

HART OF THE MATTER

FRIENDS OF WILLIAM S. HART PARK NEWSLETTER

Volume 31
Number 3
2018

Silents

p1-2

Tim Murphy

p3-4

Hart's Other House

p5

Happenin's &
Book Store news

p6

PowWow

p7

Critter Corner

p8

Hart's Books

p9



Sat. & Sun. Sept. 29-30
SCV Artists Association
Arts Classic

Sat. & Sun. Oct. 6-7
Native American
Pow Wow & Craft Fair

Sun. Oct. 14
"Bow Wows &
Meows" Pet Fair

Sat. Nov. 3
25th Annual SCV
Society Rose Show

Sat. Dec. 1
Cowboys & Carols

Sat. & Sun. Dec. 8-9
Hart Holiday Boutique

Silents Under the Stars 2018

by Bill Blowers

It's kind of ironic that we call it "Silents Under the Stars". Saturday evening, August 11, was anything but silent. The hall and patio at Hart Park were filled with the delightful sounds of people having a great time, greeting old friends, listening to the terrific country western music of the Grateful Dudes Cowboy Band, enjoying a cold drink, and especially the amazing sound of Ray Lowe at the keyboard as he took us back to a simpler time and place. Sherron Blowers and her small but very talented committee came through once again, providing us with an evening that all agreed was the best "Silents" ever. Why even Mother Nature chipped in! She bestowed on the park a mild evening and gentle breeze, a much welcomed and appreciated break from the hot sticky weather.

The silent auction hit a new high with 95 items available for bid, including an American flag made from wine barrels, a patriotic basket from Representative Steve Knight, a one-of-a-kind collectible book of western art, numerous original paintings, unique women's western clothing, gift cards to many local eateries, and many more delightful items too numerous to mention.

This was Sherron's tenth year as chairperson for the event. Through her leadership and hard work, "Silents" has grown to become a major fund raiser for FOHP and from the comments heard Saturday evening, has become a highlight of the year at Hart Park. "Best Silents ever", "What a great time", "Can't wait till next year", "That band was terrific" – a small sampling of the remarks coming from one and all.



This was Sherron's tenth year as chairperson for the event. Through her leadership and hard work, "Silents" has grown to become a major fund raiser for FOHP and from the comments heard Saturday evening, has become a highlight of the year at Hart Park. "Best Silents ever", "What a great time", "Can't wait till next year", "That band was terrific" – a small sampling of the remarks coming from one and all.

continued

Silents

Attending where several members of the City Council, representatives of Supervisor Kathryn Barger's office and many guests who return year after year as well as new guests that we look forward to welcoming back next year.

In the evenings silent movie, Toll Gate, Bill Hart portrayed Black Deering, the leader of a notorious gang of bandits. The film was co-written by Bill Hart with help from his sister, Mary Ellen Hart. In addition to the traditional silent film, attendees were treated to two short video presentations. Supervisor Kathryn Barger spoke through the magic of DVDs, thanking everyone for attending and for the ongoing tradition of Hart Park in its quest to preserve the western heritage roots of the Santa Clarita Valley. A second short video presentation was prepared by Phil Scorza, in coordination with SCVTV's Leon Worden, that linked together the histories of William S. Hart and the Newhall area.



Many thanks to all the volunteers that made the evening possible, and to the staff and management of Hart Park for your efforts on behalf of FOHP.





Tim Murphy

Kicking off a new series, we thought it would be fun to meet the Friends of Hart Park board members! -ed.



Tell us about yourself

I grew up in the Mission Hills area of the San Fernando Valley and later I lived in Canoga Park & Chatsworth. After High School I went to Cal Arts the first year it opened in Valencia. I worked as a craftsman on theater and film projects making props and sets, sculpting, painting and mold-making. In 1985, I started my own ceramic tile business, TIMELESS TILE, and distributed my custom line of decorative tiles through high-end tile stores around the country. I moved my business to Santa Cruz, CA in 1993 for the next 22 years, until 2015. After 30 years of tile making, I retired and moved to Valencia in order to care for my 93 year old Mother. Who, by the way, is doing great!

Tell us about your artwork. What inspires you.

I am a multi-media artist, and have created many different works of art utilizing my skills in drawing, sculpting, watercolor, air brush, pastel, oil painting, experimental films, audio soundtracks and music recording, animation, ceramic tiles, masks, feather tapestries, bronze casting, mold making, photography and computer graphic arts.

