

RANCH CHATTER

Volume I, Number 2

LAKE ELIZABETH RANCH CLUB

July 15, 1967

HISTORY OF THE RANCH CLUB PART II by R. T. Burnham, President

In our last issue we concluded by naming the original Directors and Officers of the Club, those who primarily formulated the planning, accomplishment, and operational methods still adhered to by all our personnel to this day.

Prominently associated with our Club at its inception was Mr. George C. Sullivan, not only as a Director and Officer, but an original investor. Mr. Sullivan is perhaps even better known today as the inventor of the weapon now being used by our armed forces and designated the M-16, an automatic rifle of outstanding capability. Mr. Sullivan was an early builder of a Ranch Lodge conceived, designed, and supervised by himself! But this is quite typical of George, who no doubt has been something of a "do it yourselfer" since his years as a student at the University of Michigan. We don't see enough of George on weekends because the Lockheed Corporation and Armalite both conspire to make him something of a world commuter. He does assure us, however, this condition will change one of these days.

Also an investor and first manager on the Club property was Mr. Virgil H. Koch, better known to us all as "Bert." Mr. Koch and his family moved to Lake Elizabeth even before the property escrow was closed. He then immediately set about making our very humble facilities not only habitable, but attractive. There was an unbelievable amount of work to be done before first members could be welcomed at the brand new Club. With complete dedication, coupled with the assistance of one employee, Bert worked fourteen to sixteen hours a day.

Noteworthy among his many accomplishments is the attractive rock walls surrounding the Clubhouse facility. The color distribution of the amazing rock collection gathered from all over ours and foreign countries and contributed by our members for the building of our famed "Friendship Fireplace" was Bert's responsibility as well as a labor of love. He also supervised the installation of our first water mains as well as some of our early streets.

Today we all know Mr. Bert Koch, together with Mr. Sullivan and myself, as originators and Directors of the Lake Elizabeth Golf Club. Bert is as well the titular head of our own Rancho Sierra Construction Company, and a Vice President of the Lake Elizabeth Ranch Club.

Dropping personalities at this point, let us now move to the month when our first Members began appearing at the Club. Naturally, there were butterflies for a few weeks. Would those wonderful pioneering families identify with our dreams and plans, or would the tottering old barn and the bunkhouses

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ATTENTION PERMANENT MEMBERS

Many of you who enjoy Permanent Membership privileges in the Ranch Club have asked as about the possibility of paying a small monthly fee which would cover the use of all Ranch facilities and activities, i.e., swimming, horseback riding, pony rides, bicycling, etc., rather than paying the fees now in effect. Should this change of policy become effective, it could substantially reduce the expenditures of those families with children.

Management has been favorably entertaining the idea and wonders what other Permanent Membership holders think of the idea. In essence, it would work like this: The family would pay a Facility Use Fee of \$3.00 monthly year 'round which would cover all costs of the club except golf, lodging, and, or course, food and beverage.

It is important that we learn your opinion so we may plan accordingly. **It would be necessary that we limit the number of Permanent Members accommodated on this basis.** Therefore, if you are in favor of the monthly fee which would cover the use of facilities for all your family without additional charge, let us know immediately so that you can be one of those who will enjoy this privilege.

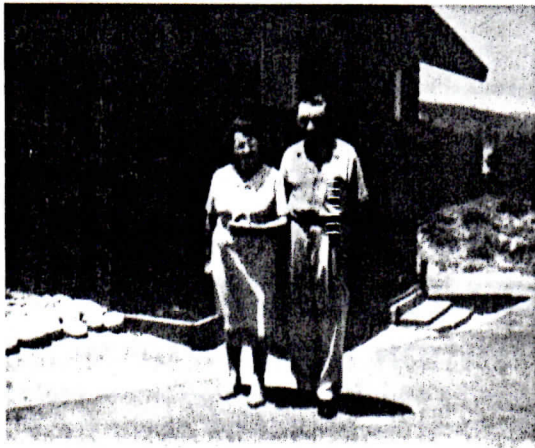
Whatever your opinion, please return the enclosed card right away and let us know.



Looks like "Uncle" Russ has a new golfer for the Junior Tourney! All young Steve Moriarty would say was "my long game's alright, but my putting stinks." Where've we heard that before?

