

# Spotlight on Women

## AAUW Helps Send Moms Back To School

By MARGARET MILLER  
Women's Editor

When Mrs. David Chan first attended university classes, it was as a pre-medical student in Hong Kong.

"I never liked it," she remembers. Now she's studying to be a history teacher and loves every minute.

Mrs. Arnold Collins married while she was still in high school in Warren, Mich. Now it's six children later, and she's beginning an interesting journey to a degree that will qualify her to teach mathematics.

"It's wonderful to be back in school," she says. "I can feel my brain beginning to work again."

"It's been idling in low gear, because the problems you solve at home with a family are so different from those in school."

THESE LIVONIA women, only two of thousands in Observerland who are furthering their education while also serving on the family front, have a common denominator though they've never met.

Both are going to school on scholarships provided by the Plymouth branch of the American Association of University Women.

Amelia Chan's grant of \$250, through the University of Michigan Center for Continuing Education of Women, is financing her senior year on the U-M Dearborn campus.

With the grant, she'll be able to carry 17 or 18 credit hours when the fall semester starts in October. She leaves her preschooler, Chris, with a neighbor when she's in school.

ONALEE COLLINS is recipient of the 1970-71 Jane K. Moehle scholarship, a full-tuition grant sponsored annually by the Plymouth AAUW to a Schoolcraft Community College student.

The scholarship has been in effect since 1961, but this is the first time it has been awarded in the name of Mrs. Moehle, chairwoman of the SCC board of trustees and an active member and former president of the Plymouth group.

It's open to any woman in this area who plans to attend Schoolcraft.

BOTH SETTING their sights on teaching careers, Mrs. Chan and Mrs. Collins have some different approaches to their education.

Amelia Chan began her college work in 1966, before her child Chris, was born, and took classes at Wayne State University and Schoolcraft before moving on to the U-M campus.

She's found evening classes work best into her schedule, so her husband, a laboratory technician with the Flint Ink Co., can stay with Chris and his three older children by a former marriage.

Onalee Collins, on the other hand, tries to schedule day classes so that in the evening, she can be home with her husband, a house painter, and their youngsters, Gary, 14; David, 12; Mary, 11; Brenda, 10; John, 8, and Paula, 7.

THEY VARY, too, in their decisions in choosing majors. "I thought of switching to teaching science instead of



ONALEE COLLINS on the Schoolcraft campus (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

history because the field may be pretty crowded," Mrs. Chan said. "But I finally decided to stay with the subject I really like."

She figures that by going on to a master's degree and specializing in Southeast Asia history, she will be able to find a position on a high school or junior college staff.

Mrs. Collins also thought of teaching history. But noting the "abundance of history teachers," she decided to switch to math. "I've always liked that subject, too," she said.

MRS. CHAN is whole-hearted

in her approval of the American educational system that offers so many opportunities to women.

Her original study in the field of medicine began, she thinks, because possibilities are far more limited in the Orient.

"My father had not much education," she said, "but he valued education very highly. I was the eldest of seven children, and I guess medicine seemed to him the most academic study he could imagine."

A native of Singapore, she met David Chan while she was attending the University of Hong Kong. He had emigrated from Hong Kong to the United States, and returned when his wife was killed in an auto accident and left him with three young children.

"He planned to stay in Hong Kong, but he found everything so changed," she said. Besides, he met an attractive young pre-medical student who was boarding with his mother, so before long he returned to this country with the three youngsters and a bride. The Chans lived in Detroit before moving to Livonia four years ago.

ONALEE COLLINS said she had always planned to go to college as soon as her children were in school and things were going pretty much according to plan.

"I'm finding it's not easy to fit housework and homework and laundry into my mornings, but I'm sure I'll work it out," she said.

The children are helping, she said, and added: "I think families survive with a lot less attention from mother than most mothers want to admit."

"I'd like to be ready to teach by the time Gary is starting college. It's in the ninth grade now, so that gives me four years."

