

Chatsworth Historical Society

Box 102, Chatsworth, California

May '78

Smoke Signal

President: Virginia Watson

Editor: Celia Woodman

Vice-President: and program Chairman

Mailing Editor:

Jane Matthews

Tricia Plucknett

Membership Chairman: Frank Schepler

HAPPENINGS OF THE MONTH - Antique cards & lecture 5/13

Mental Health Month

Pentecost, May 14

May Day, May 1

Mother's Day May 14

National Be-Kind-to-Animals-Week, May 7

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEETING MAY 16 *****

National Family Week, May 7

Armed Forces Day, May 20

National Music Week, May 7

National Maritime Day, May 22

National Hospital Week, May 14

Memorial Day, May 29

Installation of new officers at regular meeting - Tuesday - May 16th, but the meeting will be at the United Methodist Church 10824 Topanga Canyon instead of Glendale Fed.. Dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M. Tickets are \$5.00 please get your reservations early. "LIGHTS - CAMERA - ACTION" will be the theme and Colette Parsons is the installing officer. There will be a fashion Show. We are asking that you wear a costume depicting some movie actor or actress of a certain era. The very talented organist from St. Martin in the Fields, Joseph Kantz, will be at the piano. It will be a lovely evening.

YOU MISSED IT!! Or did you? Were you at our last meeting? If you were, then you will know that our new officers are: President: Virginia Watson, 1st Vice Pres.: Jane Matthews, 2nd Vice Pres.: Ioline Cleveland, 3rd Vice Pres.: 4th Vice Pres.: Fern Jack, Recording Sec.: Bea Berman, Corresponding Sec.: Lillian Schepler, Treasurer: Esther Dietrich, Honorary Board Member: Charles Janess, Historiographer: Virginia Watson.

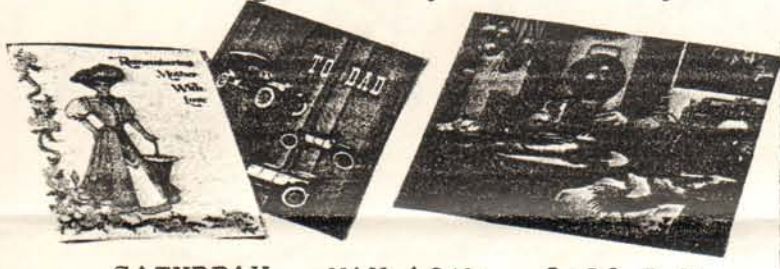
NEWS:

It isn't too late to celebrate with us -- THE 90th BIRTHDAY of the first Protestant Church in the WEST VALLEY -- In the beginning "The Chatsworth Community Church" - Our Pioneer Church in Oakwood Memorial Park - that congregation now in the Chatsworth United Methodist Church at 10824 Topanga Canyon, are the descendants (plus many new members) of the pioneers who started the church. Many former members and friends will be here that day.. Lila Schepler and Dorothy Rochefort have written and directed the pageant. There will be something different for each 10 year period -- from the building of the church and bringing water to the San Fernando Valley - to war years - to depression years - the building of other schools and churches, the kinds of entertainment and work in the valley. There will be appropriate music for all eras. There will be pictures and slides of weddings and things that people have been doing in and for the church and around our town and community. There will be something for you to do all day, beginning with the church service at 10:15 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The dedication of the bell and the cornerstone from the Pioneer Church at the Chatsworth United Methodist Church will be at 11:30. REMEMBER 10:15 to 4:00 P.M. Sunday-May 7, 1978.

Congratulations to Randi and her parents, Marshall and Bea Berman. Randi received her L.V.N. from West Hills Hospital - March 10, 1978. This is only the first step, Randi, we expect you to continue with your education and subsequently received your R.N. and then your B.A.. Nurses are never on the unemployed list. She is presently working at Northridge Hospital.....

We are sorry for the loss of our dear friend and member, Dorris Dosser, from our Chatsworth Library -- she has moved on to better things (some say), but we can't believe it. She is now assigned to the Van Nuys Library, as their Head Librarian. Chatsworth will miss her cooperation and concern, but by losing one we have gained another - Welcome to Marcia O'Neil, Chatsworth's new Head Librarian. (And her major was history!!!)

With the advent of May, we have only one person, Betty Grill, to wish a Happy Birthday! With May Day and Mother's Day - Family Week and Memorial Day can't we find anyone else to wish a Happy Birthday? (Some of you must not have given me your birthday. Please LET ME KNOW.....)



