WAHA Talks Back  by Candy Wynne

A few months ago, we asked WAHA members to take an online survey about our organization, its goals and your expectations. Are you curious about the results? Why did we ask our membership to participate in the on-line survey? What were we expecting? What did we find out?

Before we get to the results, let me tell you a little bit about the thoughts and hopes that were behind the survey. Initially, we were curious about your likes and dislikes about WAHA. Our organization is now nearly three decades old. What, in your eyes, have we accomplished in these close-to 30 years? What was noteworthy? What is WAHA’s mission? What WAHA events do you enjoy? Where can we improve? What would you like to see WAHA focus on, going forward? We want to move in the direction that matters most to you.

Our survey was pretty basic. We asked a total of eight substantive questions. We heard from 90 people, and many of these respondents took the time to not only answer the general questions, but to write out their comments. We were gratified that so many of you shared your thoughts and concerns with us.

“West Adams has the best volunteers in Los Angeles” – that’s what WAHA often hears from other heritage organizations who admire our dedicated crews of historic preservation advocates, community organizers, docent and tour volunteers, green thumbs and “schleppers,” and all of you who show up to support the organization in all of its endeavors.

Over the decades, WAHA members have cleaned up trash-filled lots, painted out graffiti, planted hundreds of trees in their neighborhoods, and supported greening efforts of other organizations like the Garden School Foundation. WAHonians have helped raise funds for the South Seas House, the Richardson Family Park, Gramercy Housing Group and a myriad other good causes. And WAHA’s volunteers have organized and volunteered at tours – so many tours, so many volunteers.

For example, our dedicated Living History Tour team (a group I comparatively recently joined, and which includes Don Lynch, Lyn Gillson, Corinne Pleger, David Saffer, Rory Cunningham, Audrey Arlington, Sally Turner, Cat Slater, Peggy King, (continued on page 17)
TRAILBLAZING WOMEN

Living History Tour On September 25: Year of the Women

If you could meet the suffragettes responsible for women getting the vote, what would you ask them? What if you could interview the first “front page gal” who worked at a Chicago newspaper, in 1878? Or, what would you like to learn from the first African American to win an Oscar, or the first female African American police officer in the nation?

Meet these fascinating females, and more, at WAHA’s annual Living History Tour, which takes place every autumn at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery. Amid the elaborate headstones and monuments, costumed actors bring to life— and tell the often-riveting stories of—a half dozen residents from Los Angeles’ earlier times. This year’s tour is slated for Saturday, September 25, and we invite your participation now as either volunteers or tour-goers.

For 2010, on the eve of the 100th anniversary of women getting the vote in California, we are focusing on pioneering and trailblazing women who, against conventional wisdom, dared to venture in new directions in their lives and in a variety of professions. You’ll meet suffragettes and social reformers, headliners and females who were first in their fields, including:

- **HATTIE McDaniel** – The first African American to win an Oscar, for her role in Gone with the Wind, McDaniel was also a singer, songwriter, comedienne, and later TV star who was also the first black woman to sing on the radio in America.
- **CAROLINE SEVERANCE, CLARA BURDETTE and DORA FELLOWS HAYNES** (founder of the League of Women Voters) – Three important Suffragettes and social reformers who played a key role in women getting the vote in California.
- **MINNIE ROSWELL LANGSTADTER** – In 1878, at age 15-16, Minnie Roswell (aka Minerva Emerick) was the first female newspaper reporter (or “front page gal”) in Chicago.
- **ANNA MAY WONG** – Pioneering Asian-American actress and Hollywood legend.
- **GEORGIA ANN ROBINSON** – In 1916, she became the first black female police officer in Los Angeles and possibly the nation.
- **CLARA BALDWIN STOCKER** – Namesake for a busy L.A. street, she was the heiress to “Lucky” Baldwin’s fortune.
- **NELLIE LUTCHER** – Jazz pianist/vocalist whose bluesy swing riffs won her fame as the “Real Gone Gal” — later, she was a union leader.

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. The Living History Tour was first presented twenty years ago to bring their stories to life and thereby tell the story of Los Angeles itself. In the intervening years WAHA has showcased more than 100 historic personages (mostly men, and this year’s 20th anniversary tour is departing from that tradition to present the distaff side of the cemetery.)

WAHA’s Living History Tour Committee will have regular meetings in August and September to plan and implement all the myriad tasks associated with this tour event, from costumeing and script-preparation to chair and tent rentals. Can you help? Please contact Laura Meyers at lauramink@aol.com, or 323-737-6146, or write tours@westadamsheritage.org.

To attend the tour, visit www.WestAdamsHeritage.org to download the order form. Tickets are by reservation (and advance payment) only, and cost $25 until September 15, and $30 after September 15. (Children under 10 attend free.) Mail your ticket request to: WAHA Living History Tour, 2280 West 21st St., Los Angeles, CA 90018.
President’s Message by John Patterson

In this issue of WAHA Matters – our Annual Report - we review our activities and accomplishments of the past year, and use that information to set our goals for the year ahead. Preservation is always one of our primary goals because of the wonderful historic nature of our neighborhoods. Our most significant advocacy effort in 2009 was the proposed revision of Los Angeles’s Cultural Heritage Ordinance. Several other accomplishments are detailed in separate parts of this issue.

In addition to preservation, an even greater hallmark of WAHA is it’s true sense of community, and it is that characteristic that gives me such great pride to serve as the President of this historic organization. It’s my primary goal this year to focus on that unique spirit of community, the bedrock on which WAHA was founded.

In order to rekindle that spirit, we will have more gatherings such as our blockbuster 4th of July celebration in the beautiful gardens of Rob and Karen Carrere’s home in Gramercy Park. In August, we are bringing back the popular Ice Cream Social, and we have determined to have at least three additional membership gatherings and potlucks throughout the year. I am also determined to make a dedicated outreach to all of our neighborhood block clubs and associations to make sure that WAHA is well informed about what is going on throughout this district.

We are an organization built on our teams of volunteers, who take great pride in our neighborhoods. And if you REALLY want to get involved, we’ve formed a new Membership/Outreach Committee. We’re hoping to eventually build this committee to include a representative from each and every one of our many neighborhood groups. Participation is the only way to be sure that your needs and interests are included in the decision making process. So be sure to let Candy Wynne and Lore Hilburg know that you’re interested (e-mail them at Membership@WestAdamsHeritage.org).

There are countless others who help out each year working on our wonderful historic Tours. We had a great success in June with our “Art in Historic Places” Tour showcasing West Adams artists. We have our Living History Tour coming up in September, and then our always glorious Holiday Progressive Dinner Tour the first weekend of December. Volunteers are always needed for all of these events; so if you haven’t experienced the fun of working on any of these projects, please know that we’d be more than happy to have you join in.

Our vigilant work on preservation issues will of course continue throughout the year. What we are re-adding to the mix is a strong focus on the people themselves, our members who are the real reason that West Adams is such a great area to call home.

