

NEWSLETTER



Number 193

May 2002

Applying Preservation Standards

by Jean Frost

In recognition of National Preservation Week, West Adams Heritage Association is pleased to announce that its special guest at the May 18 general meeting, will be **Christy Johnson McAvoy, Hon. AIACC.** McAvoy, a managing principal of *Historic Resources Group*, is a nationally recognized expert in historic preservation planning and development. McAvoy will share with us her knowledge of historic preservation standards and provide insight on the “Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation” of historic properties (the “Standards”).

By City Ordinance, the “Standards” are the criteria by which changes, alterations and additions to historic properties are evaluated within the City’s Historic Preservation

Overlay Zones (“HPOZ’s”) With five HPOZ’s within West Adams boundaries, *University Park, West-Adams Normandie, Western Heights, Lafayette Square, and Harvard Heights* (and others pending), it is a subject of interest and importance. With visual examples, McAvoy will show how the “Standards” apply to various properties.

In addition to being preservation professional, McAvoy is also an activist. Her civic involvement extends to such national organizations as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, as an emeritus member of the Board of Advisors, the Board of the National Center for Preservation Training and Technology, and the Board of the Los Angeles

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May General Meeting

Historic Preservation Standards

WAHA invites you to a special meeting in honor of National Preservation Week, featuring Christy McAvoy, managing principal of *Historic Resources Group*.

Saturday, May 18

11 - 1:30 p.m.

WAHA hosts - Continental Brunch
at the home of

Lanita Jacobs Huey and Stan Huey
1919 South Harvard Blvd
West Adams Heights

(south of Washington)

Don't miss this wonderful
Heineman-designed home!

Mark Your Calendars for June:

Garden Meeting - Saturday, June 8
2455 Gramercy Park

The Other Greene and Greene

by Ed Troser and David Raposa

We are extremely lucky here in West Adams to have several notable examples of so-called “Ultimate Bungalows” designed by the brothers Arthur and Alfred Heineman, including the wonderful residence owned by Lanita Jacobs Huey and Stan Huey at 1919 South Harvard Blvd. in West Adams Heights.

WAHA has scheduled its May 18th general meeting, a celebration of National Preservation Week, at this unique Arts and Crafts home. The hosted brunch (*not a potluck!*) is scheduled for 11 a.m., and features Christy McAvoy, principal of *Historic Resources Group*, speaking on preservation standards and the Secretary of the Interior.

The Heinemans were a distinguished part of the California Arts and Crafts movement, despite having no formal training in architecture and design. They came to prominence between 1909 and 1917, designing more than 20 residences in Pasadena alone, along with *at least* five in West Adams (still standing; some have unfortunately been demolished), and others in Hancock Park and the Wilshire District.

Like the more famous Pasadena architects Charles and Henry Greene, the Heineman brothers worked in a

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**WEST ADAMS
HERITAGE ASSOCIATION**

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Historic West Adams
Los Angeles, California 90018
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www.neighborhoodlink.com/la/westadams

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**WAHA Committee Chairs and
Standing Meetings**

Community Outreach Contact Jacqueline Sharps if you'd like to get involved with this activity 323/766-8842

Historic Preservation/Zoning & Planning

Chairs: Eric Bronson 323/737-1163 and Tom Florio 213/749-8469 - Meets third Mondays at City Living Realty, 2316 1/2 South Union, Suite 2

Newsletter Chair: Laura Meyers 323/737-6146 Meets second Mondays

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

Fundraising Call Catherine Barrier 323/732-7233

Web Site Call Clayton de Leon 323/734-0660

Neighborhood Council Liaisons Contact Colleen Davis 323/733-0446 and Jean Frost 213/748-1656

Programs and Events Greg Stegall 323/734-7725 and Alma Carlisle 323/737-2060

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

All committee meetings begin at 7 p.m. All WAHA members are encouraged to join one of the committees!

WAHA NEWS

Farewell to a Friend

by Anna Marie Brooks

WAHA lost our "Eyes" on April 4th. John Bruce Deaven passed from this life at his beloved 4th Avenue home enveloped in show biz memories and his family's love.

John entered this world as a PK - preacher's kid - November 6, 1947, in rural Pennsylvania. As the family followed his father from Pennsylvania churches to assignments in Ohio, John learned to sing and appeared in the Christmas pageant. Other kids got through it. John, hearing the applause, fell asleep with visions of bright lights and big cities.

The overwhelming glow of the "Big Apple" lured John to New York. He won acting roles in summer stock and dinner theatres. A successful flirtation with modeling landed John on the cover of an airline magazine. Soon he was seen swooshing across the pages of a series of ski magazines. Finally, John arrived on Broadway in a short-lived show.

Deciding to give the Left Coast a go John arrived in LA in the late 70s. He opened "John's Place," a storefront coffee comedy club on Vermont Avenue. Regulars in John's comedy line-up included Alison Angrim (Nellie Olson on "Little House on the Prairie"), the Village Idiots and performance artist Johanna Went. "John's Place" migrated to Melrose Avenue inheriting as its next-door neighbor Vampira. John convinced her to don her inky trappings and star in his independent film "The Bungalow Invader" which ran forever after on Saturday nights at the club.

