



C H A T S W O R T H  
H I S T O R I C A L  
S O C I E T Y  
S M O K E S I G N A L

February

1976

President.....Lila Schepler  
 Editor.....Virginia Watson  
 Mailing Editor...Tricia Plucknett  
 Window Into the Past.Bill Schepler  
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends:

Why not set Feb. 17 on your calendar right now? If you have to change another meeting--do! Our programs have been fantastically good and the February one is especially so once again. Be sure to read the review.

We look forward to the many celebrations during this Bicentennial year with joy. As we never grow tired of saying the Pledge of Allegiance, so we will not tire of hearing more and more about those Revolutionary heroes of yore. Our lives will be enriched by hearing more about these 200 years.

Why don't you volunteer to work on some of our committees? I believe you will enjoy it--I know I do.

See you Feb. 17--

Sincerely,

*Lila*

FEBRUARY MEETING

CARL HAVERLIN will be the speaker at our Feb. 17 meeting at 7:30 in the Glendale Federal Savings & Loan Assoc. Hospitality Room.

"Abraham Lincoln" is the title of his lecture. Mr. Haverlin is a noted collector who recently donated his personal collection of Carl Sandberg papers to the CSUN Library.

His collection, along with the papers donated by our own Jane Matthews are on display at the Oviatt Library beginning Feb. 12. Jane is Carl Sandberg's niece and she gave the personal photographs and her mother's family mementos.

She is bringing some items to display at our meeting for the hobby corner.

Remember--refreshments first and social hour at 7:30.

Betty Selvidge & Tricia Plucknett are the hostesses under the direction of Lillian Schpler.

NEW EXHIBITS

Be sure and see the new exhibit of Love Songs sheet music at Glendale Federal Savings done by Betty Selvidge. And the display in the Bank of America lets you play the game of "Can you Recognize These Familiar California Scenes" done by Bill Schepler.



## PROGRESS REPORT

Many many changes have taken place this last few weeks at our monument getting ready for that memorable day April 25 when our little church is re-dedicated.

The doors on the east wall have been replaced. All transoms in the main church vestibule and the bride's room are in. All the painting in the Bride's room, Main Chapel, and vestibule have been completed.

Shutters have been constructed to protect and cover all windows in the Bride's room, vestibule and chapel and they have been painted.

The carpet has been removed and the floor scraped and made ready for painting. The flooring has been given extra support. The young people from the Youth Employment Service have cleaned the main church and removed wood, nails, etc.

OAKWOOD MEMORIAL PARK ASSOC. has been hard at work with huge earth moving equipment, preparing the road and leveling areas for parking.

It is well-packed and even during the rain it is still possible to drive up to the church now.

They have laid the pipes to within 400 or 600 feet of the Pioneer Church for the bringing of the water, electricity and gas to the area.

ERNEST HUNT HAS assured YOUR PRESIDENT that both water and electricity will be there to USE BY THE APRIL 25th DEDICATION DATE.

Already they have had the electrician return and check the wiring etc. (The electrician had been paid 2 years ago but we found during our Open House that the work was not completed.)

LOOKS LIKE all will be in order for our fabulous, joyful rededication ceremony!!!!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HELP MAKE OUR APRIL 25 DEDICATION SUCCESSFUL?

We need volunteers for almost everything you could think of doing.

## CHATSWORTH WOMENS CLUB TOUR FACILITY

Seventeen members of the Chatsworth Womens Club toured the Monument last week to see the progress made to date.

Their special project is the "Bride's Room". Bill and Lila met them at the church and conducted the tour.

When they arrived they presented Lila & Bill with a check for \$250 to be used for the carpeting and decorating the bride's room. It's not the first time these lovely, civic minded, historical minded women have come to our rescue. They have helped us in many ways with many gifts of money including \$500 to help move the building when we first were beginning.

Lillian Schepler, president of the Women's Club presented the check.

Thanks very much ladies!

## EARLY BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TOWN

Our community will be 88 on March 10 of this year having been founded on March 10, 1888. Be sure to join our society for the birthday party-- a little late this year as our meeting is on Tuesday, March 16.

Did you know that Minnie Hill Palmer is older than our community? She was born in 1886 before our town had been subdivided.

We are looking forward to having her cut the cake again this year for our town's birthday.

**\$3000--We have to repay it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Did you know that our society borrowed \$3000 from Frank & Lillian Schepler? They were kind enough to loan us the money so that the monument can be completed by April 25<sup>th</sup>.

They are loaning it to us for the interest they would have received on it had it been in a savings account.

Our FIRST PAYMENT IS DUE JUNE 1st. You will be hearing more about our money-raising projects soon so be prepared to help.

**JUST THINK--WE ARE FINALLY GOING TO FINISH THE CHURCH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



MANY THANKS TO  
KELLY JOHNSON, SAM EWALT  
AND SAM FULLINGTON

The memorial edition of our newest publication was made possible through the generous donation of the plates by Kelly Johnson--the ones he had used in previous publications of "OUR PIONEER MOTHER".

