



OUTSTANDING PROJECTS HONORED AT ANNUAL LONG BEACH HERITAGE AWARDS BENEFIT

Nine awards, including Preservationist of the Year, were presented on February 23 to outstanding projects and people in the Grand Salon of the Queen Mary, the wonderful Streamline Moderne ship anchored in the Long Beach harbor. Guests bid for silent auction items, many of which were antique objets d'art donated by Stan Poe, during the cocktail hour and then were treated to a superb dinner with a salad that was a work of art itself. The awards speeches were accompanied by superb visuals on three screens that depicted restorations in progress and completed projects. Approximately 200 guests attended the yearly event and our fund raising goals were met successfully.

Among those receiving preservation awards were Greg and Anna-Karin Kight for a Mid-Century Modern home at 4225 E. Harvey Way, built in 1957 with a stucco and stone exterior, a wooden staircase hung from the ceiling with metal rods, and a spectacularly refurbished kitchen with period appliances. The Tokunaga-Weissenhutter home, a beautifully pre-

restoration award was given to Pamela Young Lee, whose research guided the work at the Rancho Los Alamitos kitchen and cook's bedroom, which have been



Refurbished Mid-Century Modern kitchen at 4225 E. Harvey Way



Dining room of Craftsman bungalow at 3476 Lewis Ave.

served 1923 Craftsman bungalow at 3476 Lewis Ave., was honored for its meticulous and lengthy restoration. The owners rebuilt the exterior porches to their original aspect, stripped woodwork and built-ins, and bought period light fixtures and furniture to complete the interior. A third



Cook's bedroom at Rancho Los Alamitos restored to its early twentieth century appearance

brought back to their appearance in the twenties and thirties. Interesting items belonging to the cook, including her "hearing horn" and family photographs are now on view in her bedroom next to the kitchen, which retains an antique stove and refrigerator.

Three art works from the Long Beach International Sculpture Symposium held in 1965 and spearheaded by Professor

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A HISTORY OF THE HARBOR IN 74 FEET

The amazing story of the development of the Port of Long Beach and its artistic depiction in a unique 74-foot wide tile mural will be presented at the Historical Society of Long Beach at 3:00 pm on Saturday, April 29. Long Beach Heritage and the Historical Society of Long Beach are co-sponsors of this program.

George & Carmela Cunningham, journalists, publishers, and co-authors of

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Tile experts examining the POLB mural

PHOTO BY LOUISE IVERS

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VIP RECORDS SIGN ENDANGERED

By Louise Ivers

Although the metal sign from the world famous VIP Records store at 1012 East Pacific Coast Highway still remains atop the building, its future fate remain uncertain. The sign was first put up around 1963 by the Whistler Liquor store, which opened that year. In 1978, Cletus Anderson, who had a record store in Los Angeles, started a branch in Long Beach at the Pacific Coast Highway location. His brother, Kelvin, bought the business in 1979 and, according to an article in the *Press-Telegram*, featured recordings of rhythm and blues, jazz, and gospel music. Around 1989, Kelvin Anderson bought a drum machine and other equipment to create a primitive recording studio on the premises. Later, a group called "213," which consisted of Snoop Doggy Dogg, Warren G, and Nate Dogg, made their "demo" at VIP. Soon other hiphop and "gangsta" rap artists began using the studio and their recordings were sold there as well. VIP Records has been a major voice in the promotion of recordings by young local African-American musicians and its historic sign should be saved.



PHOTO BY CHRIS LAUNI

GREAT HOMES OF LONG BEACH

The 2017 "Great Homes of Long Beach" tour will take place on Sunday, June 4, from noon until five p.m. This year's tour will feature homes in Bluff Park, Belmont Heights and the Park Estates section of Long Beach. We are targeting five homes which will highlight the unique architectural character found in this city.

While the tour fulfills the educational objectives of Long Beach Heritage, the proceeds of the event are dedicated to the restoration and support of the historic Bembridge House, a landmark owned by our organization.

Each year Heritage volunteers work for weeks to develop the Great Homes tour. Please know that we expect the event to sell out, with over 500 visitors and volunteers participating. Ticket sales will begin at the end of April, so keep an eye out for a postcard that will supply you with all the applicable details. You don't want to miss it!



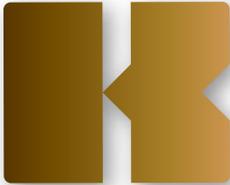
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OUTSTANDING PROJECTS HONORED AT ANNUAL LONG BEACH HERITAGE AWARDS BENEFIT

Continued from page 1...

