

Local Soroptimists seek new projects, new members

By LORRAINE McCLISH

A copy of the film, "Meeting Strangers: Red Light, Green Light" now belongs to the Farmington Hills Police Department, as a gift from the Farmington Soroptimists.

"The film is used to help school children realize the dangers of meeting strangers," said Soroptimist president Shirley Hatfield. "When the police wanted it before, they had to borrow it from the Southfield Police."

The gift reflects the kind of community service that is a part of the international organization's overall purpose. It was organized in 1921 by a handful of women who wanted to advance the status of women through community service. It now has 60,000 members in more than 50 countries.

Since its beginnings, the club has stretched out to include public affairs, international goodwill and understanding, youth activities, and an interest in the United Nations.

ONE PROJECTS which all chapters include in their yearly agenda, is the Youth Citizenship Award.

"The girl who we chose for our citizenship award, won the district, state award this past year. She is Christine Fritz, of Novi, and we're proud of her," Ms. Hatfield said.

In addition to this award, the local club took on the sponsorship of a literacy award, in cooperation with the Michigan Council of the Arts and the Farmington Area Arts Commission.

Members make money for the service projects in what Ms. Hatfield called "small ways." Most recently they manned the Candy Van at the Founders Festival, with the added attraction of Ms. Hatfield's advice. Hence, who told fortunes with palmistry and astrology.

"Our biggest money-making venture for years was the Farmington Town Hall," Ms. Hatfield explained. But town hall lectures dropped in popularity about the same time the Farmington Soroptimists dropped in membership.



Farmington Hills Police Lt. Richard Niemisto (at left) and Police Officer Linda Harris, accept a gift from Shirley Hatfield on behalf of the Farmington Soroptimists. The reel of film is the movie

"We're on a down cycle now," she said. "Some clubs just do that, and we hit a period where many of our members either retired and left town, or got sick, moved away. So right now I'm in the business of looking for a new, big, project, and some new active members."

THE SOROPTIMISTS is the world's largest classified service organization for executive business and professional women.

Membership is by invitation only.

The club limits its membership to maintain its effectiveness as a repre-

sentative group of the community, Ms. Hatfield explained.

A member must devote at least 60 percent of her occupational time, or gain at least 60 percent of her income from the business or profession in which she is classified for membership.

The group avoids action on any

party political or sectarian religious questions.

The name comes from two Latin words "soror" and "optima" which means "the best for women."

Ms. Hatfield is the accountant for the Farmington Public School District. She will take calls of inquiry at her place of business, 477-1300.

Morse is appointed bank legal officer

Farmington Hills resident Plim F. Morse II has been promoted to legal officer at Manufacturers Bank. Morse

joined the firm in 1974. He has BA and JD degrees from the University of Michigan.

A battered steamer trunk sits in our upper hall, a pile of very dusty light blue shirts and dark blue jeans made their way through the wash cycles, and another era seems to be over for our growing-up clan.

Our youngest is home from probably her final stay at band camp. It's an era that, by my best count, spans nine years. Nearly a decade of packing girls, blue shirts and instruments off for a few weeks of rehearsals, challenges, lessons, and camp experiences.

Uncounted weeks of advancing musicianship, improving discipline, forming friendships. More final concerts than I can count now, and more tears of parting than anyone can remember. And uncounted much awaited letters from Dad and notes from me that ended "Have fun and play well."

They always did both, and we're all agreed it has been a part of growing for that won't be forgotten.

We've sent campers to two different music camps in the state, spanning ages from early junior high to last year senior high. One year saw both a camper and a counselor in the same music camp.

This year was a bit different though, and my letters had to be amended to "Sing and dance well," because our camper this summer left her French horn home and concen-



By MARGARET MILLER

trated instead on helping to put on two musical comedies.

The rest of us made a total of three journeys across the state to see her on stage and applaud the really fine performances by a bunch of kids obviously having the time of their lives.

The experience was a great finale, for us as well as for her, and though, others furnished homeward transportation this time and I wasn't around for the parting tears, I'm still hearing off-thusiasm reports.

Probably by next summer she'll join the other three music campers of our family as members of the nation's work force. But she'll join them, too, in remembering for a long time the very special kind of music that waits from woods and cabins.

Blue shirts may eventually be packed away, but memories will stay.

Ferris State graduates 16 from Farmington

Sixteen Farmington area students were among 2392 graduates of Ferris State College during the 1976-77 academic year.

Farmington Hills residents are: David D. Camp, 3272 Heartstone, AAS auto service; Linda M. Comer, 23216 Eleven Mile, BS environmental health with distinction; Lou Demarco, Jr., 24211 Farmington Rd., BS accounting; Stephen N. Gahagan, 29942 Brantton, AAS technical illustration; and Laurie A. Hoch, 30314 Eleven Mile, BS advertising.

Also: Robert E. Kessler, 32431 Briarcrest, BS marketing; William B. Langsten, 24376 Springbrook, BS hospital management transfer and AAS service supervisor; Diane M. McCallum, 32971 Thornadyke, AAS dental hygiene with high distinction; Joseph C. Meyers, 35190 Gary, AAS technical illustration with distinction; James L. O'Dell, 34110 Thirteen Mile, AAS higher accounting; Kenneth F. Perpich, 22480 Walsingham, AAS refrigeration, heating, and air conditioning with dis-

tinction; and Annette M. Telesco, 27065 Arden Park, AAS dental hygiene.

Farmington residents are: Richard L. Campbell, 33355 Cloverdale, BS accounting; John H. Humble, 22551 Maple, BS trade-tech education; James G. Lawson, 35622 Muirwood, BS insurance; and Crystal L. Sutton, 36201 Grand, AAS court and conference reporting with high distinction.

Common Cause is Liba's interest

Farmington residents Bill and Christine Liba, volunteer activists for Common Cause, the self-described national citizens' lobby, had the opportunity to meet Nan Waterman recently. Ms. Waterman, national chairman of Common Cause, visited the Detroit area for a television program and met with Michigan activists of the organization.

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