John Patterson may be reached by e-mail at President@WestAdamsHeritage.org

Bortfeld Award Presented to Rory Cunningham by John Patterson

For those of you who have been here for all these many years, you will of course remember fondly one of the founding members of WAHA, Bob Bortfeld. Nearly three decades ago, Bortfeld purchased a home in a long-neglected neighborhood. He felt that with strong community activism and a shared love for old houses, West Adams could be one of LA’s best neighborhoods. Well, it’s now 2010, and I would say his vision was 20/20 -- wouldn’t you agree? After Bortfeld passed away in the late 1980s, WAHA established an award to honor his memory, his vision, and his inspiration. The Bob Bortfeld Award for exceptional commitment to preservation and dedicated service to the community is presented to an individual who has shown:

• a consistent and visible participation as well as leadership in WAHA;
• an obvious commitment to the preservation community;
• notable contributions over a broad range of activities,
• and an ability to bring people together to address issues and resolve problems.

It was my great honor, at WAHA’s 4th of July picnic, to announce this year’s recipient. The 2010 honoree, Rory Cunningham, is a shining example of all of those qualities. I would like to share with you the nominating letter:

I would like to nominate Rory Cunningham for the Bob Bortfeld Award. In deeds both large and small, Rory has supported preservation in Los Angeles, and especially in Historic West Adams for over 20 years.

He worked tirelessly on the Proposed Revision to the Cultural Heritage Ordinance, using his gifts for bringing people together to unite several organizations in the fight.

Most recently, he served as the Master of Ceremonies for the Preservation Beat event at Vintage Hollywood. He was also one of the featured artists on the June tour.

(continued on page 7)
Stepping Out

Art Deco on the Queen Mary

Sunday, September 3-5
RMS Queen Mary,
1126 Queen’s Highway,
Long Beach

Join the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles and the Queen Mary for the sixth annual Queen Mary Art Deco Festival aboard the beautiful Art Deco Queen Mary in Long Beach. “Cruise” aboard the last of the great Maritime Monarchs! There’s a package for everyone — the weekend is filled with tours, lectures, the Art Deco Bazaar, a grand Art Deco Ball, tea dance, Cocktails in Historic Places, and so much more. The proceeds from all activities will benefit conservation and restoration of Birds of the Old World/Birds of the New World artwork, located in the Grand Salon.


Measure Your Success!

You could be losing money and not even know it. Do you know what your business is worth? Are you paying your fair share in taxes?

I am a CPA dedicated to the success of small businesses, providing tax and consulting services to help you achieve success.

Call Corinne Pleger at 323-954-3100.

Brakensiek Leavitt Pleger, LLP

Natalie Neith & Ken Catbagan
Specializing in Historic & Architecturally Properties

WE’RE SOLD OUT!
KNOW ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SELL?
NOW IS ABSOLUTELY THE TIME!
WE’RE SEEING MULTIPLE OFFERS AGAIN—
INTEREST RATES ARE LOW!

AVAILABLE:
Lot in Silverlake, $397,500: On Descanso—with plans for lot split & 2 homes

Bank-owned house in Sylmar, $299,900: 11611 Eldridge, 4+2, plus bonus bath

JUST SOLD:
3701 W Adams Blvd
3748 Dalton
2823 Brighton
5128 Miriam, Highland Park
4519 Sunnycrest

IN ESCROW:
2122 Bonsallo
20611 Amie, Torrance
1955 Taft
2414 9th Ave
8561-63 W Olympic Blvd

SHORT SALE IN PROCESS
3704-06 W 36th St

Welcome Your New Neighbor, Tony Cortese!

Natalie Neith
323.317.9696
neith@natalieneith.com
DRE# 01045639

Ken Catbagan
323.317.9697
ken@natalieneith.com
DRE# 01257984

www.Catbagan-Neithteam.com

John Aaroe Group
Downtown Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and Sherman Oaks

www.JohnAaroeGroup.com

Join the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles and the Queen Mary for the sixth annual Queen Mary Art Deco Festival aboard the beautiful Art Deco Queen Mary in Long Beach. “Cruise” aboard the last of the great Maritime Monarchs! There’s a package for everyone — the weekend is filled with tours, lectures, the Art Deco Bazaar, a grand Art Deco Ball, tea dance, Cocktails in Historic Places, and so much more. The proceeds from all activities will benefit conservation and restoration of Birds of the Old World/Birds of the New World artwork, located in the Grand Salon.


Measure Your Success!

You could be losing money and not even know it. Do you know what your business is worth? Are you paying your fair share in taxes?

I am a CPA dedicated to the success of small businesses, providing tax and consulting services to help you achieve success.

Call Corinne Pleger at 323-954-3100.

Brakensiek Leavitt Pleger, LLP

Natalie Neith & Ken Catbagan
Specializing in Historic & Architecturally Properties

WE’RE SOLD OUT!
KNOW ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SELL?
NOW IS ABSOLUTELY THE TIME!
WE’RE SEEING MULTIPLE OFFERS AGAIN—
INTEREST RATES ARE LOW!

AVAILABLE:
Lot in Silverlake, $397,500: On Descanso—with plans for lot split & 2 homes

Bank-owned house in Sylmar, $299,900: 11611 Eldridge, 4+2, plus bonus bath

JUST SOLD:
3701 W Adams Blvd
3748 Dalton
2823 Brighton
5128 Miriam, Highland Park
4519 Sunnycrest

IN ESCROW:
2122 Bonsallo
20611 Amie, Torrance
1955 Taft
2414 9th Ave
8561-63 W Olympic Blvd

SHORT SALE IN PROCESS
3704-06 W 36th St

Welcome Your New Neighbor, Tony Cortese!

Natalie Neith
323.317.9696
neith@natalieneith.com
DRE# 01045639

Ken Catbagan
323.317.9697
ken@natalieneith.com
DRE# 01257984

www.Catbagan-Neithteam.com

John Aaroe Group
Downtown Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and Sherman Oaks

www.JohnAaroeGroup.com

Join the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles and the Queen Mary for the sixth annual Queen Mary Art Deco Festival aboard the beautiful Art Deco Queen Mary in Long Beach. “Cruise” aboard the last of the great Maritime Monarchs! There’s a package for everyone — the weekend is filled with tours, lectures, the Art Deco Bazaar, a grand Art Deco Ball, tea dance, Cocktails in Historic Places, and so much more. The proceeds from all activities will benefit conservation and restoration of Birds of the Old World/Birds of the New World artwork, located in the Grand Salon.


Measure Your Success!

You could be losing money and not even know it. Do you know what your business is worth? Are you paying your fair share in taxes?

I am a CPA dedicated to the success of small businesses, providing tax and consulting services to help you achieve success.

Call Corinne Pleger at 323-954-3100.

Brakensiek Leavitt Pleger, LLP

Natalie Neith & Ken Catbagan
Specializing in Historic & Architecturally Properties

WE’RE SOLD OUT!
KNOW ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SELL?
NOW IS ABSOLUTELY THE TIME!
WE’RE SEEING MULTIPLE OFFERS AGAIN—
INTEREST RATES ARE LOW!

AVAILABLE:
Lot in Silverlake, $397,500: On Descanso—with plans for lot split & 2 homes

Bank-owned house in Sylmar, $299,900: 11611 Eldridge, 4+2, plus bonus bath

JUST SOLD:
3701 W Adams Blvd
3748 Dalton
2823 Brighton
5128 Miriam, Highland Park
4519 Sunnycrest

IN ESCROW:
2122 Bonsallo
20611 Amie, Torrance
1955 Taft
2414 9th Ave
8561-63 W Olympic Blvd

SHORT SALE IN PROCESS
3704-06 W 36th St

Welcome Your New Neighbor, Tony Cortese!

