strippers on paint.

The group from 31st Street piled into the block's sole functioning jalopy at the crack of 8 a.m., heading north to see what we could find in the cast-offs from the Big Houses. When we first arrived, we were disappointed to find some yard salers had hung up their shingle before setting out their goods. "More coming," we were promised on more than one occasion, but with the clock ticking, we sensed that other vultures were circling, no doubt with the same items on their shopping list as us.

Passing an army of gentleman, we noticed



their arms full of glass lamp globes, vintage pottery and other collectibles and we knew that we'd been beat. So we headed in the opposite direction, and with yards full of goodies in all directions, we were assured

of finding some treasures of our own.

Of the many wonderful items for sale, we scored some real finds, including (but not limited to): vintage plumbing parts (we shed one tear that this original plumbing had been mercilessly stripped from its home), vintage silk kimonos, a puppet theater, a xylophone, three small metal cars, a jar of buttons, and a rocking chair. Not bad!

We got back to the neighborhood to find a neighbor sitting on her lawn, dejected that she'd missed such a great opportunity to spend money, but thrilled to be trimming her edges by hand with clippers. ●

Hidden Gems of Los Angeles: Tour Explores L. A.'s Historic Preservation Overlay Zones

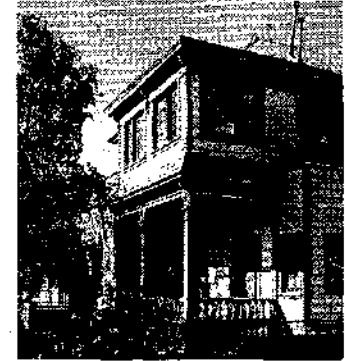
Architecture buffs have an opportunity to experience five of Los Angeles' Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZs), tour one house in each neighborhood, and discover why HPOZs are sweeping our city during the third annual "At Home with History" house tour on Sunday, April 18, presented by the Los Angeles Conservancy, the HPOZ Alliance, and the featured HPOZs.

Guests on this self-guided driving tour can visit as many of the five neighborhoods as they'd like, at their own pace. Each stop will feature a tour of a representative house in the HPOZ, as well as "neighborhood ambassadors," area residents available to discuss what it's like to live in the neighborhood.

Two of the five featured HPOZs are in the Historic West Adams District. University Park in the Historic West Adams District, was developed as one of L.A.'s first suburbs in the 1880s. It is filled with landmarks and diverse architectural styles. The featured house is a Victorian Italianate residence, one of the oldest homes in the area. The original owner, Henry Martz, constructed at least half a dozen residences in the neighborhood, of which three are designated Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monuments.

West Adams Terrace, the city's newest HPOZ, also in the West Adams District, is a trove of significant buildings that reflect L.A.'s architectural evolution. The featured house is a 1910 Adam-Georgian Revival mansion that now serves as headquarters and a museum for the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles.

Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tour tickets cost \$30 for the general public and \$25 for Conservancy members. Advance reservations are essential. To order tickets, visit the Conservancy's website at www.laconservancy.org or call the Ticket Hotline at 213-430-4219. ●



Step Out to California's Central Coast

WAHA is stepping out a little further than usual, with an overnight trip to Morro Bay and San Simeon on Saturday and Sunday, May 22 -23.

Among the historic sites we'll visit are the Cayucos Tavern and Card Room, built in 1906, and Hearst Castle (separate admission fee required). Antique shops and restaurants are in walking distance of our hotel, and you'll have plenty of free time for shopping.

The price of \$94 includes the bus tour, overnight hotel stay (double occupancy), and a continental breakfast on Sunday. Lunches and Saturday evening dinner are no-host.

Reservations (by May 10) and advance payment is required (really!). Contact SeElcy Caldwell for details - 323-292-8566.

CELEBRATING THE ARCHITECTURE OF JOHN ELGIN WOOLF

The architecture firm of John Elgin Woolf (1908 - 1980) and his partner, interior designer Robert Koch Woolf, specialized in the creation of elaborate residences in and around Beverly Hills for a wide range of wealthy and famous clients, including George Cukor, Cary Grant, Elsie de Wolfe, Alphonzo Bell, Fanny Bryce, Bob Hope, Myrna Loy, Agnes Moorhead, John Wayne, Joan Fontaine, Janet Gaynor, and Loretta Young — and many more.

Woolf created sumptuous living environments which reflected the elegance and glamour of the luminaries who called his showcases "home." He was best known for his elegant poolside pavilion designs inspired by traditional 18th and 19th century garden follies. The architect is also known for his adaptation of the hipped French mansard roof and elaborate New Orleans-style wrought iron balconies to Southern California homes.

On **Thursday evening, April 22**, Robert Koch Woolf and artist Mark Bennett will present "An Evening on the Architecture of John Elgin Woolf," hosted by the Beverly Hills Historical Society and the Beverly Hills Women's Club, at the Women's Club, 1700 Chevy Chase Drive in Beverly Hills. Cocktails are called for at 6:30 p.m., with the presentation slated for 7 p.m. The cost is \$20, payable to "B.H.H.S." and mailed to the Beverly Hills Historical Society, P.O. Box 1919, Beverly Hills, CA 90213. Any questions, call Susan Werner at 310-472-0870. ●



In the Garden

Stop and Smell the Roses

What better way to spend the Earth Day weekend than by stopping to smell the roses in one of the nation's great urban parks?

The Figueroa Corridor Partnership Business Improvement District, City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, and Exposition Park stakeholders present the Fourth Annual Blooming of the Roses Festival, April 24–25 at the Rose Garden in Exposition Park, at Exposition and Figueroa.

