

## Honoring the Family through Donations

It is always gratifying when we receive emails or letters from people who are seeking to place items with us. Sometimes, we are their last - or next to last - resort. For the donors and their families the items they are seeking to donate have strong relationships to their families. Recent donations all fall into this category.

A *Life* magazine in the early 1950's featured a photograph of Cecil B. DeMille's desk calendar with its movie-heavy indications of his busy life. Member and frequent donor Ann Champion who had recently donated items relating to Walter Carlton, her late husband's grandfather. Ann is a prop master and set designer who appreciates small touches. A friend of hers fell into possession of a desk calendar she believed to be DeMille's from the *Life* photo. She donated it to the museum, but the magazine photo only showed the calendar from the front, providing no details. Within a few weeks, however, we obtained another photo from 1927 showing DeMille with Jeanne MacPherson and Sid Grauman reviewing billboard art for *King of Kings*. In that photo was the same desk calendar, only this time from the back revealing its unique turned wood legs. We could match it to the donated calendar, so that now, in our recreated DeMille office - on the desk - is DeMille's desk calendar!

We received another call from a couple from Colorado who were cleaning out the garage of the wife's father, Harold Masser, who was a film editor at Mack Sennett in the late 20's and became a studio projectionist at Fox and Disney. The couple, Pam and Jay Sekavec, was panicked about what to do with Harold's collection of machinery and other movie material that had accumulated for many years. Several days of going through the garage netted several projectors, projectionist publications, and as-yet undocumented reel of film fragments which may be related to the production of what was called "the worst film ever made,"

the Ed Wood production of *Plan 9 From Outer Space*. The Sekavec's only goal with the donation of this material was to make sure Harold's work and name were remembered, a sentiment shared by all recent donors. Several of Harold's projectors, after some cleaning and TLC will be on display at the museum.

Leslie Hoban Blake and her sister Cheryl Bulback from New York contacted us about a small collection of photoplays, those novelizations of movies popularized by Grosset and Dunlap and others in the 'teens through the 1940s. Their father, Dr. Isidore Schwartzman, had collected them and they wanted his prized books to go somewhere they could be seen and their father's name noted for his enthusiasm for movies. The selection included the DeMille films *The Squaw Man* and *The Volga Boatman*. The best of the lot includes their

original dust jackets. These photoplays are now in the bookcase that decorates the DeMille office.

Sometimes it takes a while to complete a good deed in that Charla McCartney and her mother fell heir to a couple of boxes of material that Mrs. McCartney's sister received when she helped manage the personal items of early movie star Beverly Bayne when Miss Bayne passed away in Arizona in 1982. They weren't sure what to do with the boxes, since they had been in the estate of Mrs. McCartney's sister after that. Some Internet searching brought our name to their attention and the items were donated to our museum. The donation includes a number of photographs, mostly personal family ones, including snapshots from Miss Bayne's Essanay days when she first met her husband, Francis X. Bushman. Unfortun-

Continued on page 4



Cecil B. DeMille, Jeanne MacPherson and Sid Grauman review art for *King of Kings* in 1927. On the desk, right below DeMille's arm is the desk calendar donated by Ann Champion.

# This and That and HHI

by Brian Cooper



Well it's finally starting to feel like the fall weather is upon us. And what a relief it is! I am pleased to report that it continues to be a busy time for Hollywood Heritage. Many of you attended our July 1st Centennial Celebration for *The Squaw Man* presented in conjunction with the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. We were thrilled with the unprecedented attendance as we opened up the barn for a grand-style open house. Chamber President Leron Gubler presented us with our very own framed star (much like the ones you see on the Hollywood Walk of Fame), while Councilman Mitch O'Farrell declared it the day of *The Squaw Man*. Also in attendance was Betty Lasky, the daughter of our namesake, who graciously shared memories of her famous father's working relationship with Cecil B. DeMille. There was also a host of food and drink stations, live music, period costumed characters, vintage cars, horses and games for kids, including an opportunity to star in your own silent film. KABC's George Pennacchio covered the proceedings along with Eye on LA and the *Los Angeles Times*. Hopefully this will be the first of many partnerships with our friends at the Chamber.