I'm inspired by many things, but most especially by nature. I also love Early California Impressionist paintings (like the ones in the Irvine Museum collection).



Tim's buffalo painting donated to The Friends of Hart Park

What got you interested in serving on the FOHP board?

I visited the Hart Mansion and met Margi Bertram in 2013. Being a tile maker at the time, I was very interested in finding out more about the tile in Bill Hart's house. So, I contacted my friends at the TILE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, in Northern California, and sent them pictures. The Foundation identified the manufacturer as the American Encaustic Tile Company. In return for their help, I wrote an article about the Hart Mansion tile for their newsletter. My visits to the mansion became more frequent and, Laurene Weste, who I had known for many years, asked if I wanted to help out at Silents Under The Stars and then other events at the mansion, including Cowboys and Carols, which I did for the last few years. That led me to become involved in Friends Of Hart Park.

continued

Tim Murphy

What is your favorite thing/place in Hart Park?

The Hart Mansion is my favorite place at Hart Park because it is a time capsule of when Bill Hart lived there. I always feel so fortunate to be able to visit such an amazing place. After all the times I've been there, that feeling has never gone away.

My favorite things in the Mansion are the paintings; and the Native American artifacts, like the Navajo rugs and beaded moccasins.

Outside of serving on the FOHP board, what things do you like to do?

My most recent project was a labor of love that took almost a year to complete. It's a 46 page photo book with an accompanying 42 minute digital DVD movie, about my "family history".

I enjoy painting watercolors and sitting in on film classes at Cal Arts.

What would folks be surprised to learn about you?

I was a child actor in TV commercials as a kid.



Tim's painting became this year's Silents Under the Stars poster

 An advertisement for a pet fair. On the left is a sign that says "Bow-Wows & Meows Pet Fair" with "FREE" written below it. In the center is a photograph of a white and brown dog and a grey and white cat. On the right, the text "ADOPTIONS!", "ENTERTAINMENT!", "EDUCATION!", and "FUN!" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the entire graphic is a dark banner with the text "SUNDAY OCTOBER 14th" in white.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14th

 An advertisement for a rose show. On the left is a detailed illustration of a dark rose on a stem with leaves. To the right of the rose, the text "L.A. COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION" and "SANTA CLARITY VALLEY ROSE SOCIETY" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below that, "WILD WEST ROSE SHOW" is written in a large, stylized, italicized font. Underneath, "SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3rd" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a dark banner contains the text "OPEN TO PUBLIC 1pm - 4 pm" in white.

**L.A. COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
SANTA CLARITY VALLEY ROSE SOCIETY
WILD WEST ROSE SHOW
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3rd
OPEN TO PUBLIC 1pm - 4 pm**



William S. Hart Residence
Actors Studio
William S. Hart Memorial Foundation
AIDS Memorial Garden

"I would like to say in all the sincerity of which I am capable that in donating this beautiful spot...my former home, I am only trying to do an act of justice. I am only trying to give back to the American public some part of what the American public has already given to me."

WILLIAM S. HART, 1944

Your intrepid editor was required to attend a dress-up event in Hollywood. When it was over, Bill and his beautiful wife Lilianna just happened to wander into William S. Hart's yard! That's because his former home, the OTHER William S. Hart Park (which happens to be include, appropriately, a dog park) is in West Hollywood! What a treat to end the evening with a visit to our favorite cowboy actor's home, while he was making movies. The home is now used by the famous Actors Studio, and is unfortunately not open to the public. But the dog park is open to dogs!!!



Happenin's 'Round the House

by Margi Bertram, Museum Administrator

After nearly 200 applications, fifteen interviews, and four callback interviews, we are delighted to welcome Magdalynne Christakis as the Hart's new Education and Volunteer Coordinator. She starts Tuesday, September 4.

She brings with her ten years of experience working in museum education as a volunteer, lesson facilitator, tour guide and assistant program coordinator. This includes time at the Field Museum in Chicago, Lincoln Park Zoo and work at the Autry as a part-time museum teacher facilitating off-site lessons for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. The lesson topics included Western Art, Cowboys in Hollywood vs. History, and the natural resources of the Tongva. Another item on her resume that I'm excited to look at bringing to the Hart is her experience with scout badge programs.

And that is Oscar, her pet bearded dragon, with her in the photo.



The FOHP Trading Post Gift Store

has spent much of the summer getting ready for the fall Pow Wow in the Park following the very successful spring Cowboy Festival.

