

Smoke Signal

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.chatsworthhistory.com



Co-Presidents: Linda & André van der Valk

September 2019, Issue #4

Editor: Ann Vincent

Co-Presidents' Message

By Linda & André van der Valk

The Historical Society would like to congratulate our new Councilmember John Lee. We are looking forward to working with John on the preservation of our community and its history. Council District 12 has always been a supporter of the Historical Society and we look forward to our continued and valued relationship.

September means that it is time to get ready for Pioneer Day. Ann Vincent is busy getting all of the details worked out. She has her vendors in place and has been working on the Chores of Yore with Donna Nachtrab. The Chores of Yore is a wonderful way to let the kids know what life was like before TV and video games. They can learn that coffee beans needed to be grinded to get a cup of coffee rather than just going to Starbucks. Ann and Ray devised a telegraph display that the kids can use to practice Morse Code and "text" 1880's style. We will again have Standing Bear Leather with crafts for the kids to make. Keene Engineering will again have the very successful panning for gold and Dr. Standke will again be making miniature horseshoes with the kids. These are wonderful activities for the kids to learn about the past.

We will also have our bake and plant sale. If you can bake and can donate to the bake sale that would be appreciated. If you have a green thumb and have some plants to donate to the plant sale that also would be appreciated.

We hope to see everyone at Pioneer Day. Remember that this is one of our two fundraisers for the maintenance of the acre and the cottage.

Bea Berman, a longtime docent and community supporter, just turned 93 years old. We wish her a Happy Birthday!

Linda and André

Chatsworth Historical Society
Board of Directors 2019-2020

Co-Presidents	Linda & André van der Valk
Treasurer.....	Jim Van Gundy
Secretary.....	Donna Nachtrab
Hospitality.....	Jelena Csanyi
Smoke Signal Editor.....	Ann Vincent
Cottage Curator Emeritus.....	Betty Summers
Research Director.....	Ray Vincent
Garden Director.....	Annette Campbell
Director-at-Large.....	Connie Ager
Honorary Member.....	Bea Berman

Upcoming Events

October 6, 2019 Sunday 11-3

Pioneer Day

Mark your calendar and plan to join us. This annual event focuses on teaching children the ways of the Pioneer. It includes blacksmithing, gold panning, leather crafts, butter churning, games and crafts for kids of all ages. Vendors with handmade crafts are included.

October 15, 2019 Tuesday 7:00 PM

General Meeting

Filming "The Roy Rogers Show" on Roy and Dale's Chatsworth Ranch

Join us as we discuss the filming sites for The Roy Rogers Show at the end of Andora, during seasons 5 and 6.

November 19, 2019 Tuesday 7:00 PM

General Meeting

Chatsworth LA88 Nike Missile Base

Join us as we discuss the history of the LA88 Nike Missile Base on Oat Mountain. We will also show a 1961 Lassie episode that was filmed at the base, where Lassie trains a German Shepard to be a good guard dog.

DOCENT DOINGS at the ACRE:

Our docents keep busy with projects throughout the year. We meet every Wednesday morning 9-noon.

OUT IN THE GARDEN:

If you need some outdoor fresh air therapy, come join our gardening team on Wednesday mornings 9-noon.



IN THE MUSEUM: We will be sharing photos and information on the Stagecoach Trail. We will continue to have open house scheduled for the first Sunday of each month from 1-4pm except on Holidays.

IN THE COTTAGE: An inventory project is still underway to confirm and learn more about the items on display and their history so we can provide more information on our tours.

DOCENTS ARE NEEDED: Help guide guests through the museum and cottage during our Open Houses, Tours and Special Events. If you would like to learn the history of our community and help share it with others, please contact us for more information at chatsworthhistory@gmail.com.

Memorial Brick Plaza



Click the link below for the Memorial Brick Order Form \$100 per brick.

