

## Please Come to HPHT's November Meeting!

It's Our Annual Membership Meeting...  
Monday, November 12, 2018 • 7-8:30 pm.  
Location: Highland Park Ebell Club • 131 S. Avenue 57, 90042

We will screen the short film *The House That Moved Twice*, and honor two longtime members, John Nese and Ann Walnum. *There will be cake!*



Photos by Martha Benedict

**HPHT regular meetings** are held the 2nd Monday of each month (except July and August) 7:00 – 8:30 PM, Ebell Club, 131 S Avenue 57, Highland Park 90042  
Annual Board Retreat, January 2019 TBA

### Walking Tours Schedule

Sycamore Grove Schedule – October 27, 2018,  
February 23, June 22, and October 26, 2019  
Specially scheduled Cypress Park WALKING TOUR,  
Saturday, March 23, 2019  
More information in Spring 2019 *Our Cornerstone*

# It's Getting Exciting!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by LOUISA VAN LEER

Dear Members,

After two years, my time as President is drawing to a close. It has been an honor to serve the Heritage Trust and I thank my fellow board members for their support. Moving forward, I will continue on as regular board member.

Over the past two years, the Heritage Trust has been hard at work with our members. We have several new Historic Cultural Monuments applications in the works including a nomination for the Chicano Arts Collectives of Highland Park; refreshing our walking tour offerings; celebrating our 35th anniversary at our well-attended Abbey San Encino event which helped to replenish our coffers; working to bring down overhead costs so member dollars can do more; reaching out to new communities with our Bi-annual Preservation Awards; and last but not least, refocusing the conversation on historic preservation to meet the current, diverse needs of our community.

While I'm proud of what the Heritage Trust has accomplished during my tenure, I am especially delighted that two smart, talented, young preservationists have stepped up and seek your vote for President and VP. This edition of *Our Cornerstone* has more on all of these topics.

We have a lot to do and as always I hope you'll join in with your thoughts and ideas for Preservation in our Arroyo Seco communities.

All my best,

**Louisa Van Leer**

President, Highland Park Heritage Trust



photo of North East Los Angeles by Martha Benedict



## 2018 Officers

President: **Louisa Van Leer**  
Vice President: **Rebecca Schiffman**  
Vice President: **Jamie Tijerina**  
Secretary: **JJ Jackman**  
Treasurer: **Charly Kemp**  
Membership Chair:  
**Anne Marie Wozniak**

## Board of Directors

**Antonio Castillo**  
**Steve Crouch**  
**Carmela Gomes**  
**Charles Fisher**  
**Alexandra Madsen**  
**Eric Magallon**  
**Keiko Miller**  
**Robert Spira**

*Our Cornerstone* is the official newsletter of the Highland Park Heritage Trust, a non-profit community organization.

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## HPHT in the News

**Anne Marie Wozniak** was interviewed by Chris Nichols for “A Day in the Life – A Denny’s Waitress” article in the “Buzz” Section of *Los Angeles Magazine*, October 2018, page 22.

I tried to find the article online but to no avail.

We wanted to alert you as most of the members of the Highland Park Heritage Trust know and appreciate Anne Marie’s inimitable sense of humor and special regard for people. As Anne Marie recounted, “I’m a people person. I’m not a sitting person. I like to move. I have a master’s degree in criminal justice.” How many of you knew that?



## Building Nominations Honor the Chicano Arts Collective

by ALEXANDRA MADSEN

The Highland Park Heritage Trust is in the process of nominating three buildings associated with the Chicano Arts Collective as City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. These built-resources include two brick commercial buildings on N. Figueroa Street that served as the headquarters of the Mechicano Art Center and the Centro de Arte Publico, and a residence on Aldama Street that hosted Corazon Productions. The Chicano Arts Collective refers to these three independent groups, which were active in Highland Park in the 1970s and provided venues for artists and community members alike. The Chicano Arts Collective will be nominated for its seminal history of imbuing the community with cultural pride and art during a pivotal moment of the civil rights movement. Keep an eye out for events and public forums regarding the nomination in the months to come!

## Through Walls Community Art Project Unveiled July 7, 2018

Avenue 50 Studio in Highland Park visited with HPHT June 11, 2018 to introduce the “Through Walls” mural project that we can all view on South Avenue 56 at Figueroa Street on the Highland Theatre’s west facing façade.

Kathy Gallegos introduced Miranda Ynez, the individual who prepared the proposal for a U.S. State Department grant. The result of the proposal was a trip to Cairo, Egypt for artists Nuria Ortiz, Grace Lynne and Valentina Zapata to work on a mural with the Cultural Preservation organization Athar Lina. Allegra Padilla of Occidental College was able to accompany the American artists to Cairo.

The leadership of Athar Lina met with several HPHT board members to discuss the way in which they work with the administration in Cairo to encourage a broader concept of preservation. We were excited to

exchange stories about dealing with government entities and found that even with the luxury of the freedom of exchange we have with politicians our Athar Lina counterparts have been able to make inroads into age old concepts of what is worth being preserved and why. Remember, Cairo is in its entirety a World Heritage Site.



Highland Theatre, west façade



# “Refocusing the Conversation on Historic Preservation”

BY LOUISA VAN LEER

As we wind down our 35th Anniversary year, we have been taking stock of what we have achieved over the decades and what the future holds for the Heritage Trust and the Historic Preservation Movement. The Heritage Trust has had many successes over the years and has helped saved many buildings and structures from the wrecking ball and helped educate many people along the way about the beauty and importance of preserving our historic neighborhoods.

