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Smoke Signal

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MAY 1989
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 Jane Matthews, President; Sheila Watts, Editor

INSTALLATION TO BE A PICNIC!

The annual installation of officers will take place at the Homestead Acre on Sunday, May 28th starting at 2 p.m., and will be a picnic style meal.



The Society will provide baked ham and baked beans and those who attend are asked to bring one of the following:

Names starting: A-J, salad for 8;
 " " K-S, dessert for 8 and
 " " T-Z, garlic bread or rolls
 for 8

Coffee, punch and paper goods will also be provided but please bring flatware for your party. RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST so that we can judge how much ham to provide - call Sheila at 341-4489 or Donna at 882-0485.

Zena Thorpe will be installing officer and will install the following:

- Sheila Watts, President & Editor
- Bea Berman, 1st U.P. Programs
- Marian Hyland, 3rd U.P. Membership
- Betty Summers, 4th U.P. Hospitality
- Donna Afflerbach, Rec. & Corr. Secretary
- Lillian Schepler, Treasurer
- Marian Hyland, Assistant to Editor
- Bill Schepler, Dir. of Photographic Mtls.
- Ramon Avila, Grounds Chmn; Bd. Member at Large
- Louise Roberts, Bd. Member at Large
- Pauline Aue Bd Member at Large and Assistant Docent Director
- Charles & Eileen Janess, Honorary Board Members
- Lila Schepler, Permanent Director of Docents
- Virginia Watson, Curator
- Jane Matthews, Immediate Past President
- Parliamentarian

Sheila has selected as the theme for the year: Chatsworth, The Second Century!



Ya'll come! We'll hold the drawing for Ruth Grant's Silverware!!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT!

As my term of office draws to a close, I would like to summarize the year's activities. Last summer saw the emergence around the Homestead Acre of several scenic spots for weddings. The vegetable garden was replaced by sod and several of the large flower beds were replanted. The stone work around one was completed. The California Conservation Corps spent several days weeding and doing brick work as well as removing a pile of pipe. The Boy Scouts have relabeled the roses. And new vinyl flooring was installed in the rear addition of the Hill-Palmer House.

In January the Heritage Rose Society and the San Fernando Valley Rose Society pruned the rose bushes, and Dean and Candy Craig came in to finish the work. Our thanks to them, and to Virginia Watson who is completing her term as "Keeper of the Grounds."

The bylaws were amended to provide for 8 board meetings annually and for 4 general meetings. In June, Dennis Adler, an authority on classic cars, gave a most informative slide presentation. In November we were treated to a talk by Phillip and Marian Kovicnick on the subject of his forthcoming book on "Women Artists of the Southwest." In December, during open house, we celebrated the publication of Ioline Cleveland's book, "The Chatsworth Park Elementary School - The First 100 Years," which she wrote for Chatsworth's 100th birthday. Ioline spent several hours autographing copies for her former students, friends and members. She has turned all the copies over to the CHS for sale. We were so happy to have her that day since it was one of her last appearances. We lost her in April. At the end of January, members lunched at Little Joe's and then took the shuttle to the Wells Fargo Museum in downtown Los Angeles. Our March meeting was held on the 12th at the Homestead Acre. Officers for the coming year were elected. Then everyone moved to the corner of the Acre for burial of the time capsule. This was the last event celebrating Chatsworth's 100th. It was sponsored by the Centennial Committee and the Historical Society. The capsule is to be opened in 100 years.

Bill Schepler is still in demand by civic organizations for his slide presentations about Valley History. (continued)

President's report continued.....

Kudos go to Lillian Schepler who is not only our Treasurer but who has also organized two yard sales - one in October and one in April - to keep the coffers filled in order to pay the monthly bills.

The Docents, under the direction of Lila Schepler and Pauline Aue, have faithfully offered tours of the Hill-Palmer House and the Museum and grounds on the first Sunday of each month as well as a number of groups that toured by appointment. And we are now scheduling weddings for the summer months.

My thanks to all the board members and to members and friends who share our interest in history and the preservation of this small corner of the San Fernando Valley. As I did ten years ago, I am turning the gavel of office over to Sheila Watts. History does repeat itself!!

Jane Matthews

NEWS FLASH!

"LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER"

Friday, May 12th at 9 p.m. on Public Television (locally Channel 28) Heather Watts will dance with the New York City Ballet in concert with Ray Charles and the Ray Charles Orchestra and Rayletts. They will perform to, "A Fool For You," by Charles to choreography by Peter Martins.

Heather will be partnered by Jock Soto and will be wearing a green costume. In addition to dance credits Heather will receive credit for having designed the costumes.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we report the death of Ioline Cleveland, one of the most admired and loved members of the Chatsworth Historical Society.

Ioline was born on April 8, 1918 and died in Canoga Park on April 28. At her funeral service at the Methodist Church, Ioline was eulogized by neighbors, former students, a former principal of Chatsworth Park Elementary School and by parents of former students. The board of the Historical Society wishes to thank Dr. Barbara Pampalone who spoke on behalf of the Society and the community. We quote from her remarks but not her complete speech.

"One of the most cherished of my decorations is the ceramic frog and mushroom that Ingrid made in Mrs. Cleveland's class.....my children knew her as the teacher in tennis shoes who corrected any child who was out of line at any time. The PTA remembered her as the teacher with the crazy hats and tell of the rain hat that had served long past its time, when one day it blew away in a rain storm as she was on her way to school. Ioline watched it go and decided it was time to say goodbye to the old hat. But her students knew her hat and they found it and brought it back to her.

Ioline loved to teach and she loved people

IOLINE CLEVELAND continued.....

She tutored children and knew when to forget to bill. She opened her home to people who needed a place to stay.

She loved her church and worked for years with the Janesses to make the yearly smorgasbord something special. We all knew about her special home made bread. Each year at the Historical Society yard sale, the Methodist women held a bake sale next door -- with 30 or 40 loaves of bread from Ioline's oven. We bought early for the supply would never last.

How she did it, I couldn't imagine. It was the end of school - and the school got its time and more, yet the bread graced the church table, and each item in the gigantic yard sale was marked with its price by Ioline's hand. Everything was sorted so that things that would bring most at the swap meet would be taken there by Ioline and Everett. The Society yard sale was so superbly organized that it was made to feel easy to work there.

Ioline served as president of the Historical Society for four years and worked ceaselessly to raise funds for two decades. The Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council named her Citizen of the Year and State Senator Ed Davis presented her with the Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen award.

Her love of children and schools and history were brought together in the book, "Chatsworth Park Elementary School: The first One Hundred Years." Though ill at the time, Ioline put on one last yard sale to raise the necessary funds to publish the book, to save the Society the funding. The book is a fitting memorial to a woman we all loved. The book is for her children - so many of them here today - it will be a continual reminder of the school and town history - and the sale of the book will continue to raise funds for the Society to which she devoted so much of her time and talents during her lifetime.

Ioline lives on in all of those whose lives she touched.

WATTS WHAT.....We also extend our sincerest sympathy to Milly Goff whose daughter Carole died last month following an illness of several months duration.

The writer is searching for a grant for the express purpose of repairing the roof and the spire of the Pioneer Church. Assemblywoman Cathy Wright is helping in this research. For this and many other assists that Cathy has offered in the past the Board of Directors has voted to make Cathy an honorary member of the Chatsworth Historical Society. The award will be made at the Installation Picnic on May 28th.....the Centennial Quilt is in Santa Rosa at the Hermitage Quilt Association contest....we're hoping we win!