

Of tricks or treats, worthwhile eats

I love to go to festivals in other countries, especially when the local people dress in bizarre costumes and carry on in a wild and fun-loving fashion. I am totally unprepared for tourists who come from other countries to witness our cultural peculiarities.

One of those cultural oddities is Halloween, which is rooted in ancient pagan tradition but is now a festival common only in the United States and Canada.

I have invited many people from around the world to my home on Halloween, and watched with fascination while they handed out candy to the children.

FOREIGN VISITORS are much more interested in that little local event than they are in more prestigious tourist events, because it reflects a home-based tradition that they would not normally experience.

The closest foreign holiday to Halloween is Guy Fawkes Day, which is celebrated on Nov. 5 in England. Guy Fawkes Day commemorates the foiling of the Gunpowder Plot, in which rebels were prevented from blowing up the English House of Parliament in 1605.

The fate of those rebels is described in chilling historical descriptions that include phrases like "hung face down from the tail of a horse," "drawn and quartered," et cetera.

It is celebrated in England by the children, who dress up in costumes, blow off firecrackers and dance around straw dummies of the infamous Mr. Fawkes. Sometimes they burn him in effigy.

A MORE ELEGANT and close-to-home commemoration of Guy Fawkes Day will be held at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Saturday, Nov. 3, when the second annual Cranbrook-Guy Fawkes Ball will be hosted by the Women's Committee of the Academy.

The only chilling thing about this event is the price, \$125 a couple for dinner and dancing or \$35 a couple for younger-than-35s to come and disco after dinner, but it qualifies as a festival in many ways.

The visual hullabaloo that surrounds a celebration is half the fun, and they will use trumpeters, banners, a torch-light entrance and a giant bonfire with effigy, in true festival tradition.

They will also serve food that Guy Fawkes probably never was invited to taste, although it is a true part of medieval eating: Tart de Bry (cheese in pie crust), Saumon Ysod (poached salmon), A Roast with Oysters Savane Madame (tenderloin stuffed with oysters), Rapes (lentil crisps), Salat, and Circletes (rolls).

The money from the event will go to the scholarship fund at Cranbrook.

IF YOU WOULD rather festival in the Caribbean, a Canadian organization called Villa Vacations has extended its service to Jamaica, Barbados and St. Lucia. One- or two-week charter packages leave from Toronto and include villa, cottage or apartment accommodations as well as air fare and car rental.

Prices vary, depending on the number of people in your party and the kind of accommodations, but range in Jamaica from \$325 per person (if six people share) to \$830 a person if two people share, for a week. There is enough variety in price to make it a reasonable vacation for most people.

Call the Canadian Government Office of Tourism in Detroit or write to World Wide Villa Vacations, a division of Vincent Travel and Tour Associates Ltd., 175 Bloor St. East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4W 1C8. Telephone 416-923-3324.

World Wide Villas also offers this unusual accommodation package in places like Mexico, Florida, Hawaii, Vermont, California and throughout Canada, as well as yacht vacations in the Caribbean and special villa arrangements in Europe.

TRAVEL LOG of Iris Jones



One more for the coach

UNITED AIRLINE FLIGHT 118, Hawaii to Chicago — We are eating braised tenderloin tips with red wine, but many of the passengers in the forward compartment brought their own lunch.

Economy fare is a tradition in the Honolulu market, although it is almost unknown in the rest of the United States.

Continental and United airlines have recently introduced it on flights between Denver and Chicago.

I am a coach-fare passenger. I have three meal choices, and a choice of red or white wine, all free with my coach fare. I pay for cocktails and for headsets to watch the movie.

In the forward compartment, between coach and first class, 40 economy passengers are flying at a rate that saves them about \$8 on the fare between Hawaii and Los Angeles and about \$15 between Hawaii and Chicago.

They can buy a meal for \$3 and wine for \$1.50 a split, but most of them bring their own lunch. They carry a picnic lunch of cold meat, cheese and fruit or buy a box of Kentucky Fried Chicken and eat it cold.

No movie is shown in the economy

section. You make standard advance plane reservations but you cannot ask for advance seat reservations as you can in other classes.

Those are the public rules, but there are other rules that the average passenger might not know about.

IF ECONOMY CLASS is fully booked, and there are extra seats in coach, you will be seated in coach and have access to the movie. But don't count on it.

That's the good news. The bad news is that it is illegal to bring your own liquor aboard a commercial airplane, so you'll have to buy it or do without.

Finally, the state of Hawaii does not allow you to bring certain agricultural products into the islands, so plan to eat your entire carry-on lunch on the plane. Hawaii may be one of our American states but in one respect travelers must act as if they are in a foreign country.

