



25 years  
of Preservation

# West Adams Matters

## The Annual Report Issue

### Historic Preservation: The Year in Review

By Jean Frost

Each year in the summer, WAHA prepares an Annual Report for its members, reviewing the past year's activities, our revenues and expenditures, and, especially, our historic preservation and cultural heritage advocacy activities. You'll see the financial annual report on page 8.

WAHA's key advocacy committee is the Historic Preservation Committee. This committee often works jointly with WAHA's Planning & Zoning Committee, as our local issues are often intertwined rather than isolated issues of preservation or planning. Committee members actively stay engaged in commenting on development applications, stay abreast of land use initiatives, respond to issues as they arise, keep track of historic buildings needing to be moved and possible sites to move them to, and keep up to date on changes to California's environmental laws as they relate

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### WAHA Presents the 18th Annual Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery

Saturday, September 27

*A Silent Screen Leading Man of 'North Woods' Dramas, A Medal of Honor Recipient of the Spanish-American War, A Pioneer 19th Century Photographer, A Founder of the University of Southern California, and the Queen of the Fiesta de Los Angeles — All Come to 'Life' at the 18th Annual 'Living History Tour' at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery.*

If you could meet one of the stars of TV's *Amos 'n' Andy*, what would you ask her? Or a 19th century photographer who documented the Navajo in their captivity in 1868 (and Los Angeles's leading citizens of the 1870s)? What can you learn from one of L.A.'s earliest Methodist ministers, or from a heroic Buffalo Soldier? "Meet" them all, and more, when WAHA's 18th annual Living History Tour at historic Angelus Rosedale Cemetery brings them all to "life" on Saturday, September 27.

The Angelus Rosedale Cemetery, one of the city's oldest, most historically significant cemeteries, was founded in 1884, and is now home to many generations of Los Angeles's early citizens, representing every race, faith, and creed.

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### A Stroll Through Wellington Square

Wednesday, August 20 6:30-8 p.m.

The Espresso Cart will be placed at 1915 Virginia Road

Please join WAHA on an Evening Stroll through Wellington Square, which is located just south of Washington and west of Crenshaw Boulevards. Wellington Square was first laid out in 1913 but grew up in the 1920s, and today its gracious blocks are filled with many Spanish, Tudor, Norman and other Revival styles of the period, along with some examples of earlier Craftsman homes.

As you walk through these tree-lined streets, you'll discover a residence that was home to Dorothy Donegan, considered one of America's top jazz musicians, and the longtime home of another musical legend, Evelyn Freeman Roberts, and her husband, Tommy Roberts, the co-founders of the Young Saints Scholarship Foundation.

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## Newsletter Staff

- Laura Meyers**, *Editor and Layout*, ph: 323-737-6146,  
 e-mail: Lauramink@aol.com  
**Jim Robinson**, *Director of Publications*, ph: 213-663-3022  
**Hilary Lentini**, *Art Director*, ph: 323-766-8090,  
 e-mail: hilary@lentinidesign.com  
**Suzie Henderson**, *Resources*, ph: 323-731-3900,  
 e-mail westadamsgoddess@aol.com  
**Jean Cade**, *Advertising Director*, ph: 323-737-5034

## Wellington Square Stroll

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Along with these performers' homes, you'll see current and former homes of actor and comedian Nick Stewart, who played "Lightnin'" on the *Amos 'n' Andy* TV series and was the founder of the Ebony Showcase Theater, and basketball star Lucius Allen, a member of a famed UCLA Bruins team and former Lakers guard. From an earlier era, you'll also discover the home of Norman Ives, a decorated Civil War soldier who later settled in Los Angeles.



Hollywood has come calling many times in Wellington Square, including this summer: on your stroll you'll see a home recently used for a new NBC TV series, *My Own Worst Enemy*, starring Christian Slater.

The Espresso cart will be placed in front of the "Hardman Residence," a striking Spanish Colonial home at 1915 Virginia Road, just off of Washington Boulevard. Owner Georgia Toliver has graciously offered "strollers" a chance to peek inside her home. Other neighborhood homes can only be viewed from the outside -- no open houses.

The Stroll is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Coffee drinks are free to the first 50 "customers." We will have a walking tour brochure and map available for you at the Espresso cart, starting about 6 p.m. Say hello to neighbors, meet new friends, bring out your (leashed) dogs for a walk, and get a close-up look at this wonderful neighborhood. ●



*Dorothy Donegan in WWII*

## *President's Message* by Jim Robinson

I love L.A.'s historic buildings – don't get me wrong. I've even bought and restored a few, and plan to continue doing so. But I always go through a period of reflection – call it an adjustment of perspective – when I return from a vacation in one of the great cities of Europe.

