

# Smoke Signal

## CHATSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.chatsworthhistory.com



Co-Presidents: Linda & André van der Valk

July 2024, Issue #3

Editor: Ann Vincent

### Co-Presidents' Message

By Linda & André van der Valk

I think the old saying "Spring has Sprung" was very true at the acre in May & June. Everything was in full bloom including my favorite snowball bush. I know it has some technical name but we always refer to it as the snowball bush. Now that it is summer, the docents have been trying to stay on top of all the deadheading to keep them blooming. We have a lot of roses! When the San Fernando Valley Rose Society comes in January and helps us cut back the roses it is a big help. That's what keeps our roses looking good.

Our Vintage Tea and Fashion Show was a sold-out event. Ann Vincent spent many hours coordinating the fashion show and it showed. The wedding dresses were beautiful and the models did a great job. It was fun including the grandkids in the fashion show. Thank you to all who attended and helped out.

We got a great surprise when Ed "Buck" Barker from the Munch Box donated a new bar-b-que to the Historical Society. Ours was old and not as reliable as it used to be. I know Gary Bercow (Bea's son-in-law) our official hot dog cooker will be thrilled with a new bar-b-que. Thank you, Buck.

Our monthly programs have become a big hit. We will continue them in October but in September will have our ice cream social. The Ice Cream Social is a nice way to thank our members and let everyone get together and meet some of the other members.

Have a great summer!  
Linda and Andre

### Chatsworth Historical Society Board of Directors 2024-2025

Co-Presidents .....	Linda & André van der Valk
Treasurer.....	Jim Van Gundy
Secretary.....	Donna Nachtrab
Hospitality.....	Jelena Csanyi
Gardens .....	
Smoke Signal Editor.....	Ann Vincent
Research Director.....	Ray Vincent
Director-at-Large.....	Connie Ager

### Upcoming Events

Taking July, August and September off from community presentations to enjoy the summer... **Open houses continue each 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month from 1 to 4pm.**

### Welcome Back Membership Roundup ICE CREAM SOCIAL September 17, Tuesday 6:00pm



Join us outside under the walnut tree on Tuesday evening for a fun Ice Cream Social with a variety of toppings. Get a chance to say hello to other members and hear about our plans for the upcoming year.

### PIONEER DAY October 6, Sunday 11am -3pm



FAMILY FUN for everyone!

Flyers available online

[chatsworthhistory.com/Events](https://www.chatsworthhistory.com/Events)

### General Meeting Wheat Farming in Chatsworth & the JR Williams Family Homestead October 15, Tuesday 6:30pm Program will be available in person and Zoom

## 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. Roses always need pruning to keep them at their best. Everything is growing now and the garden is beautiful!

Our newest volunteer is Kathy Perger who is joining us each Wednesday morning to help prune roses and keep our garden blooming.

**IN THE MUSEUM:** Our docents continue to reorganize and catalog our early photograph collections. We have displays set up that we look forward to sharing with you, come check them out.

**IN THE COTTAGE:** An inventory project is ongoing, as we confirm and learn more about the history of the items on display so we can provide more information on our tours.

**IMPROVEMENTS:** We have been working on special projects to improve our Museum Storage as we continue to organize our Clothing and supplies used for the fashion shows. It seems as if there is always something that needs to be updated or improved and it is fun to figure out just what to do next.

## Memorial Brick Plaza



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

[Brick Order Form.pdf](#)

Our next brick order will be August 1, 2024

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

## Included in this newsletter:

NOTE: Watch for links in our articles that allow easy access to more information. Right click with your mouse to open the link in a new window, so you can easily get back to the original newsletter.

- **Fountain of the World**
- **History of the Historical Society**
- **Race Track Memories**
- **1924 Spurrier Poultry Ranch**
- **Trout Lakes Fish Scale**
- **Wedding Fashion Show**

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Drop by to say hello at our Sunday Open House... even if you have seen the museum and cottage, we have a group of members who enjoy sitting out in the shade just inside the gate where we welcome everyone. If you have a Chatsworth story to tell, or would like to hear more about our history or recent activities, come join us for this casual discussion.

Welcome back to Annette Campbell and her daughter Kimberly. Annette and Kimberly are scheduling time to prune roses at the Acre and we are glad to have them back.