Kenneth Glenn were recently restored on the campus of CSULB. The University Art Museum received an award for its role in the conservation of these Modern sculptures, which are J. J. Beljon's "Homage to Sam Rodia," Robert Murray's "Duet," and Kosso Eloul's "Hard Fact." Another award was given to Winkler Properties for their rehabilitation of the Hot Cha Café at 957 E. 4th St. This charming example of Programmatic architecture had languished for many years and was unfortunately



Restored percolator-type coffee pot atop the Hot Cha Café

subjected to the removal of some of its characteristic elements. We Are the Next, Citron Design, and J. R. Van Dijs worked diligently to restore the signature sheet metal and glass coffee percolator at the top of the hexagonal structure added to the front of a turn-of-the-century house in 1932. The Southern California Edison building, a twelve story Mid-Century Modern skyscraper at 100 Long Beach Blvd., was designed by local architect Kenneth S. Wing in 1958, served as an annex for the Police Department, and then was left vacant for a number of years.



Lobby of the Southern California Edison building

Ratkovich Properties adaptively reused this former office building by converting it into 150 apartments. Elements of the lobby are preserved and the brises soleils on the exterior of the structure are retained. Kor Group, Nakada+ architects, and J. R. Van Dijs worked on this project as well.

The Wilson High School Architectural Club received a cultural resource award for their work on the Collaborative Parks Survey. Ryan Dowgiewitz is the president of the club and Jeffrey Jackson is their



Ryan Dowgiewitz and Principal Dr. Sandy Blazer of Wilson High School receive an award for the Collaborative Parks

faculty advisor. The Long Beach Department of Parks and Recreation gave the students a list of park structures, Development Services staff trained them to take photographs, and the club members created an album of pictures. Another cultural resource award was given to the Miner Smith Project, a book and exhibit of the work of Miner R. Smith (1876-1975), who built "bungalow mansions" in Long Beach in the early 1920s. Smith's homes had distinctive "art stone" porches with planters resembling hollowed out tree



Peter Devereaux presents an award to Steffi Hands and Norbert Schurer for the Miner Smith Project

stumps and Gothic arches, which he fabricated himself. Norbert Schurer, a Professor of English at CSU Long Beach, and Steffi Hands collaborated on the project, which resulted in a book, Boom and Bust: Miner Smith and his 1920s California Bungalow Mansions and an exhibit at the Historical Society of Long Beach. Smith's family contributed photographs and original scrap books that he compiled.

Last, but certainly not least, Marshall Pumphrey was the Preservationist of the Year for 2017. Marshall, along with his

partners, has been involved in preserving older houses and apartment buildings in Long Beach for many years. A former employee of TWA, he became interested in airline history, collected and sold vintage postcards, worked with Ken Larkey on his Long Beach Heritage Museum collection, and was on the board of Long Beach Heritage. When Larkey died, Marshall inherited the entire contents of the Long Beach Heritage Museum, which formerly occupied an old wooden building on Third Street near Elm Avenue (the victim of redevelopment). Marshall moved the vast collection of photographs and artifacts to warehouses and other commercial sites where at least some of them could be displayed, for example, the Cyclone Racer car and a 1930s Long Beach Life Guard



Marshall Pumphrey is given the Preservationist of the Year Award

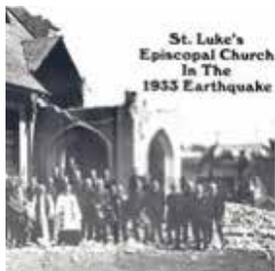
surfboard. Marshall continues to preserve Larkey's collection and is trying to find a permanent space for these important relics of our city's past.

Long Beach Heritage invites you to submit nominations for next year's preservation awards which will be given at the thirtieth anniversary of the annual banquet. An independent jury of preservationists and architects reviews all nominations and selects the most representative examples in a variety of categories that include: restoration; rehabilitation; contextual infill; cultural resource studies; preservationist of the year; and excellence in architecture. We value your input and hope that you will make future nominations for these very important awards.

ST LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By Linda Dragga

St. Luke's Episcopal Church has had a presence in Long Beach since 1900, when it erected a mission-style church designed by Henry F. Starbuck at the corner of 5th Street and Locust Avenue. It was one of ten churches listed in the 1902 Long Beach City Directory. In 1917, when it was one of 48 churches listed in the Directory, St. Luke's replaced its first church with a brick Gothic Revival Church at the corner of 7th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Designed by architect Edward L. Mayberry, this lovely 1917 church was destroyed in the 1933 earthquake. Support came from across the country, with famous donors such as Eleanor Roosevelt, J.P. Morgan, and Felix DuPont making it possible to rebuild immediately. The cornerstone for the new church was laid on March 19, 1934, just a year and nine days after the earthquake. In memory of the destroyed church, architects



Winzor Soule and John Fredric Murphy fashioned the new church in Gothic Revival style as well.