We will be showcasing authentic Native American southwestern jewelry along with a special collection of Native American literature. We also will be offering some beautiful framed artwork in the form of Pow Wow posters and copies of original paintings from the southwest. As always, our store continues to present the best variety of western theme merchandise in the SCV and continually brings in interesting one-of-a-kind items both new and used. Most recently, we obtained some original first edition Wm. S. Hart novels with several of them signed by Bill himself!



Pow Wow Sale

Our old log cabin store will once again be setting up a used book sale for Pow Wow, and this year we have a new collection of thousands of paperback western and mystery novels to sell at \$.50 each. In addition to the paperback sale there will be a wide variety of books available on other topics -- cooking, homemaking, entertainment, history, health, family and children, art, travel, classics, and the always popular children's novels. Most books will be priced between \$.25 and \$1.00 and we will hold the buyers' purchases for them until closing time each day.

Becki Basham Gift Store Mgr.

**County of Los Angeles
Department of Parks and Recreation**

In cooperation with the Friends of Hart Park



**25TH ANNUAL HART OF THE WEST
POW WOW
& NATIVE AMERICAN CRAFT FAIR**

**Saturday, October 6, 2018, 11am-6pm
Sunday, October 7, 2018, 11am-5pm**

William S. Hart Park

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation, has designated an ADA Coordinator to carry out this Department's compliance with the non-discriminatory provisions of the ADA.

For more information, contact the ADA Coordinator's Office at TEL 213-738-2970 TTY 213-427-6118 FAX 213-487-0386; upon 3-day request notice, sign language interpreter and related materials in alternative formats (Braille-transcript, large print, audio-record, video captioning, Live-description) or any other reasonable accommodations are available to the public for County-sponsored activities and events.

- ➔ **M. C.**
Bobby Whitebird-Cheyenne
- ➔ **Arena Director**
Victor Chavez-Dine'
- ➔ **Spiritual Advisor**
Ted Garcia
- ➔ **Headman**
Kale Flores- Luiseno
- ➔ **Headwoman**
Monica Jacome -
Kumeyaay/Pascua/Yaqui
- ➔ **Headboy**
Tash Montana-Tohono- O'odham
- ➔ **Headgirl**
Gracie Hernandez -Tejon
- ➔ **Eagle Staff**
(TBA) Each Day
- ➔ **Northern Host Drum**
Blue Star
- ➔ **Southern Host Drum**
Hale & Co
- ➔ **Open Gourd Dancing**
TBA each day

"All Drums & Dancers Welcome"

No sale of sage, sweetgrass or cedar

Event is Alcohol & Drug Free

Vendor Information:

**Cindy Reeves
(661) 857-6178**

allboys2000@sbcglobal.net

CRITTER CORNER

"Newt & Rico"

By: Rachael Komulainen, Park Animal Keeper



Have you been to Hart Park recently?!? If so, you have probably seen our newest critter family members. And, if not, you need to come on over and give us a visit!



On August 7th, two new bundles of joy moved in. Last February, our senior, male, potbellied pig Leroy passed away. Leroy had been declining in health and his passing was expected. Afterwards, though, it left his sibling, Pixie, by herself. Ever since then, we have been on the lookout for the right rescue situation. Preferably, one where we could not only get one or two more potbellied pigs but also help out an animal rescue organization in the much-needed placement of rescued animals.

Recently, the perfect situation arose! In working with local pig rescue organizations, we were put in contact with a dog rescue organization that was helping to save some potbellied pigs on the streets of Puerto Rico. WUFAW, which stands for Women United For Animal Rescue, partnered with others in Puerto Rico to capture, neuter, vaccinate and deworm several male pigs. The timing was right, so we were the recipients of the first two pigs that got shipped over to California!



We drove down to Sherman Oaks to pick them up from their foster mom and brought them back here on August 7th. Initially, we watched the interaction between Pixie, our existing potbelly pig, and the piglets. She was curious and tolerant, for the most part. However, when one of them flopped down in her mudpuddle, she wasn't having it! She let the little one know that she was the old lady of the house and it was all hers! Well, he was fast and she was slow, and it was a lesson learned for the new arrival. Since then, they have been doing great, even eating and sleeping alongside of Pixie.

So now, let me tell you a little about our boys. The first is the spotted one, whom we named "Pig Newton," although his nickname is 'Newt.' He is very playful, curious, loves the water and screams bloody murder when he is picked up! He is a true character and very smart – always trying to outsmart the staff to avoid capture and to steal Pixie's food. The second is the all-black one, whom we named "Puerto Rico," although his nickname is 'Rico.' Rico is the friendliest. He is a true love bug and is very food-oriented. He is quiet, relaxed, and tolerant – and even likes being held and cuddled. He does not, though, care for the mudpuddles. Already, each pig has definitely shown staff their unique personalities.

