

Smoke Signal



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

APRIL, 1999

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The annual installation of our newly elected board members is in May. All members and their guests are invited to the event, which will be held at the museum on Tuesday, May 18th at 7 p.m. We won't be having a program but are inviting everyone to dress in period attire depicting a decade of the present century, or bring some memento or article pertaining to it. A show-and-tell event will be held where you may show off your mementos, etc. Refreshments will be served including wine and cheese tasting.

John Thorpe

GARDEN FESTIVAL -SUNDAY APRIL 25

Be sure to mark Sunday, April 25th on your Calendar. Join us for our annual Rose and Garden Festival at the Homestead Acre from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In addition to our fabulous roses, this year we will have Arts and Crafts vendors, the Herb Society, White Elephant booth, tasty Bake Sale, fantastic Quilt Display, garden talks and demos and, last but not least, our elegant Duchess Tea featuring a delicious lunch for \$5.00.

There will also be entertainment - a Polynesian Dance Revue by the Chatsworth Dance Centre; and we will be raffling a beautiful quilt.

Admission will be a \$2 donation - children free under 12 years of age.

Members - we will need items for the White Elephant booth, as well as baked goods for the Bake Sale. Call Bea at 341-5449 if you need information or any items picked up.

Bea Berman, Chairman

CALIFORNIA SESQUICENTENNIAL

The year 2000 marks the sesquicentennial of California as a state. It will be 150 years since California was admitted to the Union; and the Chatsworth Historical Society is planning a special commemorative event to celebrate this historic occasion. **On March 10th (Chatsworth's birthday), 11th, & 12th of the year 2000, the California Sesquicentennial quilt will be in town!** The quilt was commissioned by the California Heritage Quilt Project to portray California's long and colorful history in fabric. It was officially presented to the public at the State Fair in Sacramento last August and is presently touring the state. We are planning an unveiling of the quilt to Chatsworth on March 10th followed by two days of exhibitions, lectures, demonstrations, music and fun, etc., at the Homestead Acre. Next March may seem a long way off but there is much work involved in such a production.

If you have any input or suggestions for this

event, please call Zena Thorpe at 818/882-3572. (As you may know, Zena was instrumental in the design and creation of this magnificent quilt.)

IN THE GARDEN

In spite of frustrations and handicaps, the new garden area, where the old trailer stood, is nearing completion. A large memorial stone planter bed, built with donations in memory of Sheila Watts, has been constructed and now awaits repair of the park's water system when it can be planted. Candy and Dean's son Matt Craig and their teenage grandchildren, Tim and Caitlin Craig, volunteered to build half of the 50-foot stone planter and a professional crew completed it.

On the north side of the area, under the existing trees, a California native plant collection is in bloom with poppies, linaria, larkspur and various native shrubs and perennials donated by the Craigs.

The large center section awaits paving with decomposed granite and the installation of three 8-foot long benches in front of the native plants.

When the area is finished, it should be an attractive addition to the Acre.

La Nina has proven to be a real contrast to last year's El Nino weather conditions. Very little rain and a cold spring have delayed rose bloom and many of our trees have not leafed out as yet. With the park water system still not repaired after three months, it has been a real chore trying to supply water to the roses, trees and new plantings at the Acre.

In the garden in front of the cottage, where the earthquake had created depressions and the spot where the old California walnut tree was

removed, new topsoil has filled the holes and the area has been reseeded, but growth has been very slow.

If warm weather comes we can look forward to lots of roses in bloom and trees leafed out to provide shade for the Garden Festival on April 25th. We will have about 65 various rose bushes for sale at the Festival, as well as gallon-sized columbine plants, pineapple sage, penstemon and 4-inch pots of the latest California "rage", cerinthe major purpurescens and other plants. Rose expert, Kim Rupert, will give talks on roses and be available for your questions on rose culture.

Dean and Candy Craig



(Editor's note: Many thanks to Dean & Candy, our exceptional Directors of Gardens.)

TREASURY NEEDS HELP

Our Treasurer points out that our funds are at a low point - currently \$1545 - and we have many continuing expenses to take care of, including a \$1200-plus insurance payment, due annually in June, that allows us to provide public access to the Homestead Acre. So, although it's tax time, please help us keep the Acre solvent by supporting our fund-raising events, and also contribute a donation, no matter how small, when you feel that you can.

BOOK AGAIN AVAILABLE

We now have additional copies of Bob Sherman's popular book, "Quiet On The Set," for sale at \$14.95 per copy. This is an authentic account of Western movies filmed at the Iverson movie ranch in Chatsworth. This is your last chance to get a copy of this fascinating book.



Chatsworth Historical Society Presents

A GARDEN FESTIVAL

Featuring Roses & Crafts!

- Blooming Rose Garden
- Garden Talks & Demos
- The Duchess • Tea Room
Afternoon Tea \$5
- Museum Exhibits
Prize-winning Quilts
- Polynesian Dance Revue
Chatsworth Dance Ctr.
- Growing Plants, Roses
For Sale!
- Arts & Crafts
- Bake Sale
- White Elephant Sale
- Door Prizes
- Cold Drinks
- Much More!

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 1999

10 a.m. TO 3 p.m.

\$2 Donation - under 12 FREE

THE HOMESTEAD ACRE

AT THE FIRST STOP SIGN IN

CHATSWORTH PARK SOUTH,

(WEST END OF DEVONSHIRE St.)

Information - (818)-882-5614

