

S M O K E S I G N A L

December Mini-Issue: A few Christmas Smoke Puffs

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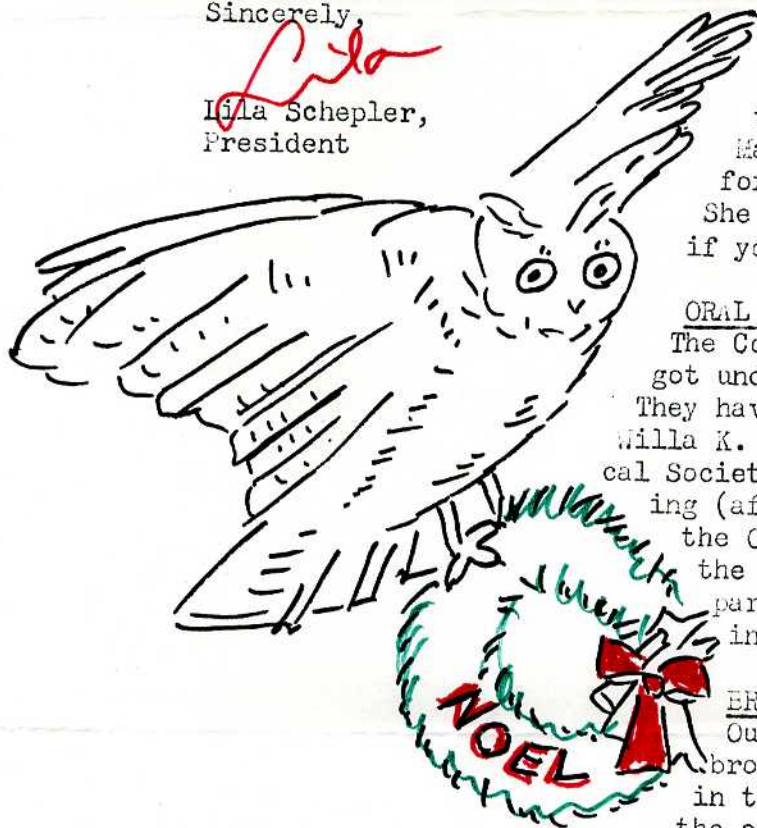
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

On behalf of the Board of the Chatsworth Historical Society, I wish for each of you a Christmas Season of joy and happiness. It is a busy, happy, glorious time of year when everyone seems conscious of the needs of others and of the need to share. For all of us it has a special meaning this year, I am sure.

We hope you can plan your schedule so that you may enjoy the Christmas Festivities noted in the accompanying flyer -- most especially the Number One event, our Society's own Christmas Buffet on December 14th, at the home of our hospitable First V.P., Dr. Boak. Looking ahead, to "ring out the old, ring in the new", please jot down on your 1974 calendars our first meeting of the New Year. Resolved: to set a record for attendance and enthusiasm. Did you know that to date we have 105 members? Merry Christmas to one and all!

Sincerely,


 Lila Schepler,
 President
CONGRATULATORY PUFF

To Glendale Federal Savings for their attractive illustrated brochure outlining the history of our area. And thanks to Madge Hutchinson, Chatsworth Branch Manager, for making them available to Society members. She will even furnish you with additional copies if you drop by her office.

ORAL HISTORY PROGRESS PUFF

The Committee in charge of making these recordings got under way with an initial meeting last month. They have recommended to the Board the purchase of Willa K. Baum's "Oral History for the Local Historical Society" as a working handbook. At the next meeting (after the holidays), Ed Mitchell will brief the Committee members on the proper handling of the tape recorder. If you would like to be a part of this challenging project of documenting "live" history, call Lila at 341-3447.

BROCHURE PUFF

Our crisp new Chatsworth Historical Society brochures are ready and waiting for enclosure in the January mailing. They look the same on the outside, retaining that nice illustration of the Church monument -- and the missing "c" has been happily restored to "historical"! However, the material inside has been updated -- thanks to Secretary Sheelagh Watts, who also arranged for the printing -- so be sure to keep this new copy in place of your old one. (The Board's addresses and telephone numbers at your fingertips). A hearty thank-you to Mr. Praisewater of Praisewater Mortuaries for a generous donation toward the printing; also to Richard Basil for a donation for brochures to be used at the Methodist Church. The generosity of these two friends has netted us 1000 copies almost cost-free.

A PUFF FOR YOUTH

Al Meluso, Recreation Director in charge of the three parks in Chatsworth, has volunteered to help launch the Young Historians of Chatsworth. Marlys Stuckenbruck will assist in the planning. A Happy Historical New Year to our eager-beaver Juniors!



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 purposes.

