READ ME – a note from the editor.

Hello Hart of the Matter readers! Who ever wants to read the “note from the editor?” I don’t blame you! However, this issue is so chock full of content, I wanted to share some details that you won’t find below from the original authors.

So, please bear with me and give this “note” from the editor a look-see.

FIRST THINGS FIRST, sorry it’s been a while. Between the pandemic and other goings-on, we haven’t had much to say for a while. That’s why, at the end of this newsletter, you’ll actually see news from the holiday season! Better late than never?

SILENTS UNDER THE STARS: Our big news is the return of [Silents Under the Stars](https://friendsofhartpark.com/Event_Pages/silents.html) for the first year since 2019! We’re so thrilled, and we’re gonna show William S. Hart’s final, and best feature film, 1925’s Tumbleweeds… (We were half-tempted to wait until the 100th anniversary in 2025, but we really wanted to kick off the rebirth of Silents Under the Stars with Hart’s best, which we haven’t shown in 18 years!)

A GUEST OF HONOR: we are thrilled to honor Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, who will be in attendance at Silents. She has been instrumental in making William S. Hart Park the gem of the valley that it is! We are honored to have her join us at the park which she has been so actively involved in preserving.

RETURN TO FILM: Not only are we coming back with Hart’s finest film (which we also showed in the inaugural Silents Under the Stars of 1995), but this year also marks our return to film! Remember when the late film historian David Shepard used to play our Hart movies on a real projector with real film? Well since David’s passing, we’ve had to make do with DVDs, but this year marks our return to film, thanks to silent film historian and founder of the Silent Cinema Society, Joseph A. Renaudo who will be showing Hart’s masterpiece thru a vintage, hand-cranked projector, much like the kind that originally displayed Hart’s films!

HEAR HART SPEAK! Another reasons this year is special, is that we’ll be showing the 1939 reissue spoken introduction by Hart himself, filmed on Hart’s property. Like many of the silent movie actor’s fans of the time, this is a rare way to hear Hart’s Shakespearean-trained voice!

IN OTHER, SADDER NEWS: we unfortunately have to pay our respects to some dear Friends of Hart Park who have passed on this year. We learned from Eugene Taylor that his parents, Col. Gene Taylor and Audrey Taylor both passed away a few months apart in Arizona earlier in the year. FOHP board member Jack Stewart told me that Gene was the patriarch of three generations of U.S. Army paratroopers, and I remember Audrey Taylor teaching us all about the art in Hart’s mansion. We also lost Lucille Evenson in May, a Hart Park docent from the 1990s.

TO END ON A HAPPIER NOTE: We got a 90th birthday message from our dear Friend of Hart Park, Bill Crowl! See below for that, a few more things I haven’t mentioned, and finally the promised pictures from the ho-ho-holidays!  
  
Bill