

# Smoke Signal

CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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www.chatsworthhistory.com



Co-Presidents: Linda & André van der Valk

Dec 2020, Issue #4

Editor: Ann Vincent

## Co-Presidents' Message

By Linda & André van der Valk

We were hoping by this issue we could talk about how great Pioneer Day was this year but it was not meant to be this year. The Acre is doing well and we are checking all the time to make sure that it is well taken care of and withstanding these crazy times.

I for one will miss hosting the annual CHS Christmas Party this year. It was always fun to get together with the membership. I miss our monthly meetings but hopefully sometime next year we can start getting together again. I know Ann and Ray have been working on some great presentations for the Historical Society.

We have decided that the Garden Festival will not be happening next year as we are not sure when life will get back to normal. We are hoping for a great Pioneer Day in October.

We hope that everyone has a safe and healthy Holiday Season.

Let's hope for a great 2021.  
Linda and Andre



Chatsworth Historical Society  
Board of Directors 2020-2021

Co-Presidents .....	Linda & André van der Valk
Treasurer .....	Jim Van Gundy
Secretary .....	Donna Nachtrab
Hospitality .....	Jelena Csanyi
Smoke Signal Editor .....	Ann Vincent
Cottage Curator Emeritus .....	Betty Summers
Research Director .....	Ray Vincent
Garden Director .....	Annette Campbell
Director-at-Large .....	Connie Ager
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## Upcoming Events

### General Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7:00 PM

TBD

The program “**The History of Twin Lakes and Deerlake Highlands**” is postponed until we can have a meeting again. We continue to create new programs for future meetings.

### Chatsworth Videos on YOUTUBE

Over the years we have posted 62 videos, many of them relating to our presentations.

Check them out....

[youtube.com/chatsworthhistory1/videos](https://www.youtube.com/chatsworthhistory1/videos)

### Chatsworth Programs on SLIDESHARE.NET

Slideshare has a listing of our CHS presentations that can easily be watched online. We now have a total of 33 PowerPoint presentations posted. Enjoy!

<https://www.slideshare.net/ChatsworthHistory/presentations>

## DOCENT DOINGS at the ACRE:

Our docents keep busy with projects throughout the year.

### OUT IN THE GARDEN:

If you need some outdoor fresh air therapy, come join our gardening team.



**IN THE MUSEUM:** We have new displays that are available to share when we open again.

We normally schedule open houses for the first Sunday of each month from 1-4pm, except on Holidays.

**IN THE COTTAGE:** An inventory project is still underway to confirm and learn more about the items on display and their history so we can provide more information on our tours.

**DOCENTS ARE NEEDED:** Help guide guests through the museum and cottage during our Open Houses, Tours and Special Events. If you would like to learn the history of our community and help share it with others, please contact us for more information at [chatsworthhistory@gmail.com](mailto:chatsworthhistory@gmail.com).

## Memorial Brick Plaza



Click the link below for the Memorial Brick Order Form, \$100 per brick.

<http://www.chatsworthhistory.com/CHS-BrickOrderForm.pdf>

Our next brick order will be March 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

For more information, send an email to [chatsworthhistory@gmail.com](mailto:chatsworthhistory@gmail.com) or call 818-882-5614.

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Over the last few months while we have been home, the ACRE has had the ability to monitor calls made to the Museum with questions. In addition we have received emails from individuals with ties to Chatsworth that would like to continue to learn more about their own history.

Some of the questions have taken us down paths of research that we can easily do from home offices. So, we have a variety of fun stories that we will share in upcoming newsletters and presentations.

