

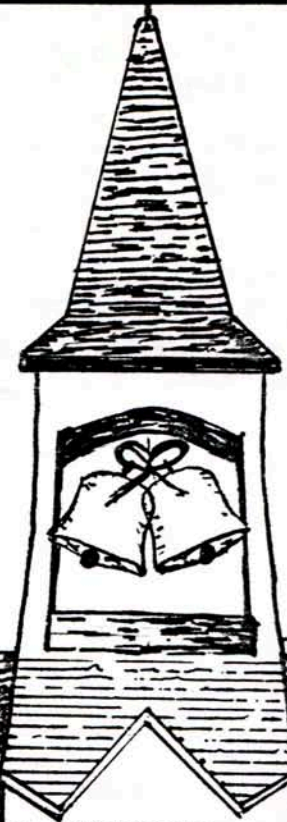
Duff

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY SMOKE SIGNAL

NOVEMBER 1977

President: Lillian Schepler
Memories -- Memories!!
Editor: Lila Schepler

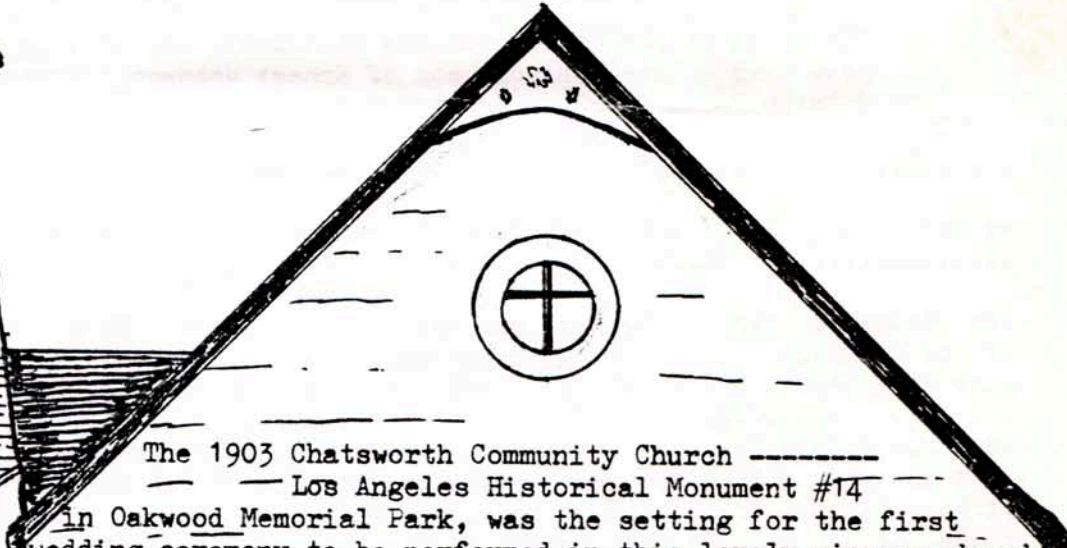
Editor: Celia Woodman
Mailing....Editor:
Tricia Plucknett.



HEAVENLY
WEDDING BELLS

WERE RINGING!!!

Those seen at the wedding from the Chatsworth Historical Society were: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schepler, Mrs. Eleanor Schepler, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schepler, Charles Janess, Raylene Rubin, Louise Curinga, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Oliva, Adrienne Gudin, and Mrs. Robert Wilkinson. Donna Johnson, from United Way and Jan Hingston of S.S.M.P.A. Others were, Paul and Pauline Eaton, Bill's sister (formerly from Chatsworth) and his other sister, Margaret Schwarzmann from Walnut Creek, Nancy's brother and wife, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Sphink, and several members from The Kathryn Kuhlman Choir -- (Nancy was a former member of the choir) and Mrs. James Woodman, this reporter.



The 1903 Chatsworth Community Church
Los Angeles Historical Monument #14

in Oakwood Memorial Park, was the setting for the first wedding ceremony to be performed in this lovely pioneer church since it was moved from its original site. This historic and joyful occasion was enjoyed by many relatives and friends, for the marriage of William Wilkins and Nancy Race.

This unique, but divinely traditional ceremony was performed by the Rev. Danny Lynchord from Melodyland. Nancy, in an aura of sweetness and reverence, sang her own songs: "In the Garden", "Amazing Grace", and "My Bill". She was accompanied on the organ by Tom Northern from Simi.