The Festival is a celebration of the spring rose blooms at the historic Exposition Park Rose Garden and showcases the winners of the 2004 All American Rose Selections contest. This year's flowering jewels are 'Memorial Day,' 'Day Breaker,' and 'Honey Perfume,' and the award-winning roses will be on display throughout the weekend. Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.

On Saturday, visitors can enjoy garden tours, pruning demonstrations, flower crafts, games for kids, and live mariachi and jazz music, complements of the Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center. The California African American Museum will offer a collage quilt workshop where children will use fabric to create a Dresden block quilt. The Dresden block, which looks like a flower and symbolizes a wheel, was displayed on quilts during the Underground Railroad to send secret messages to runaway slaves. On Sunday, kids and adults can participate in hands-on lily dissection with the California Science Center to learn the parts of a flower. Rose Garden activities are free and open to the public.

On Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County will celebrate the Fourth Annual Blooming of the Roses Festival with in-depth flower discovery workshops, petal printmaking activities, and plant dissection. Children and adults will explore flower symbols in ancient art, learn from scientists how insects use vegetation, and participate in hands-on activities. The museum will also hold Earth Day activities throughout the weekend, including interactive lectures with live animals and insects, and crafts and story time related to flowers and the environment. The "Be a Super Kid" environmental game will teach children about water use, recycling, and taking care of the Earth. All Natural History Museum activities take place in the Discovery Center and are included with museum admission.

History of the Exposition Park Rose Garden

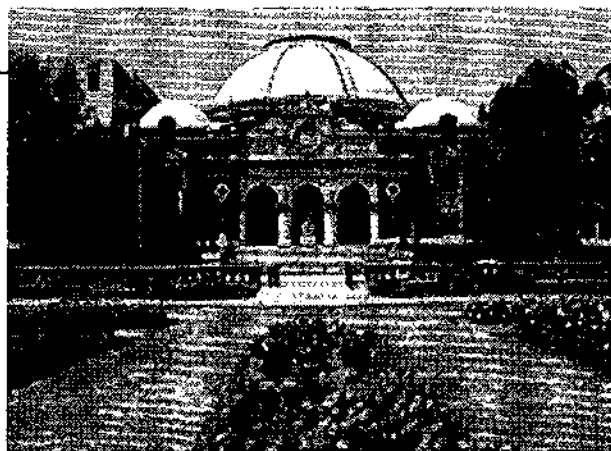
The Exposition Park Rose Garden is the largest public garden in the County of Los Angeles and has more than 7,000 rosebushes and 145 varieties of roses. The city's parks department built the Garden in 1926–1928 with the goal of creating "the largest and most magnificent public rose garden in the United States." It was designated a Los Angeles County Point of Historical Interest in 1987. Considered the first municipally operated public rose garden in the country, it is still one of the largest and most beautiful in the U.S. The Rose Garden showcases roses that can be grown at home as well as ones that are popular in flower competitions. It is one of the few public gardens in the nation that All American Rose Selections, Inc., donates its new, award-winning rose cultivars to each year so that garden enthusiasts can view them and decide whether or not to grown them in their own gardens.

Located in the southern part of the historic, central core of Los Angeles, Exposition Park is home to a variety of wonderful museums, attractions, and recreational facilities, including the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and Swim Stadium, which hosted the Olympics in 1932 and 1984, the California Science Center and its Air and Space Museum, the California African American Museum, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center, the Los Angeles Sports Arena, and the Exposition Park Rose Garden.

The venerable Figueroa Corridor area is home to one of the richest collections of historic buildings and residences in Los Angeles, such as the Automobile Club of Southern California, the Felix the Cat sign atop the Chevrolet dealership, and the West Adams and St. James Park neighborhoods. Architectural styles of area buildings include Classical, Queen Anne, Chateausque, Mission Revival, and Mid-Twentieth Century Modern.

This is the fourth year the Figueroa Corridor Partnership Business Improvement District and area stakeholders have sponsored the Rose Garden's spring celebration, which is attended each year by rose lovers of all ages. The Festival has become one of the Partnership's ongoing efforts to promote positive awareness of the area and to enhance community and economic development. The Figueroa Corridor Partnership BID is responsible for the daily management and promotion of the Figueroa/Flower/Vermont Corridor, linking downtown Los Angeles to Exposition Park. It is committed to the development of a safe, clean, attractive, and economically vibrant environment in which to conduct business, continue an education, visit a museum, attend a sporting event, worship, or reside. ●

Fourth Annual Blooming of the Roses Festival Partners: Figueroa Corridor Partnership Business Improvement District – www.figueroacorridor.org; Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center/Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles – www.laparks.org; California Science Center – www.casciencectr.org; California African American Museum – www.caam.org; Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County – www.nhm.org. **General Information:** 213-746-9577, www.figueroacorridor.org



In the Garden

The Garden Guy by Steve Rowe

April greetings, Gardeners! The rains have come, the sun is shining and spring has sprung! Time to get out the garden tools!

If anything in Nature can be described as magical, it has to be water. For without it, where would we be? Where would our beloved gardens be? From the sound it makes as it gently cascades over moss-covered rocks in a woodland stream, to its glimmer as it catches the noon-day sun. Or the way it captures and reflects moonlight and our imagination, water, glorious water's shimmer and sounds, has delighted and cast its spell upon humankind throughout history. From the perfected balance of water, stone, plants and trees of the ancient Chinese, to the Pompeian-Romans' use of pools and fountains, humans over the millennia have molded and refined a myriad and ingenious number of ways to bring water into our lives.

