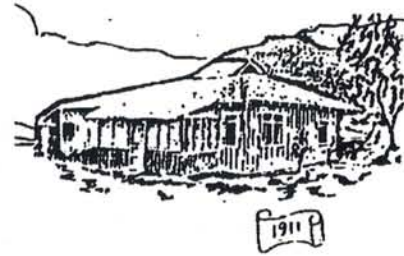


Smoke Signal



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

Co-Presidents: Andre & Linda van der Valk

Editor : Keith Watts

MARCH, 2007

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

We are getting ready for The Garden Festival. Our busy Bea is getting everything ready for April 29th and we know she will do a great job as always. Betty and Jim with the help of Jelena, Beverly, Tom and our new docent Don Pendleton have been busy getting the gardens back into shape after the frost. We lost plants with the frost but also with the painting of the cottage.

The cottage will look at its best because of the great painting job that Select Painting did and the screens that the city put in. **Mr. Bruno Franck of Select Painting** donated \$1500.00 of the painting price back to the Historical Society and we appreciate it. The total cost to us was \$1000.

for the painting.

Hope to see everyone at The Garden Festival; and when you are there, look around for the Red Tail Hawk who has been making his home at the Acre. He is a sight to see!

Linda and Andre

SPECIAL MARCH PROGRAM

During our March meeting we will celebrate the 119th anniversary of the official establishment of Chatsworth - with a birthday cake and refreshments. In addition, we will have a program speaker from the Mountain Lion Foundation speaking on "*Protecting California Wildlife and their Wild Habitat*". Be sure to mark your calendar for this celebratory, interesting, and informative program.

Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. PDT.

Homestead Acre Museum

PHOTOS FOR THE MUSEUM

Virginia Watson, Museum Curator

We recently received nine photographs of old days in Chatsworth from a former Chatsworth business owner, **Joe Morigi**. He owned a pizza parlor where the Cowboy Palace

Chatsworth Historical Society
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is today at Owensmouth and Devonshire Street. The pictures are copies of snapshots he had, showing various businesses and scenes of Chatsworth in the 1950's. Last week we received one more picture from Morigi, thanks to Buck at the Munch Box. It is a really good view of Lillian Schepler's hamburger stand that was on the north side of Devonshire Street between Vassar and Topanga Canyon Blvd. We didn't have a picture of that and we were happy to get it.

We are going to use these pictures to plan a special display of what Chatsworth looked like in the late '40s and '50s. It should be ready by the end of June and will be kept for the summer.

Please, everyone, look through your snapshots and see if you have pictures that you would donate or allow us to copy for this special display. You can call me at home 818.341.3053, or leave a message at the museum: 818.882.5614 and I will get back to you.

PROGRAMS REVIEWED

Bea Berman, Prog. Chairman

Since we missed a Smoke Signal last month, I have two months of news to catch up on. First of all, I want to thank the "Old Timers" who spoke at our January meeting. It was so enlightening to hear about Chatsworth in the olden days. I especially enjoyed Louise Mitchell's talk about the young folks' perspective. Hopefully, we can do this again sometime.

Our February meeting was also very good. We had Pat Saladar from the Santa Clarita Historical Society telling us all about the moving of their building and everything that it entailed.

Plans are underway for our annual GARDEN FESTIVAL, Sunday, April 29th from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m. As usual we will have all the Garden Clubs; entertainment from the Chatsworth Dance Centre; Susan Rios signing her paintings and of course, our fabulous high tea in the garden from 11:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Tell your friends and come out and enjoy. Of course, we also have our wonderful bake sale, plant sale and white elephant booth. If you have any items that are new or nearly new, (white elephants, that you no longer need or want) we would love to have them. Also, we'd appreciate some baked goods.

This is one of the two fund raisers we have each year to help defray the cost of the upkeep of the museum, cottage and gardens. Our museum looks so fantastic.

ACRE AND GARDEN UPKEEP

Virginia Watson

It takes a lot of just plain hard work to keep the Homestead Acre looking good. It is one and 1/3 acres within the chainlink fence and we have many beautiful plants, flowers and trees that need care.

Betty and Jim Summers are in charge of the grounds and spend hours keeping it looking good. We have Trini Sanchez, our faithful gardener, who comes on Thursdays. He does the lawns and flowerbeds and general gardening but there is still a lot of work to do. We have garden volunteers who come on Wednesdays and recently they have been spending a lot of time doing garden work.