This time it was two weeks in Budapest, one-time second-capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It's a city whose historic cathedrals and palaces have been blasted and burned for centuries – by Turks, by Austrians, by Germans, by Russians. Some of the newcomers came as invaders and some as liberators. But the liberators liked Budapest so much that they stayed around, in charge, for decades – or centuries.

From time to time, a new Hungarian independence movement would emerge, battles would ensue, and more historic buildings would fall. Yet over the centuries, out of the rubble, Hungarians kept rebuilding. The result is a city that dates its founding back to 896, but whose grandest structures were largely built in the late nineteenth century – or rebuilt in the decades following World War II.

The ornate Royal Palace that dominates the Buda side of the Danube (they call it the *Duna*) River has been destroyed many times, most recently when the Russians drove out the Germans in 1945. Though you would never know it, the current palace is a 20th century recreation of the Habsburgs' 19th century version. Ironically, the rebuilding uncovered the foundation of a 15th century Gothic palace – one of many predecessors – and those also are on display.

This sort of layered history occurs throughout the central city, as each rebuilding added elements of its own architectural period. So a church whose roots date to between the 13th and 15th centuries has been rebuilt as Baroque, restored as Neo-Gothic, and retains elements of its 16th century conversion by the Turks into a Great Mosque. (More than 100 years later, the Austrians reconverted it back to Catholicism.)

It's a heady feeling, walking through block after block of Budapest's historic core. Almost every structure, even the most mundane, would be praised as a landmark if it stood in Los Angeles. Our own Pico House, on the historic L.A. Plaza, would go unnoticed among its grand Budapest contemporaries.

And so, after two weeks, I return to Los Angeles, and resume my role in preserving buildings whose history dates back a century or less, whose facings are of fir rather than marble, and whose decorations are ceramic tile rather than sculpted stone and bronze.

I force myself to recalibrate. Then I begin to reflect.

OK, maybe WAHA will never get to save a medieval cathedral or imperial palace. But maybe the work we do matters MORE because we're up against tougher odds. Let's face it, although WAHA has made plenty of progress in 25 years, the concept of preserving what's old is a harder sell in Los Angeles than it seems to be in Budapest. We don't have a tradition of preservation, so we have a lot more educating to do. Our city's history is shorter, so we have fewer historic buildings to save. And our city was small and less important, so our older buildings are smaller and less impressive.

All those factors work against us, but they're all the more reason to protect what we can. We may not save a palace, but if we succeed, perhaps tourists from Budapest will one day travel to West Adams to see what an American Craftsman neighborhood looked like in the early 20th century.

*Jim Robinson can be reached via e-mail, [jghrobinson@ca.rr.com](mailto:jghrobinson@ca.rr.com).*

## **WAHA Paint & Garden Contest Winners**

Each year, WAHA looks for the best new exterior paint finishes in the West Adams area and the most spectacular gardens among us. At WAHA's Annual 4th of July Picnic, we oohed and aahed over the best gardens and new exterior paint jobs.

At the same event, attended by several hundred West Adams friends and family members, we also had a chance to bid on some great gifts and prizes, and we'd like to thank our donors.

But first, the Paint & Garden Contests winners are:

### **Garden Contest**

**FIRST PLACE:** John Arnold at 2166 W. 30th St. for his "Native Plant Xeriscape Garden." This garden is the perfect compliment to the craftsman bungalow as well as being a beautiful and environmentally friendly.

The other two award winning gardens belong to:

Vern Maden at 2500 10th Ave. for his "Wildflower Meadow" which demonstrates that it does not require a large investment of money to turn a plain yard into a colorful, interesting and joyful garden landscape. His side garden of vegetables shows a garden that can be delicious and beautiful.

Corinne and David Pleger: 1546 4th Ave. for the "Mature, Traditional gardens" with the trees they planted years ago and more recently as well as the flowers and vine covered pergola of the backyard.

*(continued on page 13)*



*Corinne and Dave Pleger were finalists in both the paint and garden contest categories*

# Around the House

## Resources *By Suzanne Henderson*

This month I have a diverse group of recommendations. We are always trying to anticipate all of your needs.

For appliance repair, I have two recommendations. Marianne uses the Appliance Doctor for all of her needs. Jennifer recommends Jim Faber at Western Appliance Repair for small appliance repair.

From Natalie Neith, we have a fun downtown resource, Pussy & Pooch. She says that it's a total spa experience for pets. They offer all kinds of products and services for your furry companions. Their do it yourself bathing facility includes shampoo, conditioner, cologne, etc. You can add-on such items as blueberry facial! They also sell all sorts of delightful pet items, such as modern pet furniture, stylish pet accessories, organic pet food and premium spa products. They also do social events for pets and their people. They have recently added vet service, as well!