Quiet and reflecting, or bubbling and cascading, water through whatever medium still has the power to enthrall and bring us its energy, calming effects and its old-world charm into the garden. Whether reflecting clouds in the sky, a garden sculpture, or the leafy canopy above, a garden pool will in effect present itself to caprice and whim. Always delighting, never disappointing.

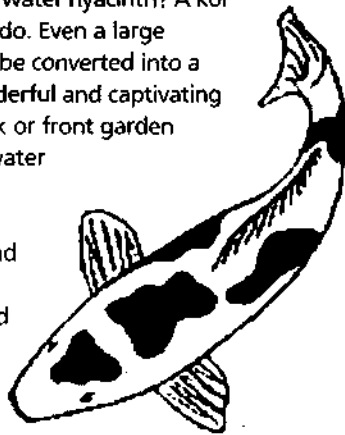
The cooling and calming effect of a garden fountain, waterfall or pool is as welcome today as it was in ancient times. Water has the ability to calm the nerves and soothe the soul. I for one am filled with peace each and every time I lie by our koi and reflecting pond. Doing so has the amazing ability to help lower blood-pressure and instill a sense of well being.

Although there are very few of us who have the desire and the room to build a full-scale pool, a water feature should play a part within your garden scheme. From something as simple as a tasteful birdbath up to a full-length swimming pool, a water design element can prove an essential element for any garden. Why not try a tub garden replete with lily pads and water hyacinth? A koi pond, big or small? A fountain of any size will do. Even a large container pot, usually designed for plants, can be converted into a small water feature. Imagine hearing the wonderful and captivating sound of a fountain emanating from your back or front garden space. There are many ways to incorporate a water feature into your garden plans. Use your imagination and please take the time to find something that best suits your sense of style and needs.

As I always say, a picture is worth a thousand words. Why not get in your car and take a trip to what local gardens we have here in the Southern California. The Arboretum and Huntington Gardens in the Pasadena area have wonderful water garden features, as has the Descanso Gardens in La Canada. There are also many homes here in the Los Angeles basin that have wonderful water features in their front garden spaces. And, don't forget to visit West Adams' gardens during the Open Days tour on April 25 - four of the properties offer water elements. Always take a camera with you and take plenty of pictures. Incorporate others' ideas with yours and make them your own.

In landscaping the duplex that we are restoring, we have come up with a wonderful yet simple design for a fountain to be directly incorporated into the middle of the front walk. I invite you to drive by and take a look. The address is 1617-1619 5th Avenue in Arlington Heights.

I hope you find these useful and helpful water garden ideas for your garden space. Good luck! And always remember, Keep It Green! ●



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A View of West Adams

Presented at Last Month's Preservation Forum

by Corinne Pleger

15 years ago, even 10 years ago, I'd be out somewhere, at a party or professional career meeting, and someone would ask where I live. I'd say "West Adams." "Oh, where's that?"

I would answer, West Adams is:

- A place to honor gorgeous old homes and be a looky-loo
- A place of cultural diversity and neighbors knowing neighbors
- A place where the parties are for the Oscars, birthdays of spouses and houses and celebrations of new kitchens and all in black tie and rhinestones!
- A place where people care about planting trees to beautify their blocks and where vacant lots become parks.
- A place where crack houses become gracious homes, alleys are cleaned up and reclaimed as gardens, an eyesore becomes a community center
- A place where kids can do their homework safely and are taken on fieldtrips to the Hollywood bowl or to the theatre
- A place where animals are saved – Anyone need a kitten?
- A place to hear about new restaurants, recipes or resources
- A place to garden or visit fabulous gardens
- A place to barbeque or survive a barbeque by learning preparedness training and damage control for earthquakes or other disasters
- A place to learn how to make grape jam or how to un jam your windows
- A place to learn the power of a group to stop crime, clean up graffiti, ban drugs save a house, how to work with the city government
- A place to learn the power of an individual to save a house from demolition or mentor a child or put West Adams signs on the freeway.
- A place to learn about HPOZ's, the Mills Act, zoning & planning, and preservation and renovation standards
- A place to learn about history of fascinating people from a cemetery
- A place to get to know our council offices and our police officers
- A place to provide noon meals to people on Skid Row
- A place to welcome out-of-area visitors to our Historic-Cultural Monuments and HPOZ's, preservation conference, garden tours and house tours
- A place where awards are won by individuals, in community action, for historic preservation and even for costuming
- A place to get – West Adams Matters – the best newsletter in the country that chronicles our successes and challenges
- A place to make friends

So now when I say that I live in West Adams, they reply – "I know where that is!" ●

We support preservation of the West Adams community's architectural heritage and beautification activities, and seek to educate Los Angeles' citizens and others about cultural heritage and restoration techniques.



2263 S. Harvard Boulevard
Historic West Adams
Los Angeles California 90018
323-735-WAHA (323-735-9242)
www.neighborhoodlink.com/la/westadams

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Harold Greenberg, <i>Legal Advisor</i>	323-732-9536
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WAHA COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND STANDING MEETINGS

All WAHA members are encouraged to join a committee.
(All committee meetings begin at 7 pm on the days noted below.)