**Chatsworth Lake Manor News:** Longtime resident and owner of the Fountain of the World property, Phil Shiver, passed away in Georgia with family at the age 86 on June 19, 2024.

### Repairs:

Gary Standke took on the challenge of repairing and restoring the beautiful buggy that the Anderson family donated in 2022.





*Just as we think it is Summer and we get to take a break from all of the activities that took place in April and May, it is suddenly time to start planning for the fall. Please put Oct 6<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and plan to join us for Pioneer Day!*

**32nd Annual  
Chatsworth Historical Society**

# Pioneer Day

**Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024**

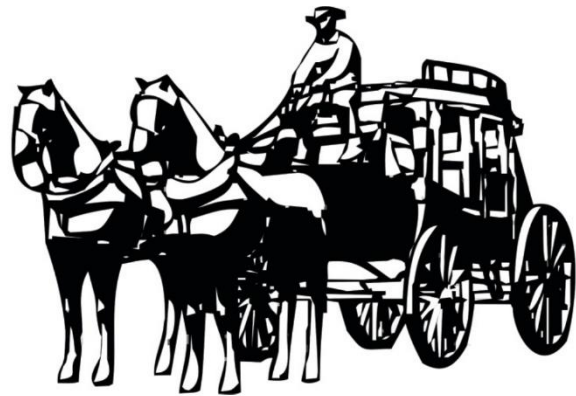
**11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Bring your children  
& grandchildren**

**Take the  
Pioneer  
Challenge**

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

- Panning for Gold
- Blacksmith
- Leather Crafts
- Chores and Games of Yore
- Bake Sale
- Woodcarvers
- Spinning Wheel Demo
- Design a Quilt Craft
- Rock Chippers
- Bee Keeping
- Telegraph Station
- Butter Churning and more!



**Chatsworth Museum Exhibits**

**Featuring  
Chatsworth Early Businesses  
and the history of  
Chatsworth**

**Tour the 1911 Homestead Cottage**

**Location: Homestead Acre,  
Chatsworth Park South  
(West end of Devonshire St.)  
10385 Shadow Oak Drive, Chatsworth, CA**

**Information: (818) 882-5614  
chatsworthhistory@gmail.com  
www.chatsworthhistory.com**

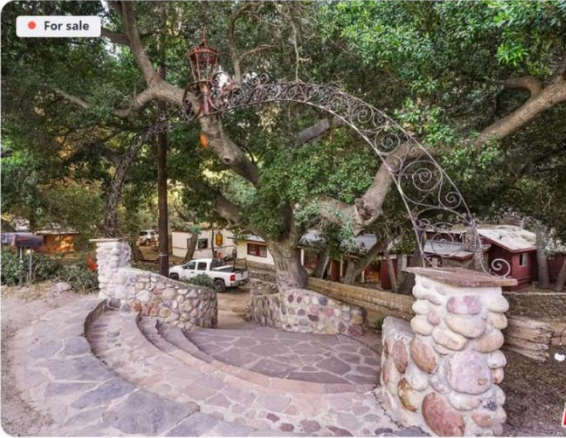
**Admission Adults: \$5,  
Donation: Children: \$1  
(Free for kids under 5)**

**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 3 p.m.**

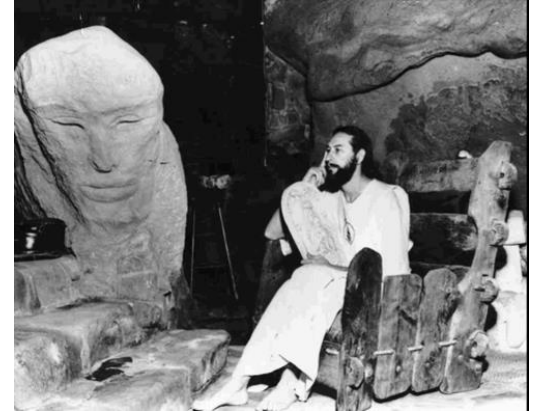
## The Fountain of the World - Chatsworth Lake Manor

Program Recap from April 16, 2024. The entire program can be found at [WKFL-Fountain-of-the-World](https://www.wkfl.com/news/local/the-fountain-of-the-world) or go to our Presentations folder on [chatsworthhistory.com](https://www.chatsworthhistory.com) under Digital Archives to download the PDF program for better quality.

