



# Santa Monica History Museum A SANTA MONICA TREASURE NEWSLETTER

July 2016

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## MUSEUM CALENDAR

**Saturday, July 16 at 11:00am**

**FREE: Hands on History**

**Saturday, August 20 at 11:00am**

**FREE: Hands on History**

**September 3-5**

**Museum closed for Labor Day weekend**

**Sunday, September 11 at 5:00pm**

**Annual Gala Tribute Dinner**

**Saturday, September 17 at 11:00am**

**FREE: Hands on History**

**Friday, October 7 at time TBD**

**Exhibit Opening Reception**

**Saturday, October 8**

**Veterans Exhibit Opens**

**Wednesday, October 12 at time TBD**

**FREE: Discover the History with  
Ricardo Bandidni Johnson**

**Saturday, October 15 at 11:00am –**

**FREE: Hands on History**

## SHIRLEY TEMPLE: SANTA MONICA'S BIGGEST LITTLE STAR



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Shirley Temple: Santa Monica's Biggest Little Star exhibit at the Santa Monica History Museum.

In celebration of her birthday this April, Shirley Temple's belongings returned home to Santa Monica. The Santa Monica History Museum presented an extensive Shirley Temple exhibition that ran through July 1st. The exhibit received wide praise, including notices on TCM network, in local publications such as LA Weekly and in the nationally published Closer Weekly.

Comprised of original movie costumes and posters, dolls, personal clothing, photos, correspondence, memorabilia, and much more, the exhibit told the story of Shirley Temple's life from her birth at Santa Monica Hospital to the dedication of a new Forever stamp featuring her likeness by the US Postal Service this year. Her incredible life in entertainment, diplomacy, and public service was celebrated through the display of one of a kind treasures and iconic costumes, including her red polka-dot dress from the 1934 film, *Stand Up and Cheer!* Additional artifacts shown in the exhibit included an antique carousel horse hand-restored by Shirley, her licensed clothing line, and 1945 wedding dress. Highlighted was her personal correspondence with President and First Lady Roosevelt, photos of her childhood home, and her original birth certificate from Santa Monica Hospital.

A VIP preview reception was attended by notables such as former child stars and actors who

worked with Shirley as well as her children and members of the Black family. Reception guests sipped Shirley Temple cocktails and snacked on hors d'oeuvres generously provided by the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows. The evening featured a talk by Florence Theriault and presentation from the Santa Monica City Council. A highlight of the evening was a generous donation to the museum by the youngest Shirley fan in attendance, Miss Rosanna Foss.

Our wonderful exhibit event committee was chaired by Terri Decker. Special thanks to Magdalena Davis for helping organize the fabulous volunteers and our friends at Pacific Park, Santa Monica Pier for their very generous donation and support.



From left to right: Annette Doss, SMHM board member; Magdalena Davis, Shirley Temple exhibit committee member; Susan Gabriel Potter, SMHM board member; and Becky Mejia, Shirley Temple exhibit committee member.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Louise Gabriel**

President/CEO & Founder

**Rob Schwenker, Chair**

Santa Monica Daily Press

**Terri Decker, Vice Chair**

One West Bank

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Bob Gabriel Co. - Insurance

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**Judi Barker**

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**Becky Upchurch**

Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club

**Annette Doss**

UCLA Film & Television Archives

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Andresen Associates Architects

**Dr. Michelle Christie**

No Limits for Deaf Children

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**Misti Kerns**

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**Kathleen Rawson**

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**Laurel Rosen**

SM Chamber of Commerce

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Emeritus Posthumous/Museum Co-founder

**Dr. John E. Gilmore**

Emeritus Posthumous

**John M. Bohn**

Emeritus Posthumous

## STAFF

**Kathryn Evans, MPP**

Development and Museum Manager

**Sara Crown, MSLIS**

Archivist

**Ricardo Bandini-Johnson**

Historian

**Marc Wanamaker**

Film Consultant

**Richard Orton**

Newsletter Designer

## PRESIDENT'S JULY MESSAGE

Greetings everyone!