Community Relations

Meets the second Tuesday of each month -
Contact Jennifer Charnofsky if you'd like to get involved with this activity 323-734-7391

Historic Preservation

Chair: Jean Frost 213-748-1656

Zoning & Planning

Chair: Eric Bronson, 323-737-1163 and Thomas Florio, 213-749-8464. Meets third Mondays at City Living Realty 2316 1/2 South Union

Newsletter

Chair: Laura Meyers 323-737-6146.
Meets second Mondays

Publications

Director: Jean Frost 213-748-1656

Holiday Tour

Chair: Jacqueline Sharps 323-766-8842

Membership

Chair: John Kurtz 323-732-2990.
Meets Wednesday before the WAHA Board Meeting

By-Laws

Thomas Florio 213-749-8464

Web Site

Thomas Florio 213-749-8464

Programs and Events

SeElcy Caldwell 323-291-7484 and
Jean Cade 323-737-5034

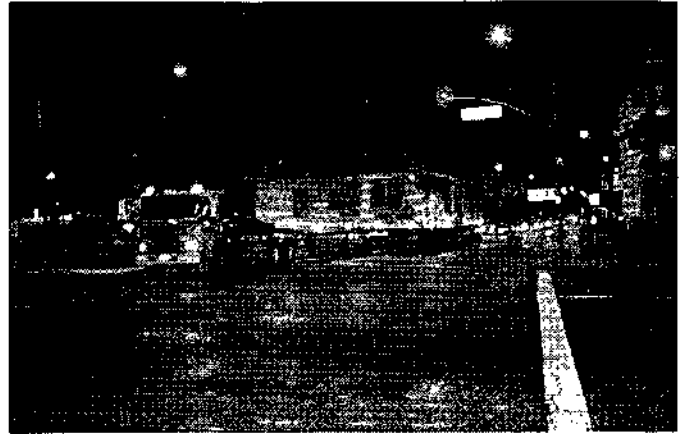
The WAHA Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. Contact Jacqueline Sharps for location.

A Moving Story—In Pictures

Saved from the wrecker's ball — and with only a few mishaps along the way — this lucky cottage was transported away from LAUSD's new high school site at Washington and Vermont to a new home in University Park. The midnight move on March 9 was witnessed by a band of dedicated WAHA preservationists, including photographer Jim Childs.



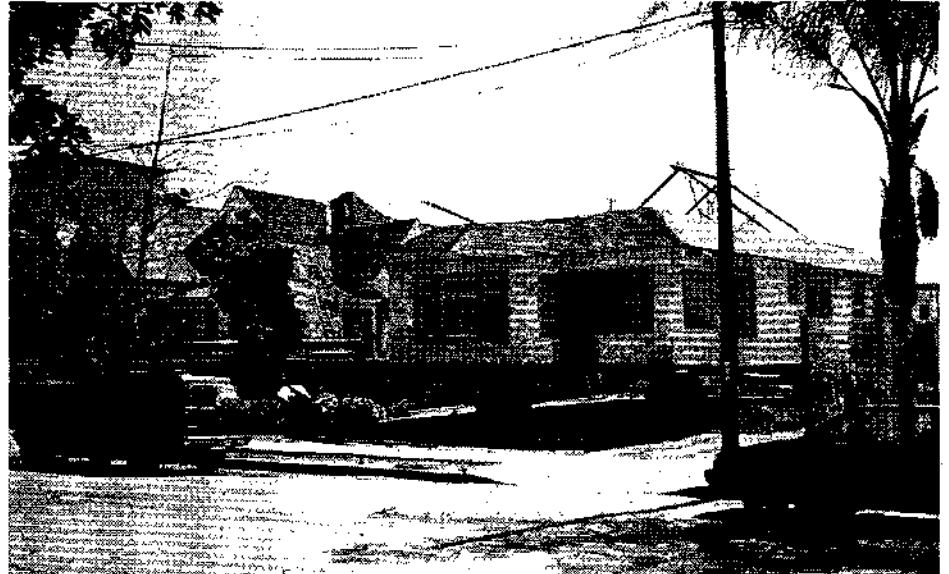
Up, up and away — up on blocks and ready to go.



Keep on truckin' — the first turn at Vermont and Washington at 12:20 am.



Workin' on a chain gang — it's 3:00 am, almost home, but oops, hung up in trees.



Good morning sunshine — early delivery minus a few extra roof parts.

Preservation Matters

UCLA CLARK LIBRARY PURCHASES KEY WILDE MANUSCRIPTS

by Meg Sullivan

UCLA's William Andrews Clark Memorial Library in the Historic West Adams District has acquired a college notebook kept by the 19th-century wit, playwright and cult figure Oscar Wilde, as well as the original manuscript of his homosexual lover's autobiography.

The rare book library boasts the world's largest public collection of works by and about Wilde and has long served as a Mecca for Wilde scholars. "We're really excited about the manuscripts, which will nicely complement our holdings," said Clark Head Librarian Bruce Whiteman. The 280-page, handwritten notebook discusses philosophy and was kept between 1876 and 1878, when the English writer was an undergraduate at Oxford's Madgalen College.

"The notebook has been in a private collection for over half a century, so it has really never been seen by any living Wilde scholar," Whiteman said. "It is extensive and should be very interesting."

The autobiography of Lord Alfred Douglas, entitled "Without Apology," was published in 1938 and is no longer in print. A spate of legal and financial complications stemming from Wilde's homosexuality in general and his relationship with Douglas in particular ultimately bankrupted the writer, who died in Paris in 1900.

The Clark Library hopes to display the works at its annual fundraiser, An Afternoon of Acquisitions, which is scheduled this year for May 2.

The pieces, along with other Wilde treasures, will also go on display Oct. 22 and 23, when the Clark Library plans to mark the 150th anniversary of the author's birth with "Wilde at 150," a scholarly conference devoted to the author's legacy.

The library paid 8,000 pounds for Douglas' autobiography and 58,000 pounds for Wilde's notebook - or a total of about \$132,000 (not including auction fees). The Ahmanson Foundation contributed \$75,000 toward the acquisition. Private donations will cover the rest of the cost.