From 1949 to the 1960's, the cult "The Fountain of the World", run by Krishna Venta, resided in two places in Box Canyon. In 1958 two suicide bombers, former cult members upset by their leader's sexual misconduct, blew themselves up at the compound, killing Krishna Venta and seven others.



Left: W.K.F.L.  
Wisdom Knowledge  
Faith Love  
Fountain of the World.  
[585 Box Canyon Valley, for sale](#)  
[\\$4.8M, 11.3 acres](#)



Right: Krishna Venta  
in the Boulder Shelter  
at 60 Box Canyon

Two videos from the Realtors listed below, showing the property, known by them as Xanadu:

[YouTube - Xanadu](#)    [hollyandchrisluxuryhomes.com/box-canyon/](https://hollyandchrisluxuryhomes.com/box-canyon/)



Krishna Venta was born Francis Pencovic in 1911. At the age of 3 his mother gave him up for adoption, and he was raised by Maggie Jessen, a single mother in Utah. In 1927 he is at Elko Nevada High School. In 1930 and 32 he is arrested for burglary and petty theft. By 1940 he is married in Berkeley with two children. By 1945 he has abandoned his family and has married Ruth Britzell from Utah. In 1946 he speaks for the first time as Krishna Venta in Utah, a prophet from India. He speaks in other major cities, develops a following, and in March 1949 leaves Denver for a tour in Europe (photo at left). This tour results in heavy newspaper publicity, as he is described as bearded, dresses in shrouds, and wears no shoes.

In April 1949 he returns to Los Angeles to gather his flock of faithful to a five-acre plot near Reseda. In July 1949 there is an airplane [crash](#) at Thompson and Bell Ranch Road above Chatsworth Lake Manor. Krishna Venta, who maintains a monastery in a stone house near the crash scene, and Brother Paul, one of his disciples, give aid in carrying one of the victims to an ambulance. They also helped search for the dead.

Further newspaper articles describe the two locations in Box Canyon where the cult, numbering as many as 100, are living, at 60 and 585 Box Canyon Road. Both properties were owned by Floyd and Essie Berry, early real estate investors in Chatsworth Lake Manor ([See presentation, pgs 30-35](#)). In the 1950 census, Floyd and Essie were living at 23300 Valley Circle Drive, today's Log Cabin Mercantile Co.

**60 Box Canyon Road, the Boulder Shelter** – A 1939 article shares that Floyd and Essie began building the Shelter in 1929, a house that has for its walls, floors and ceilings the natural rock formations of Box Canyon Creek.

At right, Floyd and Essie Berry in their Rock House in 1939.







A May 1948 Sunset Magazine article featured the Boulder Shelter. We recently contacted the Sunset Magazine archives at Stanford University, and they shared with us the original pictures used in the May 1948 Sunset Magazine. These are shown in best quality on our PDF version of the WKFL program online.

In 1950, Krishna Venta and his cult were staying at the Boulder Shelter. They moved out to 565 Box Canyon in 1954 due to non-payment of rent.

In March of 1963, until 1974, the Boulder Shelter was known as Cave Falls, an art center.

In 2015, with the help of Gloria DeMuri, we found the remains of the Boulder Shelter. Photo at right, on private property, Ann Vincent, Curt Brock, Gloria DeMuri.



## 585 Box Canyon Road – Monastery, Headquarters Bldg, Dormitories

The WKFL Fountain of the World was living at the main site, with multiple buildings, from 1949 to about 1970.

In 1958 two suicide bombers, former cult members upset by their leader's sexual misconduct, blew themselves up at the Headquarters building (at today's 535/533 Box Canyon), killing Krishna Venta and seven others.

## A 24-minute 2011 documentary "The Fountain" By Callie Shanafelt

Available on Vimeo to rent (\$1.99) or buy (\$4.99) <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/thefountain>

The highlight of our program was a documentary from Callie Shanafelt, whose father and uncle grew up as children at the Fountain of the World. Her grandparents and their young son were among the seven people killed in the 1958 bombing.