The entire bridal party reflected the theme of God's gorgeous, autumn colored flowersbouquets of Chrysanthemums- the garden....the background of the hills and rocks...the sky. Nancy wore a gown of rust-colored silk jersey. Her son and two daughters stood with her. Corey wore a burgundy-floral dress and Christy chose her new-length dress of cream-beige - son, Burke, was wearing blue. The groom, in his midnight blue velvet suit, was accompanied by his three sons: William C. Wilkins III, Steven and Jeffery, all wearing suits of earth-tones. Son, Burke, and his two sisters gave Nancy away.

The reception was held in the lovely garden setting at their home in Granada Hills...more than 130 people - friends and relatives were present to enjoy the delicious buffet luncheon. A rugged cross with two wedding rings entwined, stood before the background of trees and flora -- reflecting the atmosphere of love and devotion.

Nancy is an administrative assistant in Councilman Wilkinson's office. Bill is an employee for the Telephone Company at the Oat Mountain facility.

Nancy feels that "the finding of this lovely little church was a Divine Gift...that their marriage must be Blest, as this church was Blest. The parties that were involved have all had stormy seas, but through it all the Hand of Christ shows forth! And now they both stand safely in His Hands. God gave me him -- Bill. God gave me them -- my three children. God gave me it -- this lovely church. God Bless us all." Nancy Race Wilkins

Birth announcements: Lelah Marie Giacomazzi - born October 14, 1977 (sister of 2-year old Sophia). Parents: Cindy and Albert. Grandparents: Jerry and Phyllis Fladwed Owens. Great-grandmother: Helen Fladwed.

Jeremiah Paul Johnson - Born May 22, 1977 - Parents Gary and Christy Johnson. Grandparents: Paul and Margaret Johnson. Aunt and Uncle Steve and Henrietta Washburn.

Deaths: W.R. Mitchell - brother of Orville Mitchell - Passed away Nov. 1, 1977. He is survived by his wife Edna - 3 sons and 2 daughters and 14 grandchildren.

The death of Ernest Johnson was mistakenly reported in the last issue. It should have read - Dave Johnson, son of Ernest Johnson. Ernest, Kelly, Harold and Dorothy Johnson Pogue were grandchildren of Neils and Ann Johnson - the first homesteaders in our Chatsworth community. Our sincere sympathy to the members of their families.

We are happy to report that Phyllis Roller has recovered enough to be home.

Jim Woodman is recovering from his second eye surgery. He has an implant following the removal of the cataract. He had surgery one day and was taken home the following day. On his check-up five days later, the ophthalmologist told him he already has 20/30 distant vision. Congratulations!

Fern and Gerald Jack and Rosie and Ray Johnston gave a retirement party honoring Frank Schepler (and his wife - the wife gets to retire too, right? Ha! Ha!) There were about two dozen old friends gathered for this occasion. It was a lovely evening with a delicious dinner. The Center piece was a decorated cake depicting the toil up the mountain to retirement -- then over the top Below was the boat for the cruise, the plane for flying, a car for driving and the ROCKING CHAIR for rocking???? Frank was presented with a Certificate of Los Angeles in recognition of 28 years of employment from the City Traffic Department. At the City Council, he was presented a resolution for his 28 years by Councilman Wilkinson.

Another retirement Party: Padillo's Steak house was chosen for the Retirement Dinner for both Ralph and Peggy Christiansen. More than 80 people gathered to wish them well. They were delighted to have both of their children - Judy and Carl and spouses, there to honor them. Ralph received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Chief of Shell Division on the West Coast, a wallet and a huge glass jar labeled "Shell". It was filled with money-bills. Peggy was honored at a luncheon in Century City hosted by the Executive Staff of the Cancer Society and the Volunteer Organization. She has been an executive with the American Cancer Society in the Bay area for many years. They are now traveling - first stop - Bullhead City, Arizona.

Wham - Bam - Zam!!! Don't make too many retirement plans you kids above. Your editor retired officially from the Los Angeles City Board of Education after 20 years on June 17th and so far I have had only one day of RETIREMENT!!! After 10 retirement parties (only two were my own), life (and all those organizations) have a way of filling in those empty days for you like "now that you have retired would you have time to take care of the animals, the children, the clothes closet that hasn't been done for 7 years, the ones following illness or surgery? And now it will be a good time to clean the garage and become the editor of the paper...not because of my ability, you understand, but because of my availability! The only DAY I had a day off since retirement, I read a book ALL day.

