

The Observer WOMEN

Madame President



Mrs. John Van Lier

By BIBE LINDHOUT

What is it that pushes, or pulls, "just plain housewives" to go beyond the confines of their home and family, to assume the added responsibilities of actively participating in the vast vaguely defined field which carries the unassuming name of "volunteer work." How do they reconcile having the demands of their family oftening go unanswered because mother's busy volunteerism?

We propose to ask the presidents of many different organizations for answers to these and other like questions in this series entitled Madame President.

Until 1955 Mrs. John Van Lier did not do much socializing. She worked full time in a business office and after work and housework there just wasn't much room left on the schedule for "clubbing."

And so, when her husband suggested that she'd worked long enough, and wasn't it time she stayed home? Hattie found a great big 40-hour hole in her week.

"It was so used to being busy. And after a year of sitting home I thought I'd go out of my mind," she says.

In 1955 she started to work with the newly formed Y-Teens at Riley Junior High School.

Her interest in gardening soon led her to Livonia's Park and Garden Club and a friend made there, Mrs. Clayton Burns, introduced her to the City Women's Club.

Hattie and her husband moved to Livonia in 1938. When they bought the house at 1504 Farmington Road it was the first house north of Five Mile, whereas now office buildings and homes line both sides of the road. The challenge of taming the wilderness immediately around them developed their interest in gardening. They still consider it one of their favorite hobbies.

Hattie also likes to dry and preserve flowers and foliage—making pictures and plaques with them. "I am interested, too, in conserving wooded areas and in the wild flowers of Michigan," she says.

It is easy to see how she can combine a president's hat with her hobby. Hattie was first elected president of the Garden Club in 1960 but poor health forced her to resign. She was elected to that post again this year.

The activities of the Woman's Club are more in the area of service. Here Hattie is serving her second year as president. "Each year we have one big project," she says. "We have a card party to raise money and then buy a gift for some group—we think this is nicer than just donating money."

Her reasons for all these varied outside interests are the same. "I enjoy being with people and meeting new people," she says. "There is so much we can learn from each other."

As president, Hattie makes a point of calling on new members in her clubs. "Many new members are newcomers," she adds. "I think they join these clubs to get acquainted, and it's part of my job to make them feel welcome."

Los Caballeros Meet
The Los Caballeros 4th Club has held its latest meeting, with Vice President Linda Sletten presiding. Janice Pribe acted as both Secretary and Treasurer, with Carol Andrews, the Treasurer, absent.

Wedding Gowns Of All Ages Modeled

Wedding gowns of the past and fashions for your springtime future will be shown at the Keeler Mothers Club Fashion Show at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, in the school gym.

The spring fashions are from Zieback's Suburban. They will be described by Mrs. Richard French, fashion coordinator for the store. The theme of the show will be "My Fair Lady."

The bridal gowns represent years from the 1800's through the 1950's. They will be modeled to a background of wedding music sung by the Melody Mome Quartet. The singers are Betty Scheek, Nancy Conley, Millie Montgomery and Florence MacDougall. Eleanor Manti will play piano accompaniment for the entire show.

All the models will be members of Mothers Club and teachers of Keeler School. Hair styles will be Mr. Ronald.

Tickets for the affair must be purchased by Feb. 15. They can be bought in the school office or from Diane Mienk for \$1.75 each. Free tickets will be sold after Feb. 15.

A Maurice salad luncheon and dessert will be served by members of the Future Teachers Club and other students from Redford Union High School. Door prizes will be given.

Makeup arrangements for the affair are Pat Judd and Ann Weyher, co-chairmen; Jean Hesteg, Mothers Club president, and Mrs. Mienk, tickets.



Dr. and Mrs. Roger L. O'Bryan

Watchko-O'Bryan Marriage January 9

Mariene Helen Watchko and Dr. Roger L. O'Bryan were married Jan. 9 at St. Theodore Roman Catholic Church.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Watchko of Livonia and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William O'Bryan of Detroit.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a floor length Paris Couturier Design gown of peau de soie with a Victorian neckline. Her veil was floor length and the bride carried a bouquet of white roses in a cluster of white carnations with streaming ivory.

Elizabeth Watchko, the bride's sister who served as maid of honor, wore a floor length deep blue velvet gown with a round neck and a-line skirt. She carried pink roses on white muffs with streams of ivory. A pillow box had finished the ensemble.

The bridesmaids, Joyce Watchko, Jan Rae Schollenberger and Mary Lou Johnson, wore the same gowns. However, two of the bridesmaids' dresses were in deep purple.

Tom O'Bryan, the bridegroom's brother, served as best man. Seating the guests were: Ronald O'Bryan, Richard O'Bryan, Donald Watchko, Michael Watchko, Dr. R. Barnes and Robert Lennie.

Following a reception for 300 at the Knights of Columbus, the newlyweds left for a wedding trip to Puerto Rico.

The new Mrs. O'Bryan chose a pale yellow wool suit with winter white accessories as her traveling outfit.

The bride is a graduate of Central Michigan University and is currently attending graduate school at the University of Michigan. Her husband is a graduate of the Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery.

The newweds will live in Deckerville, Mich.

Girl Scout Notes

Junior Troop 1088 from the Whitman Neighborhood was one of the many troops in attendance at the recent Girl Scout Symphony. Both the music by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and dancing by the Detroit City Ballet were much enjoyed by everyone. A recent week-end spent at Kensington provided the girls with the opportunity to learn many out-door skills and crafts.

Moving over to the Jackson Neighborhood we find that Junior Troop had fun at the roller rink. It was the first time on skates for many of the girls and they all had fun even though it wasn't their feet that hurt when they were done.

Cadet Troop 2249 of Cooper Neighborhood has crossed the bridge to the Cadette Program with an intriguing re-dedication ceremony attended by the parents of the girls. The spectators thoroughly enjoyed the program, troop movies, ceremonies, and refreshments.

Pop tunes have temporarily been replaced by classical music for Girl Scout Troop 958 of Memorial Neighborhood. These Junior Scouts have been studying the compositions of the masters for the last three meetings as a requirement toward the Junior Musical Badge.

Highlight of the music appreciation portion of the badge was a trip Jan. 24 to see the Plymouth Symphony perform at Plymouth High School, under the direction of Wayne R. Dunlap.

After the concert the girls were invited backstage to interview the conductor and musicians and examine the various instruments of the orchestra.

Mrs. Carl Kiesel, who is a committee member for the troop and coordinator for the Musical Badge is busy preparing the girls for their own recital in March.

"The girls are learning to play the song flute and are practicing for a concert before their sister troops and parents," Mrs. Kiesel said. "The highlight of the program will be some original songs composed by the girls. We hope that they will be able to appreciate all types of music at this completion of the badge."

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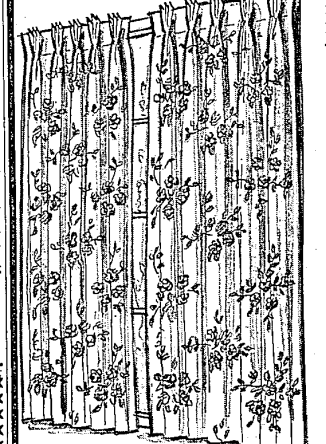
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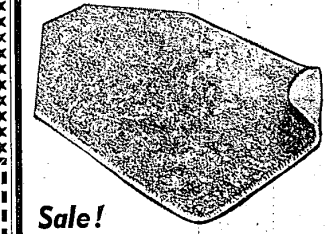
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