

There's a lodge for every man

By RON GARENKO

For 73 members, it's all in fun. They call themselves the Society For Preservation of Wooden Toilet Seats. Since their Frigint Odor of Lumbermen were covered international secretary Leonard Putnam of Oregon has received more than 73 requests to save this sacred part of American tradition.

The society was founded on memories triggered when Leonard thought back to his youth, calling up memories of out-houses, says Gordon Graham of Farmington Hills, a meeting officer in the Royal Flush of the International Order of SFPOWTS.

"So we built the society around wooden out-houses and have devoted ourselves to the preservation of wooden toilet seats."

"We're not kidding. We actually are involved in such a group," explains Graham.

AND PUTNAM has fond memories of his family's two older that was "20 steps long step if you hurried" from the family ranch house.

"I recall sitting there in the morning, looking at the door open and having the sun shining down on my bare knees while I sat there thumbing through the Sear's catalogue dreaming of things I'd like to someday buy," Putnam says.

Back then, in the lumbering mountains of Oregon, times were hard. But Putnam and his family made it.

"Even though we didn't have much, we weren't exactly starving. Let me put it this way: Most people only had a one-

holer, but we had a two-holer," Putnam boasts.

These are the memories that bring together the 73 members of SFPOWTS International.

"Our society is made up of a group of crazy guys who are involved in the lumber industry. We get together every once in a while to raise a stink," Graham says, unable to keep a straight face.

"We are all members of the International Order of HOO-HOO, the fraternal order of lumbermen. Any connection whatsoever with the lumber industry qualifies you for membership in our organization," he continues.

The HOO-HOOS have more than 10,000 members in three countries with nine jurisdictions called the Royal Flush, governed by a "Privy Council."

GRAHAM is the leader of "Hole II," the regional jurisdiction based in Farmington Hills and serving the 11 members in the greater Detroit area.

Since Putnam thought the HOO-HOO organization needed a greater connection within the club, he conceived SFPOWTS.

"I actually, the society wasn't formed, it just happened," Putnam says while trying to explain the beginning of the group and his role as "Secretary and Sister of the Ancient Out-house."

"The purpose of our group is to enjoy ourselves. Leonard has been visiting Michigan for a couple of days, and we hope to keep him from his native Oregon for a couple more days," Graham says.

"We have concluded our regularly scheduled meeting with Leonard's visit," Graham said during Putnam's visit last week.

"Friendships are formed in our society, and it's a screwy bunch of guys. The longer one stays in the group, the screwier he gets."

"It's just a source of fun for me and keeps me from going nuts at times," Graham says.

Putnam is a logging contractor from Oregon and has been involved with the group since its inception in 1981. During the past several weeks, Putnam has had problems with the United States Customs Office at the Canadian border.

He was to receive a prefabricated "two-holer" out-house from a group of Canadian lumbermen.

THIS OUTHOUSE is to be constructed in Putnam's hometown as "a shrine to the international odor of SFPOWTS to remember the good old days."

But he had problems getting it across the border because authorities didn't know what to make of it.

"After they impounded the thing for about two weeks, we finally got clearance to ship the two-holer across the border."

Putnam says

"For a while, I thought we were going to have to call on Secretary of State Kissinger to get my out-house through customs. But it made it," the tall, 60-year-old lumberman explains.

"It is important to me that we get this out-house installed by our lake here in Klamath Falls. The place where I live."

"My motive is to have this out-house help us get our lake cleaned up. It has been polluted for years, and we are using our society to get the State of Oregon to take action."

"We do have our serious moments, and this is one of them. Even though we deal in fun, we also deal in facts. And maybe this out-house struggle and its placement by the lake will help break the ice with the governor and get something done about our lake," Putnam continues.

"Yeah, the lake is a stinking hole," adds Graham. "I don't even think we would want the out-house put near it because it smells so bad."

And with this movement, requests to preserve out-houses continue pouring in for Putnam, Graham and the SFPOWTS.



Crooning a tune to Rob Stormont is Sharon Woldt, as Marian, in the Farmington High School production of "Music Man" to be presented May 6, 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$2 in advance and \$2.50 at the door. (Photo by Cyd Abatt)

Farmington artists laud talent

By CORINNE ABATT

Prize money from the Farmington Area Art Council and highly favorable comments from the judges made the Farmington Artists' Club's spring exhibit and sale a very special one for all involved.

This was the first time cash prizes were given and that, says Edee Joppich, club

president, is sure to draw the future participation of many fine area artists.

Judges John Davenport, professor of art at Oakland Community College and humanities department chairman, and David Sharp, associate professor at Eastern Michigan University, were both enthusiastic about the quality of entries.

"Never have I seen such a consistent degree of sophistication in all the works that

were submitted," said Davenport.

"I feel tinged because it really was hard work to choose from among such a group of largely excellent work," Sharp commented.

The best of show award went to Eleanor Niel for her watercolor "Girl with Black Headband."