Art Curtis has recommended a reliable resource that we hope you don't need to use, Oriental Bodyshop, Inc. He says that Byung Keun Yun gave them an estimate and told them, that it would be a week in the shop. He stayed with his estimate and one week later the car was polished, washed and ready to go. He only works as a body shop and that allows him to focus on quality work.

Art also recommends the house cleaning service of Blanca Perez, a recently sworn in U.S. citizen. He says that this hard worker charges between \$90.00 and \$100.00 for a day of cleaning. She is energetic and positive. She has worked mostly in the Westside but would like to move more of her business closer to her home in this area.

I await your recommendations and stern warnings at WestAdamsGoddess@aol.com. Stay cool and enjoy the rest of your summer. Thank you, Suzie ●

### Appliance Doctor

818-505-8885

### Oriental Bodyshop, Inc.

2851 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90006

Contact: Byung Keun Yun, 323-737-3436

### Blanca Perez

Cell 323-236-2780

Home 323-732-9160.

### Pussy & Pooch Pethouse & Pawbar & Bathhouse

564 S Main St. LA 90013

213-438-0900

www.PussyandPooch.com

### Western Appliance Repair

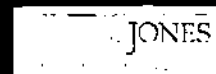
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## Saturday in the Park



### Saturday in the Park

*Country Club Park's Annual Neighborhood Street Festival*

*Saturday, August 23, 12 to 4 p.m.*

*West 12th Street, between Westchester Place and 3rd Avenue*

Everyone is invited to the Country Club Park Neighborhood Association's Third Annual Street Festival. There will be live music and fun for all, including face painting for kids, henna artistry for young and old alike, a rock climbing wall, train rides, and so much more. Community organizations (including WAHA) will have booths there as well. Admission is free, and vendors will have food for sale. Country Club Park is providing funds for its historic resources survey, so that it can become one of the West Adams area's newest HPOZs. This annual festival is one of the ways the neighborhood both raises funds and raises awareness about the importance of historic preservation. Please do come support their efforts — and have fun, too! ●

### MacGowan Residence Open House

*Saturday, August 23 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

*3726 West Adams Blvd. (between Arlington and Crenshaw)*

One of Historic West Adams' most impressive landmarks has undergone a four-year picture-perfect restoration, and now WAHA members are invited to a special open house at the MacGowan Residence hosted by the Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness on Saturday, August 23. Light refreshments will be served.

Important note: This is NOT a WAHA-sponsored event NOR an open invitation, and RSVPs are politely requested; our hosts really need to know the numbers. Contact via e-mail only [WAHAholiday@aol.com](mailto:WAHAholiday@aol.com).

The MacGowan Residence, Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument No. 479, was designed by architects Hudson and Munsell and erected in 1912. It has received a California Preservation Foundation 2008 Design Award for Restoration. The project team included Drisko Studio Architects, Paul W.

Speer Construction, landscape architect Katherine Spitz & Associates, structural engineer Melvyn Green & Associates, and architectural conservator Griswold Conservation Associates LLC, among many other restoration/preservation specialists. WAHA's own Martin Eli Weil, architect, served as a historic preservation consultant, along with Historic Resources Group. ●



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# The Annual Report Issue

## Historic Preservation Year in Review

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to historic properties. Importantly, the Historic Preservation Committee also spearheads the designation of historic resources, working with WAHA members and, at times, preparing nominations.

This year, WAHA's Historic Preservation Committee succeeded in influencing changes to the proposed revisions to the City's historic preservation ordinance, which is still undergoing review. WAHA prepared a well-received PowerPoint presentation that asked the question, "What Is Integrity?" WAHA's concern with the original proposed ordinance language was that many of our local landmarks were not well-restored at the time of their nomination and/or retain alterations even today. However, WAHA position is that Los Angeles has a "Historic" and "Cultural" landmark ordinance (not just "architectural merit") and as such significance can not be solely measured by how beautiful a building is (though we do, of course, support landmark nominations based on architectural merit.) Many of WAHA's advocacy efforts over the years have been related to buildings and sites important in the history of West Adams and Southern California.

The Historic Preservation Committee traditionally hosts a May preservation meeting for all WAHA members, with a program highlighting current historic preservation topics. This year's Preservation Month celebration, held at the Union Theater, A.K.A. the Valaslavasy Panorama, noted the fact that 2008-2009 is WAHA's 25th Anniversary year. The presentation featured 25 years of WAHA's Preservation gains and losses.

