

S M O K E S I G N A L

January 1974

Theme: "If anything's to BE, It's up to YOU and ME. Let's ALL make history!"

Editor: Colette Humphrey Parsons

"Ring out the old, ring in the new...Ring in the thousand years of peace."--Tennyson

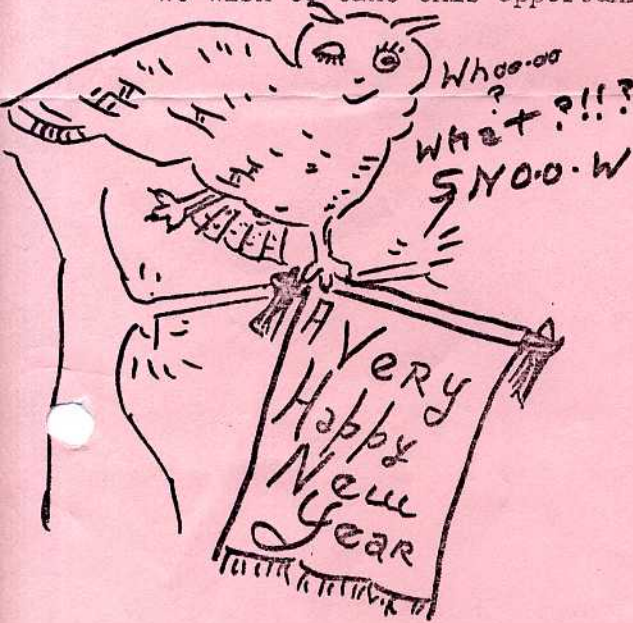
GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends: We wish for you all a New Year which is happy and rewarding, not just in material things but in spiritual values as well. At least -- starting out with snow in sunny California, an illusive comet and an all-too-present Energy Crisis -- we can guarantee that it will be different! As for the Historical Society, let's make a happy start together at our first meeting of the New Year on January 15.

We wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Ruth Boak (our 1st V.P.) on her completion of an outstanding year as President of the Chatsworth Chamber of Commerce. At Saturday's Installation meeting she was honored with many awards --from the County Board of Supervisors, City Council, State Assembly and Senator Cusanovich, among others. Likewise, congratulations to Don Gudin (also a member of our Society), the incoming president, with best wishes for a great year.

Sincerely,

Lila



GREETINGS FROM THE TREASURER

General Fund	\$682.36
Monument Fund	\$854.87
Trust Fund	\$762.40

Thanks, Eileen Janess

Also, according to Librarian Lillian, our Publications Fund was enriched \$30. by the holiday sale of 12 more copies of A Child's History of Chatsworth.

THE MEMORIES LINGER ON

Our Christmas Party was a delightful affair -- thanks to our gracious hostess, Ruth Boak, her husband and sons and the assisting committee, Lillian and Lila Scheppler, Virginia Watson and Sheelagh Watts. About 60 guests enjoyed the delicious turkey buffet, while remembering their less fortunate neighbors with a large carton of groceries, presented to Louise Curinga for distribution by FISH. After the Invocation by Katherine Johnson, Santa Frank Schepler entered (not via the chimney) and dumped his full pack, launching a merry gift exchange umpired by Lorraine Mitchell. Christmas carols with Fern Jack at the organ and several Christmas readings by Milton Parsons brought the evening to a happy end.

Another memorable occasion was the celebration of Las Posadas hosted by the San Fernando Historical Society, Elva Meline, President. The beautifully decorated Pico Adobe and the processional path outlined by luminarias, provided a picturesque setting for the traditional ceremony. Lovely ladies, in early California costumes, served chocolate and pan dulce. Excited children scrambled for the goodies from numerous pinatas. Music -- cascarnes -- laughter -- joy pervaded the atmosphere. Thank you, good people of San Fernando, for preserving this happy custom.

FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR. PLEASE HELP US GET OFF TO A GOOD START.

JANUARY 15, 1974, Glendale Federal Community Room, Devonshire and Vassar.

7.30. Join us for a delectable dessert, served by hostesses Eleanor Schepler and Fern Jack. Enjoy sharing the hobbies of Carolyn Coughlin and Sheelagh Watts.

8.00 PROGRAM: "BITE INTO THIS ONE!" An illuminating history of teeth and their care by Dr. Barbara and Dr. Joseph Pampalone. A host of fascinating facts. For instance, do you know about George Washington and his single tooth? Or that wealthy folk had their teeth carved of ivory? Or that in France dentists must pursue the same studies required for physicians and surgeons but learn very little about dentistry per se? Question and answer period at close of talk.
Added attraction: A demonstration of several antique items of dental equipment plus a loan display from the UCLA School of Dentistry.

PATRON'S PLAQUE

This will make its initial appearance at the January meeting and is nearly ready for the name inscriptions of those giving \$100. to our work. Latest donors in this category are the Chatsworth Rotary Club and Lillian Schepler, in memory of her father, Ted Roach. When inscribed, the Plaque will be circulated in the community before arriving at its permanent destination in the Pioneer Church.