The late Los Angeles philanthropist William Andrew Clark Jr. was an early champion of Wilde, whose once-bright literary reputation had dwindled by his death. Clark built the library, located in Los Angeles' Historic West Adams District, to house his personal collection of rare books. In 1926 he donated the richly ornamented facility and its contents to UCLA, which annually adds to the collection with donated funds. ●



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AVAILABLE:

West Adams Avenues Romantic Spanish - Eclectic artist compound in West Adams' newest HPOZ. Spacious 1920s duplex used as single family home plus detached art studio/guest house. 4 BD, 2.75 BA. 2535 4th Avenue - David Raposa - Asking \$715,000

IN ESCROW:

Harvard Heights HPOZ Craftsman - David Raposa (Seller)
Unique USC area early "Stick Style" Victorian - David Raposa (Buyer)
Out of Area Residence - Nick Mercado (Seller)

SOLD:

Western Heights Craftsman - 2211 West 21st Street - David Raposa (Seller) - Welcome, Steven Gonzales
Jefferson Park Bungalow - 2358 West 30th Street - David Raposa (Buyer) - Welcome, Brian Hoodenpyle and Skye Payton
Elegant Spanish in Wilshire Park - 945 3rd Avenue - David Raposa (Seller) - Welcome, Sara Kim

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at 2316 1/2 S. Union Avenue, Suite 2, 213-747-1337.

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Saturday: 7:30 am - 2 pm
Sunday: 10 am -12 Noon

Resources by Suzie Henderson

Escutcheons and hinges and doorknobs, oh my! My request last month has elicited some excellent sources for hardware to share with you.

Martin Weil suggests Muff's in Orange. It is a treasure trove of antique hardware, as well as new, and much more. All at prices far lower than our local favorite, Liz's Antique Hardware. They were the only people I have spoken to that not only knew what sort of hinge I was looking for, but had some. Unfortunately not the right size, but I now know I am looking for a pivot hinge. My companion also found the perfect pieces for her needs. If you are looking for something specific, bring in an example. They have a whole basement full of antique hardware that they will search for you.

If you are not familiar with Old Town Orange, you are in for a treat. Numerous antique stores fill the streets around "The Circle," at the intersection of Chapman and Glassell Streets. It is the place I always head for the perfect gift or an afternoon of antiques, so I was amazed that I had never noticed Muff's. There is just such abundance, that I had never made it to that part of the street. You will find everything from architectural salvage to vintage clothing and fabulous estate jewelry. When your energy is flagging, Watson's Drug store has a vintage soda fountain and is always a fun stop. Martin's other suggestion is Architectural Detail. Talk to Skip or his wife for that hard to find item. Or Katie suggests that Merritte's will cast new hardware using your original. She has not tried them yet.

Another old favorite is Crown City Hardware, which has a large selection of new hardware suitable for our houses. On the Web, check out the great selection at Van Dyke's Restorers.

As always, you can reach me at WestAdamsGoddess@AOL.com. Happy hunting, Suzanne ●

Architectural Detail

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626 844-6670

Liz's Antique Hardware

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323 938-4403
www.shop@lahardware.com

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www.muffshardware.com

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1047 N. Allen
Pasadena, CA 91104
626 794-1188
www.CrownCityHardware.com

VanDyke's Restorers

www.vandykes.com

Merritte's


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Behind the Garden Gate

continued from page 1

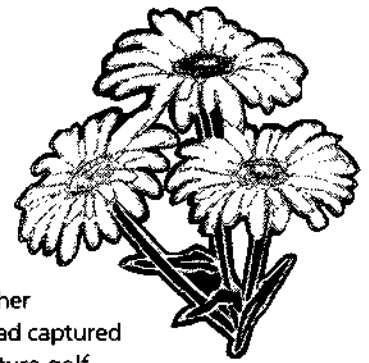
are displayed on a slatted pergola that also serves to divide the garden into rooms. John Arnold's Jefferson Park bungalow garden features native plants, wildflowers and a colorful folk art koi pond built in 1947. And, at the nearby "Rory Pines" Invitational Links, the garden shares space with a classically inspired miniature golf course.

"Not many people know this, but miniature golf was first invented in the 1920s," observes "Rory Pines" owner Rory Cunningham. "The first time a true miniature golf course with cutesy golf hazards was utilized was in 1926 at the Fairyland Resort in Rock City, Georgia. The owner's wife designed it for her own amusement, but also for all the other golf 'widows' and their children." By 1931, miniature golf had captured the nation's attention, especially in Southern California. In Hollywood alone, there were 300-plus miniature golf courses; Los Angeles County as a whole had 4,600. "It became an obsession, for everyone from rich to poor," says Cunningham. "But this huge craze – this madness – came and went. By the end of 1931, more than half the courses had closed."

Cunningham recently built his own six-hole miniature golf course. "My backyard is so funky, and it has a built-in water hazard," he explains. "It's a great way to entertain. It's silly, silly fun – of course, the golfing is better after a few cocktails. Then it is not an easy par." For the Open Days tour, Art Deco Society members bedecked in proper 1931 sporting attire will help out as volunteers in Cunningham's garden.

Visitors may begin their tours anywhere along the route and simply pay-as-they-go (for instance, you can start at Peace Awareness, where WAHA will have a table), but each day also offers a "lead" house where they can acquire discounted books of tickets (six tickets for the price of five) as well as the 2004 *Open Days Directory*, a soft-cover book that includes detailed driving directions and vivid descriptions written by their owners. On April 25, the lead property is the Ronnie Allumbaugh Gardens at Getty House, 605 South Irving Boulevard, Los Angeles, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (gardens are open until 4 p.m.) On May 8, the lead house is Flower to the People, 2816 Burkshire Avenue, Los Angeles, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. On May 16, begin the tour at the Sunset Magazine's Demonstration Garden at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Gardens, Arcadia, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Open Days are rain or shine -- no reservations required. Call 1-888-842-2442 or visit the Garden Conservancy and its Open Days Program online at www.gardenconservancy.org.