When Callie Shanafelt was six years old she learned that her father grew up in a religious cult near Los Angeles where her grandparents were killed by suicide bombers in 1958. Before their death her grandparents followed Krishna Venta, a man claiming to be the second coming of Christ. To demonstrate their beliefs, they pledged to live communally, go barefoot, wear color-coded robes and grow their hair long until peace and brotherly love spread throughout the world. Callie's father tried to answer her questions about the Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith and Love Fountain of the World cult but he blocked out most memories of his childhood and the night of his parent's death. The Fountain is a documentary following brothers Fred and Dick Shanafelt as they come to terms with their childhood while helping Callie on her quest to understand why her grandparents would join a cult in an era of crew-cuts.



# History of the Chatsworth Historical Society

Program Recap from June 18, 2024

The entire program can be found at [Chatsworth Historical Society History](https://chatsworthhistory.com), or go to our Presentations folder on [chatsworthhistory.com](https://chatsworthhistory.com) under Digital Archives to download the PDF program for better quality.

The Chatsworth Historical Society was founded on April 17th, 1963, to save the Pioneer Church.

Our presentation was divided into five parts:

- The first 10 years - saving the Pioneer Church
- The second 10 years - saving the Homestead Acre
- The third 10 years - maintaining and improving the Acre
- The last 31 years - continuing traditions, sharing our history at [chatsworthhistory.com](https://chatsworthhistory.com)
- A 25 minute, 2003 video, "Huell Howser visits Chatsworth", featuring Virginia Watson and Linda and Andre van der Valk.



The highlight of the presentation was Huell Howser interviewing Virginia Watson 21 years ago, everyone really enjoyed it... [2003 Huell Howser visits Chatsworth](#)

Huell also visited the Munch Box a few months before, [2003 Huell Howser visits the Munch Box](#).

## Race Track Memories from Phyllis Fladwed Owens

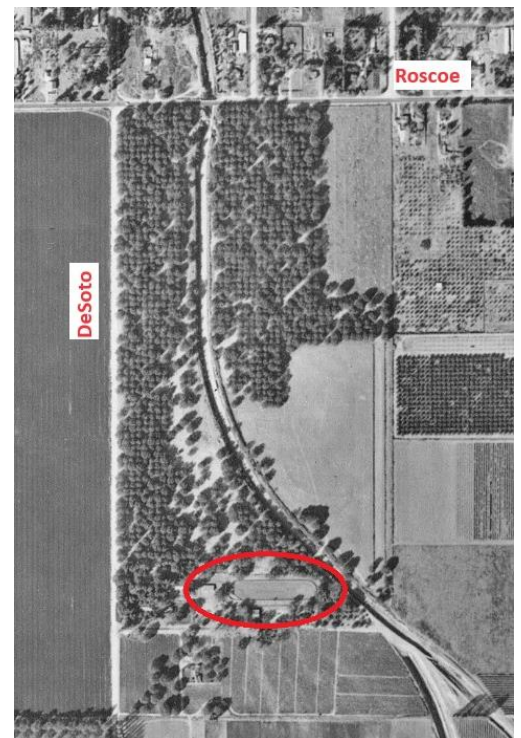
Did you know that there was a horse racing track on DeSoto south of Roscoe? Phyllis Owens provided us with a copy of the Sunshine Stables Quarter Horse Racing program for Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1950. It included her horse Cisco owned and was raced by Phyllis, who was only 12 at the time.

A 1948 article says the track was constructed for rodeo shows and also had calf-roping. The 90-acre ranch was started in 1946 by H.A. Williams who was a retired high school teacher. (No relation to the Williams Homestead family) The track is circled in red at right on a 1952 UCSB aerial. The Brown's Canyon Wash runs through the property. By 1959 the ranch had been subdivided...

Comments from Phyllis:

The Fladwed family owned 9035 Topanga, 2 1/2 acres at the SW corner of Topanga and Nordhoff from April 1946-1970. (Note: Currently where the California Chicken Café is located.) My dad also leased the 14-acre hill behind our house for our horses to graze on and kids to hike on. At the top, we could look east over the valley all the way to the Van Nuys City Hall (before smog!), and west down onto the Chatsworth Lake.