### VALETA KOLLER - Continued research

When I interviewed Valeta in 2013, there were several comments that were interesting. She let me know that before her father bought the house, 2 boys lived in the house with their parents and that one had returned to visit the house while she lived there, but couldn't remember his name. After she died, the family decided to sell the house and I was contacted by the realtor asking if the house could be considered historic. It met the general criteria but we have learned that if you can find out more about the original builder, there is a better chance. So...digging in to early Census Records to find out who lived at the house we had the challenge of street changes and actually ended up searching the Chatsworth homes listed line by line until we found a family with 2 boys living on Santa Susana instead of San Jose Street. The Long family had lived in that home with a Santa Susana Pass address. The 1927 house has now been sold and indications are that it will be renovated. We have had fun researching the Long family and learned quite a bit about these early Chatsworth residents. Efforts to locate grandchildren of both the Long family and Butler family have been successful and we look forward to sharing our information with them. See our article on page 3.

### Contact by a relative of Julius Fried

The Chatsworth Historical Society has an Ancestry.com account which includes research on past residents. We were contacted through Ancestry.com by another researcher, Joanne Mello, who is a relation to Julius Fried. Born in Siskiyou, CA, she lives today in Placerville, east of Sacramento. She has graciously offered to donate her Julius Fried files and research to the Historical Society.

# The Longview Poultry Ranch – 1920’s

by Ann & Ray Vincent

In the September Newsletter, we were researching the Butler family. In 1942, James Butler purchased a 1927 house at 10500 Santa Susana Pass Rd. on 10 acres, since renumbered to 21815 San Jose Street. It is quite the house for 1927, with 18 rooms, and 3,890 sqft. It still exists today, on a one acre parcel in the middle of a subdivision. When they paved San Jose St to Topanga Canyon, they jogged the street to go around a huge oak tree that shades the property. Our question was, who built that house in 1927?

The 1940 Census told us that the Roy and Dove Long family lived at the 1927 house; the 1930 Census put the family at the west end of Devonshire at the Longview Poultry Ranch. Recently available on-line building permits from the City of LA identified the 1927 owner of the 10500 Santa Susanna property and house (today’s 21815 San Jose Street) as Roy’s father, James Irvin Long (1861-1928). The Long family has a fascinating history -- from Pennsylvania, to Parral Mexico, to Los Angeles and a prominent Poultry Ranch in Chatsworth.

Dec. 1926 advertisement, Los Angeles Times



**Longview Poultry Ranch** **32 Acres** **1,500 Birds**

We hatch only our own eggs from heavy producing hens mated to high pedigreed cockerels. What we offer:

**Real Quality S. C. White Leghorn Chicks, Pullets, Hatching Eggs**

Place your order with us now for January, February, March or April Chicks. You are cordially invited to our ranch to inspect our birds and equipment.

At west end of Devonshire Ave.  
Chatsworth, Calif. **LONGVIEW RANCH** Phone Owensmouth 121-R-5

In 1921, the Long family built a 32 acre modern poultry farm at the southwest corner of Devonshire and today’s Valley Circle Blvd. As seen in the advertisement to the left, it was appropriately named “Longview”, with a

commanding southeasterly view of a yet undeveloped Chatsworth.

The picture at left shows the 32 acre Longview Ranch outlined in yellow on Google Earth over today’s Rockpointe Condominium development, on the southwest corner of Devonshire and Valley Circle.

