



# Chatsworth Historical Society

Box 102, Chatsworth, California 91311

## Smoke Signal September 1982

### back-to-school

for our September regular meeting - to be held at Chatsworth Park Elem. School 22005 Devonshire in the Auditorium - 7:30 PM. This will be a reunion, honoring teachers and principals (past and present). Come Tues. Sept. 21

The program is Co-sponsored by the Chatsworth Historical Society and the Chatsworth Park P. T. A.

Our guest speaker will be Catherine Mulholland whose mother was a former principal of Chatsworth Park School. Her subject will be "Growing Up in Chatsworth", she will be accompanied in dialogue by her childhood friend, Virginia Ditto, one of our newest members. Catherine is the author of the book, Calabasas Girls, and another book is in progress to be called, Owensmouth Ladies. Her grandfather Mulholland is important in Valley History for helping to bring the water to our valley.

RESIDENT  
oline Cleveland

st. V.P. (PROGRAM)  
Laurie Dager

nd V.P. (FINANCIAL)  
William Schepler

rd V.P. (MEMBERSHIP)  
Marian Hyland

th V.P. (HOSPITALITY)  
Gileen Janess

REASURER  
Lynn Janess

CORDING SECRETARY  
Kathleen Watts

ORRESPONDING SECRETARY)  
Cynthia Plucknett

MBER-AT-LARGE  
Bill Schepler

MBER-AT-LARGE  
Betty Summers

MOKE SIGNAL EDITOR  
Lillian Woodman-347-8569

AIRMEN OF GROUND COMM.  
Andy and Dean Craig

AIRMAN OF DOCENTS  
Lillian Schepler

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If you know of interesting historical programs for our society, please call Laurie Dager at 341-4582.

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#### A note from the Editor:

Someone asked me the other day if one had to be a Senior Citizen to be a member of the Historical Soc. and what the requirements for membership would be.

I was delighted to tell them we have no age limits even though we have more people that are active in the upper age group, we have several younger members and for a while had a junior historical society, which is not active at this time because of a lack of leadership, however, because we have "A Child's History of Chatsworth" written by Virginia Watson, in all our Chatsworth Schools and in our Library, there is a great interest in this phase of our history that is taught by our teachers. Some of the teachers will bring their students to the Museum and Cottage on a personal tour. This history book and the calendar with pictures of early Chatsworth are available at the Museum.

We encourage attendance at our meetings and at the Open House on each First Sunday. Bring your friends and neighbors and we will have no problem having them become one of us.

#### FROM MARIAN HYLAND, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

Marian has a goal; "help me make it possible to report in October a 100% paid-up membership". Dues are now due for all those who have not paid in the last 3 months or are Life Members.

AT HOMESTEAD ACRE -----

**OPEN HOUSE**  
First SUNDAY 1-4 pm

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.....

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

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



Letter from the President:

Dear members and friends:

It is time to reunite after a busy summer for most of you.

Our first meeting of the year will be on Tuesday - September 21 at 7:30 at the Chatsworth Park School Auditorium.

I hope that you will come and join us to hear Catherine Mulholland speak and to honor teachers for their part in the "Winning of the West".

Laurie Uager has been busy arranging a year's program for our society and I am looking forward with anticipation to each historic meeting.

Dean and Candy Craig along with Virgil and Ruth Heumann have kept The Acre in beautiful condition, for which we are most appreciative.

See you in September!

Sincerely,  
Ioline Cleveland

## Calendar

September 5 - Open House at the Acre

September 14 - First day of school  
for students.....

Board Meeting of the  
Chatsworth Historical  
Society at home of  
Bill & Lila Schepler  
22438 Lassen - 6 PM

September 21 - Regular meeting of the  
Chats. Historical Soc.  
At Chatsworth Park Elem  
School - 22005 Devon-  
shire - 7:30 PM

October Meeting of the West Valley  
Historians - date not yet assigned.

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See the display in Glendale Federal Savings and Loan in the Display Case of the Chatsworth Historical Society! This School Day's display was set up by Betty Summers and Ioline Cleveland. Even if you have never been in Glendale Federal except for our evening meetings, you should stop by to see: some nostalgic remembrances of Chatsworth Park El. School will not want to miss this exhib. showing an old school slate, a school photograph (grades B5-A5 - 1955) several of our members have children in that picture - also the Winter class of 1943 with teacher, Mrs. Dietrick. Some we remember: James Summers, Emma Lou Pogue, Marie Graves and Gene Frost. You will also see a Basic Reader-Book 1 by Elson-Gray. AND did you ever see a stereoscope? You'll see it there!

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We are delighted to Welcome these new members: Virginia Ditto - 11001 Farralone, Chatsworth; Mr. & Mrs. Curley Alward - P.O. Box 805, Chatsworth; and Becky McCormick - 21770 Los Alimos, Chatsworth. ( Let's bring others in.)

## News

We are sorry to hear of the recent illness of several of our members. Paul Johnson, with his wife, Margaret, have been traveling to San Diego quite often for therapy treatments following several heart attacks for Paul. He is currently feeling better and we wish him a rapid and permanent recovery.