### Seniors' Club

Men and women 60 and older are invited to join the Plymouth Senior Citizens' Club on a three-day bus trip to Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Oct. 5-6 and 7. The bus will leave Plymouth City Hall on Main St., at 8 a.m.

Tour fare of \$59, payable by Oct. 1, will include two nights at the Empire Hotel, train fare on the Algoma Central RR to Agawa Canyon, two evening meals and one lunch. To make reservations, call Phyllis Coosala at 453-9478.

## Sam Levenson First Speaker For Town Hall

Sam Levenson, America's funny former schoolteacher, will open Northville's Town Hall season Thursday, Oct. 8, with his wry, homespun comments on the generation gap.

His lecture will begin at 11 a.m., in Northville High School auditorium, Eight Mile and Sheldon.

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the Northville Town Hall again will offer four Programs for \$10, with celebrity luncheons for \$12.

Single tickets will be available for the lecture only for \$5.

Reservations should be made by mailing checks to Northville Town Hall, Box 92, Northville. Celebrity luncheons will be held at Lofy's, Ann Arbor and Lilley Rds., Plymouth. Cost is \$3 per buffet luncheon and must be prepaid by the season. Mrs. John Frew, at 349-0835, is the luncheon reservations chairman. Mrs. Robert Brueck, 349-2230, is in charge of baby-sitting.

Anyone wishing a brochure announcement should call Mrs. Nelson Hyatt at 349-0886, Mrs. Jack Doherty, at 349-0808, or



SAM LEVENSON

Mrs. Phillip Wegeng, at 349-6481.

Levenson will be followed Nov. 12 by a fashion show, presented by a Dearborn women's shop. Other speakers will be Mike Whorf, host of the WJR radio show

"Kaleidoscope," March 11, and Walter W. Rosenberg, who will give an introduction to wines April 22.

## m. m. memos

My parents mentioned that they had a couple of spare napkin rings—silver ones, as a matter of fact, and would we like to have them?

"What's a napkin ring?" the girls wanted to know. . . I realized it was a reasonable question. At our house, cloth napkins come out of the drawer when we have guests and make a one-meal appearance.

"Well," I explained to the paper napkin generation, "we used to use cloth napkins and each member of the family had his own napkin ring. We folded them and rolled them up and put them in the rings to keep them for a week or until we couldn't stand them any longer."

Seemed a bit odd, they thought. We decided we didn't have much use for napkin rings.

Then one of them was invited to eat at a friend's house recently.

"You know," she told me later, "they use cloth napkins. Permanent press material, and they have two sets so they can be washed at the end of the week."

"You should try them. You wouldn't have to complain that we drop them on the floor and leave them all around the house."

Maybe I'll give some consideration to this new-fangled idea. Have to keep up with the times, you know.

Margaret Miller

## Women's Status To Be Explored

The current status of gainfully employed women will be explored at a meeting Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Dearborn Inn. Among the speakers will be State Sen. N. Lorraine Beebe, whose talk will be titled "In the Final Analysis."

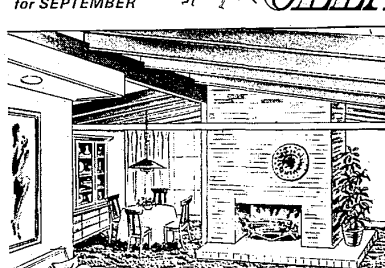
The conference is sponsored by Oakland University's division of continuing education and the Zonta Club of Dearborn.

JANE KAY, administrator of office employment for the Detroit Edison Co., will be a conference speaker. Her talk will deal with obstacles faced by employed women, including the hazard of working with men who stereotype women in business and limit their potential; women who do not work well with other women; and women who are hypercritical of business situations.

OTHER SPEAKERS will include local District Judge Alice Gilbert; Mary Ellen Ritorian, president of the Detroit Federation of Teachers. Conference fee is \$9.50, which includes registration, tuition, luncheon and coffee. Registrations should be made with Mrs. Dorothy Owen, Director of Conference, Oakland University, Rochester, telephone 377-3000, ext. 2175.

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AMELIA CHAN with Chris. (Observer photo by Vince Witek)