



## In the Canyon: Mid-Century Modern Tour *by Robin Venturelli*



*Tourgoers as seen from Entenza House rooftop deck. Photo by Mike Crosby*



*The Entenza House. Photo by Mike Crosby*



*Architectural historian Barbara Lamprecht speaks at the Bailey House. Photo by Mike Crosby*

On October 23rd, the Conservancy presented a Mid-Century Modern tour and reception in Santa Monica Canyon. Over 160 guests enjoyed learning about the early modern and Case Study homes that made architectural innovation and modernism world-famous and supported the work of the Santa Monica Conservancy at the same time.

Architect Harwell Hamilton Harris designed the Tour's first two homes. The first home visited, the Pumphrey House (1939), provided an example of Frank Lloyd Wright's influence on Harris. During the tour of this property, Michael Folonis, FAIA, talked informally to guests on the patio about the renovation. The second stop was the Entenza House, commissioned in 1937 by John Entenza,

the publisher, owner, and editor of *Arts & Architecture Magazine*.

The tour proceeded to the Chautauqua site purchased by Entenza to allow the construction of a cluster of Case Study homes. The West House, designed by architect Rodney Walker in 1948, was Case Study # 18. Guests heard architect Gordon Olschalger describe the restoration of the home after the 1994 earthquake while enjoying the dramatic views of Santa Monica Bay from its all-glass garden façade. At Case Study # 8, tour participants viewed the Charles and Ray Eames Home and Studio from 1949. Set in a wooded meadow overlooking the Pacific, it remains one of the most iconic modern houses in the United States.

The post-tour reception was held at the Bailey House, designed by Richard Neutra in 1948 (Case Study # 20). Guests enjoyed beverages and hors d'oeuvres in the expansive garden alongside original sculpture by Rodin, Max Ernst, Robert Indiana and Robert Graham. One of the highlights was listening to a talk by architectural historian and noted Neutra expert, Barbara Lamprecht.

This terrific event was conceived by Conservancy Board Members Michael Folonis, FAIA, and Mike Deasy; it was sponsored by the real estate firm Deasy Penner & Partners. It could not have been held without the generosity of the owners who opened their homes to our members and guests.

**See Page 4 for more about the mid-Century Tour**

## Annual Meeting at Church in Ocean Park *by Ruthann Lehrer*

The Annual Meeting of the Santa Monica Conservancy will be held at the historic Church in Ocean Park on Sunday, January 23, 2011, from 2-5 PM. The Church, located at 235 Hill Street, is part of the Third Street Historic District.

The Church in Ocean Park, constructed in 1923, reflects an architectural trend of the 1920s for Period Revival styles. It is a mixture of Gothic Revival, American Colonial Revival and Italianate features. The interior is noteworthy for remarkable stained glass, especially two pictorial windows. Its scale and corner tower at 2nd and



Hill Street make it a familiar and distinctive neighborhood landmark. The church is the site for many community events and performances, giving it a prominent place in our civic and cultural life.

The program for the Annual Meeting will feature a guest speaker, the Board of Directors election, volunteer recognition, and more. Refreshments will be served. The meeting is free for members and friends.

**Parking:** in the public lots adjacent to Hill St. between Main and Neilson Way.

## The Conservancy Board of Directors

Our board comes from neighborhoods throughout the city and includes:

Carol Lemlein, President  
John Zinner, Vice-President  
Tom Cleys, Treasurer  
Susan McCarthy, Secretary  
Sarah Barnard  
Ken Breisch  
Bruce Cameron  
Mike Deasy  
Michael W. Folonis, FAIA  
Mario Fonda-Bonardi  
Nina Fresco  
David Kaplan  
Sherrill Kushner  
Ruthann Lehrer  
Nancy O'Neill  
Barbara Whitney  
Doris Sosin, Emeritus

## Membership Dues

Individual Membership	\$35
Household Membership	\$45
Low Income Membership	\$15
Sustaining Membership	\$100
Supporting Membership	\$250

To support the Conservancy at higher levels, or with a business membership, call (310) 496-3146.