The KATHARINE WALTON JOHNSON MEMORIAL EDITION of OUR PIONEER MOTHER will be on sale for \$2 until the dedication of our church April 25. After that it will be \$2.50.

It is the truly inspiring, exciting and adventuresome story of Ann Willden Johnson, courageous pioneer woman of Chatsworth.

Sam Ewalt and his cousin Sam Fullington borrowed the use of a print shop and did the work of publishing the book for us.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU.

YOU KNOW ITS COMING----

OUR ANNUAL YARD SALE

IOLENE CLEVELAND reminds all of us how important it is to save our rummage for the yard sale she will host in June.

We made over \$600 last year. If we all give to the cause we might make \$1000.

Remember--a YARD SALE IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE STUFF WE HAVE FOR SALE. Talk to your friends. Ask them to save their "good stuff" for us.

We know IOLENE CAN SELL ANYTHING, but let's give her a boost and give her lots to sell.

Call 341-3447 if you have anything to give. We can store it.

CHATSWORTH'S 76 BICENTENNIAL  
DAYS

Fern Jack sent out a mailing of 225 letters to organizations and businesses in Chatsworth requesting donations of funds to support the rehabilitation of our Pioneer Church. We have received three responses of gifts to help with more to come.  
cont.

THANKS FERN.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our hearty and sincere congratulations to Andy Stodel, president and all the members of the San Fernando Valley Historical Society.

Fifteen of our members attended the dinner at the Odyssey when that society received the Corey award for excellence in programming and all around excellence and variety of activities. The award was given by the National Association for state and local history.

Besides the award the SFVHS received a check for \$500. Congratulations.

Those attending were: Celia & Jim Woodman; Bob & Marion Swartz; Burrell & Tricia Plucknett; Iolene & Everett Cleveland; Lillian & Frank Schepler; Lila & Bill Schepler; Bob & Betty Selvidge; and the man who is a friend of Celia & Jim who comes to so many of our meetings.

YANKEE DOODLE NEWS

As part of our Bicentennial effort the Chatsworth Historical Society through your editor is publishing the Yankee Doodle News. It contains news of the Bicentennial activities of our community.

Because of the cost of mailing we are not sending it to all our members. But if you would like to receive a copy please let Virginia know at the next meeting.

Glendale Federal Savings & Loan is publishing the paper, the Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council is cooperating & allowing us to use their mailing list & the Junior Women's Club will address envelopes & mail the paper.

BICENTENNIAL DAYS

At the same time that Fern Jack sent out letters she invited members to participate in the 76 Bicentennial DAYS. Next meeting is Feb. 10 so you will be hearing more about it.



## CONGRATULATIONS SAM

We have never said congratulations to Life Member Sam Downing who was honored at the time he moved from Newport Beach by the paper there. The paper carried pictures of Betty & Sam and told of his leadership of C-H-A-R-T.

Sam lead 100 citizens in researching the pressing issues facing the city--marine & recreational facilities, traffic & transportation--public buildings and more.

He served 4 years on the planning commission, served on the Project 21 study team for the University of Irvine, was a director for the Cliff Haven Community Association, chairman of the Newport Beach Taxpayers Association and was on the Board of Elders at St. Andrews church.

Betty was very active at St. Andrews also and her special love was the Child Guidance Center.

Congratulations to both of you. We should have said this sooner but we have't done many "personals" this year.

We hope the Downings are enjoying their new life near Monterey.

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## WEDDING FASHION SHOW

Be sure and save June 13 for our Wedding Fashion Show in our completed Chatsworth Community Church.

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FEB. 22

## MEET DE ANZA AT ENCINO

We have been invited to the Los Encinos State Historical Monument on Feb. 22 by the Encino Historical Society.

As part of the Bicentennial--the International Bicentennial--the De Anza expedition is being re-enacted & their steps being traced. Feb. 22 they will be at the Encino site. See Lila for details.

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## BRING USED BOOKS TO MEETING

Bring your used books to the next meeting. We are participating in the Topanga Plaza Book Sale.

## LENTEN PLAY

Milton & Collette Parsons are directing and producing another Lenten Play entitled "Family Portrait".

Our own Jane Matthews has a part in the production.

The play is given as part of the service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church at Winnetka & Sherman Way.

March 7 is the date, and it will be given at both services.

The production will be repeated in Pasadena, Westwood & Fullerton so three of our members will be pretty busy for a while.

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## HISTORIC TOUR

A special historic tour of Rancho Sombre Del Robles--the Orcutt Estate, 23600 Roscoe Blvd., Canoga Park will be held the last Sunday in February--the 29th this year--from 2-4pm. Phone 883-9701 for details. It is free.

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## COMMITTEE MEETS

The committee planning the dedication of our monument has met several times recently.

There will be more about this committee and their decision in the next issue of the Smoke Signal.

