THE GLENDORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July-August 2022



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Newsletter & Archive

WHY PRESERVATION? AN INTRODUCTION TO IDENTIFYING AND MAINTAINING OUR HISTORIES



VER WONDER WHAT makes something historic? Join us for a special summer meeting of the Society! Learn how to help identify historically significant structures and objects, what makes things special and how to help care for and preserve them for future generations.

Professionals from the fields of architecture, conservation, and historical preservation will offer a glimpse into how you can be an advocate for preserving Glendora's heritage.

- What makes something historic?
- Why preservation is an art and a science.
- Planning and the preservation tool-kit
- What a Preservation Plan tells us and why
- Stewardship of historic-cultural properties

Please register your attendance. ghs.news/whypres

1	When	Monday, July 25th Register	
	Where	Glendora Public Library, Bidwell Forum,	
		140 S. Glendora Avenue	
	Time	6:30-8:00pm (Exit required by 8:15)	
	Cost	Open to the public FREE. Refreshments	
1		will be served.	
	Mas	SKS: LA County guidelines on this date will be followed	
	The 210 Freeway westbound will be closed.		
	About your guest speakers:		
	John L the Los An	esak is a licensed architect and Principal-in-Charge of geles office of Page & Turnbull—a full-service architecture,	

JONN LESAK is a licensed architect and Principal-in-Charge of the Los Angeles office of Page & Turnbull—a full-service architecture, design, planning, and preservation firm. He also serves as part-time faculty in the USC's Heritage Conservation program. He is currently the South Pasadena Planning Commission Chair, as well as a Board Member of Preservation Action representing California and a Fellow in the Association for Preservation Technology International (APTI). John has been the South Pasadena Cultural Heritage Commissioner (2005-14) and Chair (2009, 10 & 14). For APTI, he was West Coast Chapter President (2003-9), Co-Founder & Chair of the Technical Committee on Sustainable Preservation (2004-6), and the 2009 Annual Conference Chair in Los Angeles. John also served as AIA/LA Historic Resources Committee Chair (2016-7). He's worked on many cool historic properties, written some papers, and won a bunch of awards.

Jesús (Chuy) Barba Bonilla was born in Mexico and grew up in Zacatecas, a Spanish colonial mining city declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, which is where he became passionate about history and architecture. Jesús obtained his BA in architecture in 2012 from the Universidad del Valle de Mexico and moved to California in the same year. He is currently pursuing his Master's degree in Heritage Conservation at the University of Southern California while working as an Architectural Designer in the firm of Page & Turnbull, he also serves as Director on the Docomomo US Board.

Donna Williams is principal of her firm Williams Art Conservation, Inc., performing consulting services and hands-on treatment of sculpture and architectural materials for private and public organizations. She also works with preservation architects performing material characterization used to inform bid specifications for the cleaning and repair of historic building materials and treatment implementation. Donna Williams is a Professional Associate (PA) of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC). She is currently Chair Emeritus of the AIC Architecture Specialty Group. Ms. Williams has served as a reviewer for the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the City of Los Angeles Public Art Committee and has lectured on the conservation of sculpture and contemporary art in the United States, England and Taiwan.

Kaitlin Drisko serves as a volunteer on the Society's Ad Hoc Contract Committee for the R.C.H.D. Preservation Plan. With 30 years of experience in architectural design and historic preservation, Kaitlin has built a reputation for sympathetic architectural solutions developed in a collaborative team environment with owners, engineers and specialty professionals. Educated as an architect and engineer, she has worked in both disciplines prior to starting Drisko Studio in 2002 as a small innovative design firm that merges architectural principles with conservation practices. Drisko Studio's collaborative approach works to guide seismic retrofit projects, additions to historic buildings and new construction in historic environments to meet historic preservation standards. She is passionate about enabling organizations to benefit from good stewardship of their historic and cultural properties.

