

**Santa Susana Mountain Park Association**

**P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, California 91313-4831**

**JAN HINKSTON**  
founder

**ZELMA VAN**  
president

November 1993

**PROGRAM**

Monday, November 15th. - 7:30 P.M.  
Glendale Federal Savings  
21821 Devonshire St., Chatsworth

Vice President Dorian Keyser and his wife Dalia will present a slide show of their 1992 trip to New Zealand and Bali. Their trip featured the natural flora and fauna, thermal areas and geologic oddities of New Zealand. Their five day stop on Bali was a fabulous finale to a great vacation.

**PETITIONS**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO HELPED PUT THE CALPAW PARKS & WILDLIFE INITIATIVE OVER THE TOP! SSMPA LED OUR DIVISION OF NORTHERN LOS ANGELES AND FAR EXCEEDED VENTURA COUNTY BY GATHERING OVER 5,000 SIGNATURES! THANK YOU FOR A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VOLUNTEER CAMPAIGN.

## NOT ALL THE HEROES MADE THE FRONT PAGE:

Long after employees of Chatsworth Park South had been ordered to evacuate by the Fire Marshall, one gardener named Alberto Gomez decided to stay to protect his special park grounds. For endless hours while fire trucks and crews were battling the flames from their command post at Rocky Peak church, Alberto raced around adjusting sprinklers and canceling shut-off valves. He dragged hoses and a make-shift pipe rig towards the oldest tree in the park where he made his stand. To-day, the 500 year old Inland Oak still stands in all its glory just northeast of the recreation center. Our heartfelt thanks to you Alberto!

## CHANGES AT THE PARK

A FOND FAREWELL WITH BEST WISHES TO OUR FRIEND BOB LANDRUM, FACILITY MANAGER FOR 4 YEARS WHO IS BEING TRANSFERRED TO TARZANA. AND A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEW DIRECTOR PAUL MYERS, A 12 YEAR VETERAN OF L,A, CITY PARKS



As the holidays fast approach you may want to consider a gift from our selection of books:  
CALIFORNIA; VANISHING HABITATS & WILDLIFE by Moose Peterson, \$20.00  
OAKS OF CALIFORNIA by Bruce Pavlik, \$22.00  
WILDFLOWERS OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS by Milt McAuley, \$16.00  
DAY HIKER'S GUIDE TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA by John McKinney, \$16.00  
or a 1994 calendar with outstanding photos by award winner George Wuerthner.

#### GROUNDBREAKING FESTIVITIES

You are invited to the official ceremony celebrating the beginning of construction of the new Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library on Monday, November 22 at 4:00 p.m. at 16244 Nordhoff street. Mayor Richard Riordan will do the honors along with our City Councilman Hal Bernson. The invitation suggests you wear comfortable shoes.

#### THE FIRE WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Late each evening around midnight when the air is very still, a waft of scorched smelling air seems to sit in the neighborhood where I live. It is a nightly reminder of how fortunate most of us in Chatsworth really are. After starting near the 118 freeway at Rocky Peak road it engulfed all of the park land, on a southern route before being contained near Plummer. The hills and the flat lands are a solid mass of black. Not much more. . . . just the color black everywhere. But. . . surprise, surprise! The large cistern has been re-discovered with a small trickle of water steadily flowing into it which could possibly be from an underground well. This is the first time in 20 years the cistern has been seen! And many trails completely hidden by years of overgrown foliage have been exposed for the first time in years. Unbelievably, our concern of how to clear the debris from these trails has been solved. And already little spouts of green can be seen coming back to life.

A note to everyone who has ever hiked over these hills: this is a one in a lifetime (hopefully) chance to experience the tranquil serenity only Mother Nature can explain. Guided hikes will be led by Sierra Club trained leaders this coming Sunday starting at 9:am from the Visitor's center in Chatsworth Park south. See the remains of a 30' wall we didn't know existed. We guarantee it to be one nature hike you won't soon forget!

Wear your hiking boots and bring water. And as always, there is no fee . . . . .

Zelma

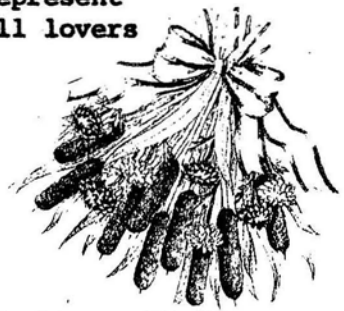
*The Executive Board extends to all members and friends of SSMPA best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday!*

Note to our anonymous proof reader: What day did you wish to volunteer your help?

### DOLL SHOW

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A presentation of hand painted, authentically dressed dolls is the program of the Chatsworth Historical Society on 11-16 at 7:30 pm at the Homestead Acre in Chatsworth Park South. The dolls of Adell Woodworth, regally gowned to represent the court of King Henry VIII, are a delight to doll lovers young and old. A \$2.00 donation is suggested.



We look forward to seeing you at our meeting Monday night. . . general business 7:pm, slide show by Dalia & Dorian at 7:30PM

Name _____	Student or Senior	\$5.00	_____
	Individual	\$10.00	_____
Address _____	Family	\$15.00	_____
	Supporting	\$25.00	_____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Business	\$25.00	_____
	Life Member	\$100.00	_____
Phone (    ) _____	(Make checks payable to SSMPA)		

DATED MATERIAL

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of the Santa Susana Mountains  
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