John landed several national television commercials including the roll out of Pringle's "country-style" potato chips in which he shared the screen with country music star Roy Clark.

Finally tiring of going alone to his West Hollywood apartment graced by its ceilings of handsomely rendered birds - a painterly touch from John's own hand - John decided to leave show biz to contemplate a family. He sought a wife at church and fell for Nancy, their organist. Indulging a true show biz fantasy he proposed to Nancy under the double OOs of the Hollywood sign. Their wedding, a year in the making, was a Hollywood production number.

John and Nancy nested and began a family. In 1987 their daughter Peggy Sue - named in honor of the Buddy Holly song - was born. They had just moved to their West Adams home on 4th Avenue. Soon their son Joseph Abraham made their family complete.

Holidays became the centerpiece of the family's life. In his memorial video John affirmed what we had all come to know and share, "I love my holidays. I love to celebrate them - I love in general to celebrate our life."

John never quite gave up show biz. He served as Activities Director for the California Lutheran Homes in Alhambra. And he worked tirelessly as a board member of

Garden and Paint Contests Nominees Sought

On Saturday, June 8, as we do every June, West Adams Heritage hosts a special gardens general meeting where we learn more about our own garden plots and take a look at our neighbors' efforts to beautify their homes and gardens.

For this event, WAHA solicited entries for the annual Garden Contest as well as for the Exterior Paint Contest. Every WAHA member is encouraged to view these outstanding gardens and/or new exterior paint jobs before we vote on our favorites at the June meeting. May 18th -- in the afternoon, immediately following the May WAHA General Meeting, is the official "Open Garden" day when WAHA will photograph the nominated gardens. Several of the gardens are gated rear yards, so this is also the time for members to review the nominees.

So, Nominated Gardeners, Heads Up! Be sure your spring garden is in its best form in May.

Here is the list of nominees:

Paint:

Jean Frost & Jim Childs
The Seaman House
2341 Scarff Street

Roberta Quiroz
1657 W. 25th Street

Timothy & Sada Mozer
1402 South Victoria

Jim Hunter & Rob Buscher
2255 W. 29th Street

Stanley Harris
1644 Virginia Road

Bruce and Chris Metro
4403 Victoria Park Place
Kevin & Janet Keane
2532 5th Avenue

Garden:

2414 4th Avenue
* Interior Courtyard
Kent Washington

2166 W. 30th Street
John Arnold

1933 South Oxford

2534 9th Avenue

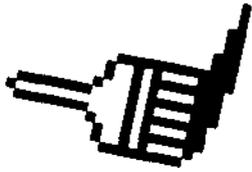
1833 South Bronson

2170 20th Street

2129 W. 21st Street

1656 W. 25th Street
* Rear Yard Garden
Tom Norris and
Marianne Muellerleile

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Bolts and Nutz

by Linda Joshua



Hello and welcome to "Bolts and Nutz" – a column dedicated to matters of home renovation, beautification and the art of restoration within the WAHA community. If you have a question, or you have an area of expertise and would be interested in sharing your knowledge by answering the questions, please contact me at Linda_Joshua@hotmail.com

Q. My nephew found some inappropriately placed Crazy Glue and went buck wild with it all over a mahogany table. The nephew is okay, but the table looks terrible. Is there an easy way to remove this without damaging the finish?

Bad Aunt, West Adams

A. I hate to be the bearer of bad news but.... The solvent for Crazy Glue is acetone, and unfortunately the acetone will also do a job (and not a nice one!) on the mahogany finish. I can't think of any solution that would not ruin the finish. Any way you take off the Crazy Glue, you will have to re-finish the top. And I'm glad the table was the only thing that came to any harm!

Q. Now that the warmer weather is setting in, I'm starting to get inundated by small ants in the house, mainly random explorer ants. I have used insect spray, but they keep coming back. How do I get rid of them?

R.H., Los Angeles

A. This sounds like a pretty minor ant problem. When you start seeing long black chains crawling through your house, then you really have to worry! Try not to use insecticide indoors, as it accomplishes little except to add toxins to our home environment. If you're just talking about one or two ants, sweep the little critters up and throw them away. Ant cups are also a good solution. Put the cups in cabinets (except where food is stored) and under the sink and other places where they might run.

Q. I am itching to start up an herb garden, but have never had one before. Do you have any suggestions for an herb that is easy to grow and maintain so as not to bruise my ego too much on the first go around?

Jon, L.A.

There are many herbs that are very easy to grow and maintain in my experience, including parsley, rosemary, and Mexican sage. I like to take a really low maintenance approach and plant cloves of garlic in the ground and use the tender green shoots that grow from the bulbs as a chive like accompaniment to much of my cooking.

My favorite "herb" this season however that has been a real source of pride is my rocket salad, also known as Arugula or Rocket salad. This is one of the most popular new greens. Its unique flavor can be described as hot, spicy and nutty. It adds a lot of flavor and texture to salads (but use it sparingly), and can be added steamed or raw to stir-fry, Italian dishes and pizza. Wild varieties have a slightly stronger and more complex flavor than other varieties. It's also great for containers. Simply pick the foliage when it is young and tender.