## The News Staff

Alice Allen	Margaret Bach
Sherrill Kushner	Ruthann Lehrer
Nancy O'Neill	Dick Orton
Kay Pattison	Judy Parsons
Barbara Whitney	Susan Zinner

## How to Contact The Santa Monica Conservancy

**Phone:** (310) 496-3146, leave a message.

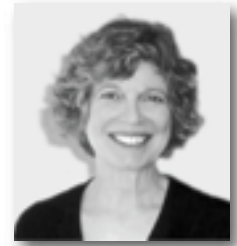
**Website:** [www.smconservancy.org](http://www.smconservancy.org)

**E-mail:** [info@smconservancy.org](mailto:info@smconservancy.org)

**Mail:** Santa Monica Conservancy  
P.O.Box 653  
Santa Monica, CA 90406

## Message from the President *Carol Lemlein*

As the Conservancy's eighth year of operation draws to a close, we are looking ahead to next year's challenges as well as reviewing our achievements:



- We finally signed the lease on the Shotgun House and moved into the next phase of making the Preservation Resource Center a reality.
- We expanded our Preservation Awards program to provide recognition to a wider variety of accomplishments that further preservation in Santa Monica.
- We expanded our educational programming beyond the lecture series, popular Downtown Walking Tours, and Annenberg Beach House Docent Program to add three new tours that explore various aspects of our city's architectural and cultural history.
- We were selected as the local hosts of the 2011 California Preservation Conference.
- Our newsletter has a new look, completing the transition to use of the Conservancy's new logo and tagline.

Many of next year's challenges are captured in the list above, but I'd also like to bring to your attention an opportunity suggested by this issue's articles on the loss of the Byers Adobe and the Landmarks Commission's work. We could directly impact the character of our neighborhoods by educating homeowners, prospective home buyers and real estate professionals, not only about the financial incentives and other benefits of historic designation, but about the possibilities of sensitive renovation of less unique older homes as an alternative to demolition. Our recent Mid-Century Modern Tour highlighted several successful approaches to updating and expanding a home to meet the current owner's needs, and you can expect to read about other examples on these pages in the future.

Finally, I'd like to ask you to think about how you can engage in the Conservancy's work by volunteering in some aspect of what we do – educational programs, membership development, advocacy, fundraising or communications.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Carol*

## Photo Quiz *See page 7 for answer.*



*In the early years of Santa Monica on the way to Malibu there was once a landmark known as Arch Rock. This was a unique geological feature you could drive through on a road that was only passable at low tide. To find out what happened to it, see page 5. Image courtesy of the Santa Monica Image Archives.*

Volunteer Profile:

# Dorothy Jewell...in her own Words



**Editor's Note:** Dorothy Jewell walked into our lives about two years ago. She and a friend were on a Downtown Walking Tour when her friend turned to Dorothy and said "This is just the ticket for you." Luckily for us, Dorothy took her friend's advice. Meet Dorothy in her own words.

"I rang Carol Lemlein and signed on to be a docent. Carol and all the docents were gracious to me as I tagged along on the tours and then acted as my guinea pigs as I practiced on them.

"I grew up in Canada, and then moved to Europe and North Africa

for five years. I met my late husband in Norway, married and then moved to the States. Here is where I started my college education, enrolling in Santa Monica College and then transferring to UCLA -- where I recently graduated with an Anthropology Degree (doing things backwards, but *c'est la vie!*).

"Currently I live in Westwood, but my car is on auto-pilot for Santa Monica. I have been training to be a marathon walker – I often leave my car behind and walk to the Annenberg Beach House where I am also a docent. They do provide parking at the Beach House but walking rules. While participating in a recent marathon I wore my Conservancy baseball cap so 20,000 people got a look at our logo!

"Now that my school career is history, travel is back as a priority since I love learning about different cultures. Presently I am getting visas and inoculations for my next adventure in Africa."

