

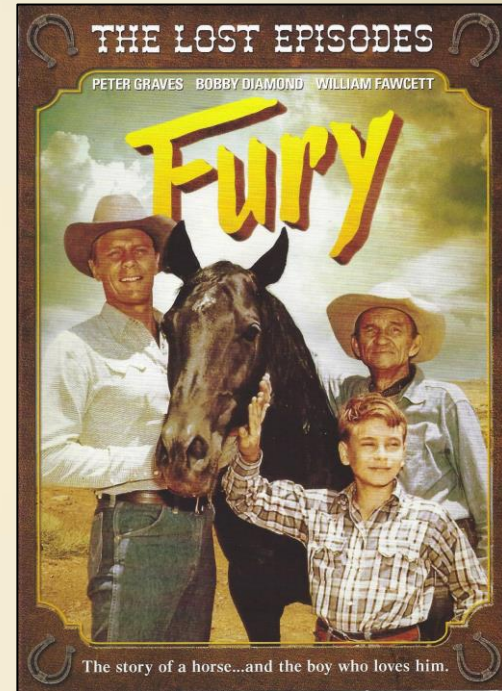
Chatsworth Western Fun - Blaze Glory, Mattel's Blaze the galloping horse, and Fury



Blaze Glory 1968



Mattel's Blaze the Galloping Horse
1961-1962



Fury 1955-1960

Introduction

This presentation will discuss and show three westerns filmed in Chatsworth

- A 10 minute Western Spoof filmed in 1968, **Blaze Glory**
 - Two TV commercials of Mattel's "**Blaze the Galloping Horse**" filmed in 1961 and 1962
 - Episode 5 of the television show **Fury**, filmed in 1955, which introduces the Fury Barn at Iverson Movie Ranch.
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- This presentation will be posted at our website, chatsworthhistory.com, Digital Archives, Presentations
 - For a playlist of all videos in this presentation, go to this [link](#)

1968 Blaze Glory

- In August 2016, Wendi Gladstone invited her friend Tony Krizan to share his research on the Wawona Stagecoach Road in Yosemite to the SSMPA at the Rockpointe Clubhouse.
- After the presentation, Tony visited us and noticed that we lived near the railroad tracks. He then told us about a short movie that he made in 1968 on those same tracks in Chatsworth, titled Blaze Glory.
- Wendi found the movie on YouTube, and Tony shared some photos and memories
- Perhaps it was destiny that led him to Chatsworth, so that he could share the following with all of us....

1968 Blaze Glory

- Tony shared that most of the film was within the mountains surrounding Chatsworth Park South. The Lake Scene was photographed in the Malibu Mountains. The western town was at the old Fox Studio in Los Angeles.
- The technique used in the film is stop-motion pixilation, written and directed by [Chuck Menville](#) and others. Chuck also plays the lead as Blaze Glory.
- Tony Krizan is one of the henchmen, wearing the reddish-brown vest and dark green shirt.



Photos taken during filming and shared by Tony Krizan.

Tony is in the middle of the first photo, and at the right in the second photo. Notice date on the second photo is Jan 68.

1968 Blaze Glory

Film Historian Dennis Liff confirmed the railroad tunnel scene was filmed at the western portal of Tunnel 27, and other scenes were filmed between Tunnel 26 and 27, at the north edge of today's Chatsworth Park South.



Scenes above show 1968 Blaze Glory, and 2022 Google 3D above Chatsworth Park South, looking due SW above railroad 26-27 gap.

Scenes at right compare 1968 Blaze Glory to 2020 Tunnel 27 west.



1968 Blaze Glory

'Blaze Glory' at Bruin Theater

"Blaze Glory," a short produced by Filmfair and purchased for release by United Artists, has been booked into the Bruin Theater in Westwood.

Film was produced by Chuck Menville and Len Janson, who also produced "Stop, Look and Listen," which won an Oscar nomination last year.

1968-12-30 Los Angeles Times

- The film was first advertised at the Bruin Theatre in Westwood in December 1968.
- In December 1969, it was seen on the Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour.

Western Spoof to Be Shown

"Blaze Glory," a special, stop-action, film short spoofing the western movie heroes of an earlier era, will be introduced to television audiences for the first time on the Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour, when it moves into its new

Sunday time period, Dec. 21.

The film is the creation of Chuck Menville and Len Jansen, two young Hollywood filmmakers who previously created a film called "Vicious Cycles," a satire of motorcycle movies, which was seen on a Dick Van Dyke special.

