



Las Angelitas del Pueblo

Newsletter — Spring 2018

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument
www.lasangelitas.org

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2018

Las Angelitas Events

April Field Trip – Hollywood Museum:

Saturday, April 28, 1:30 pm

2018 Awards Luncheon (and Summer General Meeting):

Monday, June 11, 11 am

Summer 2018 Docent Training Class:

Wednesday, July 18, 25
and August 1, 8 and 15

Fall 2018 General Meeting:

Monday, October 15, 10 am

2018 Holiday Party:

Saturday, December 8

Pueblo Events

Cinco de Mayo:

May 5 and 6, 11 am – 9 pm

Avila Adobe Wine Celebration:

May 17, 5:30 pm – 8 pm
(see page 4 article and page 6 flier)

LA Opera's Zarzuela Project in Concert at El Pueblo (Free Concert):

May 20, 1 pm & 3 pm, Kiosko

Los Angeles City Birthday Celebration:

(including bike/walk from the San Gabriel Mission) :

August 25, 6 am – 1 pm

Mexican Independence Day

September 15-16, 10 am – 8 pm

PLEASE RETURN YOUR SERVICE STARS

It's that time of year again. Please return your service stars to the bowl on the counter near the Parking Validation Log. Next, be sure to attend the Annual Awards Luncheon on June 11, 2018 to get next year's service star for your lanyard.

General Membership Meeting - April 9, 2018

By Myrna Richardson, Secretary

President Carl McCraven opened the meeting by speaking about transparency. Carl gave a brief message about what's new with Las Angelitas, saying that things are changing both at and around the Plaza, i.e., the new apartments and retail spaces being built between Spring and Hill Streets. He mentioned the enhancements to our Tour Scheduling system, with confirmation of scheduled tours by Las Angelitas which is a major improvement. Carl urged all docents, especially docents who have been touring for a while, to look at the new training materials created by Education Director Dave McMnamin.

After a security problem with loss of our bottled water supply, the Tour Office has been rekeyed.

Spanish and other language tours are now being offered. The Docent Directory will list all other languages spoken by our docents.

Security for the Plaza and Olvera Street is provided by Cypress Security (213-269-9740). If we are in the area at night, Security is available to walk us to our car. Carl suggested that we program their phone number into our cell phones in case of problems while touring.

Chris Espinosa gave an update on Pueblo projects (see page 3).

The nominations for officers were announced: President Carl McCraven; Vice-President Chris Roten; Secretary Myrna Richardson and Treasurer Jeannie Lopez. Current Treasurer Les Hanson is stepping down. Since there was only one nomination for each office, the slate of officers was deemed elected by acclamation following a motion.

The Winter 2018 Docent Class was introduced by Education Director Dave McMnamin (see page 4).

Scheduling Director Rozanne Gallegos explained how scheduling and SignUp.com work. Occasionally, there are scheduling problems. Rozanne is keeping a log of all scheduling problems. She asked all docents to tell her or Myrna Richardson about any problems with tours that are scheduled incorrectly or not scheduled.

Director of Community Outreach Marina Perez gave a brief summary of our outreach and social media programs (see page 5).

Membership Chair Michael Fujita is preparing an updated Docent Directory, which will be available at the Annual Awards Luncheon on June 11, 2018, in the courtyard of the Ávila Adobe.

Events Director Terrence Butcher was commended for the diverse and interesting field trips and speakers for General Meetings he organizes.

Julia Bogany: Inspirational Tongva Women

Seven historic Tongva women were highlighted for their inspiration for the future of the remaining Tongva in the presentation by Julia Bogany at the April 9, 2018 Las Angelitas del Pueblo General Meeting.

Julia Louise Bogany is a member of the Tongva tribe, is on their Tribal Council and is their Cultural Consultant. The Tongva occupied much of what is the LA Basin, extending to the Channel Islands, stretching over 2500 square miles. They were mainly hunter-gatherers who moved with the seasons. However, some of the Tongva living on the coast went deep sea fishing in their canoes and did not have to travel with the seasons.

The first woman discussed was the Water Woman, who was the first Tongva woman to work for the LA Dept. of Water and Power. One of her jobs was to deliver water gathered from a water wheel located in what is now known as the new State Park. She stood up for the right of women to work outside the home. She is honored with a statue of her pouring water at the Metro Gold Line Lincoln/Cypress Station, which is near the LA River.

The La Brea Tar Pits Woman was the only human bones found in the La Brea Tar Pits in 1914. She was about 9,000 years old and was displayed for years at the Page Museum until 2004. She was removed because the curator worried that the display could offend Native Americans. Mrs. Bogany considers her as “a witness to the longevity of the Tongva Tribe.”

