

smoke signal

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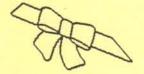
MARCH, 1991

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

10385 Shadow Oak Drive

Chatsworth, CA

Sheila Watts, President, Editor





Celebrate CHATSWORTH'S 103rd Birthday! Tuesday, March 19th, 1991, Chatsworth Museum 10385 Shadow Oak Drive in Chatsworth Park South.

Refreshments will be served at 7:30 p.m. and a brief business meeting will precede the program.

David Scarrott will present a program on the history of time and the origins of man's machines for the measurement of time. His stories and slides will take us back in time to Stonehenge, believed to have been the first celestial time teller. Plan to attend and discover when and how man first began measuring time. To make the meeting even more exciting we're asking guests to bring along any unusual time pieces such as clocks, hour-glasses, sundials or pendulums - there'll be a door prize for the oldest such time piece!



NOMINATING COMITTEE REPORT.

Secretary Marian Hyland
Treasurer Lillian Schepler
Editor Sheila Watts
Directors at Large Bea Berman,

Directors at Large...Bea Berman, Ramon Avila & Keith Watts Non-elective Officers:

Director of Photographic Materials, Bill Schepler

Director of Docents, Lila Schepler

Member....Eileen Janess Photographer.....Lillian Schepler

ELECTION of Officers will be held at the March 19th meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time.



DUES INCREASE RECOMMENDED

The board of directors recommended the first increase in dues in more than 25 years! In accordance with the By-Laws Section III the increases in the dues structure will be voted upon by the membership at the March 19th meeting so please plan to attend.

Single active membership will be increased from \$10 to \$15
Family or double membership will increase from \$15 to \$20
Life membership will increase from \$100 to \$125

Organizational membership will also increase from \$100 to \$125 Student membership will increase from \$1 to \$3;

Dues are payable on the 1st of June; those joining after December 1st will pay 50% of the full membership fee.

PIONEER DAY

AT THE ACRE from 11 am to 5 pm

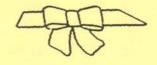
The Historical Society, in cooperation with other community organizations and agencies will offer a fun filled day for the whole family.

Background music will be provided by two musical groups sponsored by the city of Los Angeles, barbecued food will be cooked by members of the Chatsworth Rotary Club. Members of the Society will demonstrate crafts including the arts of spinning, tatting, quilting, doll making, face painting and bread making to name a few.

Betty Summers will have a plant booth and she's asking members and friends to start clippings and cuttings of suitable plants. Call Betty at 341-2714. Sheila Watts will host a white elephant booth and is asking for all those new items you've received as gifts and didn't know what to do with.

Pioneer Days continued.....



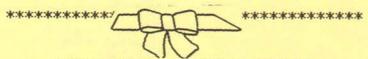


Pioneer Day continued.....

The Historical Society hopes that this will be the first of many annual pioneer day celebrations and that many youth groups and local organizations will participate. This year we are still hoping to include the 4-H Club and the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls in the plans. We'll be contacting the schools to see if there is interest in including any of their classes in some way. We would also like to encourage all of our members who live locally to take part in the activities either by staffing a booth or by attending the event.

A price of \$1 per person will include admission & a door prize ticket.

Zena Thorpe is chairman of the event - please call her if you would like to help at 882-3572. Call 341-4489 for further information.



BLESS THOSE YELLOW RIBBONS

All across America the yellow streamers flutter in the air.....yellow ribbons, yards and yards of yellow ribbons - a ribbon at least for every man and woman involved in the Gulf Crisis.

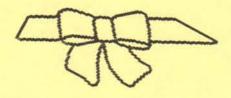
Since last August 2nd when the crisis began there has been an outpouring of patriotism symbolized by U.S. Flags and yellow ribbons.

In 1980 the wife of an American held hostage in Iran started a campaign of tying yellow ribbons around trees to signify America's concern for the captives. Her immediate inspiration was a song written several years before but the custom itself is half as old as time.

According to Alan Dundes, professor of anthropology and folklore at U.C. Berkeley, "It's like tying a string around your finger, a folk technique for remembering. And then there are all kinds of of rituals involving knots - sacred knots, nuptial knots. This tying business is very, very old."

In the early 70's, a songwriter & lyricist Ron Levine wrote the song "Tie a Yellow Ribbon 'Round the old Oak Tree," telling the story of a young man released from prison who was delighted to see a hundred yellow ribbons welcoming him home. Tony Orlando popularized that song. There was an earlier song that was sung during the American Civil War when wives and sweethearts of soldiers of both the Union and the Confederacy tied yellow ribbons around their necks. Those ribbons were worn until the men came home.

The current yellow ribbons are visible symbols of prayers and hopes.



WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS AT THE ACRE are proving to be most successful. We havn't had too many newcomers but the women who've been meeting there have accomplished a great deal.

Pauline Aue and Donna Afflerbach have undertaken the enormous job of cataloguing the Frank Schepler Jr., library once again. Now we have two 3x5 cards for each volume; each shelf will hold a different group of history books and we plan again to label each shelf. Virginia Watson is in charge of the library project.

Lillian Schepler has spent at least three hours each Wednesday working on the costume collection which is extensive. We hope to hold mini fashion shows in the near future and will put the costumes to good use. In the meantime, at the February meeting of the Chatsworth Women's Club that group celebrated its 70th birthday. Members of the club provided a parade of fashions covering the 70 years. Many of the costumes were from our collection.

Some of the bed linen from the cottage has been taken home by Betty Summers to be laundered. Marian Hyland has hand washed some of the China ware in the cottage and additions to our various collections have been logged in. The wooden furniture has received coatings of oil as it dries out in the summer heat. The gift shop is being eliminated and we shall sell only printed matter in the future. The books and pamphlets will be displayed on the museum walls instead of being in display cases.

We still would welcome any friend or member who would like to attend the work parties.

Meanwhile, there are 300 roses in the rose beds at the Acre that croon as Candy Craig walks by. All by herself Candy pruned all of the roses & the bushes reflect the special care given them. It will be a while before the roses bloom but I am very sure that the 1991 rose season will be spectacular in spite of the drought! We also owe many thanks to Dean Craig who also devotes many hours to the gardens. Thanks also to Keith Watts who is keeping the tractor mower running.

We have a new gardener starting to work this week. The city has been beset by cutbacks and we just couldn't wait until more help was available through Parks and Recreation. We have a number of weddings booked for the early summer and must have the Acre looking its best for those events.

Please join us for all the planned events - we'll hope to see you on March 19th.

Sheila Watts, President