Speaking of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, we recently received a \$2,500 grant from the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce Community Foundation, which will help with the restoration of the external exhibition area of museum (back deck). The check was presented to Christy and Steve McAvoy at a special reception at Hollywood & Highland on September 16th. This grant, along with additional funding from the Jack Oakie Foundation and Universal Pictures, will help us create an outdoor experience for visitors interested in learning about the history of silent filmmaking in Hollywood. More details on this exciting development are forthcoming!

It was such a pleasure to see so many familiar faces at the Paramount Ranch in Agoura for our Silent Society's annual *Silents Under the Stars* film series. Good food and friends contributed to the already jovial atmosphere as we laughed along with Chaplin in a series of

shorts for the first round. The second outing brought a rarely screened print of *The Last Warning* out into the open for all to enjoy. A special thanks must go to all of the folks who helped make this a successful season, among them HH board member Randy Haberkamp, who programmed the films, Marc Wanamaker, who gave tours of the grounds and Betty Petit, who helped process ticket sales. I am already looking forward to next summer's series with eager anticipation!

Our Preservation Issues Committee will be participating in many interesting events this fall including the LA Historic Neighborhoods Conference on Saturday, October 18th, which is presented in conjunction with the Los Angeles Department of City Planning and the Los Angeles Conservancy at the Wilshire United Methodist Church. The all-day event will offer interactive workshops and networking with historic preservation experts and community stakeholders who will help educate people about the importance of protecting the unique character of Los Angeles' historic neighborhoods. The theme of this year's conference is "Sustainable Practices" and the event is open to anyone interested in historic districts and neighborhood conservation.

You will also want to mark your calendar for the 9th Annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar, which will take place on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Doheny Memorial Library on the USC University Park Campus. The event is a treasure trove for anyone interested in the region's history. A broad array of institutions and archives will have experts on hand to show off their collections and answer questions, including of course, Hollywood Heritage! In all, more than 70 archives will be represented at this event, which is free and open to the public. So please be sure to stop by our table to say hello!

Finally, I want to say how proud I am to be a part of an organization that has such a loyal, dedicated membership. As we round out the year I look forward to getting to know more of you at upcoming events and I hope that you'll continue your support of Hollywood Heritage in 2015. Our strength is in our numbers and as the numbers grow, so does our voice in the community as we join together to celebrate our unique history as well as our boundless future!



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Contributing to this issue with research, writing, proofing, editing, graphics or photography are Richard Adkins, Robert S. Birchard, Bryan Cooper, George Kiel, Mary Mallory, Christy McAvoy, Stephan McAvoy, Chris Nichols, Fran Offenhauser, Alan H. Simon, Sue Slutzky, and Mary Zickefoose.

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## Robert Nudelman Marker Unveiled

September 21st, at Hollywood Forever Cemetery, a group gathered for the unveiling of Robert Nudelman's grave marker. In attendance were current and past Hollywood Heritage board members, along with Hollywood Heritage supporters and friends. People reminisced and told stories about Robert, some poignant, some amusing. Robert's legacy still resonates throughout our organization and in Hollywood.

The marker acquisition was facilitated by Valerie Yaros, former Hollywood Heritage board member and secretary, with the assistance of Amy Higgins and former board member, and vice-president, Claire Bradford. Together they composed the epitaph on the marker. The plot, appropriately adjacent to Cecil B. DeMille, was generously donated by Hollywood Forever's Tyler Cassity. The cremation vault and the marker were paid for by Valerie. Theodore Hovey was the Hollywood Forever liaison for both the 2009 interment and the 2014 marker installation, and also provided the canopy and chairs for the unveiling. At the conclusion of the ceremony, everyone raised a can of diet Coke in honor of Robert.



## Holiday Party & Annual Meeting!

Ho Ho Ho !! Can you believe that it's time for Hollywood Heritage's Annual Members Only Meeting and Holiday Party? Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 14th. The free party will start at 4:00 p.m. We're very excited once again to have our party catered by Denise DeCarlo of Grub Restaurant and As You Like It Catering (winners of this year's Heroes of Hollywood Award). A scrumptious light supper and festivities, including holiday music and a holiday raffle, will be followed by our annual meeting, which as always promises to be full of surprises!