The third woman discussed was the Lone Woman of San Nicholas Island, also known as Juana Maria. She was born in 1811 and was the last surviving member of the Nicoleno Tribe. She lived on the island by herself for 18 years after an alleged rescue mission took people off the beach of the island to board ships and either left her behind or she may have jumped ship to stay on the island. In 1853, another expedition successfully found her and brought her to the Santa Barbara Mission where she found herself unable to communicate with anyone due to language barriers. Seven weeks after arriving there, she died of illness. Her life story inspired the novel *The Island of the Blue Dolphin* written by Scott O’Dell. Mrs. Bogany says Juana Maria “encourages independence, survival skills and reminds us that we are never really alone.”

The next woman was named Azusa by Father Crespi, which translates to “blessed miracle”. According to Tongva history, she healed the chief of her tribe by laying her hands on him. The city of Azusa (the city of miracles) is named after her.

Toypurina was born in 1760 and was a well-known healer and medicine woman among the Tongva Tribe. But she had a rebellious nature and led a revolt against the Mission San Gabriel Arcangel in 1785 based on her resentment of the Spanish missionaries’ brutality toward her people.

She was found guilty of leading the attack but in a surprising turnaround, she became a Christian and her name became Regina Josepha. She was baptized and married a Spanish soldier and had 3 children. She appeared as a fictional character in Isabel Allende’s book *Zoro*. In 2014, her life was the subject of the play *Toypurina*.

Finally, Victoria Reid was the daughter of the leader of the Gabrielino in the San Gabriel Mission. She was mentored by Dona Eulalia Perez at the mission who trained her in manners, etiquette and how to be a proper Spanish woman. Victoria was first married to an Indian man, with whom she had four children. After his death in 1837, she married Hugo Reid, who was baptized by the Catholic church in order to marry Victoria. After the marriage, Hugo Reid wrote letters to the *LA Star* newspaper describing the hardships of the Gabrielinos. After Hugo’s death, Victoria lived in their adobe home until it was destroyed in the 1855 earthquake. She moved into the San Gabriel Mission until she died of smallpox in 1868.

All of these women gave inspiration to Mrs. Bogany to continue her research of her ancestors and pass it down to her grandchildren and great grandchildren. There are approximately 3000 people today who identify themselves as Tongva, a far cry from the thousands that existed before Europeans arrived.

Mrs. Bogany’s new book, *Tongva Woman Empowering the Future*, is now available.

Les Probst—Playwright! Staged Reading and Discussion!

Lester Probst is a collaborative author of a thought provoking play entitled *Grandfathered: Where War Lingers - the Effect of War on Multiple Generations of One Patriotic Family*. Lester and his co-authors will be presenting a reading of the play, with an audience participation discussion of the veterans’ experiences following the reading.

When: Saturday, May 5, 2018

Where: North Hollywood Amelia Earhart Regional Library
5211 Tujunga Ave, North Hollywood, CA 91602

Admission: FREE!

Please join Les and his veteran co-authors for an interesting and enlightening afternoon.

Luis Fuerte and Huell Howser



The speaker at the January General Meeting was Luis Fuerte, Huell Howser's cameraman, editor, sound engineer and on-air operations person and author of the book *Louie, Take a Look at This! My Time with Huell Howser*. Before the speaker, we were treated to a video of our own Marlene Gordon Pfeifer and Huell touring five fountains in the LA Area. It was great. If you missed seeing this at the meeting, or want to watch it again, you can stream it from the Huell Howser archives (see the box below for instructions).

Luis Fuerte recounted a number of stories about his relationship and adventures with Huell. One of Louie's favorite shows with Huell was a 1989 *Videolog* story titled "The Elephant Man." In this, Huell reunited an eighty-year-old former elephant trainer named Charlie Franks with his favorite elephant, Nita, who had retired to the San Diego Wild Animal Park when Charlie retired. Charlie hadn't seen Nita for 15 years, but when he called to a group of elephants 25 yards away at the Park, Nita responded and walked over to Charlie. Charlie then led Nita through her old circus routines, even though she hadn't done them for 15 years. It was amazing!

A second story was about a show with World War II veterans from the last U.S. horse-mounted cavalry. At the end of the day, Louie suggested that the closing shot could be Huell and the veterans riding horses into the sunset. Unfortunately, Huell's saddle hadn't been cinched correctly, so he fell off the horse. Louie said, "Huell, you ruined my shot! How could you fall off the horse and ruin my shot?" He couldn't convince Huell to try it again, so the show ended with just the sunset.