The past year has been one of ongoing efforts with some mixed results. WAHA routinely comments on any circulated environmental document affecting West Adams and adjacent neighborhoods. A committee member does the initial drafting, the committee reviews the position(s) points, and after review by two other Board Members in addition to the Chair, comment is submitted to the "lead agency," be it the City of Los Angeles, the Community Redevelopment Agency, or other jurisdictional entity. The Committee reports regularly to the WAHA Board at its monthly meetings. The source of the environmental documents is often the City of Los Angeles Planning Department web site, notices in newspapers, a neighborhood council member, or a WAHA member. (Please note: You are our eyes and ears in your neighborhood. In many cases, only residents within a 100-foot to 500-foot radius of a property, depending on the type of case, will receive a hearing notice. If YOU receive such a notice, please do contact WAHA right away and let us know.)

2007-2008 was a year of transition, building on initial progress, and coping with the development frenzy witnessed along certain key corridors, particularly Washington Boulevard and Figueroa. For example, we are working toward a solution to move several residences (including the John Marcellus Stewart Cottage) that will give way eventually to transit-oriented housing planned for the Figueroa Corridor.

The inadequate EIR for the Gateway project (the 1,600-bed student housing project at Figueroa and Jefferson) was the object of a CEQA lawsuit, which was settled without obtaining significant improvements in design or mitigations to impacts to the surrounding low rise and historic residential areas. This constitutes a historic preservation loss. WAHA was not a party to the lawsuit, but did support the position that the EIR was inadequate; that there were significant impacts to the landmark Shrine Auditorium and to the neighboring communities which were never mitigated; and in addition to impacts to historic properties, parking, traffic and circulation issues were never fully resolved.

The Historic Preservation Committee also took issue with the City's environmental evaluation of the Bank of Tokyo/Union Bank Building, at Crenshaw and Jefferson. The assessment of its historic importance in the published environmental document, an MND, dealt only with whether this structure was a significant architectural

### **25 Months, 25 Monuments**

#### **WAHA Launches 25th Anniversary Initiative**

WAHA, its members, and many preservation advocates past and present have managed to designate some 125 Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monuments over the past several decades, making West Adams home to the City's largest collection of individual landmarks. But, we say, it's not enough! For our 25th anniversary, WAHA is urging members to nominate 25 MORE Monuments, over the next 25 months. WAHA will provide technical support, education and maybe even prizes! To learn more, contact WAHA Historic Preservation Chair Jean Frost at [jfrost@earthlink.net](mailto:jfrost@earthlink.net). ●

gem, and ignored the importance of the architects, O'Leary and Terasawa, in the Japanese American community and at USC. The environmental documents also entirely dismissed the cultural heritage significance of this bank building as a reflection of the history of the Japanese American community in Jefferson Park, and the role this banking institution played. The City rejected WAHA's position that the MND's assessment was not adequate.

The WAHA Historic Preservation Committee also commented on the Red Oak Project NOP (notice of preparation, i.e. that an EIR is being prepared) and the City seeks comment about the scope of the EIR and what issues the EIR should address. The project is on Figueroa, between St. Vincent's Cathedral and the Stimson Mansion (between Adams and 23rd Street.) Among WAHA's concerns in this case, beyond land use, is that an overscale new building which is not properly sited or set back

# The Annual Report Issue

from Figueroa will have a dramatic negative impact on several historic resources, including the last remaining intact section of Zanja Madre ("Mother Ditch), the historic Stimson Mansion, the landscape elements remaining on the site from its heyday as the Sabichi estate, and on St. Vincent's.

Currently on the historic preservation committee plate is the issue of the MND pertaining to a 41 unit condominium project that failed to address the demolition of the Obee cottage (1408 W. Washington Boulevard) which the City reissued as a

"Reconsideration of Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) No. ENV-2005-7868-MND (REC-1)," on May 22 without publication or recirculation. In it, City staff concluded that "the

structure was not a historic resource [and] there was no impact resulting from its removal." This conclusion is not supported by the preponderance of evidence in the record pertaining to the Obee cottage. The historic assessment which the developer proffered as evidence was provided by investment consultants rather than bona fide historic preservation consultants. Moreover, the City issued its opinion AFTER a California Appellate Court ruling that makes clear that cities must treat as a historic resource any building so declared by its landmarks or cultural heritage commission, regardless of later political action by a City Council. In the case of the Obee Cottage, the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission did vote to designate it as a Historic Cultural Monument. At press time, a hearing on this matter was scheduled for Tuesday, August 19, at the South Los Angeles Area Planning Commission.

WAHA also, more successfully, supported neighbors on Wilton Place in the Angelus Vista neighborhood in their effort to change an approval for a seven-unit

condominium project to be required to be sensitively designed to fit the character of their neighborhood. As proposed, the new building would jut out twenty feet in front of all the other homes and small duplexes/fourplexes on the block, which are set back about 35 feet. In addition, the design of the structure, as shown in the case file, was four or five stories on a block of two-story residences. Not surprisingly, the design was also completely out of character with the existing styles, massing and scale on the block. The South Los Angeles Area Planning Commission, while not adopting every aspect of WAHA's and the neighbors' position, did rule in our favor related to the character of the project. At this point in time, the current developer has decided to not pursue the project; however, the approval of the tract map remains "alive" for anywhere from three to eight years and can be passed on to a later developer, so WAHA will continue to watch this one.