It grows very quickly and is self-seeding. I would plant it during cool but mild weather in moist, fertile soil.

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Will RLUIPA Throw Us All for A Loop?

by Anna Marie Brooks

A relatively new federal act may throw you and your assumed right to the quiet enjoyment of your home for a loop – an RLUIPA, that is. The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 was passed by the 106th Congress.

In brief, RLUIPA provides that:

No government shall impose or implement a land use regulation in a manner that imposes a substantial burden on the religious exercise of a person, including a religious assembly or institution, unless the government demonstrates that imposition of the burden on that person, assembly, or institution—

(A) *is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest; and*

(B) *is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest.*

Property owners in West Adams now await the outcome of a case brought by a religious institution's use of a National Register District property. The Missionary Brothers of Charity own a house at 1345 Alvarado Terrace, in the midst of a National Register District. When zoning in that area was downsized in 1997 to RD1.5 the Brothers continued their use of the property to conduct a program which serves 80 to 100 individuals from that residence each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Allegedly homeless Latino

males between the ages of 18 and 27 congregate long before the doors of "Nuestro Hogar" (Our Home) open at 9:30 a.m. Once inside the clients are provided with laundry facilities, a shower, a meal and an opportunity to watch TV until 2:30 pm when they are once again turned into the neighborhood.

When informed that the Brothers were in violation of the RD1.5 zoning the Brothers applied for a Conditional Use permit to continue use of the property as a, "church and philanthropic institution." The request was denied after a hearing by Zoning and Planning in May/June, 2001. The Brothers appealed to the Central Area Planning Commission which also denied their request.

The Missionary Brothers of Charity then filed a lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles in the U. S. District Court for the Central District of California charging violations of the United States and California Constitutions and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA). Their legal counsel was augmented by attorneys from The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty. This group assists all religious oriented entities bringing challenges under RLUIPA. To gain an insight into the scope of their work visit the web site at www.becketfund.org. (Note that The Beckett Fund asserts that "Nuestro Hogar" is located in East Los Angeles – Alvarado Terrace seems to have migrated – and that the Brothers restored the property.)

The Brothers' Federal case was heard in February and taken under advisement by the judge. Here one should note that there is a proliferation of cases now being heard which concern RLUIPA. Use of this act by religious organizations reframes what were once relatively straightforward land use questions into quests for religious liberty, often to the detriment of the assumed rights of neighboring property owners to the quiet enjoyment of their homes. For those concerned about how this could impact your home and property now or in the future an education can be gained by visiting The Beckett Fund web site mentioned above along with www.rluipa.org, another site maintained by The Beckett Fund which includes the entire text of RLUIPA as well as Law Review articles pro and con concerning RLUIPA issues.

The Los Angeles Catholic Diocese weighed in on the matter in the electronic version of their publication "The Tidings" at www.the_tidings.com/2001/0907/brothers.htm and in related articles which you may search from their site. Those who enjoy extensive research might also want to visit <http://www.nccbuscc.org/mrs/nonminister2.htm> for information of probable relation to the Brothers' case.

The best guess is that the Missionary Brothers of Charity v. City of Los Angeles case regarding their Alvarado Terrace property will remain under advisement until one of the early RLUIPA challenges reaches the United States Supreme Court. In the meantime you may contemplate forming your own Society for the Worship of the Historically and Architecturally Significant Home.

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ASIA SOCIETY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CENTER'S ASIA PACIFIC FUSION FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

Los Angeles' renowned chefs and restaurateurs will pair Asian flavors with wines from Napa, Sonoma, Santa Barbara County and Oregon at the fourth annual Asia Pacific Fusion Food & Wine Festival. The afternoon celebration will be held at the landmark 20th Century Fox Studios on Sunday, June 23 from 12 - 4 p.m.

The Festival will present continuous entertainment from Indonesia, Thailand, China, Malaysia, the Philippines as well as Bhangra dancers from India. Demonstrations by the California Sushi Academy and walking tours of the historic Fox Studios back-lot are part of the afternoon's festivities. Highlight of the festival includes the Grand Raffle Prize of A Culinary Trip for Two to Hong Kong sponsored by Cathay Pacific and a six-night accommodation courtesy of Harbour Plaza Hong Kong and Harbour Plaza North Point. The Hong Kong experience will include morning tea and Tai Chi, dinner, museum pass, best of the best culinary guide and Meet the People program sponsored by the Hong Kong Tourist Board.

Foodies - savor sushi, taste the tandooris, nibble on dim-sum as Los Angeles' renowned chefs and restaurateurs gather at the landmark 20th Century Fox Studios to whip up gourmet delights.

Keith Lord, Executive Chef at Fox Studios will be joined by participants such as Chinois on Main, Sushi Roku, Crustacean, Hamasaku, Joss, Chaya Brasserie, Max, Five Feet, Manhattan Wonton Company, Michelia, ChanDarette, Monsoon, Arirang, A Thousand Cranes, The Clay Pit, Chicken Madras, Natalee Thai, Flavor of India, Surya, Zen Zoo Tea and Dole Foods.

