



Chatsworth Historical Society

Box 102, Chatsworth, California 91311

SUMMER
Edition
1982

Smoke Signal

Fellow Officers, Members and Friends:

In my first message as President of the Chatsworth Historical Society, I would like to ask you to join me in these troubled economic times, to concentrate on maintaining the status-quo and protecting the accomplishments of past officers and members.

We need to pause, and learn the history of our area - from what they have preserved with many years of hard work and management from both individuals and groups.

While we learn, we must also earn, because our functions require much operating expense.

Our first support could come from our dues. It is that time again. The annual dues for those who are not Life members are due in June and delinquent in September. By paying these dues promptly, we will have funds for our publication "The Smoke Signal" and whenever activities begin again our membership list will be complete.

I am also asking you to volunteer to help me with jobs necessary to continue a successful year for the Chatsworth Historical Society. A partial list of these choices is as follows:

- Help! Can you volunteer? Choose one or several.....
1. To help serve the refreshments at the general meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month?
 2. To clean or dust at the museum or Minnie Hill-Palmer House, especially on the Saturday before the first Sunday?
 3. To package and mark note paper for the museum shop?
 4. To bring and display a hobby at the general meeting?
 5. To offer a display for our museum or for our case in Glendale Federal Savings?
 6. To sand and varnish the doors to the museum?
 7. Scrape and paint the window sills in the museum?
 8. Sew pot-holders to sell in our museum shop?
 9. Make some large signs for the yard sale to replace those picked up by the city on the day of the last sale?
 10. Help haul books to the book sale at Topanga Plaza in January?
 11. Serve on the committee for either the book sale or yard sale?
 12. Take our In-service instruction and join our Docent group to help when we are involved in activities?
 13. Contact people & gather items for our annual Yard Sale?
 14. Take charge of selling our publications at the meetings?

PRESIDENT
Ioline Cleveland

1st. V.P. (PROGRAM)
Laurie Dager

2nd V.P. (FINANCIAL)
Lillian Schepler

3rd V.P. (MEMBERSHIP)
Marian Hyland

4th V.P. (HOSPITALITY)
Eileen Janess

TREASURER
Chuck Janess

RECORDING SECRETARY
Sheelagh Watts

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY)
Tricia Plucknett

MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Bill Schepler

MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Betty Summers

SMOKE SIGNAL EDITOR
Celia Woodman-347-8569

CHAIRMEN OF GROUND COMM.
Candy and Dean Craig

The Pioneer Church is located in Oakwood Memorial Park - 22601 Lassen
Our Museum and Minnie-Hill Palmer House are on the Homestead Acre ---
10385 Shadow Oak Drive (Chatsworth Park South) in Chatsworth.....

DUES

Meetings are held the third Tuesday
of the month at 7:30 PM at the Glendale
Federal Savings & Loan Association --
21821 Devonshire St. Chatsworth

- \$10.00 Per person per year
- \$15.00 Dual membership
- \$ 1.00 Students
- \$100.00 Life Membership
- \$100.00 Organizational

15. Help at the grounds of the Homestead Acre?

16. Donate washcloths (need two alike) and crochet threads to Olga Bay, who is making gifts for the gift shop? call 341-1529 or 341-2714? We would appreciate others making gifts for our gift shop.

Have a nice summer and plan to attend our first regular fall meeting on September 21st at 7:30 P.M. at Glendale Federal Savings. There will be an extra special program with a "Back to School" theme, honoring past and present teachers. Our program chairperson, Laurie Dager, will be working on arrangements for this program, as well as, the other monthly programs.

Sincerely,

Ioline Cleveland, President

News Items:

The Homestead Acre will be closed on Sunday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day! However, stop by Glendale Federal Savings sometime during the month to see the Patriotic display placed in our case by Betty Summers.

The Chatsworth Historical Society sponsored Dean and Candy Craig for their fabulous work in the garden at the Homestead Acre as they received recognition and Certificates from the Chatsworth Coordinating Council.. Those receiving "Citizen of the Year" awards from the Chatsworth Coordinating Council were Irene Nalbandian and Geneva Coulter, both members of our Chatsworth Historical Society.

Another member, Dr. Barbara Pampalone, is the new President of the Chatsworth Coordinating Council. Our congratulations to them all!

OCCASION TO REJOICE! Jennifer Watts, daughter of Keith and Sheelagh received her Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal studies in ceremonies at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Summer plans include attending travel school so that she can work toward a Master's degree in communication

We (The Chatsworth Historical Society) were selected by our City Council representative to receive an award from the Los Angeles Board of Public Works for our outstanding service in conservation and beautification of our city. This beautiful Certificate of Appreciation in the form of a scroll will be on display in our museum for all of you to see!

OUR CANDY CRAIG is a member of the Horticultural Society at the Huntington Library, Art Gallery and Botanical Gardens. We were the recipients of a lovely gift - an old fashioned rose bush - the Climbing La France, 1893- by John C. MacGregor IV from this organization. This rose will have its place of honor when we build our Rose Arbor in the near future.

