



# Smoke Signal

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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## From the President:

We started the new season with a most successful membership barbecue with delicious food, blue grass music, old friends and many newcomers. Thanks to all who helped make it a success.

On Sunday, October third we'll host the third annual Pioneer Day and hope all of you will attend. Admission is \$1.99 and children under 12 enter free. You'll find details elsewhere in the news letter. I look forward to seeing you there.

Bea.

## Curator's Comments:

We received two fine additions to our collections this past month. Ed and Norma Ahlstrom donated the 4 volume "Bible Commentaries," that belonged to early-day members of the Johnson family. The books are personalized with individual comments by the Johnsons as they read the books. The books will be featured in the Frank Schepler, Jr., Library.

Another suitable and generous gift was presented to the Society by Leuse Mitchell who is a very talented craftswoman specializing in beautiful porcelain dolls. Leuse donated Baby Doll, fully clothed in appropriate bonnet and dress of the turn-of-the-century style. When visiting the Cottage you'll find the baby in the

children's room probably in the lovely doll carriage.

Virginia Watson

## Lila Schepler - the Museum Council:

We're very happy to have an old friend, Leonard Chenard, join the Museum Council. At the same time he gave a donation in memory of Charles Janess.

The council was formed for the purpose of updating the museum, purchasing new display cases, building areas of storage that are acid free for newspapers, photographs, memorabilia, artifacts and areas for the costume collection.

Membership cost is \$100 and Museum Council members will be honored each year at the annual meeting.

Each member receives a bronze-look medallion which hangs on a lovely multi-colored ribbon with the engraving, "Chatsworth Historical Society Museum Council Member." The medallion is suitable for being displayed against black velvet to hang on an office wall at work or a den wall at home.

We hope that many of you receiving the Smoke Signal will want to support this worthy project. Funds received from dues and fund raising projects support the ongoing expenses of the

Society: insurance, utilities, part time gardner, Acre upkeep, painting etc., as needed. These funds do not allow for any type of capital improvements. The preservation of a fine costume collection is another item of need. Please consider this project and join us. We shall be waiting to hear from you.

Please make checks payable to the Chatsworth Historical Society and mail to the Society at 10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth, CA 91311.

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#### **About the Docents - Donna Afflerbach:**

*Visiting the Acre in September.....* Van Nuys Hospital Day Treatment program brought 35 clients who greatly appreciated the gardens' serenity and wildlife....the San Fernando Valley Historical Society will end their bus tour of Valley historical sites with tours and refreshments at our locale.....docents from the Southwestern Museum will picnic and see how our docent program operates. Several artists engaged in the Public Art Competition for the Chatsworth Metrolink Station came to have their questions about the community answered by Virginia Watson.

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#### **Programs - Donna Afflerbach, 882-0485.**

A delicious assortment of salads and desserts, a comfortable afternoon temperature and toe-tapping bluegrass music were presented for the fifty or more attendees of the membership roundup barbecue on September 12. It was particularly gratifying to see the mix of long-time members with the several interested visitors in attendance. This means that the society can prosper and continue to grow.

Thanks to Keith Watts and John Thorpe who cooked the hamburgers with such finesse.

The next quarterly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m. in the Chatsworth Museum. Adell Woodworth will exhibit and talk about the historic characters her self-made dolls represent. If there is someone who would like to help provide baked goods for this meeting, please contact Dottie at 349-2869.

Save 8 p.m., on Wednesday, December 15th if you would like to attend an old-fashioned holiday concert to be presented at Pierce College. Details will be in the October issue.

I would appreciate receiving any suggestions of topics for future programs from members.

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It's great to hear that Marian and Ralph Hyland are enjoying their new home, car and retirement in Arizona. They are also making good use of the barbecue they purchased with money from the farewell party money tree. They drove to Northern California to spend Labor Day with daughter Linda and family. Their new address is: 1949 Robinson Ave., Kingman, AZ 86401.

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#### **Membership - Keith Watts**

Again many thanks to all who brought food, funds, and fun to the Membership Meeting and Barbeque - it was a great success!

Several renewals of membership were received, along with the following new members:

Peg and Bill Haggarty, West Hills  
Shirley Blausner, Chatsworth