These Asian flavors will be paired with wines from such Napa and Sonoma wineries as Clos du Val, Grgich Hills, Trefethen, Matanzas Creek, Silverado, Franciscan, B.R. Cohen, Peju Province, Monticello and Rubisow Sargent. The Santa Barbara and Central Coast wines will be represented by Au Bon Climat, Firestone, Presidio, Laetitia, Tantara, Bedford Thompson, Zaca Mesa, Bridlewood, Cottonwood Canyon, Adelaida Cellars and Wild Horse; Mendocino region wines will include Roederer, Navarro, Greenwood Ridge, Handley, Pacific Echo and McDowell; and wines of the Oregon region will be represented by Domaine Drouhin, Chehalem, Rex Hills, Elk Cove, Eyrie, Argyle and Panther Creek. The Asian flavors will be further cooled down by beverages such as Yosemite Waters, Kirin Beer, Ginger Beer and premium Jizake.

Asia Society, a non-profit organization, is America's leading institution dedicated to fostering American understanding of Asia. Headquartered in New York, Asia Society has regional centers in Los Angeles, Houston, Washington D.C., Hong Kong, Melbourne, Manila and representative offices in San Francisco and Shanghai.

Ticket Prices: \$75 Single; \$120 Couple; Special Group rates of \$50/person for groups of 10 or more for WAHA members.

For reservations call - (213) 624-0945

20th Century Fox Studios, 10201 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles Free Parking: Main Entrance on Pico and Motor

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Sold:

* 1215 Westmoreland, 5 bd, 7 ba Tudor Revival in Country Club Park

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BLOCK CLUB & NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



Adams-Normandie Neighborhood Assn (ANNA)

Much of our meeting was spent dividing up the details of our rededication celebration of El Paseo. With it, we are coming to the end of executing our Neighborhood Fund grant. Please come by and visit our newly landscaped walkway that cuts through the 1500 blocks of 22nd, 23rd and 24th Streets.

Very informative reports on our Neighborhood Council, Redistricting, TNI and the HPOZ tour were given. Victor Quiroz and his committee advanced our cause to have a LAPD drop-in center located in our area. They are now scouting locations. Plans are developing for the first annual ANNA picnic to be held at the Clark Library which will include a tour of the facility.

Stacy Anthony, the SW City Attorney for the newly developed Neighborhood Prosecutors Program told us about this new program and how it can help us affect change in our community.

We closed by unanimously reelecting our officers: Don Henderson, Treasurer, Marco Flores, Secretary, Jim Jansen, Vice-president and Marianne Muellerleile, President.

Block Club and Neighborhood News is an important and integral part of the WAHA Newsletter -- a place for us to share ideas, information, and upcoming events. To publicize future events, you must provide the information to the newsletter well in advance, no later than the first of the prior month (eg: August 1 for the September issue). To submit "News from Around the Blocks," please contact Michael S. Smith via e-mail information to mikegreg@pacbell.net, or fax to 213/894-5335 (please address to Mike Smith).

Save the Date/Neighborhood Pride Day

June 8, 2002
Jefferson Park, Crenshaw

LA NHS, Volunteers, Jefferson Park residents, Local Businesses, Sponsors, Council District 10, Operation Clean Sweep, Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation and many more will join together. Call (213) 749-7797 x28 and sign up, or email us at ninak@lanhs.usa.com We are looking forward to hearing from you!

-- Nina Kihlman, Neighborhood Resource Coordinator www.lanhs.org

24th Street Block Club

At the April meeting of the Concerned Citizens of 24th Street Block Club, Stacy Anthony of the City Attorneys Office was our special guest. Ms. Anthony informed the neighbors of 24th St. about her responsibilities in protecting our area from graffiti and how she would be keeping us up to date about gang activity and crime in the surrounding area.

The neighbors of 24th St. gave Ms. Anthony a list of some of our long-term grievances that occur in our area. We informed her about the problem of trash left on our lawns at the end of the school day as the students get out of school and walk right into illegal food vendors. We also informed Ms. Anthony of the school busses that continually use 24th St. to pick up and dislodge students even though they have been informed time and again that they are in violation of a City code. Lastly, we voiced our desire to put speed bumps in the street to stop cars from racing down our neighborhood streets. The meeting adjourned at 9 PM and we all stayed for coffee, dessert, and lots of gossip.

Natalie Neith & Ken Catbagan Prudential-John Aaroe Presidents Circle

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HPOZ

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Asking!
2421 7th Ave.-B

IN ESCROW:

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2361 W. 20th
1625 W. 23rd - 3 Offers!-Over Asking!!!

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Through Our Eyes Only

John was such a pleasure to be around. He always made me feel good about myself and whatever I was doing. He even attended my first Tap Recital! We felt very special when he profiled the Pleger Family for the WAHA newsletter. The WAHA Halloween Costume Party was also the highlight of my family's year and we strove to win at least one prize between us (and often succeeded!) John welcomed us and our efforts and brought us into his family parties where we enjoyed the Deaven-party creativity throughout the year.