The Gothic Revival became popular in Great Britain during the early nineteenth century, when it was deemed the proper style for church buildings and architects looked to medieval examples of 1200-1500 for inspiration. Half-timbered buildings of England's Tudor period (1500-1559) were also influences on Gothic Revival structures. Eventually, the style made its way to the United States during the mid-nineteenth century and was incorporated into churches across America as late as the 1930s. St. Luke's is an example of the last flowering of this style.

Characteristics of Gothic Revival include tall, narrow pointed arched windows, often grouped together; asym-

PHOTO BY LOUISE IVERS



metrical elevations; steeply pitched roofs; half-timbering, a medieval English building tradition where wooden frames are visible on the exterior and filled in with stuccoed surfaces. Pointed arched wooden doors with decorative hardware were common. St. Luke's 1934 complex, built around a courtyard, exemplifies many of these characteristics. It has a slate roof and a beautiful copper spire. The pointed barrel vault with concrete cross ribs and wooden beams of the nave mirrors the pointed shapes of its entrances and windows. Piers topped by pointed arches support the ribs of the ceiling. The parish hall, a compatible design by local architect Hugh R. Davies, dates from 1968.



The City of Long Beach declared St. Luke's a historical landmark in 1979. St. Luke's contains many beautiful artifacts. Its baptismal font, created in 1886, was acquired from the now demolished St. Paul's Episcopal Church located in Pershing Square. The font sits on a mosaic base assembled in Italy. The windows above the font were salvaged from the 1917 building. Created by Judson Studios of Los Angeles, they have brilliantly colored stained glass in heraldic patterns. Three windows

over the altar were also designed by Judson Studios in 1929 and two more flanking these may have been salvaged from the 1917 building. In 1967 and 1969 more stained glass windows were added to the church. Altogether eighteen stained glass lancet windows with figures of saints and religious symbols grace both sides of the nave. One of these, depicting Christ the King, came from the original St. Luke's at the corner of 5th and Locust.

Vartan Ohanian used old world techniques of heating, cutting, and twisting metal by hand in 1977 to create the Paschal Candle Stand from cast brass.

In Medieval times, screens were used to distinguish the "sacred" from the "secular." St. Luke's commissioned a carved wood rood Screen ("rood" is the old English word for "cross.") and pulpit in the mid-1930s. On both sides of the chancel, high above the choir, almost 2,000 pipes of all shapes and sizes make up the organ that was installed in 1957 by the Austin Organ Company of Connecticut. The keys are made from bone and rosewood. Vartan Ohanian used old world techniques of heating, cutting, and twisting metal by hand to create the cast brass Paschal candle stand. St. Luke's remains an authentic example of Gothic Revival architecture in central Long Beach.



Linda, Augie, Elisa, James, Donna, and Carol enjoy the Gardeners' Breakfast.

SPRING AT THE BEMBRIDGE HOUSE

By Chris Hogan

Hopefully, you enjoyed last season's newsletter with the articles and all the photos spotlighting the volunteers who made Victorian Christmas happen for 2016. Once again, attendance records were broken for December – the first-ever nighttime event was totally sold out and even more visitors came. The Garden Boutique was extremely popular and brought in lots of donations, too. I truly believe that the House was the prettiest it has ever been for the holidays. Room after room was gorgeously spectacular! ("Overwhelming!" someone said.) Everyone who worked at Victorian Christmas definitely deserves another big "Thank You."

Despite all the California rains this season, use of the Bembridge House has not seemed to slow down. After the

Volunteer Appreciation Party and the post-Christmas clean-up, the 2017 Bembridge House schedule is filled up with tours and special events. One recent Saturday, so many visitors wanted to see the House that there were three tours going on at once inside. The Bembridge House was the setting for an engagement party in January (which turned into a surprise wedding), a tea party in February, and, of course, lots of meetings.