<http://www.chatsworthhistory.com/CHS-BrickOrderForm.pdf>

Bricks that were ordered before August 15th will be in place for October 6th Pioneer Day. We will continue to add new bricks, however the next cut off will be March 1, 2020 to have them placed before our Garden Festival. For more information, send an email to chatsworthhistory@gmail.com or call 818-882-5614.

Ventura County Astronomical Society Presents 50 Years Since Apollo 11

On July 20, Ray and I were invited to participate in the Star Party hosted by the Ventura County Astronomical Society at Moorpark College Observatory, to honor the 50 years since Apollo 11. The program included experts such as Dr Jerrell Thomas of NASA who talked about his career with NASA on Project Apollo. Dr. Thomas worked for NASA for the entire duration of Project Apollo. It was fascinating to hear his comments regarding the engineering and design decisions that were made throughout the project. Professor Hal Jandorf gave an astronomy talk on: "What's Up Tonight". Professor Jandorf teaches astronomy at Moorpark and



Valley Colleges. He was able to use a laser pointer to identify the constellations in the night sky. It was fun. At least 15 people had brought their own handmade or purchased telescopes to share views of Saturn visible in the sky. The Moorpark College telescope was available also. In addition, there were displays on hand of Apollo information shared by a variety of guests including Gloria DeMuri. Her father worked for Rocketdyne and she provided a display of his work.

Ray and I were asked to give our Chatsworth Historical Society program on the History of Rocketdyne, Saturn V engine tests, the Space shuttle and the history of Burro Flats. We found ourselves surrounded by engineers and scientists... many of the guests were Rocketdyne past employees and had never heard the history of the area before it became Rocketdyne. They all enjoyed the photos of the test stands and rocket testing. We had a great time...



HOMESTEAD ACRE
10385 Shadow Oak Drive,
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Located just inside the entrance to
Chatsworth Park South

Take the Pioneer Challenge at the Chatsworth Historical Society Pioneer Day 2019

Sunday - Oct 6th from 11-3 pm
At the Homestead Acre

Test your skills at Chores of Yore,
panning for gold, beekeeping, blacksmithing,
leather work, quilting and more...
Learn Morse code and use a telegraph,
texting 1880's style.
Make butter, grind coffee and
enjoy our beautiful gardens.
Have fun with sack races and other games.
See spinning wheels in action,
woodcarvers carving and make a cornhusk doll.
Learn how bees pollinated orchards throughout
the Valley.

Visit the 1911 homestead cottage and see
the kitchen with a wood burning stove and early
conveniences.

In the museum enjoy our Photo Collection
featuring the Stage Coach Road
and learn more about our
early Chatsworth Pioneer families.

Shop our Vendors
Bring your children and grandchildren and
Take the Pioneer Challenge!

Additional Parking and Shuttle service from the Chatsworth Train Depot (north lot)
Every 15 minutes from 11am to 3 pm

For more information contact: chatsworthhistory@gmail.com

Admission/Donation \$5 Adults, \$1 for Children under 12 – Free for kids under 5
Presented by the Chatsworth Historical Society

All proceeds go to maintain and preserve the Homestead Acre and our Chatsworth History

1964 DISNEYLAND ALL-NITE GRAD NITE MEMORIES

Mike Micklich's sister Maureen donated these rules to us. I love #2 Party Behavior: **Beyond reproach at all times.** Also #4 Apparel: **Dresses and Coats & Ties.** However...it starts at the top with the best item: **"All parents who hope to sleep all night, and grads and guests who hope to dance and play all night, should thoroughly understand and accept the rigid rules and regulations set up by Disneyland Officials. No exceptions can be made to accommodate individual requests."**

Thanks Maureen for sharing this with us!

WELCOME TO THE FOURTH ANNUAL GRAD NITE AT DISNEYLAND

© WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS

For Your Dancing and Entertainment Pleasure.....