John was an enthusiastic volunteer for the WAHA/Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery Tour each year and was most often seen at the check-in table. Last year though we were casting the characters and knew that John would be just perfect for Kerchieval. Somehow we knew that he was an actor in the past so when we arranged for the actor training/reading of parts the week before the tour, his easy line perfect delivery of a well-developed character was a pleasure. The day of the tour, John confided to me that he had cancer and was having some problems recovering from a recent surgery. I hovered all day but John gallantly carried his part of the tour to the end. I did have a frantic moment after lunch because I couldn't find him when it was time to return to the site. Our walkie-talkie's burned the airwaves with "Have you seen John?" until the 3rd time I looked in the back office room and actually called out. John sat up. He had been lying behind the desk on the floor resting. He was always charming, and I'm glad WAHA could give something back to him after all the gifts of time and creativity he gave to WAHA. His delight in being able to act in the Cemetery Tour, prepare, deliver and relish the crowd's pleasure in his ability to entertain was a gift we were able to share with him. He will be greatly missed by the Pleger's and WAHA.

- Corinne Pleger

Another sweet guy gone. Don't you know at least 5 mean, nasty people who mistreat their families and contribute nothing to their communities? They seem to live forever. But the sweet natured people, loving towards their families, important to their communities and professions, seem to be taken from us too soon. John Deaven fits into the latter category, as did Harold Tolliver, who also died recently.

John was a delight to me on WAHA's Board of Directors. He often came up with an incisive, really funny comment that helped move us along. I enjoyed watching him with his children. He treated them as if they were real people, something many parents have trouble with. He gave of himself to West Adams, endlessly. Whenever you needed something, John was right there. And his openness about his cancer, after initially feeling reticent about it, was helpful to me as a role model when the time came to tell people about my own.

It was a tragedy that John didn't get to watch his children grow up. And it's so sad for the rest of us. We'll miss him a lot.

- Jennifer Charnofsky

John's passing is a lesson on appreciating those around us, and not taking them for granted. How much I miss the lanky guy with the straw hat, walking down the street, delivering those family newsletters he delivered on every holiday and every birthday, printed on colored paper - a seemingly endless stream of them which unfortunately has ended. I miss seeing his suburban, Midwestern station wagon slowly driving down the street. I miss his energy and enthusiasm and his positive outlook. And his composure in the face of death added a new adjective to describe John: *Courageous*.

- David Raposa

Our beloved John Deaven was laid to rest Sunday, April 7. His last script, so much like his "Through My Eyes Only" column, was played out on the stage of Hollywood Forever.

John, wrote, directed and starred in a most memorable performance to a standing-room-only audience. In his last act, he shared personal and fond memories of his childhood, dreams and a family he loved and cherished.

John was a devoted father, loving and faithful husband, loyal friend, and a hardworking Board member. The entire community was always invited to the many theme parties he and Nancy hosted.

His informative letters, great sense of humor and willingness to support neighborhood efforts, will be sorely missed. John was a great example for all of us to stay proactive in accepting the power of love. To quote from my favorite book: ".....love suffers long and is kind, love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

Please remember to call and write Nancy and the children (as well as Georgia and Sterling Toliver).

- Jacqueline Sharps

To John and his family:
Our mortal shells, by fact
will cease, but our
immortal souls find
everlasting peace, and
although he's left this
planet earth, God has given
him a new rebirth, On
Heaven, may it be God's
decree that he finds new
joy and tranquility. So my
deepest condolences and
sympathy, to all of the
relatives and friends
Love, SeElcy Caldwell

Through My Eyes Only A Special WAHA Friendship

By John B. Deaven

Editor's Note: In the weeks preceding his death, John Deaven decided he needed to write one last "Through My Eyes Only" column.

I'd like to tell you about a very special WAHA friendship that I have with Ron Jarman. I truly bonded with Ron four years ago when he and I were both working the check-in booth at the 1998 Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery Tour. I got a good taste of Ron's outgoing personality that day. He was all smiles, totally upbeat, as he greeted strangers and friends to the tour.

Shortly afterwards, I wrote about Ron for our newsletter. He loves producing elaborate home videos as a hobby, and as we got to know each other, he invited me to his home to see some. One was a four-hour, two-part tour of Ron's trip to New York City. It was loaded with detail, and it definitely reminded me of my days living in Manhattan (1970 - 74). We also found out that we both have a love for Busby Berkeley musical numbers. Ron once gave me a two-hour tape of nothing but one extravagant Busby Berkeley number after another. I have watched it more than 100 times, I'm sure.

However, my health took a big nosedive in 2002. I took a long medical leave from my job at California

Lutheran Homes, and I have been basically confined to my house on Fourth Avenue, spending each day resting and trying to hang on.

Ron has helped me through it. He came by our house to drop off one of his latest video productions, which was a lovely tour of the Doheny Mansion. Because of Ron's efforts, I was able to enjoy all the details of the mansion without leaving my sick bed, and I enjoyed the diversion. Did you know the movie, "The Princess Diaries," starring Julie Andrews, was filmed in the spacious ballroom of the Doheny Mansion? I didn't, but Ron included excerpts from the film.