THE WINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin A. Doetze, 3832 Ridgely Drive, Los Angeles, submitted the first and winning entry in "Name the News Quarterly" contest. They own property at Lake Elizabeth, and have plans to build a home. Congratulations on your submission of "Ranch Chatter." Mr. and Mrs. Doetze are hereby awarded a "five year plan"—free subscription, that is!



Pictured above are George and Esther Pasek, now the proud owners of a brand-new Rancho Sierra Construction Company custom-built Ranch Lodge. Opposite this announcement is a letter sent into our office by Mr. and Mrs. Pasek. Needless to say, it is a sufficient comment unto itself.

Other recent completions of new Ranch Lodges are, namely, Mr. and Mrs. John Valentine, publisher of the Antelope Valley Gazette; Mr. and Mrs. Warren Nute, ex-U.S. Navy Officer; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Steadman; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Render; Mr. and Mrs. Jess Kennedy; Doctor and Mrs. Charles Mohler; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Snudden; Mr. and Mrs. James Price; and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Elam.

Presently in the construction process, the James Farinashs', the Forrest Lloyds, Bernard Whites: Golf and Charter Members; Eugene Martins, Keith Heeses, with a half-dozen more in the planning stage.

At this point Mr. and Mrs. Claude Ballard are exceptionally busy remodeling their own Lodge which was constructed several years ago. It is also noteworthy that the Reverend and Mrs. Jonas are presently enlarging and improving their own Ranch Lodge on Sandrock Drive.

Together with this indication of progress, the Rancho Sierra Construction Company is pleased to announce an affiliation with Rodine Enterprises. The owners of Rodine Enterprises are also members in good standing of our Ranch Club. They have for many years specialized in the building of the vacation-type Lodges. Thus, we have managed in our construction program to satisfy the needs of our members both as to larger custom and smaller vacation-type ranch Lodges. Each organization will function in an affiliation which should rebound to the benefit of all members interested in vacation-type accommodations or in retirement lodges.



Catherine DeLay & Helene Buskirk

THE PASEK'S LETTER

Our words and expressions are quite limited as to our true feelings concerning Lake Elizabeth Ranch Club and all the wonderful people who make up this Club. Perhaps the words of a wise man gifted in the art of writing could better show our feelings. Edward Grieg wrote, "It is great to have friends when one is young, but indeed it is still more so when you are getting old. When we are young, friends are, like everything else, a matter of course. In the old days we know what it means to have them."

Without the friends who come through the door of our home at Lake Elizabeth, our enthusiasm would fade, but it is here that we have found true and lasting friendships and we love each and everyone of them. Without the help of Lake Elizabeth and the Rancho Sierra Construction Company this would not be possible. This surely has enriched our lives and made us feel many years younger. Our Welcome Mat is always out to one and all.

George & Esther Pasek



Left to Right

Jo Mockabee
Allen Mockabee
Frank Robison
Doris Burnham

IT'S VACATION TIME

Vacation time has, once again, rolled around and with the long summer months ahead, most of us turn our thoughts to travel. Many of our friends visit our office to talk of holiday plans or to share recent memories and photos of a past trip. Most of us agree, however, that an important part of vacation pleasure is the return home to familiar surroundings and friends.

For all of us, having enjoyed a membership in the Lake Elizabeth Ranch and Golf Club, even if for a brief period, this fact should add weight to the values placed on membership privileges. Most of us can spend one day or several, at any time during the year, among good friends, enjoying a host of varied recreational and social activities.

A warm welcome is extended to our recent Charter Members. Many have taken the first step in the selection of their building site, following in the footsteps of those having gained the many values accompanying the ownership of a home at Lake Elizabeth.

All of us should be reminded of our individual responsibilities in taking an active part in making our club an even better organization. Each of us can play an important role in our suggestions for improvement and in our attitude to "put our shoulder to the wheel" in areas where we can be useful. Actively support your club and learn the real pride that is a part of our fine membership.

Bill Moriarty

GOLF COURSE NEWS

GOLF MEMBERS, RANCH CLUB MEMBERS

Course is open 7 days a week but the Pro Shop and Coffee Shop are closed on Mondays.

NEW GREENS FEE RATES:

Ranch Club Members

\$2.00 Weekdays, \$3.00 Weekends

Guests

\$3.00 Weekdays, \$4.00 Weekends

(Prices above are an all day rate, as many holes as you wish to play. After 3 PM, half price.)

