

Smoke Signal



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

President & Editor: Sheila Watts

NOVEMBER, 1995

QUARTERLY MEETING TO FEATURE CHATSWORTH HOUSE.

The Tuesday, November 21st meeting of the Society will be held at 7:30 p.m., in the Museum and the program will be a video of Chatsworth Park, the home of the Dukes of Devonshire for several centuries. It is one of the most beautiful of the English castles, decorated with superb furnishings, the acreage surrounding it is dotted with outcroppings of rock and huge spreading oaks. If you have visited the house you know how beautiful it is and if you haven't visited it you're in for a treat. Refreshments will follow the viewing and will include pumpkin pie and apple cider. Please attend and bring a friend.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Sorry we missed the October issue of the Smoke Signal. The writer was out of town. Since the previous issue we have had a most successful and happy Pioneer Day as well as tours. Thanks to all the hard work of the volunteers who are listed elsewhere in this issue.

I hope to see many of you at the November 21st meeting and also at the Open House at the Acre on Sunday, December 3 from 1 to 4 p.m.

In commemoration of the new Metrolink railway station, a facsimile of the original depot, the Chatsworth Chamber of Commerce is selling paving stones to be placed in the forecourt of the station. Details also elsewhere in this issue. A paving stone will be a great way to support the grand opening and to place your name in a permanent display.

Congratulations to the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. At a party on Sunday, November 19th from 12:30 to 3 P.m., in the Recreation Center in

Chatsworth Park South (just west of the Acre) there'll be food, music, presentations, booths and community participation to celebrate their 25th anniversary. The Society will staff a booth - hope to see you there in support of this group that set out to preserve our local mountains and has succeeded!

Happy Thanksgiving,
Sheila Watts.

LATE BREAKING NEWS:

The Pioneer Church will now be open from 1 to 4 p.m., the first Sunday of each month - the same as the Acre open house. Robert Jones, a member of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Catholic Church and also a member of the Chatsworth Historical Society, will keep it open and be in charge of other docents who assist him.

PIONEER DAY 1995

As co-chairwomen of the 1995 Pioneer Day at the Homestead Acre, we would like to express appreciation to everyone who contributed to the production of the event. Without the ongoing support of the Society's board of directors and docent council, we could not as easily and successfully accomplish the job.

We particularly acknowledge the generosity of the exhibitors in giving their time, skills, and knowledge to the benefit of the 300 plus visitors. They are the backbone of the event. A special thank-you is sent to all the volunteers from the Society and other community groups whose smiling personalities gave such a happy flavor to the day. Finally, we are grateful to our sponsors who provided the seed money and materials enabling a \$1200 profit to be directed toward the

conservation of the Homestead Acre.

Sincerely, Donna Afflerbach,
Bea Berman
Co-chairwomen 1995 Pioneer Day

COMMUNITY AND SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS:

Joel Amromin, Pauline Aue, Ramon Avila, Carolyn Bellinger, Bea and Marshal Berman, Adrienne Berman, Randi Bercow, Alex Daily, Paula and Brendon Delzer, Nancy Farnam, Susan Gerke, Dottie and Maylon Hammond and Evelyn Kanouse. More are Yvonne Moran, Sylvia Oates, Bruce and Jackie O'Reilly, Drs. Barbara and Joe Pampalone, Margaret Perkins, Pam Perram, Nancy Razanski, Lillian Schepler, Betty and Jim Summers, Zena and John Thorpe, Virginia Watson, Sheila and Keith Watts and Beverly Wright.

CHATSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT VOLUNTEERS:

Gia Horn, Kimberly Horn, Danielle Myerstein, Melanie Rome, Ulma Sequeire, Shanta Wallace.

EXHIBITORS:

CA Carvers Guild, Chatsworth Conservation Coalition, Gayle Crus, Marie Espinoza, 4-H Clubs: Country Bumpkins and Eastside Kids; and the Friends of Chatsworth Library. More are Ruth Grant, Carmelita Johnson, Ann Lee, the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, Hope Parshall, Rancho Simi Foundation, Kathy Reynolds, Bill and Lila Schepler, William (Kimmey) Standing Bear, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, Vicki Wyant.

