



# Chatsworth Historical Society

Box 102, Chatsworth, California

## Smoke Signal

President: Virginia Watson

Editor: Celia Woodman

Vice-President: Jane Matthews

Mailing Editor:

Membership Chairman: Frank Schepler

Tricia Plucknett

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### HAPPENINGS OF THE MONTH

#### JUNE 1978

National Rose Month	CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOC. June 20
National Flag Week, June 11	Summer begins, June 21
National Little League Baseball Week, June 12	
Flag Day, June 18	School is out, June 23
FATHER'S DAY June 18	Last issue of Smoke Signal until September 1978.....
	"Until we meet again!".....

DON'T FORGET \*\* July 4th

"Until we meet again!".....

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Thanks, Jane, for a wonderful time! Many members of the Chats. Hist. Soc. and friends met at the home of Jane Matthews for a delicious Pot Luck dinner and a historical view of trip to Israel and Egypt. Jane looked very picturesque in her authentic Agal & Keffiyeh. She was very graphic in her explanations of the places. The films and the pictures were great. She made us feel as if we were really there.

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 NEXT MEETING and last meeting until September, so please come!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
 June 20th -- at Glendale Savings -- 7:30 P.M. Again, Jane has a great program for us: "WESTERN LIVING WITH SUNSET"; a sound and color film that you won't want to miss -- you'll see editors at work on the sand at Acapulco and in the snow in the Pacific Northwest, and you'll get a peek into the test kitchens at their Menlo Park headquarters, as well as a tour of the offices and gardens of Sunset.

Jane has also suggested some interesting places to go as suggested by the Los Angeles Arts Guide for June: Sat. 5/17 - Solo Repertory Orchestra - Guadalupe Center, Canoga Park - 7 P.M. Lecture and Art Show - 3 P.M., Cultural Center - 482 Greenmeadow Dr., Thousand Oaks. Concert in the Sky - 1 P.M. Roof Garden of Plaza - L.A.. Craft Heritage Spectacular - 11 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. - 900 Exposition Blvd. June 24th - Same day Plaza de la Raza Family Fiesta - 10 AM. Dance, theater, arts, crafts, etc. and on Sunday, June 25th - 3 P.M. at Monarch Hall in Van Nuys - Plaza de la Raza Fiesta (2nd day). All programs are free.

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 Our Installation Program last meeting was such a GORGEOUS success - Gorgeous, meaning: "Dazzlingly colorful; brilliant" - Brilliant meaning: "Sparkling; having great talent". All these adjectives and much much more can hardly describe the ceremony of installing our new officers by Collette Parsons. The script, "Lights, Camera, Action" was written by our new president, Virginia Watson. This is a movie term used by the director on the set when the rehearsal is over and it is time to start filming. "Screen Credits" for each officer were as follows: President - job equivalent to the Producer, 1st V.P. - Assoc. Producer, 2nd V.P. - Accountant or Financial Wizard for the '78-79 Production (and that our Ioline Cleveland really does!), 3rd V.P. - Casting Director, 4th V.P. - Public Relations executive, Recording Secretary - Script Girl for the production, Corresponding Secretary - Executive Secretary - to write communications and memos, Treasurer - Accounting Dept. Head, Parliamentarian - Technical Advisor.. All the rest of us are associates and have the responsibility of making our production for 1978-1979 a great success. A Covered Wagon with Western Movie themes was the centerpiece on each table. Members modeled clothes representing a leading man or woman and the movie that he symbolized. "So we won't forget!" -- Outgoing President, Lillian Schepler - as Sophia Tucker; Jane Matthews - songstress, Kathryn Grayson;



