

# Hollywood Heritage Elects New Board And Officers

**H**ollywood Heritage has always been fortunate to have the interest and participation of skilled, caring professionals as directors on our board. This year's outgoing directors are clearly within that description. Our outgoing president, Andrew Schwartz, brought his legal skill and his dedication as a community activist to the board and as our chief executive had the responsibility of guiding the organization through one of our most difficult years. Also a former president, last year's secretary, Marc Wanamaker is a Los Angeles asset as well as one of our organization's chief prizes. Marc has been involved since Hollywood

Heritage's founding nearly 30 years ago. Aaron Epstein is a long time Hollywood business and property owner who has special concern, not only for our landmark assets but for the people of the city of Hollywood. David Greim, who chaired this year's nominating committee is the fourth of our directors who served six years and retired from the board. In addition to being on the board, Dave is an active docent at the museum and a member of the museum committee.

Other board members who through circumstances beyond their control left the board this year were Thaddeus Hunter Smith, Richard Rownak, Gina Zamparelli, Doug

Haines and Sue Slutzky, all valuable members whose contributions to the board were considerable and who we hope will be instrumental in the management of the organization in the future. Sue Slutzky remains committed to the museum and is responsible for the lovely *Evenings@The Barn* programs and other Hollywood Heritage promotional material.

Our officers this year are Richard Adkins, President, Brian Curran Jr., Vice President, George Kiel, Treasurer, and Alan Simon, Secretary. All have been board members for the past year and are active in the museum and preservation committees.

## Hollywood Heritage Holds Hugely Successful Parking Lot Sale

**O**n November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Hollywood Heritage held a fundraising rummage sale. Members who read our last newsletter came to the rescue by donating everything but the kitchen sink ... Oh, we actually received two kitchen sinks.

For two days, the barn's porch and parking lot were transformed into something resembling a bazaar, complete with the requisite bartering and haggling.

Sixteen of our members donated untold hours sorting, pricing, hauling and selling, both during the sale and for a week beforehand. As a result, Hollywood Heritage received \$4,101.50 of badly needed funds.

A big thanks goes out to everyone who donated items and time, and especially to those who purchased slightly used "treasures" to help Hollywood Heritage continue its good works.



## President's Message

# Creating Museum Awareness Through Cooperation

Richard Adkins

The last two years have been difficult for Hollywood Heritage, Inc. Beginning with the loss of Robert Nudelman, a beloved community leader in 2008, and continuing in 2009 through the struggle to ensure that an accurate inventory of historic structures and a design guideline is established and implemented within the Community Redevelopment Agency and lastly, the transfer of Wattles Mansion and Gardens back to the City of Los Angeles.

The most important part of that transfer was that we fulfilled our mission, that an asset of the citizens of this city was improved and returned to them repaired and restored, a promise fulfilled.

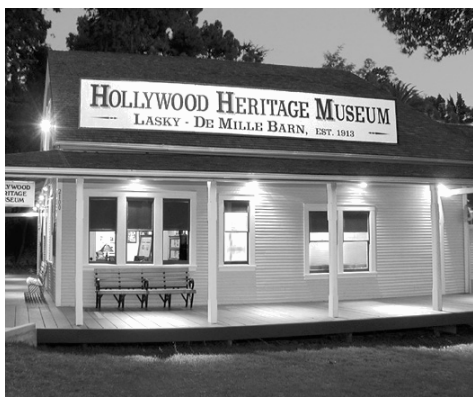
The organization has been tested in a way not unlike its founding nearly thirty years ago. But we made it through these trying years and our objective remains the same, a commitment to the built environment of Hollywood through the integration of our past, present and future landmarks as part of the community's unique identity.

No small debt of thanks is owed the members and the leadership of Hollywood Heritage, Inc. and especially its founders, who are thankfully still part of our operation. Not only did they point us in the right direction, but they continue to assist us in navigating the journey.

As a community of natives and non-natives, we share a desire to make where we live the best community it can be. We are fortunate to live in a place the world knows; where a great many people want to live. Most Hollywood residents are here by choice, coming a far distance to be a part of this community. Their

affection for and eagerness to be part of this legendary city is inspiring.

With an impressive Board of Directors, 2010 promises to be a wonderful year for Hollywood Heritage. It is also the 25 year anniversary of the Hollywood Heritage Museum, a testimony to the dedication of Hollywood Heritage, Inc.