THE GLENDORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving Our Heritage Since 1947

GLENDORA MUSEUM 314 North Glendora Avenue Glendora, California 91741-2601

For special tours of the Museum call (626) 963-0419 Visit our website www.glendorahistoricalsociety.org

GENERAL MEETINGS No in-person events, but our online presentation is May 24.

BOARD MEETINGS

The next two regularly scheduled Board Meetings will take place the third Monday every month at 6pm online through Zoom. All members are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend, contact Craig Woods to get credentials to join the meeting.

Agendas, meeting minutes, and financial reports of previous meetings of the GHS Board are filed at the Museum, and can also be made available upon request in electronic format.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Craig Woods
Vice President of Administrative Services	Linda Granicy
Vice President Museum:	Karen Fortus-Garcia
Vice President of Development:	Nicole Pennington
Vice President Castle:	Scott Rubel
Secretary:	Barret Oliver
Treasurer:	Susie Kramer
Director:	Anita Enriquez
Director:	Ron Fleming
Director:	Sheharazad Fleming
Director:	
Director:	Nigel Raab
Director:	David Reiman
Director:	vacant
Director:	vacant

SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

Castle Manager:	Joe Asa
Programs Chair:	Jim Baker
IT Chair	
Museum Education Chair:	Karen Cullen
Docent Chair, Museum:	Steve Edwards
Membership Chair:	
Publicity Chair:	
Docent Chair, Castle:	Hans Hermann
Gift Shop Coordinator:	Cathy Jarvis
Castle Curator:	
Historic Preservation Chair:	Barret Oliver
Newsletter Editor:	Scott Rubel
Corresponding Secretary:	vacant
Museum Curator:	
Castle Grounds Manager:	
Hospitality Chair:	

SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

Custodian	Ashni Jarrosiak
Custodian	Mary Lieu
Castle Groundskeeper:	Nick Nomic
Administrative Assistant	

Thanks to our Donors ~ Wanda Weder ~

Castle fund in memory of **Christopher S. Rubel**

Keep your Society running.

MAZON CUSTOMER? Designate Glendora Historical Society as your Smile charity from your account page. When you make a purchase sign in to **smile**. **amazon.com**.



Or, with a click or two, you may still donate directly: ghs.news/gift

DOCUMENT ~ WOULD YOU PLEASE

Your Society runs on volunteers, and on data. Tracking volunteer hours is crucial to our understanding of our needs, as well as for reporting to potential funders and grantors. Please make it a habit to record your monthly volunteer hours through this link:

http://tinyurl.com/ghsvolunteerform



Glendora Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Federal ID #95-4182070



If there are any suggestions, corrections or additions to the Newsletter, please contact **Scott Rubel** via email at: **scott@rubelcastle.com**.

GLENDORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COME JOIN US



Upcoming activities for Glendora Historical Society Members and Friends.

~ Monday, August 22 | 6:00pm ~ BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Rubel Castle Bennett Room (or request a Zoom link)

> ~ Saturday, August 20, 2022 ~ Flashback is back! Rubel Castle cars on display







PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

S WE LAUNCH into this year, I see my role as an active listener; directing and supporting the needs of Trustees and Volunteers while encouraging leadership to work collaboratively to see ideas come to fruition.

My first goal is to fill vacancies as described by our Bylaws and Standing Rules. Several have been filled pending Board approval.

We need your help to fill other vacancies as listed in the masthead previous page. If you are interested or know someone who you feel would be a good candidate, please give me a call to discuss.

The new board is already busy tweaking ways we do things to improve efficiency so we can accomplish tasks quickly.

in 76th Society president Craig Woods. We have a General Meeting scheduled for July 25 at the Bidwell Forum from 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm. The subject is "Why Preservation?" There will be several short presentations by experts in the field and I hope to see you there. We are going to do our best to record and post it so you all can view it at your leisure, if you can't make it to the meeting.

Best to you & yours and as always feel free to give a call if there is anything you would like to discuss.





