

In August 1937, the Chairman of Civic Beautification of Los Angeles, Mrs. Paul William Lawrence, invited a group of forty-one ladies of our area to a luncheon at the West side Tennis Club to work for better bus service, tree trimming, better police protection, lot cleaning and improved mail service generated enthusiasm.

It is hard now to realize that there were as many vacant lots, overgrown with weeds, as there were houses. The Monte Mar Vista tract was opened after Cheviot Hills and its promoter, the Capital Company, had financial troubles. Due to the depression years, it had most of the vacant lots. We had Rural Free Delivery of mail with Los Angeles addresses, but our phones had a Culver City prefix.

Members were solicited from neighbors and by a mailing from the office of Neff and Hurst, Realtors. Sixty-eight attended the first meeting at the California Country Club on September 17, 1937, and paid dues of \$1.00. Mrs. Fowler Jones drafted the constitution. A blind draw decided that the club name be the Cheviot Hills - Monte Mar Garden Club and it was first specified that the club presidency alternate between the two areas.

At the end of the first year bus service was improved. With the cooperation of the American Legion and P.T.A. our new telephone prefix became Ardmore instead of Culver City. Clean-up was forced at the trailer camp on National Blvd. where the present Von's Market is located. The triangular park on Club Drive was landscaped with \$75 from the Garden Club treasury, and \$50 from the Capitol Company. Members facing the park paid for the maintenance.

Problems such as overgrown trees, poor drainage at Overland School, oil variances and police protection were taken up with the authorities. Speakers on gardens and civic matters drew a good attendance at meetings and a membership tea and dinner dance promoted friendships. There was Christmas caroling, bridge luncheons and classes in ceramics and French.

Executive Board:

President.....Mrs. Alfred T. Schaber
 1st Vice President.....Mrs. Fowler D. Jones
 Secretary.....Mrs. John W. Donner
 Treasurer.....Mrs. John Oslin Crawford