As part of our yearlong initiative to refocus the conversation on Historic Preservation we have been listening to our members, talking with people in our immediate community as well as the larger Preservation community. There is a growing conversation around the ways the Preservation Movement and the Heritage Trust can build on our achievements while adapting new ways to use our preservation skills and toolbox. In particular, we have so many pressing social issues confronting our community. Are there ways that the Heritage Trust and Historic Preservation can uniquely contribute to solutions? Some issues we have been pondering...

It is no secret that housing is at a crisis point in Los Angeles County and Statewide. We have a shortage of affordable housing and soaring numbers of community members living without a roof over their head. With our older housing stock in Northeast LA can we do more to protect rent stabilized housing from being demolished or taken offline? Can we explore ways to increase the numbers of rent stabilized housing, help our community and preserve historic fabric?

More housing units are desperately needed across the city. As Preservationists we need to ask, “How do we add housing while maintaining our neighborhood character?”

There are smaller, modest approaches such as Granny Flats, aka Accessory Dwelling Units, which can be tucked into a backyard. That is a great option that adds housing and creates minimal change to the historic neighborhood fabric. Can we ask ourselves if we can go further and explore adding four and six unit buildings that are tailored to our historic street scale while helping to house more families? When you start looking there are actually many historic examples of multi-unit housing sprinkled throughout our

communities that could serve as a guide.

Another area of heightened concern is gentrification which is occurring in Northeast LA and around the country. Unfortunately, Historic Preservation is often identified as a leading cause of gentrification. While there is not universal agreement as to the cause or even the definition of gentrification, there is without a doubt pain and suffering surrounding displacement

in our community. Can the Heritage Trust do more to help address the issue? Several housing ideas are sketched out above to try and talk about solutions for physical displacement of families but can we also use our Preservation toolkit to address cultural displacement? Also, there is a feeling that cultural markers in our Arroyo Seco communities are being lost? With this in mind please take note of the announcement on page 5 by Alexandra Madsen and respond when asked to provide public comment and attend public forums concerning possible Cultural Historic Monument designation for proposed sites.

Are there other stories, important places that you would like to share? We would love to hear from you. Please contact us at [info@hpht.org](mailto:info@hpht.org) or 323-908-4127



Ziegler House, photo by Larry Underhill



# The (not so glamorous) Topic of Membership

by ANNE MARIE WOZNIAK

When I was first asked to write an article about membership it was rather “off putting.” There is no excitement as there is with an Awards Ceremony, Lummis Day, a Holiday Party, or the Thirty-fifth Anniversary.

It is, however, what makes all these other things possible!

As I have said many times, “membership is the backbone of any organization.” Continuing membership support is what allows goals to be met, historic or new properties to be recognized, or the historical fabric of a community to be preserved through archiving.

Most importantly, we are protecting what was before so that it can be recognized and appreciated by future generations. The protection of murals, the safeguarding of data and photographs and the ability to keep those tangible items unharmed is what membership continuity can achieve.

So, when you come across your membership renewal, it may not be riveting or noteworthy but its importance is immense. For your convenience, you can also join or renew online at [hpht.org](http://hpht.org).

## Highland Park Heritage Trust—Membership Registration/Renewal

You may join or renew online at [www.hpht.org](http://www.hpht.org) or by sending your tax deductible check to:  
Highland Park Heritage Trust • Attn: Membership • PO Box 50894 • Los Angeles CA 90050-0894

- |   |   |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Couple \$30               | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal  | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20                  | My preference for contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Email  |                                     |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$50                     | <input type="checkbox"/> My employer or my spouse’s employer matches gifts to non-profits. HPHT is a 501c3 Non-Profit Corporation, Tax ID #95-4034485 |                                     |
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### *I am interested in working on the following activities:*

- Walking Tours:  Docent  Reception  Archiving  Awards Ceremony  Mailing Assistance  
 Oral History  Email  Fund Raising  Marketing & Publicity  Restoration Workshops  
 *Cornerstone* Articles  School & Education Programs  Membership Events



## Sharing Preservation Concepts with Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo

On Monday, July 23, the HPHT Board of Directors was invited to Chico's at the corner of N. Avenue 50 and No. Figueroa Street/Sycamore Terrace to meet with Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo (District 51) to highlight the work of preservation in the Arroyo Communities. Delightfully, Wendy has taken the Sycamore Grove Walking Tour so her questions were specifically about the current initiatives of the HPHT and our views on the involvement of the state legislators.

**The Highland Park Heritage Trust is looking for help to build, rejuvenate and enhance our social media presence.**

**We know our members are a grand and multi-talented bunch, and we'd like to hear from members who are social media-savvy and would be interested in working with the Trust as we find ways to expand our communication efforts and embrace newer technologies and platforms.**

**If you're interested, please send an email to HPHT Secretary JJ Jackman ([secretary@hpht.org](mailto:secretary@hpht.org))—let us know your areas of interest and expertise. Please include your experience (work samples or a resume also a great idea to submit). We'd love to work with you!**



Clockwise, left to right: Keiko Miller, Louisa Van Leer, Eric Magallon, Carmela Gomes, Jamie Tijerina, Charly Kemp, Wendy Carrillo, JJ Jackman, Alexandra Madsen.



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

Address Correction Requested

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