MAIN STREET

- The Elliott Brothers Orchestra—Plaza Gardens
- The Strawhatters—Plaza Gardens (Intermission)
- Denny Brooks—Coke Corner

ADVENTURELAND

- Royal Tahitians—Tahitian Terrace

FRONTIERLAND

- The Young Men from New Orleans—Aboard the Mark Twain
- The Ward Singers—Golden Horseshoe
- The Astronauts—Oaks Tavern
- Mad Mountain Ramblers—Mine Ride

TOMORROWLAND

- The Spacemen and Kay Bell—Space Bar
- Hootenanny—20,000 Leagues Exhibit

Grad-Nite photo locations — have your picture taken early!
No pictures taken after 4 a.m.

You may have your souvenir photograph taken at any of the 10 special locations set up in Disneyland. Please have your photo ticket stub and a completely filled-out return photo card with you before you reach the photographer!

1. Between Storybook Land ride and Midget Autopia.
2. Adjacent to Carnation Ice Cream Parlor on Main Street.
3. To the right of Sleeping Beauty's Castle Entrance.
4. Inside the Frontierland Stockade.
5. Left side, Monorail Entrance in Tomorrowland.
6. Left side, Sleeping Beauty's Castle Courtyard.
7. Behind Alice-in-Wonderland, opposite the Matterhorn.
8. Clock Shop Alcove in Sleeping Beauty's Castle.
9. Pavilion Courtyard.
10. Plaza Gardens Sign.

GRAD NITE PRIZE

The following procedure will be followed in awarding the new Ford Mustang to a Grad Nite participant:

1. From 1:30 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. three ticket stubs will be selected every half hour.
2. These numbers will be posted immediately on the special signs at each Disneyland attraction, photo location and dance area, and will be announced over the public address system, and at all dance areas.
3. Check your Grad Nite Ticket to see if you have one of the winning numbers.
4. If you do, report IMMEDIATELY to Prize Headquarters at the 20,000 Leagues Exhibit in Tomorrowland.
5. The Mustang winner will be selected from among the finalists at 4:00 a.m. at Prize Headquarters.

CHATSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL
IMPORTANT "PIN-UP" NOTICE
TO PARENTS OF GRADUATING SENIORS

The All-Night Graduate Party at Disneyland is Friday, June 19th.

Approximate cost \$10.00 per person
Approximate over-all time 9:30 p.m., Friday to 6:30 a.m., Saturday

All parents who hope to sleep all night, and all grads and guests who hope to dance and play all night, should thoroughly understand and accept the rigid rules and regulations set up by Disneyland officials. No exceptions can be made to accommodate individual requests.

Requirements

1. Signed Release from Parent: Deposit in box at Student Store by June 5th. These will be recorded and filed.
2. Party Behavior: Beyond reproach at all times. No alcoholic beverages consumed or carried. (Any infractions will result in prompt Police confinement with parents called).
3. Refreshment Money: The popular "Graduate Special" is \$1.00, plus tax. Extras and soft drinks \$1.00 ????????
4. Apparel: Ladies -- Party or date dresses, dress flats or low heels. Wraps (it gets cold at night.) No capris or Bermudas.

Gentlemen --- Coats, ties, dress slacks, shirts and shoes.
No sweaters, jeans, or gym shoes.
No Service uniforms.

No improperly attired person can board the buses.

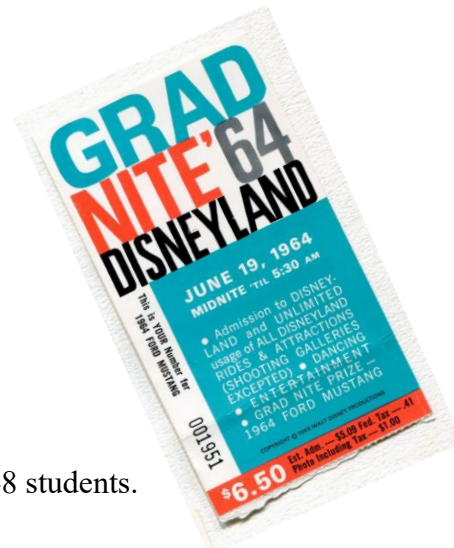
Information

Gate Tickets -- \$6.50 Bus Round Trip -- \$1.50 Total \$8.00
Free rides, entertainment, dancing. Free souvenir portrait and program.
Limited ticket sale will close on or before June 5th. Money and guest lists are turned in to Disneyland in advance.