Natalie Neith
323.317.9696
neith@natalieneith.com
DRE# 01045639

Ken Catbagan
323.317.9697
ken@natalieneith.com
DRE# 01257984

www.Catbagan-Neithteam.com

John Aaroe Group
Downtown Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and Sherman Oaks

www.JohnAaroeGroup.com
Hot and Sweet Jazz
Friday through Monday, September 3-6
Daily, 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.
Los Angeles Marriott Hotel,
5855 West Century Boulevard (LAX)

Each Labor Day weekend at the Los Angeles Marriott, the 15th annual Sweet & Hot Music Festival presents four days of Swing, Blues, Be Bop, Big Bands, Dixieland, Ragtime, and Classic American Jazz Music, on eight stages in the hotel. Celebrate the Golden Age of American Popular Music, music from the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. Take a “Walk in The Past Lane” with a cavalcade of decades for both listening and dancing pleasure, celebrating America’s musical heritage.

This year’s fest features more than 50 musical artists, including Ernestine Anderson, Pat Yankee, Tim Laughlin and the New Orleans All Stars, and Jack Sheldon. In addition, Banu Gibson, dubbed the “New Orleans Songbird,” and her New Orleans Jazz Orchestra will present four concerts showcasing early classic jazz, and featuring songs by Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday, Fats Waller, and George Gershwin. Also on tap is Herb Jeffries, a jazz musician who is noted for being the first black man to star in an American western. He starred as a singing cowboy in several all-black Western films in which he sang his own Western compositions, and became known as the “Bronze Buckaroo.” Jeffries, a deep baritone, sang with Duke Ellington in the early 1940s. His most famous song, “Flamingo,” sold over 50 million copies.

Cost: $100 for all four days, or $25 to $45 per day (depending on the day). Visit www.sweethot.org for more information.

The Grand Moving Mirror of California
To Be Unrolled for Five Weeks Only
Friday and Saturday nights, at 8 p.m., through August 21
The Velaslavasay Panorama, 1122 West 24th Street
(University Park)

In late July, the Velaslavasay Panorama debuted The Grand Moving Mirror of California, a descendant of the mid-19th century moving panorama storytelling tradition.

A moving panorama production for the stage, The Grand Moving Mirror of California is comprised of a series of painted scenes on a 270-foot scroll that describe the tempestuous journeys undertaken both around Cape Horn and over land in the effort to reach California during the Gold Rush of 1849. Taken from an original 19th century script and performed on the stage with live narration, musical accompaniment and sound stimulation, this is a beautiful mechanical entertainment the likes of which has not been seen in over 130 years. On the voyage the audience encounters the rough seas at Cape Horn, early versions of today’s California cities and famous natural treasures, and the people, landscapes and ports-of-call the original ‘49ers encountered on their journey to find their fortunes.

For more information, contact 213-746-2166 or visit www.panoramaonview.org.
Stepping Out

VOTES for WOMEN

The 90th Anniversary of Woman Suffrage

Women of the 19th century fought to obtain the right to vote, a struggle which finally culminated in 1920 with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Featuring memorabilia of the early women's rights movement, this exhibit examines the activities, ideologies, obstacles, and triumphs of the Suffragettes and focuses on some of the lesser-known but key women in Los Angeles who helped to change the political landscape. The ephemera and artifacts tell the story of this social revolution reveal profound parallels to modern social and political philosophies and help us understand and appreciate our own role in the civic process.

Heritage Square Museum is presenting this exhibit to honor women of achievement and their struggle for the ballot. The exhibit includes original, rarely seen ephemera and artifacts from the early years of the suffrage movement. The exhibit is on view until September 26, open weekends from noon until 4:30. Entrance to the exhibit is included in the museum admission fee of $10 for adults. The museum is located at 3800 Homer St., Highland Park (Avenue 43 exit of the 110 Pasadena Freeway.

WAHA Steps Out: One Archives Tour and Reception

Thursday, September 16
Time & Details to be arranged
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, 909 West Adams Blvd. (University Park)

WAHA Steps Out to visit the One Archives in September -- please mark your calendar! Incorporated in 1952, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives is the oldest ongoing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) organization in the western hemisphere. ONE is dedicated to collecting, preserving, documenting, studying, and communicating LGBT history, challenges, and aspirations and with more than two million artifacts is believed to house the largest collection of LGBT memorabilia in the world. For nearly 60 years, ONE has worked with historians and activists like the pioneer Jim Kepner to collect materials. ONE’s collection spans over a century, and attracts researchers internationally and throughout the United States.

Visit the archive online at www.OneArchives.org.

Andre Jones Wood Company

Specializing in Affordable, Quality, Customized Cabinetry, Moldings, Wood Finishing, Repair and Restoration

Phone: (310) 740-1042 or (323) 732-7859
Fax: (323) 732-2484
Bortfeld Award
continued from page 3

Rory served on the Board and ran many of our tours. He has opened his own home and garden for tours. He was an actor for the Living History tour. He has also costumed for that tour for many years. He has been a shepherd for both the Living History Tour and the Holiday tour many times. He has also illustrated brochures for WAHA.

He created and presented a wonderful lecture on Art Deco in West Adams, which was held at the Golden State Insurance building. He served as president of the Art Deco Society in Los Angeles for several years recently. He emphasized historic preservation during his term of office, which has had a long-term effect on the organization.

Rory has restored three homes of his own, as well as advising on others. He did stenciling in the South Seas house restoration. In the past few years, he made the ultimate sacrifice for preservation in Los Angeles; he moved out of West Adams to save a mansion in the Mid Wilshire area. That new home was opened for a thank you party for Holiday tour volunteers.

Rory has done all this with a grace and charm that is all his own. West Adams Heritage Association is lucky to have him. It is time to see that his contributions are recognized by everyone in the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Henderson ●

Stained Glass
Enhance your home!
Expert Repair & Restoration – Free Estimates

Custom Designed Windows • Repairs
Classes • Supplies • Gifts

Lighthouse Stained Glass
5155 Melrose Ave., L.A. (at Wilton), 323-465-4475
www.LighthouseStainedGlass.com

City Living Realty
We handle all your buying and selling needs —
Please refer us to your friends!

David Raposa • Broker/Owner
323-734-2001
City Living Realty has been selling architectural treasures in Historic West Adams since 1981.

AVAILABLE
Rare Greene & Greene Residence. Now you can own Los Angeles’s only Greene and Greene, the Lucy E. Wheeler Residence, c. 1905. Former home of noted restoration architect Martin Eli Weil, its historic character is well preserved. Protected by a conservancy easement, the Wheeler Residence is located in the Harvard Heights HPOZ historic district in West Adams. Original lighting and built-ins, 2,600 square feet, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. $775,000. David Raposa

Jefferson Park Bungalow — Needs TLC. Original woodwork (painted). Probate, needs court approval. $275,000. David Raposa

Opportunity to Shape A Streetscape — Four Craftsman/Victorian homes in a row in Harvard Heights HPOZ. Each property has an intact historic exterior but the interiors have been altered. All need TLC to restore to single family use and bring into compliance with city codes. Angel(s) needed! -- perfect for a group of friends to purchase adjacent homes. Asking prices range from $380,000 to $395,000. David Raposa

IN ESCROW
Highland Park Spanish — Suzanne Henderson, Buyer’s agent.

SOLD
Altadena Charmer — Suzanne Henderson, Buyer’s agent.
Jefferson Park Spanish — Adam Janeiro, Buyer’s agent.
Welcome, Jeff Ross!
Adams-Normandie Transitional — Adam Janeiro, Buyer’s agent.
Congratulations, Allen & Beth Lulu!