## Gary Olavi Karinen

There are always people behind the scenes that make things happen. Engineer Gary Olavi Karinen, who passed away at the age of 68 on August 11, 2014, was such a man. Gary played a key role in the relocation of the Lasky-DeMille Barn to its present site, and the restoration of the building. As a structural engineer, his many volunteer hours devoted to this project helped to make it possible. Moving a 90-foot long turn-of-the-century barn isn't easy.

Gary's skills were required in drawing up plans to lift it from its old foundation, transport and set it down on a new foundation near the Hollywood Bowl. Since it was starting a new life as a museum, it would structurally carry larger loads, need seismic reinforcing, and require a 7-foot addition to replicate an equal amount lost to a "shortening" while located at Paramount Pictures.



Gary lent his expertise to the actual construction. There was major press attention and hoopla when the building was slated to move to its new home (while being televised on the 11:00 p.m. news), but heavy rain intervened with setting the new foundation.

Gary didn't give up. He came and supervised pouring concrete foundations in the pouring rain. When the job wasn't finished, Gary and the indomitable Marian Gibbons continued pouring concrete during the night, in the rain, by the light from their car headlights.

Mr. Karinen was born in Finland, where he grew up helping his family build homes, later continuing construction in Oceanside with the family business after they immigrated in October 1956. He graduated from Oceanside High School in 1964, received his BS in Architectural Engineering from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, and later his Masters Degree in both Civil Engineering and Business Administration from USC. He had the distinction of being the youngest structural engineer in California.

During his distinguished career, Gary was also a key player in saving from demolition and restoring the historical landmarked First Congregational Church of Long Beach.

Hollywood Heritage co-founder, architect Fran Offenhauser's firm remembers Gary as a highly organized man "whose creativity was matched by an extraordinary memory." "He always had an immediately solution" to any construction problem that arose. When it came to a construction site, he carried a magic briefcase with his culled answers for everything he might need, plus graph paper and his professional stamp so he could draw, stamp, and sign to satisfy the building inspector." One could rest assured that his work translated into safe structures, and he was absolutely trusted.

The members of Hollywood Heritage, and the entire community, are thankful for the selfless contribution that Gary Karinen made to what is now the Hollywood Heritage Museum.

## Hollywood Heritage Museum

2100 N. Highland Ave.

Hollywood, CA 90028

Across Highland Ave. from the Hollywood Bowl

### HOURS

Wednesday through Sunday:

Noon - 4:00pm

Members admitted free

Museum Store is open when museum is open and during all events.



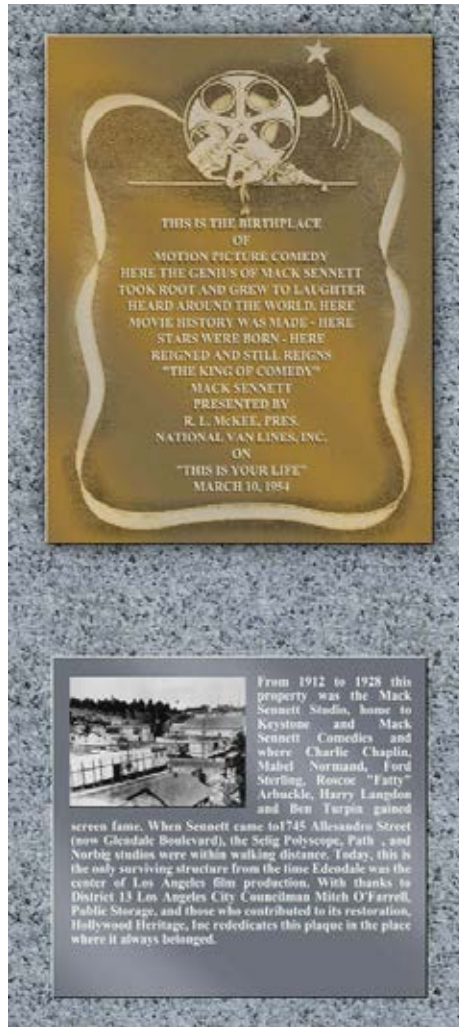
# Marking Mack Sennett Studio

There is an odd bit of trivia about Hollywood. It seems that repeatedly, historic markers - particularly those denoting the sites of historic studios - have been placed in the wrong spot. Hollywood Heritage has taken on the task of correcting one of these misplaced markers, that of the Mack Sennett Studio.