Ioline Cleveland was our adorable "Baby Snooks"; Bill Schepler, a lovable Oliver Hardy; Lila Schepler was Irene Dunne in "Cimarron"; Fern Jack -- Betty Davis in "Jezebel"; Esther Dietrich -- Mary Tyler Moore in "Thoroughly Modern Millie"; Betty Summers had two roles, one as Ginger Rogers and the other as Janet Gaynor; Jim Summers was Elvis Presley in his gay outfit; Frank Schepler as Frederick March in "Best Years of our Life"; Burrell Plucknett as Clark Gable in "Gone with the Wind"; Henrietta Washburn as May Robson playing "Apple Annie"; Myrtle Bradley was our lovely, gracious Ethel Barrymore; Carol Coughlin also modeled two costumes: Audrey Hepburn in "My Fair Lady" and Faye Dunaway in "Chinatown"; Eileen Janess was Mary Astor in "Little Women"; Charles Janess as Gary Cooper in "High Noon"; Betty Grill as Marlene Dietrich; Bill Symcovits made a very good Groucho Marx, even to the authentic "cigar"; Newsette Chairman, Celia Woodman as the fabulous Mae West, authentic with her jewels, furs and exotic eye brows (and all the rest was camouflage); and finally OUR First Lady of the Chatsworth Theatre, our installing officer, Collette Parsons as Helen Hayes.....

A delicious dinner was served by the Chatsworth United Methodist Women. We were entertained by our vocalist, Jane Matthews singing, "Oliver", "Summertime", "Love is Sweeping the Country", and "Embraceable You". She was accompanied by Joseph Kantz, Organist at St. Martin-in-the-Field Church.  
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#### NEWS!!!!

Newest arrival - Brandy Marie Purnell, daughter of Fay Anne and Kevin. Born June 11th -- weighing 3# - 8oz. (about one lb. more than her mother did) The proud grandparents are Bob and Marian Swartz (their first grandchild). Other congratulations to Aunt and Uncle, Lila and Bill Schepler and Aunt Elaine Swartz and Louise Mitchell, cousin.

(All great things come in small packages!)

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Welcome to Ralph and Marian Hyland, our newest members, who were the first ones to pay their dues for 1978-79. REMINDER! It is now time for all those, except life members to pay their dues: \$7.00 dual, \$5.00 single, \$1.00 student, \$5.00 organizational, \$50.00 for Life Membership.  
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Congratulations to Michael Honda who just received the Elizabeth Grill Scholarship Award for Best Patient Care! The award was given at the Convocation Ceremonies at L.A. Valley College, where he received his R.N. This was the 10th Annual Award. The awards are given each year by Charles and Betty Grill. Their daughter, Elizabeth Grill was the first to receive this award. She, too, received it for the best nursing care. This is the first time that the recipient has been a male nurse. Michael lives in VanNuys  
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Birthday Congratulations for June are: Chuck Janess, Betty Woodard and Frank Schepler, but we will need to remember July and August, because there will be no Smoke Signal for those 2 months. July: Eileen Janess, Frank Daugherty, and Bill Schepler. August: Ralene Rubin, Celia Woodman and Clark Fogg.  
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IT'S A BIG DARK SECRET! Well, don't you want to know how much we made on the Yard Sale? Ioline Cleveland will not tell us - not even give us a clue, until Tuesday night at the meeting - so be there. She only hints that it was better than last year and wants to tell everyone "Thank You" for everything your help in selling, in marking, in moving, in bring others, in coming yourself, invaluable assistance in every way - there is not enough room on this page to thank everyone, but most of all her husband, Everett, and Raylene Rubin and Lila and Lillian Schepler and Marian Hyland and Eileen J----

## A Summer Creed

A. A. Argow

I believe in the flowers and their glorious indifference to the changes of the morrow.

I believe in the birds, and their implicit trust in the loving Providence that feeds them.

I believe in the prayer-chanting brooks, as they murmur a sweet hope of finding the far-distant sea to which they patiently run.

I believe in the whispering winds, for they teach me to listen to the still small voice within my feverish soul.

I believe in the vagrant clouds, as they remind me that life, like a summer day, must have some darkness to reveal its hidden meaning.

I believe in the soft-speaking rains, accented with warm tears, telling me that nothing will grow save it be fertilized with tears.

I believe in the golden hush of the sunsets, reflecting a momentary glory of that great world beyond my little horizon.

I believe in the soft-falling dew, revealing the infinite spring of living waters for everything parched and withered.

I believe in the holiness of twilight, as it gives me sense of the presence of God, and I know I am not alone. And whatever else I believe is enshrined in those abiding feelings that lie too deep for words.



Dear Members:

Thanks to all of you for the really nice installation. Collette was splendid, as installing officer, and Lillian's fashion show was a delight! We did so enjoy our own Jane Matthews--she has a lovely voice and she sang such pretty songs. It was kind of Joseph Kantz to come and give us the benefit of his fine talent. Altogether, it was a very enjoyable evening with good food, good friends and a good start for the new year.

