

■ GUADALUPE

Hopefuls line up for a quick chance at celluloid stardom

‘The Odd Couple II’ will film scenes in Santa Maria Valley

By Gilbert Armijo
Times Staff Writer

GUADALUPE — Virginia Jacobs might not have her own star on the Walk of Fame in Hollywood, but it's not because she hasn't tried.

The Santa Maria resident appeared as an extra when “The Rocketeer” was filmed here in 1991. Now Jacobs wants a part as an extra in “The Odd Couple II,” the latest movie slated to start production in the Santa Maria Valley.

She was among 35 early birds who showed up for the first session of a casting call by Paramount Pictures.

Casting Coordinator Katie Brown of the famed movie studio said she was pleased with the size of the turnout.

“These parts are important to the industry,”

Brown said. “We cannot make a movie without extras.”

Brown added that Paramount likes to use local talent for the background, saying the number of people hired as extras varies according to the scene.

She indicated that plans call for shooting in Guadalupe around July 9 through July 18.

“For those of you hired as extras for the smaller scenes,” Brown told the group of movie-star hopefuls, “you will be very visible.”

Brown said that local people wanting the role would hear from Paramount within two weeks and would be paid \$40 a day for eight hours of “work.”

“This isn't a money venture,” she advised those who turned out at Guadalupe City Hall. “This is really about having fun and seeing how a movie is made.”

■ See CASTING, back page



Matthew Liddi/Times

Virginia Jacobs, an extra in four other movies, fills out a casting data sheet for “The Odd Couple II.”

CASTING: Guadalupe

Continued from page A-1

She cautioned those selected to be on-call because the ups and downs of movie making require the cast to be ready to go on short notice. Brown told the group that extras will probably be called the morning of the shooting and be given instructions about location and other details.

“Some of you will be wardrobe,” Brown said, describing the process of putting a person into character with dress and makeup and other special effects, if needed.

Meanwhile, Jacobs said she turned out because the experience

is enjoyable.

“I have been an extra four times before, including on the set of ‘The Rocketeer,’ ” Jacobs said. “And I studied drama in college, but this is something I do to put a little fun into my life.”

And while Jacobs knows the ropes of playing an extra, Michele Inman wants her first job in that role.

The Santa Maria resident was persuaded to show up at the casting call for “Odd Couple II” by her grandfather Roland Madison, who suggested that Paramount Pictures executives might have their “newest star” if they hire his granddaughter.