

Chatsworth Historical Society

Box 102, Chatsworth, California

Smoke Signal

President:

Lillian Schepler

Vice-President:

and program chairman

Jane Matthews

Editor:

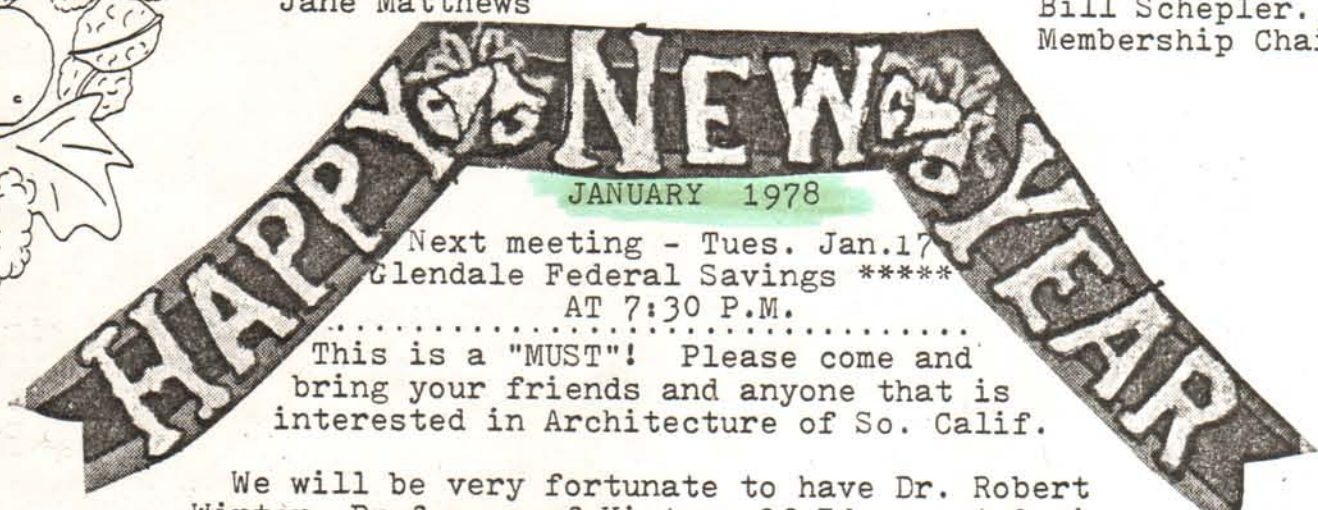
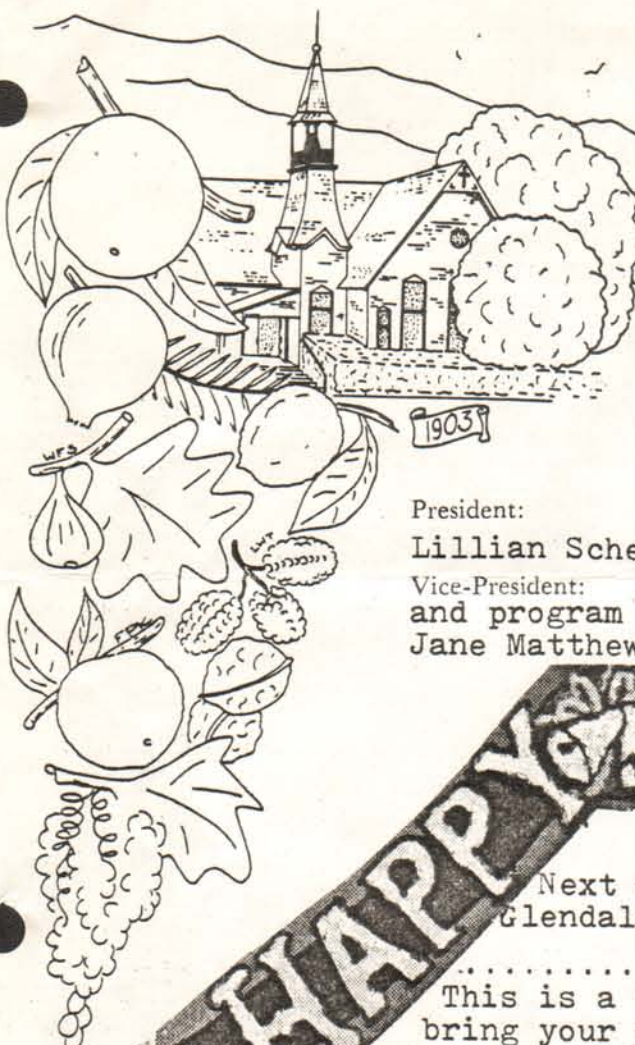
Celia Woodman

Mailing Editor:

Tricia Plucknett

Bill Schepler.....

Membership Chairman



JANUARY 1978

Next meeting - Tues. Jan. 17
Glendale Federal Savings *****
AT 7:30 P.M.

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This is a "MUST"! Please come and
bring your friends and anyone that is
interested in Architecture of So. Calif.

We will be very fortunate to have Dr. Robert Winter, Professor of History Of Ideas, at Occidental College. He will talk on The Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles and Southern California.....

