

Thursday, July 31, 1980

(F)10



Around the pool at the David Leone home is the get-together spot for Nicki Leone (at left), Karine Thepaut and Andrea Leone. Andrea is hosting both

her cousin from New York as well as her French guest, Karine, during the summer. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)



Peggy Sharp (at left) and her guest, Henry Antoine, bid one another adieu after a month of swimming and tennis together at Woodbrooke Swimming

Club. They are with Catherine Pauchant, chaperone for the French guests in four midwestern states this summer. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

## French students here to learn American ways

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

The myth that the United States is still a western outpost is being dispelled for French students who are winding up their visits in the Farmington

area through North Atlantic Cultural Exchange League (NACEL).

"Europeans are more curious about Americans than you are about us," said Catherine Pauchant, who is acting as chaperone for French teen-agers here.

She is one of eight visiting with 243 guests in Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Illinois this summer.

Host families are paired up with their French guests in accordance to mutual interests; then are on their own

to introduce the visitors to American ways and culture for a month's stay.

Ms. Pauchant, who teaches English in her hometown of Lille, France, recruits the French teens for U.S. visits mostly by word of mouth. She does lit-

tle or no advertising "because the kids are standing in line waiting to discover your way of life," she said, adding that a great many still think they will discover cowboys and Indians here.

CONVERSELY there are not that many American youth standing in line to go to France through NACEL.

NACEL coordinators here, Evelyn and Julian Prince of West Bloomfield, have no trouble getting American host families through a small article in the community papers. But there are just not too many takers from the French side of the exchange.

"If you came to France," Ms. Pauchant said, "you would be treated as a guest in a Frenchman's home. When we come to an American home we are treated as one of the family. That is a big difference."

She summed this up by saying, "Americans are much more welcoming."

Peggy Sharp, host to Antoine Henry in her home at 29580 Muirland, Farmington Hills, seemed to express best the feelings of three host families we met this week: "I walked into this blindly but gladly and I am sure happy I did."

Judy Leone, host to Karine Thepaut at 21182 East Farm, said, "We always wanted to learn French. And we are. Word by word by word."

Joanne Rennell, host to Claire LePouse, at 21260 Woodhill, gave testimony to the welcoming Americans.

"Everyone, all of our friends and neighbors, have gone out of their way to make Claire feel at home when they learned she was visiting us," she said.

MRS. SHARP became host to Antoine "because I knew I could furnish any kid who said he liked swimming and tennis with all the swimming and tennis he could take," she said.

The match has worked out well for the tennis player who is playing as number one for Woodbrooke Swimming Club's team during his stay.

At home, Antoine is sponsored by La-Coste, which Ms. Pauchant said is "quite rare. He would have to be very good to have such a sponsorship."

Karine spends a lot of her time in front of the Leone family's television set.

EACH OF the host families we talked with received their guest through an article in the Farmington Observer, placed by NACEL.

NACEL planned one group outing for the visitors in this area, a tour through Greenfield Village. After that, host families carry on with summer-as-usual activities.



Two of the American host families here live fairly close to one another so visits are common. Judy Leone (standing) serves (from left) Karine Thepaut, Lisa Rennell, her mother Joan Rennell and Claire

LePouse. The French guests will be leaving for home on the weekend. (Staff photos by Randy Borst)



### Evening at the ballet

The Farmington Area Arts Commission sponsors "An Evening at the Ballet" staged by members of the Busber Dance Troupe at 7 p.m. Sunday in Room 306, Building J, on Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus. The ballet, featuring Sarah Nuttall, (at left) Mark Mills and Kathy Haynes is part of the Farmington Summer Series sponsored by the commission in cooperation with Michigan Council for the Arts. There is no charge for any program in the summer series.

"Rosewood Ballet Suite" ensemble  
 Umbra for Parnes Feinstein Inc.

Flower of Green and Nylon  
 Made Sept 8-16 \$250.

The shops of  
**Walton-Pierce**  
 Grosse Pointe • Somerset Mall