1. Tickets: \$8.00 paid ticket receipts issued at Student Store Don't lose them! Receipts will be exchanged for Gate Ticket when you sign on the bus.
2. Bus: Departure Loading (Chatsworth School Gym Plaza) - 9:30 p.m.
Buses don't wait -- no money refunded. No private cars allowed, going or coming. Only bus passengers will be checked in by Gate Police. Return on original bus.

(Disneyland Gates locked from 1:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m.)
Return Arrival Time (Chatsworth High School) - 6:30 a.m. Saturday
PARENTS: Please be prompt for Reveille!!

Chatsworth High School Faculty is in no way responsible for any action taken, by any person, at the Disneyland Graduate Party on Friday, June 19th. Parent Council Members, acting as voluntary bus chaperones for this all-night party, assume no liability for the welfare or behavior of any graduate or guest. We appreciate the use of school facilities for loading the buses.



1964 was Chatsworth High School's first graduating class, with 248 students.

Photographs and visit with Gray family members

Polly Pastre, the great-grand-daughter of Minerva and Nelson Gray, visited the Acre at our August Open House. We enjoyed the visit with her, her son and grandchildren who toured the museum and enjoyed seeing the Gray family items we have on display. She brought us some new photo treasures from the Gray Family Photo Album and also provided us with an excerpt from her grandmothers sister's autobiography entitled "Pigtails to Silver-Grey". We are proud to have our museum be a repository for our early Chatsworth family memories.

The family photos are fascinating, and I thought I would share this one taken in 1894 with some interesting landmarks in the background.

The swing on the left indicates that this was a play area for the kids near their home on Lassen. We see that the sandstone boulder has drill marks in the front left, where it was split from a much larger stone. Stone from the Bannon Quarry was used to build their milk house, which kept it cool in summer months.

The best part of the photo, besides the children, is the background buildings that are visible. On the left is the 1890 Chatsworth Hotel (left side of swing ropes), with the 1893 Train Depot on the right side of the swing, and the 1893 water tower just left of the tree trunk. To the right of the tree trunk there is a train on the tracks.



The four children as shown are twin girls on the left, Ida and Edith, along with boy-girl twins Myrtle and Clarence on the right. Ida is Polly's grandmother, the sister of Edith Gray MacFarland who wrote the autobiography. This story shared by the family is written in the first person by the daughter of Nelson and Minerva, telling the story of how they moved to Chatsworth and what it was like to grow up here. She discusses the house they first moved into on the 80 acre lot that her father bought on Lassen, the school they attended, the new house her father built on the property in 1898, and the church property her father donated. When Ida and Edith reached their third year of high school...they were sent to live with grandparents in Pasadena to complete their schooling with the hope of meeting some eligible bachelors. The Gray family owned additional acreage in Chatsworth at that time and were very prominent and involved community citizens.

New artwork at our Chatsworth Museum – from local artists that knew each other

The latest discovery by Linda van der Valk on Ebay was a circa 1930's pencil etching by WA Eskey titled "Chatsworth Rocks". The etching captures a southwest view of Stoney Point; the house and trees are not readily identifiable and were probably added by artistic license.