Helen Ransom

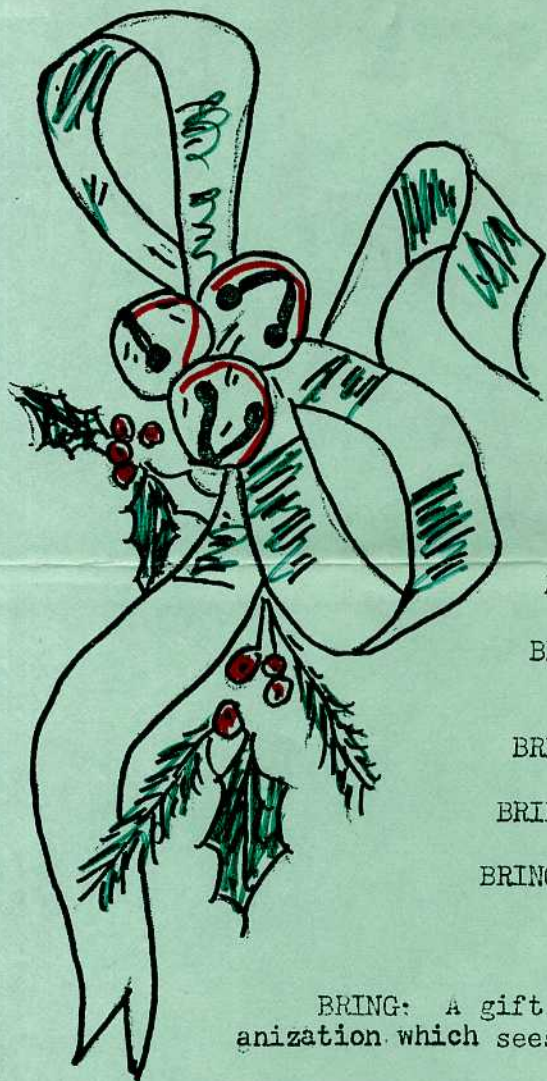
is a newcomer to Chatsworth but an old hand at the struggle to perpetuate interest in our American heritage. She was an active member of the historical society in her former home in Brockport, New York, and can probably give us much valuable information based on her experiences in the east. We are very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



MEMO FROM THE EDITOR-

Having returned to the nitty-gritty business world on an 8:00a.m. to 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



joy at Christmas

GALA CHRISTMAS PARTY

FOOD! FUN! FELLOWSHIP! MUSIC! MERRIMENT!
Friday, December 14, 7.00 p.m., at the home of
Dr. Ruth Boak, 10639 Mason Ave., Chatsworth
Reservations requested NOW: 341-6517 or 341-0603

TURKEY and cranberry sauce provided by our gracious hostess.
Attending members are requested to provide the FIXIN'S.

BRING: SCALLOPED POTATOES -- if your last name begins
(or a hot veg. dish) with letters A to H.

BRING: SALAD -- if your last name begins with I to O.

BRING: CHRISTMAS CAKE -- if your last name begins with P to Z.

BRING: Gift for exchange (costing no more than \$1.50).
Ladies bring something ladylike. Men bring something
suitable for a man. Help Santa by wrapping, tagging M or F!

BRING: A gift of canned goods to be given to FISH, the Chatsworth org-
anization which sees to it that nobody goes hungry at Christmas -- or any time.

DIRECTIONS to our Hostess's home: From Devonshire, proceed north on Mason St.
approximately 1/4 mile to last house before Chatsworth St., on west side of street.

LAS POSADAS PARTY. Saturday, December 15, 7.30 p.m., at Andres Pico Adobe
10940 Sepulveda Blvd. (just where it meets Brand Blvd.), Mission Hills.

Hosted by the San Fernando Historical Society. Bring the children and grandchildren to
participate in this colorful traditional celebration. Hear the Gabe Ruiz Troop of early
Californians sing Las Posadas. Buy a candle for \$1.00 and join the procession seeking
room at the Inn. Watch the children try their luck for the goodies in the piñatas.
Throw your own cascarnes (on sale there). Enjoy refreshments in this historic setting.
WEAR WARM CLOTHING as the events are mostly outdoors. WANTED: 6 women to help serve
as door-keepers during the gathering of the people. As soon as the program begins, all
will be free to participate. Wear a costume. (If you don't have one, we'll beg, borrow,
or steal one for you). Call Lila at 341-3447 if you are available. It's fun!

CHRISTMAS AT HERITAGE SQUARE. Sunday, December 16, 1.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Take Ave. 43
off Pasadena Fwy. Continuous entertainment. Hale House open for inspection. Re-
freshments available. Admission and parking free. (Wear comfortable walking shoes).

And now, as Tiny Tim said, "GOD BLESS US, EVERY ONE!"