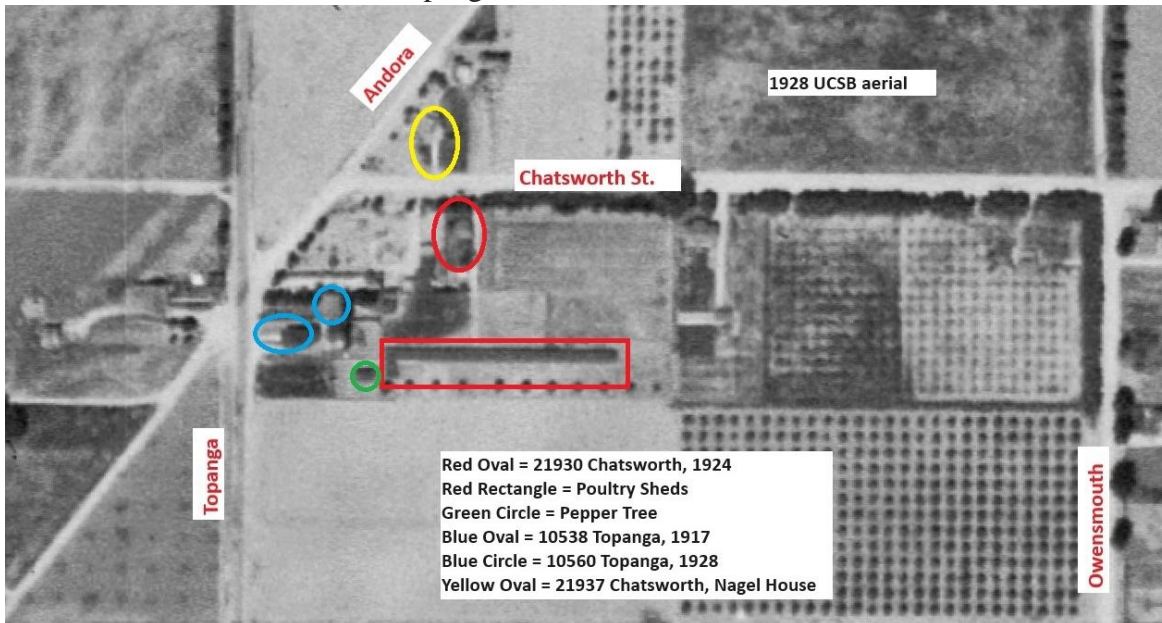
We owned several horses as that was the primary reason Dad moved us there from Burbank. He continued to work at Warner Bros Studios as primary income, but we raised chickens to sell eggs, fryers and roasting hens to support having horses. The only horse he purchased as a colt (so I could help train) is the Cisco I am named owner/rider of on the Quarter Horse Race program I mailed you. My Dad was somehow friends with H.A. Williams and became the person who held and paid out bets at the adult Quarter Horse races. The news articles you supplied were so interesting to me; they describe 6 gates for starting a race, and I remember 4.(?). Fun Memories...





## 1924 Spurrier Poultry Ranch

We were delighted to get a phone call from Bill Spurrier and his family, who we were able to meet with on Sunday, June 30 at the Acre. Bill will soon be 100 years old and he wanted to share some memories of his parent's poultry ranch located on Chatsworth Street east of Topanga.



His parents Fred and Leta built their home in 1924 and it is still standing at 21930 Chatsworth St. (the red oval on the 1928 aerial above). A 2024 photo of the 1924 house is shown at right. He lived there and attended Chatsworth Park Elementary School while it was temporarily housed in tents following the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. The school was torn down and replaced with the current school there today. In 1935 the Spurriers moved to Long Beach.



The map above has some of the oldest homes still in Chatsworth: the Valley Hive built in 1917 (blue oval above), the 1924 Spurrier house (we were able to download the building permit with Fred's name on it) and a 1928 house also owned by the Valley Hive (blue circle above).

Bill remembered visiting the Nagel family across the street, and Mrs. Nagel would snip off some Thompson grapes that they grew on their ranch. And he wondered if the huge pepper tree was still there (it is), today a part of the Valley Hive gardens, circled in

green above. One of the chores that he and his sister Betty had on the ranch was cleaning the algae out of the chicken's water troughs. And he remembered once his father had some turkeys, and they would chase him around a bit so he had to be cautious. Included are some family photos that they shared with us.



