



Smoke Signal



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

President: Virginia Watson

Editor: Sheila Watts

MARCH, 1997

**JOIN US PLEASE AS WE
CELEBRATE CHATSWORTH'S 109th
BIRTHDAY!**



**AT THE MARCH 18TH QUARTERLY
MEETING, 7:00 P.M. IN THE
CHATSWORTH MUSEUM.**

The event will include a brief business meeting when the election of officers for 1997-98 will take place. Plans for the Rose Garden Festival on April 20th will be discussed as will plans for the installation of officers.

Program for the Meeting:

Mrs. Jack Oakie will be the evening's speaker and her subject of course will be reminisces of her husband Jack Oakie together with thirty minutes of film clips featuring Jack, to be played on the Society's VCR. Mrs. Oakie will also

introduce the most recent book in a series of four, this one titled, "When the line is straight," a text book for aspiring actors based on Mr. Oakie's film work. The book has garnered praise from many quarters as a definitive book on on comedic acting. The autographed book will be on sale with the proceeds to the Historical Society. Following the video will be a question and answer time - and Mrs. Oakie loves to answer questions!



The evening will conclude with refreshments under the direction of John Thorpe, hospitality chairman. These will include cheese and wine tasting, coffee, tea and dessert. Please come and bring friends.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Spring is just around the corner and CHS members are hard at work planning the Rose/Garden Festival. Please save the date, April 20 and come and enjoy yourselves. We only have two fund-raising events a year, the Garden Festival in the Spring and Pioneer Day in the Fall.

So much is going on in the Society, right now the executive board is very busy, all of them working on special projects. You will be reading about this elsewhere in the Smoke Signal so I would like to give a great big thank you to all our board members and the members of the Society who keep it a vibrant and enthusiastic force for history and the community.

We are all looking forward to seeing Mrs. Jackie Oakie at the March 18 meeting. A big thank you to Bea Berman for making all the arrangements. Bring your checkbooks - she is bringing her books to sell and will autograph them.

Virginia

DOCENT DOINGS.

Saturday, March 22, 9 to 11:30 am:
Docent meeting agenda: Review of tour lecture and recruitment of new docents.

Sunday, April 6, open house, 1 to 4 pm.
Team Three: Donna Afflerbach, Sheila Watts, Bea Berman and Evelyn Kanouse.

A very big thank you to docents Kathy Reynolds, Vicki Wyant, Lila Schepler, Evelyn Kanouse and Virginia Watson. More are Betty Summers and Lillian Schepler for their vacuuming, dusting, washing, polishing, sweeping, shaking,

ironing and organizing which made the Homestead Cottage sparkle.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with Article V., Section 1, Officers and Duties, the election of officers of the Society for 1997-98 will take place at the general meeting in March. They will serve as the Executive Board, along with additional honorary, permanent, and appointive Board Members. Election of officers for the coming year will be held at the the general program meeting on March 18. The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of nominees for the 1997-98 elective offices:

NOMINEES

President	~John Thorpe
Co-1st V.P's (Programs)	~Barbara and Joseph Pampalone.*
2nd V.P. (Ways & Means)	-----
3rd V.P. (Membership)	~Keith Watts
4th V.P. (Hospitality)	-----
Recording Secretary	~Zena Thorpe
Treasurer	~Lillian Schepler
Newsletter Editor	~Sheila Watts
Director-at-Large #1	~Andre van der Valk
Director-at-Large #2	~Linda van der Valk
Director-at-Large #3	~Bea Berman
* a single vote	

Thanks to our Nominating Committee:
Lila Schepler
Betty Summers
Zena Thorpe

Needless to say, officers are vital to the furtherance of the Historical Society's objectives. So please come and vote at

the March 18 meeting. And remember that nominations may be made from the floor for any of the elective positions.

WATTS WHAT....the editor would like to thank Candy Craig for finding two 'Savannah' roses, one for the Homestead Acre and one for the Watts' Acre, both commemorating my and Keith's only grandchild, Savannah Green.

The Society received a pretty card with a note from long-time member and docent, Lucille Clements; besides telling us how she missed us all she included her newest address as follows:

Eastgate Manor, 7750 Eastgate Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 - thanks Lucille, we miss you too. On Wednesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. at the Chatsworth Library, Zena Thorpe will present, "A Look at History Through the Eye of a Needle." The library is located at 21052 Devonshire Street. Zena of course is the international award-winning quilter and co-chair of the California 1999 Sesquicentennial quilt on the history of the State.

PLEASE NOTE! The flyer in this issue concerns the painting by famed artist Marty Bell, of the Pioneer Church - already a collector's item before even being unveiled. Read all about it and we'll hope to see you at Chatsworth Florist on Sunday, April 6.

THE 1997 CONTRIBUTING SPONSOR project described in a personal letter to all Society members has become an unqualified success as members have responded most graciously - the amount of donations so far have totaled \$725.00! Thank you so much from the executive

board for this terrific response. The April issue of the Smoke Signal will contain a list of all these supporters.

GARDEN NEWS

by Candy & Dean Craig, Directors

All 250 plus rose bushes have been pruned and fertilized to be ready for spring bloom. Twelve rose plants were relocated from areas where attrition and gophers had taken their toll. Eight new donated roses have been planted and all the rose beds have been refurbished and some have been underplanted with donated annuals and perennials.

Jime and Betty Summers put in many hours and much effort preparing large bare areas for added grass planting and Ramon Avila has pruned our old, fragile fruit and citrus trees.

A year after being promised tree service and following many phone calls and letters, overgrown, low hanging tree limbs from our enormous walnut tree have been pruned by the Park Forestry Service and dead trees removed. The four man crew worked nearly three full days cutting and cleaning up the debris.

Our featured festival speaker, Kim Rupert, has promised to provide plants of his own "Purple Buttons," for the rose raffle. Kim has authored numerous rose study articles published in books, magazines and newsletters both in the U.S. and England. Photographs of his large Canyon Country rose garden have appeared in many international books and publications.

Guest Rosarian Jerri Owens will have a

special table at the Festival with lists and addresses of roses and rose nurseries in the U.S., Canada and Europe where old, special or rare roses can be obtained. If a rose you want is still in commerce or cultivation Jerri can help you find it.

We will have quite a number of blooming garden plants and roses for sale.

Thanks to Keith Watts and his computer for making our ROSE-GARDEN FESTIVAL flyer look good.

Bea Berman and Linda van der Valk are planning a delicious tea party at the DUCHESS'S TEA ROOM so don't miss it. Join us for the fun, Sunday, April 20th.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

If enough donations of clean and near-new treasures are received by the Society by March 30, there will be another White Elephant Booth! Call Sheila Watts to arrange pick-up at 341-4489.

An Afternoon with Marty Bell

Hosted by Chatsworth Florist

Sunday, April 6, 1997

2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

You and your friends are invited to meet Marty Bell and have her sign any Marty Bell lithograph purchased at Chatsworth Florist between now and the signing date.

As a special treat for the occasion, Marty will unveil her newest Original

The Chatsworth Pioneer Church

This is the second painting of Marty's
"Hidden Treasures of Chatsworth" series.

The canvas lithograph of the church will be available for
225.00.

Chatsworth Florist will donate 10% of the proceeds from this lithograph to The Chatsworth Historical Society. This donation includes all sales from today through the event.

We encourage you to reserve your low number now.

**Chatsworth Florist
21727 Devonshire St.
Chatsworth, California 91311
818-341-2753**