

# Wedding Bells Recall Memories Of Student Visit

Having a student visitor from another land in your home is its own reward, hundreds of families in Observerland would testify. You don't expect any extra dividends.

But for two Farmington women, the hospitality and warmth extended to an exchange student from Germany turned into a European trip last month.

Mrs. Milly Lake, secretary at the Kenbrook school, and Mrs. Frances Evert, well-known for her pictures in this newspaper, went to Germany to be guests at the wedding of Guenter Stamerjohanns, of Bremen, and a pretty girl named Val Schulte.

Guenter returned to his homeland late in the summer of 1967, but he kept in close touch with his American family.

Two years ago he was back for a visit, and he told the Lakes then about his friendship with Val, a young architectural student.

**SO MILLY LAKE** wasn't too surprised to hear he was planning to marry.

"The surprise was the way he told me," she said. "He had sent a roll of tape in October, as he often did, and I took it to school to play it because a lot of the teachers there knew him."

"But it was just music, so I put it away and didn't think much more about it. A few weeks later there was a letter asking if I had received his wedding invitation."

"It turned out that the tape had to be played on stereo, and when we did so we heard Guenter telling us he would be married in March and he and his mother wanted us to come to Germany as their guests."

Burton Lake was unable to go because of business obligations, so Mrs. Evert joined his wife for the trip.

**THEIR TRIP** was a delightful one, both reported, and Fran made a pictorial record to rival Guenter's visit to his country.

Many wedding customs in Germany seemed worth reporting, they agreed.

"When we arrived, they were already married in a ceremony," Fran said. "The church ceremony came the next day."

But the night before the church wedding, Guenter's friends all gathered outside the house and broke old crocks and dishes on the sidewalk.

"Then they called the bridegroom to sweep them up."

In the church, they said, the bride walked down the aisle first, followed by their attendants and then members of both immediate families.

And following the ceremony the bridegroom gave each other schnapps in pewter spoons - a good luck custom.

The newlyweds postponed their honeymoon to give their American visitors a tour of the spots of interest near their home, and later Milly and Fran went touring on their own to other parts of Germany.



MILLY LAKE (left) and Frances Evert are enjoying looking through pictures of their recent trip to the wedding of a former exchange student who visited Farmington. At the upper right you can see the picture they're viewing.



MR. AND MRS. GUENTER STAMERJOHANN

**THE STORY BEGINS** in the fall of 1966, when Guenter came to Farmington to live with the Lake family as part of the Youth for Understanding program.

He and the Lakes son, Gary, went to Farmington High School.

"It was a wonderful experience to have him with us," Mrs. Lake said, "and the Everts shared it with us." Ralph and Frances Evert had become well acquainted with the young man as he recorded his visit in pictures to send home to Germany.

## Mrs. Beebe Turns Attention To Plight of Troubled Child

The lady who did more than anyone to push abortion law reform to the forefront in Michigan now is turning her attention to the plight of troubled children.

It's another great need in our society, believes former State Sen. Lorraine Beebe, who addressed the Livonia League of Women Voters in Plymouth last week.

Defeated last November in a bid for re-election in the 12th District, Mrs. Beebe now is working as a member of the Michigan State Parole and Review Board Youth Services Office in Lansing.

**IN THIS CAPACITY**, she talks to dozens of teens who for a variety of reasons are in correctional institutions.

"These children I'm working with right now need help," she told the women, explaining that concerned people need to get involved in matters of education, crime, welfare and taxation as well as population control.

Mrs. Beebe said young people, especially those institutionalized after repeated truancy and uncooperativeness, "lose their identity in training schools."

And she issued the women a challenge, asking if they would be willing to accept a half-way house in this area for such troubled teens.

"It is wrong to take children who have not been destructive of property or persons out of homes and put them into a training school," she stated. "But how do we get the community to accept them?"

**SHE SUGGESTED** that organizations and individual citizens can help children with special needs, those who are law-abiding but alienated and uncooperative, "misfits even among their peers."

"Take these youngsters under your wing," she said. "These are the children we are missing. They are excluded by most agencies."

