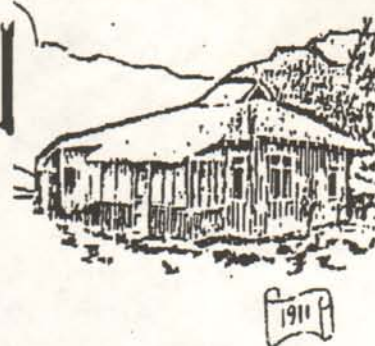


Smoke Signal



CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth CA 91311

(818)-882-5614

VOLUME 30, NO. 7

President: Zena Thorpe

MARCH, 1993

Editor: Sheila Watts

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Remember the song, "Hate California, it's cold and it's damp...?" It never made much sense to me before!! Has the rain stopped? Let's hope so. The creek that runs through the Acre is just rushing like it hasn't done in years.

I hope you will take advantage of our lecture series which you will read about in the enclosed brochure. We are so lucky to have such knowledgeable and enthusiastic people among our membership who are producing this series.

See you there,

Zena

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

In addition to the very interesting lecture series being offered to celebrate the town's 105th birthday we shall also hold a birthday party in conjunction with the Tuesday, March 16th quarterly meeting. At 7 p.m., we'll convene for a brief business meeting that will include election of officers for the new Society year.

Our featured speaker, Charles Bausback, will display a slide presentation and talk on the

history of the Huntington Museum and Gardens. Bausback is a noted historian, Huntington docent and research specialist for Huell Howser's PBS series, "California's Gold."

Refreshments will include birthday cake, coffee and tea. Please plan to attend and bring a friend!

GREAT PUBLICITY!

The Valley Life section of the Los Angeles Times of 29 January, 1993 featured various historical societies in an article titled, Real Life Preservers. A large color photo on the front of the section was taken at the Acre and included several of the docents wearing prairie dresses or Western gear.

An inset photograph showed Virginia and Lila demonstrating the turn-of-the-century laundry equipment with the quote, "They are the keepers of the great stuff in the Valley," by Robert Marshall, archivist at CSUN's Urban Archives Center. Another photograph showed Bobbette Fleschler, president of the San Fernando Valley Historical Society, who will be part of the March lecture series. It was an interesting article about the groups safeguarding the history of the region and a boost to the morale of the hard-working Board of the Society.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

President:	Bea Berman
V.P. Programs	Donna Afflerbach
V.P. Ways & Means	Zena Thorpe
V.P. Membership	Keith Watts
V.P. Hospitality	Dorothy Sammartano
Recording/Corresponding Secretary	Unfilled
Treasurer	Lillian Schepler
Newsletter Editor	Sheila Watts
Dir. Photographic Materials	William Schepler
Dirs. at Large	Ramon Avila Betty Summers

Permanent Officers:

Charles & Eileen Janess; Virginia Watson, Curator; Lila Schepler, Director of Docents, Ex-officio: Zena Thorpe, Parliamentarian.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Please obtain permission of nominee before making nomination.

Lillian Schepler, chairperson,
Virginia Watson,
Sheila Watts.

The position of recording/corresponding secretary is unfilled. If you would be interested in helping the board by taking this position, please contact Sheila Watts, parliamentarian, 341-4489.

MEMBERSHIP:

Please welcome new member:

James D. Riley
6195 Sylvan Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93063

GENEROUS DONATION:

Valeta Butler Koller has recently made a very generous donation in memory of her sister, Margaret Louise Butler Roberts, who died last year. Louise was active with the Society and helped in many ways. One of the items under consideration as a memorial is a showcase for display of costumes. Lila Schepler is in charge of the committee to explore the feasibility of the showcase as well as other suggestions to enhance the museum.

The members of the Board of Directors are extremely grateful to Valeta and her family for their generosity.

REMINDER!

The newly formed Museum Council is still searching for members. As outlined in the February issue of the Smoke Signal, the purpose of the Council is to update the museum by purchasing new display cases, building areas of acid-free storage and improved facilities for the costume collection.

The bronze-look medallion is on display at the museum and we are urging Society members to consider joining this new Council. When attending an event at the Museum be sure to look at the medallion and also observe the need for up-dating the museum.

Questions? Call Lila Schepler, chairman, at 341-3447.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Chuck Janess, founding president of the Society is seriously ill and has been hospitalized for some time; Mary Avila is out of the hospital and at home but is still in precarious health. John Baker recently suffered a stroke - he and his wife, Lillian, are

long time supporters of the Society. We wish all of them a return to good health.

NEWS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES:

The San Fernando Valley Historical Society has moved into new quarters at the Orcutt Ranch while their home base, the Pico Adobe, is brought up to code following earthquake damage. The society was established in 1943 and members will celebrate the 50th anniversary this year.

The Canoga-Owensmouth Historical Society sponsored the recent symposium when members of the California Conference of Historical Societies came from throughout the state for the spring event. CHS docents Lila, Virginia, Donna, Zena and Lillian worked at the head-quarters, the Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys. The Acre was one of the stops on a tour of major sites and several of the docents

and members spent Saturday afternoon there providing information for the four busloads of tourists. CHS members received many compliments on the homestead cottage, the grounds and the museum.

COMING EVENTS:

Sunday, May 2nd from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., we'll host the first annual Garden Festival - circle the date and plan to attend this lovely outdoor program that will include the sale of rose cuttings, vendors with all types of garden information. There'll also be food booths, bake sale and white elephant booth.....and more.

THANKS to Keith Watts for designing and producing the March lecture brochure.