## Lecture: John Entenza and The Case Study House Program *by Nancy O'Neill*



Dr. Kenneth Breisch, Director of USC's Historic Preservation Programs, presented a free lecture "John Entenza and the Case Study House Program" on October 14 at the Santa Monica Public Library. Breisch described how Entenza, editor of *Arts & Architecture Magazine*, conceived the program to encourage experimentation with new materials and residential design for the burgeoning postwar home market.

As part of the program, architects were to design affordable houses for the average American family using the best materials available. Homes would feature Southern California's ideal of indoor/outdoor living with maximum daylight exposure and yet maintain the family's privacy. Designs utilized new products and materials such as steel, plywood and molded plastics. Manufacturers advertised in the magazine, and the homes were expected to

be open to the public to display their innovative products.

The first published house design was never built. Entenza purchased five acres along Chautauqua Boulevard as the site for a cluster of case study houses built by the now-celebrated architects Richard Neutra, Charles Eames, Eero Saarinen and Rodney Walker. Most of the rest were built elsewhere in Los Angeles.

Dr. Breisch pointed out the influences of Rudolph Schindler and Frank Lloyd Wright that can be seen in the houses through both the ways in which materials were used and the ways houses related to their environment. He also discussed two early modern homes designed by Harwell Hamilton Harris that were included with two Case Study examples in the Mid-Century Modern Tour offered by the Conservancy on October 23.



*Thomasine Rogas, DWT docent says...*

### "Do you have what it takes to join the DWT?"

- Do you delight in living in Santa Monica?
- Are you fascinated by its history and culture?

Then share your passion with the world by becoming a DWT...

**Downtown Walking Tour docent.**  
**(310)496-3146**  
**www.smconservancy.org**  
**click "Contact Us"**

### Miriam Wosk Remembered

We note with sadness the passing of Santa Monica artist Miriam Wosk, who hosted our fundraising Salon at her beautiful Adelaide Drive residence in September 2008.







*Planning for 2011 California Preservation Conference*

*The Fairmont Miramar's landmark Moreton Bay Fig, site of the Conference Opening Reception Photo by Dick Orton*

## “Preservation on the Edge”

With the May 15 – 18 Conference now less than six months away, the planning is moving ahead rapidly. The Steering Committee, chaired by Conservancy Board President Carol Lemlein, has chosen venues that will showcase many of Santa Monica’s historic sites. The Fairmont Miramar Hotel will be is the Conference Headquarters, and the Opening Reception will be held on Sunday under its landmark Moreton Bay Fig Tree. Monday’s Plenary Session will take place

at Barnum Hall, and the 3-Minute Success Stories, an event that brings a bit of vaudeville to the otherwise serious program, will be held at the Santa Monica Bay Woman’s Club. The Annenberg Community Beach House will be the site of another evening event, the Preservation Gala, as well as an all-day workshop

The educational sessions to be held Monday and Tuesday, May 16 and 17, are being planned around four themes related to

Innovative Practices; Community Character; Sustainability; Partnerships, Development and Incentives; and the Future of Preservation. In addition, a wide variety of tours will be offered on Sunday and Wednesday, May 15 and 18, including such topics as “Beaches, Boards and Bungalows”.

Full details on the Conference program, registration and event fees will be available in early 2011.



*Robin Venturrelli and Sabina Cheng at check-in. Photo by Dick Orton*



*Michael Folonis describes the Pumphrey House renovations. Photo by Dick Orton*



*Docent Jerome Robinson describes the Entenza House. Photo by Mike Crosby*

## To those who helped with our Mid-Century Tour we extend our thanks...

### Our Hosts

Mike Deasy  
 Bill and Sonoma Leyhe  
 Fran Nathanson  
 Sam Simon, and his assistant  
 Michele Wytko  
 Bernadine Styburski, Eames Foundation

### Our Event Committee

Sarah Barnard  
 Phyllis Conkle  
 Carol Lemlein  
 Ruthann Lehrer  
 Nancy O’Neill  
 Robin Venturrelli

### Our Reception Team

Phyllis Conkle  
 Mary Ann Hays  
 Sherrill Kushner  
 Kevin McCarthy  
 Kathleen Hadfiel  
 Kitty Bartholomew

### Our Speakers

Ken Breisch, Ph. D., 10/14 Lecture  
 Michael Folonis, FAIA,  
 at the Pumphrey House  
 Architectural Historian Barbara Lamprecht  
 at the Bailey House reception  
 Gordon Olschalger at the West House

### Our Board Members

Mike Deasy and Michael Folonis, FAIA,  
 who conceived the tour.

