

Den's Fall Cleaning Empties Idea Barrell

It's fall cleanup time and the Den has been cleaning out his barrel, hoping to get straightened out before the first snow falls. Discovered were a few observations which had escaped publication in earlier columns but do not deserve further hibernation.

ONE THING the Den has noticed is that 12 months is a long enough period for the minds of men to change. Although public opinion shifts it hardly keeps up with changes in government positions. One year ago Detective Sergeant Earl Teeples of the Farmington Township police force was disciplined for talking with the county prosecutor. Twelve months later, two township patrolmen were disciplined for not talking to the prosecutor. Circumstances were different, of course, but an inconsistency exists nonetheless.

FOUND AT THE bottom of the Den's barrel was a news clipping about formation of a citizen's review board to investigate complaints against the township police force.

The review board was properly constituted but, to my knowledge, has never met. The reason, I'm certain, is that a complaint has never been filed by a citizen with the reviewers. Apparently, the review board is strictly an "appellate" body and does not serve any "advisory" role. Because just a few weeks ago the township board conducted its own, independent study of police leadership and related problems and ignored the review board.

If the review board is not to assume an advisory role or investigate "problems" and not just citizen complaints, then the need for its continued existence is questionable.

Citizens can make complaints with the township police force, the state police, county prosecutor, attorney general, or with a citizen's grand jury. With all these avenues

Pack 45 Meets

Cub Scout Pack 45, Farmington, held "Family Night" on Sept. 24 in Cloverdale School.

Awards were presented to David Scheer, bear badge; Paul Wallace, silver arrow; and Jim Pigue, Denner Stripes. New Webelos presented with neckerchiefs were Mike Lanigan, Don Jamison, Brent Bradley, Paul Oberueh and Mike Alberts. Seventeen applied for membership in Pack 45.

Daniels Den

By EMORY DANIELS

available, a citizen is not likely to look through the yellow pages for the police review board before signing a complaint.

ANOTHER CLIPPING about a standing committee was found in the barrel's bottom. This is a report of establishment of the Farmington Township Road Committee.

Faced with heat from critics, the committee issued a progress report and has not been heard from since. We assume progress is still being made and await the day when the committee announces its first, original recommendation. Understand that I am not complaining about either the police or road committees. Committees were never intended to legislate but are born in fire and die as the flame subsides. Committees hold meetings and when public pressure is off meetings are curtailed and only a title remains.

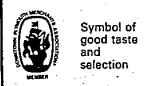
A COMMITTEE ON committees ought to be formed and authorized to be watchdog for all ad hoc groups. We could refer to it as simply "The Committee."

Any committee which has not met for six months or has not made any recommendations over a 12 month period would be called before The Committee and disbanded.



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Such a review would free interested citizens from unproductive appointments so they can serve on another committee.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS found in the barrel are now on their way to the trash can but before making that trip let me rescue one comment. The Farmington Board of Education has earned a commendation for taking a stand and setting, once and for all, which site will be used for the administrative center for the Farmington Area Advisory Council.

The FAAC, custodian of Drug Rap Line, is a committee which will not be called before The Committee. The FAAC has organized legally and has outlined an extrajudicial drug prevention program.

School trustees easily could have agreed on the administrative site for FAAC but tabled final action two weeks to give the City of Farmington opportunity to grant permission.

But, instead school trustees approved the site and authorized location of the portable within two weeks with or without council concurrence.

THIS TOOK a bit of courage because school trustees know they are now targets for some jibes from the council. But, the school board knew it was the one with jurisdiction to make the final decision and that a decision was overdue.

Good faith was shown by the school district when it first approached the city about a month ago. The school board listened to complaints from residents and moved the building away from the elementary school.

The Farmington Junior High site was rejected because the school board felt the cost would be too high to locate there. It was obviously time to make a final decision.

A trip back to the city council could mean that a third site would be suggested and a delay of four weeks. There are 26 schools in the district which, theoretically, means there are 26 possible sites for the FAAC center.

Because the district donated the portable building and site, the school board was the agency to make final decision. The city council would have had greater control over site location if the city had offered to donate some of its property for the center.

With its barrel empty, the Den can now look forward to discussing such topics as: "The place moral instruction has in public schools" and "Are women, as a sexual being, becoming obsolete?" These topics rest when you get your head out of the barrel.

wood creek farms

By ANNE M. PHILLIPS MA 6-6335

Vernon and Grace Fisher celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary Sept. 26 by entertaining 40 people.

Cocktails were served to family and friends of many years followed by a delicious dinner. Guests came from as far away as Vermilion, Ohio, plus nearer places and many Wood Creekers. It was a very delightful event.

SALLY BROWN'S mother, Mrs. Hammond, came on from Ramsey, N.J. the end of August for a very fine month in Michigan.

Two cottages were reserved at Wailoon Lake. Sally's brother, John, drove on from Wilmington, Del., with his wife and four teenagers. They filled one cottage.

Sally's youngest brother, Edward, drove on from Boston where he is taking his master's degree at MIT, and shared the

second cottage with Bill, Sally, and son. They enjoyed water skiing, sailing, and swimming plus hunting for Peckey stones. Sally's mother flew back to N.J. last week.

BARNEY AND EILEENE Altes are back from two weeks in San Francisco. They flew out the last of August to attend a convention celebrating the

lenth anniversary of the Motowns.

Jo and Mickie Watts, with five other couples, drove down to Homestead, Hot Springs, Va. They played golf every day in 95-degree heat but loved it. They also enjoyed driving in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley and over the Skyline Drive. They were back home a week ago Saturday.

Wilma Carden has been in Ford Hospital. She got pneumonia in her right lung and

coughed so hard she broke a rib. Eddie went down for her Wednesday and she is finishing her convalescence at home.

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Honor Trustees

Two former members of the Farmington Board of Education were honored with plaques at the board meeting Sept. 28.

Patricia M. Smith and Richard W. Frankel each received framed certificates of recognition. The presentation was made by board president John M. Washburn III.

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F/7.75-14/7.75-15	\$26.90	2.44/2.40
G/8.25-14/8.25-15	\$27.90	2.60
H/8.55-14/8.55-15	\$29.90	2.80

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F/7.75-14/7.75-15	\$30.90	2.55/2.61
G/8.25-14/8.25-15	\$33.90	2.67/2.77
H/8.55-14/8.55-15	\$36.90	2.93/2.98

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