David Raposa,
Suzanne Henderson, Adam Janeiro,
Darby Bayliss, Conrad Alberto,
Carlton Joseph, Jane Harrington

Our Offices are in the Victorian Village,
2316 1/2 S. Union Ave., Suite 2, 213-747-1337
www.CityLivingRealty.com
The Annual Report Issue

Highlights of 2009-2010

WAHA had a very busy year, focused a great deal on our negotiations with the City Planning Department regarding the proposed revisions to the Cultural Heritage Ordinance and proposals to streamline HPOZ processing. But WAHA also presented a variety of activities, and supported preservation and beautification efforts in Historic West Adams. Here are some highlights:

May '09
- Preservation Brunch at Heritage Square
- Donation of $600 for restoration of the Richardson Family Park Gates designed by metal artist Gale McCall, Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCIARC)

June '09
- Landmarks of West Adams II tour on June 4 – we showcased both current HCMs and other historic properties, including the Greene & Greene-designed Lucy Wheeler Residence in Harvard Heights
- Tour Tickets available to purchase online
- June 8 "Conversation" with our members at Eureka Cafe providing our members with an open forum to air their concerns and share opinions. Among the results:
  1) The number of seats on the Board were increased to 18 in order to address members concerns of Board accessibility.
  2) WAHA's Bylaws were posted on our website.
  3) Steps were initiated to draft and conduct a survey of our membership which was distributed in February 2010. (See cover news story on results)
  4) Reiterated that our Board meetings are open for attendance by any WAHA member; decided to have a standing location (Eureka) for those meetings (almost always held on the fourth Thursday of each month) to help make it easier for members to attend.
- WAHA Board votes to utilize set aside funds in support of SurveyLA for historic building permits research in Arlington Heights and Angelus Vista

July '09 – August '09
- 4th of July at Todd Karr and Gina Pitrello’s beautiful Harvard Heights home
- Bob Bortfeld Award presented to Mitzi Mogul
- Planning Commission hearing on July 9 sets in motion 17 hours of meetings in July and August at City Hall for WAHA and other preservation organizations with attorneys for Downtown groups and planning officials regarding the Cultural Heritage ordinance, plus probably another 20+ hours of strategy meetings with the WAHA Board and with other aligned organizations
- WAHA also helps spearhead meeting with the L.A. Cultural Heritage Alliance (meeting held in West Adams) to discuss the ordinance

September ’09
- Planning Commission hearing on Sept 9 re Cultural Heritage Ordinance – WAHA members Jim Robinson, Gail Peterson, Jim Childs, Laura Meyers, Rory Cunningham, and Mitzi Mogul all testified, and presented letters from more than 100 WAHA members and friends
- New Member’s Dessert hosted at Suzanne Lloyd Simon’s home on September 17th
- Living History Tour features Remi Nadeau, Jean Goldkette, Everett Sloan, William Shores, and Katharine Putnam Hooker and Marion Osgood Hooker

October ’09
- Membership Pot Luck hosted at home of Chris Carlson and Demetrius Pohl
- Halloween Festival for youngsters co-hosted by WAHA at South Seas House before the Halloween night screening of "Monster House" in the park.

November ’09
- Great Walk Los Angeles – WAHA helped create a walking route through Historic West Adams and created a new Stroll brochure for the event, distributed to 200+ participating Angelenos
- 2008 Membership Directory made available online

December ’09
- Holiday Tour in Country Club Park
- Holiday Party at Georgia Toliver’s beautiful Wellington Square home
- Meeting in West Adams with Planning Department management Ken Bernstein and Gail Goldberg RE: HPOZ streamlining; we brought representatives of all the HPOZ neighborhoods to expand the number of people involved with the discussion
Another Great 4th of July!

We had swimming, and juggling, and magic, and singing – and ohsomuch food – awards and contests, and fun for all at WAHA’s annual Patriotic 4th of July Picnic, held on the lovely grounds belonging to Karen and Rob Carrere in Gramercy Park. We had a great turnout, with well over 150 attendees, young and old, who listened to live music, courtesy singer/actor Matt Braaten, and were entertained by Broadway Brian Pollock and his Vaudeville show of juggling, balancing and magic.

A great WAHA party simply cannot happen without the helping hands of many, and we want to thank all of the volunteers, including Anne and Ernie Scarbrough, who helped with set up (along with Lore Hilburg, Gail Peterson and other board members); Tim Northrip, Frank Cooper, Dave Pleger, Jeff Valdez, and Paul Brynen, who worked the grills; Peggy King and Diedre, who kept the food tables laden and cleared away those platters which were not; Cheryl Harrington, Suzanne Lloyd Simmons and Terry Speth (among many others) took the lead for clean up, Candy Wynne and SeElcy Caldwell handled check-in; and let’s not forget Lisa Berns, Suzanne Henderson, Michael Medina, John Patterson, and others who helped plan this great event. And especially a big thank you to the Gramercy Park Block Club (and its members John Kurtz, Tom Roarke, Karen Woodward and Brian Ide, among others who helped) for providing such a welcoming environment and the popular water slide bouncy in the park!

Highlights continued from prior page

January 2010
- WAHA Facebook presence created by Suzanne Lloyd-Simmons
- Reach-out to West Adams HPOZs re: streamlining proposal

February 2010
- Meeting in City Hall with Ken Bernstein and Gail Goldberg RE: HPOZ streamlining
- Major response to Washington Square DEIR

March 2010
- Continued developing plans with Pico Union Housing for the creation of “Casa Alicia - Puede Center” – Project goals are to increase preservation awareness, trade apprenticeship training classes, plus a neighborhood revitalization program. A multi-faceted co-operation of many organizations including WAHA, LA Conservancy, Spectra Company and numerous other organizations.
- “Hardhat” preview (before restoration) of the Briggs Residence, recently purchased by MSIA, on March 20
- WAHA arranged a behind-the-scenes tour of the Second Church of Christ, Scientist and its Reading Room as part of new owner Art of Living Foundation’s neighborhood open house on March 27

April 2010
- Heritage Day at Heritage Square
- Elections - Membership Pot Luck hosted at home of Terry Speth
From the survey results, we discovered that your concerns are not only with the preservation of historic buildings and neighborhoods, but also for the future of WAHA. It warms the heart of this writer that you believe WAHA is a good representative of the area and that you want WAHA to be a greater presence in the community. Most of our members who took the poll have been in the West Adams area for over 10 years (and have been WAHA members for about that long too)! It is nice to know that the historic preservation of structures took the number one spot as WAHA’s goals/purpose...after all, we are the West Adams Heritage Association! And because many of you live in West Adams, you believe that community is important. That is one reason why we enjoy featuring many wonderful local events throughout the year.

I’m not sure how many of these wonderful ideas we will be able to implement right away, but you will be seeing some changes soon!

So, now to the results. First of all, two-thirds of those who responded do live within the Historic West Adams District (as you may know, many WAHA members live throughout Los Angeles and Southern California, and they belong to WAHA to help support our historic preservation efforts.) For those who do live in West Adams, nearly half of the respondents have lived here for more than ten years. Almost the same number, 41 percent, have been members of WAHA ten years or longer. But 37 percent of the members who responded have belonged to WAHA for five years or less.