### Event Literature

Board member Nina Fresco for the  
 invitation flyer and the brochure

### Event Photography

Michael Crosby and Dick Orton,



# Byers house Demolished

by Ruthann Lehrer

The September issue of the Newsletter detailed the Conservancy's efforts to preserve Casa Adobe, the John Byers house at 201 S. Rockingham. Sadly, the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission failed to support its nomination as a Historic-Cultural Monument. This key building in the architectural career of Santa Monica architect John Byers is gone forever; it was demolished by the property's new owners on August 30.



Left, Front of the house; above, living room of Casa Adobe Photo by Tom Zimmerman

The day before demolition, the owners agreed to allow the Conservancy access to the site to create documentation of the house and architectural photographer Tom Zimmerman graciously donated his services for the work. Carol and Earl Fisher, owners of the Bradbury

House, another early Byers adobe located in Santa Monica Canyon, were able to salvage some vintage roof tile from the demolition contractor for their own restoration work.

Photographs of the home will be donated to the Santa Monica Library Image Archives.



Fran Nathanson, owner of the West House, Gordon Olschlager and Tom Cleys at the Bailey House. Photo by Mike Crosby



Tom Neary, Jonathan Skow, Trina Turk, Carol Lemlein and Steve McAvoy at the Bailey House. Photo by Mike Crosby



Photo by Carol Lemlein

## CHBC Workshop

A workshop on The Use and Application of the California Historic Building Code (CHBC) was held at Ken Edwards Center on October 20. It was jointly sponsored by the California Preservation Foundation, the City of Santa Monica and the Conservancy. Speakers included Peyton Hall of Historic Resources Group; Mel Green of Melvin Green and Associates; Curt Drake of Heritage Architecture and Planning; and Roy Harthorn, Building Code Consultant. The panel discussed how the code addresses the unique construction problems inherent in historic environments and case studies of ways the alternatives allowed under the code have been successfully applied. Information on future CPF workshops may be found at [www.californiapreservation.org](http://www.californiapreservation.org).

### To those who helped with our Mid-Century Tour we extend our thanks...

#### To Sarah and her House Tour Volunteers

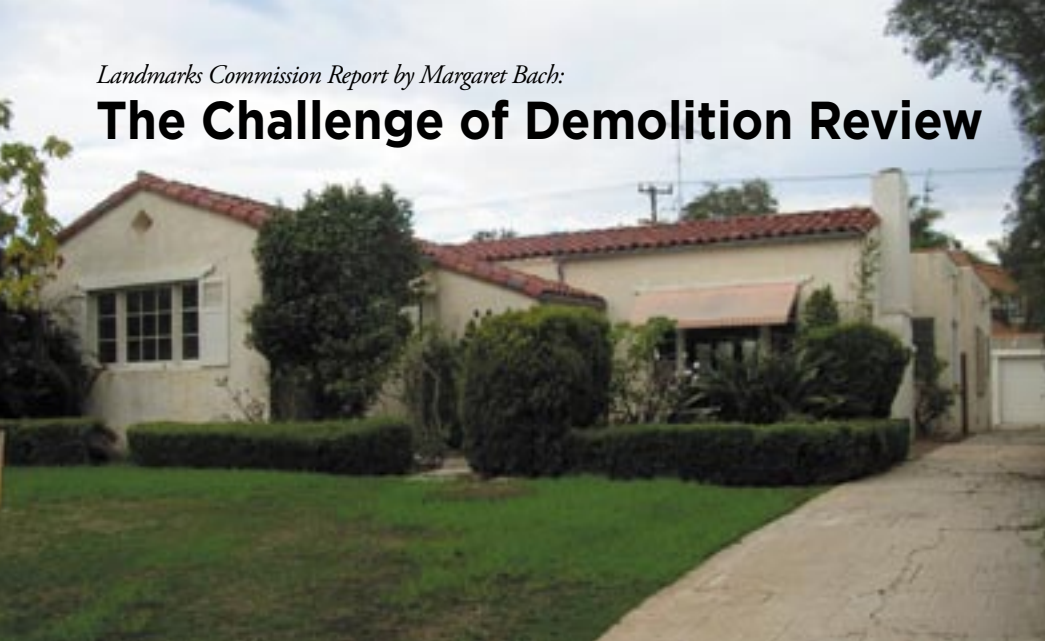
- Sarah Barnard
- Liz Bell
- Sarah Ben Hagai
- Evelyn Berger
- Julie Berger
- Megan Berry
- Ken Breisch
- Michael Brodsky
- Winston Chappell
- Sabina Cheng
- Elaine Cohen
- Michael Crosby
- John Crosse
- Beth Crosse