Do you have a memory to share? If so, write it up and send to Lila Schepler for the SMOKE SIGNAL for "Memories - Memories". Also, please offer to help - Chatsworth's 90th BIRTHDAY March 1977.

15

NEXT MEETING -- TUESDAY -- NOVEMBER 15, 1977 - 8:00 P.M. Cal. State Northridge

The Bibliographic Society of Calif. State University at Northridge and

The Chatsworth Historical Society present: Dr. John C. Trevor - Lecturer

18111 Nordhoff St. - Northridge - Oviatt Library

Doctor Trevor - Director: Dead Sea Scrolls Project Center, School of Theology, Claremont, Calif. The Dead Sea Scrolls discovery, more than other modern discovery, has enabled us literally to walk into biblical history at that crucial time between the Old and New Testament that saw the birth of Christianity. Dr. Trevor was there in 1948 when there was fighting and during the first trouble. He will tell of staying up all night to take pictures of these scrolls just in case they might be destroyed after the Bedouins brought them in after discovering them in the caves. His book is "Untold Story of Qumran" (the caves).

.....The public is invited to view this exhibition in the library for the entire month

.....of November..Did you know the Hebrews bought the Isaiah Scrolls?

.....A.reception.will.follow.in.room.2..On.lower.level.of.the.Oviatt.Library.....

NEWS: Bob Wilkinson traveled to Colorado during hunting season -- He got his elk!!!

Keith and Sheelagh Watts traveled to Seattle recently to see several performances of soloists from the New York Ballet. Daughter, Heather, appeared in numerous ballets including two West Coast premieres. The first was in "Calcium Light Night" to music by the American composer Charles Ives - choreographed by ballet star, Peter Martins. The second premiere was "Songs of Innocence & Experience" to the music of Franz Schubert -..... choreographed by Richard Tanner. In addition, Heather danced numerous roles in ballets by George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins.

Colette and Milton STARRED in solid Gold - right? Many of us went to see their performance. IT WAS GREAT!

Mrs. Eloise Overlin, teacher at Chatsworth Park for many years, and her husband have moved to Mountain Home, Arkansas - 72653 (box 645)

Virginia Watson and Lila Schepler will be attending the "Conference of California Historical Societies' Workshop" in San Diego this week-end. Virginia will attend the session on "Research and Writing" and Lila will Chair the session on "Young Historians - Here Comes Tomorrow"!

Frank Daugherty is traveling in his trailer SOMEWHERE in Florida and thereabouts.

Los Posadas, an annual event sponsored by the San Fernando Valley Historical Society, will again be at the Pico Adobe. Saturday - December 17th at 7:30 P.M. If you have never attended this beautiful, colorful, historical religious event, you should try to go. Call Lillian.

Save the date for our annual Christmas Party at the Pampalones' - Dec. 18th - 4 to 6 P.M.

Enclosed with this "Smoke Signal" is the second in the series under the by-line "Mem-ories, Mem-ories!" It was written by member Eileen Janess and published in the Chatsworth Review after she had, without a doubt, lived through the most tragic day - THE FIRE! - that Chatsworth ever experienced. At this Thanksgiving time, as we read this moving story of a family in crisis, we can be doubly thankful for all our blessings.

NOTICE! FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NEGLECTED TO PAY 1977-78 DUES - AN APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL IS INSIDE.

In the year 1668, with the appointment of November 25th as Thanksgiving Day, these words were written into the Plymouth Colony Records:

"It has pleased God in some comfortable measure to bless us in the fruits of the earth."

Grace For Thanksgiving Day

Alice Kennelly Roberts

Dear God, wherever we may be . . . On this Thanksgiving Day . . . Gathered with loved ones in our homes . . . Or many miles away . . . We bow our heads, remembering those . . . Who shared Thanksgiving past . . . Those who have walked with us awhile . . . Whose love will always last . . . We thank Thee for the joy of friends . . . The food before us set . . . And for a tiny Pilgrim band . . . Whose trials we can't forget . . . Help us to sift the good and bad . . . The hatred and the strife . . . Grant us the wisdom and the strength . . . To lead a useful life. Amen.

