SMOKE SIGNAL

November 1972

Theme: "If it's to BE, it HAS to be ME."

Message from the President

Dear Members and Friends: Thanksgiving is a wonderful time of the year! It makes us stop and think of our blessings -- not only as individuals but as a nation as well. How far we've come since that time in 1620 when they gave thanks just to be alive and to have nourishment, to worship as they chose. They had many problems, which must have seemed insurmountable, and yet they gave thanks. Today we sometimes feel inundated by the flood of problems -- crime and the interpretation of laws, war and the feeling in our country about the present one, high salaries dwindled by runaway inflation -- and on and on. But in 1972 we have so much to be thankful for. Thanks for a beautiful land, for our opportunities to be together, for our forbears who gave us such a rich heritage, for the ability to work in making this a better community, and for our families who bring us joy and contentment. Yes, indeed, a very happy thanksgiving to each of you. As president, I personally am thankful for so many fine folk who work for the purposes of the Society, and I urge you to be with us next Tuesday, November 21st at 7:30 p.m. to share in our Thanksgiving Program. Sing happy birthday to Minnie Palmer who was born on the Chatsworth homestead where she still resides and will be 86 that night, and join with us in honoring Myrtle Bradley who has completed the wood carving of the altar face for the monument. Eileen Janess will be our gracious hostess at the dessert table, and Lillian Schepler is in charge of our special program for that evening which is explained in more detail further along in the newsletter. Hope to see you there. Sincerely,

FUND RAISING NEWS

Our YARD SALE on November 11 and 12 at the home of Iolene and Everett Cleveland was enormously successful. We've made \$441.75 so far and the sale will be continued through next weekend November 18 and 19. couldn't participate as a donor or buyer or seller

> last weekend, here's another chance to help with enriching the Monument Fund. We need everything except clothing. Sale address is 10347 Jordan Avenue, Chatsworth-- and pickup of donated items may be arranged by calling Iolene at 341-1529.

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The Society is deeply indebted to Iolene and to Lillian Schepler who handled the Bake Sale and to every member of the Society who helped to make this event a success. Iolene also wishes to extend her gratitude to the school children from her class at Chatsworth Elementary School and to their parents and her neighbors.

Celia Woodman reports that a total of \$178.00 was raised in the drawing for Mary Hanson's beautiful lilac painting at last month's meeting. Congratulations to Dick Miller who won it, and our heartfelt thanks to Mary who made the whole thing possible.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- by Eileen Janess

General Fund \$ 215.00
Monument Fund 444.93
Monument Trust Fund 724.75

REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE --

Bill Schepler, our Chairman, reports that we have 57 paid-up memberships for 1972-1973 as of the time we went to press, and that we would like more of our readers to become active participants in the Society. Membership categories are: Organizational \$5.00, Regular (single or dual husband and wife) \$5.00, Life \$25.00. Mail your checks to Chatsworth Historical Society, P.O. Box 102, Chatsworth, California 91311.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

UPCOMING LECTURE SERIES--

Virginia Watson has accepted chairmanship of a program of three lectures— planned for the spring of 1973— on the early history of the northwestern part of the valley. The lectures will be presented by the Society in cooperation with the Friends of the Chatsworth Library. Watch for dates in a future issue of the Smoke Signal.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM--

The last in a series of four sessions of this program will be held on Wednesday, November 15 at which time Virginia Watson will lead a field trip to the monument where the children will be told about the history of the church. Virginia will present each child who has participated in the program with a "Certificate of Completion." Prior sessions included a demonstration of horsemanship by Logene Porter, and an afternoon of entertainment by guitarist Beverly Craft who taught the children how to sing "El Rancho Grande" in Spanish.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS cont'd

Our very talented historiographer, Virginia Watson, was guest speaker at a meeting of the Panorama Women's Club during this past month. And the Chatsworth Historical Society is \$25.00 richer due to her generosity. She had the check for her lecturer's fee made out to our Society. We are grateful to her.



Second in a Series of

Mini-profiles of Society Members

Mary and Arnold Hanson have lived in Chatsworth since 1953 when they independently decided to relocate - Arnold from North Dakota and Mary from Massachusetts - to this beautiful community. Their story is a series of happy coincidences because in addition to meeting and marrying here , Mary , who is a celebrated artist , found a perfect partner in Arnold who creates the custom framing for her oils which are on permanent exhibit at Glendale Federal Savings and Loan Association. We are very proud of the Hanson's and deeply grateful to Mary for having donated two of her paintings to the Society for fund - raising prrposes.

Helen Ransom

is a newcomer to Chatsworth but an old hand at the struggle to perpetuate interest in our American heritage. She was an active member of the historical society in her former home in Brockport, New York, and can probably give us much valuable information based on her experiences in the east. We are very pleased to have Mrs. Ransom as a member of our Chatsworth group -- and as a friend.



Having returned to the nitty-gritty business world on an 8:00a.m. ro 5:00 p.m. basis, I won't be answering my phone (882-6153) until evening, but I

would welcome your calls and any news for the SMOKE SIGNAL whenever you get around to it - - before we put it together during the second week of the month.



Mary McVey