Several days later Audrey Arlington, one of our loyal cemetery tour committee members, dropped off another Jarman original. It was a video of the 2001 tour of the cemetery. Again, I delighted in seeing this and listening to Ron's commentary. It also included some familiar faces from WAHA, including board member Alma Carlisle, Stephen Heywood, Rory Cunningham, and Natalie Neith. It had my performance as Los Angeles poet Albert Kercheval (1829 - 1893), which I, of course, enjoyed reminiscing over. Ron's tape also allowed me to view the other performers in full costume, as provided by award-winning costumer Corinne

Pleger. Even on that day in 2001, I was too sore to see the rest of the tour, which I didn't. So Ron's tape allowed me to watch the colorful Hawaiian steel guitar conclusion by Ka'ua Archambault and friends.

Later, Ron came by our house again, and he surprised me with still another one of his productions. It was a relaxing musical visual of Los Angeles' Watts Towers, singularly built by artist Simon Rodia. In the past I visited the Watts Towers many times, taking many visitors there. I saw it before the restoration, and during the long years of scaffolding, but I never saw the restored Towers. Now I have seen every inch of the restored version, thanks to Ron's video, and I delighted in every minute of it.

So in conclusion, thanks to Ron, I have had the pleasure of watching three of his original videos while trying to battle my illness. I deeply appreciate this special WAHA friendship. Thank you, Ron Jarman.

John Deaven
Continued from page 3

WAHA. John loved interviewing West Adams neighbors for his "Through my Eyes Only" column in this newsletter. He chaired the publications committee, often acting as group referee. He was thrilled to don a costume to portray Albert Kercheval for last year's cemetery tour.

Sometimes one learns something about a friend at their funeral that you wish you'd known in life. I learned that John had also worked at Briar Hill Playhouse outside of Pittsburgh. Sadly, we didn't share the same season. John left us with these words in his memorial video, "I always enjoyed chasing my rainbows. I say to you, enjoy every moment of your life; treasure it." At that moment I saw him on Briar Hill's magical stage as Tulsa in "Gypsy" dancing a soft shoe, doing one last turn singing,

"I take a flower, smell it, put it in my lapel. Then I spot the audience..."

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Resources Judie Schoening

With "toxic mold" so much in the news these days, I thought about writing about this problem for this column and saved a bunch of articles on the subject. But the conclusion I came to is that this should not be a problem for most of us in West Adams simply because our houses are so airtight!

Unless you are living or working in a modern high-rise or a house that has been retrofitted for noise problems where leaks or condensation can become a real problem, you don't have to be concerned about this type of mold or fungus. I have an excellent article from California Homeowner about this and would be happy to send a copy to anyone out there who is not living in one of our porous houses.

As for mildew growing on tiles in your shower or around your tub, I pass on a helpful hint. Scrub the tiles thoroughly and then generously apply rubbing alcohol (available by the gallon at Smart & Final) to the tiles. Of course if you do experience a leak from a bathroom or roof, it is important to open up the surrounding area and let it dry thoroughly.

Mary Ann Hutchinson must have been doing lots of work in her house. She has called several times with good resources!

Salvage Yards: Big Ten in Altadena Open Tuesday-Saturday. And Architectural Detail in Pasadena. Talk to Skip Willett. (Please don't bring children) She then recommends Cermacoat for re-porcelaining tubs etc. Mary Ann suggests a catalogue out of Mendocino called Wood Finishing Supply saying that she has never seen such an extensive supply of these kinds of products. The Old Appliance Club is based in Ventura and can give you referrals for parts, hardware etc for the repair of such appliances. Thanks, Mary Ann, and good luck with your projects.

You too can help. Let's hear from you. And remember we want to hear when you've used a Resource whether you have had a good experience or a bad one. By the way, Davidson Plumbing came through for us like a champ last month. Keep in touch FAX: 323/733-3541 email: (new) schoeningent@attbi.com

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Neighborhood Council Update

Most of the Historic West Adams District is, or is about to be, covered by one of several new Neighborhood Councils.

On Saturday, April 27, the Neighborhood Empowerment Commission, the appointed body which oversees the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, held a hearing to determine the boundaries for the proposed Downtown and North Area Empowerment Congress Neighborhood Councils.

The Commission decided that the Downtown Council would NOT extend south of the 10 freeway into the University Park/West Adams/USC area, and that the new North Area Neighborhood Council would extend from the 110 freeway on the east, the 10 freeway on the north, and west to the proposed (and undisputed) Western Avenue/Arlington boundary.

If you live in the proposed "United Neighborhoods of West Adams, Jefferson Park and Arlington Heights Neighborhood Council" (north to Pico, south to Exposition, west to Crenshaw, and east a jagged line running south along Normandie, Western and Arlington), mark your calendars for **Tuesday, May 14**, at 6:30 p.m. for the Commission's certification hearing, to be held at the Washington Irving Library, 4114 W. Washington.

It's important that stakeholders (defined as anyone who lives, works, worships, attends school, shops or participates in programs within the boundaries) show up and indicate their support for this proposed neighborhood council.