Our museum continues to grow! This is its 40th year of public service. Our vast historical collections are comprised of over 1 million

items. A special thanks to our new and ongoing members. We deeply appreciate your support! This year is especially significant as we launched our annual celebration of Shirley Temple's birthday and exhibit of her memorabilia. It was a very exciting and nostalgic exhibit of over 100 of Shirley's original movies costumes, dolls and items from her personal life and diplomatic career. I received an invitation to the unveiling of the new Shirley Temple Postage Stamp. There were distinguished speakers who praised her for the cheer she brought to the country during the Great Depression. Shirley Temple's family invited me to their reception preceding the stamp dedication. It was fantastic! Many movie stars who were acquainted with their mother were in attendance. It was a memorable day. Our museum has some great programs and events coming up and we invite you to attend them and join us for a wonderful time.

Best wishes,

*Louise*

Louise (Mrs. Bob Gabriel)  
President

### Santa Monica History Museum Annual Fund

The Santa Monica History Museum has been preserving, protecting, and promoting the history of the Santa Monica Bay area for 40 years, but we need your help! Please consider making a gift to the museum's annual fund. Your gift will go toward protecting the museum's historical collections, historical photograph digitization efforts, and educational programs.

**You can make a gift online...**

<http://santamonicahistory.org/support/donate-today/>

**Or by calling...**

(310) 395-2290.

A gift of any amount will be greatly appreciated!

The Santa Monica History Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our tax ID number is 95-3019295.

### Welcome to Santa Monica

Congratulations to Kathryn Jeffery who is the new Superintendent and President of Santa Monica College. She brings over three decades of higher education experience. She has previously served as President of Sacramento City College.

Welcome to our city's new Fire Chief, William Walker. He has 21 years of public safety experience in addition to holding the position of Fire Chief. He has served as a Building Department Director, Battalion Chief, Captain, Fire Marshall and Paramedic.



### Shop at Ralph's?

Register your Ralph's card online at [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) by clicking on Community.

Choose the Santa Monica History Museum and Ralph's will donate a portion of your purchases back to the museum!



# Save the Date!

We hope you will join us on  
**Sunday, September 11th**  
**5:00pm**

at the Fairmont Miramar  
 Hotel & Bungalows



Santa Monica History Museum

## Annual Gala Dinner

*Tracking History: Celebrating the  
 Return of Passenger Rail*

Honoring

• Dee and Jim Menzies

• The Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows with  
 Ellis O'Connor, MSD Hospitality and  
 Matt Lehman, General Manager

• The Santa Monica Public Library

[www.santamonicahistory.org](http://www.santamonicahistory.org)

Sponsorships now available and auction  
 and raffle items welcome!

Contact Kathryn for more information: (310) 395-2290 or  
[kevans@santamonicahistory.org](mailto:kevans@santamonicahistory.org)

We will not be mailing a  
 "Save the date" for this event.  
 If you would like one emailed to  
 you please contact Kathryn at  
[kevans@santamonicahistory.org](mailto:kevans@santamonicahistory.org).

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Volunteers Michael Burton and Marielle Smith.

### Volunteer opportunities

Want to get involved with the museum?  
 We're looking for committed volunteers for  
 projects including:

- Research & Collections
- Teaching & Tours
- Visitor & Events Services
- Marketing & Outreach

Please contact us today!

(310) 395-2290 or  
[kevans@santamonicahistory.org](mailto:kevans@santamonicahistory.org)

### Get involved on committees

Looking to get more involved with the  
 museum? We could use your help on one of  
 our committees! The following committees  
 are looking for members:

- Educational Tours & Events
- Exhibits
- Marketing & Publicity
- Membership

If you're interested, please email.

[louisegabriel@santamonicahistory.org](mailto:louisegabriel@santamonicahistory.org)

## VOLUNTEERS

Our dedicated volunteers are an important  
 part of our museum. From archiving pho-  
 tos to providing research services to being  
 a welcoming face for guests – they help  
 keep our museum running! We sincerely  
 thank the following volunteers for all that  
 they do!

