



# Smoke Signal



CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth, CA 91311  
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Co-Presidents: Andre & Linda van der Valk

Editor : Keith Watts

SEPTEMBER, 2004

## CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

We can't believe that Pioneer Day is right around the corner. October 3rd is coming upon us fast, and as usual Bea is very busy getting everything ready. If you can bake, volunteer or just help with set up and tear down please let Bea know. We really do need help to make Pioneer Day a success. This year will be a little easier with set up and tear down because the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council bought us twenty light weight eight- foot tables. Our thanks to the Neighborhood Council.

We had a great time at the Membership Round-up. Good food and good times were had by all.

Chatsworth Historical Society  
Board of Directors 2004-2005

Co-Presidents.....	Linda & Andre van der Valk	882-3661
Programs, 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 Jacobson	
Garden Director.....	Jim & Betty Summers	341-2714
Director-at-Large.....	Barbara Pampalone	882-2395
Director-at-Large.....	Dianne Kartiala	886-5210 (Bus.)
Permanent Member.....	Lila Schepler	341-3447

Thanks to all of you who joined or renewed your membership. Hope to see everyone at Pioneer Day.

Linda and Andre

## PIONEER DAY - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

Everyone should mark their calendars to enjoy the Annual Pioneer Day to be held Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Homestead Acre in Chatsworth Park South from 11 :00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M.

There will be a Chili Cook-off; music; games; Chores of Yore hands-on activities for children such as quilting, washing on a scrub board, churning butter, petting zoo and origami. Demonstrations include a Blacksmith, Panning for Gold, Spinning and Weaving. Also we will have The Rock Chippers and Wood Carvers with items for sale, as well as other vendors. Rounding out the events is a homemade Bake Sale, White Elephant Table, Plant Sale and Mini Guided Tours of the circa 1910 Bungalow. Donation of \$3.00 for Adults and \$1.00 for Children. All proceeds go to the upkeep of the Homestead Acre. Invite friends and neighbors! For information, call Bea Berman, 341-5449.

## **NUPTIALS AT THE ACRE....Virginia**

Keli Jacobson and Tino Markovic were united in matrimony in a late afternoon ceremony at the Homestead Acre, Sunday, July 11th. A crowd of more than 80 people attended, many of them members of our society, plus relatives from both the bride's and groom's families. Keli has been a volunteer docent for about five years and has worked many Open Houses and school tours showing our historic monument and grounds. She is also a vice president on our board in charge of hospitality. Tino is new to us but well-known at the local Methodist Church.

It was the second marriage for both the bride and groom. They said their vows under a Chuppa that Tino constructed on the lawn, and chairs for the guests were placed in front of it. Keli wore an old-fashioned off-the-shoulder ivory satin wedding gown with a tight bodice and a full skirt. She wore a wreath of roses in her hair and entered the wedding area to the music of "The Sixty Something Barbershop Quartet" (Jim Summers quartet).

Following the ceremony, the guests gathered at the reception area. A decorated rose arbor covered the entrance to the entertainment and food section where the seating arrangements were posted. Tables were set up under a canopy with a live band that played appropriate music. Catered foods were attractively displayed for the guests to choose from and a tiered wedding cake was displayed on a table. Along with the wedding cake, there was Lillian Schepler's famous lemon cake to be enjoyed.

A relaxed early evening was enjoyed by the guests and the couple left for a trip up the Coast for their honeymoon.

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## **LABOR DAY ORIGINS**

**L**abor Day weekend is over - but it remains a significant time in September - it signals the ending of summertime

vacation activities for all and the impending start of schooltime for youngsters. But do you know how the Labor Day holiday came about?

The idea for an official Labor Day celebration was suggested at a meeting of an early labor organization in 1882 by Peter J. McGuire, a member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. On Sept. 5, 1882 the first observance of the holiday took place in New York City. In 1887 Oregon became the first state to make Labor Day a holiday. In 1893 a bill was passed in Congress to make it a nation-wide legal holiday.

Labor Day is one of the holidays with a movable date.