The Garden Conservancy introduced the Open Days Program in 1995 as a means of introducing the public to gardening, providing easy access to outstanding examples of design and horticultural practice, and proving that exceptional American gardens are still being created. The Open Days Program is America's only national private garden-visiting program, and is made possible by the work of hundreds of volunteers nationwide. If you'd like to be a WAHA volunteer in a West Adams garden, please contact Jennifer Charnofsky at jcharnofsky@earthlink.net or 323-734-7391. We need knowledgeable garden buffs to be docents in the gardens, as well as ticket takers and a few house and architecture docents. If you'd like to volunteer in West L.A., Pasadena or, on April 25 in Larchmont or the Hollywood Hills, please e-mail Judy Horton, jmhorton@earthlink.net. ●



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MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The following companies and organizations offer discounts to WAHA members. Remember to show your WAHA membership card when you make your purchase.

Best Lock and Safe Service contact: David Kim
2203 W. Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, 323-733-7716
10% discount on lock and safe labor and materials

Washington Dog & Cat Hospital
1692 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007, 323-735-0291
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Meyers Roofing
5048 W. Jefferson Blvd., 323-733-0188
10% discount

Lighthouse Stained Glass
5155 Melrose, 323-465-4475
20% discount off regular class prices with WAHA membership card

Cafe Club Fais Do Do
5257 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016, 323-954-8080
No cover charge at door

Lady Effie's Tea Parlor
453 East Adams Boulevard, Los Angeles, 213-749-2204
10% discount on all food purchases

Lucky Chimney Sweep Contact: Susan and Alfredo Johnson
4008 College Crest Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90065, 323-258-0828

Magic Care Termite Service
1840 W. 220th St., Suite 320, Torrance CA 90501, 310-548-6700.
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(hours: by appointment only)
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A CALL TO MEMBERS

If you frequent a local business — retail store, restaurant, service provider, etc. — ask them if they would like to offer a discount to WAHA members. Explain that they would benefit from the increased exposure to many local consumers, and would be listed monthly in the WAHA newsletter. Or, call me at 323-733-6869 and I would be happy to contact them.
— Steve Wallis

Membership Application

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Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

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Please make check payable to WAHA.

Return to: WAHA
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Historic West Adams
Los Angeles, CA 90018

_____ Please DO NOT include my name, address, e-mail, or telephone in the WAHA membership directory.



Community Matters

Around the Blocks

Budlong, Juliet & Catalina Neighborhood Association

You're invited to the unveiling of the community mural project, "Evolution of a Community," located directly across the street from Salvin Elementary School, 1925 Budlong Avenue. The ceremony will be held on April 24 from 1-3:00 p.m. This project is sponsored by the Budlong, Juliet & Catalina Neighborhood Association, the City of Los Angeles' Department of Public Works, through the Neighborhood Matching Grants program, and co-sponsored and located in Councilman Ed Reyes' District 1. "Evolution of A Community" is an original design by artist Tomashi Jackson, community-artist and educator.

The BJC Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit organization striving to celebrate and preserve the unique culture and history of the West Adams historical area. The BJC works to improve the quality of life in our community through education and charitable giving programs. "Evolution of a Community" is intended to serve as a catalyst for community beautification and empowerment. Depicting actual community members, the mural seeks to instill a sense of pride and ownership within the neighborhood. The artist has created a living work of art that both honors and celebrates the people in our community. The unveiling will be accompanied by an array of poets, musicians, artists and speakers.

To support this event, we are requesting monetary donations! To do so, please refer to our Federal Tax ID number 36-4507540 and make checks payable to: The Budlong, Juliet & Catalina Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 19875, Los Angeles, California 90019. Each donation will be recognized in the program and is tax deductible. ●

West Adams Avenues Neighborhood Association

Come out and meet your neighbors in celebration of the one-year anniversary of the renaming of the Benny H. Potter West Adams Avenues Memorial Park, located at 25th Street and Second Avenue., Saturday, April 10 - 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The fun-filled day will include family entertainment, food and games, live music and an Easter Egg Hunt at the South Seas House (organized by West Adams Heritage). The event is sponsored by United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council, West Adams Avenues Association, and the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department.

For more information, contact Albert Lord at 323-766-1674. ●

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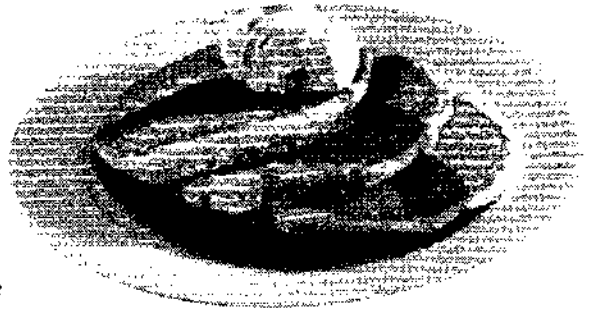
News from 31st Street - Jefferson Park

Sherwin Williams Painters' Breakfast - by Lisa Auerbach

Those of us deep into painting projects have been visiting the local Sherwin Williams paint store to stock up on a weekly, sometimes daily, basis. The store showed their appreciation for our frequent visits by inviting us to their annual "Painter's Breakfast" on St. Patrick's Day.