These basic answers were good indicators of who had responded. We learned that the majority of people who took the time to fill out our survey (approximately 55%) were members who had been with us for over five years. That was very important to us. Although we were interested in everyone’s response, we especially wanted to connect with our long-term members and get their thoughts and suggestions.

It was very important for us to learn if we are on the same wavelength when it comes to WAHA’s goals and purpose. The results, not surprisingly, show that the vast majority (95 percent) of those who responded think that the “historic preservation of structures” is WAHA’s key purpose. In addition, three-fourths of the people who responded are strong believers in community improvement, and a majority also believe that WAHA should have both social activities and community involvement. Some of the respondents added these goals: “shining light on this area,” “teaching historic restoration,” “promoting the neighborhood,” “education about the importance of historic structures,” “educational experiences,” and “networking and support for residents.”

We have taken note of these priorities, and have already begun incorporating some of them into our discussions and planning for future Membership events.

We also asked you to list your favorite WAHA activities. Topping the list was the Holiday Tour (76 percent), followed by other home tours (65 percent), the Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery (44 percent) and the 4th of July event (35 percent). About a quarter of our respondents like the Coffee Strolls and the Potlucks, and only a few (13-15 percent) like the Paint and Garden contests.

Many respondents did add “Other” to the list of favorite events, and they include Newcomers’ Dessert, book signing events, the Halloween Party, the volunteer thank-you parties, and how-to teaching events.

This question contained a reference to the “garden tour,” even though we last presented a garden tour in 2004. Including it in the questionnaire seems to have been a lucky mistake, because the response to our error is intriguing: 27% of our members listed it as one of their favorite activities. Several WAHA members who attended our Art Tour had remarked on the beautiful and unique gardens they saw at the tour homes. We may look into hosting a garden tour in the future.

We also asked: Are there any other activities you would like to see WAHA sponsor?

This was a free-range question. We received a written answer from 26 of our respondents. Here is a sampling of the responses we received:
“Demonstration days for new restorationists.”
“More speakers at meetings talking about preservation topics or restoration topics.”
“What about school outreach? . . . what about putting together home tours specifically for local school groups, i.e. kid friendly historic preservation.”
“Why not do workshops to teach people how to use resources to write HCM nominations, then everyone could select a building (or WAHA could suggest one) that needs nomination
“Neighborhood clean ups, more beautification projects.”
“Get businesses to come to the area.”
“More family friendly activities, activities geared toward kids.”
We also asked: What are WAHA’s major accomplishments? The responses overwhelming focused on one thing: Historic preservation. One writer called called out “Protecting the integrity of historic homes and buildings. Fostering a sense of community.” Another writer commented: “I am always impressed by how envious other historic areas of the city are that West Adams has this mature, experienced organization that supports the smaller HPOZs, neighborhoods, design review areas, whatever. I think that City Hall recognized that WAHA is a force to be reckoned with.”
Last but not least, we asked for your suggestions on how to increase WAHA’s membership. - We were pleased to have received many suggestions on this topic, and the first result was the creation of a dynamic new Membership/Outreach Committee. A brief selection of your responses included:
“Improve the newsletter. It’s the one thing all the members have in common.”
“Send a packet containing a newsletter and some info to anyone who buys a home in the area. Records of recent home sales are available through our supportive real estate folks.”
“I think more people need to know about WAHA. More advertising to non-members. Educate about WAHA.”
“Get back to having monthly pot luck meetings.”
“Recruit more younger members by offering activities geared toward families/children.”
And, some good advice at any time:
“Stop fighting…Have fun…Work more…Take on something impossible.”
These and several dozen other wonderful suggestions were submitted, some of which we hope to implement soon. For a copy of the full report, please e-mail Membership@WestAdamsHeritage.org.

Luis Gutierrez, CARPENTER
- CARPENTRY
- ANTIQUE MOLDINGS
- CABINETS
- DRYWALL REPAIR
- REMODELING
- INTERIOR PAINTING
- EXTERIOR PAINTING
- STAINING

CELL: 323-422-8158, PHONE: 323-290-9769
The Annual Report Issue

A Year of Preservation Issues, With No End In Sight

Chair: Jean Frost. Committee Members: Jim Childs, Laura Meyers, Mitzi March Mogul, David Raposa, and Roland Souza. Eric Bronson is WAHA’s vice-president for historic preservation.

There are many projects and issues in West Adams that have required discussion, analysis, and comment from the members of WAHA’s Historic Preservation Committee this past fiscal year.

HPOZs and the Processing of Their Business

The Planning Department has acknowledged they cannot fulfill all of their tasks with the new, much lower staffing level. In late 2009, Ken Bernstein, who now heads Citywide Planning as well as the Office of Historic Resources, proposed a plan that would delegate much decision-making to planning staff. He and Gail Goldberg met with selected parties (including the Alliance and some WAHA members) to try to convince the historic preservation community in West Adams and throughout the city to agree to the HPOZ streamlining proposal. WAHA did NOT agree.

WAHA adopted the following position instead:

While we understand and are sympathetic to staffing issues, the proposal that the City has come up with, i.e., creating Preservation Plans that delegate decision making to Planning staff, in essence completely guts the meaning of the HPOZ Ordinance and the neighborhood based understanding of historic communities.

At the heart of the HPOZ Ordinance is a Board that requires three persons from the area and persons with expertise in historic preservation. The intent was to preserve neighborhoods by placing decision making in the hands of those who know the most about local conditions and the Secretary of the Interior Standards. Some 80% of the decisions made are “conforming work” where the HPOZ makes the decision. The other 20% is for more major work and the Board makes a recommendation to Planning and the Director (usually a designee) signs off. In most instances staff follows the recommendation of the HPOZ Board.

The proposal by OHR was made without consultation and now we are asked to embrace a process that fails to allow HPOZ Boards to control decision making on conforming work as the Ordinance dictates. Some Boards may choose not to review certain kinds of work but that is done in the context of their neighborhoods, not in some “one size fits all” expedience being proposed. The preservation community has worked too long and hard to achieve the HPOZs in West Adams to give up their decision-making.

WAHA prefers that the Boards should retain their authority to its fullest, as is described in the ordinance.

HPOZ Board members have more competence and judgment in understanding the specifics and character defining features of a neighborhood; we recommend that conforming work should be brought to an HPOZ Board meeting, the HPOZ Board can accept the submission once it finds it complete or explain to the applicant what may be lacking (and this is something that the Director of Planning would delegate just as he/she now delegates to staff). Then schedule the applicant for action at the next meeting.

The community’s interests are preserved by not delegating conforming work decisions to staff. This insures transparency and community involvement and conforms to the intent of the Ordinance. WAHA also supports HPOZ Preservation Plans that are carefully developed appropriate to each HPOZ community Cultural Heritage Ordinance Proposed Revisions

Cultural Heritage Ordinance

WAHA spent much of last summer engaged in intense negotiations and many hours of meetings after some Downtown interests attempted to remove interiors’ designation from the City’s Cultural Heritage Ordinance, which is the City’s major preservation law.

The City Planning Commission (CPC) on September 10 voted 7-1 to approve significant amendments to the Cultural Heritage Ordinance. The discussion at the September CPC meeting -- the third public hearing that the Commission held on the ordinance -- focused largely on a single issue: the review of proposed changes to Historic-Cultural Monument interiors. The Commission adopted the September staff recommendation on interiors which will make no changes to the way the ordinance is applied.