When Mack Sennett was the subject of a *This is Your Life* program in 1954, a plaque was displayed which was intended to go on the location of the Sennett Studio at 1712 Alessandro St. Somehow, the plaque was placed at 1845 Alessandro instead. It remained there until 2007 when the business located on the site, Bertco Graphics, closed. At that point, former Hollywood Heritage Board member and President, Robert S. Birchard asked if he could have the plaque. The new owners agreed and the next day Bob got the plaque, even though in that 24-hour period it had been embellished with graffiti.

Bob brought the issue of the plaque relocation to the Hollywood Heritage Museum Committee and John Girodo, co-chair of the Preservation Issues Committee, contacted Councilman Mitch O'Farrell's office to solicit their participation.

In the meantime, using Indiegogo, Hollywood Heritage raised half the needed funds, and board members donated the balance. The plaque is now being fabricated and soon we will be able to bring you installation and dedication ceremony dates.



**DONATIONS** continued from page 1  
nately, Miss Bayne and Mr. Bushman did not remain married and Mr. Bushman has been "edited" out of many of the donated photographs! The Bayne material will be processed and sometime in the future will be available for researchers and writers.

Last, but certainly not least, is a wonderful collection of menus primarily from Los Angeles and Hollywood, donated by Richard Bisetti and his family. Mr. Bisetti's father Mario was a chef at Musso and Franks from 1921 to 1942. He also worked at the Ambassador Hotel. Mario's collection includes menus from Hollywood hot spots like Clara Bow's "It" Cafe and Thelma Todd's Malibu Sidewalk Café, along with the Nikabob and Henry's and so many more. The Bisetti Collection will soon be on display at the museum.

Hollywood Heritage thanks all of its donors for contributing to the building of a very fine archive on Hollywood and its early motion picture industry.

## Evening @ the Barn

# Honoring Ed Edelman

Ed Edelman was instrumental in finding a home for the Lasky-DeMille Barn, on Los Angeles County property, where it currently sits across from the Hollywood Bowl. As County Supervisor, Edmund G. Edelman used his skills and influence to clear the way for the Barn to become an early motion picture industry museum. Years earlier, the County property was cleared by eminent domain to house such a museum.

On Wednesday, December 10th at 7:30 p.m., Hollywood Heritage will be honoring Mr. Edelman at a special *Evening @ the Barn*.

To the residents of Los Angeles, Ed Edelman is nothing short of a legend. During his thirty years of elective office, and his later years as a government advisor, Edelman produced a breathtaking list of accomplishments.

During the program, we will screen Mari Edelman's documentary on her husband, *The Passions and Politics of Ed Edelman*. You will come to appreciate how Mr. Edelman's legacy is born out of integrity and compassion and out of a desire to enrich the quality of life of the community. His accomplishments encompass the broadest range of humanitarian and cultural endeavors: they have had and will continue to produce an enduring and far-reaching impact on the community.



Former Los Angeles County Supervisor Ed Edelman, 3rd from left, officiates at the opening of the Hollywood Heritage Museum, December 14, 1985. Accompanying Edelman are, from left, Richard Adkins, President of Hollywood Heritage, Marian N. Gibbons, co-founder of Hollywood Heritage, and special guest, actor Charlton Heston.

## Evening @ The Barn

# Warner Bros. History

Although there had been experiments with sound movies dating back to Thomas Edison, it took the combination of General Electric and four brothers named Warner to take the risk of applying sound to a feature film. Always seeking to take advantage of new technology, Warner Bros. also pioneered color and were active in radio.