1969-12-10 Glory Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour

1968 Blaze Glory

Next up is the 10 minute film,

[1968 Blaze Glory](#),

posted on our YouTube channel

chatsworthhistory1

the 10 minute film,

[1968 Blaze Glory](#),

posted on our
YouTube channel

chatsworthhistory1

Mattel's "Blaze the Galloping Horse"

- I came across this commercial, "filmed" at Iverson Ranch, searching for "Blaze" on YouTube (looking for Blaze Glory)
- This commercial used Iverson Ranch footage as a background for the chase scene...
- In December 1961, you could buy Blaze the Galloping Horse at Toytown for \$30 (around \$300 in today's dollars)

OUR PRICE

CHATTY CATHY
AS SEEN ON TV!
She Really Talks!

Just pull her magic ring, and she says 11 different phrases — just like a real little girl! The laboratory-tested voice unit carries a 90-day factory warranty. At a 12 1/2" darling 20" chatter-box looks real too. With movable head, arms, & legs, and rooted hair, she comes packed in a suitcase, with her own Story Book, will delight every little 3 to 8 year old.

REG. 18.00, SPECIAL . . . **9⁹⁸**

CHATTY CATHY CLOTHES Reg. 4.00 **2⁸⁸**

Just Arrived!
Matty Mattel
BLAZE
THE GALLOPING HOBBY HORSE

Bounce him or rock him . . . he'll gallop like a real horse. Rock back and Blaze rears, rock forward and he kicks up his heels. The only horse of its kind. All four legs move in realistic action. Blaze is a large horse but takes less floor space. Gleaming black and white markings. 41" high on stand, 36" long from nose to tail.

DUE TO ARRIVE DEC. 11

Reg. 44.00 Christmas Special **29⁸⁸**



Mattel's "Blaze the Galloping Horse"

Next up is the 1 minute commercial,

[1961 Mattel Blaze the Galloping Horse at Iverson Ranch](#),

posted on our YouTube channel

chatsworthhistory1

The 1 minute
commercial,

[1961 Mattel Blaze
the Galloping
Horse at Iverson
Ranch,](#)

posted on our
YouTube channel
chatsworthhistory1


05/16/2023

Chatsworth



Mattel's "Blaze the Galloping Horse"

- One year later, In December 1962, they were advertising Blaze, The Talking Horse.
- He talks and gallops too!
- You could buy Blaze the Talking and Galloping Horse at the Broadway for \$29 (around \$300 in todays dollars)



MATTEL'S BLAZE—
THE TALKING HORSE

discount sale priced **28.88**

He talks and gallops, too! Pull the magic ring and he says 11 different phrases. Bounce him or rock him and his legs gallop realistically. The biggest hobby horse yet . . . 29" tall at the saddle. High-impact plastic . . . safe, won't tip.

Mattel's "**Blaze the Galloping Horse**"

Next up is the 1 minute commercial,

[1962 Mattel Blaze the Talking Galloping Horse](#),

posted on our YouTube channel

chatsworthhistory1

Next up is the 1
minute
commercial,

1962 Mattel Blaze
the Talking
Galloping Horse,

posted on our
YouTube channel

chatsworthhistory1

1955-1960 Fury

- This segment was inspired by a recent find from the Valley Times Collection at the LAPL website, documented fully in our April 2023 Smoke Signal.
- I remember Peter Graves from Mission Impossible and the Airplane comedies. I was wondering why Peter Graves was in Chatsworth for the photo shoot in 1959.
- Peter Graves starred in the 1955 to 1960 television series "Fury", as Jim Newton who operates the Broken Wheel Ranch. Much of the outdoor footage was shot on the Iverson Movie Ranch in Chatsworth, where the "Fury Set" was built in 1955, specifically for the series.



The May 1959 Devonshire Golf Course official opening at Roy Roger's Sports Center in Chatsworth.

Pictured from left are Pat Brady, Ashley Lofea, host pro; Peter Graves, Roy Rogers, Pat Knowles and Jackie Cooper.

1955-1960 Fury

- Tonight we will be watching Episode 5 of the first season, "Scorched Earth", which shows the television series moving to the new 1955 Fury Barn at Iverson Ranch in Chatsworth.
- The first four episodes and introduction were filmed near Idyllwild, CA.



The Fury Barn, built in 1955, in Fury Episode 5 of Season 1, "Scorched Earth"

1955-1960 Fury

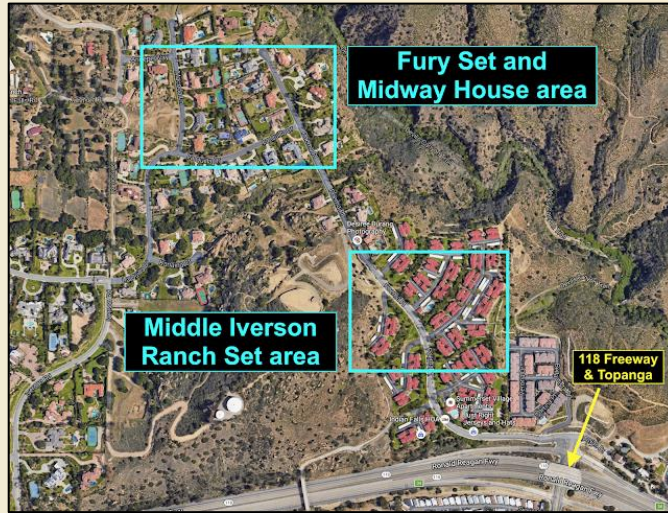
The Fury Barn, from
the Iverson Ranch
collection, facing
west.