The gardeners have also been busy, busy, busy. The rains mean that the plants are thriving! (Even the succulents and cacti are growing happily.) Of course, that means even more weeding (literally a jungle of weeds), pruning of roses, trimming of hedges, fertilizing and mulching. The raised beds were replaced and the herb/

vegetable plots needed to be redone and replanted. It's amazing how much work is necessary to make the gardens ready for springtime. The gardeners also enjoyed their annual New Year's potluck breakfast - great food and great company. Kudos again to the volunteers who make the Bembridge House Gardens so beautiful.

One last thank you is necessary – to the City of Long Beach's Gas & Oil and Water Departments. In case you didn't notice, their 2017 calendar team chose the Bembridge House for the month of February photo. And the photographer (R. Scott Duncan) took a stunning shot of the House – definitely perfect for framing. Who would have thought the House would look so elegant in a calendar picture?



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Membership Report : April 2017

Preservationist members and above

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McGuan
Melinda Roney &
Walter Wojak

ASSOCIATE

Bob & Nancy Latimer

PATRON

Lynn Brandt
Mike & Andrea Burrous
Marsha Jeffer
Geraldine Knatz
Mary Lou Martin &
Chris Byrne
Millworks
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Jean Shapen
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Liz Handley
Rick & Brad Hobbs-Seeley
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Maureen Neeley &
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Stella Ungar
Patricia Walker
Joan Wells
Sharon Westafer

PROUD OF WHERE YOU COME FROM: A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH AT THE BEMBRIDGE HOUSE

The Bembridge House is excited to participate in a new youth program to help us learn new ways of communicating with students that live in a digital age. This Spring, local nonprofit We Are the Next is partnering with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach to bring over 100 high school students to the Bembridge House. Students who visit will tour the house and then participate in conversations with the docents to explore whether the experience of visiting the Bembridge House could be adapted to better meet the learning style of the next generation.

The ideas students and docents come up with will be incorporated into a "21st Century Teaching Manual" which will guide new visitor experiences. With this program, we can incorporate students' input into future tours of a magnificent work of Victorian architecture and help it maintain its role as an important cultural establishment in the Long Beach community. In addition to gaining knowledge of the Bembridge House, participating students will be contributing to their community and hopefully will go on to explore other ways to perform this type of service.

A HISTORY OF THE HARBOR IN 74 FEET

Continued from page 1...

Port Town: How the People of Long Beach Built, Defended, and Profited From Their Harbor, will provide an overview of the port's history. Dr. Louise Ivers, Professor Emeritus of Art at California State University Dominguez Hills and author of Long Beach, A History Through Its Architecture, will discuss the construction in 1959 of the mural designed by architect Warren Derrick and hand-painted by Paul Marciel Souza. It is composed of tiles manufactured by Gladding McBean, the premier California terracotta company founded in 1875. Cheryl Perry, President of both Long Beach Heritage and the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association, will address current efforts to protect this important cultural artifact from demolition and to relocate it instead. The program will conclude with a reception and book-signing opportunity. Copies of the authors' books will be available for purchase.

Please call Long Beach Heritage at 562-493-7019 or email preservation@LBHeritage.org to make a reservation, as seating is limited.



Detail of POLB mural depicting the cattle hide trade during the period when California was part of Mexico.

LONG BEACH HERITAGE AWARDS BENEFIT 2017



City staff from Development Services at their table. In the foreground from left to right: Linda Tatum, Linda Vu, and Alan Burks (Chair of the Cultural Heritage Commission)



Port of Long Beach Commissioners and staff at their table, accompanied by members of LBH. In the foreground from left to right: Mario Gonzales, Cheryl Perry (President of LBH), and Patty Moore

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Calendar

LBH Board..... March 27th
LBH Exec Committee..... April 24th
Mural Meeting at
LBHistoricalSociety..... April 29th
LBH Board..... May 22nd
Great Homes Tour..... June 4th
Annual Meeting..... date to be announced

Walking

Downtown on the third Saturday at 9:30 a.m.
East Village on the second Saturday at 9:30 a.m.
Willmore City on the fourth Saturday at 9:30 a.m.
North Pine - May 6th at 9:30 a.m.

Bembridge Tours

Every Tuesday & the fourth Saturday at 1:30
& 2:30 p.m.

Long Beach Heritage

Newsletter Editor: Louise Ivers
Layout: Kellie Sherrill - Knightling.com
P.O. Box 92521, Long Beach, CA 90809
Telephone: (562) 493-7019
Email: preservation@lbheritage.org
Website: www.lbheritage.org

LBH Membership

Long Beach Heritage is a non-profit education and advocacy group promoting public knowledge and preservation of significant historic and architectural resources, neighborhoods and the cultural heritage of Long Beach. Dues are due on May 1st each year.

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