Michael Burton	Shelly Meena
Micca Cao	Becky Mejia
Ariana Clare	Rina Okagaki
David Contreras	Harper Olmon
Greta Couper	Patti Pavloff
Kari Czer	Andrew Pierce
Ciara Dalling	Paola Ramos
Bex Dumler	Yolanda Rubio
Isabel Gan	Ben Salin
Aleksander Garlie	Marielle Smith
Ayesha Haas	Summer Swofford
Anna Marie Howell	Shigeko Tachiki
Caroyln Hwang	Carolyn Taffel
Chrysoula Kapelonis	Meenal Thakur
Genia Kapelonis	Evangeline Yang
Gary Khamneipur	





Film costumes from the height of Shirley Temple's acting career on display.

## SANTA MONICA'S BIGGEST LITTLE STAR



Special guests Francine York, actress (left), and Cora Sue Collins, child actress (right), at the opening reception and exhibit premiere.



Rosanna Foss (left) presents donation to Louise Gabriel, SMHM President, with SMHM board members Eddie Guerboian (behind) and Terri Decker (right).

### A Gift from the Heart



Please consider including the museum in your estate plans. When you include the Santa Monica History Museum in a trust or will, make a gift of real estate, or make another type of planned gift you are helping preserve our community's rich history for generations to come. Your gift will ensure that the museum will thrive in the decades ahead.

Eugenia Dean, long-time supporter of the museum, recently included the museum in her trust. You, like her, can help preserve, protect, and promote our rich, local history. Please remember the museum when you make your estate plans. Your gift from the heart will mean so much to the museum.



Shirley Temple's personal clothing, including her 1945 wedding gown on display.



## CUPID'S MESSAGE: A SELECTION OF VINTAGE VALENTINES

In celebration of Valentine's Day, the Museum presented an exhibit of classic valentine cards, which were on display for the month of February. Loaned by our president and founder, Louise Gabriel, the collection of cards spanned from the late 19th century to the early 20th century. A range of card and candy box styles representative of the "golden age of valentine production" in the late 1800s were shown.

Named for a Roman priest who married couples against the wishes of Emperor Claudius, St. Valentine's Day was officially established in 496 AD. When the holiday spread to England in the 1500s, it grew into a celebration of passion when lovers exchanged flowers and sentimental notes of affection.

Commercial valentine cards appeared in England in the early 1800s and were remarkable for their use of elegant materials such as lace and gold leaf. One of these ornate valentines was sent to a young American woman named Esther Howland (1828-1904).

Howland found the card so unusual and so lovely that she decided to create her own in the late 1840s. Her father owned a successful stationary store and was able to order the special materials needed to create her beautiful valentines. An immediate success with customers, she enlisted the help of friends to hand make the cards, thus bringing the valentine card craze to America.



Vintage and antique Valentine cards on display.

## Louise Gabriel receives Mark Benjamin Community Impact Award



Museum President, Louise Gabriel recently received the Santa Monica Bay Area Human Relations Council's Mark J. Benjamin Community Impact Award for her 40 years of ongoing community service. The award was especially meaningful to her since Mark Benjamin sponsored our museum's Morley Builder's Santa Monica and California Research Library.

## Hands on History

Join us on the third Saturday of every month from 11:00am to 12:00pm for this free workshop!

**Hands on History** is a free program offered for children and families on the third Saturday of every month. Elementary age children are led into the museum galleries to learn about that month's history theme and then return to the lobby for a related craft or activity. By creating something with their hands related to the history topic of the month, children will create memories based upon their community's history. Families are invited to join us for this fun-filled learning hour at the museum!

### Upcoming Dates

**July 16th**  
City of Santa Monica Anniversary

**August 20th**  
Pacific Ocean Park

**September 17th**  
Hispanic Heritage Month

**October 15th**  
Veterans

**November 19th**  
Native American Heritage Month



Antique Valentine card that was featured in the museum's exhibit.



## Santa Monica's Historic Rail Lines



On January 20, 2016 Ralph Cantos and Alan Fishel from the Electric Railway Historical Association of Southern California and Peter James from the City of Santa Monica presented a lecture on the historic rail lines of Santa Monica and the coming of Metro's Expo Line. It was an exciting evening of reliving the history of passenger rail in Santa Monica. A mini exhibit including photos of rail cars and a 1908 one-year rail pass for the Los Angeles Pacific Company was set up in the museum's temporary exhibit room.