The Climbing La France, 1893, a climbing sport of the bush rose, LaFrance introduced in 1867. LaFrance is generally conceded to be the first Hybrid Tea rose. Description: Silvery pink, reverse bright pink, large, very double bloom, (60 petals) with an unforgettable scent of damask, known as "true old-rose" fragrance.

The Huntington Gardens include over 1,000 different roses arranged in historical sequence and includes the largest collection of Tea and China roses in the United States. These Tea and China roses were finally crossed with the old garden roses of Europe to produce our modern Hybrid Teas.

Candy sends us this beautiful poem "HIGH SUMMER" by Freda C. Bond

Where is the birdsong that was wont to fill
This deep green garden in the spring?
The blackbird and the thrush are dumb;
Only the grasshopper and cricket shrill
From the dry grass. The velvet rose
Dreams in the noon day heat. A golden spell
Rests in the garden; nothing stirs but where
A butterfly is hovering - so small
So slight a breath to ruffle the still air;
But the rose feels it, and her petals fall!



Birthday congratulations to our members having summer birthdays:

June -- Chuck Janess, Betty Woodard, Gertrude Cook, Helen Moran, Edith Bloomfield, Nancy Lovelady. Nancy Oliva, Georgia Cooper and Carmelita Johnson.

July: Eileen Janess, Bill Schepler, Nancy Wilkins, Sandy Johnson, Lorraine Mitchell, Keith Watts and Harmon Swan.

August: Orville Mitchell, Celia Woodman, Irene Nalbandian, Steve Washburn and Ralene Rubin.

Condolences to the Janess family on the death of Eileen's brother, Martin Fosdick. He is survived by his wife, Cleo and step children, by Eileen and by a brother, Richard Fosdick. Eileen was thankful for having had them for a vacation during Christmas Holidays. Chuck & Eileen flew to Mich. for funeral.

A MEMORABLE IF NOT A HISTORICAL
EVENT ** May 14, 15, 16, 17-'82

Thelma named it the Johnson --
Disorganization Reunion, but
from all other sources it was
a Grand Success!

Thelma Johnson Ewalt is the
daughter of Kelly Johnson whose
picture is shown below. Her
mother, Katharine (now deceased)
with Chuck Janess and Virginia
Watson had the original concept
of starting our Historical Soc.



Kelly (R.L.) Johnson Sr.
---83 years, 8 months old
Laura Johnson (daughter of
Chips Johnson)-- 7 months.
Cherrie Carter in background

The oldest and youngest at the
Charles Wilden Johnson Reunion
at Fern Ann Falls, Chatsworth, Ca.
May 14--17, 1982. Kelly is the
grandson and Laura is the great,
great, great granddaughter of our
Chatsworth pioneers, Neils and
Ann Johnson, whose pictures hang
in our museum.

Story by Thelma Ewalt:

For five years Dorothy Pogue
(Kelly's sister) has dreamed of
having a Johnson family reunion.
This year her daughter, Glenna
Sanderson, organized a four day
family reunion that was held on the
property of Myrtle and the late
Harold Johnson. Ed Johnson and his
son, Tom, prepared the area for
those who came in tents and R.V.'s.

Eighty six people, friends as
well as, family were registered
with the possibility that some may
have been missed.

There was a 6-hour hike for the
hearty and a 3-hour hike for the
half-hearty!

Plans were made for another
reunion next year. Viola Cook and
her husband, Ray, will host and
organize the next meeting at their
home in Oregon over the 4th of July
Holidays -- 1983.

There was a lot of talk, food
and fun and a good time was had by
everyone!

(since writing this, Thelma has been
hospitalized with more surgery)- we
send Best Wishes for a speedy recovery!

Family relatives and friends present:

(ERNEST JOHNSON) - deceased
Jane Johnson Hale

(HAROLD JOHNSON) - deceased
Myrtle Pogue Johnson
Fred and Sarah Johnson Grether
Wilda Johnson
Herb and Dorothy Johnson Wilson
Sandra Wilson
Randy Wilson, Charisse and Jodi
Toby and Cherrie Carter
Dale and Adelaide Gardner
daughter, Karen and grandchildren,
Michael, Jamie and Candice Sikora
Ed and Barbara Johnson
Chip, Maryann and Laura Jane Johnson
Tom Johnson & Laura Levy, Barbara's daughter

Ray L. "Kelly" and Mary Brown Johnson
Viola Johnson Cook
Sam and Thelma Johnson Ewalt
Rusty and Sue Ewalt
Charles and Marcia Johnson
Mike and Erin Johnson
David and Steven Johnson
(it was a doubly happy day for Mike, it
was also his birthday)

(LESLIE JOHNSON) --deceased
Gordon and Lenore Johnson & Gordon Jr.
Mike and Maria Johnson Stafford
Bob and Mary Dee Johnson Totans

Charlotte Johnson's daughter's family
Evonne Gray with Raymie, Cheryl, Andy,
and Robert
Harold Asbury and Jim Asbury

Dorothy Johnson Pogue
Madalyn Ecroyd DeWitt-Frank, Jacob & Jared
T&d and Dorothy Ecroyed Liss-Monty & Clint
Cynthia Ecroyed Carrick-Patricia & Teri
Glenna Pogue Sanderson - Sandra Tivis
Bill and Linda Pogue-Krysten & Brien

Raymond Honeycutt, nephew of Charles
Wilden Johnson (from Pacoima)

Sandra Tivis came the longest distance -
from Texas.