Our 31st Street delegation arrived early enough to score some of the charred carné asada, which we snarfed up with tasty omelettes, fluffy pancakes, and hash browns and sausages. The meals were cooked by Sherwin Williams' regional and city mangers, to the delight of store manager Donald, who could be seen mingling with professional painters and manning the store while much eating was being accomplished in the paint warehouse. Outside, near the dedicated carné asada smoking BBQ pit, sales reps from various companies showed off products of possible interest to the gathering.

Absent from the festival was Martha Stewart, who has her own line of SW Paints, but her influence could certainly be tasted in the delicious foods and the tasteful transformation of paint warehouse into a most welcoming cookhouse. ●



Empowerment Congress N.C.

The Empowerment Congress, North Area Neighborhood Development Council now has an address! Just address any mail to NANDC or Empowerment Congress, North Area Neighborhood Development Council at:

P. O. Box 7223 Los Angeles, CA 90007

You may also contact us by sending an email to: Maggi Fajnor, Secretary at maggi2003@sbcglobal.net

NANDC's Ad Hoc Land Use & Planning Committee is sponsoring a forum for public comment on the proposed Mary McLeod Bethune Library Relocation. The forum will be held May 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the University Village Food Court, 900 block of Jefferson Boulevard, at Hoover. ●

Exploring the Heights *continued from page 1*

Arlington, Virginia) served as a catalyst for naming not only Arlington Avenue – which was the city boundary until 1906 – but also the Arlington Heights Building Company, which actively developed much of the first housing in the area. Various real estate developers laid out a series of subdivisions with the "Arlington" name, including Arlington Heights Extension and Central Arlington Heights.

On **Saturday, June 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, West Adams Heritage Association presents "Exploring the Heights," a tour of the homes and other architecture that make up Arlington Heights, Angelus Vista and West End Heights. The net proceeds have been designated to help fund a survey of the historic properties in these neighborhoods.

Much of the housing constructed between 1905 and 1915 was characterized by speculator-built residences, designed for Los Angeles' burgeoning middle class of merchants and professionals. But in this period, too, the proximity of this community to the Los Angeles Country Club (the links were just north of Pico, and the club house was constructed at the corner of Pico and Western) and the famed Harvard Military Academy (located on the current site of Food-4-Less) was an attractive draw for wealthier Angelenos, who built mansions on Manhattan Place, St. Andrews, Gramercy Place, and Wilton Place.

Today, there are 1,400+ residential structures in the area within these boundaries. Of these, about 725 homes and apartments are intact (in terms of exterior architectural details) contributing structures constructed from the 1890s until just before World War II, and another 500 or so homes, duplexes and small apartments appear to be altered period buildings. There are another half dozen or so intact post-war "atomic age" structures. Fewer than 200 residential buildings are clearly non-contributors built after the period(s) of significance and without individual architectural merit.

Clearly, our surveying work is cut out for us! In April, WAHA members and friends will receive a postcard mailing inviting them to take the tour. But please mark your calendars now. Advance ticket purchases are discounted to \$15, though tickets will also be sold on the day of the tour for \$25.

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Laura Meyers, 323-737-6146 or lauramink@aol.com, or Steve Rowe, 323-733-9600 or Rowesb@aol.com. Also contact Steve if you'd like to advertise in the tour brochure. And watch this space next month for more details about the tour. ●

WAHA classifieds

ADVERTISE HERE!

To place a display ad, call Jean Cade 323-737-5034. WAHA classifieds are free to paid members. If you can, please e-mail your classified ad to lauramink@aol.com. Classifieds will be for one month only. If you wish to repeat your ad, please call Jean Cade by deadline. After 3 issues for the same ad, the charge is \$.25 per word.

ADVERTISING RATES

FOR DISPLAY ADS

This Newsletter is published 11 times a year
Full Page: \$175 monthly; \$1,800 annually
Half Page: \$90 monthly; \$950 annually
1/4 Page (4 1/2 x 4 1/2): \$48 monthly; \$500 annually
Business Card (2 3/4 x 2 3/4): \$25 monthly, \$260 annually
The deadline for ad content is the 1st of the prior month.

Please Note: WAHA does not endorse or claim responsibility for any of the services, products or items for sale that advertisers have listed in these pages.

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Open Your Doors To The World! Homestay situations wanted for international students from Asia, Europe, and South America. They pay \$750 per month for a furnished bedroom and house privileges, light breakfast, and supper. Most would like to have opportunities to speak English with their host(s). If you have extra rooms in your house and would be interested in boarding one or more of these students, please contact Peter Lownds at 213/386-1634 plownds@ucla.edu.

House for rent in West Adams. 3015 La Salle. Two-story Victorian-Craftsman crossover. Really nice place. 1.5 bath; new roof; 3 bedrooms upstairs and a living room dining room with pocket doors down. Big fenced yard and garage. Available April. \$2,000 a month. Phone Jane, 323-735-8216; cell 818-943-5650.


For Sale: never used Chandelier—silver rust finish, Segundo Captivo style, glass white alabaster shades, 40" high x 44" wide, holds 18 bulbs. To view, input in Google "Forecast Lighting FOR-FDS790-65." Won on public radio auction but way too big for my bungalow. Retail for \$1800+. Will sell for \$600. 323/737-9367.

For Sale: pet door for sliding glass doors. Small dog size. Used 3 months. \$45. 323/737-9367.