## Cub Scout Tour

In January the museum hosted a tour for a local Cub Scout pack. The boys were excited to learn about the history of Santa Monica and loved the Outlook interactive exhibit. Tours for school classes and youth groups are free. Contact Kathryn Evans at (310) 395-2290 or kevans@santamonicahistory.org for more information or to schedule a tour.



## Women's History Month

On March 9, 2016 the museum celebrated Women's History Month by hosting Santa Monica Chief of Police Jacqueline A. Seabrooks. Chief Seabrooks discussed her journey to becoming the first African American, female Chief of Police for the City of Santa Monica. Chief Seabrooks was also the first woman to be promoted to the rank of Police Sergeant, Police Lieutenant, and Police Captain within the Santa Monica Police Department. She was the first African American, female Chief of Police for the City of Inglewood and indeed the first African American, female municipal police chief in the history of California.

## New Board Chair

Rob Schwenker was unanimously voted Chairman of the museum's Board of Directors. Rob is publisher of the Santa Monica Daily Press. He is an active member of Santa Monica and strongly believes in giving back to the community. His service includes past President of Santa Monica Kiwanis Club, Vice President of Individual Development for the Santa Monica Jaycees, and Board Member of the Santa Monica's Police Activities League. Rob also volunteers each week for Meals On Wheels West. Our gratitude to Ric Bandini-Johnson, the previous Chair, for his commitment, dedicated service and leadership.



## Rotary Grant

The Santa Monica History Museum has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Santa Monica Rotary Club Foundation to purchase new display cases, stands, stanchions, and signage holders. David Bohn presented the check to museum Board Member, Susan Gabriel Potter and museum

Development and Museum Manager, Kathryn Evans on behalf of the Santa Monica Rotary Club Foundation at the Santa Monica Rotary Club meeting on Friday, May 6, 2016. The generous grant funding will be put to work right away updating the display cases, stands, stanchions, and signage holders in the museum's exhibit galleries. This grant will make possible the safe exhibition of more of the museum's historical collections. Thank you, Santa Monica Rotary!

## SMC History Class Visits

On March 1st, Professor Chi's History Class from Santa Monica College visited the Museum. Sara Crown led students on a tour of the museum and presented a selection of unique items to show how the Museum's collections and archives can be used for research. Several of Professor Chi's students returned to the museum and conducted research for their year-end projects.







Sunset Trail walkway, circa 1900 (SMHM Collection)

By Sara Crown, SMHM Archivist and  
 Ayesha Haas, SMHM Volunteer

Set high above a wide expanse of beach, Santa Monica in the late 1800s was a young but quickly growing town. As a consequence of its height, which provided spectacular ocean views, the town was cut off from the beach. In 1896, a walkway named "Sunset Trail" was cut into the wall of treacherously steep bluffs, providing pedestrian access from Linda Vista Park (now known as Palisades Park) to the beach below.

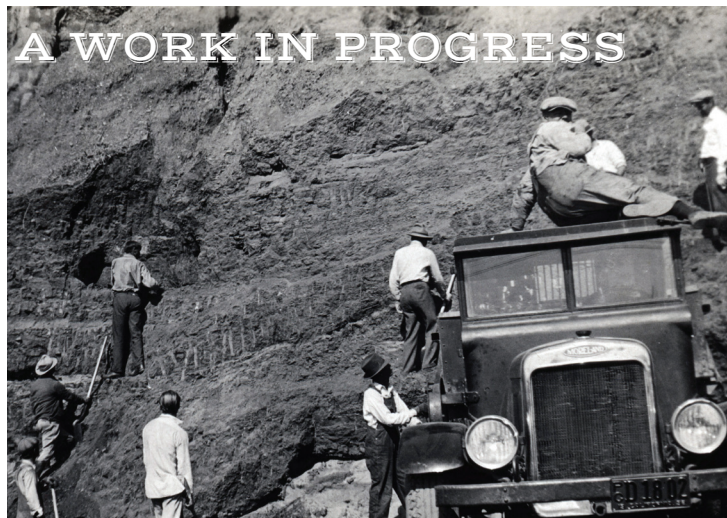
Sunset Trail was not intended for auto traffic, so in May 1905, Mayor Dudley passed an ordinance to create "Linda Vista Drive", which was completed in 1906 as the only officially sanctioned automobile route from the top of the ocean bluffs to the beach below. Celebrating its 110th birthday this year, this 1400-foot long graded dirt road was once shared by sporty convertible roadsters and horse-drawn wagons hauling freight.