## Trout Lakes Fish Scale



Thank you to Mike and Linda Fender, who donated the fish weighing scale that was used at the Roy Rogers Sports Center Trout Lakes beginning in 1958. In 1952 Clarence Palmer (no relation to Minnie Hill Palmer) of the [Aqua Sierra Sportsmans club](#) built two skeet and trap stations on Minnie Hill Palmer's property. In 1956 Henry Berkenkamp of Oroweat Bakeries bought the homestead, and by 1959 three more skeet stations were added, a nine-hole golf course, and two trout lakes (named the Palmer Trout Lakes), and it was named the Roy Rogers Sports Center.

Linda Fender's grandparents were the Biddisons. They lived in a midsize trailer at the lake adjacent to the Fishing Shed where fish were weighed, paid for, and cleaned and where you could also purchase snacks, sodas, and bait.

To see more on the Fishing lake and photos donated previously by the Fenders, see our September 2016 SmokeSignal, pg 6 [Aqua Sierra Sportsmans Club Lake](#)

### Remembrances by Linda Fender (Granddaughter of caretakers Albert Sr. & Alice Biddison)

Albert & Alice lived in a trailer, just below the store at the lake, with their son Leroy (who was left mentally handicapped from a military accident in Germany). The parking area was adjacent to the Biddison's trailer. There was a chain link fence around the area of the trailer. A picnic and play area were below the dam. We used this area every year for our Easter Egg hunts.

The Trout Lake consisted of a large lake and a small pond. The large lake contained trout, catfish and blue gill. The water was aeriated via a shoot from above the lake to the center of the lake where a fountain ran continuously to aerate the water. The shoot and fountain were added after the first year when all the fish died due to poor water quality. The small lake was used to hold new deliveries of trout. Customers were guaranteed to catch a fish in this pond. People with no experience could learn what it feels like to catch a fish there. Children especially liked this pond.

Fish were delivered by a back road above the small pond. The truck used a shoot to release the fish into the pond. Once in the pond they were fed twice a day by Leroy. After about a month in the small pond they would be transferred to the large lake via a net. Fish caught were brought to the store for weighing and cleaning. The cost of the fish was by weight and if the customer wanted them cleaned an additional charge was added. Customers could use free bamboo rods if they didn't have their own gear.

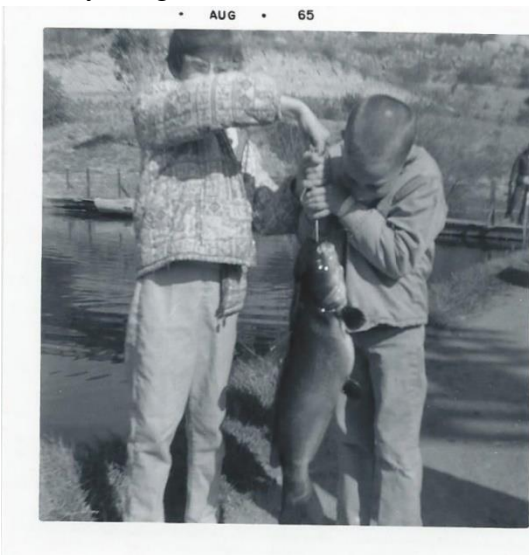


Left: 1965 Linda-10 and Bob-8 Schneider and catfish caught at the trout lake.

The store had sodas, ice cream, pastries, peanuts, candy bars and of course the fishing requirements of bait, hooks, sinkers, bobbers and other fishing necessities.

Gates were opened 7 days a week at 7:00 and closed at 5:00 (if my memory is correct!)

Biddison grand kids (Greg, Charles, Linda & Bob Schneider) when there at the end of the day would go around the lake and clean up anything left behind by customers. An incentive by our Grandma Alice was to allow us to get a handful of pennies out of the cash register as payment for our work. I think the most I was able to hold in my hand was about 20 pennies.





## Wedding Fashion Show

On April 30, 2024 we held a Garden Party Fashion Show and sold out again this year. The fun part of creating these fashion shows is to highlight the beautiful gowns we have on hand and some shared by members. The challenge is finding models who can fit into some of these 24-inch waistline dresses. A special thanks goes to all of our models.