They came in to Hart Park at about 4 months of age, so they are still young enough to be taught to walk on harnesses, which is our goal. Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, you will see our piglets on walks around the park, like our donkey and alpacas. So, please stop by for a visit to the Hart Park Barnyard and check out our new piggies, as well as all of the other awesome critters!

What Was Hidden On Hart's Bookshelf?

By: Jenny Myer 2018 Getty Intern

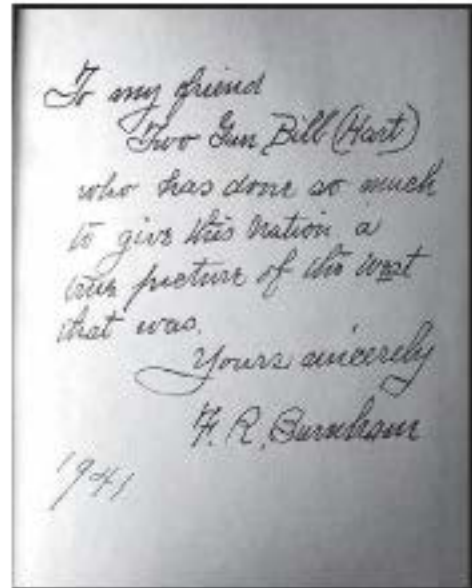
Over seventy years have passed since silent film star, William S. Hart passed away, but even after his death, new discoveries about his life and career continue to surface. The most recent discoveries have been made this summer, hidden between the pages of Hart's books.

This summer, I was given the incredible opportunity to complete an internship at the William S. Hart Museum, conducting research into Hart's personal book collection. The project consisted of cataloging and researching the books in the collection, along with documenting interesting findings or items found within the books. Imagine if someone were to look at the types of books you collect in your home. What would those books tell us about your life or interests? What secrets would they hold?

In total, I cataloged over 1,200 books in his collection, and out of those, 335 inscriptions had been written in the books by various authors, friends, or fans. Apart from inscriptions, I also discovered items hidden within the pages of the books, including photographs, a real Iris flower, handwritten notes, letters, and even a newspaper from 1925. The books tell a story about the life and history of William S. Hart, a man who had a profound impact on the silent film industry and in the town of Newhall. He may no longer be alive, but the items in his home still have a story to tell. The books give us insight into the personal lives of both Hart and his sister, Mary Ellen.

Included in his book collection are books that his sister Mary Ellen, who also lived with him, owned. It was easy to predict the type of books that Hart collected, since we know he had a love for the West and Native Americans. Unsurprisingly, these types of books took up most of his collection, but what intrigued me the most were Mary Ellen's books. In her room, I discovered astrology books, cookbooks, French language books, and books on gardening. As we already know a lot about her famous brother's interests, it was fascinating to discover what interested his sister. One of the most personal books in the collection was a cookbook that had been entirely put together by Mary Ellen. She had taken the time to cut out each individual recipe and glue them into this book, organizing the recipes by different categories. The book, however, remains unfinished as there are loose recipes placed in envelopes that never made it onto the pages.

I have enjoyed this internship so much that I decided to become a volunteer at the William S. Hart Museum once the internship concludes, continuing to share my love of history. I am excited to see what findings we may discover next and what else we can learn about the life of this famous western actor.



Special Membership

Patrons & Above

Dorothy Bradley, Roger & Becki Basham
John & Margi Bertram, Bill & Sherron Blowers
Richard & Val Evans, Diamond & Linda Farnsworth
Bill & Kathy Phen, Eddie Reinsma, Jack & Diane Stewart
Wade Ratzlaff & Stacie Gereb, Dick Meier



Our members in the Friends of Hart are essential to keep the preservation, beautification and enhancement of William S. Hart County Park and Museum. Tell your friends about us and invite them to join at FriendsOfHartPark.org/membership. Thank you very much for your support.

**Friends Of The
William S. Hart Park**

24151 Newhall Avenue
Newhall, CA 91321
(661) 254-4584

**President
Laurene Weste**

**Editor
Bill West**

**Graphic Design
All Graphic**

**Printing
George Lester Litho**

**www.hartmuseum.org
www.friendsofhartpark.org**