Although certainly successful, Warner Bros. was not considered a major studio. They had produced a number of critical and popular successes, such as Ernst Lubitsch's *The Marriage Circle* and had placed John Barrymore under contract starting with *Bean Brummel*, but their most successful performer was Rin-Tin-Tin. Warner Bros. became a major studio with their use of sound, beginning with the musical accompaniment and sound effects of *Don Juan*, through the milestone musical *The Jazz Singer*, to the first all talking feature, *The Lights of New York*. In addition to sound, Warner Bros. also popularized the color feature film in tandem with the musical film in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

One of the financial advantages of their success was the ability to purchase and build theatres. Southern California is home to several examples of theatres built by Warner Bros. to exhibit and promote their studio's product.



Hollywood Heritage, in partnership with the Los Angeles Historic Theatre Foundation, will be presenting an evening of Warner history on Wednesday, November 12th, with a presentation by the LAHTF on Warner Theatres, including the flagship Warner Hollywood, and a brief presentation by Steve Bingen, who along with Marc Wanamaker of Bison Archives, is the author of *Warner Bros.-Hollywood's Ultimate Backlot*. The museum will also have on display an extensive exhibit of Warner Bros. material for this evening's presentation. Mark your calendar!

## Evening @ The Barn

# William Castle's 100th Birthday Celebration!

American film director, producer, writer and actor William Castle would have celebrated his 100th birthday this past April, so Hollywood Heritage thought this would be the perfect opportunity to bask in his greatness. Naturally, Castle's films have become synonymous with Halloween, so on Sunday, October 26th, just a few days shy of Halloween, we will be presenting a retrospective of his legendary work.

The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and the program will begin at approximately 6:30 p.m. The evening kicks off with a screening of the acclaimed 2007 documentary *Spine Tinger: The William Castle Story*. Director Jeffrey Schwarz will be on-hand to discuss the making of this fascinating film. Castle's daughter, Terry, will share insights into her famous father's life.

Following a brief intermission, author and Castle expert Joe Jordan will introduce the 1958 thriller, *Macabre*, courtesy of our friends at Warner Archive. Mr. Jordan has also consented to sign and sell copies of his best-selling book, *Shonmanship: The Cinema of William Castle*. Plus, Jacqueline Scott, one of the stars



of *Macabre*, will be our special guest and has offered to share her memories of working on this classic suspense film.

But, that's not all! Our famous raffle will include a host of William Castle DVDs compliments of Warner Archive! There will also be a display of memorabilia from William Castle's career courtesy of the Burbank-based store, Creature Features, as well as from Terry Castle's private collection. Finally, be sure to come dressed as your favorite Castle movie character and you may win a prize in our first-ever Halloween costume contest! This event is likely to sell out so reserve your tickets online now to avoid disappointment! For tickets and information please go to: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/878309>

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

In grateful recognition of their generous support, we sincerely thank the following new and renewing members who have made contributions at the \$100 level and above as of September 29, 2014. \* indicates a new member. Category titles are names of historic Hollywood Studios.

## Majestic **\$2500+**

*Crescent Heights Palladium, LLC\**  
*NBC Universal Media, LLC\**  
*Paramount Studios*

## Kalem **\$250+**

Claire Bradford & Chris Baldwin  
*Los Angeles Fire Department Historical Society*

## Triangle **\$100+**

Margaret Barrett  
Timothy Brandt  
Peggy Stern Cole  
Allan Ellenberger  
Joanna Erdos  
John Girodo  
Josh Hickman  
hookshiddenhoard\*  
Matthew Lesniak\*  
Jeffery Jon Masino  
Jonathan Nettler  
*Outpost Estates Homeowners Assoc.*  
Rick & Michelle Piper  
Robert Rochon & Kiran Uppal  
Jeffrey L. Williams  
Margarita Wuellner\*

## **OTHER NEW MEMBERS**

Chris Bomga\*  
Julie Fleischer\*  
Matt Fritch\*  
Jo Gibert\*  
Carroll F. Grey\*  
Olivia Habib\*  
Cilgia Halprin\*  
Gregg Hammond\*  
Marilyn Knowlden\*  
Daniel Kosman\*  
Jean Laughton\*  
Sharon Lippman\*  
Robin & John Longfield\*  
Nancy Meyer\*  
Vincent Paterno\*  
James Pauley\*  
Patricia Procetto\*  
Glenn Reasoner\*  
Scott Shaw\*  
Alexis & Caroline Szabo\*



# Hollywood Heritage Board Member Chris Nichols

**M**y family was one of the thousands that settled in Southern California in the years following World War II. My father was born in Santa Monica and my mom came to suburban L.A. as a little girl. The black and white family photos in our family albums were taken at googie coffee shops, early Disneyland, and Beverly Park. I grew up in the San Gabriel Valley, where things took longer to disappear, and got to experience the remnants of '50s and '60s life during the '70s and '80s.