She also spoke out against labeling of children, as delinquent, mentally retarded, trouble makers and so on. They have a difficult time getting away from these labels which in many cases are unjustified. For instance, a child with an undetected hearing loss has a hard time in school and may be called a "slow learner."

A former teacher and counselor, she pointed out that all children have learning disabilities at times. The problem may last a year, it may last longer.

**MRS. BEEBE** didn't bypass the abortion question. Well acquainted with the many aspects of abortion law reform after conducting hearings around the state during the last legislative term, she gave a report on the status of the current bill that has passed in the State Senate and is awaiting action in the House of Representatives.

"I hope this question doesn't have to go to a referendum in 1972," she said. "I don't want the polarization we saw with parochialism."

Education, welfare and taxes also were included in her touch - all - bases talk to the LWV.

In education, she stressed quality. "There must be an accountability by educators for quality, not quantity of pupils they turn out otherwise state and national standards are just around the corner." We must accept changes, she said, and we must

research, debate and refine them.

"What do children learn?" she asked. "Are they being trained to accept the challenges of a complicated society? We are finding that buildings, equipment, teacher-pupil ratios are not so important after all. What does matter is how much each child is learning."

**OF WELFARE**, she said, "It's going to break the state," and of taxes "There will be more."

She urged everyone to work together to combat crime and delinquency. Mrs. Beebe noted that her campaign workers found that people were more fearful about opening their doors to strangers.

Following her talk, the league elected its new officers. Barbara Quenneville is the new president; Virginia Millson, first vice-president; Georgia Lindstrom, second vice-president; Linda Price, secretary; and Norma Bass, treasurer. Directors are Dixie Hibner, Elinor Jones, Mary Lou Lively, Margaret Thomas, Ruth Porter and Caryn Wagner.

The league will continue a study and evaluation of youth services available in the Livonia area.

## m.m.memos

There's nothing more frustrating than being the youngest girl in the family. (Unless, of course, it's being the oldest or the middle-sized one.)

Anyway, our youngest finds several disadvantages to her station in life.

Like having to go to bed earlier than the others - sometimes.

And having to cross the street at the light. And losing more often than she wins at "Michigan Rummy."

And getting bossed by THREE big sisters. But sometimes she runs into situations like she encountered last weekend.

Seems we had relatives for weekend guests, and when all the heads and beds were counted, there turned out to be one more of the former than the latter.

No problem, really. We've faced it many times with sleeping bags. So Miss 15 volunteered to sleep in one. And Miss 12 chimed in that she too would be glad to do so.

Then Small One broke into her wail. "Don't I EVER get to have any fun?" she wanted to know. Know what? There are times when hollering is quite effective. This time we were good to her and she became the privileged character to use that sleeping bag.

There are times when giving in is pretty effective, too.

-Margaret Miller

## Mothers Of Twins Plan Convention

Parents of twins from all over Michigan will hold their annual convention May 1 and 2 in Howard Johnson's New Center Lodge, Detroit.

All parents of twins, triples or quadruplets are invited to attend any and all of the functions planned by the Michigan Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs. Reservations must be made by April 15, with Mrs. William Murphy,

the president, 14776 Robinwood, Plymouth.

The convention will begin at 9:30 a.m. Saturday and will close Sunday afternoon with a business meeting at 2:15.

Workshops will include one on "How Twin Club Helps Keep You: Sanity With Twins."

There will also be a Fathers of Twins Bowling tournament.

## WSU Will 'Gild Lily'

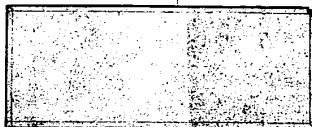
Women of Wayne State University Alumni Association will "Gild the Lily," at the Top Hat Supper Club, 73 University Avenue, East Windsor, Friday April 16.

The "Lily" is Lily Tomlin, star of TV's "Laugh-In." Tickets, at \$7.50 per person, are available at Alumni House, WSU. The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:45, with dinner at 7:30, and

Miss Tomlin's performance at 9.

Proceeds will be used to support the many service projects for which WSU was national and local alumni association awards in 1970.

Miss Tomlin did her first serious acting in a WSU production of "Mad Woman of Chastity." She also played university variety shows and Detroit coffee houses.



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