

American Legion

Annabelle Hoeglund is new commander

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

On Sunday, Aug. 5, the American Legion Groves-Walker Post 346 will install its first woman commander.

Annabelle Hoeglund is not certain if a female post commander is unique in the units spread throughout the United States, but she does know she won that position by a good majority in the election of the group's 222 members.

"They've been bugging me to run for years," she said.

She is the only woman member of

the post on Grand River, near Orchard Lake Road, and that is not unusual, she said, "because the legion never did attract too many women who spent time in the military services."

Mrs. Hoeglund served with the WAVES during World War II, as a storekeeper in Cleveland.

She joined the American Legion in 1973 when her husband served as commander for the Groves-Walker Post. She has never been a member of the auxiliary, even though her mother is a past president of that contingent, because for so long she had always been

eligible as a member of the legion.

In her new position, she will be ex-officio head of about 15 committees, all committed to serving men and women who have been or are members of a military service.

SHE WILL carry on these duties while working as deputy treasurer for the City of Farmington.

"I don't see any drastic changes in store for us," she said, while citing the annual Poppy Day sales, Boy's State, and being on call to help veterans everywhere who are in need of assistance,

as the prime functions of the post.

"But the social aspect for all of us is important too," she added, "we look forward to our steak fries and our parties."

Some of the social events are for members only, but many are open to the public. Money to support the post is raised by its every-Friday night bingo games, which begin at 7 p.m.

"It's a very active post," she added, "many of our members have been district officers and we have one member who is a past commander for the state."

Mrs. Hoeglund has been a resident of Farmington since 1935, and is a graduate of what once was known as Farmington High School; but since was converted to Farmington Junior High, and is now the Farmington Training Center.

She and her husband, Milton, have three children: Lorraine Santo, of Sterling Heights; Edward Hoeglund of Fen-ton; and Pamela Huber of New Baltimore.

The couple have three grandchildren.



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Adele Weaver returns to The Gathering Place with another pilot program for area seniors, this one called "Retirement Planning." The program is without charge, offered through Oakland University's Continuum Center for Adult Counseling and Leadership Training.

There's more to retirement planning than finances and the legal aspects

A pilot program, which focuses in on the personal concerns of retirement, will be given in Farmington Hills, sponsored by Oakland University's Continuum Center for Adult Counseling and Leadership Training.

"People often plan for the legal and financial problems of retirement, but they don't anticipate other problems arising," said Adele Weaver, a counselor and trainer at the Continuum Center.

Mrs. Weaver, of West Bloomfield, returns to The Gathering Center, with this program, after leading other workshops and seminars there. She will be assisted by a staff of peer counselors and resource persons.

The six-session program runs from 1-4 p.m. Mondays, from July 30-Sept. 10.

It is offered without charge to adults over 55 years of age, under a Title I grant from the Michigan Department of Education.

The Gathering Place is in Mercy Conference Center, 28700 Eleven Mile.

The retirement planning program will be limited to 50 persons. Registrations are being taken now by calling the Continuum Center, in Rochester, 377-3033.

"A LOT OF" companies give advice to their employees about the financial and legal aspects of retirement, but they seldom deal with the more subtle issues of the personal losses and conflicts related to this time of life," Mrs. Weaver said.

"Retirees often experience a loss of status, power, time structure and other things related to their work lives," she added.

"And they do this at a time when they also lose

physical stamina, feel less attractive and are deprived of work-related activities and friends."

But retirement may also mean new friends, a new home, a new neighborhood, new ways of spending money and time.

"It is a time when there is suddenly much more focus on interpersonal relationships," Mrs. Weaver said. "People need to adapt old skills as well as learn new ones."

The program she will lead is called "Retirement Planning" and will deal with individual ways to replace the losses in a retiree's life, and to make decisions based on a personal value system, rather than the this-is-what-I-am-supposed-to-do way of living.

Mrs. Weaver believes retirement is no different than any other stage of life.

"WE DO HAVE control over how we choose to view retirement," Mrs. Weaver said.

"We can decide to throw up our hands in resignation and feel we're being rejected by the world, or we can allow ourselves to explore a variety of options."

Interpersed into each class period there will be time allotted for small group discussions.

"The primary value of the small group discussion is to give participants the opportunity to personalize the information presented to the total group," Mrs. Weaver said.

"We will be using structured activities to examine our personal values, decision-making styles, and how to spend our time meaningfully."

Mrs. Weaver first came to The Gathering Place last fall, with another pilot program, called "Personal Growth for Older Adults." That program has since been termed "a success," which aimed to help

participants see their lives in a new perspective; then learn to use all those experiences and accomplishments as a benefit in retirement living.

The new pilot program, as the former one, is limited to participants so as to give maximum attention to the individual.

IN HER WORK through the Continuum Center, Mrs. Weaver specializes in workshops, seminars and courses pertaining to pre-retirement planning, careers for retirees, working with and providing services for the aging.

Of her own experience, going through the university's Personal Growth course, she said, "We were all at a point of either being forced into, or else looking for a change of direction. There was a realization that there was a need to be needed, a need to be useful after our children were off on their own or our husbands were gone."

She leads the new course with her peers, all of them graduates of the Personal Growth course who have gone on to help others their age, focusing on the positive with an aim toward raising self-esteem.

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She brings jewelry and silver



The fine jewelry and silver that is the stock in trade for antique dealer Pauline Work comes to the Farmington Community Center's Antique Show July 26-29. The Farmington Hills woman, who has served on the board of directors of the National Association of Antique Dealers, has organized more than

a few major shows of her own. This week, she joins other specialist-collectors for the champagne preview on Thursday evening, and all day Saturday and Sunday. The show is the center's traditional contribution to the Founders Festival.