The 76th Board is sworn in by Mayor Karen K. Davis.

GLENDORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

award from Treasurer Susie Kramer.

— MUSEUM NEWS –

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO FIND

URING THE RECENT renovation at the Museum, we were prepping the 25-foot high walls in the gift shop area for painting and removed the two bookshelves. To our surprise, written on the back were a number of signatures and a date of 1997! I'm sure that handyman **Gordon Rowley** hung these bookshelves over 25 years ago!

We decided to relocate the bookshelf to the World War II display where you can see it now prominently hangingbut before handyman Herman Garcia hung it—there were a number of us who signed it. You will need to wait 25 years (or when it is next relocated) to see all the names of those who signed it. I did sign Laurie Merryman's name front and center as she did all the extensive research and selection of exhibit items for this amazing display!

-Karen Fortus Garcia

grades and

May 27, 1997

MUSEUM DOCENT/VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION 2021-'22

SATURDAY DOCENTS – open Museum on regular basis and provide service to the visiting public:

Edwin Anderson, Patt Anderson, John Brooks, Karen Cullen, Steve Edwards, Karen Garcia, Cori Green, Lena Lammerson, Ruanne Skeels, Margy Turner, Sue Wolkins.

EDUCATORS – develop the educational material and present to 325 Glendora 3rd graders:

Karen Cullen, Steven Flowers, Karen Garcia, Susanne Peters

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Cyndee Bessant – for support in attracting visitors via Eventbrite, for enthusiasm and great ideas to market and promote, for her generous donation and subsequent development of Jelly Belly display.

Pat Brabon – for support at special events and for assisting in the development of the Summer Kids Program.

Steven Bluitt Flowers – for being an amazing leader, director, supporter, and for all his work making significant improvements to the Glendora Historical Society.

Herman Garcia – for assisting in every and all projects!!

Linda Gold – for her support at special events and whenever requested special projects.

Linda Granicy – for her diligent work to access the Museum collections and donations. A never ending task which requires intense patience to work with Past Perfect database.

Susie Kramer – for budgeting assistance, record keeping, special projects support, general great ideas.

Sandy Krause - for her knowledge of Museum policies, procedures and guidance to further the organization of the Museum.

Laurie Merryman - for research and development of the World War II, and the 1950's exhibits.

Steve Slakey – for his support and his ability to secure a substantial amount of funding to make significant improvements to the Museum.

Amy Wolkins – for support in Museum improvement projects, gift shop redesign, volunteer hours tracking, updating first aid supplies.

Sue Wolkins - for her assistance in wide ranging projects, support at special events, research and exhibit preparation.



World War II Exhibit Case at the Glendora Museum.

CASTLE CURATOR ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



COTT RUBEL AND the Castle Conservation Committee surprised me with the first Mykee Award at the Installation Dinner last month. Such a great honor, I was truly speechless. You will see from this report that everything is a team effort. Thanks to everyone who kept things moving this past year, it is your love and dedication that inspires me to continue our work.

Looking back at our 75^{th} year I am so proud of the

progress we made in taking care of our Rubel Castle Historic District. This is thanks to the work of many, many volunteers (too many to name here!). Here I must focus on curator projects—all the things we do to organize, document, care for, and display our precious collections.

The Curator's Committee (Linda Granicy, Karen Fortus-Garcia and Barret Oliver) are very close to completing the first ever Collection Plan for the Historical Society Museum and Rubel Castle Historic District collections. This tool will help guide us as we reflect on 75 years of collecting, how to evaluate the archives, objects and historic buildings under our care, and decide how we need to adapt and focus our collecting going forward. We are greatly indebted to conservator **Donna Williams** who completed a Collection Conservation Assessment to help us to rethink our priorities and consider how to care for our treasures long term. Scott Rubel, Bev Schutte, Linda Granicy, Rita Amacher, Karen Isaac, Sue Wolkins, Debra Schweiner, Suzanne Carpenter and Isaiah Parham continue to help with the monumental task of documenting, cataloging, transcribing, cleaning, and photographing everything at the Castle, including books, recordings, photos, tools, art, and buildings. This is the slow, incremental, hidden work of museums, not glamorous, but we get to see a lot of neat stuff!

