

"SMOKE SIGNAL"

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH 1974

Theme:

"If anything's to BE, It's up to YOU and ME,
Let's all make history!"

Editor pro tem: Sheelagh Watts

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It's astonishing to realize that we're over half way through the Society's new year. We'll be appointing a nominating committee for the 1974-75 slate of officers at the general meeting this month. The nominating committee report will be made at the April meeting. If you are interested in serving in an office next year, or assisting in any way, please let the nominating committee know - or tell us of your interest.

I know you will enjoy the exhibit at the Security Bank so plan to celebrate Chatsworth's birthday twice - first at the meeting on Tuesday, March 19 and again at the bank on March 22nd. See notices of the two events elsewhere in the "Smoke Signal".

Sincerely,

MEETING NOTICE:

On Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. we will meet in the community room of Glendale Federal Savings, 21821 Devonshire St. At that time we'll celebrate with cake and all the trimmings served by members of the Chatsworth 4-H Club. Other youth groups, including two Girl Scout troops, will provide entertainment that includes a puppet show and a sketch.

This fun filled evening has been planned for us by Lillian Schepler and Virginia Watson, co-chairmen. The hobby corner will be exhibits made up of memorabilia that has been on display at the bank and the library (borrowed back just for the evening).

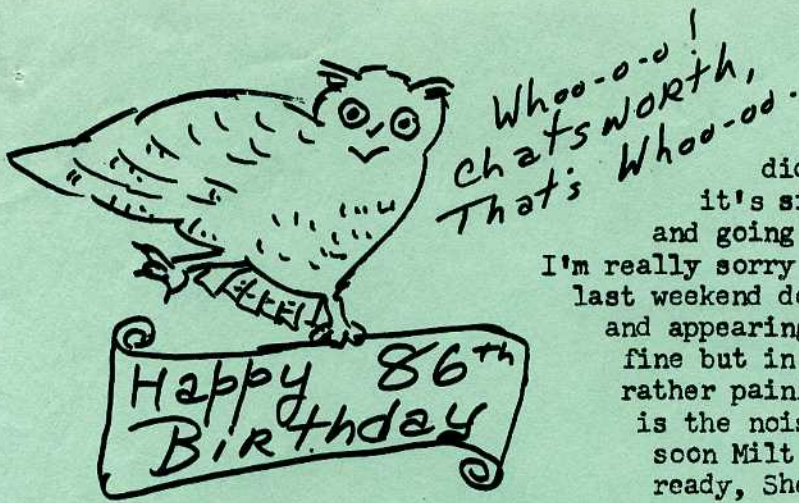
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EXHIBITS * EXHIBITS * EXHIBITS* EXHIBITS

On the following page is a detailed account of our part in the Security Pacific Bank celebration of Pioneer Days. In the meantime, credit goes to Virginia and Kelley Watson and Lila and Bill Schepler for arranging the display. We're proud of it.

Fern and Gerald Jack donated two attractive bulletin boards and your editor pro tem managed to fill them with items of interest for display at the library during March to help further our birthday celebration.





I WONDER WHY DEPARTMENT:

If you were wondering why Colette didn't pick up the editorship this month, it's simply not true that she's stage struck again and going to make a comeback on Broadway. No, I'm really sorry to say that Milt took a very nasty fall last weekend down in Fullerton where he was directing, and appearing, in the Lenten play. He is going to be fine but in the meantime, he's recuperating from some rather painful injuries and the last thing he needs is the noise of a typewriter banging away. Get well soon Milt - and Colette, come back whenever you're ready, Sheelagh.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund	\$620.14
Monument Fund	1084.87
Trust Fund	772.47

Thank you, Eileen.

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Editor's Note: Any typographical errors this month may be blamed on the fact that I think I saw someone streaking down Andora Ave., just as a sat down to type.

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HAPPY 86th BIRTHDAY CHATSWORTH:

The Security Pacific Bank has devoted ten days already to celebrating Pioneer Days. The bank's own historian provided many fine artifacts and the bank personnel were assisted by the Society, the Chamber of Commerce, Mac's Feed and Grain, Oakwood Memorial Park, Roller's Relics and other kind residents.

The days of the old West live again with a jail, boothill, pioneer living room, cavalry saddles, our own memorabilia and much, much more.

The ladies of the Society will be serving cake and coffee - with Minnie Palmer on hand to officially cut the cake and she'll be assisted by Chuck Brooks, bank manager, and our own, Lila Schepler. So come along and join the fun. The cake cutting will be at 4 p.m. The bank is located at 21902 Devonshire St.