WAHA supported several HCM nominations during this past year. In 2007 WAHA successfully nominated the Waters-Shaw Family Residence, a perfectly-intact 1902 house at 2700 Severance St., near USC's Fraternity Row.

We also supported the nomination of the Felix Chevrolet Sign and Showroom and the supporting documentation from many sources was compelling. The Cultural Heritage Commission declared the Felix Chevrolet Sign and Showroom a monument, only for the Council to decide to receive and file its report rather than take the step of declaring it. Of course, the last determining decision as to its significance is the Cultural Heritage Commission finding, and this has the same effect as if it was declared for the purpose of CEQA. In addition it is a historic resource on the CRA survey for the redevelopment area. The courage of the Commission in the face of the Mayor's opposition (who appoints Commissioners) should be noted. The opposition by the owner against declaration was a hollow victory for the owner, as the process which he must observe for changes to the property is exactly the same as if it had been declared by Council since it is on the Redevelopment Area's official survey.

WAHA had successfully nominated the Joseph Lee Starr Dairy Farmhouse in Jefferson Park in late 2006-early 2007. But soon after that a new owner demolished portions and did significant other work

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*The Cultural Heritage Commission voted to list the Henry Obee Cottage on Los Angeles's roster of Historic Cultural Monuments, but the City Council later used its "discretion" and declined the Commission recommendation.*



# The Annual Report Issue

## Money Matters:

### How Does WAHA Make Its Money?

### How Does WAHA Spend Its Money?

The West Adams Heritage Association (WAHA) is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is supported by the donations and hard work of its members, friends, and many volunteers.

You may be wondering where that effort goes.

In the last fiscal year (May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008) WAHA received income of \$60,348.05 (before expenses) from a variety of sources, principally membership dues, tour ticket sales, and advertising in our publications.

As always, tour revenues provide the bulk of WAHA's revenues, led by the annual Holiday Tour. It earned \$29,825 and netted \$18,843.

As you can see from the Profit & Loss Statement on this page, the combination of expenses for historic preservation advocacy, services to our members, the administrative costs of running an organization, outreach, and education adds up to substantial coin.

In addition, WAHA's publications and website consume a large portion of the organization's monies. The *WAHA Matters* newsletter itself costs about \$900-1,000 for each issue for printing alone, and, with new postal regulations, each individual newsletter now costs \$1 to mail.

When all was said and done at the end of the fiscal year, WAHA spent just under \$57,000, leaving the organization with net income of \$3,629.54.

For more details, please contact WAHA Treasurer Jean Cade. ●

## West Adams Heritage Association Profit & Loss Statement May 2007 through April 2008

[WAHA's accounting is done on an accrual basis]

Income		Expenses (continued)	
Ad Revenue - Newsletter	\$5,285.00	<i>Marketing</i>	
Cemetery Tour	2,824.00	Supplies	\$118.80
Holiday Tour - 2007	29,825.00	Total Marketing	118.80
Interest	1,091.53	<i>Membership</i>	
Membership	19,567.75	Contract Labor - Secretarial	1,185.00
Misc Income	1,754.77	New Members Event	394.05
Western Heights Neighborhood Association	0.00	Postage	607.67
Wilshire Park	0.00	Supplies	1,591.03
Total Income	60,348.05	Membership - Other	9.74
		Total Membership	3,787.49
Expenses		<i>Publications</i>	
<i>Administration</i>		Contract Labor - Designer	830.00
Accounting Services	\$1,500.00	Contract Labor - Editor	1,090.00
Awards	832.18	Contract Labor - Secretarial	135.00
Bank Service Charges	147.40	Newsletter	10,008.15
Board Meetings	1,707.04	Postage	3,394.00
Board Retreat - Consultant	800.00	Supplies	372.27
Computer and Repairs	505.05	Web Site	533.76
Contract Labor - Secretarial Fees	112.50	Publications - Other	18.31
Insurance	3,807.00	Total Publications	16,381.49
Products	725.20	<i>Social/Events</i>	
Seminars & Memberships	49.51	Special Events	1,846.67
Stationary	234.13	Total Social	1,846.67
Storage	2,641.00	<i>Tours</i>	
Telephone	492.40	Cemetery Tour - 2007	3,013.41
Western Heights Association	0.00	Cemetery Tour - 2006	200.00
Wilshire Park	0.00	Holiday Tour - 2007	11,982.11
Total Administration	13,578.41	Photography Tour 2007	20.26
<i>Community Relations</i>		Postage	416.00
Supplies	338.10	Telephone - Tours	312.41
Community Relations - Other	2,271.34	Total Tours	15,944.19
Total Community Relations	2,609.44	Total Expense	56,718.51
<i>Historic Preservation</i>		<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$3,629.54</b>
Supplies	180.00		
Support Nominations	349.63		
Historic Preservation - Other	1,922.39		
Total Historic Preservation	2,452.02		



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## Historic Preservation Year in Review

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without permit. WAHA had been working with the City to resolve this matter. Now the good news: WAHA member David Raposa purchased the Farmhouse in June, and it is now going to be restored.

