

club circuit

OLDER WOMEN'S LEAGUE (OWL)
Farmington-Farmington Hills Chapter, meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30 in the home of Janet Good, 26099 Steel Road. The address is one block west of Drake and one block north of 11 Mile. Good is the Michigan state organizer for the national organization which is working to protect and advance the interests of older women. For information, call Good at 477-1823.

FARMINGTON KIWANIS CLUB

meets for a pot luck dinner at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30 in the home of Carl and Helen Dahlstrom, 23283 Witherpoon Road, Farmington Hills. The dinner is given in honor of Dick McGregor, who recently retired after a lifetime career in the canning industry. Dickland music will be furnished by Bill Ellison, Al Sale and Lloyd Smith, with Dorothy Smith on the washboard. Harlem Morris will recite "The Death of Dan McGee." The event is open to all friends of McGregor who are asked to call the

host ahead of time at 474-5580.

FARMINGTON OPTIMIST CLUB
meets for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31 in Honeytree Restaurant on Orchard Lake Road, between 11 and 12 Mile. For information, call Hal Gordon, 645-6900.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS, Farmington-Southfield and Wayne-Westland Chapters, join to host a dance at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31 in Bonnie Brook Country Club on Telegraph, south of 14 Mile. Music will be furnished by Reg-ooo. Guests are welcome.

FARMINGTON-SOUTHFIELD LALOCHE LEAGUE offers a new series of four discussion meetings for mothers who wish to breastfeed their babies.

The series begins at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 in the home of one of the members, 187 Collingham, Farmington. The topic is "The Advantages of Breastfeeding." Nursing babies are welcome.

LaLoche League offers mother-to-mother help with informal discussions which include the latest medical research and personal experiences. A lending library of books on childbirth, child care and breastfeeding is available.

Nancy Michaels, a Southfield resident, will lead the meeting. For information, call her at 356-4335.

SIERRA CLUB, Detroit Group, meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 in Northwest Unitarian Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway Service Drive, between Nine and 10 Mile, and Evergreen and Southfield roads in Southfield.

The meeting is open to non-members. For information, call the Sierra Club Hotline, 532-659.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to: Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024. The information must arrive before noon on the Monday before Thursday publication.

Jarvi gives forceful, artistic performance

By Avigdor Zoromp
special writer

The concluding program of the Meadow Brook Festival was conducted by the Estonian born conductor Neeme Jarvi. He is among the swelling ranks of talented Soviet performers who have chosen to leave their country and enrich our lives in the process.

He has conducted extensively in Europe and in this country and is presently the principal conductor for the Goeteborg Symphony.

The opening work on the program was "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" by Dukas. It is, of course, the single well-known composition by the composer, who lived twice as long as Mozart. This work was even more immortalized by the famous Walt Disney movie, "Fantasia."

Many of us might have a secret, or not-so-secret, yearning for a magician to perform our mundane tasks through magic tricks.

But a convincing performance of this work does require an early effort, which Maestro Jarvi evidently applied with great skill.

The other compositions on the program also featured musical descriptions of stories and images. These were the "Mother Goose Suite" by Ravel and "Pictures at an Exhibition" by Mussorgsky.

RAVEL, in fact, played a major role in the Mussorgsky work as well, since it is his orchestration which is commonly performed. It is one of the few cases in music in which an arrangement is superior to the original composition, which, in this case, was written for piano.

Thus, Ravel turned out to be the dominant composer in this closing program, after being featured in several others this season. The Ravel suite elicited a most convincing presentation of Ravel's impressionistic, sketchy style. Jarvi portrayed the various contrasting moods with authority.

There was the sprinkling of lightness in the Empress of the Pagodas scene, contrasted by the somber character of the subsequent movement, "Conversation of Beauty and the Beast."

The scenes in the "Pictures" also sprang to life in this performance. The generous orchestration of this work was applied here to provide a most vivid and authentic detail.

The first of these, "The Gnome," was performed in a heavier than usual manner, substituting the characteristic playfulness with gloomy overtones.

As the rest of the pictures were unfolding, the magnetic tension was overwhelming, in spite of the familiarity of the composition. Familiar scenes, like the Ox-cart, the Marketplace and the Catacombs, among others, seemed to

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take on new significance, without loss of authenticity.