- Margi Falk
- Dwight Flowers
- Margaret Gasciogne
- Joy Gibson
- Rosalina Gracia
- Martha Gruft
- Christina Hildebrand
- Dorothy Jewell
- Sue Kandel
- Ruthann Lehrer
- Carol Lemlein
- Kathleen Luckard
- Meryl Mahler
- Richard Mestas
- Teri Muttera

- Mike Muttera
- Nancy O'Neil
- Karen Olan
- Manuel Osario
- Jerome Robinson
- Marisol Saens
- Ruth Shari
- Achee Stevenson
- Susan Sullivan
- Erica Trujillo
- CeCe Trujillo
- RobinVenturelli
- Nelson White
- Barbara Whitney



# The Challenge of Demolition Review



451 19th Street Photo by Ruthann Lebrer

Each month, the Landmarks Commission reviews pending demolition applications in order to identify structures which are at least 40 years old. Their intention is to determine whether those resources might be eligible for landmark designation and – thus -- protection from demolition. If the Commission determines that the structure warrants a closer look as a potential landmark, they set in motion a process that may lead to designation.

But what happens when a resource doesn't rise to the level of "landmark" but still embodies qualities that are valued in Santa Monica?

In the past several months, the Landmarks Commission has encountered two examples of this situation. They reviewed the demolition permits for two homes in north Santa Monica: 463 17th Street and 451 19th Street; both of these were relatively pristine, single-story Spanish Colonial Revival homes from the 1920s. The latter was built by Frank Bivens, a prolific Santa Monica developer of the period.

In both cases, the Commission took no action, owing to the absence of evidence that the homes met at least one of the landmarks criteria. Commissioners expressed their regret at the impending demolitions and acknowledged that both of these homes could have been candidates for expansion through architecturally sensitive (or even, adventurous) additions.

The economic downturn has eased pressure on our older housing stock and, in that sense, a recession is good for preservation. But we still lack the tools to protect older residential structures that may not qualify as landmarks but yet have value in our community and neighborhoods. The Conservancy looks forward to the implementation of the new Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), which has the potential to address this issue. As a community, we need to showcase examples of successful additions and expansions to older homes in order to demonstrate that preservation is a viable option for homeowners who wish to update and expand their living space.

## Preservation Design Awards



The California Preservation Foundation presented its annual Preservation Design Awards at the Getty Villa on October 16. Once again, the Annenberg Community Beach House was recognized, this time as an outstanding example of Contextual Infill. Photo by Carol Lemlein

## Upcoming Preservation Events

### Annual Victorian Holiday Party

Redondo Beach Historical Society  
298 Flagler Lane, Redondo Beach  
Admission - an unwrapped toy valued at \$10 or more  
(310) 372-0197  
<http://www.redondobeachhistorical.org/>

### CalGreen: Understanding California's New Green Building Code

December 15, 1:00 - 4:30 pm  
The American Institutes of Architects, Los Angeles Chapter  
See website for details and fees  
(626) 577-5700  
<http://www.aia.org>