WAHA has nominated the Lucy E. Wheeler Residence, designed by architects Greene and Greene in 1905, as a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument. The Cultural Heritage Commission took the property, located in Harvard Heights, “under consideration” in July and is scheduled to tour the house on August 19, with a final determination vote likely to occur in September.
The Annual Report Issue

has addressed interior modifications for the past 47 years. WAHA members Jim Robinson, Laura Meyers, Mitzi March Mogul, David Raposa, and Rory Cunningham participated in marathon discussions that also included representatives from other heritage organizations (including the Los Angeles Conservancy) along with attorneys representing downtown businesses and motion picture studios, and planning department staff. In addition, the informal heritage coalition met in many strategy meetings, and WAHA held additional internal strategy meetings with our own active historic preservation community. WAHA members also testified at all three public hearings, and nearly 100 of you wrote heartfelt letters.

We anticipate another round of hearings when the ordinance moves forward to City Council, presumably later this year.

Jefferson Park Proposed HPOZ

The historic resources survey for Jefferson Park was completed by early 2009, but it has been essentially sitting on a shelf, not reviewed by staff at the Office of Historic Resources, due to staff and budget cuts. Meanwhile, with no interim control ordinance (ICO) to stop inappropriate construction in place, character-defining features on properties in Jefferson Park are being altered. Although the Council District 10 office supports an ICO, there is slow or no progress being made. WAHA along with the local neighborhood council is advocating for the immediate adoption of ICO, along with the certification of the survey.

Red Oak Development: Student Housing Project, 2455 South Figueroa Street

This project is proposed for one of West Adams’s most sensitive sites, which is between the historic landmark St. Vincent’s Church and the equally-historic landmark Stimson Residence, and is located within the Chester Place National Register Historic District. The developer is seeking to build 145 units in a five-story project with a 35-foot setback where nearly 100 feet setbacks and three stories are prevailing. The design evokes the Auto Club (1920s Spanish Colonial Revival with its commercial massings) rather than the earlier residential designs of the adjacent Victorian, Craftsman, and Shingle Style mansions. There is significant opposition to the project from Mount Saint Mary’s College, Esperanza Housing, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet at the Stimson, North University Park Community Association, and WAHA. WAHA commented at length on the draft EIR; one of the developers requested a meeting in January.

Discussion with the developer occurred; the developer hoped some cosmetic tweaking could help move the project forward. What is being proposed is so far from what guidelines for development in an historic district would allow, that WAHA attempted to assist the developer and to “think outside the box.” Among the issues WAHA identified (along with historic preservation issues) is that the developer, Red Oak, misunderstood the actual zoning on the site and what that zoning would permit and not permit by right. The idea of a land swap and other suggestions were made which the proponent is investigating. WAHA also met with the Community Redevelopment Agency to encourage the agency and the developer to explore an outcome that would benefit everyone. The Final EIR was issued in late July.

The Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission voted in July to designate the c. 1914 mansion at 3724 West 27th St. as a Historic Cultural Monument, renamed the “Hauerwaas-Kusayanagi Residence.” The nomination was prepared by Anne Marie Brooks. The house was built for Lucy Hauerwaas, the wealthy widow of John A. Hauerwaas, a German immigrant who made his fortune by investing in local real estate and the Wieland Brewery. The second owner, Dr. Masako Kusayanagi, a second generation Japanese-American, purchased the property in 1937. She resided there until she and her family were forcibly relocated to the Manzanar Relocation camp during WWII. Her family retained ownership of the house until 1954. Logan Westbrook, a prominent African-American recording executive, purchased the property in 1983 and sold it in 1998 to Father Flanagan’s Boys and Girls Home. If confirmed by the City Council, the Hauerwaas-Kusayanagi Residence would be the first Historic Cultural Monument associated with the Japanese-American heritage in Jefferson Park.

(continued on page 14)
Washington Square (Washington Boulevard and 10th Avenue)

Washington Square, as proposed, has both an “Option A” and an “Option B,” both of which would build approximately 600,000 square feet of residential and commercial mixed use onto the site. Despite strong opposition from WAHA, neighbors in Arlington Heights and other stakeholders, the Final EIR was released in early July with virtually no adjustments. The site currently holds a Googie style 1964 building (housing Vintage Hollywood) and it is adjacent to the historic St Paul’s Church, designed by John C. Austin. WAHA believes that the site offers a development opportunity to establish a positive design standard for Washington Boulevard, while retaining its Googie building and respecting the character of the neighborhood as well as the adjacency to St. Paul’s and its sightlines.

Angelus Vista and Arlington Heights Historic Building Permits Survey

In 2004, WAHA presented the “Exploring the Heights” tour of historic properties in Arlington Heights and Angelus Vista as a fundraiser for a historic resources survey in these neighborhoods that run roughly from Pico south to the 10 freeway, between Western and Crenshaw. Now that SurveyLA is doing its field work in these neighborhoods starting this summer, WAHA has funded (in partnership with United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council) the research portion to acquire the historical building/construction permits for all 1,500 properties within these boundaries. When the survey project is complete, the building permits will have all been not just reviewed but also printed and then digitally scanned so they can be included in the database that the City creates for the historic survey.

728 West 28th Street

A few years ago, the Community Redevelopment Agency’s University-Exposition Park Project Area had a historic resource survey (update), and Fraternity Row was identified as a potential historic district. The mid-century modern fraternity at 728 West 28th was identified as a potential contributing structure. Nonetheless, non-permitted construction work on this surveyed historic building was completed, and the building was occupied even though the work was never deemed “final” by either the Community Redevelopment Agency or Building & Safety. WAHA and Historic Preservation Committee member Mitzi March Mogul advocated seeking corrective action. This case is ongoing.

Second Church of Christ Scientist Reading Room

WAHA (at the request of Planning Department staff) prepared a technical update nomination to add the Second Church of Christ, Scientist Reading Room and Library to the original Historic Cultural Monument designation of the Second Church of Christ, Scientist church sanctuary building. The Cultural Heritage Commission voted to designate the Reading Room as a separate monument. However, CD8 Councilmember Bernard Parks advocated against designation at the City Council’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee, and it was denied as a result. WAHA was already in contact with the Art of Living Foundation, which just a few weeks later closed escrow and began to restore both the church sanctuary building and the Reading Room. Both structures are identified as historic in the Community Redevelopment Agency’s historic survey.

The Beat Goes On

This is by no means a one hundred percent complete list, but is a review of the year with some of the most challenging discussion items. And not to mention that we did manage to have some fun at the “Preservation Beat” celebration thanks largely to Jim Childs, Mitzi Mogul and Rory Cunningham and a cast of many WAHA members evoking the ghost of the beats at “Vintage Hollywood” It is appropriately a Googie style venue slated to be demolished on the site of the Washington Square development.●
How WAHA Made & Spent Its Money This Past Year

The economy has been on everyone’s mind, and WAHA, like many other non-profit organizations, tightened its belt and changed some of its expectations, including lowering the prices on some tickets for our annual tours. We can report that WAHA held its own in the past 12 months. For the fiscal year ending April 30, 2010, WAHA’s total income was just pennies below $40,000, a drop – but not a dramatic drop – from previous years’. Some 35% of revenue was derived from membership dues and 61% from our three tours. Membership revenues were down almost 25% in 2009, and net revenues from the tours produced $10,600.00.