An ongoing special project is nearing completion! Scanning of our Dwayne Hunn photo and slide collection by USC Digital Library, a grant funded project from LA as Subject, should be accessible sometime this fall. This wonderful project, worked on by **Scott Rubel**, **Linda Granicy**, **Hans Herman**, **Karen Isaac** and led by USC Archivist in Residence **Azatuhi Babayan**, will soon provide us access to more than 1000 images of Castle buildings dating from 1968-2005. Some of these photos have already been printed and shared with docents to use on tours, more to come! We are so thankful to Dwayne and several others who have donated photos of the Rubel Castle at all stages of development (we can always use more-does anyone have photos of Albourne Rancho??!).

Excited to report that the Board has approved the hiring of dedicated custodians to help keep our Castle clean. We planned and organized for many months and training has just begun. Extra thanks to **Amy Wolkins** for scheduling cleaning service all year and helping us get things in order to get our new hires on track and to our treasurer **Susie Kramer** for handling all the paperwork.

Finally, a special thank you to the team of dedicated volunteers who help care for the **continued next page**



How To Wash A Bottle Wall: a workshop by Donna Williams Amy Wolkins, Linda Granicy, Donna Williams, Bev Schutte, Rosy Weber, Sue Wolkins, Nick Nomic, Sandy Krause, Ashni Jarrosiak, Mary Lieu



Debbie, Bev Schutte, and Linda Granicy picking white mulberries.



Curator from previous page

PARKIN

gardens, trees, and grounds of the Rubel Castle Historic District. They water, weed, turn compost, plant seeds, build planters, fix drips, spread mulch, prune trees and so much more. **Amy Wolkins**, **Nick Nomic**, **Cyndee Bessant**, **Kathy McPherson**, **Mary Lieu**, **Ashni Jarrosiak**, **Joe Asa**, **Bonnie Asa**, and **Isaiah Parham**. The oaks, citrus, and huge variety of plants and trees are living history, requiring the same care and attention as all of our other collections. By caring for these resources, we can nourish the bodies and souls of all who visit.

-Sandy Krause, Curator, Rubel Castle Historic District

A sample image from the Dwayne Hunn collection being scanned and preserved at USC. This image depicts the core of the Clock Tower being assembled inside the Albourne Reservoir in 1971, taken from the Chip House where Dwayne lived. Four large steel water tanks were attached together on their sides and raised as a single tower using winches in the tops of nearby palm trees. The foundation was built and rock work grew over the ensuing 15 years until completion of the Tower, at which point the Castle proper was considered complete. The first story of the Pigeon Tower appears in the background. This was the first room of the Castle complex that was available for industrial use. Its first use was as a pottery shop run by John Petras. In the 80s this room became the Print Shop. Michael tagged the top of the tower "Apollo 18" as a conversiion-starter for the neighbors. Michael Rubel is seen putting his back into the work next to the "O" of "Apollo." The "O," of course, is a happy face.



The tank tower after verticalization. Girl from a billboard added color to the project.



THE FIRST MYKEE AWARD GOES TO ...

Castle V.P. Scott Rubel spoke at the June Installation Dinner

E MAY NOT have seen one another in a few years, but this Society never slowed down. President **Steven Bluitt Flowers** has promoted and overseen Board improvement, keeping us cohesive through programmed Board lessons and consultations. Every passing year has seen us improve, as a group and as a Society, even with some substantially differing opinions about how our future should go.