I read Alan Hess's book *Googie* before I could drive, so I made my family take me to Ships and Pann's and all of the fantastical places on those pages. I fell in love with neon signs, swoopy roofs, and the dynamic, electric excitement of modern architecture. I looked up the author in the phone book and we became fast friends. He told me that the Los Angeles Conservancy had a Fifties group I should look into. I did and spent the next 25 years working to save these places, but sadly watched most of them disappear back into the Earth. The mission of the Conservancy's Modern Committee included postwar modern architecture, but also neon signs, streamline moderne, and oddball buildings that didn't have much of a constituency.

Following the Northridge earthquake of 1994, the Modern Committee (ModCom) worked with Hollywood Heritage to provide assistance on a number of damaged buildings including the LaBaig courtyard apartments, designed by Case Study House architect Craig Ellwood. The group also consulted on the renovations to the Egyptian theater that removed the 1950 late moderne addition that hid the 1922 façade.

When the Cinerama Dome was threatened in 1998, the ModCom again teamed up with Hollywood Heritage and worked closely with Robert Nudelman. I had long heard wonderful stories about the group from Marc Wanamaker and other historians, and in that effort, I was able to see firsthand the energy and passion of the preservationists at Hollywood Heritage. Through the 2000's, the ModCom supported Hollywood Heritage's efforts to save the CBS Columbia Square and Palladium. We both fought for the Hollywood Bowl band shell, and for the original exterior of the 1963 Sunset Vine Tower. We lost both. In 2003, the Conservancy's Modern Committee again teamed up with Hollywood Heritage to successfully advocate for the Hanna Barbera animation studio in the Cahuenga Pass. The two groups have long shared a concern about the Capitol Records tower, which the Modern Committee landmarked in 2006.

The mid-century aesthetic has been riding high in popular culture for years, but significant modern buildings continue to be threatened. In 2011, Hollywood Heritage president Richard Adkins reached out to me after we had collaborated on some research and invited me to run for a seat on the board. I was honored and have served since 2012. Last year I produced a sold-out evening with original Disney Imagineer Bob Gurr, and hope to create more events and continue to save significant landmarks of postwar design.

## See our new Website!

**H**ollywood Heritage has a redesigned website. It should be up by the time you get this Newsletter, or within a week thereafter. The address has not changed, it's still at: [www.HollywoodHeritage.org](http://www.HollywoodHeritage.org).

Our website will contain all of our pending programs and a lot more information on our preservation efforts to save the historic Hollywood. We hope you check it often.

On a related matter, if you are not getting our email blasts about our programs, be sure to give us your current email address. Email it to [membership@hollywoodheritage.org](mailto:membership@hollywoodheritage.org) and ask to be put on the email blast list.

# Third Annual Afternoon with the Authors

## Mark your Calendars!

**O**n Saturday, December 6th, from noon until 4 p.m., Hollywood Heritage will hold the third annual *Afternoon with the Authors*, our program featuring writers whose books are on Hollywood topics.

As we go to press, the following authors are confirmed. Many others will be added to the line-up, and will be listed on the Hollywood Heritage website.

- **Jon Boorstin**, author of the novel *Mabel and Me*, about silent film comedienne Mabel Normand.
- Screenwriter **Ken LaZebnik's** *Hollywood Digs* features stories about Judy Garland, Jock Mahoney, Darryl F. Zanuck and many others.
- **Angela Cartwright & Tom McClaren's** *Styling the Stars, Lost Treasures from the Twentieth Century Fox Archive*, a remarkable collection of continuity shots of stars, including Marilyn Monroe and Cary Grant. These have never been seen before, as they were internal production photos and not intended for public consumption, until now!
- **Hugh O'Brian**, *Or What's Left of Him* is the lively memoir of the actor who will be present to sign his autobiography.
- **Dawn Wells**, of *Gilligan's Island* fame has *A Guide to Life; What would Mary Ann do?* Come find out, and meet Dawn.
- Returning authors include **Manny Pacheco** with his popular *Lost Hollywood* collections, **Mary Mallory** with her *Hollywoodland* book, and oh so many more.

