

observing life

Girl Scouts Learn A Little About Lot In 1973 Program

By JAN WILLIAMS

While Katie Wojtan was learning silversmithing in Houston, Texas, her sister, Mary Ellen, was getting a taste of the "Nashville

Sound" in Tennessee.

Meanwhile, in Spencer, Mass., Kathleen Casey was helping build a wildlife sanctuary and Susan Weiss was touring southern California.

And that's only a few of

the experiences these Livonia girls encountered as participants in the Girl Scouts 1973 Wider Opportunities program.

The program offers senior and cadet Girl Scouts from

all over the world a choice of 34 different events in this country as well as several international trips.

After applying for a particular program, the girl must be accepted by the Girl Scout Council. The event fee runs from \$100 to \$150 which goes for room and board. In some cases the area council pays this fee, but each girl must pay her own transportation.

The purpose of the program is to increase the girls' self-awareness and confidence through travel while providing educational and enjoyable experiences.

Katie Wojtan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wojtan of Livonia, is a senior scout in Troop 270. She chose the program "Taste of Texas" in Houston because of her interest in meeting people in different parts of the country and learning their customs.

"I like traveling and meeting other people. I also like to camp out and this was a camping event."

The group spent several days of outdoor primitive camping at the Triple T Ranch near Houston. While there, they studied Indian crafts, beading, silversmithing and quilting. They also visited the Astro Dome, NASA Moon Base, a rodeo, oil fields and ranches.

Katie says interest groups were formed within the whole group and she chose marine biology. This group spent a few days beachcombing at Galveston on the Gulf of Mexico. They were under the supervision of a marine biologist who made clam chowder for them.

Katie, a 17-year-old senior at Ladywood High School, says she enjoyed the stay in Galveston most of all during the whole trip.

Katie's sister, Mary Ellen, also in Senior Troop 270, attended "Clubs," an event for scouts interested in music held in Nashville, Tenn. The name of the event comes from the word music spelled backwards.

"I'm interested in all kinds of music, mostly folk-rock. Country music is ok, but the program wasn't specifically devoted to this kind of music."

Workshops were available in flute, classical and jazz guitar, piano and vocal. Mary Ellen says she chose classical guitar and vocal because she had experience in both.

A song writing workshop conducted by a professional song writer was also offered. The group stayed at Vanderbilt University and visited the Grand Ole Opry, Country Music Hall of Fame, Opryland and recording studios.

Each girl also spent a few days with an area family. Mary Ellen celebrated her birthday and the family presented her with a cake and a present.

"I met a lot of nice people and I even learned to like country music a little."



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GIRL SCOUTS Mary Ellen Wojtan (left), Kathleen Casey and Kathleen Casey, share their memories of "Wider Opportunities," a

scouting program in which they participated this summer. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

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Exhibits Sketches At Hudson's

"Black Portrait of an African Journey," a 30 piece collection of sketches and paintings by Paul Collins, will be on exhibit in the J.L. Hudson Gallery Sept. 7 through Oct. 6.

Collins, a native Grand Rapids artist famous for his work in realistic contemporary studies, spent 18 months touring West Africa and then translating his experiences into a distinctive collection of

portraits and landscapes. These pieces present a very personal and intimate picture of Africa as it exists today; a country in transition.

A self-taught artist, Collins has exhibited his work in many galleries and colleges throughout the world.

Collins is currently working on his new collection, "Portrait of the American Indian," inspired by his stay in Wounded Knee, South Dakota.

"Black Portrait of an African Journey" has been published in a book of the same title with full-color reproductions of the collection. The book has recently won the Mead Award for outstanding excellence, book design, book idea and graphics.

The Gallery, on the seventh floor of Hudson's Downtown store, is open during all regular store hours, Tuesday through Saturday.

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Couple Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Salvatore, of Livonia, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in St. Aiden Catholic Church, Livonia. They also have nine grandchildren.

The children recently honored their parents with a dinner party in Northland Inn. Mr. Salvatore owned and operated the Circle Barber Shop in Dearborn and his wife was employed by the Dearborn Post Office before their retirement.

Married in Leetonia, Ohio on Aug. 18, 1923, they have been residents of Michigan for 25 years and of Livonia for the past three.

The couple has two daughters, Mrs. Irene Rogala of



MR. AND MRS. ANTHONY SALVATORE

Plastows Celebrate 50th Anniversary



MR. AND MRS. JAMES PLASTOW

Ladies Auxiliary Holds Convention

The 60th annual national convention of the Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was held recently. Auxiliary headquarters were in the Fairmont Roosevelt Hotel.

Sunday joint memorial services were held and a joint opening of the convention of the post and auxiliary was held Monday.

The remaining days were

for presentation of chairman's awards.

The Michigan Ladies Auxiliary President Mrs. Carl Pickard of Muskegon and other state officers attended.

Friends and relatives attended the party given by their children.

The couple was married in London, Ontario on Aug. 11, 1923 and have lived in Farmington for the past 13 years. Mr. Plastow retired in 1970.

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Mama Mia! It's A Girl

Mr. and Mrs. John Tringali of Livonia, owners of Mama Mia Restaurant on Plymouth Rd., announce the birth of a daughter, Maria Nichole.

Born Sunday, Aug. 19 in Sinai Hospital, Maria weighed nine lbs. and 10 oz. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James T. Tringali of Livonia and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Timmons of Redford.

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