The judges commended on their choice: "Marvelously done, a watercolor which happens to be a figure, and we both agree that from our own experiences, the figure is not easy to handle."

"While quite often there may be good painting in the figure, the figure itself may be a bad one. To get those two together the way this artist has is just simply marvelous."

Farmington artist Marjorie Chelstorp was awarded first prize for her watercolor "Sanctuary."

The judges said of this painting: "A very fluid kind of abstract expressionism that is very bold and very soft, adding that it was done with a 'masterful handling of the medium, very soft and ethereal."

The second prize ribbon was placed on Barbara Turney's oil, "My Forever Days."

The judges comments on this still life ranged from "beautiful modulation of tones" to "a quality of Matissean simplification that is achieved without a sense of self-consciousness."

The third prize ribbon and cash award went to Evelyn Palliser for her watercolor "Spring Bouquet."

The judges complimented Ms. Palliser for being "so graphic and so beautifully organized" in her work in the mixed-media painting.

Honorable mentions went to Jacquelyn Arant, "Spartan Table," acrylic; Eva Briggs, "Vagabondia," acrylic; Marjorie Chelstorp, "Untitled," drawing; Caroline Murphy, "White Sail," watercolor; Ed Hoffman, "Bear River," acrylic; Edee Joppich, "Inner Spaces-Secret Places," mixed media; Patricia Kilbourn, "Amy," watercolor; Eleanor Niel, "Red Dress," oil; Walter Reddig, "Sunset," ink/watercolor; and Elizabeth Holm Stevens, "The Bridge," oil.

Youths die in idling car

Two Farmington Hills teenagers died last weekend in what local police officials called accidental death.

Richard Nyysti, 18, of 2280 Albion St., and a 14-year-old girl were found dead at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 1, as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning, Farmington Hills police reported.

The youths were found early Saturday

morning in a 1966 Pontiac sedan parked at the end of Watts Street in Farmington Hills, police said.

Officers responding to the accident found the two bodies in the front seat of the car with the ignition on and the radio still playing, police said.

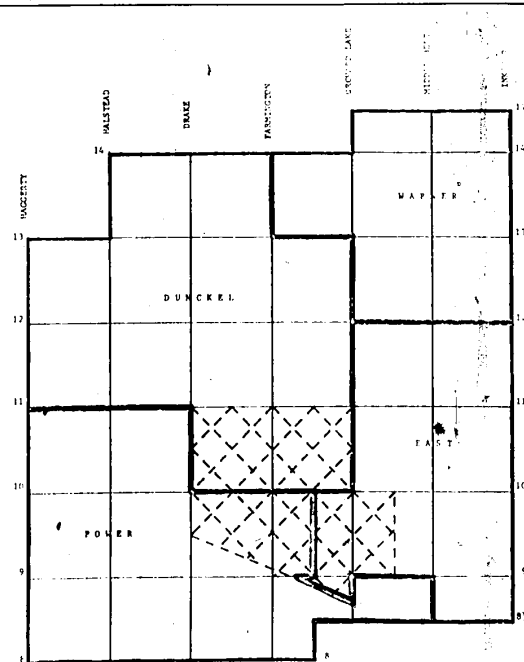
The girl's identification is being withheld pending further investigation.

Petz speaks at Lions Club

Weldon Petz, principal of Flanders Elementary School, Farmington, will lecture on "The Lawyer who Spoke at Gettysburg" before the Lions Club of Farmington and Southfield.

Petz, a noted authority on Abraham Lincoln, will present slides and artifacts as he reviews the life of the President from the time of his bar examination until the "Gettysburg Address."

The Lions Clubs' dinner meeting, with a bicentennial theme, will be at the Orchard United Methodist Church, 3020 Farmington Road, near Thirteen Mile Road, in Farmington on May 25. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. Contact Dr. Seymour Rosen for reservations at 474-5125.



Junior high redistricting

With the closing of Farmington Junior High School at the end of this academic year, the school district is required to change the junior high attendance boundaries. The above map reflects this change as students living in the Farmington Junior High area (the checked section) will be transferred to one of the other three nearby junior highs. The 104 students living north of Ten Mile will go to Duncle Junior High, increasing that school's enrollment to 899. East Junior will receive 195 students in the redistricting, topping enrollments there at 1,175. Students residing west of Power Road and south of Ten Mile will attend Power Junior High next year. School populations at Power will increase 180 students to 778. No pupils will be transferred to Warner Junior High because it is too far to bus students. The enrollment at that school will remain at 693.

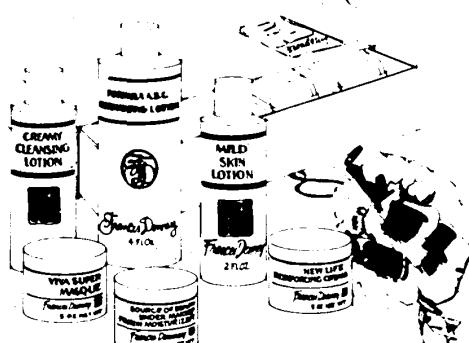
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