

# Malibu Life

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The Malibu Times | March 27, 2014

## Malibu local joins Olympic pin-trading tradition



Pam Litz has gone to 13 Olympic Games to collect and trade pins starting at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Alexis Driggs / TMT

*Pam Litz has traveled to 13 Olympic Games in 30 years to collect and trade pins.*

By Alexis Driggs  
Special to The Malibu Times

Nearly every other year for 30 years, Malibu local Pam Litz has traveled to yet another corner of the world to join in the international spirit of the Olympic Games. But Litz is no mere spectator. She engages in her own sort of sport: Pin trading.

A retired teacher, Litz began trading pins at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. She lived in Westchester at the time and was working as a volunteer. During the opening ceremony, she saw people trading pins and decided she wanted to get involved, so she bought four pins.

"The first trade I made was with a wrestling coach from Korea," she said. "He traded me for one of the L.A. '84 pins that I bought for a pin from Seoul, Korea. The games were going to be there in 1988, so I thought that was cool. First of all, I'm talking to this coach who I never would have met otherwise, and that was my first trade and I was just hooked."

Since 1984, she has traveled to 13 different Olympic Games to trade pins, including Barcelona, Calgary, Atlanta, Sydney, Beijing, London and Sochi. During that time, she has collected more than 7,000 pins.

According to Litz, pin trading is popular among Olympic attendees, from spectators to coaches to athletes. See Pin-Trading, page B7

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## 'Last Days in Vietnam' screens to sellout crowd

Filmmaking couple Rory Kennedy and Mark Bailey do Q&A at Malibu Film Society.

By Jimmy Tallal  
Special to The Malibu Times

The Malibu Film Society (MFS) screened the new documentary "Last Days in Vietnam" to a sold-out audience Saturday, followed by a question and answer session with director/producer Rory Kennedy and See 'Last Days,' page B4



Rory Kennedy

Jimmy Tallal / TMT

## Malibu author digs for Hollywood's shadows

Writer and Pepperdine professor Ken LaZebnik to read from fascinating new book on Sunday at 3 p.m. at Diesel, a Bookstore.

By Melonie Magruder  
Special to The Malibu Times

If you are a writer and have spent any amount of time near Los Angeles, you probably succumbed at some point to an urge to uncover unknown stories about its primary industry — the entertainment world. Stories that somehow help to explain how the people behind the mystery and magic of movies find their inspiration.

Screenwriter, playwright, radio show scribe and adjunct professor at Pepperdine University, Ken LaZebnik has done as much in his just-released first book, "Hollywood Digs: An Archeology of Shadows," a collection of essays about some of Hollywood's first writers, actors and second-unit



Gregory Peck and Judy Garland

Photo courtesy of Leigh Wiener

directors of movie days gone by. "Los Angeles is such a strange place of coincidence," LaZebnik said. "I just met a woman today whose father-in-law was a grip on 'Citizen Kane,' a woman at my son's school was the daughter of Sebastian Cabot (of television's 'A Family Affair')." There are so many connections to movies and TV of the past in L.A., I thought I would write essays prompted by a shard of evidence I came across of something no longer here."

Accordingly, in one piece on F. Scott Fitzgerald, LaZebnik tracks down the celebrated jazz age author's last residence—a cottage on the Encino estate "Belly Acres," that belonged to Edward Everett Horton, the actor who portrayed a comic butler in dozens of Hollywood films.

The cottage, of course, was razed to make way for a huge apartment building backed by the 101 Freeway. LaZebnik couldn't help but appreciate the irony of the

See LaZebnik, page B8

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Share your home and gardens with us as we profile the unique structures and gorgeous greenery of Malibu. Send us an email to be featured in our upcoming issue in May.  
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