

# NEWS FROM THE CASTLE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LANDMARK HERITAGE FOUNDATION

funding the preservation of

# JULIA MORGAN'S BERKELEY CITY CLUB BUILDING

Spring 2011 • 2315 Durant Ave., Room 306 • Berkeley, CA 94704 • (510) 883-9710



# Julia Morgan 2012: A Collaborative Effort to Celebrate a Legacy

ITH 2011 already well on its way, I'd like to thank members of the Foundation board for putting their confidence in me as president this year, to congratulate all of you for faithful interest and generous support which leads to completion of such crucial and satisfying projects, and to place our devoted efforts into context with the larger picture of a prosperous California for the 21st Century.

When the Landmark Heritage Foundation began preparing our grant request in earnest late in 2009, we had no notion of what relationships might result

through association with the California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE). Focused primarily on our own challenges keeping ahead of the most urgent physical projects we might have missed an opportunity to reconsider and amplify our mission. Fortunately, our passion for promoting the legacy of Julia Morgan came through loud and clear, a passion we learned is shared by many stalwart supporters of her work throughout the state.

Now the Landmark Heritage Foundation is joining CCHE in a new, statewide collaborative project: Julia Morgan 2012 (JM2012). This project intends to identify and link Julia Morgan buildings and sites for mutual benefit. The ultimate goal will be reached when this body of extraordinary work, lovingly preserved by Californians of all stripes, gains enough coherence to awaken the world to the astonishing accomplishments of an unlikely and ever-fascinating home-grown genius. To fire the imaginations of travelers, students, artists, pioneers, historians, educators, swimmers, engineers, architects, feminists, realtors, and others, this collaboration will express its findings through publications, books, plays, maps, cooperative marketing, tours, events, and educational units aimed at 4th, 7th and 11th grade school curricula. Our intention: to catapult an inimitable force, Julia Morgan, into national and international prominence. In so doing, we hope to remind Californians that the lead-

women to keep breaking whatever glass ceiling presents itself next, and to demonstrate how a bit of ingenuity, visionary pluck, and true architectural solidity can produce enduring monuments.

As you can imagine, the Berkeley City Club building provides an ideal venue for realizing dreams like this. As the project has gained momentum, the Landmark Heritage Foundation has been

joined by an impressive array of mov-

ers and shakers from throughout the

ing edge still belongs to us, to encourage

state, representing agencies from the State Parks, San Francisco Planning + Urban Research Association, the Office of Historic Preservation, and YWCAs. Granted, each of these organizations has a distinct character and its own particular mission, but if we just begin by leveraging the fact that Hearst Castle at San Simeon is one of the top tourist destinations in the world, then this fascinating, life-affirming larger story of Julia Morgan will be told as never before.

The indomitable spirit that drove both Miss Morgan's accomplishments and her practicality is of particular poignancy right now. To put it bluntly, if Julia Morgan could persevere in the face of so many challenges, why can't California climb out of the current sand trap just as well? Through efforts like JM2012, the Landmark Heritage Foundation is doing its part to help California reach lofty heights once again.

-Steve Smith, LHF President



Our façade, lovingly restored. Photo by Trevor Johnson.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP WITH TOP PRIORITY PROJECTS?

- Our Pool Filter Tanks are in crisis. Your gifts now couldn't be used for a more urgent matter! See details in this newsletter. Contact the pool filter committee: Carla DeHaas, Tom Friedland, Freya Read, Cynthia Wood, and Mary Breunig.
- Contribute to LHF's Unrestricted Fund or the Endowment Fund.
- Steve Smith seeks information about Julia Morgan building stewards statewide to form a robust Site Council for the JM2012 Project. Please contact him through the LHF office with your ideas and any specific contact information you may have. We are looking for those who devote themselves as we do to Julia Morgan buildings that are open for public enjoyment. We hope to pool resources for the benefit of all concerned.

News From the Castle Spring 2011

# NEWS FROM THE CASTLE SPRING 2011

News from the Castle is the official newsletter of the Landmark Heritage Foundation. The Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of the unique Julia Morgan-designed building that is home to the Berkeley City Club.

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The Julia Morgan Preservation Fund Committee of the LHF meets monthly to approve projects and disbursements. The LHF Board meets bimonthly. All persons are welcome at these meetings; to attend call (510) 883-9710.

Free public tours are jointly sponsored by the LHF and the Berkeley City Club the fourth Sunday of every month except December. For public tour details or information on group tours, contact the Landmark Heritage Foundation.

# LANDMARK HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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Berkeley CA 94704
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www.landmarkheritagefoundation.org

LHF Office is staffed Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 10am–2pm

### CASINO AT THE CASTLE







A ROARING GOOD TIME: Our first annual *Casino at the Castle* on January 15 was a resounding success; just the thing to get 2011 off to an excellent start. Jazz band, period costumes, swing dancers of all ages, fabulous food and drink, gambling, astonishing raffle prizes – all exhilarating and all for a very good cause.