SPONSORS:

Chatsworth Junior Baseball League, Donut King Hughes Family Markets, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, Ralphs Grocery Stores, and the several, **special individuals** who made spontaneous and anonymous donations.

Visitors at Pioneer Day included three residents who have lived in Chatsworth over fifty years. Each was awarded a copy of "A History of Chatsworth," by its

author, Virginia Watson. Jim Rush, the husband of Charlene, Eileen Janess' daughter, said that he's been here since 1935. Leonard Chenard lived in Chatsworth since he was 15, when his mother came to work at the Docia Conley Company. Len was supporting the Rotary's entry in the chili contest. Margie Green, a friend of Mary and Ramon Avila, was the third winner. Margie, a Wave in World War II, has lent her uniform for display in the Museum.

DOCENT DOINGS:

Cub Scout Pack # 175 from Woodland Hills visited on October 23rd to work on its I Love America badge.

Virginia Watson and I attended a seminar sponsored by the Docent League of Southern California held at the Autry Western Heritage Museum. Using hands-on material and designing travelling exhibits for children was the topic presented. The Children's Discovery Gallery, a recreation of an attic, kitchen and corral of a Mexican-American family ranch, is a treat for children and adults alike. We highly recommend a visit to this new addition at the Autry.

Thank you to Sheila Watts and Jim and Betty Summers for providing school-related displays in the museum cases for September/October. We are collecting Girl Scout memorabilia for March. Do you have, or know someone who has, items of community historical interest that we could use for this or other displays? Members are invited to help make our museum displays more diverse.

December 3rd Open House - Team Three: Donna Afflerbach, Vicki Wyant and Kathy Reynolds.

Donna Afflerbach.

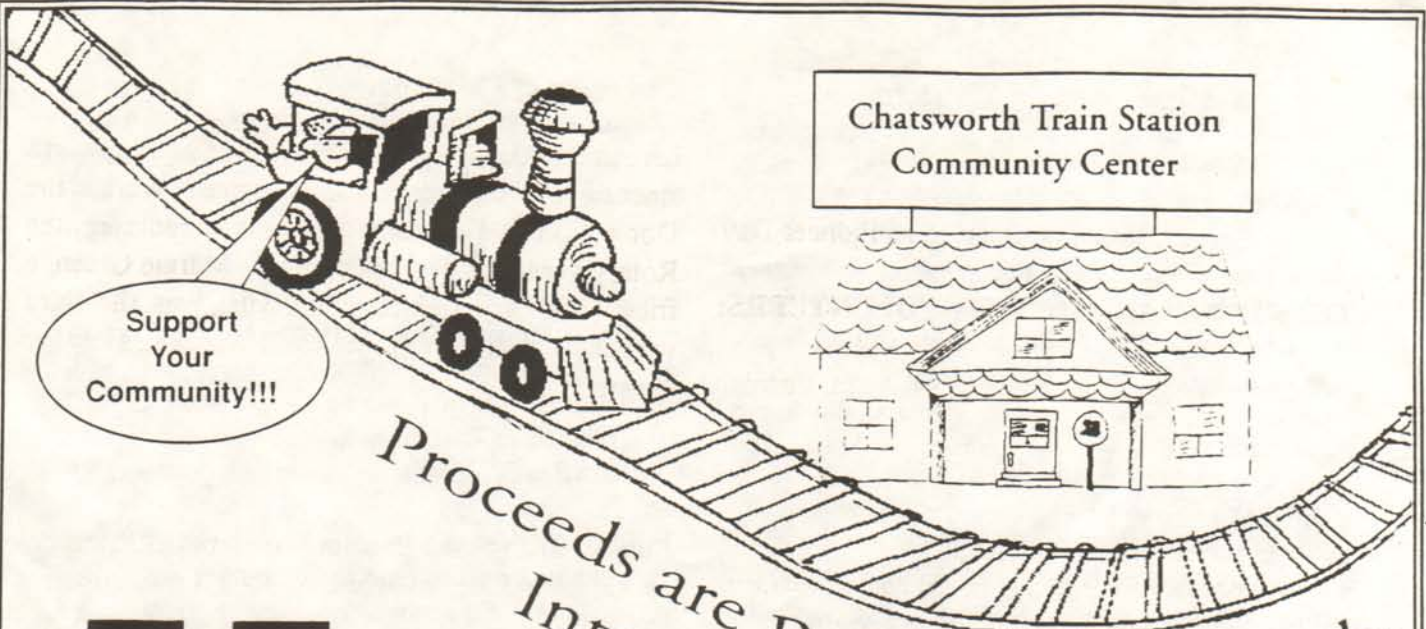
MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to Evelyn Kanouse and Ken and Cheryl Mueller for renewing their memberships.