Pueblo Update

Chris Espinosa brought us up-to-date in the April General Meeting on the following Pueblo projects:

Homeless Shelter: The city is opening a homeless shelter in Parking Lot 5 (corner of Alameda & Arcadia) in July. It will house and supply on-site services for 40 men and 20 women for periods of between 60 and 90 days, and will operate for a maximum of 3 years. In addition, secure storage facilities for homeless belongings have been set up in a trailer on Paseo Luis Olivares (between La Placita and Parking Lot 5). Because of this, the following changes have been made around the Pueblo:

- Sanchez Street is now closed and used for staff parking.
- The entrance to the Chinese American Museum has been changed to the patio off Los Angeles Street.
- Fencing has been installed around Plaza Delores, and it will be closed from 10 pm to 5 am.
- A security substation office has opened on Olvera Street (and additional security guards have been hired).

Restrooms: The restrooms on Olvera Street (off the hallway just north of El Paseo Inn) will be remodeled and significantly expanded (with the women's room tripling in size and the men's room almost doubled in size). Temporary restrooms will be located in Parking Lot 3 (the valet lot on Alameda Street just south of Cesar Chavez) during the 6 to 7 months of construction.

Pedestrian Promenade from Union Station: Work is progressing with Metro on the design for new pedestrian access from Union Station to the Pueblo. Under the current plan, the driveways from Alameda Street to Union Station will be converted to a pedestrian promenade, and half of Los Angeles Street will be closed. In addition, a lane of bus parking will be added to Arcadia Street from Alameda to Spring (during non-rush hour times).

Father Serra Park: There will be light improvements to the park.

RFP: There is a Request for Proposal out seeking a retail store or restaurant for the former El Tranquilo gallery (which closed last year, along with the Visitor Center).

Gateway to Nature is eliminating retail sales to concentrate on being a full-time education and outreach center.

Streaming Huell Howser Programs: Most of Huell Howser's programs are available online in Chapman University's Huell Howser Video Archives (<https://blogs.chapman.edu/huell-howser-archives/>). Once there, click on "View the Video Archives," then use "Search for" to find specific videos (such as "Fountains" to watch the tour of fountains with Marlene Gordon Pfeifer or "Elephant" to see Charlie Franks and Nita).

Docent Training Update by Dave McMenam



The Winter 2018 Docent Training class had 11 students, including two from the new Los Angeles State Historic Park, who were in the class to learn about Los Angeles history, but who have also indicated an interest in leading tours.

Special thanks to Don Sloper for his presentation on early Los Angeles history, Suellen Cheng for her presentation on the Chinese Experience in Los Angeles and tour of the Chinese American Museum, Carol Mitchell for her great tour and Chris Espinosa for his always entertaining and fun behind-the-scenes tour.

In the final class, I encouraged the students to practice parts of a tour with me or other active docents, and to give full practice tours to friends and family. Once they feel ready, they are certified by successfully giving a full tour to me or an agreed-upon active docent. In the week following the final class, I certified two of the students, Moses Martinez and Tony Valdez, who have both been giving tours each week since then, and are now active docents. Last week, I certified another student from the class, Joyce Pais.

There will be a new Docent Training class on the following dates in July and August, 2018

Dates: Wednesday, July 18, 25
and August 1, 8 and 15

Time: 10 am – 12:30 pm

Location: Tour Office

Please have anyone you know who would be interested contact Kate Probst to register:

Email: KateMProbst@aol.com

Phone: 818-761-6480

A Message from President Carl McCraven

It was great to see and meet so many Las Angelitas members at the General Meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing and meeting more Las Angelitas at the June Awards Luncheon. I'm also looking forward to an active and productive term as President. Working with the Board, there are plans to increase the number of Active Docents, to get more of our members involved with Las Angelitas activities, to have a more visible presence in the Plaza, to establish working relationships with the Museums at El Pueblo and to assist El Pueblo Management with their programs to introduce the Plaza's homeless population back into society. We're off to a great start with the increased enthusiasm of the Active Docents. We are working closely with El Pueblo Management to achieve our goals. I welcome your comments and assistance.