We have waited over a year to get this very knowledgeable and extremely busy person. In his recently published book he

shows the picture and gives the history of both historical and recent buildings.

A BIG "Thank You" to our friends - the Drs. Pampalone for hosting our delightful Christmas Party again! All of you that missed the event, not only missed the Spectacular Buffet table laden with Holiday Yuletide Treats, but the spirit-sharing and giving. Most of us could not decide which was the best -- the German Stollen, the Swedish Meat Balls, or the Mexican cookies, but there is no doubt that of all the delicious and beautifully arranged trays and dishes of food that was brought, none could surpass that artistic and attractive carnival of cookies brought by Bea Berman!!! Watch it, Bea!!! Our next caterer?????????

News !!!!! WE BURNED THE NOTE!!!! YES!!! When? Tuesday night at the Board meeting. Where? In the fireplace at Frank and Lillian's. Why? Because we had paid off the \$3000.00 loan and one year ahead of time, too! Isn't it great?

Old news - because she hadn't reported it, but congratulations anyway to our Treasurer, Esther Dietrich for her retirement - Sept. 15th - after working for Dr. G. W. McGregor in Reseda for 12½ years. Retired, but we'll keep her busy handling our money. Looks like she has been doing a good job so far, especially when she can retire the debt so soon. Is she for hire, Ed?

Jim and Betty Summers spent Christmas in Boise, Idaho with daughter, Janie and her husband, Don. Son, Jeff, and his wife, Annie, had been visiting parents just before Christmas and brought the long awaited news - Jeff has received his P.H.D. from Arizona State University in the field of Zoology. Congratulations, Jeff - (especially from me - your first Sunday School teacher. Now I'm wondering if his love for God's Creatures had started there.)

Santa came to visit relatives and friends of Frank and Lillian Schepler on Christmas Eve. He delivered 14 wrapped gifts to adults and 3 to the children present -- Christina and Matthew Mitchell and Sharon Lester. Frank, who has been Santa to many children over the past 20 years, has never seen more wide eyes, heard more giggles or felt the emotional excitement of children as he rang his real sleigh bells and entered with the sack of gifts upon his shoulder.

The New Year's Eve Dinner was another gala occasion held at their home, when they were joined by out-of-town guests, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Zim, Myrtle Bradley and daughter, Elnore Forester, Eleanor Schepler, Bill and Lila Schepler.

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NOW THE GREATEST THING OF ALL FOR OUR LILLIAN-----!!!

She was elected "WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR CHATSWORTH ** 1978,
by the Chatsworth Chamber of Commerce.

Saturday - January 9, 1978

Choosing from all the nominees is always a difficult task for those on the committee, because each of the ones selected have done so many things for their own town, but none could deserve this honor more than Lillian Schepler. To name just a few things on this long list: besides being our current President, she is past President of Chatsworth Women's Club and has been active in all their projects as well as the Junior Women's Club; was chosen to represent Chatsworth on the Mayor's Bicentennial Committee last year and was even on the Executive Comm. It all began - I think - when her children were very young and she was in charge of the nursery in our old Sunday School (now our Pioneer Church). Then as they grew, she also was led into new helpful activities in P.T.A., in 4H, in almost daily activity in the Canteen Club that sent letters and gifts to 150 Chatsworth Service Boys every month. While she was President, she would Host the Christmas Open House at her home for these boys and their parents - and much, much more...

ON THIS SAME MEMORABLE OCCASION * BOB WILKINSON, OUR CITY COUNCILMAN,
was chosen "MAN OF THE YEAR FOR CHATSWORTH ** 1978"

He was given this honor for having done so much for our community - of, and beyond what is expected of him in his role as City Councilman. Even though he is not a resident of Chatsworth, his heart and Best Love is here having stemmed from memories of his boyhood, when playing and hiking in Chatsworth area and having gone to school at Canoga Park High School with many of our own citizens. Our Congratulations to you both and to the Chamber of Commerce for their thoughtfulness and for all the fine work they do for our community - a good time to thank you!!! In reminiscing, we recall that several of our members have also had this honor: recipients of this award have been; Virginia Watson, Ruth Boak M.D., Lila Schepler, and Iolene Cleveland; also Chuck Janess, and Leonard Chenard. There just must be something very special about our Chatsworth Historical Society!!!!!! Sooooooooo Bring them in, Bring them in - more members, that is.....How many new members have you brought in? Just give their names to Bill Schepler, today!!!!!!

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More news about Holiday Entertaining: CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE GERALD JACKS' --

Guests were Norman and family from Bakersfield with Norman's parents-in-law - the Lovejoys, also from Bakersfield; Bob Jack and his family and his in-laws, the Lindstroms from Santa Paula; and their son, Neil Jack from North Hollywood.

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Mr. and Mrs. Everett Cleveland enjoyed a 2-week visit with their daughter, Cathe, who was home from College at Chadron, Nebraska. She returned Jan. 8 for 2nd sem.