DRIVING RANGE OPEN:

The driving range is available to all Ranch Club Members and their guests. We have 50c buckets and \$1.00 size range balls with clubs for you to use free of charge. Come down and sock a few.

There must be a considerable number of the Ranch Club membership who are golfers. Probably a good percentage of them do not belong to golf clubs. Often it is difficult to take the time to play regularly. The public courses are crowded on weekends, it is difficult to get starting times, and even if reservations are made, players must be right on the spot at a certain time. Then, when the time arrives, the round is often played in the smog.

Here at Lake Elizabeth we have, at present, nine holes, with another nine not too far in the future. It is a pleasant drive from home, the fairways are well filled in, and a beautiful green against a smog-free sky of blue. During the summer it is not as warm as much of the San Fernando Valley. You can bring the family for a day, a weekend, or longer, and there is plenty for the non-golfing members of the family to enjoy. The kids can be left to enjoy various sports and amusements in a healthful atmosphere. What else could be desired?

Allan D. Mockabee, *President*
Lake Elizabeth Men's Golf Club

DID YOU KNOW

That our PGA professional Allen Jones has been a pro for over thirty years? As a caddy, he caddied for Ben Hogan over thirty years ago. Mr. Jones and his lovely wife Carmen welcome you to drop in the Pro Shop and get acquainted with them and many of their golf experiences. On June 30, at the Pro-Am at Lake Elizabeth, Mr. Jones proved again his ability winning the tournament.



Mr. Alex Martin is the proud owner of a hole-in-one on No. 6. Mr. Ralph Laws and he are the only two to accomplish this honor on our course. Congratulations Alex and Ralph!

The Men and Women's Clubs' Hacker's party and tournament was well-attended on Saturday, July 1 — a lot of fun. After the tournament, the steak fry was a real success. Marty Zaph and Bert Koch won the tournament.

Every Wednesday is Men's Day at the Golf Club. You are cordially invited to attend. For starting time, contact the Pro Shop. Let's make this a big day at Lake Elizabeth by joining in. Also, the tournament for the Lake Elizabeth Golf Club Championship is, now in process. For further information, contact Mr. Jones.

On Sunday, the 28th of October, we have the tournament for Ranch Club Members and Golf Club Members. Everyone is welcome. We would like to see a nice turnout for this event. Check the Pro Shop for starting time.

Ranch Members, if you are interested in acquiring Golf Membership, rumor has it there will be an increase in the price of membership in the near future. Getting in on Pioneering basis could be of great importance to you and your family.

Again we are pleased to announce that Clem Carlson had his group from the Wian Enterprises Inc. to the Club for a group tournament. They are a fine group of people, and fun was had by all. For a group tournament to be held at the Club, make arrangements with your head professional, Allen Jones, at the Pro Shop.

BEAR FACTS

by Shultzie

May 13th

What's that good smell? Could it be roast beef? Must be that Fee-esta Alice the 'coon has been talking about. Our members seem to be really having fun in the contests. I like to see the children hopping in those sacks—and what a tug of war—wish I could see them breaking the Pinotos—wonder if some child will bring me a piece of candy—I know! I know! the sign says "Don't feed me."

May 14th

This Sunday is Mother's Day—all the Moms—the ones with small babies, the ones with teen agers and the ones with pretty silver hair are all wearing pretty flowers—compliments of the Ranch Club. They tell me the dining room is really busy today and Margret is cooking up a storm of chicken.

May 20th

Wish they would invite me to the house warming for the Penders. Isn't that number for our own Rancho Sierra Construction Co.?

Sorry to hear my good friend Jim Trout, that friendly fellow at the guard house passed away. We're all going to miss him and our condolences and prayers go to his widow, Florence, who is such a charming hostess in the dining room.