## Starring The Lasky Barn

Stan Taffel

Help! I need your help. In celebration of our silver anniversary as a museum, Hollywood Heritage will present a special evening marking the occasion with a wide variety of events. As a part of this, I am preparing a short montage of films and television shows that show the Lasky barn in various sequences. I am currently assembling a listing of titles but there is more than what I have.

If you know of a film or TV show that shows the barn in any shots, let me know so I can scout it out. Time is of the essence so get out your thinking caps.

Please contact me at Stan16mm@aol.com, Help me and thanks.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Adkins  
**President**

Brian Curran  
**Vice President**

Alan Simon  
**Secretary**

George Kiel  
**Treasurer**

Robert Birchard

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Laurie Goldman

Randy Haberkamp

Mary Mallory

Christy Johnson Mcavoy

Jeff Stutts

Stan Taffel

Hillsman Wright

Valerie Yaros

Randy Haberkamp  
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Mary Sullivan  
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John Clifford  
**Newsletter and Web Site Editor**

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Hollywood, CA 90028

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# Year-End Preservation Issues Update

By Brian Curran

The year 2009 saw Hollywood Heritage back in action, facing new challenges and bidding farewell to old friends. Our preservation activities ranged from advocacy campaigns to influencing planning policy, laying the groundwork for future success in the coming year and proving once again that Hollywood Heritage remains Hollywood's premier preservation organization. Here were the highlights;

**January 2009** – After 6 years the Hollywood Community Redevelopment Agency commences its latest **Hollywood Historic Resources Survey**, which it is hoped will definitively identify all of the historic resources located in Hollywood's historic core. Hollywood Heritage had sued the CRA to carry out the long promised survey in an effort to eliminate inconsistencies in previous surveys and to give greater clarity to planners, developers and property owners about what is historic in Hollywood.

**March 2009** – The ashes of **Robert Nudelman**, longtime preservation advocate for Hollywood Heritage, are interred in Hollywood Forever Cemetery. His boundless energy and commitment to the cause of preservation in Hollywood continues to inspire our efforts. Also in March through the efforts of Hollywood Heritage, **CBS Columbia Square Studios** on Sunset Blvd. is named Historic Cultural Monument #947. Among the earliest international style buildings in Los Angeles, the 1938 vintage studios were the only West Coast buildings designed by eminent architect William Lescaze. Columbia Square is also significant as the last extant radio/television broadcasting studio in Hollywood.

**April 2009** – Hollywood Heritage agrees to support the adaptive re-use of the former **Security Pacific Bank building** at 6381 Hollywood Boule-

vard. The Rottet Studio designed hotel project have agreed to follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, which will restore the Nationally Registered building, while giving it a new use. In April Hollywood Heritage also launched a new campaign to save Hollywood's historic housing. The campaign began with the unsuccessful fight to save **1850 N. Cherokee**, a 1939 neo-colonial apartment building, which at the request of Councilman Tom LaBonge CD4, cannot be demolished until the project is funded and ready to start. Finally Hollywood Heritage's **lawsuit with the CRA was settled**. The settlement requires the CRA to complete The Franklin Ave and Hollywood Blvd design plans, Hollywood Core and Transition district development guidelines, Transportation and Parking Ordinance, Density Transfer Procedures and a Historic Cultural Resources Survey.

**May 2009** – **The Wattles Mansion and Gardens** is returned to the city after 25 years of stewardship and restoration by Hollywood Heritage. A dispute with the Department of Recreation and Parks lead to the move. In preparation Hollywood Heritage completed **The Wattles Mansion Historic Structures Report**, which along with several other gardens studies and plans fully documented the estate and proposed future restoration projects. Copies were given to the Department of Rec and Parks, and the Office of Historic Resources. Hollywood Heritage continues to monitor progress at the site.

**June 2009** – Hollywood Heritage joins the fight for the long awaited **Preservation Ordinance Update**, which seeks to strengthen protection for Los Angeles and Hollywood's historic and cultural heritage monuments while streamlining the process for adaptive re-use. Opposition by downtown property interests lead

to creation of an alliance of preservation groups and heritage societies to help support the Office of Historic Resources in this important fight.