The heartfelt thanks of everyone at the LHF goes to Freya Read and Wendy Markel, amazing co-chairs of this wonderful fundraising event.

FOR MORE IMAGES, VISIT **landmarkheritagefoundation.org**AND **onthemarcphoto.com** (click on "client login" and use password "bcc")

### · UPCOMING EVENTS ·

Watch for an invitation to our September Donor Reception, including information about Planned Giving to support the LHF Endowment Fund, and help protect our beloved building for generations to come.

# Why Support the Landmark Heritage Foundation?

John King, the *San Francisco Chronicle*'s urban design critic, opened the new year with an article featuring our Berkeley City Club building. He praised our façade restoration, but warned against complacency. "Even the most obvious landmarks are prone to deterioration and decay," he wrote. And our efforts to preserve Julia Morgan's "Little Castle" face increasing competition for funds. With your generosity, we can make sure that our architectural gem lasts through the ages.

Read the whole Jan. 1st article at www.sfgate.com by searching for "Berkeley City Club Building." Be sure to click on "whole year" when the first page of results comes up.

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# POOL FILTERS EMERGENCY \$60,000 CAMPAIGN

UR SWIMMING POOL, the very heart of the Berkeley City Club building, faces imminent closure. Day by day, the three filter tanks continue to leak and rust and no one – not even the experts – can predict when a breakdown will occur. Without your immediate help, that catastrophe will come to pass and the pool will be shut down indefinitely.

After evaluating five different "fix" options, the pool filter committee in February chose a tank replacement system. This project will include the purchase of appropriate permits, removal of the old tanks, manufacture of the new tanks, repair of any related plumbing, and assembly and installation of the system. In addition, the large tile "scar" in the shallow end of the pool will be replaced and other minor tile repairs will be done during the shut-down. A final schedule of the work is not yet established, but the goal is to keep the pool closed for as short a time as possible.

This project is estimated to cost \$75,000 (though some estimates were \$100,000). Thanks to some generous donations, including some funding from the CCHE grant, our fundraising efforts are off to a strong start. However, we must still raise \$60,000 to complete the work.

Soooo, once again the Landmark Heritage Foundation asks that you donate generously to meet our \$60,000 goal by May 10, 2011. We know that our community has been asked many times to support

our efforts and we appreciate each and every donation that has made the current projects possible. Berkeley City Club members have also been asked to support the Club's financial challenges. Still, we must say, "Please reach deep into your pockets and contribute generously." You may choose to make a pledge that can be paid over several months or in two or three installments. Please contact the Foundation office to make arrangements.





ABOVE: Julia Morgan's beautiful pools are a distinguishing characteristic of her most important buildings. Yet, so many of them have been filled, covered, or otherwise made inaccessible to the public. Without your help, ours faces a similar fate. Let's be different. Let's keep our pool open.

LEFT: One of the corroded filter tanks. Photo by Trevor Johnson

For more details please call Mary Breunig, CCHE Project Manager: (510) 549 0689

Thank you for your ongoing support.

### Where Your Donations Were Used in 2010

LHF FUNDED THE FOLLOWING RESTORATION PROJECTS IN THE 2010 CALENDAR YEAR:

Front door lock, closer and glass	\$ 1,549.
Members' Lounge shrine restoration	556.
plus an in kind donation by museum conservator	
Initial membership fee America's Historic Hotels	5,000.
Pool tile color match	315.
Pool filter estimate	130.
Elevator consultation fees, labor and materials	164,320.
Elevator fire code consultation fees	3,805.
Façade restoration	156,889.
Leaded glass windows restoration	18,585.
TOTAL	\$ 351,149.

These expenditures included a \$57,000.00 payment from the BCC towards the façade, elevator electrical work, and contingency funds. They do not include any reimbursement monies from the CCHE grant. Two payments from CCHE were sent to LHF in early 2011.

A hearty THANK YOU to all our donors for making it possible to have the matching funds available to enable LHF to successfully apply for the CCHE grant.

# All photos courtesy of Landmark Heritage Foundation/Berkeley City Club Archives unless otherwise indicated

### LANDMARK HERITAGE FOUNDATION

2315 DURANT AVE., ROOM 306 BERKELEY, CA 94704

# · In Appreciation: Donors 2010 ·

The Landmark Heritage Foundation acknowledges these generous donors. Thank you all!

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Robert Hodas All donations are appreciated. The LHF endowment and the unrestricted fund are the two most important funds. As the endowment grows, its interest will provide much-needed annual maintenance monies that insure the building's preservation. The unrestricted fund allows the Foundation to direct monies where they are most urgently needed.