

Diana, Joy and Michelle



Christie, Kim and Pam



Next Stop, Hollywood

By Joy Chodan

I was preparing for a job interview with an advertising company when I got the news, news that I never imagined in my wildest dreams. Like so many times when we would get news that changes the campaign forever, Diana was on the other phone line. She informed me that she had just talked to David Naylor, the producer

of the *Moonlighting* DVDs. The whole staff had the opportunity to tape commentary for the DVDs in Los Angeles. It would be a featurette called *Moonlighting Phenomenon*. The next day at my job interview I was surprised by the answer I got from the hiring manager. She said that I had to focus on the trip to LA, that this was a wonderful opportunity, and my life was at a crossroads. And I knew at that moment that she was

absolutely right. There were new doors that were starting to open up for the fanzine staff that had worked tirelessly for over three years and counting. However, there were a few problems. First of all, we had to figure out how we were going to get to LA, where we were going stay, and how long we would stay? This was a very big decision for all of us. We all knew this was a once in a lifetime experience and could not let it pass us by.

Christie and I decided to take Amtrak for a cross-country trip. The other staff members opted to take a plane. We both had not been any farther than Florida and were now looking at a three and a half day trip going and coming back. But a cross-country trip was something Christie and I always wanted to do. During our train ride, we got to see amazing parts of the country including rivers, mountain ranges, different rock formations, deserts, and more. The trip going to California was a lot more fun than coming back because we had a funny lunch car attendant named Steve. He seemed to make the trip go much faster. We also met some nice people on the train to talk to and play cards with. A lot of people were amazed at how far a trip we were willing to take to get to LA from NY. Many asked us why we were doing this and we told them about the fanzine. We had copies of the fanzine and they were really impressed with it, some even wanted to keep them.

Day 1: Christie and I arrived at Union Station in Los Angeles on Tuesday, Feb 8th and it started off great. Our



article in *USA Today* came out and Diana had copies for all of us. We were so excited and were very pleased with the article and so was Lions Gate. From there we headed on to the highway and were able to catch a distant glimpse of the clock tower from the *Moonlighting* pilot. We first stopped off at the Santa Monica Place Mall for lunch, walked along the Santa Monica promenade, and then headed to the beach. We walked to the boardwalk and saw a gorgeous view of the ocean and beach from the pier. It was one of the most beautiful sites I've ever seen. The hotels and beach houses were very elegant. We walked through some of the posh hotels near the beach. I kept on thinking, "So this is how the other half lives?" Enjoying 75 degree sunny weather and walking around with short sleeves was a delight, after months of frigid cold in New York. California was much prettier than I expected it to be. Everywhere are green mountains, palm trees, and quaint little houses. Later in the day we were informed by Lions Gate that Glenn and Cybill were doing their commentary together that night. We were so excited by the news. Later that night we took a

stroll from our hotel and wound up eating at IHOP which became our favorite food destination during our stay in LA.

Day 2: The next day Diana attended a luncheon hosted by the *Screen Smart Set*, which Diana is a member of (read about the group on page 12). Meanwhile, Christie and I awaited the arrival of our other fanzine staffers. Pam arrived first. She called us from her room and we were so happy to meet. Next was Kim. I went downstairs to look for her and she was sitting in front of the bar lounge area with her luggage. Finally, the last to arrive was Michelle and then the whole gang was finally together in person for the first time ever! The experience was much more emotional and surreal than we ever imagined it would be. Just sitting together in the room and talking was worth the trip alone.

Soon after everyone had arrived Michelle remembered that Cybill Shepherd was going to be on *Entertainment Tonight*. Moments later we turned on the TV and enjoyed watching the release of the DVDs being announced for the first time ever on television. We all screamed

and cheered at the same time at points so it was hard to hear what the program was saying. Seeing Glenn and Cybill together doing commentary was an absolute thrill, as well as hearing an official announcement from ET that the release of the DVDs was in May. For dinner we went to a restaurant called C&O Cucina in Marina Del Rey. The place was really nice. We sat outside and it looked like a little Italian villa. Our dinner was delicious and reasonable. We took pictures and had a ball. Afterwards, we strolled up to the Venice Beach Pier and watched the waves crash. Soon afterward it was time for everyone to crash and get up the next day.

Day 3: It was a sightseeing day. In our minivan and listening to *Moonlighting* music, we drove up to Malibu and all through Beverly Hills. The hotels, houses, and mansions were just spectacular. After several hours of sightseeing in the car, we arrived at two of the main sites I wanted to see: The Hollywood Walk of Fame and Grauman's Chinese Theater. I kept thinking, "Am I actually here, looking at sites that I have seen in movies and TV my whole life?"

We had a lot of fun walking around and looking at all the different stars