



# Smoke Signal

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



President: Virginia Watson

Editor: Sheila Watts

DECEMBER, 1996

## Happy Holidays to All!

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy Holidays to all our members and friends, hope you all have a peaceful and serene holiday.

There is no December meeting. Members celebrated with a trip to the Glendale Center Theatre to see Dicken's "A Christmas Carol," on December 10. Lila Schepler made all the arrangements.

On January 4, 1997, the first Saturday of the new year, we will join the Chatsworth Reservoir Conservancy's annual tour of the former lake site, beginning at 9 a.m., and continuing until 1 p.m. Meet at the Plummer Street entrance. It is a caravan/hike so bring your car and wear comfortable clothing; bring your own water and "biodegradable food," says Helen Treend, leader.

On Sunday, January 12th from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., we are invited to attend the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Articles of Capitulation at Campo de Cahuenga.

Lt. Col., John C. Fremont, representing the American forces, signed the treaty which ended the Mexican-American War in California. This is an official, "California Gold Rush to State-hood Sesquicentennial" event. Located on Lankershim Boulevard directly across from the Universal Studios entrance, the building is hidden by the construction of the Metrorail subway station so watch for signs. This is a chance to celebrate history with other valley historical societies and to share our common interests.

Have a happy holiday season,  
Virginia Watson

### CALENDAR

Sat., Jan 4; tour of Lake site.

Sun., Jan 5; Open House at Acre: Team: Virginia Watson, Zena Thorpe and Paula Delzer.

Tues., Jan 7; board meeting, the museum, 7 p.m.

Sun., Jan 12th; 150th anniversary of treaty signing, Campo de Cahuenga.

Tues., Jan. 21st, 7:30 p.m., Quarterly meeting, museum.

### PROGRAM MEETING

The Quarterly meeting on January 21st will feature local resident George Cherniak, collector of American Indian artifacts. His talk will cover such exciting articles as Zuni jewelry and Hopi rugs.



Whether you are a collector of such fine art or interested in the American west, please plan to attend; refreshments will be served by hospitality chairman John Thorpe.

## OBITUARY.

Bobbette Fleschler, a popular San Fernando Valley historian, curator and speaker, has died. She was 38. She was a former president of the San Fernando Valley Historical Society and president of Friends of the Library at CSUN.

Bobbette died Sunday, December 15 at the Kaiser Foundation Medical Center in Panorama City from complications of Lupus. Funeral Services were held on Wednesday, December 18. She is survived by her husband Stephen Fleschler and her daughter Aviva. Her mother, Elizabeth Cloninger, preceded her in death earlier this month.

Frequently a member of CHS, Bobbette had often shared her talents with the Society and attended most of our important events. A Chatsworth resident for nine years and a graduate of Taft High School and CSUN, Bobbette had returned to the local university to teach a Valley history course.

She was also an expert on Jewish history in the valley. "She was a very capable, knowledgeable historian who was very active," said Sy Rifkin, Fleschler's co-chairman of the Jewish History Project. (Los Angeles Times.)

Chatsworth Historical Society will miss Bobbette and sends deepest sympathy to the her family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the San Fernando Valley Historical Society, 10940 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills or to the West Valley Jewish Community Center, 22622 Vanowen St., West Hills.

---

Editor's note: The Smoke Signal is late this month due to the Santana Winds of December. The writer and others in the Chatsworth area suffered severe wind damage in the worst winds in years - we're busy with clean-up!