PERSPECTIVE

Nina Fresco,
Landmarks Commission, Santa Monica

As a Landmarks Commissioner, I would like to offer my perspective on the Homeowners Freedom of Choice Initiative which would "prohibit the City from designating parcels in the R-1 Single-Family Residential Districts as Landmarks or Structures of Merit, or including them within any Historic District without prior consent of the owners."

A supporter stated that the fundamental issue here is "one of the freedom of homeowners." Sounds reasonable on the surface, but this initiative, in fact, constitutes a loss of freedom for homeowners, renters, business owners and every other member of our community who has a stake in how our City grows. Landmarking is part of zoning. Leaving it up to individual homeowners gives them unchecked control over something that affects everybody. This initiative is not only an attack on the specifics of the landmarks ordinance itself but on the extent to which different voices can be heard in our city.

No one individual should have the right to determine something that affects the development of an entire neighborhood. No one individual should be able to choose to be above a local ordinance that doesn't suit them. (No law that makes compliance voluntary is worth the paper it's written on.) No one individual should have the right to prevent a historic district or single designation that the rest of an area wants but that could require unanimous approval.

The Landmarks Commission system is, in fact, very democratic. The Commission is comprised of seven volunteers from the community. When an item comes before us it is reviewed in a systematic way. A professional consultant makes a report on the property in question based on the criteria set forth in the ordinance. We learn the background of the building, the builder, the

owners and the neighborhood through this research. Detailed descriptions of architectural features are included. If an alteration is proposed, the changes are evaluated through The Secretary of the Interior's Standards which are nationally accepted. This research is standard and impartial. It is not based on beauty or, more importantly, taste.

In addition, we receive a City staff report which studies the consultant's findings and from there makes a recommendation. At least two Commissioners a month are required to visit all the sites that appear on the agenda.

Based on all of this information, we may step onto the podium with an opinion but the final element in our decision-making is yet to come. Public input. If these were not decisions that needed to be made on a case by case basis, if they didn't require judgment calls, we wouldn't need a Commission. Staff could simply rubber stamp projects according to criteria. The fact that people support Historic Preservation to varying degrees and the fact that we have the ordinance for the public benefit needs to be carefully weighed with each decision. How can we leave this important aspect of our city's de-

Anti-Landmarks Initiative Will Hurt Our Community

velopment in the hands of individual homeowners?

Public input is the most important and most variable element in the Commission's deliberations. When the Commission takes up an issue, it is not considered a done deal at all. It is a decision to proceed with study. Is 18th Street the kind of street that we would like to protect as a district? How do the neighbors feel? Are there other types of historic resources that would be more valued by the community?

We want to do the right thing for our city and we want to know what everyone thinks. These considerations cannot be the sole responsibility of individual homeowners who are planning only for their own parcels without peripheral vision.

Our Landmarks Ordinance may be finally coming of age. I hope we can see it through this crisis and that the thinkers, planners and organizers among us will see that taking all the power out of the law is not the way to improve it.

This article originally appeared in the Santa Monica Mirror (issue of April 10-16, 2002). Copyright © 2002 by Santa Monica Mirror. All rights reserved. Questions or comments? publisher@smmirror.com

McAvoy

Continued from page 1

Conservancy. McAvoy is past-President of the California Preservation Foundation, and served as the official representative of the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) during two years following the Northridge Earthquake.

Her company, *Historic Resources Group*, has been recognized for its excellence in projects that include historic tax credit certifications, federal and state environmental review, historic preservation planning, resource identification, building assessments and preservation technology, affordable housing, and heritage education and tourism. The West Adams area is familiar to McAvoy, as she provided early historic surveys of the Hoover Redevelopment Project Area and has been a resource of information and guidance to preservation minded community members for decades.

Directory Updates

If you have any changes which need to be incorporated into the current Directory, or if you have a new mailing address, please let us know! You can contact WAHA by mail, or call John Kurtz (Membership Chair) 323-732-2990, so your newsletter and other mailings get to you in a timely manner. Please update your copy of the current WAHA Membership Directory if you want to keep it current. These are the first changes to the Directory, which was in the November newsletter.

Update with New/Correct Information

Lynn Brown & Bill Judson, LYNNBILL@ATTBI.com

Robert Buscher & James Hunter, jhuntr@pacbell.net

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Orlando & Carla Sotelo, Carla@Bago hemp.com

Danno & Erin Sullivan, (323) 733-2188, LargeCorp@MAC.com

Add (and welcome) new WAHA members

Jackie Calloway, 2261 W. 25th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90018, (323) 733-2644

Henry & Matt Carranza, 1053 Buelah Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90063, (323) 269-2015

Brenda & Robert Cooke, 5225 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90004-1058, (323) 939-1112

Paul King & Paul Nielsen, 2260 W. 25th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90018, (323) 731-6880, PCLA@PRODIGY.net

Christa & William Wilk, 730 Muskingum Avenue, Pacific Palisades, CA 90277-3446, (310) 454-0085,
WDWILK@earthlink.net

UCLA William Andrews Clark Memorial Library Fifth Annual Afternoon of Acquisitions 2002

WAHA members are invited to attend a fundraising event, The Fifth Annual Afternoon of Acquisitions, on Sunday, May 19, at UCLA's William Andrews Clark Memorial Library. The event features a viewing of selected old and rare books purchased in the past year by UCLA's followed by a celebrity reading of excerpts from these texts. Previous readers have included Sydney Pollack, Marjorie Lord, Robert Osborne, Gloria Stuart and Michael Lerner.

