



Smoke Signal



CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Co-Presidents: Andre & Linda van der Valk

Editor : Keith Watts

SEPTEMBER, 2008

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that summer is over. We had a busy summer with the grandkids and now it is time to get back to work.

Last week's train wreck was a tragic situation but if there was one thing I took away from it was that we live in a great community. I am proud to say we live in Chatsworth. The outpouring of the community in helping out was amazing. We had people who helped with the victims and others that organized food and other things for the rescue workers. Andre was at the site after the crash and helped some of the victims. He said that everything that was needed for the rescue operations, the manpower and equipment that was there almost immediately, saved a lot of lives and is thankful to have the resources of the City of Los Angeles.

Two of our members, Jelena Csanyi and Vicki Briskman, were making sandwiches at Ralphs' for hours. Ralphs' Market donated the ingredients but did not have the manpower to make them. Vicki was getting people in the parking lot to help. The Chatsworth Neighborhood Council President Judi Daniels was making calls to arrange for food donations from other places and the response was overwhelming. There are more details on the Neighborhood Council website chatsworthcouncil.org

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims, and we are hoping for speedy recoveries for the injured.

We are getting ready for Pioneer Day on October 5th. We could use volunteers for set up on Saturday, October 4th in the morning at 9:00 a.m. We also need help on the day with parking, clean up, baking and just about anything else you would like to do. We find that we are having a harder time every year to get the volunteers that are needed to put on our fund raisers and the ones that we have year after year are feeling their age at the end of the day.

Hope to see everyone Pioneer Day
Linda and Andre

Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Elections - will be held on Saturday Nov. 1st at the Chatsworth Train Depot from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

If you would like to run, you can find the information at the website chatsworthcouncil.org. Vote and be involved. A few of our members are running: Jelena Csanyi, Diana Dixon Davis and Linda van der Valk.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

The summer flew by so fast and it is now time for our annual PIONEER DAY, Sunday, October 5th at the Homestead Acre at Chatsworth Park South from 11:00-4:00 p.m.

Because of the park still being closed, be sure that you park at the train depot and take the shuttle bus which will run every 15 minutes.

We still can use chili cooks, baked goods and new

or like-new items for our white elephant booth. For information, I can be reached at (818) 341-5449. Tell your friends and look forward to seeing everyone on October 5th at Pioneer Day.

.On another note, we had our Membership Round-up, Sunday, September 14th. The turnout was low and I'm sure the horrible train accident had something to do with that. Those who were there had a good time, the food was great and the entertainment was enjoyed by all the attendees.

Bea Berman, Chairman

SUMMER DOINGS

.....Virginia Watson

It seems like a long time since we sent out a Smoke Signal - but it really is only one summer . So - it is about time we caught upon what our members have been doing.

Our Smoke Signal Editor Keith Watts was honored at last May's Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council's Annual Installation Banquet. He was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for the many years of service he has given to the community. Watts was present at the first meeting called to form the Chatsworth Historical Society in April 1963, and he has been a member ever since, participating in many of our annual events and on the executive board for most of that time.

Elaine Campbell, our loyal historical society secretary, is recovering from painful knee surgery complicated by a constant headache. She is able to be up and around and is improving slowly and hopes to be able to chair the white elephant booth for our Annual Pioneer Day.

Our devoted treasurer for more than 30 years, Lillian Schepler, has been unable to attend meetings and events recently, but she is looking forward to her birthday in October when she will be 92 years young. Beverly King has managed to work as a docent at most of our recent tours but continues to spend a lot of time keeping up with doctor's appointments plus deadheading roses at The Acre.

Ruth Grant, one of our executive board members-at-large, has been confined to her home recently due to illness but is reported to be improving.

Lila and Leuise Schepler have been busy with the 120th birthday celebration for the Methodist Church.

Ann and Ray Vincent have been working with our historical society computer. They picked out our computer, installed it, and have been working toward getting all our bookkeeping records online as well as transferring our photo collection to the computer.

Our Vice President and long-time Pioneer Day chairman, Bea Berman, has been busy with all her community activities plus keeping up with her family events, traveling back and forth between here and Chicago, and most recently busy with her daughter's wedding. Bea and her husband Marshall were among the participants at our Membership Roundup.

Betty and Jim Summers, who keep our Acre beautiful, have returned from a trip to a family reunion in Colorado and they attended the Roundup. Valeta Butler Koller, and Marilyn and Dave Frump, were among the guests at the Membership Roundup and they have renewed their membership. Also joining was Harriet Van Tiger who plans to work with the children's activities teaching jacks and hopscotch on Pioneer Day.

More attending the Roundup were our co-presidents Linda and Andre van der Valk; Henriette, Linda's mother and sister Janine; Buck Barker from the Munch Box; Dan Huffman and his two sons; Keith Watts; Norm Johnson; Helena Csanyi; and our queen of the Bake Sale, Loretta Sandoval and her husband. .

Just a few of the contacts I've had during our summer respite. Hope to report on more members next month.

We would like to express our best wishes to the United Method Church of Chatsworth on the occasion of their 120th birthday and thanks for the many years of service to our community!.

Annual
Pioneer Day

Sunday, October 5
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

- * CHILI COOK-OFF 
- * Bake sale
- * Woodcarvers
- * Entertainment
 - * 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.