SATURDAY - MAY 13th - 2:30 P.M.

Antique Post Cards and Pottery
Show and Lecture - Only \$2:00
Chatsworth United Methodist Church

We need every member to buy and sell tickets for this Fund-raising event - The proceeds will be spent for our own projector. Ask Lila Schepler, Ioline Cleveland or any member of the Historical Society for tickets.

SAVE THE DATE -- June 4th -- at the home of Jane Matthews -- Pot Luck Supper and Jane will show her slides of trip to Israel.***

Are you saving books for our Memory Library - Are you taking pictures of old sites in Chats. before they're all gone? They are being torn down fast!!

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Congratulations to Rueben Ahlstrom who celebrated his 93rd birthday - All his loved ones were there to celebrate with him. He is living in Fallbrook.

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We are sorry to hear of Ed Ahlstrom's accident. He lost his ring finger while using his electric saw.

.....
The Chatsworth Historical Society has started a Memorial Fund for Phyllise Roller of "Roller's Relics and Antiques". If you wish to send a memorial, give to Esther Dietrich, Lillian Schepler or Ioline Cleveland.

.. *Recipe for Happiness*

I have a little recipe
That isn't hard to make,
But you must always start
As soon as you awake.

Take a great, big mixing bowl
And fill it with a smile;
Mix half a cup of sunshine
With good deeds all the while.

Add a pinch of work and play,
A pinch of thoughtfulness and care--
But don't bake it in the oven--
Just spread it everywhere!

Please excuse any errors that might have been made - your editor, when this epistle was half-finished, did what she had always told everyone not to do. "Don't ever put the parawax on the stove and go away and leave it!" Well I did, when the telephone rang, and when I turned around the flames were flying high - I grabbed a towel and instead of smothering the flame, I ran outside with the kettle. While I was opening the door, the towel, my hair, my eye-brows and the back of my hands caught on fire -- 2nd & 3rd degree burns, but my fingertips are O.K., so I can typed - no pain - A miracle, a REAL miracle."

??

Are you saving your pans and tools,
Your chairs and your stools?

Your lamps and your tables, too -
A lot or only a few.....

Give us your jeans and shirt,
Your pants and last year's skirt.

We need those old bags and those hats,
And we'll even take spats.

Anything of value we'll take--
Just so money we'll make!!!

At that yard sale - YARD SALE!
Why'm I rhymin' this tale?

Just to catch your attention
On the date that I'll mention.

Tenth and eleventh of June!!!!
Just remember the TUNE!!!!!!

A Prayer

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details. Give me wings to get to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience. But seal my lips on my own aches and pains. They are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint . . . some of them are so hard to live with . . . but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