**July 2009** – The recession has hit



neighborhood movie houses hard. The closure of the Regent Showcase on LaBrea, the imminent closings of the Mann Village Westwood and the Bruin, but the proposed demolition of the Fairfax Theater on Fairfax and Beverly lead Hollywood Heritage into action. Joining several other preservation and community groups, the **Friends of the Fairfax Theater** was founded to help save the theater and advocate for its continued use.

**September 2009** – The release of the **Draft Hollywood Community Plan Update** alarmed Hollywood preservationists due to its inconsistent and casual treatment of historic resources. In an effort to remedy this Hollywood Heritage met with the Community Planning Department in Sept 2009 and again in Jan 2010 to discuss ways to improve the sensitivity of the new plan toward historic resources while strengthening protections for historic buildings in areas of increased density. In a gesture of reconciliation by the city, Hollywood Heritage was given a **proclamation before the City Council** recognizing our efforts on behalf of Wattles Mansion and Hollywood's historic and cultural heritage.

**October 2009** – Hollywood Heritage begins consulting the new owner of the historic La Collina Estate. Broken up over the years the

*continued on page 5*

## Evenings At The Barn:

# 2009: WHAT A YEAR!

2009 saw diverse changes all over America. In our little corner of the world, this was no exception.

The Hollywood Heritage Museum hosted several exciting and informative evenings that enriched and enlightened.

Among the highlights were an evening in February devoted to the nearly forgotten cinema team of Francis Ford and Grace Cunard, who delighted early moviegoers way back in the 1910's. Film historian and HH board member Robert S. Birchard led the audience into a time machine of the past with slides and photographs. In March, our newly elected HH President Richard Adkins presented a program entitled, "Nothing From A Store," highlighting the famous costumer Adrian and his partnership with Cecil B. DeMille. April brought us Robert Matzen and Michael Mazzone, authors of the new book, "Errol Flynn Slept Here", recalling the days when Hollywood's dashing swashbuckler lived vicariously and the home in which he thrived in.

May offered an 80th. Anniversary of the first sound films made by the comedy team of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. In addition to their earliest talking comedies, rare foreign language footage was screened as well as lost outtakes from the legendary Hal Roach Studio. So well attended was the program that a second show was offered immediately after the scheduled event making this presentation the largest attendance for a HH evening.

A big treat was in store for attendees of our "Cinerama Adventure" night in June. Producer Randy Gitsch and award winning filmmaker David Strohmaier brought in a special screen in order to present an amazing evening devoted to the 1950's widescreen triptych process

that put you in the film. Everyone walked away with a special present; strips of actual Cinerama film that, when put together, let you see how Cinerama is accomplished.

Acclaimed author / historian Mark Viera presented a wonderful program about MGM's "boy wonder", Irving Thalberg in July. Whenever Marc presents one of his slide show evenings at the barn, there is always a capacity crowd.

We had two programs in November. First on the boards was a tribute to Hollywood actress Adrian Booth, also known as Lorna Gray. In addition to her work in serials like "Perils of Nyoka" as Vultura, leader of the Arabs, she is best remembered as a comic foil to the Three Stooges. The second program was a fond look at the life of comedian Eddie Cantor. In attendance was Cantor's granddaughter, Amanda Abel.

December was a night for the books. Veteran newsman and KTLA legend, Stan Chambers enthralled the audience with stories from his over sixty years covering news in Southern California. Since KTLA began at Paramount, it was a most filling end to our year of events.

2010 is shaping up to be another banner year for us. Coming up will be an evening devoted to Richard Dix with his son Robert offering tribute as well as rare film of the silent heartthrob. By popular demand, we presented another evening of the Three Stooges with Moe Howard's daughter Joan attending. In addition to selected short subjects, preceding the films was a presentation of locations the movies were shot in and around by Stoogether Jim Pauley. It was a fun night are all our nights.