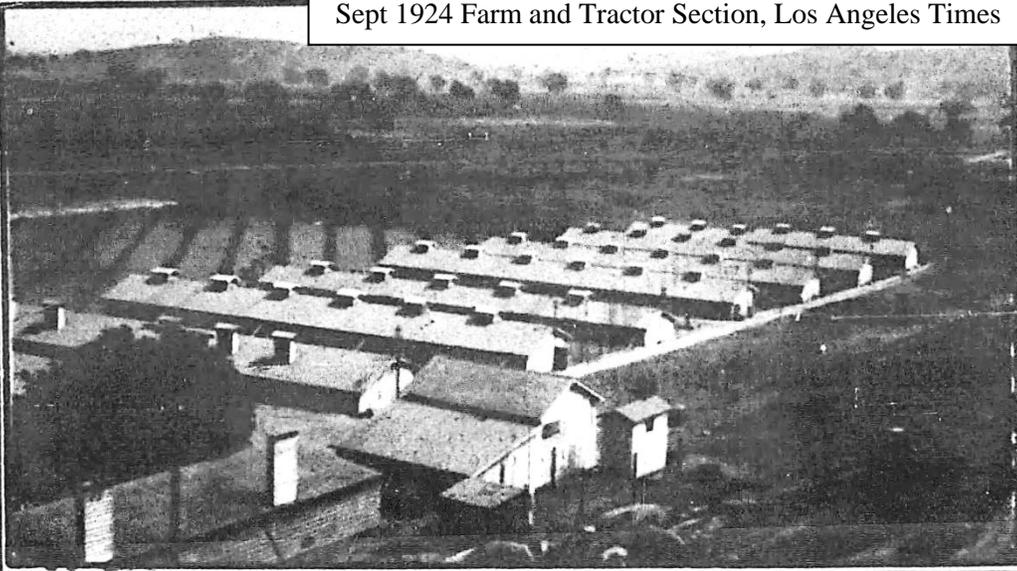
A red “x” marks where the 1926 photo of the ranch was taken in the advertisement above.

You can get a good feel for the changes in elevation on the



property if you hike up the Larwin Ave trail in the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park, which is just north of Jeffrey Mark Ct.

Sept 1924 Farm and Tractor Section, Los Angeles Times



Battery of gable type laying houses at Longview Ranch, Chatsworth, constructed with southern exposure, open front and on a gentle slope. Such a location is considered ideal for poultry.

A 1922 article in the Owensmouth Gazette reported that "James Long of Chatsworth has started work on the largest chicken ranch in the upper valley, which when completed will have room for 15,000 birds. The plans call for the erection of a seven-unit chicken plant, and he will erect two modern bungalows for his sons to live in." The sons and wives were Roy (22 yrs old) and Dove, and Robert (20) and Mary.



At left is a 1928 UCSB aerial overlay of Longview Ranch. In 1928 Devonshire was straight and dead-ended at the hillside. If you turned left you went down to the Longview driveway (today's Jeffrey Mark Court), and if you turned right you went up to the Hill Homestead on today's Shadow Oak Drive.

As seen at left, the Longview driveway was a straight line along the northern boundary of their property, and their bungalows were at the top, higher elevation. You can see the seven laying houses arranged vertically in the lower middle sections. The four horizontal rows of small squares on the left are for the roosters, shown and described below...

Small houses, with low roofs which are removed during the day, keep these White Leghorn males out in the sunshine at Longview Ranch, near Chatsworth.

Dec 1928 Farm & Orchard Magazine, Los Angeles Times



A January 1927 Los Angeles Times article describes the ranch as follows:

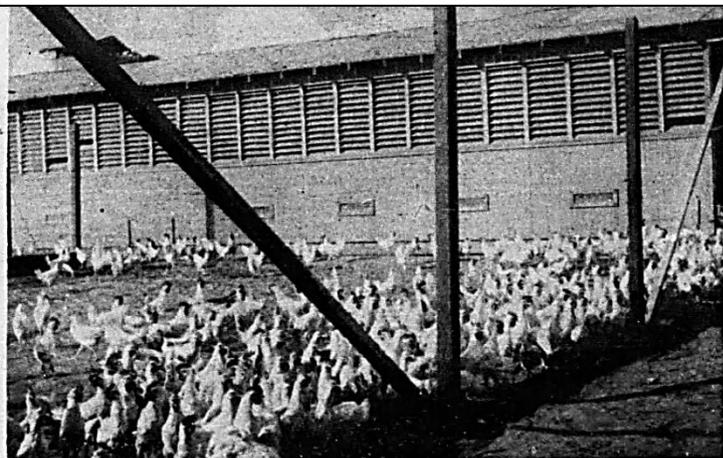
*"... this 32 acre ranch is entirely surrounded by a heavy steel fence. Inside is a flock of White Leghorns – 5000 layers, 3000 pullets, and 5000 young birds.*