About the new year--I'd like to say that the reason that I chose my theme of "Lights, Camera, Action!" is partly historical. At one time Chatsworth was very famous as the home of many movie stars. Also, the idea of having an honorary mayor--a star representing a community, originated in Chatsworth. I believe it was Mae Murray, who lived here in the early thirties. She was one of the earliest, if not the first honorary mayor. Also, our area was famous as a location for movies. The Iverson Ranch was very well known and many of the other areas of Chatsworth were often shown (and still are on the late show). During the making of Shanghai Express, nearly all the people in town worked as extras in the movie. Later, we were also known as the home of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. So the theme has historical roots as well as a deeper meaning.

I hope we get the Minnie Palmer Homestead Acre named a National Site of Historic Interest. I hope we can complete our plans for having a museum in the old pro shop on the grounds and maybe even open a gift shop. I hope we can restore some of Minnie's house to its 1911 authenticity. I hope we can get Stoney Point made a city park. I hope we can complete some of our oral history. I hope we can look forward to year of getting the lights all set, the cameras ready to grind and for the action to begin. If we all work together I am sure we can do most of it.

Virginia Watson--President 1978-79

### *My Father*

*Many of [my father's] words are still repeated often.*

*However, his heritage to his children*

*wasn't words, or possessions,*

*but an unspoken treasure,*

*the treasure of his example*

*as a man and a father.*

*More than anything I have,*

*I'm trying to pass that on to my children.*

WILL ROGERS, JR.

DON'T FORGET!!!

We have available: Stationery -- Post Cards -- New Membership -- Books -- Books are: "Pioneer Mother" and "A Child's History of Chatsworth"..... Bring in a new member in the fall and have a WONDERFUL SUMMER you all!...

Sincerely, Celia Woodman, your editor



*Laughs With Father*

*When I was a boy of 14,*

*my father was so ignorant*

*I could hardly stand to have the old man around.*

*But when I got to be 21,*

*I was astounded at how much the old man*

*had learned in seven years.*

MARK TWAIN



LEAVING: Frank and Lillian Schepler, June 12th to Europe on the Golden Odyssey- they will be sailing around the Greek Islands and through the Dardinelles into the Black Sea and visiting Bucharest, Yalta and Odessa. Bill Schepler has been going around the world and will meet them in Greece. Eleanore Schepler, Lila Schepler and Elaine Swartz will also meet in Greece and together they will all tour the Islands. Then Frank and Lillian will return to Europe where they will be visiting Lillian's relatives in England.

Cathe Cleveland returned to Chadron, Nebraska for two sessions of summer school. Jim and Celia Woodman will be taking Kellie, Kim and Frank Spangler, (grand-children) and Bill Symcovits to Colo. for oldest grandson, Derek Woodman's wedding on July 1st. Bill is also from Colo. and is anxious to return to visit.

COMING: From Moscow, Idaho - Cathy Bancroft and daughter, Holly. Cathy is the daughter of Ed Dietrich. Disneyland has some good customers - this is their fourth time to visit in only a few months.

Returning: Gerald and Fern Jack just returned from a 3-week's trip to Indiana, where Gerald celebrated 50 years following High School Graduation.

RUTH & DON FETED

Members of our Chatsworth Historical Society took time out from the busy yard sale weekend to participate in the reception honoring one of our past presidents, Dr. Ruth Boak and her husband Dr. Don Ferris who have sold their home and are moving to Texas.

About 60 people attended the event held at the home of the Doctor's Pampalone. Dr. Boak has been president of the BPW, the Chamber of Commerce (the first woman president of that body), the Equestrian Trails, the Coordinating Council and our historical society and there were representatives from all those groups, as well as the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. Old friends were there and our own Councilman Wilkinson and a telegram from Barry Goldwater.

The huge sheet cake was contributed by our society and was admired by everyone. It had a picture of a woman on a horse and many oak trees and a mountain. We also participated in giving a travel bag to Dr. Boak for her own personal use.

We will miss the family--they have been active in so many ways in our area and they were a valuable asset. However, we wish them well in their new surroundings which sound very super--even an indoor - swimming pool in their new ranch. They still want to get our Smoke Signal and Dr. Boak said she will see that we get their new address.

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