We are hard at work preparing more entertaining evenings for you. It is our fondest hope you come out to celebrate Hollywood Heritage's twenty fifth anniversary at all of our

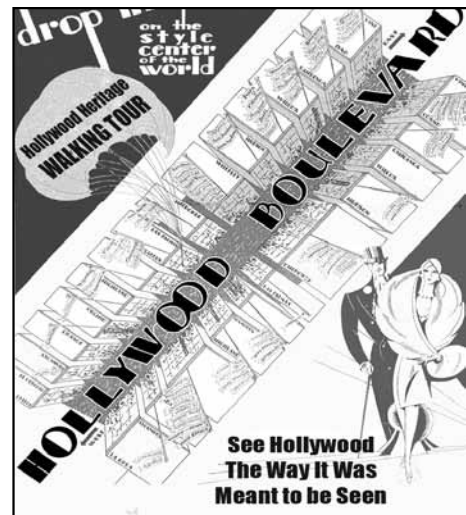
unique and memorable evenings at the barn.



Images from Evening @ The Barn programs (top to bottom): Stan Chambers with Stan Taffel, Eddie Cantor Remembered, Randy Skredvedt signs his book about Laurel & Hardy, Marc Wanamaker enthralled the crowd with one of his slide shows, Robert Birchard leads the Q&A with Stan Chambers photos by Alan Simon

new owner has assembled over half of the original property and wishes to restore it. La Collina is National Register eligible Gordon Kaufman designed property and among Hollywood's earliest remaining estates circa 1924. The launch of SurveyLA provided the opportunity for Hollywood Heritage to do further outreach with Hollywood's communities. Hollywood Heritage will be assisting the organization of neighborhood teams to carry out initial surveys of the various neighborhoods of the Hollywood Community Plan Area. If you would like to participate please contact Brian Curran at bcurranjr@dslextre.me.com.

**December 2009** – Hollywood Heritage closed out the year by continuing to work with AREA partners, developers of Columbia Square, to adequately protect the historic monument, while for the development of the site. With the assistance of Councilman Eric Garcetti of council district 13, a working group has been set up to continue discussions over the future design of the development. Finally Hollywood Heritage begins the campaign to save the Great Hall/Long Hall and Fiesta Hall in West Hollywood's Plummer park. The Great Hall/Long Hall is a rare WPA public building. Current redevelopment plans call for the demolition of these historic structures.



**Call (323) 465-6716 to book your tour**

# See You At Musso's!

**A** highlight of the National Register Historic Hollywood Boulevard Entertainment District is the legendary Musso & Frank Grill on Hollywood Blvd. For the first time in many years, change has come to a restaurant whose trademark has been tradition.

Jordan M. Jones, a fourth-generation descendant of one of the early owners, has assumed full control of Musso & Frank Grill. Mr. Jones decided to make some changes to ensure the longevity of this landmark watering hole.

The bar now stays open until 2 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Musso's always famous for its martinis now offers an expanded wine list as well. Starting every evening at 10, classic 20's through 40's music accompanies the splendid food. and emanates from speakers Jones had recreated from one existing speaker and also had "aged" so as not to stand out.

Jordan Jones' family became part owners of the restaurant after 1926, when original owners Joseph Musso and Frank Toulet sold the restaurant to John Mosso, his great-grandfather, and Mosso's business partner, Joseph Carissimi. 1934 saw the restaurant move a single door down to its current home at 6667 Hollywood Blvd.

One of the most famous elements of the restaurant was its "back room" where writers from the east hired by the studios found it a more-than-adequate replacement for their New York favorite, the Algonquin. That back room is now the bar area of the restaurant.

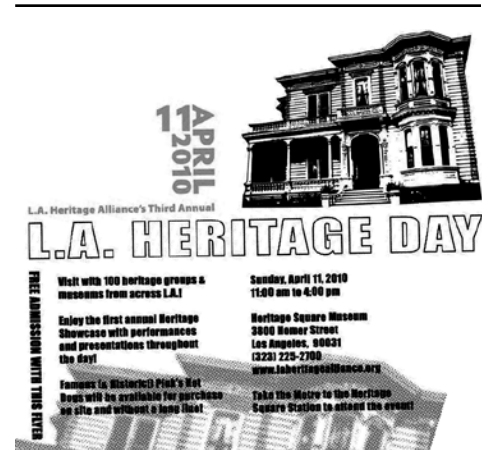
For most customers of Musso's, the most amazing thing is the long term employees of the restaurant, whose presence helps create the family atmosphere that is unique to this landmark eatery. Thirteen waiters have a collective 370 years at the job and the bartenders 100.

Recently the Mosso family purchased the Carissimi family interest

in the restaurant and Jordan Jones became the new manager.

Jones plans more changes and is soliciting suggestions from the many regular customers for new ideas.