Rocky Peak Park
(Pyramid Peak) in
background



1955-1960 Fury

- The Iverson Ranch Fury Set included a small house, a cabin, corrals, and other features, but it was dominated by a large barn.
- The Fury Barn was built in 1955, the Midway House in 1956, and the Fury Barn House in 1958.



In 1937 the Iversons purchased the 160 acre Frank Reposo homestead above their homestead, and later created the two filming locations seen above.

Photos courtesy of Dennis Liff at <https://iversonmovieranch.blogspot.com/>



The Fury Set and Midway House Area
The Fury barn was at today's 11833 Poema Place in Indian Falls, a gated community.

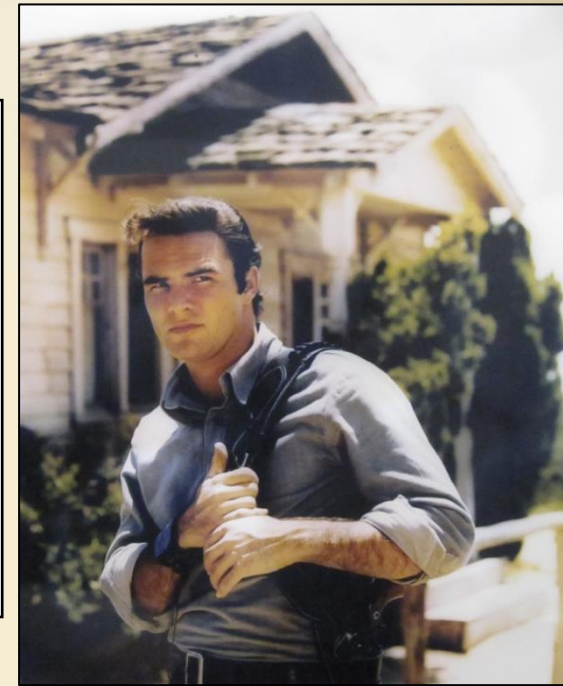
1955-1960 Fury

In addition to being used throughout five seasons of Fury, the set was used in many films, before it burned to the ground in the Newhall/Malibu fire of fall 1970.



Left: The main cast of "Fury" at the Midway House in 1956; L-R: William Fawcett, Peter Graves and Bobby Diamond

Right: 1962 Burt Reynolds in Gunsmoke at the Midway House



1967 David Janssen, as Dr. Richard Kimble in The Fugitive, arriving at the Fury Barn House.

Photos courtesy of Dennis Liff at <https://iversonmovieranch.blogspot.com/>

1955-1960 Fury

- While Peter Graves was filming *Fury* in Chatsworth from 1955 to 1960, his older brother James Arness played Marshall Matt Dillon on *Gunsmoke* from 1955 to 1975, which was filmed in Thousand Oaks.
- Both were born with the last name of Aurness; James changed the spelling of his last name, while Peter chose to use their mother's maiden name of Graves.



Peter Graves (1926-2010), James Arness (1923-2011)

1955-1960 Fury

- The Fury television show had 5 seasons, for a total of 116 episodes.
- They are available on YouTube using the links below. Seasons 2 through 5 have an introduction and end credits in German, but the rest of the each episode is in English.
 - [Fury Season 1](#) 26 episodes
 - [Fury Season 2](#) 20 episodes
 - [Fury Season 3](#) 26 episodes
 - [Fury Season 4](#) 22 episodes
 - [Fury Season 5](#) 22 episodes
- You can also buy most of the first season (23 episodes) on a 3 DVD set "Fury The Lost Episodes" on Amazon or Ebay.

1955-1960 Fury

Next up is the 25 minute episode aired in 1955,

Season 1, episode 5

[Scorched Earth](#)

posted on our YouTube channel

chatsworthhistory1

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minute episode
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Sources and Acknowledgements

- Special thanks to Tony Krizan for sharing photographs and memories of Blaze Glory.
- Special thanks to Dennis Liff for help with identifying the Blaze Glory screenshots filmed in Chatsworth.
- Dennis Liff – website at iversonmovieranch.blogspot.com. This site is searchable, and has over 400 posts relating to movie sites in and around Chatsworth. Search for "Fury" and "Peter Graves".

- Prepared by Ann & Ray Vincent in May 2023