All agricultural products must be registered on a customs-like form going into the islands, and your luggage is searched for offending agricultural contents when you leave the island for the mainland.

The purpose is to prevent the spread of plant disease in either direction.

They said, 'Build us a bridge' and that's just what he's doing

A perfect relationship between a man and a town will produce, by mid-1980, an enduring monument to Americana, known in days gone by as a kissing bridge.

Milton S. Graton, nationally known as a builder of covered highway bridges, and Frankennuth, Mich., a village dedicated to the preservation of the past, have joined to create a 239-foot replica of an authentic 19th century covered bridge, to be known as Zehn's Holz-Brücke, which will span the Cass River in downtown Frankennuth. Graton, a bridge builder for 50 of his 70 years, has been exclusively concerned for the last 23 years with the design, restoration, and construction of wooden highway covered bridges in his home state of New Hampshire, the United States and in Canada. He is an authority on these durable, if not romantic, reminders of horse and buggy days.

Working side by side with his son, Arnold, 42, who has been a bridge builder since he graduated from high school, Graton builds with complete authenticity, using time-honored plans of more than a century ago. The pair will do most of the work themselves, because "you have to keep it down to a small operation to control the quality of the work," Graton said.

GRATON CAME TO bridge building by a roundabout route. In 1936, after a stint of more than five years hauling logs with a lumber gang, Graton was initiated into the kind of engineering that drew him into an

on-going love affair with covered bridges.

In '36, the Pennigewasset River overflowed and washed a house in Holderness off its foundation and left it in the middle of the road. I was asked if I could move it and I figured I'd give it a try. He succeeded.

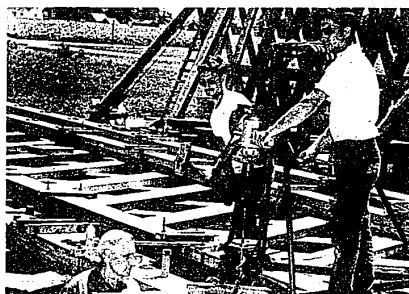
By 1947, Graton was operating his own moving and rigging business. In 1959, he got his first request to move a covered bridge.

"We moved some bridges for the Army Corps of Engineers in Vermont, and while doing some light repairs to make them serviceable in their new location, we noticed the workmanship was very good," he said. "When it came along time that one was going to be wrecked because nobody could save it, then we worked along with the guy who wanted to save it, because of all the good work that went into them," he said.

He taught himself bridge building by studying and reconstructing the work of the old master carpenters and bridge builders.

THE FRANKENMUTH BRIDGE will be the third of the town lattice type that Graton has designed and built from scratch. Two others are located in Woodstock, Vt., and Henniker, N.H. Graton has built or completely restored a total of 23 bridges. "You can get one a year. Some are small, but then you get a big one that ties you up longer," he said.

When asked how long the bridge could be expected to last, Graton said,



Milton Graton (at bottom of picture) and company put their special touches to a covered bridge they are building in Frankennuth. Graton has been building bridges for 50 of his 70 years.

"If it's taken care of, this bridge is a 50-year proposition. Of the bridges we've worked on, over a hundred years old, you can take your jackknife and still bring up fresh wood."

The Graton started work on the Frankennuth bridge in the spring of 1979, and expect the essential work to be completed by mid-January 1980. Graton uses wood almost exclusively in the construction and restoration of covered bridges.

"The amount of metal we use is almost negligible. When you have to use that kind of stuff, it's a job for someone else. If metal has to go into it, we go out of it," he said.

Trunnels (originating from the combination of tree trunks) are the huge wooden dowels that are used to tie together the lattice-work sides. The roof shingles are fashioned of half-inch white cedar, cut locally, and the trusswork and floor joists are made from Douglas fir from Oregon.

Graton said he gets tremendous satisfaction from his work, and as long as his health stays good, he'll keep on building bridges.

"To pay out money to play golf, just to be doing something, I might as well be pounding trunnels as pelling a golf ball. This way I can see where I hit."

Pack it tight, pack it right

The ultimate in traveling light is a carry-on suitcase. Coupled with a hanging garment bag, the undersize bag is favored by many business travelers surveyed by Western International Hotels.

In addition to being easy to tote, the combination streamlines the airport procedures. With no baggage to check, there is no waiting for bags at the luggage claim.

Even if you are on vacation and

going to stay at one resort for two weeks, resist the temptation to pack your steamer trunk.

Check airline regulations before you fly, to find out if there is an extra charge for sports equipment.

And remember that part of the fun of vacationing may be to buy a swimsuit in Hawaii or a sports outfit in Mexico. Leave an empty corner in your suitcase to bring back these souvenirs.