Hollywood is enriched by having a youthful visionary in charge of such an important landmark and we wish Jordan Jones every success.



## LA Heritage Day Slated For April 11

**A**s we did last year, Hollywood Heritage will be among 100 Heritage groups participating in the 3rd Annual LA Heritage Day. The event will be held on Saturday April 11, 2010 at the Heritage Square Museum at 3800 Homer Street in Highland Park. For directions to Heritage Square, please visit their website at [www.heritage-square.org/directions.htm](http://www.heritage-square.org/directions.htm), or phone them at (323) 225-2700. Parking is free, but for those who prefer public transportation, which is encouraged, the Heritage Square Museum is also accessible by the Metro Gold Line, from two stops: "Southwest Museum" and "Heritage Square/The Arroyo." Free admission with flyer, available online at <http://laheritage.blogspot.com/2010/01/la-heritage-day-flyer-details-free.html>, or at the Hollywood Heritage Museum.

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

In grateful recognition of their generous support, we sincerely thank the following renewing members who have made contributions at the \$100 level and above as of February 2010. Category titles are names of historic Hollywood Studios.

## MAGESTIC \$25000+

Marian Gibbons

## KEYSTONE \$1000+

*Hollywood Chamber of Commerce  
Community Foundation*  
Craig Nickoloff & Amy Spector  
Nickoloff

## BISON \$500+

Claire Bradford  
Ira Handelman – *Handelman  
Consulting Inc.*  
Art Laboe – *The Art Laboe  
Foundation*  
*Time Warner Employee Grant  
Programs*

## KALEM \$250+

Adam Josiah Epstein  
Marjorie L. Fasman  
James McMath  
Bill Roschen & Christi Van Cleve  
Joan & Alan Simon  
David & Carin-Anne Strohmaier  
Valerie Yaros (*in memory of Robert  
W. Nudelman*)

## TRIANGLE \$100+

Michael Berman  
Robert S. Birchard  
Bob Blue  
Elizabeth & Richard Brill  
Bruce Carroll  
Harry Demas

Dan De Palma  
Kathleen Duffy  
Paul Dusckett  
Allan Ellenberger  
Anne & Aaron Epstein  
Joanna Erdos  
Diana & Morris Everett –  
*Last Moving Picture Company*  
Neill Foster  
Randy Haberkamp  
Amy Higgins  
Renata Kanclerz & Lisa Coleman  
George Kiel  
Edward Maguire  
Alice & Leonard Maltin  
Jeffery Masino  
Agnes McFadden  
Christine & Tim O'Brien  
Dale C. Olson & Eugene Harbin, Jr.  
Betty Pettit  
Jon Schafer  
Ashley & Jocelyn Schauer  
Stephen Sollitto  
Andre Stojka  
Marc Wanamaker  
Talma Zelitzki

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Dan & Laura Balogh  
Laura Binklet  
Elissa Braitman  
Bryan Cooper  
Tanice Corti  
Glenn Gainor  
John Gloske  
Mark Halloran  
Will Hamblet  
Roman Hrynizsak  
Nancy Loe  
Michael Maurice  
Bernice McAlpine – *Jewel City Doll  
Club (in memory of Lany Dockter)*  
Burr Middleton  
Debora Painter

Susan & Richard Polep  
Mario Prado  
Jim Robinson  
Don Spiro  
Jennifer Vaughn  
Brent Walker  
Rick White  
Kim & Vivian Winter  
Hillsman Wright

## 2009 CHALLENGE GRANT

Special thanks to all who gave generously to our 2009 challenge grant!:

Claire Bradford  
Anne & Aaron Epstein  
Lorna Gentile  
Laurie Goldman  
Randy Haberkamp  
Lonnie Jenkins  
George Kiel  
Alan & Joan Simon  
Sue Slutzky  
Mary Zickefoose

## One Man's Junk ...

It's a new year – time to clear out those closets and shelves – and donate your Hollywood-related cast-offs to Hollywood Heritage.

The Hollywood Heritage Museum Shop is looking for donated items to sell. We will gladly accept any books or ephemera related in any way to the Hollywood community, Los Angeles history, or the film industry. Remember, every dollar made in the shop goes to the continued operation of our beloved Barn.

Donations can be made Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 4:00 p.m. Don't forget that your donation is tax deductible!