Assisting with the refreshments will be Lillian Schepler, social vice president; Eileen Janess; Sheelagh & Jennifer Watts; Dr. Ruth Boak; Lila Schepler; Eleanor Schepler and Carolyn Coughlin. Call Lillian at 341-0603 - if you'd like to join in the fun. The ladies plan on wearing western, Spanish or pioneer day costumes - so what's wrong with men bar tenders dressed in a costume. Get out the ten gallon hat and join the crowd down at the Long Branch bank!

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"WINDOW INTO THE PAST".

Bill Schepler, editor, "lifted" today's "Window" from the historical

edition of the West Valley Sun, published in June, 1949. One article was written by Life Member Katharine Johnson who for many years was correspondent for valley-wide and Chatsworth newspapers. Katharine is married to Kelly Johnson, grandson of our great pioneering Ann and Neils Johnson. So read and enjoy!



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GOOD NEWS DEPARTMENT:

Doris Dosser, our fine librarian, is recuperating well from her recent surgery and reports that she'll probably be back at work by the end of March. That means we'll probably see her at our April meeting. She also sends her thanks to all the many well wishers who dropped her a line or a card and other tokens of their concern. That really is good news.

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MORE GOOD NEWS: Keith Watts is going to Japan as the guest of IBM and the Japanese World Trade Council. He'll leave on April 4th and be there when the Cherry Blossoms are in bloom.

BAD NEWS DEPT: Sheelagh's not going!

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GET OUT THE HIKING BOOTS:

The Santa Susana Mountain Park Association will host a hike on the second Sunday in April - this time to - Stoney Point. Meet at the parking lot of Chatsworth Park Elementary School 20020 Devonshire St. at 9 a.m. or call Zorka Nelson for details.

Sunday, March 17, the SSMPA will hold an afternoon of reminiscing at Chatsworth Park SOUTH - west end of Devonshire St. - from 1 to 3 p.m. The 17th marks the 35th anniversary of the placing of the plaque on the site of the old stage coach trail by the Native Daughters of the Golden West. So - come along, bring a lot of old pictures, exchange memories - whether your memories are from the 90's, the 20's, the 40's - what the heck, the 50's and 60's are old times for some of us! Just join the fun.

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TRIP TO IVERSON RANCH:

37 members and friends spent a beautiful Sunday afternoon at the home of Joe and Iva Iverson - viewing the ranch's gorgeous setting, admiring the view; viewing a museum second to none in natural history and a professional film made of the couple's 1967 African Safari - and a home that is a veritable museum itself. We extend our deepest thanks to the Iversons. What a memorable day.

This is the third in a series of trips into history since the Coughlins - Denny and Carolyn - have taken over the chairmanship. All very successful - Los Posadas, the trip to Harold Lloyd's estate and, most recently, the Iverson Ranch. Kelly Johnson assisted with the arrangements and we missed seeing Katharine that day.

SAD NEWS DEPT:

The Youth Group did not meet as planned - for a variety of reasons it has become impossible for Al Miluso to work with the group as hoped - basically because he teaches such a fantastic number of classes and leads so many activities and it is just too much at this time to expect him to take on this very important responsibility. Do YOU want to sponsor such a group - with a committee of adults to help? The kids need us to help them; there is real interest (Marina Pampalone would make a terrific first president) but we need an adult sponsor. Plans include meeting once a month - one a program meeting, the next a field trip, alternating. WILL YOU HELP?

MORE GOOD NEWS:

The second meeting of the Oral history committee will take place at the home of Lila and Bill Schepler, 22438 Lassen St. (tele 341-3447) on Wednesday March 27th at 8 p.m. Current committee members are Virginia Watson, Sheelagh Watts, Lila and Bill, Iolene Cleveland, Doris Dossier, Lillian and Frank Schepler. Others have expressed interest but haven't signed up yet - just call Lila or attend that evening. We'll again ask Ed Mitchell to attend and give instructions in the use of our tape recorder. Plus we plan to review Willa Baum's "Handbook for Oral History". PLAN TO ATTEND - history is flitting away from us.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT COLETTE AND MILTON:

The play, the 14th century miracle drama "Abraham and Isaac" presented two weeks ago at St. Martin-in-the-Fields" in Canoga Park was a fabulous success. Glimpsed in the audience were Historical Society members Millicent Starkey, Jane Matthews, Lila and Bill Schepler (maybe others not glimpsed). Mr. George Schoell said for all of us "It was superb - I wouldn't miss anything Colette and Milton do!" And THAT's the truth. It was beautiful. Thank you for inviting us - just sorry that more didn't know about it.

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SPECIAL NEWS DEPARTMENT:

The notepaper is here - very attractive and very cheap - \$1 per dozen sheets and envelopes. This fantastic price made possible because of the generous donation of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Slocum of Slocum Printing, Canoga Park, for the first one thousand. Order yours now from Lila - or Lillian - or better yet, pick up several dozen at our next few meetings.