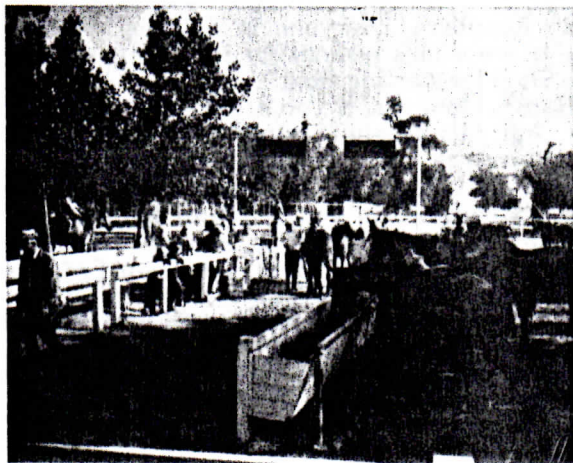
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← In case you missed the last Hackers Tourney on July 1st, Bill and Thelma Moriarty captured honors as the biggest hackers in the group. Said Bill, "My driving was good, but my golf game stinks"; Said Thelma, "So does his driving."

STRAIGHT TALK

In the early days of the Club, members were active users of the Club's few facilities. They enjoyed it and were very eager to have their friends join so they could enjoy their association at the Club. It is the only way new people can become members.

The Club has grown and will continue to grow. All clubs do have a certain amount of turn-over and we are no exception. There is always some replacements needed. We want to be sure we are enrolling the right kind as members, those with the same interest, respect and friendliness as you folks. So send those names of potential members. We are enclosing a postage paid card for your convenience in assisting us.



It's Busy Day at the Corral

* * *

RIDING LESSONS

3 Group Lessons — \$10.00, including horse rental.

Private Lessons — \$5.00 per hour, including horse rental.

Details of time and place will be given on request at the corral.

OTHER CHATTER

The Pony corral welcomed new arrivals during the past week. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs of Hawthorne, California, presented the Club with two beautiful white-maned, chocolate-colored Shetlands, complete with a tiny foal and a surrey-type pony cart.

Miss Catherine DeLay, whose photograph appears in this issue as a weekend resident at the Nute home, managed to complete sixteen years of continuous service to the Club. Miss DeLay is known to many of our members as our Office Manager, Secretary, Founder Member of the Lake Elizabeth Golf Club, and many other nice things to many other nice people. Her years of dedicated service were celebrated by most of us working family folk at a recent Country Club dinner. Needless to say, but we will, fun was had by all!

ABILENE, TEXAS—Carl "Barney" Ross is now back from a flying trip to Texas, during which period he managed to be roped, tied, and branded by one Betsy, now known to the Club as Mrs. Barney Ross. Although we were not present, the color pictures indicate that the wedding was an outstanding success. Congratulations to the new bride and groom! To all of their friends, Betsy and Barney are now established in their home at the Club.

Schultzie—the Himalayan bear—has come up with a few pointed remarks about our recent spell of hot weather. He was observed yesterday curled up in the shade in a state of almost complete hibernation. But don't be fooled; in his present state of ennui he can still scratch fingers stuck through his cage!

Many compliments have been expressed concerning the greatly improved fairways on the golf course. All the golf members have been very complimentary of Mr. Bob Robinson's efforts to make our course something of which we can all be proud. If some of you have golf buddies who are not now members, please call or write the Glendale office indicating your desire to sponsor for membership. Some golf memberships are still available. Just last week several transfers were made available by breadwinners being transferred to other areas of the country.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 15th MID-SUMMER DANCE

(Don't miss this one!)

July 22nd MOONLIGHT TRAIL RIDE

(Lots of FUN for everyone)

Aug. 5th FIESTA DAY

(Last one of the year, Don't miss it!)

Aug. 19th MOONLIGHT TRAIL RIDE

Sept. 4th LABOR DAY

(Selection of Miss Lake Elizabeth of 1967, and Miss and Mr. Wading Pool (toddlers under six years.) — Prizes awarded and special schedule of events.)

Sept. 16th MOONLIGHT TRAIL RIDE

(Last ride of the year and the best one!)

1967 JULY 1967						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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1967 AUGUST 1967						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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1967 SEPTEMBER 1967						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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HISTORY OF THE RANCH CLUB

all surrounded by tangled growth of grapevines and berry bushes blot out our vista of the future? Would the one-lunger pump which served our needs for water (after I had personally, with trusty pipe wrench, fixed our windmill so it never worked thenceforth) blind our first people to the intrinsic charm of a beautiful canyon with surrounding towering trees? Would the first meal largely prepared on a three-burner kerosene stove by our first chef and wife, Charlie and Gertrude Cook, be palatable to the sixteen members served that Sunday?