# Membership Application

**YES!** I would like to become a member of Hollywood Heritage, Inc.

- \$2,500 Majestic     \$1,000 Keystone     \$500 Bison
- \$250 Kalem         \$100 Triangle\*\*     \$50 Household
- \$40 Individual      \$25 Senior 65+/ Full Time Student

\*\*Join at the \$100 Triangle level or above, and receive a 24"x36" collectable reproduction poster, *A Map of Hollywood from the Best Surveys of the Time c. 1928.*

### Membership Benefits Include:

- Free admission to the Hollywood Heritage Museum for two adults and two children.
- Ten percent discount at the Museum Store.
- Advance notification of special member programs.
- Discounts on Silent Society film programs at the Hollywood Heritage Museum, UCLA, and the Paramount Ranch.
- Quarterly **Hollywood Heritage Newsletter**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### I wish to pay by:

Check

Please make checks payable to **Hollywood Heritage, Inc.**

Charge my:  Visa  MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

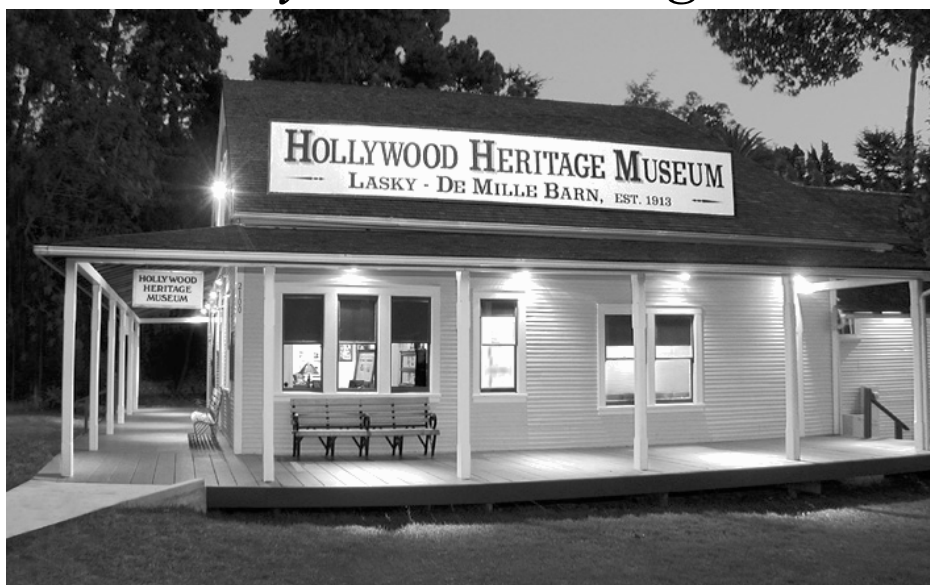
Clip and mail to: Hollywood Heritage, Inc., P.O. Box 2586, Hollywood, CA 90078

## PRESERVING OUR HOLLYWOOD HERITAGE FOR OVER 25 YEARS

• Hollywood Heritage Museum/Lasky-DeMille Barn •

• Silent Society: Motion Picture History and Preservation • Architectural Preservation, Advocacy, and Education •

## Visit the Hollywood Heritage Museum



open Wednesday through Sunday  
from 12:00 noon until 4:00 pm

Ample free parking. Adults: \$7; seniors \$5; children under 12 free

**Members free**



## SAVE THESE DATES

# Upcoming Hollywood Heritage Events

**WEDNESDAY, March 10, 2010** - Hollywood Heritage Museum - 7:30 p.m. *Evening@The Barn* - "Richard Dix" with Robert Dix, son of Richard Dix, book signing, and screening.

**WEDNESDAY, April 14, 2010** - Hollywood Heritage Museum - 7:30 p.m. - *Evening@The Barn* Marc Wanamaker to speak, with slide show, on "Hollywood 1940's to now" and sign his book.

**SATURDAY, April 11, 2010** - Heritage Square - 10:30 a.m. - LA Heritage Day. Hollywood Heritage will be joining other historic preservation groups from around LA County in celebrating the heritage of the Los Angeles area. FREE with flyer available at The Barn or online (see story page x)

All *Evenings @ The Barn* events are held at the Hollywood Heritage Museum at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. Seating limited to the first 120.