The HPOZs in West Adams continue to be a key structural element in keeping preservation a priority and insuring that infill properties are developed and properties are rehabilitated pursuant to the Secretary of the Interiors Standards. WAHA continues to identify and support the preservation and relocation when absolutely necessary of historic properties. When a property cannot be maintained and restored on its original site, it can be moved and rehabilitated to an area of similar period, architectural design, and significance. It is the opinion of the City's consultant, Myra Frank (now Jones Stokes) that such relocated properties can contribute to the historic zones when:

*"Structure has been moved from its original site outside the HPOZ and does not contribute to the historic or architectural significance of the HPOZ. [This criterion is self-explanatory, but the resource is not automatically a non-contributor. A moved example that is compatible with its new neighbors could still contribute under a) if it was moved a long time ago or c) if it is better than what a modern replacement at full build-out would be in this location.]"*

Recent relocations include two houses from the area of the West Adams High School on Washington Boulevard and Vermont, which were relocated to the University Park HPOZ and the West Adams Terrace HPOZ. These moves happened because of active WAHA members led by Eric Bronson and Tom Florio interfacing with the LAUSD. This year, a cottage was moved off the site of the new elementary school now under construction on Washington Boulevard west of Arlington to a residential property in the Harvard Heights HPOZ. This move was the culmination of efforts of many WAHA advocates (and United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council members), including Stevie Stern, Roland Souza, Michele McDonough, Stacy Anthony and Eric Bronson, among others.

The WAHA Historic Preservation Committee believes that it is always helpful to designate historic sites and districts before development issues arise. WAHA recently had pending before the State Historic Resources Commission our nomination of the Flower Drive Historic District. Our consultant, Peter Moruzzi of Moruzzi Historic Resources Consulting appeared before the Commission along with WAHA President Jim Robinson and Committee member Mitzi Mogul. The State Historic Resources Commission on July 25 by a vote of 5 to 1 determined that the Flower Drive District was eligible for the California Register of Historic Places (more on this in the next WAHA issue.)

WAHA's historic preservation budget funds nomination and research, appeals, and an annual event. These costs can include consultant costs, Xeroxing, filing fees, travel, and parking. The Committee meets approximately every other month at a time and place to be determined. As Historic Preservation Chair, I rely on an active Committee and also the guidance of WAHA Vice President Eric Bronson. There will be at some point be an issue where WAHA will need to determine, after all administrative remedies are exhausted, whether it is an issue that requires legal action. Such a determination would be made by the WAHA Board with a Committee recommendation. Where and when such an issue may arise remains to be seen. Concerns such as the fate of the historic Washington Irving Library, or the environmental impacts of the proposed Red Oak project, or many of the other unresolved preservation questions may trigger the need for WAHA to evaluate its options. ●



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## Living History Tour

continued from page 1

Every year, West Adams Heritage Association (WAHA) focuses on some of their life stories by presenting a Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery, featuring actor portrayals, graveside, of some of the individuals buried at the cemetery. Through their firsthand words, visitors will experience the many layers of Southern California history, from the 1850s to the 1980s.

This year's Living History Tour will be held on Saturday, September 27, with docent-led tours departing every 25 minutes from 9 a.m. to noon.

Tour participants will meet these historic personages:

