

Down to earth Snowbird goes south awhile

It takes a lot of courage for me to admit to you, Readers, that I forsook you with the high snow and cold days and became a Snowbird in the south for a month.

—Stopped briefly in Ft. Lauderdale and saw Twink (our former Birmingham mayor) and Howard Willett at the digs there. She still has a flower arrangement underneath her master bathroom wash bowl which seemed the ultimate of something. They are very busy there with new found friends from all over the country.

Saw the James Pedders, they are 100% sold on Bird Key and the same enthusiasm comes from Ruth and Woody Johnson on Longboat Key. The Carl Blacks are very content with a



By
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Administration ceased to use it for dangerous criminals.

Political prisoners also were sent there. I walked the island, saw the cells and very primitive living.

Sharks are active around the perimeter of the bay. I am reading "Papillon" by Henri Charriere, who escaped over the sea supported only by

two floating racks of coconuts. He claims he was an innocent man sent there and you weep inwardly for those who lived their lives there to end up thrown into the sea.

A second no-no would be Dutch Guiana (Surinam). If you go in by ship you travel many miles by river to Paramaribo and the sanitary facilities in the rooms become filled with sand and dirty water due to the depth of the river. A lot of it overflowed on the floor.

The engines of the ships depending on sea water get into trouble, too. After you arrive at the island where Dutch is the language, you will enjoy exploring but be sure to only fly into Dutch Guiana.

Sunshine on the deck is relaxing but when all of the chips are counted there isn't any place like home. Travel enlarges the experiences. It is work to travel but as I have sat in meetings upon my return I appreciate the warmth of the home base even if we have high snow. We know that a beautiful Michigan spring is around the corner. Contentment comes from within.

With this column being devoted to living plant material, those who read it have this interest. This attribute makes each day more interesting. Your home plants need you. You can travel and read the landscape as you recognize plant friends by name.

If you travel and see a beautiful garden, ring the doorbell and ask if you might walk around the garden. You would be surprised at the number of garden lovers just waiting to meet you. "You have it made," as the old saying goes.

Concert scheduled

The Orchard Lake Music Series will present a concert by the 60-voice Alma College A Cappella Choir at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Orchard Lake Community Church, 5171 Commerce Road.

Under the direction of Dr. Ernest G. Sullivan, the choir will present musical selections ranging from sacred songs to contemporary tunes. Some of their selections will be the traditional "Gloria to the Trinity" by the Russian composer Gretchaninoff, the American folk hymn "Wonderous Love," Gellert's arrangement of "The Train," and works by several American composers.

A feature of the concert will be selections by the Alma Singers, a group specializing in madrigals. In addition to madrigals, they will sing pop tunes such as "One of Those Songs" and "Laughter in the Rain."

During the 23 years that the Alma College A Cappella Choir has been under the direction of Dr. Sullivan, it has made 23 extended tours covering the eastern half of the country. It has also made two European tours covering the eastern half of the country. It has also made two European tours, the most recent to Roumania in 1974.

It is planning a bi-centennial tour in May to the West coast with performances scheduled in Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Salt Lake City.

The Orchard Lake Music Series is open to the public without charge.

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