Tom Harrison is one of the all-around handyman/gardeners that we have. He puts up the American Flag when we are open, he digs holes for trees to be planted, he repairs our antiques, and last week he cleaned out the area behind the museum and storage where we had stored a lot of lumber etc.

Don Pendleton has been volunteering for more than a year. He deadheads the roses, he cleans out flowerbeds, helps prune and plant trees and flowers. Beverly King and Jelena Cysani worked several days, all day from 9am to 3 or 4 p.m., planting the new rosebushes and new camellia bushes that were bought with the money donated to the two 90th Birthday funds for Lillian and Lila Schepler . And Beverly and Betty spent a lot of time making and installing little chicken wire fences to keep out the resident rabbits who love to nibble the new shoots on the rosebushes.

Come April and the Garden Festival - when the public comes to visit and exclaims about the beauty of our Acre, remember our volunteers who make it happen.

AROUND 'N ABOUT

Professor Jeff Burkhart will show slides and report on his recent trip to Honduras at the Monday, March 19th meeting of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. Meetings are held in the Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire Street. Burkhart is the son of Betty and Jim Summers and was raised in Chatsworth.

JAN HINKSTON PARTY

Jan Hinkston, founder of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association and the Foundation

for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains, will be honored at an 80th Birthday Party at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, 2007, at Los Toros Restaurant, 21743 Devonshire Street. Ms. Hinkston is a former Chatsworth resident who was a teacher at Chatsworth Park Elementary School and was also a member of the Chatsworth Historical Society. She has since moved away, but will be in our area for the weekend.

For more information call Nancy Razanski, after 4 p.m. at 818.341.3512.

SPRINGTIME AT THE ADOBE

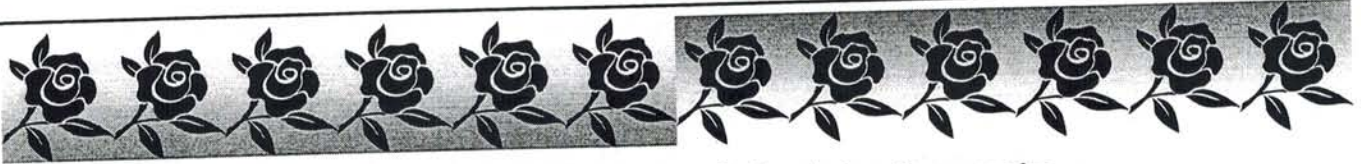
The Leonis Adobe in Calabasas Is having a special day on Sunday March 25th from 1-4 p.m. There will be historical demonstrations, egg hunt and entertainment. Gary Standke will be demonstrating blacksmithing, Nita Silndke will demonstrate the art of rancho cooking in a beehive oven, and Herb Binch will be shearing sheep. There will be lots of music and food.

Elaine Campbell presents these humorous perspectives on aging:

Old age is when you're not inclined to exercise anything but caution

Old age is when you have met so many people, that every new person that you meet reminds you of some else - and usually is!

Oldtimer to friend: "...what I don't understand is how I got over the hill without ever being on the top!"



Chatsworth Historical Society Presents

A GARDEN FESTIVAL

Featuring Roses and Crafts!

- ◆ The Duchess Tea Room Afternoon Tea, \$7 (11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
- ◆ Polynesian Dance Revue, Chatsworth Dance Centre (2 p.m.)
- ◆ Blooming Rose Gardens
- ◆ Museum Exhibits
- ◆ Live Plant Sale
- ◆ Tours of Minnie's Cottage
- ◆ Arts and Crafts
- ◆ Garden Clubs
- ◆ White Elephant Sale
- ◆ Bake Sale
- ◆ Susan Rios Paintings With a Special Signing By Susan (12 – 2 p.m.)
- ◆ Quilt Display From the Veterans Quilt Project

Sunday, April 29, 2007

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

\$4 Donation – Children Under 12 Free

The Homestead Acre

At the First Stop Sign in

Chatsworth Park South

(West End of Devonshire Street)

Information: 818-882-5614



Park your car at the Chatsworth Train Depot (10038 Old Depot Plaza Road) and use our free shuttle service, every 15 minutes from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.