- **Monroe Salisbury**, whose rugged good looks and imposing six-foot frame made him perfect as a leading man of Westerns and Northwoods dramas during the silent film era. Salisbury appeared in films produced and directed by Cecil B. DeMille, Jesse Lasky and Carl Laemmle, among others, and appeared in such early films as *Brewster's Millions* and *The Virginian*, before winning fame as Allessandro in 1916's 12-reel epic, *Ramona*.
- **Rev. Asahel Morgan (A.M.) Hough**, one of America's noted "Argonauts of the Spirit," who helped establish the Methodist Church in both Montana and Southern California. He was married to Anna Gould, sister of millionaire railroad tycoon Jay Gould. In Los Angeles, the Houghs became prominent members of society. Rev. Hough invested in real estate, and was one of the founders of the University of Southern California, serving on its first board.
- **Edward Lee Baker, Jr.**, a Buffalo Soldier in the Indian campaigns of the West and a Spanish-American War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. Baker served as a Sergeant Major in the all-Black 10th United States Cavalry, and was awarded his medal for valor under a hail of bullets at Santiago, Cuba, in the battle for San Juan Hill on July 1, 1898. His citation reads: "Left cover and, under fire, rescued a wounded comrade from drowning." Baker's unit was commanded by Lt. John J. "Black Jack" Pershing and served alongside the famed Rough Riders cavalry regiment.
- **Francisca de Paula (Dominguez) Alexander Fleming**. For one glorious week in 1897, Miss Francisca Alexander ruled as Queen of the *Fiesta de Los Angeles*, presiding over parades and fancy balls, in an array of gowns, each one more extravagant than the other. She was the great-granddaughter of Juan Dominguez, the land grantee of both the San Pedro Rancho and the Palos Verdes Rancho (including today's Dominguez Hills.) In the 1850s, her father, Henry Nash Alexander, married Feliciano Dominguez and partnered in real estate investments with fellow pioneer Phineas Banning. *La Fiesta de Los Angeles* was a week-long party that the city threw in its own honor during the 1890s. The Spanish title was reflective of a goal: to capture the color and the aura of old Los Angeles in its days as a pueblo under Mexican rule.

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Monroe Salisbury

- **Valentine Wolfenstein** emigrated to the U.S. from Sweden during the Civil War, and after serving in the Union Army made his way west by wagon train. He learned photography in Las Vegas, New Mexico, was captured by Indians outside of Fort Larned, and found his way to Fort Sumner. There Wolfenstein photographed the Navajo in captivity at the infamous Bosque Redondo, and the signing with General Sherman of the Navajo Treaty of 1868. Wolfenstein is credited with the only known photograph of the Navaho chief Barboncito. By 1870, Wolfenstein owned Los Angeles's first successful photography studio, where he photographed many of the leading personages of early Los Angeles, including members of the Rimpau and Sepulveda families, the City's pioneer rabbi Edelman, and General Andres Pico.

- **Ernestine Wade**, famous old-time radio performer and pioneer black actress best remembered for her role as "Sapphire Stevens" on the comedy *Amos 'n' Andy* radio show (in the 1940s) and subsequent television show that ran from 1951-1953. She was also an accomplished organist and vocalist who did voice-overs in the

animated Disney film *Song of the South*. All her professional life she fought the value of her role as "Sapphire" against those who felt it demeaning to black women, and stereotypical. In a later interview, Wade said: "Actually, I never was of the opinion that there was any intention or projection of racial overtones--not to my way of thinking. Just about everyone who saw the show, regardless of race, creed or color, identified with somebody on the show or knew someone in the family."

Tickets are by advance reservation only, and tour guests are assigned to specific, timed tours with guides. This is an outdoor 3-hour walking tour over uneven terrain, so tour guests are advised to wear appropriate clothing, and walking shoes.

Tickets: \$25 general admission, \$20 WAHA members, PAID BY SEPTEMBER 15. Space available, after September 15, all tickets are \$30. (Children under 10 attend free.) To order tickets in advance, please send a check made payable to "WAHA" to:

**WAHA Cemetery Tour • 2209 Virginia Road • Los Angeles, CA 90016**

Please include an e-mail address or phone number for confirmation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, or to confirm reservations, please call the WAHA Reservations Hotline at 323-732-4223, e-mail [tours@westadamsheritage.org](mailto:tours@westadamsheritage.org), or visit [www.WestAdamsHeritage.org](http://www.WestAdamsHeritage.org).



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

### Silverlake Architectural Salvage

1085 Manzanita Street, Silverlake,  
323-667-2875

20% discount on all purchases

### Ted Gibson, Inc.

2866 West 7th St. Los Angeles 90005,  
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### Best Lock and Safe Service contact: David Kim

2203 W. Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, 323-733-7716

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### Washington Dog & Cat Hospital

1692 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles,  
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### Meyers Roofing

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### Lighthouse Stained Glass

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### Cafe Club Fais Do Do

5257 West Adams Blvd., 323-954-8080

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### Sherwin-Williams

1367 Venice Blvd. 213-365-2471

20% off regular product price (with WAHA discount card)

### Durusseau Electric

2526 W. Jefferson Blvd. 323-734-2424 or  
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### Lady Effie's Tea Parlor

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### Pasadena Architectural Salvage

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## Contest Winners

*continued from page 1*

### Paint Contest:

**FIRST PLACE:** Jenifer and Kim Watson, 2233 West 21st. St., for the transformation of a stucco clad box to a wood, shiplap sided Craftsman gem.

The other two awards go to:

David and Corinne Pleger, 1546 4th Ave., for their well chosen collors and design for their lovely Craftsman.

