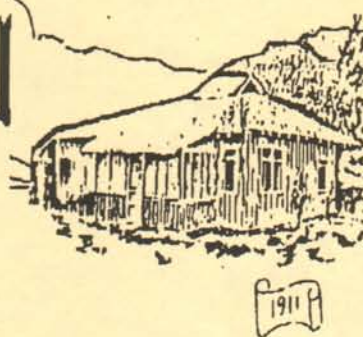


Smoke Signal

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth CA 91311
(818)-882-5614



VOLUME 29, NO. 8

President, Editor: Sheila Watts

MAY, 1992

An Invitation

*The Chatsworth Historical Society
cordially invites you
to attend a
Cheese, Wine and Dessert Tasting
on the occasion
of the
29th Annual Installation of Officers.*

*The event will be held on
Tuesday, May 19th, 1992 at 7 p.m.
at
The Homestead Acre
Chatsworth Park South*

*Please R.S.V.P., 341-4489 or 882-3572
Per person \$5*

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

This will be my last message as I complete a third term as president of the Society. The last year has been challenging with some changes taking place at the Homestead Acre - including new electrical meters that caused upheavals and finally lots of rain that helped turn



the Acre into an Eden showcasing the beauty of 300 plus roses in full bloom. New docents have been trained and will assume duties to help increase the productivity of the docent

committee. The latter committee deserves a vote of thanks.

Due to the riots and civil disobedience in Los Angeles starting April 30th, all public gatherings were cancelled including the Society's Garden Festival. We have plans to hold the second annual Pioneer Day in October and will hold a Garden Festival in May 1993 when the Acre is an Eden again.

The continuing operation of the Homestead Acre as a lovely historic site is due to the efforts of the very hard working board of directors and to the hundreds of volunteer hours of Dean and Candy Craig who keep the gardens in excellent shape. They are helped in the gardens by our only employee, Trini Sanchez, who has worked for us for about a year, one day each week. Ramon Avila and Keith Watts have helped when needed.

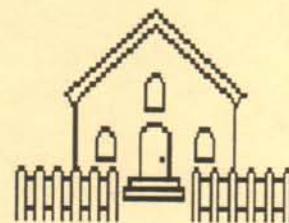
We have offered stimulating programs under the direction of Zena Thorpe. These have included the first Pioneer Day, a highly successful commemoration of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and World War II and an evening with Will Rogers to mention a few. Under the direction of Donna Aflerbach, the Society hosted the opening of Walkabout Chatsworth, a walking tour that ensured that younger residents of the town become acquainted with its environment.

A very wet day greeted those attending the first docent tea, offered to ensure the continuity of that committee. An excellent training session has been offered since then.

The speaker's bureau has presented slide and talk programs to about 1100 people during the past year; many special tours have been conducted in addition to the regular open house on the first Sunday. Not only do Lila and Bill Schepler serve as Director of Docents and Director of Photographic Material respectively, they are the speaker's bureau.

During the last year we have held fewer weddings at the Acre and in the future will hold them only for members,

their relatives and friends. This is for the protection of the cottage, and museum artifacts.



Lillian Schepler served as unofficial fund raiser for the last yard sale. Through the generous suggestion of Jane Matthews many donations were made to the Society on the occasion of Jane's 75th birthday celebration. We received a grant from the Los Angeles City Council and the sale of booklets and books such as Virginia Watson's, "A Chatsworth History," have helped us balance the budget.

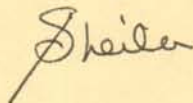
Bea Berman will be the official ways and means chairman and the board is already considering new and different ways of raising funds.

I hope all who live close by will attend the installation program on Tuesday, May 19. John Thorpe will serve as installing officer.

Please remember to call - reservations are required.

In closing I extend my thanks to Zena, Donna, Lillian, Betty, Marian, Virginia, Bill, Lila, Bea, Ramon, Keith, Chuck & Eileen Janess - Dean & Candy Craig and Nanci Oliva.

Sincerely,



WATTS' WHAT:

A month or so ago Keith and I visited my relatives in England and had a great time. My mother, Ella Woodhead, 88, is living in a lovely home for seniors in Thorpe overlooking

the Yorkshire Moors. I'm happy to report that she's in good physical health but she is forgetful! We also drove to towns in James Herriott country and in the south of England where Keith was based in World War II including Newbury, Reading and Greenham Commons. The daffodils were everywhere!

I'm sorry to report that Neal Grant is seriously ill and all of us who know him are praying for him. Neal and his wife Ruth have been very supportive of the Society. Ruth was chairman and designer of the town's prize winning Centennial Quilt and has been elected secretary of the Society.

Linda Hyland-Williams, daughter of Marian and Ralph Hyland, will be married at the Homestead Acre in June....more details in the next newsletter.

A note arrived from Irene and Everett Cleveland to let us know that they are enjoying their new home at 2605 Potter Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86401. They survived preparing for the move and the move itself and Everett is enjoying his new, larger workshop while Irene has been out exploring Kingman.

Congratulations to Bill and Gale Schepler, new parents of a healthy baby boy....a second grandson for Lillian. More details next month.

Congratulations to Zena Thorpe. Her newest quilt, "Heraldry," won second place at the American Quilting Association contest at Paducah, KY.