Charles, husband of Betty Grill. is hospitalized at Rancho Los Amigos, following a severe paralysis. He was in St. Joseph's Hospital for four weeks and has been in Ranch Los Amigos the past three weeks. His prognosis is uncertain and his progress slow, but if anything can be done it will be done at this great therapy center.

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Statistics are slow on birth and marriage. I guess we are all married and no one has reported to me any new grand or great grandchildren.

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### Retirement:

George Meltzer, one of our newest members, retired in June. He has been a teacher in the Los Angeles City Schools for 37 years and has taught in the History and Social Studies Dept. in Chatsworth High since its beginning. He has always been an admirer of our Chatsworth Historical Society and has quite often used our slide program in his lesson plans.

We are looking forward to his expertise and hope he will be an active member now that he is retired.

There were many students, friends and associates at his retirement party.

We hope he will be as happy and as BUSY as the rest of us retirees.

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HAVE YOU HEARD? That in our neighbor-Valley of Simi there is a TV movie being filmed from the best seller, "The Thorn Birds"? What fun it would be to sneak a preview to this--the scene New South Wales, circa 1932 -- Drogheda.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS: Jim Summers, Kelly Johnson, Bob Selvidge, Bea Berman, Virginia Ditto, Ed Clark, Ed Dietrich, Eddie Mitchell, Louise Mitchell and Hildur Berkemeyer.

## Vacations

We have waited 4 months of the 3-month's trailer-tour vacation from Bill and Lila Schepler - the following is an over-view of their trip in "our beautiful United States" as given to me by Bill, but "naturally" as Lila says, "he didn't mention the old and lovely mansions in Nachez or Pensacola and other places". They are in the process of making slide programs of specific things, eg: Museums, Mansions, Classic Autoes, Women in Aviation (because she belongs to and is interested in The 99', the organization started by Amelia Earhart) and a slide program called, "A Summer of Museums". This program we will all anxiously be awaiting to see, since very few of us would be fortunate enough to visit all those museums.

They are both great Museum buffs and took every opportunity that presented itself to visit all types, both large and small. The Aero Space Museum in Washington D.C. to the huge Airforce Museum in Dayton, Ohio to the Navy Air arm in Pensacola, Florida were examples of static Museums visited. At Rhinedcker in New York an afternoon was spent watching World War I airplanes performing in the air-Folker triplanes, Sopwith Snipes, an old Jenny and others of this vintage.

But it wasn't all airplanes! They rode open-air street cars (even a double-deck one in Detroit). There was a canal boat ride on the old Erie Canal pulled by huge horses. Several old steam Trains of historic interest were ridden (even an old wood-burner in Eureka Springs, Ark. which will star in the upcoming T.V. Special "The Blue and the Grey").

A delightful small Museum on the campus of the Univ. of Texas in Dallas had the largest collection of lighter-than-air artifacts in the country, including propellers from both of the dirigibles, "Shenadoah" and "Los Angeles".

Huge mansions from the turn of the century in Newport, R.I. were visited. As was the old Port of Mystic, Conn., filled with sea lore from before the hey-day of the whaling industry in New England. A joy to visit was Old Sturbridge, an entire village that recreated the colonial period in New York State. Classic Autos were on display when they visited the original showroom of the Dusenbergs and Auburn factory in Indiana. They visited the Ford Museum and Village in Dearborn that took 4 full days to view, and another in Nebraska that took 2 days - - and the list goes on and on. It, of course, includes 3 days at the World's Fair in Knoxville. They really have a lot to talk about!



Other vacations: Keith and Sheelagh Watts celebrated their 35th Wedding Anniversary August 24th with a beautiful week in Catalina Island with their entire family. Their vacation was a week before the anniversary because that is the time they could all be together. Our Congratulations!!!!

Catherine Mulholland was too busy working on a play that she is writing and a book on history to go on a vacation, so her boys, James and William Hurley came to visit her and Katie.

Linn and Marlys Stuckenbruck - Two weeks in Anchorage, Alaska.

Alaska travel has been very popular this summer. Betty Summers went to Anchorage to visit daughter, Joyce then later Joyce (Muehlenback) came to California to visit her parents and spent 2 weeks taking a course in 2-party government at Claremont College. Joyce is teaching in high school in Anchorage & enjoys it very much.

Chuck and Eileen Janess are traveling in their motor home in northern Calif.

and Oregon. Will see relatives and friends and "just rest and play around"

Everett and Ioline Cleveland have taken Cathe back to Nebraska. We hope they will find some more collectibles for our museum and cottage.

Jane Matthew and daughter, Linda are spending their vacation in England. Lucky people!

Gertrude Cook and her daughter, Anita, spent a week at the beautiful Hotel Coronado in San Diego. Amongst many of the "fun" things they did was to take the trolley to and from Tijuana. I didn't even know they had a trolley. Gertrude says it is an inexpensive way.

Iva Basil spent a week with daughter, Nancy Bickett in Corona, California.

Steve & Henrietta Washburn have spent much of the summer in their cottage in California Springs.

As soon as I finish this Smoke Signal Jim and Celia Woodman will go to Sac. for the wedding of Jim's nephew, Steve.