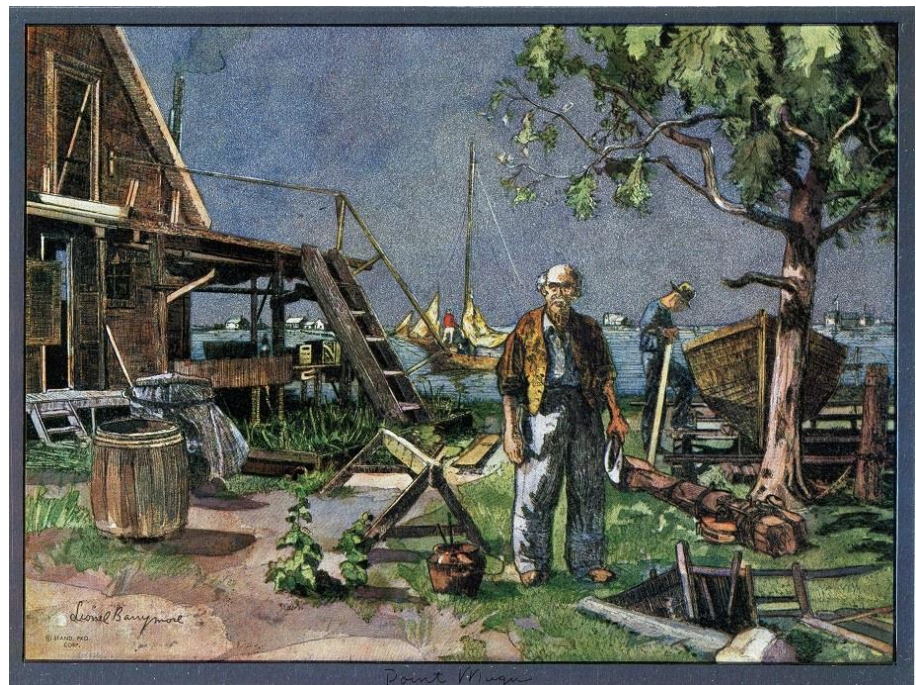
William A. Eskey (1891-1937) was born in Sistersville, West Virginia. Eskey fought in France during WWI and studied art there after the war. When he returned to the U.S., he lived in Los Angeles with his wife and two daughters. The 1930 census has him living at 819 N. Brand in San Fernando. The house still stands, built in 1890, with 8 bedrooms 5 baths, worth \$1.1 million today. In 1932 he built a house at 11532 Hartsook St., North Hollywood, that house is valued today at 1.2 million. He died young at age 46 due to weak lungs from 'gas' in WWI.



He made his first dry point etching in 1928 while a patient in the Veteran's Hospital in San Fernando Valley. Much of his time was spent in Twentynine Palms where he owned 100 acres. A regular visitor to his ranch was actor **Lionel Barrymore**, whom he introduced to etching. Trees were often the subject of Eskey's etchings; he also created pen-and-ink designs and bookplates.

Lionel Barrymore Etchings

Terry Tanner made a recent donation of Lionel Barrymore color-etch prints to the museum. It was a collection of four nautical themed etchings; the one at right is titled "Point Mugu". Lionel Barrymore moved to Chatsworth in 1938; he also studied art in Paris for 4 years in 1905. You can find our Barrymore presentation at chatsworthhistory.com, Digital Archives, Presentations, Chatsworth Celebrities – Lionel Barrymore.



**29th Annual
Chatsworth Historical Society**

Pioneer Day

Sunday, Oct. 6, 2019

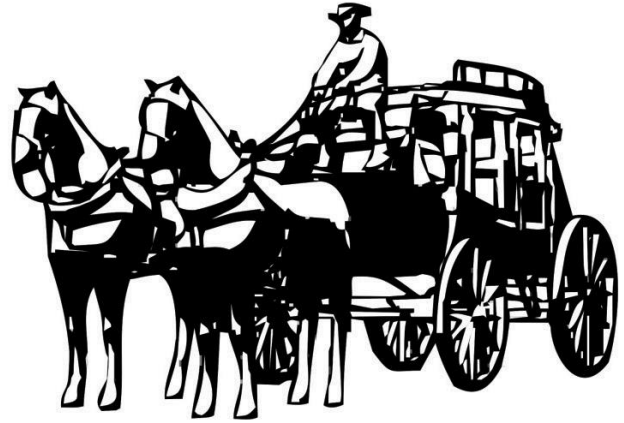
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bring your children
& grandchildren