Julian de la Torre of Julian Construction, 2706 S. Normandie, for his transformation of a much neglected home into a standout Victorian transitional home.

### Silent Auction:

The Silent Auction raied \$295. Contributors and successful bidders include:

- Four sets of (2) Hollywood Bowl tickets contributed by The Hollywood Bowl courtesy of Toni Floyd:

Candy Wynn  
Dorinda Carey  
Janice Robinson  
Raphael Lieberman

- One night at the 657 Inn donated by Patsy Carter  
Amy Vuckovich

- LA Opera Tickets for Madame Butterfly contributed by the LA Opera Co. obtained by Lore Hilburg

- Two books from the Getty Villa Malibu Museum Gift Shop contributed by Lore Hilburg  
Constance Honnib for both ●



*Another Paint Contest winner: Julian de la Torre*



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### AVAILABLE

**Solar & More: Craftsman Bungalow, Jefferson Park** — Extensive woodwork, great period detail, new systems. 3 BD, 1 BA, 2062 West 29th St. \$599,000. David Raposa  
**Kinney Heights Beauty, Coming Soon** — Gardener's delight on oversized lot. \$789,000. Adam Janeiro, 323-401-3952

**Grand Jefferson Park Bungalow** — 2,240 sq ft, 3 BD, 2 BA, liv, dining, library, etc. Biggest bungalow on the block! 2078 West 29th Place. \$619,000. David Raposa

### IN ESCROW

**Harvard Heights Craftsman, designed by Frank Tyler** (Adam Janeiro, seller's agent)

**Adams-Normandie Craftsman** — Great period details, 4 BD, HPOZ. 2317 S. Budlong. \$599,000. (Suzanne Henderson, 323-731-3900, seller's and buyer's agent)  
**Central L.A. Probate** (Nancy Deaven, seller's agent)

### SOLD

**Landmark Joseph L. Starr Farmhouse in Jefferson Park** (LA-HCM No. 865), 2801 S. Arlington. Rescued from a partial demolition and purchased by David Raposa, who is planning a top-to-bottom restoration — another example of our commitment to historic preservation in West Adams.

**Highland Ave. Duplex** (Carlton Joseph, buyer's agent; Nancy Deaven, seller's agent)

**Harvard Heights Craftsman, 1715 Roosevelt** (Adam Janeiro, buyer's agent) — Welcome, Kevin Keller!

**Eco-Conscious Craftsman in Arlington Heights** (David Raposa, seller's agent; Adam Janeiro, buyer's agent) Welcome, John Hindman and Jenny Hager!

**1920s French Period Revival Apartments, 2431 5th Avenue.** Contributing structure to West Adams Terrace HPOZ, in need of TLC, and is about to receive a complete restoration, sponsored by David Raposa.

*David Raposa, Conrado Alberto, Darby Bayliss,  
Nancy Deaven, Jane Harrington, Suzanne Henderson,  
Adam Janeiro, Carlton Joseph*

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- Heritage Circle ..... \$ 250.00
- Patron Circle ..... \$ 500.00
- Benefactor ..... \$1,000.00

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

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.



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**Free firewood for the taking...**already cut up, but we can't use it because our fireplace can no longer function as wood burning! Contact Lana Soroko or Lauren Schlau, 323-735-4464.

**Kathleen Cooper** is an experienced designer and project manager, who specializes in historic homes of West Adams. Free consult, 323-731-6360.

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

## WAHA's Annual No Excuses Calendar

### August:

Wednesday, August 20 — Evening Stroll in Wellington Square

### September:

Saturday, September 13 — WAHA new member event

Saturday, September 27: Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery

### October:

Sunday, October 26 — Frightful Halloween Festival

### December:

Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7 — Holiday Tour

Sunday, December 14 — WAHA Holiday Party

*WAHA's Board of Directors usually meets on the 4th Thursday of the month, at 7 p.m. WAHA members may attend. Check with the WAHA president for specific details of location and date, and/or if you wish to have an item placed on an agenda.*

WAHA....Creating Our Future by Preserving Our Past

# Calendar ✓

## WAHA's Upcoming Events

WAHA events and other programs of interest:

**Wednesday, August 20:**

Evening Stroll in Wellington Square  
(see story, page 1)

**Saturday, August 23:**

A Day in Country Club Park  
(see story, page 5)

**Saturday, September 13:**

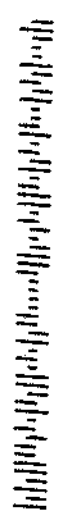
WAHA New Member Dessert

**Saturday, September 27:**

Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery  
(see story, page 1)



**LIVING HISTORY TOUR  
ANGELUS ROSEDALE CEMETERY  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**



*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 2008. All rights for graphic and written material appearing in the newsletter are reserved. Contact Director of Publications for permission.*



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