

**In This Issue**

- President's Message
- In the News
- In Memoriam
- Mark Your Calendar

**Zoom Events**

- Board Meetings:  
May 19, June 16
- Program on SoCal  
History & Disneyland  
May 19

**Keep Up With Us**

- [ASA LA Website](#)
- [ASA LA Facebook](#)
- [ASA Twitter](#)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Members,

Happy May. This year is shortly closing for the Chapter. We made progress despite Covid. The Chapter has hired a new director. We have taken advantage of ZOOM and held board meetings and several events: cocktail hour, historical architecture, wine tasting, and Disney (this month). The Chapter continues to work with National via our liaison Justin Kane. Gazelle Wichner, ASA, will be out next President. Join a Zoom meeting and welcome her.

The Chapter welcomes fresh ideas.

Best,  
Christine Lee



**Program on  
SoCal History & Disneyland  
May 19th from 4pm to 5:30pm**

Join the ASA Los Angeles chapter for a program about Southern California history and the creation of Disneyland. We are honored to have writer and historian Chris Nichols join us to discuss his book *Walt Disney's Disneyland* (Taschen, 2018).

[Register Here](#)

**IN THE NEWS****Member Benefits**

The *Find an Appraiser* function on our **Chapter's website** has been moved to **National's** for ease of editing and maintaining current profile's of our members. Remember to update or load your member profile on the ASA website. Candidates can be listed too! If you have not listed your member profile, you are not taking advantage of the popular *Find An Appraiser* directory listing. Thousands of people access this website feature every month.

**In Memoriam**

We were notified that ASA LA past president, Paul Thompson, passed away. Sheryl Gillett provided his obituary:  
Paul Thompson ASA, MGA has died. Many will remember Paul as an active member of

the Los Angeles Chapter in the late 1980's and 90's where he began as Treasurer, culminating in being elected President of the chapter in 1997. Paul had a great affection for ASA and often remarked how ASA was like a family to him. He worked tirelessly for the chapter, spending long hours competing nationally for the best Chapter Newsletter. He opened Paul Thompson Jewelers in Larchmont Village in 1980, where he was his own welcome wagon for Larchmont, making sure all new store owners, merchants and neighbors got to know one another. He was a great connector as well as an expert jeweler and was a large part of the fabric of Larchmont Boulevard as he was for the ASA Los Angeles Chapter. Always a natty dresser, Paul exemplified elegance. A former hair stylist to many celebrities, he was also a gifted pianist and vocalist and could be heard on Sunday mornings as part of the choir at Mount Hollywood Congregational Church. He passed away peacefully of natural causes in Redlands, CA, on April 11, 2021.

Patrick Davis, GG, ASA, wrote a touching eulogy in honor of Paul:

I recently received the sad news that Paul Thompson had passed away. I hadn't spoke to Paul in years, but I had recently been reflecting on my life and career as an appraiser and decided to reach out to him last month to catch up. As I write these words, I am feeling so grateful that I made that call to Paul. You see, it was Paul who gave me my start and career as a jeweler. It was Paul who inspired me and encouraged me to become a professional jewelry appraiser and to start my own appraisal business. The year was 1994, I was fresh out of GIA and responded to an ad for a job as a bench jeweler at a brick and mortar jewelry store located in Hancock Park, in Los Angeles, called Paul Thompson Company Jewelers. Right from the start, Paul welcomed me into his store and his life and was more than willing to pass on his exceptional knowledge as a jeweler and appraiser. Over the years, I learned the ropes from Paul and ultimately grew into a well versed bench jeweler, buyer, seller, watch maker and eventually a professional independent jewelry appraiser and owner of GemSecure Jewelry Appraisers, Inc. Paul was the best of the old school jewelry store owners. He loved people and loved being involved in the community. Paul was extremely knowledgeable and contributed to the early development of The American Society of Appraisers - Gem & Jewelry program, as well as the Master Gemologist Appraiser program. He contributed to the very early development of the first ASA - Gemological handbook. For many years, Paul wrote a weekly column in the local paper called "On The Rocks" where he spoke about and answered questions about anything jewelry related. Paul Thompson was a mentor and friend. I am so very grateful for meeting Paul Thompson all those years ago. R.I.P. Paul.

#### **Future Programs**

We are still taking suggestions for future programs and webinars. If you would like to submit an idea, please contact any Board Member to discuss (contact information listed at the bottom of the newsletter).

#### **Newsletter and Facebook**

Excited about upcoming events or talks related to your discipline? Send us the details and we'll include it in next month's newsletter along with posting it on our Facebook page. Please email it to: [info@appraisersla.com](mailto:info@appraisersla.com)

#### **Opening on Chapter Board**

The Secretary position on the Board is still open. This is a great opportunity to get involved with your local chapter, while gaining experience serving as a Board member. Since we are now meeting via Zoom, monthly meetings are easier than ever to attend. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Cindy Cronk Vukovic at: [cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com](mailto:cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com)

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

#### **Events:**

ASA LA Program on SoCal History & Disneyland, Wed, May 19, 4-5:30pm

#### **Zoom Board Meeting Dates:**

Wednesday, May 19, 8am - 9am

Wednesday, June 16, 8am - 9am

#### **CURRENT LOS ANGELES BOARD:**

President: Christine T. Lee, ASA (BV), [tinathomson72@hotmail.com](mailto:tinathomson72@hotmail.com)  
Vice President: Gazelle R. Wichner, ASA (RP), [gazellewichner@gmail.com](mailto:gazellewichner@gmail.com)  
2nd Vice President: Carol J. Krieks, (GJ), [joy.works@outlook.com](mailto:joy.works@outlook.com)  
Treasurer: Patricia A. Thomson Graham, ASA (RP), [ktsinc@verizon.net](mailto:ktsinc@verizon.net)  
Secretary: Open Position  
Executive Administrator: Cindy Cronk Vukovic (PP), [cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com](mailto:cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com)  
PP Chair: Kathy Poppers, ASA, [artexpert@mac.com](mailto:artexpert@mac.com)  
PP Co-Chair: Jena Lee, [jenaroselee@gmail.com](mailto:jenaroselee@gmail.com)  
RP Chair: Doug Nason, ASA, [nasond@wellsfargo.com](mailto:nasond@wellsfargo.com)  
GJ Chair: Charles Carmona, GG, ASA, [cicarmona@gmail.com](mailto:cicarmona@gmail.com)  
MTS Chair: David Eichner, ASA, [david@smsappraisal.net](mailto:david@smsappraisal.net)  
BV Chair: Mike Bradford, ASA, [bradfordasa@gmail.com](mailto:bradfordasa@gmail.com)

#### **ASA LA Chapter Officers for 2021-2022**

Congratulations to our new chapter officers, whose terms begin on July 1st. Thank you all who took the time to vote and a special thank you to our new board.

President: Gazelle Wichner, ASA  
Vice President: Douglas Nason, ASA  
2nd Vice President: Carol Krieks  
Treasurer: Patricia A. Thomson Graham, ASA

---

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society of Appraisers · 11107 Sunset Hills Rd Ste 310 · Reston, Va 20190 · USA

Grow your business with  **mailchimp**