VISITORS

Recently Betty and Jim Summers entertained two former Chatsworth residents, Bruz and Doris Bryant, who now live in Wyoming. Jim and Bruz have

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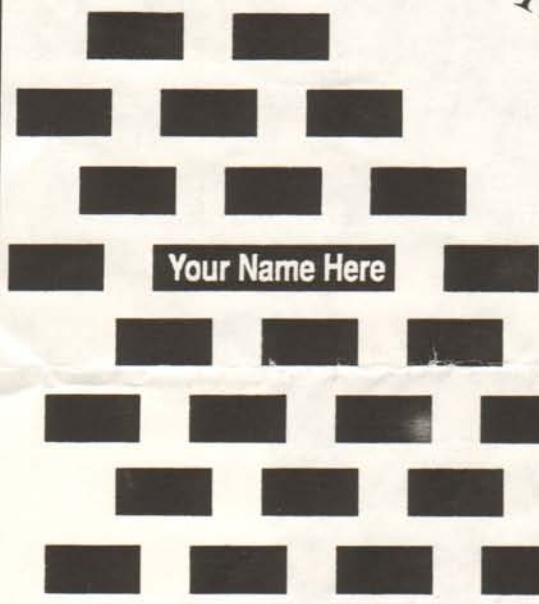
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Community Center

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Buy a personally engraved paver to be set forever in the courtyard of our new Chatsworth Train Station Community Center. Your paver will be unveiled before our honored guests, including you and your family, at our Community Parade and Grand Opening December 10th.



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Please fill out reverse side for wording on your pavers
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(818) 341-2428

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OTHER NEWS:

beenfriends for many years and had a lot to talk about, and many old memories in the form of old pictures that they graciously allowed the Chatsworth Historical Society to copy.

Bruz is Emma Johnson Graves' grandson. He is Queenie's son. He and Jim (Summers) grew up together and have remained friends all these years. Doris and Bruz (short for brother) came all the way from Wyoming to bring the pictures and to visit.

The Summers invited Virginia to visit and look at the pictures and the time went by so fast it made our heads swim. Kinko and Cliff Wirtz at Foto Speed were very helpful and generous helping to copy the pictures while the Bryants were here.

We promised that the pictures would not be used by anyone else but the Chatsworth Historical Society and we promised him a nice display when the gigantic Johnson Family Reunion takes place next June at Chatsworth Park South.

The Friends of Chatsworth Library will hold a used book sale on Saturday, November 18 from 9 a.m., to 1 p.m. All funds are used to purchase books and other necessities for the library.

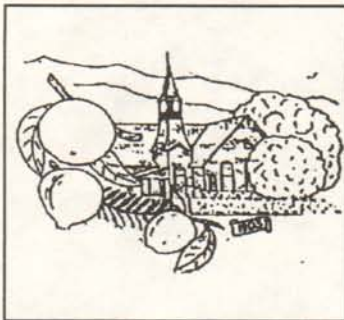
Keith and Sheila Watts are happy to announce the birth of their first grandchild. Jennifer and Mitchell Green are the parents of Savannah Danielle born at the New York Hospital on Monday, October 16 weighing 8 pounds 14 ounces. Mother and daughter are doing very well. Proud paternal grandparents are Nancy Green Alm and step-grandfather, Larry Alm of Florida.

Thanks to Bea Berman for her recent donation honoring baby Savannah.

Thanks also to Valeta Kohler for a substantial donation that will pay for several months of the Society's SBA loan in honor of her mother. Yes we are happily accepting donations for that purpose! The loan is repayable at \$40 each month and the donor may select the month he or she chooses to honor someone.

Sorry to report that Trish Plucknett suffered a broken leg at her home in Santa Paula. She is now recuperating at home. Trish and Burrell are long time Life Members of the Society.

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Virginia Watson
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