Names of other donors to the Society (now being assembled by Virginia Watson and Eileen Janess) will be commemorated on the Wall of Remembrance in the Church.

A THOUGHTFUL GIFT

Henry and Virginia Watson have donated a display case in which our artifacts and other items of historical interest destined for our Museum may first be displayed throughout the community -- hopefully, for short periods of time, in various Banks and Savings and Loan Assns. Are there any skilled and generous people who would donate their time to do a refinishing job on the case before the display is arranged? Who-o-o of yo-o-ou will volunteer?

ALSO NOTEWORTHY

Our very accomodating Slocum Printing Company is running off notepaper with a Pioneer Church illustration both for our official use and for sale to members. The first 1000 copies have been earmarked as a donation to the Society. A happy New Year gift.

A DATE TO REMEMBER: SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 1974

Carolyn and Denny Coughlin, our Trip Chairpersons, have planned an exciting tour for us on that day -- to the fabulous '20's mansion of Harold Lloyd, great comedy star of the '20's. Plan of action: If you wish to share a ride from Chatsworth, meet at 1.00 p.m. sharp at Glendale Federal. Or, you may go directly to the Tour bus stop at Century City Shopping Center, 10250 Santa Monica Blvd. Free parking.

The tour leaves promptly at 2.00 p.m. The guided walking tour of the mansion and estate takes 1 1/2 hours. Fee (incl. bus fare and tour) is \$4.50 per person. This is an unusual opportunity to see the interior of a home of a famous movie personality, with the original furnishings -- even wardrobe and a trimmed Christmas tree -- left exactly as they were when the family was in residence, plus the spectacular gardens. Reservations may be made at Jan. meeting -- or phone 882-4316 (Carol), 341-0603 (Lillian), 341-3447 (Lila).

SHADOW OF OTHER COMING EVENTS

THE YARD SALE! Our V.P. of Fund Raising, the indefatigable Iolene Cleveland, has set the date of the Sale for a time shortly after Easter (which falls this year on April 14) -- after a complete weather check. So gather ye all available saleable items from A (for Antiques, real or imagined) to Z (for useable Zilch and a Zillion other things). Also place your orders now -- at our next meeting or through Lila (341-3447) for her home made bread -- the Best in the West. Last year the supply, tho ample, ran out long before the demand did.

OPEN HOUSE. Not until March 10, but as always there is much to be done in the way of preparation, and it is our HOPE that this year the Monument will be in a state of virtual completion. In order to set up a schedule for work yet to be done, the Board convened early in December with Frank Enderle (Mrs. Enderle and Mr. Hunt were unable to attend) over a pre-Christmas brunch. Mr. E. was optimistic that he could complete the road in time for cement to be poured for the porch so that the front entrance could be used. Other essential work claiming priority and needing professional labor includes the setting of window glass -- preferably tinted -- to be gradually replaced by memorial stained glass windows, the painting of the altar area, and the installation of light fixtures. Volunteer help will be recruited for minor paint jobs and other refurbishments within the powers of the "willing-hands-at-home" brigade. May the sun shine on our efforts.

NEWS TIDBITS

Among new arrivals -- a granddaughter for Mary and Ramon Avila, courtesy of daughter Gloria and husband....Holiday arrivals included Bonnie Jean Lakey, home from Spain with tales of historic sites explored, fabulous scenery, fascinating people. Daughter Julia and husband Jim Gage came from Kansas to share the happy holiday festivities with Bill, Virginia Ditto's increasing flock and other relatives and friends....Holiday guests were also enjoyed by the Pampalones (Dr. Barbara's sister and children)....the Ralph Christiansens (son Carl -- who has been transferred back to L.A. Airport -- and family....The Parsons (old friend from Connecticut; about 10 years of reminiscences to exchange since last meeting). Daughter Sally Ann visited by phone on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Twelfth Night! This is one of her busiest seasons....New members (and old friends) Toni and Joe Meyser of Escondido (formerly of Chatsworth) were contemplating joining a Motor Home Cavalcade to Mexico -- weather and availability of gas permitting....Sheelagh Watts is the lucky recipient of the definitive History of the New York City Ballet, personally autographed by the author, Lincoln Kirstein....On a less festive note, Sheelagh's mother writes from England that the fabrics firm where she works is on a compulsory 3-day schedule, that she works by candlelight, and wears a fur cape while on the job. It's not comforting to hear how much worse off people elsewhere are than we are, but it should make us realize, in between complaining, that we are better off than we think....Also on the minus side, there have been quite a number of friends on the sick list: Frank Schepler, Sr. spent several days in the hospital between Christmas and New Year's but is much improved....the Eddie Mitchells and baby Christina took turns with the flu but managed a happy Christmas Day between germ attacks....Ruth Boak's husband also had a bout with the flu....Arnie Hanson is recovering from walking pneumonia....The R.L. Johnsons are not feeling as perky as usual....Our sympathy, good people and may you all have a speedy and full recovery.

THAT'S ALL!

ONE LAST WORD: GREETINGS FROM YE EDITOR

May you all have enough gas in your tanks and sufficient killowatt hours during 1974!

