

OUR HISTORY

As we say farewell to the old year and welcome in not only a new year but a new millenium it is a time for reflection, a time for regret a time of reconciliation and a time for renewal of committment.

As your historian I feel it is also a time for a brief history of our club. For the newer members it will enlighten and for the veterans--it may evoke some memories. We all have our favorites..

There were not many homes here five years ago--in fact West was still a cow pasture as was a lot of the area across Morse Blvd. Everyone made an effort to welcome the new neighbors and to introduce themselves. An evening stroll around Soledad soon took up to 2 hours--there was so much stopping for "Street Talk". In time it was suggested a club or association be formed so we could socialize and communicate with one another in case of need. 34 women gathered at Paradise to discuss this possiblity and the Hacienda South Women's Club was created--the goal to foster friendship and fellowship thru social activities. Let it be noted that West would be invited to join us when it was developed. It was like planting a garden--the need and desire for a club was the fertile soil and the various ideas and suggestions for format were the seedlings..

Throughout the spring and summer of our 4 year history--we watched wide-eyed with wonder and pride as our garden flourished. It was definitely an informal garden composed of wild-flowers and orchids, annuals and perennials, bulbs and bushes--all contributing to the bouquet. Friendships were formed--some as close as family ties. The road we traveled to La Hacienda Center for our meetings was a winding one from OBG to Silverlake to Here. With flexibility we accepted the meal change from lunch to brunch to lunch to brunch and back to lunch. As our interests and needs immerged committees were formed to reflect and facilitate our expanding activities. We rose to the occasion when someone was in need of meals or transportation to the doctor . We adopted a charity generously donating time, money and needed items. Our socials ambitiously expanded to include bus trips for shopping sprees, block parties and card parties , we even went co-ed including our husbands in outings such as trips to baseball games and couples golf. Our crowning achievement was in some minds the establishment of the annual Tree lighting ceremony in which each sparkling light sends forth the message Peace on Earth Good Will Toward Men.. We proved our strength when - we remained united, used tact and reasonable arguments and fought city hall and won. I refer of course to the replacement of exterior trim for some houses. Thru the media and old fashioned word of mouth our garden was gaining fame as the Village with a