Immediately and almost unbelievably the answer came up in the affirmative! On a Sunday when our one-lunger coughed and gave up the ghost, we looked out the window to discover an assortment of engineers, one electrical contractor, an expert on stationary engines, and other mechanical genius' striving mightily to breathe life back into our water-delivering monster. Our people had simply been shunted aside.

After a minor miracle and vigorous cranking, the ancient iron beast was restored to operational dignity. Whereupon we saw the aforementioned gentlemen looking at each other as if to say, "I wonder what these back-woods characters would have done had we not pitched in to rescue them in their hour of embarrassment!"

This incident in itself proved what we had known by instinct all along: that people do care, care sufficiently to help with the minor and even the major problems that help to build any project into the finest expression of our American way of life. No one should ever be able to state unequivocally that the pioneering spirit is dead in our great country.

How did this all happen? Well, the Edison Company had not yet been able to run the poles and wire in from the highway to ultimately allow us electricity in our Clubhouse and the hookup for a proper pumping facility. Out of this and many similar experiences, we learned of acceptance—of faith extended, of help offered, of those facets of human character that contrived to make us and keep us humble as we pursued our struggle toward the goal of making amiable companionship a way of life at our Club.

To finalize this second episode in our short history, one more point needs emphasis. Our first struggling months were truly a deeply satisfying, happy experience. Not until four months after the grounds and the doors were opened were we to receive the first complaint from an unhappy Member. By this time the butterflies had retreated to their cocoons and all was right with our small world. Decent, self-respecting people had pointed in the direction we travel to this very moment. Let us then, in our next installment, continue to regale you with our very own Genesis.

Continued from page 3 BEAR FACTS

May 27th

First Hayride and hot dog roast of the year. There sure was a grand group of all ages enjoying the evening. Just one thing missing was the gay strumming of a Western Guitar and the robust voices singing all the old favorites. However, I caught the strains of toe tapping music and calls of the happy square dancers.

Memorial Day

Some people have had a four day holiday — too bad it's been so cold (I like it). I hear tell Margret had a wonderful buffet in the dining room.

Hooray, it's June — first event is the 2nd Fiesta day. Oh, the smell of that beef! Some new contests this year — What are those women doing with the brooms? This isn't work day — it's fun day. Some of our gal members are playing a string tournament at the golf course — suppose they wind up and let loose?

The pool's open — Whooppee (whistle whistle) some of those bikinis — some of those dolls! — no offense meant to the Mr. Americas — I, myself, like a little dip — mostly my back end.

June 24th

Second moonlight trail ride — and what a beautiful evening. I hear a "squeak box" too — listen to that harmony — suppose I could growl along in tune? Wish I could roast a marshmallow — yum.

July 1 to 4th

Another four day holiday for some of our lucky members — all the lodges are full and we have a busy clubhouse and pool — Another wonderful Bar-B-Que in the picnic area — Gayle, our square dance caller is really in fine voice for such a warm day.

July 15th

The only dance in the summer months. The Blue Tones playing their good music again — Margret making another of her excellent Buffets — How come I'm not a people?

Another Trail ride on the 22nd. Hope I see you there.

See you next time—
Shultzie

IN MEMORIAM

The recent passing of Mrs. Luther Clark of Lancaster deprives the Club of one of its finest members. Mr. and Mrs. Clark joined the Ranch Club in 1947 and were largely instrumental for the introduction of folk dancing and square dancing. As Charter Members in the Antelope Valley Desert Riders, they were responsible for the enrollment of about 85% of all of the Desert Riders. We will miss and frequently note the absence of Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, one of our finest members. Our sympathy extends to Mr. Clark and his entire family.

Many of our people will have noted in recent weeks the absence of Mr. James Trout, greeter and guard at the entrance of the Club. On a Sunday afternoon while greeting other members, Mr. Trout was stricken with a massive heart attack. He passed away the following Tuesday at Antelope Valley Hospital. Many of our Members and Representatives were in attendance at Jim's last rites. Mrs. Florence Trout, to whom our sympathy is extended, is again back doing Hostess duties in the Club dining room. Florence is a special kind of person whose courage and unfailing courtesy is a remarkable attribute. Their happiness together was shared for many, many memorable years.