*To house so many birds there are seven poultry houses with a capacity for 1000 hens each, three 500 hen houses and two brooder houses capable of taking care of 9000 chicks altogether... the hatchery building has a capacity for 60,000 eggs. A feed barn and feed warehouse, two five-room bungalows and two three room houses for employees complete the roster of buildings on the ranch. Seven acres of land are devoted to apricot trees which afford shade for the young pullets on the range."*

The last mention of Longview Ranch is the Jan 1928 LA Times advertisement to the right. *Editors note: S.C.W. stands for Single Comb White...*

A 1939 aerial photo shows that the apricot orchard and rooster houses are gone. A 1944 aerial shows only two laying houses remaining.

Jan 1923 Farm & Tractor Section, Los Angeles Times



Young broilers ready for market, Longview Ranch, Chatsworth.

## **LONGVIEW RANCH S. C. W. LEGHORNS**

Our excellent flock is bigger and better than ever. Each of our breeders has been brought to maturity under the most watchful selection for vigor and laying ability. Now booking Baby Chick orders for spring delivery. Folder just off the press for the asking.

**CHATSWORTH, CALIF.**

Phone Owensmouth 121-R-5

Roy and Dove Long remained in Chatsworth, and moved into the 10500 Santa Susana property by 1932 per the 1932 California Voter Registration. Their two boys, James Irvin and Roy Irvin Jr were brought up in the home. The Longs remained in the home until 1942, when it was sold to Jim Butler.

An April 1927 article identifies Mrs. Roy Long as a director of the Chatsworth Women's Club. An October 1929 article titled "F.C. Graves Give Venison Dinner at Picturesque Home" describes a venison dinner party at their picturesque picnic grounds near Chatsworth. Guests listed include Roy and Dove Long.

We were able to contact a descendant of the Long family, Cindy Long, who is the daughter of Roy Long Jr. She remembers her grandfather Roy well as a refined, self-made man with a green thumb for fruit trees and roses. She doesn't have any recollection of the Longview Poultry farm.

Back to James Irvin Long (1861-1928), who founded Longview Ranch at the age of 60. His father John Long (1827-1907) followed the lumber business in Pennsylvania until 1887. In 1886 John's two young sons James and Robert were in Parral, Chihuahua, Mexico, operating extensive ore mines, railroads, and lumber holdings. The two sons remained in Parral as U.S. citizens for 25 years, raising their children, until the Mexican Revolution of 1910-20 drove them north. James moved to Los Angeles, and then to Chatsworth.

## CHATSWORTH FILMING

**“San Fernando’s own Paul Thomas Anderson is filming around the Valley for his forthcoming film, and it’s a groovy ’70s throwback.”**



In November, Oscar-winning director Paul Thomas Anderson returned to his old stomping grounds to begin filming a new movie. Many of our local store fronts along Devonshire between Vassar and Owensmouth participated in the adventure. Antique cars of the time period were brought out to set the scene and you may have seen a Klieg light used for grand openings spanning across the sky on nights they were filming. Yes, traffic was stopped off and on while the cars circled the block in front of the stores to provide the right set up.



Across the street a Rathbuns department store façade was created. (north side of Devonshire east of Jordan)



Naya Spa and the Chatsworth Dental Office had their image changed to represent a community building called the Valley Womens Club. Across the street, Chatsworth Tires dropped the name Chatsworth for the production.

It is always amazing how a movie production crew can transform an area and then restore it to its original condition. In some cases the buildings benefit from the overall restoration which is a win-win for everyone.