Help Brenna Bronson's School - Please consider helping WAHA kids' schools (at no cost to yourself!) by buying "scrip" gift cards and registering your grocery cards. To help Pacifica Community Charter School (which serves a number of West Adams folks as students and faculty), please call me with your Ralph's, Von's, or Albertson's club card number and a percent will go to Pacifica every time you swipe. How painless! Also I can deliver prepaid gift cards ("scrip") for Home Depot, Smart + Final and Whole Foods (and many other big stores) and a percent goes to the school. To help other WAHA schools check with other parents about whether their kids' schools are selling scrip for fund raising. - contact Darby Bayliss and Eric Bronson 323-737-1163, darberic@earthlink.net


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Roommate Wanted? Vintage Stove for Sale? Garden Plants in Search of New Home? Place your classified ad here to reach preservation-minded readers. Contact wahaclassifieds@yahoo.com NO LATER THAN the first of the prior month.



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VOLUNTEER...WHO, ME? YES...YOU!

WHAT: THE CALIFORNIA PRESERVATION FOUNDATION CONFERENCE
WHEN: APRIL 28-MAY 1, 2004
WHERE: THE PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO OFFICER'S CLUB
WHY: TO HELP PRESERVE CALIFORNIA'S HISTORIC TREASURES

The California Preservation Foundation (CPF) is the only statewide, non-profit organization working to ensure that California's diverse historic resources are identified, protected and celebrated for their history and role in California's economy, environment and quality of life. Each year, CPF selects a conference city with outstanding examples of California's architectural heritage to showcase both the many treasures that are being preserved and the statewide resources available to preservation-minded citizens. This year, the conference headquarters will be the Presidio of San Francisco.

More than 500 representatives from all walks of California's preservation community will attend the conference workshops, tour the area, listen to experts on historical, cultural and architectural preservation and enjoy special events in historic venues. This four-day event is a highlight of the year for architects, engineers, entrepreneurs, government officials, representatives of preservation organizations and interested individuals.

This year's conference is co-hosted by the California Preservation Foundation, The Presidio Trust, the National Park Service, the Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association, the San Francisco National Maritime Museum, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and many others.

For more information on this year's conference or to obtain a registration brochure, please contact the California Preservation Foundation at (415) 495-0349 or www.californiapreservation.org.

BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTEERS: Learn more about Historic Preservation! Volunteer for as little as 1 hour or up to 4 days. All volunteers may attend the educational sessions for free, based on the number of hours volunteered! There are a variety of jobs including Conference registration, workshop monitors, bus tour assistants, special events, ticket taking and more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VOLUNTEERING, PLEASE CONTACT:

KATHLEEN FORREST, THE PRESIDIO TRUST

34 GRAHAM STREET, P.O. BOX 29052 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94129

PHONE: 415-561-2758 FAX: 415 561-2790 EMAIL: KFORREST@PRESIDIOTRUST.GOV

Volunteer orientation sessions will be held from 2-3pm and 5:30-6:30pm on April 14 at the Chapel of Our Lady (45 Moraga St) at the Presidio. Please attend!

VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM

29th Annual California Preservation Conference, Presidio of San Francisco, San Francisco, California
 April 28-May 1, 2004

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____ E-MAIL _____ CELL _____

DATES I AM AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER:

Tues., 4/27 1pm-5pm _____ Weds., 4/28 _____ Thurs., 4/29 _____ Fri., 4/30 _____ Sat., 5/1 _____

TIMES I AM AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER:

MORNING _____ AFTERNOON _____ EVENING (SPECIAL EVENTS) _____

AREAS OF INTEREST TO VOLUNTEER

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- _____ Please list any special talents or conference experience that you may have: _____

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:

Kathleen Forrest, Presidio Trust, 34 Graham Street, P.O. Box 29052, San Francisco, CA. 94129 or FAX: 415 561-2790

QUESTIONS: Call 415 561-2758.

Thank you on behalf of the California Preservation Foundation, The Presidio Trust, The Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association, the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy!
 Volunteer orientation sessions will be held from 2-3pm and 5:30-6:30pm on April 14 at the Chapel of Our Lady (45 Moraga St) at the Presidio. Please attend!

Calendar ✓

Week 2

Wednesday, April 7 - United Neighborhoods NC Planning & Zoning

Thursday, April 8 - Special Hoover PAC meeting RE: proposed USC Events Center (location TBA - contact Jennifer Barrera at CRA, 213-977-1600)

Saturday, April 10 - Celebration in Benny H. Potter Park

Week 3

Tuesday, April 13 - WAHA ELECTIONS & General Meeting

Week 4

Sunday, April 18 - At Home with History HPOZ Tour

Monday, April 19 - WAHA Planning & Zoning Committee

Thursday, April 22 - WAHA Board Meeting

Sunday, April 25 - Garden Conservancy's Open Days in West Adams & L.A.

Celebrate Preservation

WAHA's May General Meeting celebrates Historic preservation Week, and will be held at the landmark Miller-Herriott residence, address West 27th St., the home of Clayton DeLeon, on **Saturday, May 22, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Continental breakfast at 11 a.m., program at noon.



Painting: Jennifer Morey Cunningham, 213-304-0076

Exploring the Heights

Historic Homes & Architecture Tour in Arlington Heights, Angelus Vista and West End Heights
Saturday, June 5

The WAHA Newsletter is a publication of the West Adams Heritage Association. Members and supporters of WAHA are invited to submit articles to the Newsletter. Letters will be published subject to space constraints and will be cut for length if necessary. Articles will be published subject to acceptance by the editors of the WAHA Board. Advertising is subject to the approval of the publishers. Although the Association appreciates its many fine advertisers, the Association does not accept responsibility for claims made by advertisers. Services and products are not tested and appearance of advertising does not imply, nor does it constitute, endorsement by the West Adams Heritage Association. Copyright 2004. All rights for graphic and written material appearing in the newsletter are reserved. Contact Director of Publications for permission.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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