The Castle has also become increasingly dynamic,

running on the energy of our faithful members and expanding army of volunteers. Tours are running regularly with Head Docent **Hans Hermann** in charge, and we are far more popular than we were three years ago when we shut down tours. Because of our groundskeeper **Nick Nomic** and Grounds Manager **Amy Wolkins**, the Castle trees (many of them living history; a legacy from Albourne Rancho) are producing fruit again, and the property looks better than ever. Old farmhands have been commenting on the improved **continued next page**



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Mykee Award from previous page

appearance for years, as they return to see how we are doing with the place. Castle manager, **Joe Asa** (also a builder), is plowing through a slate of work in a year that I had calculated as ten years. Membership efforts continue and we anticipate more engagement again now that we are open to doing more with **Anita Enriquez** leading this effort. The property is finally connected to the sewer due to the efforts of Vice President **Steve Slakey**, and abandoning our cesspools will complete in the future as we work with architects in the exciting new era of Preservation for Rubel Castle.

We have a gift shop program both at the Museum and Castle with many hands making it work. I probably am not aware of all it takes to run this program, and I know I will leave someone out. **Cyndee Bessant**, **Amy Wolkins**, **Karen Garcia**, and **Cathy Jarvis** from the Wishing Well in the Village.

Craig Woods plugs away at chores that keep the place running. He does more than just keep things fixed; he has a knowledge of how the property functions that surpasses mine at this point. The most important concern that he and **Barret Oliver** got together on this year is the Clock, which had previously been maintained by the late **John Lundstrom**. For the first time since 1986, the clock fell silent and it's required some serious tinkering to revive the sound of chiming bells, which is Michael's voice in the neighborhood. I don't know what we would have done without them. Try to find a professional horologist these days and you'll find they are all of an age where they will not travel far to help clock tower owners down on their luck.

Farm Friday has become an institutional work day at the Castle, with volunteers assisting Castle Curator **Sandy Krause** and **Linda Granicy** with conservation and cataloguing all the Castle artifacts. Sandy has built on the efforts of **Pat Sullivan**, our first curator, and after many forks in the road has set a direction for the position of Castle Curator with her commitment to educate herself and the rest of us about how we handle our collections and buildings. It has been a joy working with her all these years, and her role has become more crucial with our development of the Preservation Contract Committee, led by **Bob Deering** and **Craig Woods**, with preservation architects **Kaitlin Drisko** and **Bob Knight** closely consulting us on the process of ensuring longevity and security for Rubel Castle.

Three years ago **Steve Flowers** and the Board invented a new award category to recognize someone whose work preserves the legacy of **Michael Rubel**; working with consistent love and care to preserve our monument and honor the lives of the thousands who helped make the Castle manifest. Because of no live events, we never developed this award. There is so much positive energy going into the Castle lately that I am hard pressed to choose a recipient of this first award. I want to give out 20 or 30 of these tonight. Castle living requires grit and resourcefulness, and Sandy brought those attributes with her when she moved into a Pigeon Tower in 2008, finding in the Castle a way to live in line with her values. When Michael gave us his Castle, we also inherited a bit of his magic (if we want to call it that); a something that attracts creative, resourceful, life-affirming people, in whom I detect Michael's spirit; the man who with small tools and a big heart erected his foothill fixture of river rock towers as a friend to man, and governed it as a commonwealth. The Society got lucky. We started out only seeking renters: people who would pay our base taxes and insurance, but we got so much more. Residents have taken on roles and are invested in this project as only family can be.

So, I'm grateful to have dodged the vexatuion of choosing and put the award up to a vote by the CCC and I am happy to announce that, on this fiftieth anniversary of the Happy Face (which is Michael's iconic signature) Castle Curator Sandy Krause is the first ever haver of the Mykee Award for preserving both artifacts and joyful life at Rubel Castle; who can see, as Michael did, in every stone a tower, in every child a queen or king.



Castle Curator Sandy Krause beams through the newly created Mykee Award. The Happy Face image is from Michael Rubel's signature.