



The Hot Sheet

Museum & Community
Education Center

Los Angeles Police Historical Society Newsletter No. 38

March/April 2010

“I’m L-A-P-D, I’m LAPD.”

By Glynn Martin
Executive Director

These thoughts are held proudly by the many who serve and have served the greatest police department in this nation.

These words, succinct and telling, were spoken after the conclusion of a most notable, if not legendary career.

These were the words of Daryl F. Gates, captured in an LAPH S video long after he retired. Indeed he was proud. His pride was known in equal parts...

for what he had done, for whom he had done it with and for whom he had done it for. In so many ways the Chief was unassuming, and in virtually all ways tremendously accomplished.

The Chief.

Those words, whether spoken in LA, or in law enforcement circles anywhere, for decades now have conjured the image of just one man. He served the City of Angels for nearly 43 years, then he supported the Department and its people for another 18 years.

For the past 61 years, Chief Daryl Gates has been in or around the LAPD. For nearly 15 years as its singular leader and then in a supporting role, still caring for those that served for him and the others who did not know that honor. Generations have known, worked with, or served under this talented leader.

And now he is gone.



A young Daryl Gates with his mentor, Chief William H. Parker.

Chief Gates was born in Glendale on August 30, 1926. His pre-LAPD days included World War II service with the US Navy, then, in September, 1949, the Chief entered the police academy, beginning a career that touched portions of six decades and a number of distinct eras of human existence. Each posed a different type challenge for the police community.

Early in his career, Gates was selected to provide security for Chief William H. Parker. This assignment provided Gates with a glimpse of what would come nearly 30 years later. This training ground, along with his 1951 degree in public administration from USC served the young Gates well. By 1955 he had received his first promotion, to sergeant, and his ascent was consistent until his final promotion to Chief of Police arrived on March 28, 1978.

continued on page 5



What's Happening at Old Number 11

By: Glynn Martin
Executive Director

Unfortunately, this edition arrives at a very sad time. The Historical Society lost an important friend with the April 16th passing of Chief Gates. Besides his presence in the many eras of LAPD history, the Chief was a member of our board of governors and a steadfast supporter of our efforts. He will be missed in many ways. We hope the photos on the following page will help remind us of his service, his commitment and his affable ways.

Beyond the unfortunate and sad losses of both the Chief and SWAT Officer RJ Cottle, the Historical Society has been extremely busy with some significant projects. Most notable, and highly publicized, are words that accurately describe the partnership between LAPHs, the California Homicide Investigators Association and the Department. The travelling exhibit, entitled, "Homicides in Los Angeles History," literally played to capacity crowds. In fact hundreds of people were turned away, and those who were admitted waited for as long as two hours in line. The LAPHs staff and volunteers put in long hours to make the exhibit happen. Thanks go out to Alan Berta, Angie Roman, Pam Huhane and Mike DeCoudres for their tremendous efforts. We certainly wish all of our readers could have made it to the Palms, for those that didn't, please see the photos on page 4.

Fortunately, our next significant undertaking, won't include two-hour lines. It will, nonetheless be a busy day for LAPHs, simply because it is time for Museums of the Arroyo day once again. On Sunday May 16, 2010, LAPHs will partner with four other local institutions and offer free admission. Shuttle buses will be available for free

transportation as well. This year, LAPHs is truly please to have a special guest on hand for Museums of the Arroyo Day.

Last year, *LA Noir*, a non-fiction accounting of the common ascents of Mickey Cohen and Chief William H. Parker was released. The book became a local best-seller. Its author, John Buntin has volunteered to spend Museums of the Arroyo day at LAPHs. Expect him to speak about his book, and the fascinating times that its pages chronicled.

Both of these special events bring LAPHs to the public, not as broadly as the mass media, but they have been around lately as well. The April 11th presentation of KCAL9's Best of LA series featured a segment on the museum. The jail cells, the North Hollywood shootout exhibit and some other corners of the museum were featured. LAPHs received a number of visitors following the broadcast. Still waiting to be aired, to a much broader audience was a segment of the upcoming Travel Channel series, *Mysteries of the Museum*. Its release date is not yet known, but we will look forward to the museum being shown nationwide.

While these projects keep us busy, we continue to grow and develop the museum. LAPHs is actively involved in the production of an audio tour. Its creation and implementation will take several months. Sometime, late this summer, the tour will be unveiled. This museum advancement promises to greatly enhance our visitors' experience.



continued on page 5



Chief Daryl Gates





LAPHS at CHIA Conference Palms Resort, Las Vegas March 2-5, 2010





“I’m L-A-P-D, I’m LAPD.”

continued from page 1

The veteran of nearly 29 years of LAPD service was dealing with the many issues that faced the nation and the City as a post Viet-Nam society. So, too was he dealing with a post-Prop 13 government that shorted the LAPD and its Chief of key resources. The Chief was, “doing more with less.” Even without ample staffing or funding, the Chief found ways to advance and improve his police force.

By the time he entered office, he had championed the SWAT concept. He took to improving LAPD’s communications capabilities. He brought forth the Department’s first armored vehicle. Semi-automatic weapons were authorized for the troops. DARE became a household word.

This was Chief Gates as innovator and caretaker. His administration was also about service delivery. He believed in the motto, “to protect and to serve.” No place was this more evident that during his mid-term service. Two spectacular events focused the eyes of the world on the City of Angels and its policing abilities. Chief Gates successfully policed the Olympic Games of 1984 and the Papal visit of 1987. Each was a spectacular accomplishment that raised the standing of the LAPD throughout the law enforcement community and indeed throughout the world.

Los Angeles has long been revered as the entertainment capital of the world, and so it is. During the Gates’ years, it was arguably the sporting capital as well. The Los Angeles Raiders won an NFL championship, the Dodgers twice won the World Series, and the Lakers brought home five different championship rings. Gates’ LAPD, undersized though it was, registered their own victories while keeping the peace during each of the championship runs, and the victory celebrations that followed. Once again, LAPD was seen by the world, performing as the champions they were known to be.

The early nineties brought some extremely complex policing problems across the desk of the Chief. As his 43rd year of LAPD service was approaching, the Chief went off into a well-earned

retirement. But, the Chief was not gone. He stood by those that had served him in so many different ways...retirements, funerals, job recommendations and the like. He also made himself available to LAPD’s support organizations. The Chief supported LAPHS in many ways and on many occasions, particularly in his role on the Board of Governors. LAPHS had the honor and distinction of presenting the Chief with its top award, the Jack Webb award last year. It was a wonderful evening for all.

The Chief was a friend and supporter to all things LAPD, and we will miss him.

So, when it is time to think of LAPD, remember Chief Gates.

Remember his proud words.
“I’m L-A-P-D.”

He always will be.



The Chief
1926-2010

What’s Happening

continued from page 2

Upon its completion, we hope each of you will have the chance to visit and experience the new audio tour. If you can’t wait, please stop in to see us. Or, if you are interested in being a part of one of our many volunteer projects stop in, or call us. The volunteer opportunities at this museum are no mystery.

LAPD MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm
3rd Saturday of the month 9:00am - 3:00pm

Admission Fees:

MEMBERS	FREE
General (ages 13 thru 61)	\$5.00
Seniors (age 62+)	\$4.00
Youth (age 12 and under)	FREE*

**Must be accompanied by an adult*

Call (877) 714-LAPD to schedule a group tour or for more information

**PARKING IS FREE.
ALL FACILITIES HANDICAP
ACCESSIBLE.**

LAPHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, Tax ID# 95-4264361

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call Toll-Free (877) 714-LAPD
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6045 York Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90042-3503