

SMOKE SIGNAL
CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

October 1974

Theme: Yet to be decided--do you have an idea?

Guest Editor: Jane Matthews

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:

It is great to be home again. I have often thought about all of you and I am looking forward to our October meetings and the year ahead.

The trip around the world was great, but I am more and more impressed that we live in the best country in the world. We have more freedom and a better life living in the U.S.A. More people should travel and come home and appreciate all that we have.

Ruth Boak, M.D.

September 30, 1974

FROM THE BOOKS OF OUR TREASURER:

On October 2, 1974	General Fund	\$1,170.02
	Monument Fund	\$136.74
	Trust Fund	\$803.49

Thank you, Eileen

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At our September meeting Lila Schepler was nominated as our choice for Outstanding Woman of the Year in Chatsworth. Her name will be submitted to the Chamber of Commerce for their consideration for the 1974 award.

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FALL ROUNDUP

Our October meeting will be a fun evening at the home of Joseph and Barbara Pampalone.

The date is SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19. 7 p.m. Social Hour 8 p.m. Dinner

It's a barbecue with all the fixin's, and the price is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. The address is 10510 Fullbright Avenue in Chatsworth--on Mason Park. Reservations should be in by October 17 and may be made by calling Sheelagh Watts at 341-4489.

Wear western duds, you dudes--are there any sun bonnet Sues?
Y'all come--y'hear?

NEWS ITEMS ABOUT MEMBERS CONTRIBUTED BY LILA

Correction: Peggy Christianson is the staff person responsible for the Cancer Society's program in all of the beach cities--Pacific Palisades, Malibu, etc., not Torrance.

Bob and Marion Swartz hosted (with the others concerned) a beautiful double wedding. Daughter Fay married Kevin Purnell and son Robert married Patti Cappeletti. Best wishes to the brides and grooms. Saw about 20 Society members there. Congratulations to Sam Downing, Life Member from Newport Beach, who recently received his license as a Real Estate Broker. This is right in his field. He has been a building contractor and formerly Commissioner of Zoning for N. Beach. Gerald and Fern Jack have their final inspection and permit for occupancy of their lovely new home on Lassen Street. They are to be doubly congratulated since they are building the home with their own hands.

Lillian Schepler has been honored by Councilman Robert Wilkinson, who has appointed her to serve on the city-wide Bicentennial Committee. Congratulations!

Eileen and Chuck Janess spent their vacation visiting old and dear friends in Detroit. They celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary with a lovely luncheon with those friends and relatives who attended their wedding and reception in Detroit.

Our President Ruth and husband Don visited many countries of the world--can you list some of them?

Betty and Jim Summers had a bit of bad luck. They took off for their vacation in the High Sierras but auto trouble brought them right back home. Their daughter, Janie, was in the Swartz wedding party, as was another member, Ed Mitchell and his wife, Louise.

The Mitchells are busy with their lovely new home, also built on Lassen Street. Right neighborly since it is next door to the Jacks. Isn't that a coincidence? Incidentally, the Jacks have been on vacation in the midwest.

Sheelagh Watts' mother came from England for a visit this summer. She arrived in time to see the New York City Ballet at the Greek Theatre, where granddaughter Heather was dancing.

Lillian Schepler was busy when the London Symphony appeared at the Hollywood Bowl. Her cousin plays with them. She gave dinners, entertained, and attended many concerts.

Kelly Watson enjoyed a visit with a friend in Hawaii this summer. She saw the Stuckenbrucks (Dr. Linn is assigned there for several years; daughter Corkey is attending the University and Marlys is enjoying her summer away from school visiting them). She went sightseeing with them. Later Cathe Cleveland visited the Islands and the Stuckenbrucks as well.

Lila and Bill Schepler visited the Island also on the way home from their four weeks in the Orient--Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Bangkok, Korea. Fabulous! Saw former Chatsworth residents Larry Murrays, Edison McEntires, Cliff Ahlstroms, in Hawaii. Bill is now a travel consultant with the Chatsworth Travel Agency. Lila and Bill have been trailering for a month in the Northwest visiting friends, seeing the Expo in Spokane and calling on Mary Fulmer in Oregon. The Ralph Cristensens plan to visit the Islands with three other couples.

Frank Daugherty spent three months traveling in his gorgeous AirStream Trailer.

Joseph and Barbara Pampalone took a month to visit in Merrit, N. Carolina, Pittsburgh, Washington, D.C. and Wisconsin. Marina entered Junior High in Chatsworth this fall.

HISTORIOGRAPHER'S REPORT

1973-74

Virginia Watson

Sheelagh Watts suggested the title "historiographer" for the job I perform for our society. It means one designated to keep the history. I had already started collecting historical information and artifacts and it was only natural that I should do the same thing in our society. And it was a word that covered more than just historian, who usually keeps the history of a group rather than the history of the area. In our particular group, historiographer has also come to mean the same as curator for it has been my job to collect, record, catalogue and exhibit our collection with the help of other members of our group.

Last year my main job was getting the book republished. This year, with the help of Lila and Bill especially, we have exhibited our artifacts on several occasions--at the Folklorico last September; at Chatsworth High School; at our meeting; at the Security Pacific Bank for the birthday celebration; and since then at the Glendale Federal.

I made several talks on the history of the area--for the Chatsworth Business and Professional Women's Club at a dinner meeting; for the Woodcraft Ranger group from Newhall at Chatsworth Park South last November; for Mr. Acosta's California History Class; for the Methodist Men's Club meeting one very rainy night this February; and for the Chatsworth 4-H Club in March. As historiographer (and author of our book), I was invited along with Katharine and Kelly Johnson and Harold Johnson to the performance of a play on the history of Chatsworth by our local Girl Scout Troop 1545. I believe they had been working on their badges for folklore and local history plus my community.

Every year students at CSUN, CHS and other local schools call me and make appointments or talk over the phone about local history. This year two boys came from Granada Hills High School to interview me and make an oral history tape.

I have worked on our oral history committee and have an assignment to interview Minnie Hill Palmer and the Iversons. I hope to get this done before our year is officially over. Another project related to my job as historiographer is that of the committee to copy our photographs. Last month the Board voted \$50.00 toward this project and Bill Schepler, Sheelagh and I will get this started before next year.