Each author will speak about their book and sign copies. Our Museum Store will also be well stocked. You will find books that are a perfect addition to your own library, and make a great Christmas or Chanukah gift.

The event starts earlier this year in order to be sure everyone has time to meet with all the authors.

# Assistance League of Los Angeles

**A**ssistance League of Los Angeles (formerly Assistance League of Southern California): A complex of historic buildings used for the philanthropic purpose.

Have you ever attended a Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council meeting or other event at 1370 North St. Andrews Place and wondered about the story behind the Assistance League organization and building? The complex of buildings in this secluded location, and the organization that they house, have played a significant role in the social and philanthropic history of Hollywood.

The Assistance League serves as an anchor within Hollywood to improve the quality of the lives of at-risk children, families and senior citizens by providing vital social services in the Los Angeles Community.

In 1894, prominent society women of Los Angeles formed a new charitable organization named the Assistance League. Anne Banning, the wife of Hancock Banning, was a member of the small group that did local charitable work in an informal way. When Anne Ophelia Smith married Hancock Banning in 1890, the marriage united two established Los Angeles families. As one of the city's first *power couples*, Anne and Hancock were a daunting team, changing the philanthropic and entrepreneurial landscape of the region. (*BRMV Banner News*, May 1992)

In 1919, Anne and a group of 12 friends organized Assistance League of Southern California (now Los Angeles) to provide food and clothing for local Los Angeles families severely affected by World War I. Anne Banning would serve as ALSC president until she retired in 1948 at the age of 77.

In 1920, Mrs. Banning borrowed \$15,000 from local bankers to purchase a frame house in Hollywood where the Learning Center for Young Children stands today. This would be the League's headquarters until 1964 when it moved into the newly constructed Anne Banning Community House. In 1923, ALSC was granted non-profit charitable corporation status by the State of California.

The Attic Tearoom of Hollywood began in the attic of League headquarters. Meals were prepared for executives and actors who worked at the nearby studios. Rising stars, such as Anne Miller, Shirley Temple, Norma Shearer and Mary Pickford served as

volunteer waitresses and donated their tips to the League.

As the needs of the community grew in the years after World War I, Banning and the organization expanded both programs and facilities.

Now known as Learning Center for Young Children, the Assistance League's Day Nursery began in 1924 when Mrs. Banning recognized that working mothers needed care for their pre-school children. Assistance League's Consignment & Gift Shop was also started in 1924 as a Women's



Exchange to provide funds for its programs.

In 1929, the Nine O'Clock Players Auxiliary was formed, and in 1938, the Assistance League Playhouse was built. The Playhouse seems to be a cluster of four adjoined buildings of one and two stories, united by an American Colonial Revival scheme typical of the 1940s. Located on the northwest corner of Fernwood Avenue and St. Andrews Place, the southernmost section of the playhouse is one story and residential in appearance. It is gabled sided with stucco, wide overlapping boards and has two-over two sash framed by wooden shutters. Next to it, on the north, is a two-story stage space, which resembles a large barn, reminiscent of the Lasky-DeMille Barn. Gables face east, west, and north, punctuated by a cupola at the center of the roof. Hipped dormers with shuttered openings pierce the roofline on the south, while a "hayloft" door faces the east. The structure is stucco on its upper portion and clad with board and batten on its lower level. Similar siding sheathes the third section of the building, which looks like a one and a half story extension of the barn. A raised ridgeline, which parallels the street, distinguishes the gabled roof. The northernmost building is one story and contains the entrance to the playhouse. The Colonial Revival, articulated by paired, fluted pilasters, paneled and shuttered sidelights

and reveals, and a pediment, characterizes the doorway. Wide overlap siding, stucco gable ends, brick stairs, and shuttered windows reinforce the theme. A courtyard behind the structure leads to the auditorium. Plays for adults and children were produced as a means of raising funds for the day nursery. Today, Theatre for Children brings live theatre to the children of Los Angeles. Go to [www.nineoclockplayers.com](http://www.nineoclockplayers.com) for more information about current productions.