Take the
Pioneer
Challenge

***Old-time fun
for everyone!***

- Panning for Gold
- Blacksmith
- Leather Crafts
- Chores and
 Games of Yore
- Vendors
- Bake Sale
- Woodcarvers
- Spinning Wheel Demo
- Veteran Quilt Display
- Design a Quilt Craft
- Rock Chippers
- Bee Keeping
- Telegraph Station
- Butter Churning
 and more!



Chatsworth Museum Exhibits

Featuring
Pioneer Families
and the Old Santa Susana
Stage Road History

Tour Minnie's 1911 Cottage

Location: Homestead Acre,
Chatsworth Park South
(West end of Devonshire St.)
10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth, CA

Information: (818) 882-5614
chatsworthhistory@gmail.com
www.chatsworthhistory.com

Admission Adults: \$5,
Donation: Children: \$1
(Free for kids under 5)

Park your car at the Chatsworth Train Depot (10038 Old Depot Plaza Road)
and use our free shuttle service, every 15 minutes from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Virginia Watson Museum & Gift Shop

The following items are available for sale during Open Houses on the first Sunday of the month. To arrange to purchase items at other times, email chatsworthhistory@gmail.com to make arrangements for payment and shipping, if necessary.

CHATSWORTH HISTORY by Virginia Watson	\$10.00
CHATSWORTH PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL The First 100 Years by Ioline Cleveland	\$10.00
WINDOW INTO THE PAST by William Schepler	\$10.00
QUIET ON THE SET by Robert Sherman	\$25.00
OUR PIONEER MOTHER As told to Lenora Johnson MacDonald	\$10.00



DIGITAL ARCHIVES online at

<http://www.chatsworthhistory.com>

facebook

CHS FACEBOOK PAGE

www.facebook.com/HomesteadAcre

SLIDESHARE.NET

<https://www.slideshare.net/ChatsworthHistory/presentations>

Slideshare has a listing of our CHS presentations that can easily be watched online. Enjoy!

Can we email our newsletter to you?

Please email us to provide your email address. Thanks! chatsworthhistory@gmail.com

Wondering if your Dues are Due?

Your dues are due one year after the last time you paid your dues.

For those receiving email only newsletters, we will advise you by email when your dues are due.

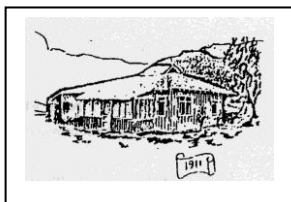
For snail mail, if you have an asterisk at the end of your name on the mailing label, your dues are due.

Please use the form below to renew your Membership. And if your neighbor is not a member yet, pass this newsletter on to them and invite them to join.



CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership Form



Your membership helps support our Homestead Acre and the educational and historical programs we provide for our community. Members receive our quarterly newsletters, and receive invitation reminders regarding our monthly programs and annual events – Rose Pruning, the Garden Festival, Membership Roundup, and Pioneer Day. Please mail this form with your annual membership dues and/or contribution made payable to:

Chatsworth Historical Society, 10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth, CA 91311
chatsworthhistory@gmail.com 818-882-5614 www.chatsworthhistory.com

- Yearly: New Member Renewal
 Individual \$15.00 Family \$20.00 Organization \$20.00
Life Membership: \$ 125.00

NAME _____ Phone: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ Email: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

Special Interest / Expertise: _____

Reminder: If you got this mailed to you, an asterisk on your label means your dues are due!