Expenses only nominally exceeded income, by less than 3%. Publication of our newsletters and tour brochures is usually our single largest expense. This past year, between printing and postage, costs were $8,360.00, out of a total expenditure on publications of $9,347.57. Due to the extraordinary amount of time and effort that went into the Cultural Heritage Ordinance battle, we saw a more limited number of issues published, hence, a significantly reduced expenditure in this category. (By comparison, the prior year, the newsletter portion of the Publications budget was $14,186.)

WAHA Membership expenses ran $3,371: $633 to administer our database and renewals, with the balance spent on events for our membership such as the 4th of July, our annual Newcomer’s Dessert, and general membership meetings.

More than $3,000 was invested in historic preservation advocacy and other preservation activities, including research and several specific Historic Cultural Monument nominations (see the Preservation Committee Report on page 12).

Administrative and Operations expenses to maintain our 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization totaled $9,965, including $1,500 for accounting and tax preparation. WAHA also spent $2,500 for the organization’s storage unit. $3,476 covered the costs for insurance, which we maintain to provide our organization and all of our homeowners protection when they generously open their homes to our tours and events. The balance of this category includes telephone, banking fees, and general administrative expenses supporting the Board’s operations throughout the year.

WAHA also provided funds for community activities, including support for the South Seas House’s Halloween festivities for tots and toddlers, and a donation toward the restoration of the gates at the Richardson Family Park.

A detailed timeline of WAHA’s activities this past year is included on page 8, and includes some additional references to other donations and expenditures.

WAHA’s complete Profit & Loss financial documents will be posted online at www.WestAdamsHeritage.org in the Members Only section, and are also available upon request by writing to President@WestAdamsHeritage.org.
Events Committee

Co-Chairs, Suzie Henderson and Lisa Berns

As the name implies, the EVENTS Chair oversees all of WAHA’s “social” functions, and is distinct from our three fundraising tours that we organize each year (the annual Spring Historic Homes and Architecture Tour, held the first Saturday each June; the Living History Tour at Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery, slated this year for September 25; and our fabulous Holiday Historic Homes Tour and Progressive Dinner, held each year on the first weekend of December; along with the occasional additional fundraising tour event).

WAHA has had a tradition of hosting many events throughout the year, which include our annual 4th of July gathering and a welcoming Newcomer’s Dessert. In the past we also regularly hosted a series of gatherings, commonly called our “Pot-Lucks,” during which we would arrange a special presentation for our members to learn from or to simply enjoy the company of their neighbors. Unfortunately, these gatherings have occurred with less and less frequency of late. The recent member survey tells us you have missed them. It is our determined intention to bring back these events and to re-kindle that great sense of community upon which our organization was originally founded.

We have carefully read the many thoughtful comments made in the member survey and will be using them to plan and improve our events. We hear that you want to be more connected. More family friendly events were requested. A special effort was made to include entertainment for the kids at the 4th of July party. We hope you enjoyed it.

And, we all hope you have already marked your calendar for the return of the Ice Cream Social, on Saturday, August 14, on the grounds of the Clark Library. This is an afternoon of old-fashioned fun for the whole family. It has always been a favorite and it is back by popular demand.

A new series of events, “Stepping Out With WAHA,” has just been introduced. These are no stress, no volunteering meet-ups at various places and events around town. It is a great way to have some fun and get acquainted with fellow Wahonians. Don’t miss the September 16 tour and reception at the One Archives.

If you would like to participate in any of these efforts, please do not hesitate to contact us at Events@WestAdamsHeritage.org. We’re looking forward to hearing lots of fresh, new ideas for our future gatherings, as well as your opinions about past events, and how we can make improvements.

We’d like to invite you to volunteer for just a single project. If we all were to join in for just one, we’ll have a calendar full of great opportunities.

We’ll look forward to hearing from you!! Just write us at Events@WestAdamsHeritage.org.

Membership/Outreach Committee Report

The first meeting of the newly combined Membership-Outreach Committee met on Thursday, June 24, at the home of Board member Lore Hilburg. The committee has heard your voices and opinions and we want to invite you to take an active part in invigorating WAHA. We need you to join with us on the committee so we can participate in block clubs and neighborhood meetings, “person” the booths at farmers’ markets and other community events and activities, and most importantly invite new ideas, connections and resources (including your ideas) to WAHA.

This kind of outreach that connects us with other groups and organizations, schools, and community activists in West Adams will promote WAHA’s dual goals of historic preservation, and education about cultural heritage in West Adams and Los Angeles. With your help we can spread the word that we’re here to help improve our neighborhoods and we can best accomplish that with increased awareness of the treasures in our own neighborhoods. And, what better way to find new members?

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, August 11, at 7 p.m. at 1621 Virginia Rd. in Lafayette Square. Join us for dessert and coffee. RSVP by e-mail, Membership@WestAdamsHeritage.org, or just show up and surprise us.

The more people on the committee, the more we can do and the greater impact we can make with less work for any one individual. We’d really love to have you join in.
Danny Miller, tour founder Joe Ryan and SO MANY MORE) have identified hundreds of historic personages who are “permanent residents” of the Angelus Rosedale Cemetery, thoroughly researched about 150 of their lives for 20 years’ worth of tours, explored every corner of the cemetery (a historic landmark itself) and have costumed, coached and supported actors in WAHA’s pursuit of bringing Los Angeles history to life.

WAHA has presented a quarter century of Holiday Historic Homes Tours and Progressive Dinners, during which time about 200 volunteers each year have served up tens of thousands plates of salad, cups of soup, and scrumptious desserts. They bake and/or grill some 500-600 main entrees each year. And I believe that Bill Wolf has long since passed the 3,000 mark in how many champagne glasses he has washed.

One of the most unique aspects of volunteering for West Adams Heritage Association is the emphasis we place on involving the entire family. From the beginning, our youngsters have lent a helping hand. If you take the Holiday Tour or work behind its scenes, you will see several dozen children helping out by serving appetizers, plating salads, picking up napkins dropped by our guests, and even washing dishes.

Sarah Henderson, now a young mother herself, sang at early WAHA events — and then helped clean up. Evan Pleger, who leaves for college this summer, served appetizers, directed car parking (with Logan Cooper and other youths) at the Living History Tour, and even portrayed a character when he was just nine years old. (And, he is not the only young person to help us out at the cemetery — this year, one of our characters will be portrayed by Danny Miller’s daughter Leah, who also has a several-year track record of washing dishes at the Holiday Tour). Emily Lewis, Rachel Totten, Yani Pohl, and Izzy Harada began volunteering at the Appetizer House when they were just eight years old, and Emily “graduated” to become a House Captain before leaving this summer for college.

Of course, it is not all fun and games (or slinging hash) for WAHA volunteers. We also have dedicated historic researchers who have nominated – as volunteers – at least 75 of West Adams’s 125+ Historic Cultural Monuments (HCMs). Jim Childs, Joe Ryan, Anne Marie Brooks and myself are responsible for dozens and dozens of these HCMs, and many of you have also nominated your own homes and others. I could not even venture a guess as to how many letters we have written or hearings we have testified at. But I can tell you that, back in the 1987-89 era, 50 WAHA volunteers literally walked door to door in the entire area from the 110 freeway to West Boulevard, from Pico to Jefferson, and as a result of their efforts the bulk of the Historic West Adams District was down-zoned as a part of the city’s “AB283” process of bringing zoning into compatibility with the community plans.