The concluding Great Gate of Kiev was one of the most convincing presentations of this piece. Jarvi and the orchestra demonstrated that there is more to it than pure loudness and a lot of bang.

The noise level, in fact, seemed to be reduced. But the gradual building up towards the smashing conclusion was forceful, yet extremely artistic.

There were a lot of prominent solo parts, especially in the heavy brass section. While the list of individual credits would be too long, one noteworthy instance was tuba player Wesley Jacobs, whose instrument seldom has the opportunity to share the limelight. On this occasion, with his clear and colorful passages, he underscored the important role of his frequently underrated instrument.

"Pictures at an Exhibition" is scheduled again in the opening program of the regular season of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under Charles Dutoit. While this might point to some lack of coordination of the two events, it will give listeners who missed this performance a second chance. It also will pose some challenge to critics, who don't wish to repeat themselves on such short notice.

Book society to host award-winning author

Katherine Paterson will be the speaker for the fall luncheon of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Children's Book & Author Society, noon Wednesday, Sept. 14.

It will be held at the Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. Paterson is the only writer of books for young people to have twice been awarded the Newbery Medal. The two books to receive this award were "Bridge To Terabithia" and "Jacob I Have Loved."

SHE ALSO received two National Book Awards for "The Great Gilly Hopkins," and "The Master Puppeteer." Paterson was born and spent her early childhood years in China and was educated both there and in the United States. Following graduation from

King's College, she did graduate work in English Bible at Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond.

Paterson lived and taught in Japan for four years and that country and China, their history and their people, became subjects of her early novels.

Her latest novel, "Rebels of the Heavenly Kingdom," is a dramatic picture of a young boy growing up in mid-19th century China during the Taiping Revolution.

RESERVATIONS are by check only. Deadline is Sept. 9. Mail checks made out to BECBAS, \$9.75 per person to BECBAS, Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill, Birmingham, 48012.

For information, call Baldwin Library, 647-1700 or Birmingham Bookstore, 642-4404.



retirement memos

Margaret Miller

Connections dispel people's differences

"Write down your name and state," my husband and I were told as we filled out nametags for a cabana party at the condominium where we now live.

Joe and I had recently moved south and were delighted to be in our new state, so we proudly penned "Florida" after our names.

But as we mingled we found that people thought we were native Floridians. No, no, we explained, we were from Michigan and now had a new home state.

BUT WE'RE discovering also another truth the connections that pop us as you meet people and get to know them better.

In one day early in our stay here I met two women from Birmingham, one at church and the other at a chorale rehearsal. A couple sharing a pew with us one Sunday morning were from Rochester, Michigan, not Rochester, New York. And on another Sunday there was a visitor from Villa Grove, Ill. right next to Bement, where Joe grew up.

Well then, the others explained, we should have put down Michigan because it's where you are from that everyone is interested in.

THAT TRUTH becomes more evident as the weeks and months go on. Hardly anyone around here is really from Florida, although you do see a few "Native" and "Semi-Native" bumper stickers.

At the condominium we've met people from Illinois, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and South Carolina, as well as a good representative from Michigan.

The standing joke at the church we joined is that nearly everyone is from Indiana. But we've made friends there from plenty of other places, including Tennessee, Alabama, Wisconsin, Connecticut and England. Others there are from Michigan too, it turns out.

More encounters have been with folks from Nebraska, New Jersey and Washington, D.C.

And hearing about so many different places, comparing speech, customs and personal history, has been a fascinating aspect of relocation.

Two new friends have close relatives in our home area. Two others have children who live or have lived in Alaska, where we're going this summer to visit our daughter. And our new English friend has cousins in Sheffield, the home of my father's family.

CONNECTIONS take other funny turns. I met the occupant of the apartment directly above us not because of where she lives but because she's telephone contact for a service organization that interests me.

One slightly disconcerting connection turned up when we realized another Miller lives in our building, has the same address and seems to be getting some of our phone calls. But she turned out to be a most pleasant young woman when I went downstairs to give her our telephone number.

Differences and connections both make retired life interesting. We hope it keeps going that way.

Margaret Miller was Suburban Life editor for Observer Newspapers for 16 years. She and her husband Joe have retired to Florida, where she writes Retirement Memos.

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