### Exhibit "William Hayes Perry: Pioneer, Entrepreneur and Family Man"

Through February 2011, 12 - 4 pm  
Heritage Square Museum  
3800 Homer Street, Los Angeles  
See website for details and fees  
(323) 225-2700  
<http://www.heritagesquare.org/>

## Congratulations! Santa Monica History Museum

### Now Open

Open Tuesday through Saturday

1350 Seventh St.  
Santa Monica, California 90401  
(310) 395-2290  
See website for details.  
[www.santamonicahistory.org](http://www.santamonicahistory.org)



# October Gathering of ACBH Docents



Photo by Carol Lemlein

Annenberg Community Beach House docents enjoyed a social get-together on October 16 on the Garden Terrace. Docent Michelle Schrupp shared stories she had learned from former actress Pauline Wagner, a friend of Marion Davies at MGM Studios who celebrated her 100th birthday this year.

## Photo Quiz *From page 2*



Arch Rock was determined to be unstable and dynamited in 1906. The photo above shows the intersection of Topanga Canyon and PCH. The Chart House Restaurant is on point to the right, that's where the Arch Rock was located.

### December 2010 New Members

Ian L. Brooks	Candace and Rick Medress
Phil Brock and Kathryn Boole *	Sara Meric
Judith and Clifford Brunk *	Alan Merson
RM Chapman and RM Chapman	Fran Nathanson
Diane and Allan Childs	Regina O'Brien
Corinna Cotsen and Lee Rosenbaum	Gordon Olschlager
Gwendolyn Dophna *	Gail O'Neill *
Kaitlin Drisko and Bob Knight *	Merissa Periana
Susan Freeman	Richard and Inge Quaglino
Lisa Gimmy and Claus Best	Stewart Rupp
Thom Greving	Sam Simon
James and Amanda Harris	Jonathan Skow and Trina Turk
Bruce and Pamela Henstell	Bernadine Styburski
Christina Hildebrand	Cassandra Tondro
Sandra Hutchings	Rosemary Tribulato
Holly Kane and Abihabib Caesar	Shepard E. Vineburg, ASID
Bill and Sonoma Leyhe	Kenneth Weatherwax
Martha Lopacki	M. Wallace Wolodarsky and Maya Forbes
Robert Mangels	Michele Wyrko

\* Sustaining Level or Higher

### December 2010 Business Members

Adamm's Stained Glass *	Morley Builders *
Bayside District*	Eric Natwig, New West Partners
Kate Bransfield, Coldwell Banker	Pankow
Chattel Architecture, Planning & Preservation, Inc.	Mary Ann Powell, Pacific Park
Julie Chambers L Ac	Preservation Arts
deasy/penner & partners*	Spectra Company
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\* Sponsor Member or higher



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## Congratulations!

Anyone who joined or renewed their membership for 2011 during October was automatically eligible for a special drawing.

Here are the winners.

**\$100**

gift certificate to  
**Locanda Del Lago Restaurant:**  
Kate and Tom Runyan

**\$25**

gift certificates to  
**Pourtal Wine Tasting Bar:**  
Dorian Baroni and Stephen Knight  
James and Amanda Harris  
Candace and Rick Medress  
Diane Locklear

Thank you for your continuing support.

Don't miss the Santa Monica Conservancy's

# Annual Holiday Party

**Sunday, December 5, 3 - 5 PM**  
**Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club**  
**1210 Fourth Street (near Wilshire Blvd)**

Please join us as we celebrate the season with good friends, good food, and music at the historic Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club. The club was founded in 1905 to facilitate the educational and civic contributions of women. Arcadia Bandini de Baker and Mrs. John Paul Jones, wives of the City's co-founders, were among its early supporters. Henry C. Hollwedel designed this impressive land mark for the club in 1914.

**RSVP** by December 1

online at [www.smconservancy.org](http://www.smconservancy.org) or call 310-496-3146 and leave a message. Parking in the adjacent city structure. This party is free to members and their guests, who will be encouraged to join. Renew or join online or at the door.

*Phyllis Conkle and Sherrill Kushmer serving the Conservancy's signature chili.*