Today, WAHA is at a bit of a crossroads. We need a new generation of volunteers to take their places alongside those of us who have been active for two and three decades. We have won many battles and presented many tours, but there are significant issues still facing our historic neighborhoods and, of course, many more tours to give.

Importantly, when I say “new generation” I really mean not just the adults, but our (new) youth — since so many of our WAHA children are now young adults and off to college and their new life adventures.

For the past quarter century, growing up in West Adams has meant growing up with a sense of social responsibility and community. I really hope that WAHA’s new families can join in on that very-rewarding tradition.
Membership Application

Become a member (or renew)!
Annual Membership

Name(s) _______________________________________
_____________________________________
Address:  _____________________________________
_____________________________________
Phone: ________________________________________
E-mail: ________________________________________

Membership classification (check one)
___ Individual/Household ........... $  45.00
___ Senior/Student ................ $  25.00
___ Preservation Circle ............ $  100.00
___ Business/Corporate .......... $  200.00
___ Heritage Circle ............... $  250.00
___ Patron Circle ................ $  500.00
___ Benefactor .................... $1,000.00

Please make check payable to WAHA.
Return to:  WAHA
2263 S. Harvard Blvd
Historic West Adams
Los Angeles, CA 90018

___ 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.

WAHA
West Adams Heritage Association
2263 S. Harvard Boulevard
Historic West Adams
Los Angeles California 90018
323-735-WAHA (323-735-9242)
www.WestAdamsHeritage.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Officers
John Patterson, President 213-216-0887
Eric Bronson, Vice-President 323-737-1163
Suzanne Lloyd-Simmons, Secretary 323-733-8084
Jean Cade, Treasurer 323-737-5034

Board Members
Lisa Berns 323-299-9009
SeElcy Caldwell 323-292-8566
Jean Frost 213-748-1656
Cheryl Francis Harrington 323-731-3900
Suzanne Henderson 323-733-8084
Lore Hilburg 323-737-4444
Michael Medina 310-428-9263
Gail Peterson 323-737-5034
Roland Souza 310-392-1056
Candy Wynne 323-735-3749

ADVISOR
Harold Greenberg, Legal Advisor 323-732-9536

WAHA E-MAILS

John Patterson
President: president@westadamsheritage.org

Jean Frost
Historic Preservation: preservation@westadamsheritage.org

Suzanne Henderson and Lisa Berns
Events Co-Chairs: events@westadamsheritage.org

Flo Selfman
Public Relations Consultant: publicity@westadamsheritage.org

Lindsay Wiggins
Tours Committee: tours@westadamsheritage.org

Membership Committee: membership@westadamsheritage.org

Laura Meyers
Editor: news@westadamsheritage.org

Leslie Evans
Webmaster: web@westadamsheritage.org
**WAHA CLASSIFIEDS**

100s of doors for sale. Call Roland, (323) 804-6070.

Need House Cleaning? A cleaning company experienced in cleaning and preserving older homes would like to help you with your cleaning needs. We use eco friendly products and offer weekly, biweekly and monthly cleanings. We offer competitive rates and are a customer service based company, so our service is the best. Please call Imelda or Tom at (323) 708-1189.

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.

**MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

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, 213-382-9195
  20% discount on purchases of art materials and picture frames

- **Best Lock and Safe Service**
  contact: David Kim
  2203 W. Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, 323-733-7116
  10% discount on lock and safe labor and materials

- **Washington Dog & Cat Hospital**
  1692 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, 323-735-0291
  10% discount on house cleaning needs.

- **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., 323-954-8080
  No cover charge at door, and 20% discount on all meals

- **Sherwin-Williams**
  1367 Venice Blvd. 213-365-2471
  20% off regular product price (with WAHA discount card)

- **Durousseau Electric**
  2526 W. Jefferson Blvd. 323-734-2424 or 323-734-6149 (cell)
  10-15% discount on electrical services

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

- **Los Angeles Stripping & Finishing Center**
  1120 N. San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, 323-225-1073
  5% discount on any single service order over $1000.
  No special discount on materials.

- **Lucky Chimney Sweep**
  Contact: Susan and Alfredo Johnson, 11433 Ruggiero Ave., Sylmar, CA, 91342, 323-258-0828
  10% discount on masonry repair and restoration, chimney cleaning

- **Magic Care Termite Service**
  1840 W. 220th St., Suite 320, Torrance 90501
  10% discount on repairs or installations of rollup screens

- **McCabe Property Management**
  2461 Santa Monica Blvd., #235, Santa Monica
  310-828-4829; fax 310-828-7959
  www.mccabepropertymanagement.com
  Reduced set-up fee of $50 for any property ($150 savings)

- **Ti-KEN Personal Account Manager**
  310-701-2399; fax 310-828-7959
  tiken.manager@gmail.com
  Reduced set-up fee of $100 for new account ($150 savings)

- **Port Royal Antiques**
  1858 West Jefferson Blvd. 323-734-8704
  10% discount

- **Real Door**
  3125 La Cienega 310-836-2687 www.creakhoor.com
  10% discount on products and services

- **Vintage Plumbing Bathroom Antiques**
  9939 Canoga Avenue, Chatsworth, 818-772-1721
  (hours: by appointment only)
  10% discount on purchases at Chatsworth facility

- **Boulevard Vacuum & Sewing Machine Co.**
  5086 W. Pico Boulevard, 323-938-2661
  10% discount on sale of new vacuums, and vacuum service & repair

- **Jonathan Bert Rollup Window Screens**
  626-359-0513
  5% discount on repairs or installations of rollup screens

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

---

**ADVERTISE HERE!**

Advertisers are responsible for preparing their own camera-ready art for display ads. To place a display ad, call John Patterson at 213-216-0887. 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.

**ADVERTISING RATES**

**FOR DISPLAY ADS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Page (2½ x 2½)</td>
<td>$175 monthly, $1,800 annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page (2½ x 1½)</td>
<td>$90 monthly, $950 annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4 Page (4½ x 4½)</td>
<td>$48 monthly; $500 annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Card (3½ x 2½)</td>
<td>$25 monthly, $260 annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The deadline for ad content is the 1st of the prior month.*

---

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

Upcoming Events

Look for more details on these events on WAHA’s website, www.WestAdamsHeritage.org

AUGUST
Saturday, August 14:
WAHA’s Ice Cream Social at the Clark Library Gardens (see page 1)

SEPTEMBER
Thursday, September 16:
Step Out with WAHA to the One Archives (see page 6)
Saturday, September 25:
Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetery (see page 3)

WAHA’s Ice Cream Social
Saturday, August 14
1:30-4:30 p.m.
Clark Library Gardens, 2520 Cimarron

Here’s the Scoop: WAHA is bringing back an old tradition, the Ice Cream Social. And what better way to spend a summer afternoon than eating ice cream, socializing with neighbors and listening to musical entertainment? Please put on your summer whites or Victorian-inspired attire, and join WAHA at its Ice Cream Social. In addition to entertainment by the Sweet Adelines, a women’s barbershop-style quartet, we will play croquet and another Victorian era game that is a combination of musical chairs and a raffle -- the person who lands on the winning square literally wins the cake. There will also be raffle prizes and other surprises.

All in all, a lovely way to while away a summer afternoon in Historic West Adams.

The WAHA Matters 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 2010. All rights for graphic and written material appearing in the newsletter are reserved. Contact Director of Publications for permission.