

Smoke Signal

Co-Presidents: Andre & Linda van der Valk

Editor: Keith Watts

August, 2003

FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS:

We have been having a wonderful summer. We vacationed with our granddaughters and our new grandson Charlie James van der Valk in Lake Tahoe for ten days. It was great and now it's time to get back to work

The summer has been quiet at The Acre. Jim and Betty have been on vacation and Virginia's grandson Alex has been taken over the huge job of watering. He has been doing a great job. We were hoping that we would have sprinklers by now but it hasn't worked out yet. We are starting to get some bids for the sprinklers and see what happens. We are looking forward to our Membership Round-Up on Sept. 14th. Let's see if we can bring to some new membership to our group.

Happy rest of the summer.

Linda and Andre

Chatsworth Historical Society Board 2002-2003

Co-Pres.....	Linda & Andre van der Valk	882-3661
Programs.....	John Thorpe	882-3572
Ways & Means.....	Bea Berman	341-5449
Membership.....	Keith Watts	341-4489
Treasurer.....	Lillian Schepler	341-2697
Rec. Secretary.....	Elaine Campbell	341-4954
Smoke Signal.....	Keith Watts	341-4489
Museum Curator.....	Virginia Watson	341-3053
Cottage Curator.....	Betty Summers	341-2714
Hospitality.....	Keli Jacobsen	
Garden Director.....	Jim & Betty Summers	341-2714
Director-at-large.....	Betty Summers	3412714
Director-at-large.....	Barbara Pampalone	882-2395
Director-at-large.....	Ruth Grant	882-3990
Photo. Materials.....	Bill Schepler	341-3447
Permanent Member.....	Lila Schepler	341-3447

COMING EVENTS REMINDER

Sunday, September 14, 4 - 6 pm (Acre)
Membership Roundup & Barbecue

Saturday, September 20, 10 am (Park Rec.
Bldg.)
Rally for State Historical Park

Sunday, October 5, 11am - 4 pm (Acre)
Annual Pioneer Day

Sunday, October - date to be announced
(Pioneer Church)
Anniversary celebration

MEMBERSHIP ROUNDUP AND BARBECUE - SEPTEMBER 14, 2003

It's that time of the year again for our Annual Membership Roundup and Barbecue at the Homestead Acre in Chatsworth Park South. all CHS members, guests and potential members are invited.

When: Sunday, September 14.

Time: 4 pm - 6 pm.

Attendance: Free (no charge)!

Come and enjoy the food and entertainment. Those attending are asked to bring a favorite *vegetable, salad, or dessert dish* to complement the tri-tip beef barbecued by our own chef Andre (also Society co-president).

So please be sure to remember the date, and come to enjoy the food, review the advantages of CHS membership, and listen to foot-tappin' country western music and songs by Rattlin' Ralph, his guitar and one-man band.

PIONEER DAY PREVIEW.....Bea Berman

I can't believe another year has passed and plans are underway for our annual PIONEER DAY, Sunday, October 5th, so mark your calendar and plan to attend a most enjoyable day. Besides our regular attractions, we have added something else – Dave Storm and the Thunder Creek Band. I also hope to have a pie-eating contest if the local restaurants will come through with donations.

We will also have our famous Chili Cook-off, so if you know anyone who would interested in

participating for a chance to win a trophy and cash prize, call me and I will send them an application.

We anticipate a large crowd that day because Huell Howser will be giving us a plug on his September 30th show. So if anyone is interested in helping us, we sure could use it. Also, I am asking for donations for our White Elephant sale and also baked goods for our bake sale. Tell your friends - and I'm looking forward to seeing you on October 5th.

BEA BERMAN, Chairman
(818) 341-5449

RALLY FOR SANTA SUSANA PASS STATE HISTORIC PARK.....Virginia Watson

The Chatsworth Historical Society will join the Chatsworth Women's Club, the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, and the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains, in whipping up public support for the five-year old Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park on Saturday, September 20th in the Recreation Building at Chatsworth Park South.

The event will be held in the morning at 10 am. and will consist of entertainment, speeches, distribution of information about the park and discussion about what is needed for public use of the area. Various local organizations will have displays around the room with information available and knowledgeable people to answer questions about the area.

A panoramic view of the scenic rocky park is breathtaking when viewed from the parking lot of Chatsworth Park South. The tiny yellow mosaic-tiled sign marking the site of the Stage Coach Trail looks like a postage stamp when viewed from the parking lot, so far away from the actual site. Come to the rally, see for yourself the scenic beauty, and get interested in our own state historic park right in our own backyard.

Chatsworth Citizens are urged to attend the Rally. It is being held to let public officials know that the community would like to see some positive improvements in the park. Five years ago in June of 1998, the park was dedicated amid a huge community party. Five years later we still do not have any marked trails, no evidence of a ranger assigned on-site, no picnic areas or water fountains, no information kiosks - not even any welcoming signs. Not many people even know it is there.

Money that was to be set aside for the use of The Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park is enough to provide a small visitor's center; a few colored brochures telling about the park; some permanent signs giving the name of the park; some trails to be marked; and for a Ranger to lead a few hikes and maybe even answer questions about one of the state's most beautiful parks.

Since the 1970's, Chatsworth citizens and other

Valleyites and nature lovers have looked forward to enjoying the unique scenery of our historic area. It is time that we join forces and show the powers that be that Chatsworth citizens want action! And we want it now!!!

The Pioneer Church, that the CHS moved to Oakwood Memorial Park is having an anniversary! The church was built with volunteer labor in 1903; and this year marks the 100th anniversary of that date. The building was finished and actually was used in January 1903, according to the papers we found in the cornerstone when we moved the building back in January 1965.

St. Mary The Virgin Anglican Rite Catholic Church congregation, that rents the building for services, is planning a big program and has invited the Chatsworth Historical Society and others to participate. The event will be held on a Sunday afternoon: either October 19 or 20.. Both Lila Schepler and Virginia Watson have attended planning meetings and will be reporting more details in the next Smoke Signal!

ANNOUNCEMENT - Long-time Chatsworth resident and CHS member, Lillian Baker, has announced that she will be visiting Chatsworth from her residence in Texas and would like to see all her friends at a no-host gathering at the Olive Garden restaurant, August 22 at 11 am.