April Field Trip by Terrence Butcher

Our April field excursion will be a visit to the **Hollywood Museum**, located at [1660 N Highland Avenue](#). Our self-guided tour is scheduled for **April 28**, at **1:30 PM**, and we will rendezvous outside the front entrance on Highland Ave. As always, please try to arrive a few minutes early. Please call me (626-421-5885) if there's any confusion regarding location once you've arrived in Hollywood.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 seniors - which most of us are! - and also \$12 for students. I strongly recommend using Metro (Red Line Hollywood & Highland Station) or Lyft/Uber to get there, as parking in Hollywood is difficult and frequently pricey. You may want to consider carpooling as well.

Avila Adobe Wine Celebration

The 200th Anniversary of the Avila Adobe will be celebrated Thursday, May 17 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm honoring Trailblazer Jean Bruce Poole. Eat and sip wine from seven local wineries under the overhanging grape vines (believed the oldest in California) that produce historic "Viña Madre" wine with a complimentary split included with the first 50 premium tickets sold. A silent auction and short program are included.

Tickets: <https://aawc2018.eventbrite.com>,
or Google: avila adobe wine celebration

Please invite your friends, neighbors and colleagues to this event. See last page for more information.

TCM Noir Alley

by John Hendry

Well, you missed your chance to see our Tour Office and environs--from an old 1949 movie playing in rotation on TCM, Turner Classic Movies.

However, one new place to see "old Los Angeles" is via Turner Classic Movies' "Noir Alley" on Saturdays at 9 pm, and repeated on Sunday morning at 7 am.

Many films of the Post WW II era were so full of violence, dark cities and corrupt cops that the phrase "film noir" ("dark film") was coined to explain it. And, where else but "downtown LA" to shoot them!

One amazing film was 1949's "T MEN". A cheap low budget film about counterfeiters and "T MEN" (the-Treasury Men) who chase them--that centered on the "lost Los Angeles" just east of the tour office.

The undercover "T-Man" comes to LA by train--Union Station, naturally--and starts walking. The signpost up ahead says "Ferguson Alley"--and the "Twilight Zone" begins. "Ferguson Alley" was notorious as the alley connecting Alameda St to Los Angeles St--the famous center of vice next to the Lugo Adobe.

A little later in the film, the undercover T-MAN goes to meet his contact in a "Chinese apothecary" (the historic Fire House as it looked in 1949). The camera goes inside, shooting backwards through the Chinese medicinal jars and through a huge plate glass window (the fire station's arch filled in with glass). You can see the Plaza in the distance.

Here's the real tour--that every docent wishes he could take--"A living dream of the way it was."

If you're good at this, there's no greater fun than watching one of these old movies and "calling out" exactly where they are and marveling at scenes 70 years ago.

As a side note, the Lugo Adobe is another story of "Lost Los Angeles." The story goes that preservationists wanted to save the Lugo Adobe, the "fourth side" of the Plaza, which was opposed by Christine Sterling. This was more known for its Chinese brothels and opium dens after the Lugos left. Mrs. Sterling brought in a mariachi band to disrupt the meeting and her view prevailed. A stronger, stiffer view of Mrs. Sterling "editing the "story"? And so, preservationists lost that day.

Part of the Plaza and its environs from the 1800's until the 1950's is now the greenbelt to Union Station.

Join Las Angelitas on Social Media!

During the last few months, Las Angelitas has been busy working on building our online community. In addition to making significant updates to the [Las Angelitas website](#), we've also been establishing our online presence. We have seen growth in our Facebook page likes by utilizing a variety of techniques, as well as found success in using the Las Angelitas Facebook page to help advertise upcoming docent training classes. Please take a moment to check out our website, especially the new section titled, "[Docent Resources](#)", as well as our other online pages.



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Search for [Las Angelitas del Pueblo](#)

Editor: Lindsay McMenamain

Contact me with history tidbits, news or notes, and interesting articles written by you:

news@lasangelitas.org

Deadline for next newsletter: June 18, 2018

Tour Statistics

Number of People Toured: January through March

2018: 1810

2017: 1531

2016: 2057

2015: 1309

The El Pueblo Park Association & El Pueblo Historical Monument proudly present

Avila Adobe Wine Celebration

200th Anniversary of the Avila Adobe House

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018
E-10 OLVERA STREET, LOS ANGELES CA 90012
5:30pm - 8:00pm

Honoring 2018 Trailblazer
Jean Bruce Poole

Viña Madre Admission

Limited Availability: \$40

(includes commemorative bottle of Avila Angelica wine)

General Admission: \$20

Guests must be at least 21 years of age (with valid ID) to attend the event.

Event will feature:

History Program

Wine Tastings

Silent Auction

All proceeds support free public programming at El Pueblo.

Buy your tickets today: aawc2018.eventbrite.com

For more information, please call (213) 485.8437.

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