

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## *A Living History Tour of Woodlawn Cemetery*

**PLEASE CONTACT US ASAP!  
WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU BY OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Contact:** The Santa Monica Historical Society Museum: Ho Nguyen (310) 395-2290

**Co-hosted by:** Santa Monica Historical Society Museum & Venice Historical Society

**Location:** Woodlawn Cemetery, 1847 14th St, Santa Monica, CA 90404

**Date:** Sunday, November 5, 2006

**Time:** 10:00 am to 1:30 pm (setup time 8:00 am, wrap up time 3:00 pm)



**Leo Carillo (1880-1961)** - an actor, preservationist and conservationist born in Los Angeles appeared in 90 motion pictures with his greatest fame as "Pancho" the sidekick to Duncan Renaldo's "Cisco Kid" television series in the early 1950's.



**Merle Norman** - Merle Norman Cosmetic Studios started in the 1920's, when she created her own line of cosmetics. In 1931, Merle Norman opened her first Studio in Santa Monica, California. Her nephew, J.B. Nethercutt, soon joined her in developing and manufacturing the products she sold. In her Studio, Merle Norman carried on her "Try Before You Buy" philosophy, creating customers by allowing those who came to her Studio to discover for themselves the unique benefits of her affordably priced products.



**May Sutton Bundy (1886 – 1975)** - tennis champion and the first American to win the singles title at the Wimbledon Championships. At the age of six, May Sutton's family moved to a ranch near Pasadena, California where she and her sisters played tennis on a court built by her father. In 1905, she became the first American woman to win the Wimbledon singles.



**Abbott Kinney (1850 – 1920)** - In 1891 Kinney and his partner bought controlling interest in Pacific Ocean Casino and a tract of land 1 1/2 miles long and 1,000 feet wide along the Santa Monica beach. His partner died, and his widow's new husband sold the interest to a group of men Kinney did not get along with. With a flip of a coin, which Kinney won, Kinney took the marshy southern half to build his Venice of America.



**Irving Tabor (1893 -1963)** - Without a driver's license, Tabor convinced Abbott Kinney to hire him as a chauffeur, and learned how to drive within a several of days. After 13 years as Kinney's chauffeur, their friendship grew and Kinney deeded his home to Tabor. When Irving was given Kinney's canalside home after the death of the Doge, neighbors would not allow the "colored" family to move in. So the brothers Tabor cut the large structure into 3 pieces and hauled it over the arched canal bridges to 6th and Santa Clara. They reassembled it without any trace of the deconstruction-quite an engineering feat in 1925.



**Arthur Reese** - Arthur L. Reese's experiences beginning in 1903 Ocean Park/Santa Monica, Abbot Kinney's "Venice of America", the Oakwood District and the greater Los Angeles areas, were first left in the charge of his first born son Mercier Reese (who was born in 1906). Mercier and his younger brother Lloyd had assisted their father with decorating the Venice Dance Pavilion, building floats, making papier mache grotesque heads, building boats and managing the Venice Boat and Canoe House.

**Anticipated total number of public participants: 60 – 80**

**Number of Volunteers: 21 total**

- 2 Orientation speakers**
- 6 Actors**
- 4 Tour guides**
- 2 Registration**
- 3 Parking attendants**
- 4 Setup and breakdown**

**Tour Groups: 4 total**

This program will consist of four (4) tour groups, 15 to 20 people in each group. Each group will be led by two tour guides. The start times of the tour groups are:

- First group at 10:00 am
- Second group at 11:00
- Third group at 12:00 noon
- Fourth group at 1:00 pm

**Purpose:**

The goal of this tour is to educate the public about Woodlawn Cemetery. By selecting specific grave sites to visit, the public will gain a unique understanding of who these people were and how they impacted the Santa Monica Bay communities, specifically in the cities of Santa Monica and Venice.

**Automobile parking:**

There will one entrance and one exit for ease of traffic flow. Three volunteer parking attendants will direct cars to the appropriate parking area. These attendants will wear white gloves for easy identification.

**Registration:**

Participants will be registered by two volunteers at the registration table outside, in front of the mausoleum, 30 minutes prior start time. After registering, participants will be directed inside the mausoleum for the orientation.

**Orientation (10 minutes):** With every participant of the group registered and present, the program will begin inside the mausoleum. The first volunteer orientation speaker will welcome the group, present acknowledgements, introduce the two tour guides assigned to the group, and briefly describe the tour with what to expect and safety precautions. The second speaker will talk about the beginnings of Woodlawn Cemetery, its developments through the years, and give a five minute walking tour of the mausoleum to point out a few key elements of the mausoleum's art and architecture. Once the orientation is completed, the participants will be led outside by the tour guides to their first grave site.

**Tour (1 hour, 40 minutes):** The tour will consist of visiting six grave sites. Each grave site will have a living history actor dressed in period clothing and will play the role of the deceased. The actor will recite unique stories, happenings of their times, and achievements. Each actor will have a unique prop to help convey a story and setting.

The volunteer tour guides will lead the group to the next site while giving historical information about Woodlawn Cemetery. One tour guide will be the main speaker at the front of the group, and the other tour guide will be at the back of the group to make sure that the participants are kept together and moving along.

At the completion of visiting last grave site, the tour guides will lead the group back to the registration area and thank the participants. End of tour.