In 1961 the Assistance League of Southern California selected architect Paul R. Williams to design the Anne Banning Community House, named after the founder. Williams' plan for the two story, colonial revival-style Anne Banning Community House fulfilled the League's need for a business environment combined with gracious, elegant space for entertaining—teas, luncheons and privately hosted events. The spacious foyer was reminiscent of Williams' elegant residential designs. The lower floor housed a large oval-shaped tearoom with break-out space for private parties, the Women's Exchange where "women could sell their handmade finery—lace, linens and lingerie—to support their families," an art gallery and a Gift & Consignment Shop. The upstairs housed offices and board rooms "where the big business of volunteer philanthropy is conducted." (*Los Angeles Times*, September 11, 1964) Williams made a significant contribution to the architecture of Los Angeles; his work for the motion picture community is among his best.

The League continues its philanthropic activities from this historic complex. In 1966, the Anne Banning Auxiliary began Operation School Bell, providing clothing to children from the families in need. The Foster Children's Resource Center provides new clothing and basic necessities for foster children.

The League's expanding services led to a capital campaign for a new building. The 22,000 sq. ft. Dorothy E. Leavey Resource Center opened in 1994 and houses the Family Service Agency, Operation School Bell and Hollywood Senior Multipurpose Center.

Hollywood Heritage salutes the League for its continuing stewardship of its historic buildings and for its most generous role in providing needed services to the community.

For more information on ALLA go to [www.assistanceleague.net](http://www.assistanceleague.net)



## Mark Your Calendar

### October:

Houdini in Hollywood, *Evening @ the Barn*, Wed., Oct. 8, 7:30pm.

William Castle's 100th Birthday Celebration, Sun., Oct. 26, 6:00 pm, at the Barn.

### November:

Evening of Warner Bros. History *Evening @ the Barn*. Wed., Nov. 12, 7:30 pm

### December:

Author's Day, at the Barn, Sat., Dec. 6th, noon to 4pm

Ed Edelman, *Evening @ the Barn*. Wed., Dec. 10, 7:30pm.

Sons of the Desert, Hollywood Party Tent, film screening. Thur., Dec. 11, 7:15pm. at the Barn.

Press Premier: *Cecil B. DeMille: The Art of the Hollywood Epic*. For Hollywood Heritage members and invited guests of presenters. Fri., Dec. 12, at the Barn.

Hollywood Heritage Membership Meeting and Holiday Party, at the Barn. Sun., Dec. 14, 4pm. Members only, free.



PRESERVING OUR HOLLYWOOD HERITAGE FOR MORE THAN 34 YEARS  
 • Wattles Mansion and Gardens • Hollywood Heritage Museum/Lasky-DeMille Barn •  
 • Silent Society: Motion Picture History and Preservation • Architectural Preservation, Advocacy, and Education •



## Membership Application

**YES!** I would like to become a member of Hollywood Heritage, Inc.

\$2,500 Majestic   \$1,000 Keystone   \$500 Bison  
 \$250 Kalem   \$100 Triangle\*\*   \$50 Household / Lubin  
 \$40 Individual / Artcraft   \$25 Senior (65+) / Selig

\*\*Join at the \$100 Triangle level or above, and receive a 23" x 29" collectible reproduction poster, *A Map of Hollywood from the Best Surveys of the Time, 1926*.

### Membership Benefits Include:

- Free admission to the Hollywood Heritage Museum for two adults and two children.
- Ten percent discount at the Museum Store.
- Advance notification of special member programs.
- Discounts on Silent Society film programs at the Hollywood Heritage Museum, UCLA, and the Paramount Ranch.
- Quarterly Hollywood Heritage Newsletter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to pay by:

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 Charge Visa or MasterCard only

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3- digit code (from back of card) \_\_\_\_\_

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Clip and mail to: Hollywood Heritage, Inc., P.O. Box 2586, Hollywood, CA 90078