Photos were provided by Jeff Koga, in an article called “Soggy Bottom is a cause for Glee in the Valley” at

losangleno.com that showed that the ’70s vibe is alive and well in the sets popping up around Chatsworth. According to IMDb, “Soggy Bottom” is set in 1970s San Fernando Valley and follows a high school student who is also a successful child actor. Cooper Hoffman, the son of Oscar-winning actor Phillip Seymour Hoffman, is starring in Paul Thomas Anderson's untitled 1970s-set coming-of-age story. Hoffman is playing the child actor at the center of the movie, which involves multiple storylines and is set in the San Fernando Valley. While the project will feature an ensemble of actors, including Bradley Cooper, Hoffman is the star of the film, with singer-songwriter Alana Haim.

IMDb lists a release date as 2021...so we will have to keep an eye out for it.

# Additional donations to the Chatsworth Museum

Donation of folding table in the corner, that is similar to the sewing box currently in the cottage dining room. The folding table was a wedding gift to Charlene Taylor and George Vincent. (Parents of Ray Vincent)



Charlene has also donated her collection of Docia Conley items she purchased from Leonard Chenard when the Paradise Gift shop closed. This includes one of the large copper pots used to make jams, and the paddle that Ray and others remember stirring when they worked there for Leonard at various times. We are currently creating a display in the museum. Leonard Chenard and his family were close friends of the Vincent family.

Items donated include the time clock card board for his employees along with the stencils used to mark barrels of figs provided for various companies. A watermelon peeler. A collection of labels for his jars and two unopened jars of jam and a barrel of figs.



# Virginia Watson Museum & Gift Shop

The following items are available for sale during Open Houses on the first Sunday of the month. To arrange to purchase items at other times, email [chatsworthhistory@gmail.com](mailto:chatsworthhistory@gmail.com) to make arrangements for payment and shipping, if necessary.

CHATSWORTH HISTORY by Virginia Watson	\$10.00
CHATSWORTH PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL The First 100 Years by Ioline Cleveland	\$10.00
WINDOW INTO THE PAST by William Schepler	\$10.00
QUIET ON THE SET by Robert Sherman	\$25.00
OUR PIONEER MOTHER As told to Lenora Johnson MacDonald	\$10.00



**DIGITAL ARCHIVES online at**  
<http://www.chatsworthhistory.com>

**facebook CHS FACEBOOK PAGE**  
[www.facebook.com/HomesteadAcre](http://www.facebook.com/HomesteadAcre)

**CHS YOUTUBE Channel**  
[youtube.com/chatsworthhistory1/videos](http://youtube.com/chatsworthhistory1/videos)

**SLIDESHARE.NET**  
<https://www.slideshare.net/ChatsworthHistory/presentations>

Slideshare has a listing of our CHS presentations that can easily be watched online. We now have a total of 33 PowerPoint presentations posted. Enjoy!

## Can we email our newsletter to you?

Please email us to provide your email address.  
Thanks! [chatsworthhistory@gmail.com](mailto:chatsworthhistory@gmail.com)

## Wondering if your Dues are Due?

Your dues are due one year after the last time you paid your dues.

For those receiving email only newsletters, we will advise you by email when your dues are due.

For snail mail, if you have an asterisk at the end of your name on the mailing label, your dues are due.

Please use the form below to renew your Membership. And if your neighbor is not a member yet, pass this newsletter on to them and invite them to join.

## CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Membership Form

Your membership helps support our Homestead Acre and the educational and historical programs we provide for our community. Members receive our quarterly newsletters, and receive invitation reminders regarding our monthly programs and annual events – Rose Pruning, the Garden Festival, Membership Roundup, and Pioneer Day. Please mail this form with your annual membership dues and/or contribution made payable to:

**Chatsworth Historical Society**, 10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth, CA 91311  
[chatsworthhistory@gmail.com](mailto:chatsworthhistory@gmail.com) 818-882-5614 [www.chatsworthhistory.com](http://www.chatsworthhistory.com)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yearly: Individual \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$20.00       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership: \$ 125.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization \$20.00 |

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interest / Expertise: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder: If you got this mailed to you, an asterisk on your label means your dues are due!**