Designed to raise support for the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library through the sponsorship of rare books and manuscripts that will be on display, this event showcases some unique literary material, including the only example in an American collection of a rare 1710 English cookbook; a "tutor" for the harpsicord or spinnet that was published in 1740; a rare 1692 French book (with engravings) about the Aesop fables that inspired various fountains at Versailles; and an acerbic letter to a classics professor by the 1890s by English scholar and poet A.E. Housman.

When: Sunday, May 19, 2002, 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Where: The Clark Library at 2520 Cimarron St. in the Historic West Adams District.

Admission: \$40; *reservations are required.*

Contact: Yolanda Adra, Acting Director of Development, Humanities (310) 206-0694

The William Andrews Clark Library is a rare book library of international renown. Founded in 1926, the library houses 100,000 books and 21,000 letters and manuscripts. Its treasures include four Shakespeare folios, important editions of Chaucer, Ben Jonson, and Milton, a Dryden collection rivaled only by the British Library, first editions of the major works of Restoration drama, and the world's largest public collection of materials by and about Oscar Wilde.

Although English literature from the 1640s to 1800 remains the focus of the Clark Library, its collection also contains important works relating to the history of science, music, philosophy, and theology. Among its graphic arts and western American ephemera are holdings of significance for the history of the western United States.

Attendees and other donors may sponsor this year's acquisitions, by "adopting" individual rare and old books and manuscripts.

Heinemans

Continued from page 1

highly stylized Arts and Crafts motif, often created for wealthy clients. Unlike Tyler, who did many versions of the same basic Craftsman-style design and floor plan for the growing number of middle class Angelenos who wanted to live in Arts and Crafts style homes, the Heinemans created highly individualized exterior facades and beautifully-crafted, customized interiors for a smaller number of sophisticated clients.

Among the typical interior defining features of Heineman-designed homes are: walls or floorplans with interesting curves or angles; use of varying hardwoods — including unusual woods like maple and Port Orford cedar — as interior trims, often stained considerably lighter in color than the wood used in other Craftsman style homes; paneled rooms with reverse board-and-batten; and extensive use of Batchelder tile as well as art glass from Judson Studios. Some homes feature cathedral ceilings.

The Heinemans in their writing often expressed a strong desire for architecture to "return to nature," and most of the homes they designed make strong use of French doors, first-floor sunrooms and second-floor sleeping porches to emphasize the pairing of the indoors and outdoors. Moreover, several of the Heineman-designed residences have an unusual placement of the china cabinet along an exterior wall

with large windows and stained glass panels integrated into the design of the cabinet itself. On the exterior, several Heineman homes make use of gunnite — an original form of stucco — as part of the cladding.

The Hueys' home features an impressive inglenook and massive fireplace composed of rounded Batchelder tiles in the living room, and a second Batchelder fireplace in the study. It also has a curved wall upstairs, and the entry has an angled-arched ceiling. The Heinemans often used pairs of folding French doors to separate living room and dining room (in lieu of the more traditional pocket door) — a design feature you can see at the Huey residence.

In addition to their Ultimate Bungalows, the Heinemans also were among the first architects to design garden courtyard bungalow court apartments. But their main claim to fame, nearly 100 years later, is their coining of the word "motel." They designed a lowrise, automobile-oriented in 1925 in San Luis Obispo, on the Pacific Coast Highway, and had planned to call it a "motor hotel" but that phrase did not fit on the sign, or so the story goes. Hence was born the "Milestone Mo-Tel."

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

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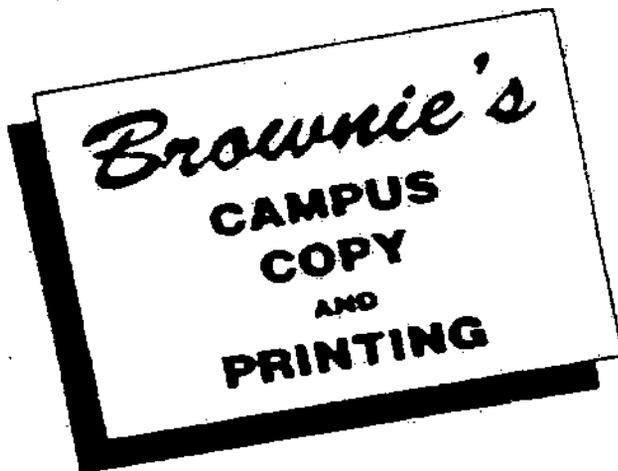
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Board Retreat
12	13 Newsletter Committee	14	15	16	17	18 WAHA General Meeting
19	20 Zoning/ Planning Preservation Committee	21	22 Membership Committee	23 Board Meeting	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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