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## **CHS LIBRARY ACTIVITIES**

Recently Lila Schepler presented the Chatsworth Historical Society with almost 300 books on California that she and Bill had collected over the years. They traveled a lot and Lila especially was very interested in California history. The collection covers many books and pamphlets and contains many out-of-print books, a wonderful addition to our library.

Ann Vincent has been logging the books into our library records. She is entering the information into the computer so we can have a catalog of the books and it can be sorted into many different kinds of lists for various uses. Ann designed a book plate for Lila's books with a picture of Minnie's cottage on the form printed in brown ink. Recently Elaine Campbell has been helping by pasting bookplates into the front of the books to speed up the progress. It paid off because last week they completed the project, and now the books can be placed on the shelves.

## MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

We have a new theme in the museum display: "Summer's End." Our co-president Linda van der Valk did the displays and they are educational and colorful. We plan on leaving them up until Pioneer Day with perhaps the addition of a display about Minnie Hill Palmer. Rick and Jerry, CHS members who are the owners of the Chatsworth Florist shop, have been decorating our large display cabinet for us and they are planning to change the display to a suitable "Summer's End" theme soon.

Nine of our docents traveled to North Hollywood recently to be fingerprinted for the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks records. Several others will go later to record their prints. It is a requirement that anyone who works with children must be fingerprinted and we were glad to participate. Linda van der Valk drove her van, taking the docents along. Kathy Reynolds has been a docent for several years and always participates in our Pioneer Day program. Others are Ann Vincent, Elaine Campbell, Evelyn Kanouse, Marilyn Frump, Beverly King, Bea Berman, Lillian Schepler, and Virginia Watson.

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## MORE VALLEY STREET NAMES

(AmericanSuburb.com)

Haskell Avenue -Two versions: Arnold D. Haskell was secretary to Moses Sherman and founder of the M.H Sherman Foundation. Or, street named for John Haskell, a farmer in the area in 1916.

Hayvenhurst Avenue -Hayvenhurst was the estate of Encino subdivider William Hamilton Hay. Street's northern end was originally called Pico.

Kester Avenue -Kester Ranch was a major wheat-growing concern from the 1870's to 1909.

Lassen Avenue - Named after the Northern California County where Lassen National Park is located.

Lederer Avenue -Named for the actor Francis Lederer, who also served as the honorary mayor of Canoga Park.

Lindley Avenue- Named for Joseph P. Lindley

Maclay Avenue -Charles Maclay, builder and former State Senator, was the founder of San Fernando.

Mason Avenue -Named for Azubeth H. Mason in 1917.

Mayall Street -Named in 1924 after surveyor Robert Mayall.

Nordhoff Street -Named for famed health-seeker and writer Charles Nordhoff.

Oso Avenue -Oso is the Spanish word for bear.

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## NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The Chatsworth Neighborhood Council is holding its -elections on Saturday October 2, 2004 from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. in the meeting room at the north end of the Chatsworth Train Depot. Please come and vote.

The Burbank Historical Society is having a fashion show and tea at the Mentzer House starting at 11 A. M. on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Mentzer House was moved in 1977 from Orange Grove Ave. to Olive Park. It has been restored and is open to the public.

The San Fernando Valley Historical Society is having a "Mad Hatter's" tea, Sunday Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 for tea, raffles and music Call Midge Gisel at 363-4541 for

reservations.

Canoga-Owensmouth Historical Society is having a fund raiser on Friday, Oct. 22 at 8 p.m. at the Madrid Theater production of "the Music Man." For reservations call Joe Lecce, 888-7698.

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### CHS MEMBERSHIP

In this issue of the Smoke Signal, annual members will find a membership envelope. We urgently encourage you to use these convenient envelopes to renew your membership in the Chatsworth

Historical Society, so that you may continue to enjoy the various benefits of membership, including the monthly newsletter, as well as the interesting and informative programs and other activities.

The Membership Roundup was successful in renewing a number of members, so if you have already paid your dues for the current period, please ignore this request.

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