Friends: Julie Caston & Charles Keith -
Michelle & Beth Keith
Gene Rogers Fore & Nancy White
Barbara Rogers Roberts
Elmer & LaVerne Boney
Jamie & Betty Summers & Barbara Todd

For all the fathers above and the fathers
in our Chatsworth Historical Society and
fathers and grandfathers everywhere we
hope they had a happy.....

Father's Day

We know!
You're all so very special;
And dear as you can be,
Especially to the members
Of your loving family....
Thanks for the example that you've set
And all the challenges you've met.....

Celia Abbie

WE'RE SORRY for those of you who were not able to attend the beautiful -----
Installation of Officers Dinner-Meeting at the Chapel of the Canyon on May 18th.
The presentation by Virginia Watson was again so inspirational that I asked her
if I couldn't write an overview in the Smoke Signal for those of you who were
unable to attend and as another historical memory.

THE THEME: There's Gold in Them Thar Hills

California has been called the Golden State, our state flower is the
Golden Poppy, and it was the discovery of gold that brought thousands of people
to Calif.

Gold was discovered in S. F. Valley by Francisco Lopez - March 9, 1842

Gold discovered in Columa by James Marshall - 1848

Gold brought the Argonauts - the gold seekers to California

Gold-money raising by incoming president, Ioline Cleveland, who has been
our financial vice president and in charge of our yard sale for years,
maintaining our GOLDEN FINANCES in the form of silver and paper currency.

The cast of characters are similar to an old Roy Rogers & Dale Evans movie...

To incoming president, Ioline Cleveland - the president is the authority of
the society - she is the leader of our group - she names her committees.
The symbol of leadership in the old west was the sheriff's badge - the sher-
iff also had a horse, but I couldn't obtain permission to bring him in tonite
Here is your sheriff's badge - welcome pardner to the job of Leadership!

Laurie Dager, our new vice president, your job this year is planning, organ-
izing our programs to fit the leader's theme - plan and introduce our programs
and entertainments for the year. In the old movies the dance-hall girl was
always the symbol of entertainment, so here is a garter - part of the costume
of a can-can dancer.

Lillian Schepler, financial vice president, your job is to devise plans for
raising money this year. The symbolic role in an old western would be the
town banker - therefore, for you I have some paper money!

Marian Hyland, third vice president and membership chairman. It is your job
to get new members and keep track of them for the society. It is your job to
round up the little dogies for membership and so the role you would play in a
western movie would be that of a cowboy. So here is a bandanna as his symbol.

Eileen Janess, fourth vice president, it is your job as hospitality chairman
to provide a hospitable environment for our meetings, to greet and welcome
guests and to be in charge of refreshments. In all the western films, that
was Dale Evans' role - the owner of the restaurant or the wife of the rancher -
the symbol of your role in our western play (a toy coffee pot).

Chuck Janess - you are the assayer for our group. The treasurer weighs every
decision made by the group - you keep track of the gold we get and have a
large voice in deciding how we spend it. You make out the reports to the
government - so your symbol is that of an assayer. We can't afford real
gold so here is some gold candy for your role.

Sheelagh Watts, as recording secretary, it is your job to record the events
that take place at our meetings, the motions, objections, etc. The teacher
was the symbol of reading, writing and arithmetic - so here is your chalk
board and slate to keep track of what is going on.

Tricia Plucknett, as corresponding secretary and mailing editor of the
Smoke Signal, it is your job to write all letters and address and stamp the
Smoke Signal - your role is that of a Postmaster. For you I have a box of
notepaper with a mailbox on it.

Board Members at Large - Bill Schepler and Betty Summers: Card players from
the local saloon. No special job - just deal them in! They get to help make
decisions, give advice, etc. You always know where to find them. Deck of cards.

Smoke Signal Editor - Celia Woodman, as editor of the local paper you need an
eyeshade, here is yours. It is your job to be the eyes and ears of the club,
to let the general membership of the organization know what is and has happen-
ed in the society, at the board meetings, to the members and about local history.

Honorary Board Member, Chuck Janess, holds two jobs. He is the town assayer or
treasurer of the group and he is also permanent honorary board mem. because of
having been our Founding President. His title is judge - Judge Janess, our
honored "father", citizen and community leader. Here is your book of wisdom!

From the editor's scrap book:

Some are remembered for the deeds they do!

Others are forgotten because of deeds they have never done!

Celia Abbie