A key theme of weddings is the symbolic passage from childhood to adulthood, from one distinct stage of life to the next. That special wedding day filled with all the hopes and dreams for the future represents the happiest day of your life. The future may have other plans for your dreams...and some women may find themselves in multiple trips down the aisle, but a Wedding event is a dream come true.



Our first bride of the afternoon was Colleen Molnar wearing an 1860's style Wedding Dress. She was escorted by Bruce Acker and attendants Julie and James Lerma. At the forefront of the impressionist era in 1863, a dress of this style was painted by Whistler, called "Girl in White". This dress style was recreated in the 1950s in satin. It has Victorian puffed sleeves, lace on the lower sleeves and a lace neckline highlighted by a delicate row of beads.



At left: Daphne van der Valk is showing us this elegant 1890's style wedding gown on display. Europe's golden age, between 1871 to 1914 was known as La Belle Époque. It literally means "the beautiful Era" in French. This dress represents that time period. It oozes of elegance with the layers of gathered lace and a beautiful layered lace train. The neck line is lined with beaded pearls and lace.

Right: Our next item, on display, is a 1902 Wedding Dress. Daisy van der Valk is pointing it out for us. This is the oldest original gown in our collection. It is a 2-piece Silk Wedding dress over 122 years old. It was worn by Iva Martins in her marriage to George Evans in 1902. It is currently on display in our cottage.



Left: Our next dress is a 1909 Wedding Dress. The Bessie Ahlstrom Wedding Dress is the next oldest dress in our collection. It is actually in excellent condition with a full skirt, blouse, jacket and cummerbund. Bessie Thompson and Reuben Ahlstrom of Chatsworth were married on March 31, 1909 which makes this dress 115 years old. Reuben was the son of John Ahlstrom and his wife Hanna Johnson. Of their nine children Reuben was only one to continue to make his home in Chatsworth. Hanna was the first daughter of Ann and Niels Johnson, one of our earliest pioneers. This piece is truly part of our Chatsworth Heritage.

Right: The next item on display is a fragile 1925 Wedding dress. This dress is attendant Julie Lerma's great-great grandmother's dress; it is 99 years old and on display in our cottage. This Beaded Velvet Chiffon flapper wedding dress has a long cape for a train. The 1920's style features a silhouette with a lower waistline. The beads are hand sewn and the full skirt has a row of pearls for decoration with weights sewn into the hem to help it move.





Left: This dress worn by Ann LaManna represents an early style lace gown more in line with the 1930s. It again features a lower waist line and slim silhouette. It is a beautiful full lace vintage wedding dress recreated in the 1970's. The color is Ivory-Cream with Lace over a Satin lining. The Lace drapes over the shoulders and gives the effect of short sleeves.

Right: Kate and Claire Molnar of Chaminade High School. Kate is modeling a 1947 wedding dress from Chatsworth, and Claire is modeling a 1950 bridesmaid dress from

Kansas City. Both dresses are the same design. Kate is wearing the elegant white flowing satin wedding gown, worn by one of our own Chatsworth residents. The satin wedding dress is dramatically

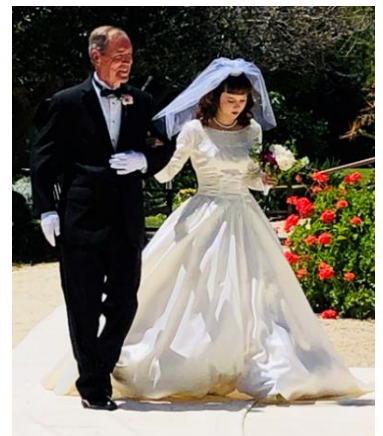
split to reveal a delicate layer of lace. This was originally worn by Valeta May Butler when she married James Robert Koller in August 1947. It was a triple wedding ceremony following the end of World War II. Claire is our Maid of Honor, Kate's younger sister.. Her bridesmaid dress is similar in style to the wedding gown. It was originally worn by Geraldine Holm in her sister's wedding in 1950 in Kansas City, Missouri.



Left: On Display, we have a 1948 wedding dress that followed World War II. In the 1940's, Wedding dresses were often less elaborate, but still elegant and stunning in their simplicity. Since money was tight for many young couples and fabric was rationed, some 1940's brides simply vetoed the formal wedding and wedding dress, they instead wore chic two-piece suits.