### Amazon Wish List

Want to play Santa in July? Check out the museum's wish list on Amazon.com:

<http://tinyurl.com/SMHMAmazonWishList>

Support the museum with a thoughtful gift from our wish list!



Workers widening the incline to accommodate paving, 1930 (SMHM Collection)

The drive was widened and paved in the 1930s to handle heavier traffic to meet the newly constructed "Roosevelt Highway", which was later renamed Pacific Coast Highway. As part of efforts to mitigate the effects of the Great Depression, unemployed men—many of whom had no prior construction experience—were assigned to work on the paving project. In 1932, during the improvement work, an intriguing coffin bearing human remains was uncovered 60 feet below the park, the contents of which remain a mystery to this day. In addition to the paving and widening, a cast concrete balustrade was added. This fine balustrade, as well as the roadway itself, are both elegantly illustrated in a large 12' x 12' mural from the Evening Outlook's former headquarters and now on permanent display in our museum lobby.

Upon the 1930s project's completion, the road was christened the "California Incline", due to its extension from California Avenue. Although

eligible in 1998 for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, due to severe deterioration of both the structural supports and instability of the bluffs, the Incline is currently undergoing work to completely replace the original structure. It will be widened by five and a half feet and there will be a separate lane for cyclists and pedestrians. Should construction be a complete façade changer, our Evening Outlook mural is one of the ways Santa Monica residents and visitors can reminisce about the Incline of yesteryear.



### A Fond Farewell to Our Departed Civic Leader

Police Chief James Keane retired from the Police Department in 1991 after serving the city for 34 years beginning in 1957. He was appointed to the department's top executive position in 1979 and served as the City's 14th Chief of Police until his retirement.

### In Memoriam

Our deepest sympathies to the families of our dedicated members:

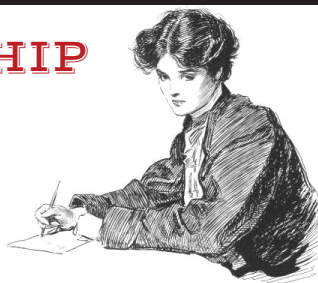
Curtis Baer  
 Winifred Buller  
 Eugenia Dean  
 James Keane  
 Sheila Ostrow  
 Eve Rosove



# BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

## MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP ALWAYS MAKES A GREAT GIFT!

Please remember the Santa Monica History Museum  
in your will and trust too.



### Membership Benefits Include

- Newsletters
- 10% off all purchases in the gift shop
- Invitations to special presentations, lectures, programs & events
- Free admission to the Museum
- Free access to the Morley Builders Research Library
- **And so much more!**

### Membership Levels

- ☐ Individual: \$40
  - ☐ Household (2 members at same address): \$50
  - ☐ Each additional member at same address: \$5
  - ☐ Organization: \$50
  - ☐ Students (up to age 18): \$5
  - ☐ Sponsor: \$60
  - ☐ Patron: \$100
  - ☐ Business: \$200 or more
  - ☐ Life: \$500
  - ☐ Life/Business: \$1000
  - ☐ Special Gift: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- memberships above \$40 may include two individuals at the same address*
- ☐ I have photographs/materials to donate/loan
  - ☐ I wish to participate on a committee/event
  - ☐ I wish to be a volunteer
  - ☐ I wish to make a donation

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Email

Please make your check payable to:

Santa Monica History Museum, PO Box 3059, Santa Monica, CA 90408

Telephone: 310-395-2290 (please phone for credit card payment)



### Santa Monica History Museum

1350 7th Street

Santa Monica, CA 90401

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 3059

Santa Monica, CA 90408

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