Look before you park it

O'HARE AIRPORT, Chicago — We learned to our dismay this week that it is wise to check out assumptions about long-term airport parking.

We drove to Chicago for an overnight stay before boarding a plane here for a 10-day trip to Hawaii. According to the travel literature, airport parking here was \$3 a day, so we budgeted it for \$30. What we didn't know was that parking rates were doubled here recently, in an effort to discourage airport parking.

Our first clue was when we were asked a hotel manager to advise us about airport parking. He told us that rates were now \$14 a day. It was false information, but enough to give us visions of a \$140 parking bill.

You can fly almost anywhere in the United States for that amount.

We were out the yellow pages of the telephone directory before we learned that airport parking in Chicago is controlled by the Chicago Transit Authority.

After dialing 687-7530, we discovered the bad news wasn't quite as bad as we had been told, although it was bad enough.

COVERED FIRST floor parking near the terminal costs \$12 a day, which would have cost us \$120. Main lot parking is \$6 a day, a total of \$60. For \$3 a day, we could still park at

what the Chicago Transit Authority calls "remote parking lots D and E."

The parking lot shuttle bus picked us up promptly enough from the bus shelter at parking lot D, which is a long way out near the military air strip.

THE PROBLEM began when we returned at dawn 10 days later, with light jackets over tropical Hawaiian clothes, to stand on a frosty sidewalk and wait for the shuttle to take us back.

Several of the local bus companies are on strike, but we were assured that the parking lot shuttle would still go every 10 minutes. It didn't.

We waited an hour at the curb before persuading a taxi to take our short-fare run to the parking lot instead of waiting for his preferred \$12-\$15 fare to the city.

When we complained to the parking lot attendant about the service, he assured us that the shuttle was running — on another road 50 feet away from where we had been standing.

One bad experience in the middle of a strike certainly doesn't tell a whole story, but there is a clear lesson in it. Don't park at O'Hare for a long-term trip unless you are prepared to either pay a prohibitive fee or spend the time getting back and forth from the remote lots.

Our bill, by the way, was \$29.85 for 9½ days plus \$1.50 tax.

China trips

Seats still are available at 1979 prices on a 19-day tour to the People's Republic of China which leaves Chicago Nov. 30. The participants will spend one night in Nantia, Japan, before arriving in China for a 13-day visit there.

The tour will exit to Hong Kong for two days before returning to the United States. In China, there is a choice of two itineraries. For information, call 868-0082.

The tour is sponsored by the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association which has sponsored

tours to China for more than 8,000 Americans since 1972. A brochure is available by writing China Study Tours, P.O. Box 793, Detroit 48232.

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Bach in the Thumb

Three days towards November's end will find Michigan residents of the Thumb area participating in and enjoying the music of J.S. Bach.

musicians from throughout the United States will be heard for the Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 23-25, in rural Cass City for rehearsals and performances under the baton of conductor Don Th. Jaeger.

Concerts will take place at the Presbyterian Church, a historical building housing a Henry Erban Tracker organ (1865), an instrument well suited to Bach's music.

Among the many performers participating in the festival will be Norman Paul, first violinist of the Pro Arte Quartet at the University of Wisconsin; Catherine Paul, oboist; Doris Ornstein, harpsichordist at the Cleveland Institute and Aspen Festival; William Freuch Jr., violinist from Indiana University; and Doris Preucil, violinist from Iowa City, Iowa.

Encapsulating the three-day festival will be lectures by Rosella Duerksen, noted church music specialist from Iowa City, Iowa; organ recitals; and two major concert performances by the Festival Orchestra and soloists and conducted by Jaeger.

Jaeger is conductor of the Midland and Northwestern Michigan symphony orchestras, the Northwood Symphony and numerous other orchestras throughout Michigan and the United States.

The setting for the first Village Bach Festival is not unlike northern Germany with its small communities and old churches with fine old organs, for which Bach composed so much of his great music.

For information and a program brochure, write Mrs. Lambert Althaver, P.O. Box 27, Cass City, Mich. 48726 or call 517-872-3465.

ecology documentary, junior sportsman, most unusual travel film, and best art travel film.

Government agencies, business firms, film producers and individuals are eligible for prizes to be awarded at MOWA's Feb. 9 awards banquet. Winning films will be viewed by MOWA members attending the weekend meeting at the Gull Lake Conference Center of Michigan State University at Hickory Corners.

Entry deadline is Dec. 7. Details and contest rules can be obtained from Len Barnes, MOWA contest chairman, at Michigan Living — AAA Motor News, Auto Club Drive, Dearborn 48126.

Films will be returned after judging.

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All base rates are per person and will fluctuate with hotel choice. All programs feature jet airfare, hotel accommodations, airport transfers, baggage handling, some sightseeing, extras

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