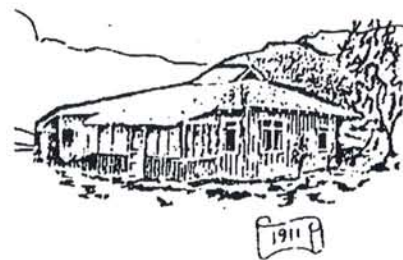


Smoke Signal



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

Co-Presidents: Andre & Linda van der Valk
Watts

Editor : Keith

SEPTEMBER, 2007

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Our membership Round Up was great. The weather cooperated, the food was outstanding and the entertainment by Art and Glen was very enjoyable. It was nice to see everyone and we all had a wonderful time. Thanks go to Bea, Betty, Virginia, Jim and Jelena for getting everything ready.

We are now getting ready for Pioneer Day. As always, Bea has everything under control as far as the vendors and all the activities. Councilman Smith is getting a shuttle again for us which will pick up at the Train Depot and drop off at the front gate of the Acre. That will be a great way to get there and not have to hassle with parking. If you need more information about the shuttle, or

maybe if you can volunteer for an hour or two, call the Acre and someone will get back to you.

If anyone is interested, I contacted ABE books and found a copy of "The Five Prehistoric Archeological Sites in Los Angeles County, California" by Edwin Francis Walker. It was published by The Southwest Museum in 1951 and it documents our Chatsworth Dig at Rinaldi and Canoga Avenue in 1939. There are photos of the artifacts that were found there. Jim and Betty's son Jeff has also found us a copy so there will now be one at the museum.

Hope to see everyone at Pioneer Day!

Linda and Andre

PIONEER DAY ANNOUNCED

It's almost here! **Sunday, October 7th**, our **Annual Pioneer Day at the Homestead Acre.**

A great day of fun, entertainment and information is planned for all ages.

The event is from **11:0 to 4:00 p.m.** Tell your friends and come on out.

We still could use more chili cooks, and they have a chance to win the competition and a **First Place trophy plus \$50.00; Second Place of \$35.00; or Third Place of \$25.00.**

Chatsworth Historical Society
Board of Directors 2005-2007

Co-Presidents.....	Linda & Andre van der Valk	882-3661
Programs, Ways & Means.....	Bea Berman	341-5449
Membership.....	Keith Watts	341-4489
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Garden Directors.....	Jim & Betty Summers	341-2714
Director-at-Large.....	Ruth Grant	882-3992
Director-at-Large.....	Beverly King	
Permanent Member.....	Lila Schepler	341 3447

You also get to keep the money from selling your chili. All cups provided are uniform in size and sell for 50 cents per cup of chili.

We also could use more baked goods for the bake sale, as well as new or slightly used items for the white elephant booth.

For additional information, I can be reached at (818) 341-5449.

Bea Berman, Chairman

PROGRAM SPEAKER SCHEDULED

.....Virginia Watson

Dr. Jeffery Burkhart is Fletcher Jones Professor of Biology and Chair of the Department of Biology at the University of La Verne (near Pomona) and is a native of Chatsworth where he grew up hiking the hills around what was then called the "gun club."

Herpetology (the study of reptiles and amphibians) has long been an interest of his, and as part of his sabbatical leave for last year, he worked as senior herpetologist for Operation Wallacea in Cusuco National Park, Honduras.

Operation Wallacea, affiliated with Oxford University in England, has teams of scientists to conduct biotic surveys in third world countries.

During a seven-week effort Dr. Burkhart's team discovered several new species of "herptiles" and increased the known amphibian and reptile fauna of the park by 20%.

In his presentation for the Chatsworth Historical Society, Burkhart will show slides of his work and some of the animals and plants encountered.

Burkhart is the son of CHS members Betty and Jim Summers.

COMMUNITY NEWSLinda

Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Elections

The elections are set for October 24, 2007, at Lawrence Middle School, 12:00-8:00 p.m.

For those who would like to run for the board, there is a candidate information session from 6:00 -7:00 p.m. at Lawrence Middle School. This will be the deadline for getting your name on the ballot.

On October 3rd there will be a candidate speakers forum and you can come and meet the candidates and hear what they would like to accomplish for Chatsworth. That will be from 8:00-9:00 p.m. at Lawrence Middle School.

Linda

MEMBERS LOST TO CHS

.....Virginia Watson

Although we didn't have a meeting for July and August there were events that took place during the Summer. Among them was our Open House for July and August with many visitors checking out our displays. And we also had four docent tours for Kathi Flood who teaches Valley History at CSUN.

Also during that time, when many of our members were out of town, we had three sad occasions:

Long time member **Ed Ahlstrom**, great grandson of Ann and Neils Johnson, died in his Northern California home, and CHS members worked with his family to have a funeral reception and a celebration of his long and celebrated life in the museum he had enjoyed so much.

That same week we learned that **Margaret Gray Willheight**, oldest daughter of the Gray family, who had been living in a convalescent home in Granada Hills, had passed away. CHS members were able to work with Gray family members to have a funeral reception and a celebration of her life the museum and in the garden under the big shady Black Walnut tree.

During the same week we got word that **Bob Turner**, one of our long-time members who often came down from his Northern California home to help us out, had also passed away.

His funeral took place near his home in Dixon, California. We have a collection of items and pictures from **Bob Turner** who grew up in Chatsworth. He lived at the foot of the Santa

Susana Pass, and wrote several books and a column in the newspaper about his childhood in Chatsworth.

The Chatsworth Historical Society is fortunate to have had three such devoted and loyal members who added so much to our knowledge of the history of the area. They will be missed but they left us with many happy memories.

Annual Pioneer Day

Sunday, October 7
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

***Old-time fun
for everyone!***

- * **CHILI COOK-OFF**
- * Bake sale
- * Woodcarvers
- * Music by Art and Glen
- * Panning for gold
- * Spinning and weaving
- * Veteran quilt display
- * Kids designing quilt squares
- * Rock chippers
- * Blacksmith
- * Indian artifacts
- * Useful origami
- * "Chores of yore"
and lots more!



Location:

Homestead Acre,
Chatsworth Park South
(West end of Devonshire St.)

Information:
(818) 882-5614

Donations:
Adults: \$4
Children: \$1
(Free for kids under 5)

**Presented by
Chatsworth Historical Society**

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.