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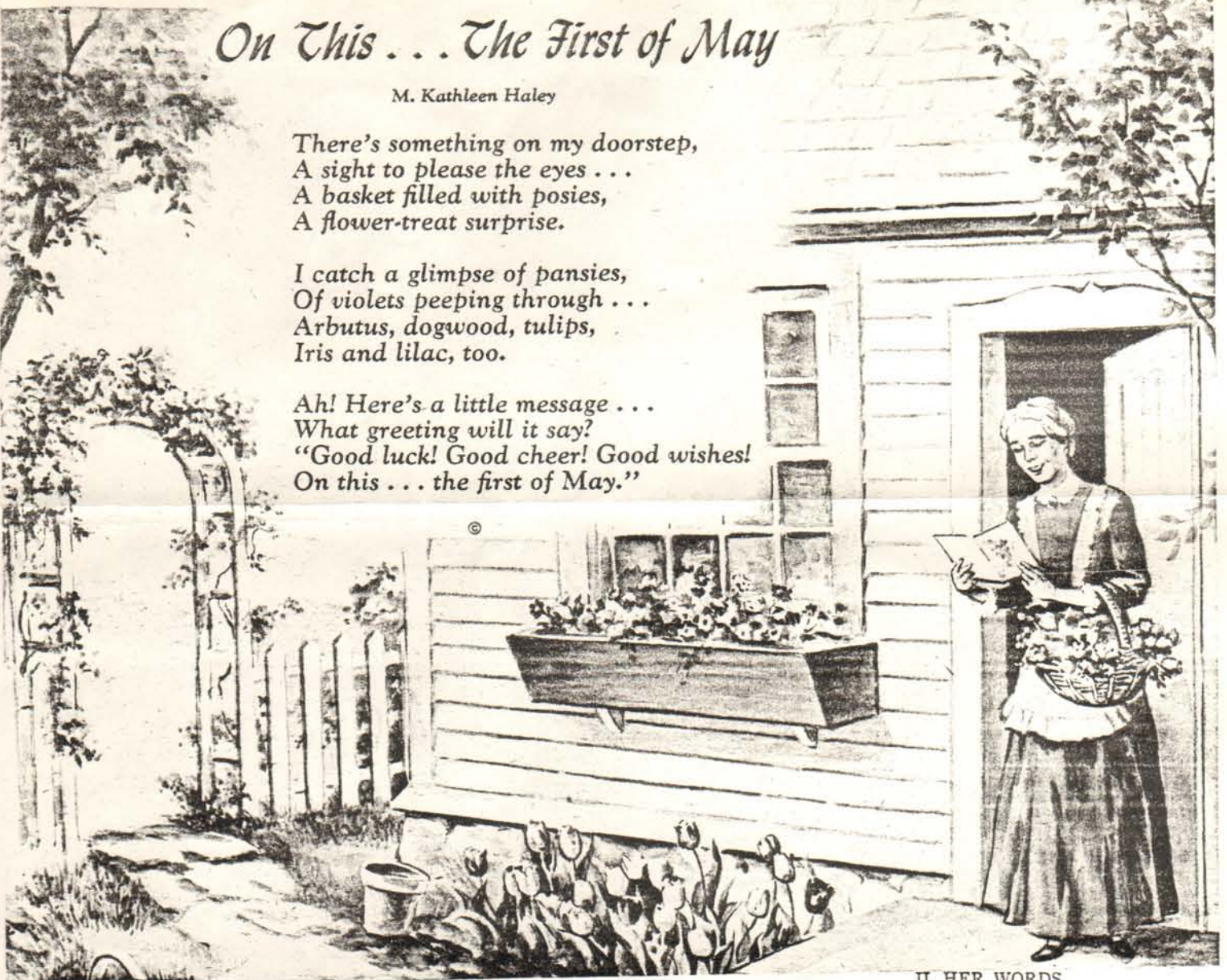
On This . . . The First of May

M. Kathleen Haley

There's something on my doorstep,
A sight to please the eyes . . .
A basket filled with posies,
A flower-treat surprise.

I catch a glimpse of pansies,
Of violets peeping through . . .
Arbutus, dogwood, tulips,
Iris and lilac, too.

Ah! Here's a little message . . .
What greeting will it say?
"Good luck! Good cheer! Good wishes!
On this . . . the first of May."



I. HER HANDS

SONGS FOR MY MOTHER

II. HER WORDS

My mother's hands are cool and fair,
They can do anything.
Delicate mercies hid them there
Like flowers in the spring.

ANNA HEMPSTEAD BRANCH

When I was small and could not sleep,
She used to come to me,
And with my cheek upon her hand
How sure my rest would be.

A

HAPPY

MOTHER'S DAY

TO

MOTHERS HERE

AND

EVERYWHERE

For everything she ever touched
Of beautiful or fine,
Their memories living in her hands
Would warm that sleep of mine.

My mother has the prettiest tricks
Of words and words and words.
Her talk comes out as smooth and sleek
As breasts of singing birds.
She shapes her speech all silver fine
Because she loves it so.
And her own eyes begin to shine
To hear her stories grow.

And if she goes to make a call
Or out to take a walk,
We leave our work when she returns
And run to hear her talk.

Her hands remember how they played
One time in meadow streams,—
And all the flickering song and shade
Of water took my dreams.

We had not dreamed these things were so
Of sorrow and of mirth.
Her speech is as a thousand eyes
Through which we see the earth.

Swift through her haunted fingers pass
Memories of garden things;—
I dipped my face in flowers and grass
And sounds of hidden wings.

God wove a web of loveliness,
Of clouds and stars and birds,
But made not anything at all
So beautiful as words.

One time she touched the cloud that kissed
Brown pastures bleak and far;—
I leaned my cheek into a mist
And thought I was a star.

They shine around our simple earth
With golden shadowings,
And every common thing they touch
Is exquisite with wings.

All this was very long ago
And I am grown; but yet
The hand that lured my slumber so
I never can forget.

There's nothing poor and nothing small
But is made fair with them.
They are the hands of living faith
That touch the garment's hem.

For still when drowsiness comes on,
It seems so soft and cool,
Shaped happily beneath my cheek,
Hollow and beautiful.

They are as fair as bloom or air,
They shine like any star,
And I am rich who learned from her
How beautiful they are.