This slate blue handmade silk wedding dress with delicate faggoted lace was made for Charlene Taylor by her neighbor for a small wedding held at her parents' home in Los Angeles. It was worn on Mar 6, 1948 in Los Angeles, California by Charlene Taylor in her marriage to George C. Vincent. They became long-time residents of Chatsworth.

Right: Our next dress is a 1950's style dress worn by Skyler Burriss of Chatsworth High School. Skyler looks stunning in this formal gown. It is a white satin long sleeve dress with a gathered Ruching style effect at the sides. The neckline is referred to as boat neck style and the lace around the neck is decorated with sequins. The back has beautiful satin covered buttons all the way down. The long sleeves travel all the way down the hands leaving plenty of room to add a ring.



Left: Our 50's style dresses are worn by Dottie Acker and Gloria DeMuri with Dottie's husband Bruce in this case serving as father of the Bride, sporting his own tux for the occasion. Dottie as Mother of the Bride is wearing a blue silk shantung jacketed dress with a

handmade decorative ornament made from the same fabric. Mother of the Groom is Gloria DeMuri, also wearing a jacketed dress. This dress is made of elegant off-white satin brocade.

Right: Moving into the 70's. Jelena Csanyi shared her lace custom-made pantsuit as a sign of the times... Yes the beautiful lace pants are see-through. So, this actually might have been a modest version of a mini-skirt suited for a wedding. Her husband Laszlo was also very fashionable sporting a blue velvet jacket and white pants. They were married in London on Sept 1, 1970.







Left: Siena Klotz of Chatsworth High School is wearing a very elegant but comfortable dress for an outside garden or church wedding. This wedding dress is made with decorative panels of lace over taffeta. The beautiful 1960's style dress has long lace bell sleeves with a ruffled skirt to match. It fits her beautifully.



Right: Three brides wearing Garden Wedding Dresses, Shelly Thompson, Nevaeh Torres of Chatsworth High, and Nancy Nicoloro Tanner.

In the 1970's and 80's, wedding dresses with layers of Cotton and lace were popular instead of formal gowns. Garden hats adorned with flowers continued to provide an alternative to veils.



Left: We have a large collection of 1960-1970 gowns and these three are our best. These gowns represent some of the amazing formal length gowns worn at weddings and anniversary parties.

Sheryl Levine, Elizabeth Harris and Anne George are wearing these dresses. Sheryl is in this Blue Chiffon dress donated by Bessie Iverson of the Iverson Movie Ranch. It was worn by Bessie for her 25th wedding anniversary in 1958. Elizabeth is wearing a 1960's style satin Burgundy Lace dress with layered puffed sleeves. This gown was a bridesmaid dress. Anne George is wearing a beautiful 1970's Long Shiny Peach Floral Lace Cape and Pleated Flared Maxi Gown. This dress was worn as a Mother of the Bride dress.

Left: These next two dresses are from the 70's for a church wedding. Yasmin Nunez from Chatsworth High School is wearing this elegant lace, chiffon and bead covered taffeta gown with lace sleeves. The full-length veil is trimmed with matching lace. Yasmin's sister Jaquelin is wearing a white satin dress with a pink velvet top and pink velvet Juliet sleeves with beaded trim. It was a bridesmaid dress when worn in the 80's. Both dresses feature an empire style - high waistline showing a silhouette figure.

Right: Our final dress worn by Chatsworth High school student Sorena Danayan is bright white satin with Victorian puffed sleeves covered with beaded lace down the front and back. Her sleeves have lace all the way down her arms delicately covering the back of her hands. It has a full train which can be bustled later for dancing and dining.



To finish off the event, a full wedding party was created with grandchildren including Emily and Natalie Kramer as bridesmaids, attendants for the bride were Daisy and Daphne van der Valk along with Julie and James Lerma. Five-year-old Kacie Vincent did a great job spreading rose petals as our flower girl and her 3-year-old brother Clark served as our ring bearer running off to play before pictures.... It was a fun day for everyone!



# 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)

## 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 by mail or the link below to renew by **PAYPAL or Credit Card:**  
<https://www.chatsworthhistory.com/membership.html>

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"/> 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!**