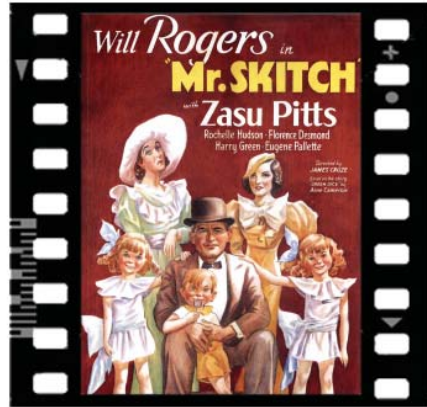


resident profile.....



Cleora Robb Galt

Cleora Robb Galt, a resident of Lemon Wood Mobilehome Park (MHP) in the City of Ventura, was kind enough to share her story of her life as a singer, dancer and actress. When she was a young child her mother, who was also in show business, enrolled her in singing and dancing lessons. Her teacher was none other than Judy Garland's mother! Some of her classmates included Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney. Cleora has a twin sister, Glorea, who also shared the spotlight with her. Together they would go on several auditions, and performed for many years on stage in different productions and Vaudeville shows.

In 1933 at age 11, the Robb sisters auditioned for the movie *Mr. Skitch*, starring Will Rogers, and landed the part. This was during the Depression-era where food and clothes were scarce. Cleora said the "highlight" of this whole ordeal was when she got to eat at the commissary; which had all the food you can eat. She remembers going to Bullocks Wilshire for their costumes, which were so much fun to wear. While filming the movie, schoolwork still had to be done. This was never an issue; the studios had teachers on premises.

She described working with Will Rogers as a real blessing. He took her under his wing, so to speak. She described him as very friendly and a father figure, or "grandfatherly" as she put it. They became close as her father left the family when she was at an early age.

During the next several years, Cleora continued dancing and singing. In 1991, she married her husband, Robert Galt, Jr. In 1998, she moved into Lemon Wood MHP, as she had a friend who was living in the

community whom she would visit and help take care of. Soon afterwards Cleora and Robert became very active residents. They participated in the community's exercise programs, fashion shows and many other social activities. Cleora was also active with the Grande Dames, and was an usher at the Rubicon Theatre. She would organize groups and their transportation to the theatre and even arrange their dinner plans after the show! Sadly, her husband passed away in May of 2010. He was a very warm and gentle man. They spent 18 beautiful years together.

In November 2010, Cleora and Glorea were invited by the Will Rogers Foundation to be the Grand Marshals of the Will Rogers Days parade in Claremore, Oklahoma. The Will Rogers Foundation provided all of the accommodations, including immediate family members to join the celebration – all expenses paid! Cleora and Glorea proudly waved to the crowd as they rode in the backseat of a convertible during the parade. Cleora said she enjoyed meeting the fans of the movie. (Cleora and her sister are the last survivors of the movie's cast).

A special thank you to Cleora, and her daughter Beverly, for contributing their time in sharing this amazing story. ■

**Story as told to Jenni Nitsch, Operations Manager
Vedder Community Management**