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Welcome new members: Romaine Palmer, Tom and Betty Woodard, J. L. and Joyce Van Schaack, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cates, Marshall and Bea Berman, Clifford and Joyce Chalfant, Bill Symcovits and welcome back Keith and Sheelagh Watts. Please, all new and old members save for Iolene Cleveland's Yard Sale in June...

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Exciting coming Event: THE YANKEE DOODLE BOY - A Barbershop Tribute to George Cohan. Fri. Feb. 3 and Sat. Feb. 4 at 8:02 P.M. at John Burroughs High School Auditorium. 192- Clark, Burbank. Many of us from Chats. Hist. Soc, are going as a group - come join the fun! Call Jim Summers for tickets - 341-2714. *****

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Most important event: BOOK SALE at Topanga Plaza Jan. 27, 28, 29. Give books and magazines - ask your friends and neighbors - give yourself to help - call 341-0602

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Join us in celebrating Chatsworth's 90th Birthday in March. Lila Schepler and Lillian need help in planning and DOING from each one of us. Call 341-3447

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Jamin Art Auction at Chatsworth United Methodist Church - Sat. Jan. 21. There will be a wide variety of paintings and graphics AND prices. The Showing is 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. and the auction is at 8:30. Refreshments - \$1.50 donation at door.

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Our sincere sympathy to the family of Kelly Johnson. his great grandson, Kelly Wayne Cook, 14, who lives in Oregon, was drowned Dec. 2, when Kelly and his dog had gone hunting. When the dog returned without Kelly, a search party went out. They found Kelly was trying to cross a culvert, the ice broke and Kelly fell through and was unable to get out. He leaves 4 younger brothers, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cook and his grandparents Ray and Viola Cook, many relatives & friends

Your prayers are still needed for Paul Johnson, who had surgery for removal of one lung. He learned of the cancer of the lung in the fall. His wife, Margaret reports that he is doing as well as the doctor expected at this writing. He is in the new Ross Loos Hospital in Los Angeles. I'm sure he would appreciate cards as well as our prayers for a perfect recovery. Paul was retired from the Fire Department several years ago. I wonder how many of us stop to think of the many things that can follow the services of our Firemen, Policemen and other Service people who are protecting our lives, our homes and our communities. If a policeman is shot or injured or if a fireman is burned or falls while in the line of duty, we think about that at the time and we are sad or compassionate, but we neglect to think of the illnesses or disabilities that can be caused because of constant inhaling of fumes or injuries that don't heal or even the mental or emotional trauma that often follows.

Betty Selvidge is recovering from a broken foot - she has gone back to work so we hope to see you in our next meeting, Betty. Lucille Clements is nursing a torn ligament in her right foot. The accident happened at her home (most do!) Several friends have heard from Sarita Goodwin. We are happy to hear that she isn't as happy with the land of her birth, Chile, as she had thought she would be, so she is planning to return to Chatsworth, her real home.

going! Going! GONE! This was the last Holiday Season, that the famous Docia Conley Fruit and Gift shop, to be open. For many, many years local and distant customers would come to buy the special figs and boysenberry syrup and jellies to fill their Holiday Gift boxes. It is sad, but time goes on and progress seems to be marching on in Chatsworth faster than anyplace else - Can you guess what will be in this historic spot next year? And speaking of old buildings - the Historical Society is requesting that each of us, and our friends, will take a picture of any old house or landmark that could be of interest to our archives. Try to get some history of the picture, if possible. Or, perhaps, you may know someone who has some pictures of old buildings or events or anything the Historical Society could use in their slide presentations.

Sorry about the inconsistency of this format, but being the reporter and the editor, I have to report things as I hear them - so - having reported the Holiday Happenings - Dinners and Travelers and Guests and Parties, I now find that I almost forgot a very unique, unusual, unparalleled, unconventional Christmas Dinner Party. Bob and Marion Swartz have a new Nomad Trailer. They spent one week traveling in their new "home-away-from-home". They traveled in rain and very bad wind, but nothing was too different until the day of the Christmas Dinner. Daughter, Fay, with her husband, Kevin, live near the Beal Air Force Base. In addition to having a position in the Air Force, Kevin works as a fireman in Marysville. It was Kevin's day to be on duty at the Fire Station for Christmas. All the firemen's wives, girl friends and some parents came to the Fire House for dinner. The Fire Trucks moved out and the tables moved in - the sizes and shapes of the tables did not mar the festive elegance of the Christmas decor. Each girl or woman tried to out-do the other in the holiday menu of ham and pheasant and salads and beautifully decorated individual cheese cakes. Twenty eight people including Bob, Marion and son, Bobby, enjoyed that lovely day to be put into their historical memoirs. I can only top that by remembering the midnight snacks that the nurses and doctors would have on the CLEAN linen tables in the operating room following an emergency surgery. (but that's only 1/2 of the gory story).

Not much is happening this month after the Rose Parade and all those good Football games except Martin Luther King's Birthday and Jaycee Week-Jan. 15, then NATIONAL NOTHING DAY, Jan. 16 - I wonder if there is anything historical about it.

NEW YEAR WISHES

We have many New Year Wishes for you within our heart
And all our special wishes have a true love to impart.
May your Blessings be so many that you can truly say...
My cup has runneth over, I thank Thee, Lord, each day..