



CALLER FRED SHIELL of Farmington keeps things moving.



AN INJURED WING can't hold down Mr. and Mrs. Jack Green of Livonia.



SKIRTS WHIRL as bouncy senior citizens swing their partners in Saturday square dances. (Photos by Dewey Jenkins)

Our Seniors Swing Their Partners

A group of young folks get together in Livonia every Saturday afternoon to swing their partners to some lively hoe-down music.

Their ages may range from 55 to over 80, and most of them are members of senior citizen groups, but once you've seen them in action you can't call them anything but young folks.

Square dances, round dances and occasional waltzes make up the program from 1 to 3:30 p.m. each Saturday in the Livonia Senior Citizen's Center, on Farmington Road south of Five Mile.

Fifty or more dancers who find Saturday afternoons a highlight of their week would be pretty much in agreement with Jack Green, president of the Pioneer group in the Livonia Senior Citizens.

Green slipped on the ice a couple of weeks ago on his way to the Saturday square dance, but was back last week, left arm in a sling.

He and his wife enjoyed the waltzes, but Green had to sit out the squares.

"You can't alemand left with just one arm," he grinned. "I'm going to miss it until I can get back to the square dancing."

Behind all this activity is a young-at-heart Farmington retiree, Fred W. Shiell.

A Farmington native who operated a nursery in Birmingham for years

and now has retired to a Farmington home, he took up square dancing a few years ago and now finds it a full time interest.

Besides calling for dances like the Saturday get-togethers in the Livonia center, he teaches dancing regularly in his home and he and his wife are leaders in a corporation to build a center designed just for square dancing.

The firm, Share Recreation Centers, Inc., now is in its fourth year and beginning a building at Milford Road and I-96.

Doing a lot of the financing through regular paper collections and rummage sales, the corporation hopes to have the foundation completed this summer and the building ready to use by 1973.

The corporation, explained Shiell, is made up of 15 stockholders and their wives. They mostly live in the Farmington and Livonia area, he added, but a few have retired and moved to Florida.

"We have a year-around paper drive to help ecology and earn money," Shiell said. "People call us when they get a three-foot stack of papers, and we arrange a convenient time for the pickup. We also accept rummage, clothing and novelties to sell and raise money for the square dance center."

"We feel that papers in the trash."

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Puppet Is AAUW Star

Pinocchio isn't a puppet but boy - he's a grown-up lady. Fairy and all the others in the Jiminy Cricket is. And so are the puppet - favorite children's classic. Pinocchio isn't even a real maker Gepetto and the Blue All are part of the children's



theater production that will be staged in the new Plymouth High School Auditorium Feb. 25 and 26 by members of the Plymouth branch of the American Association of University Women.

FOR THE 12th ANNUAL AAUW drama for youngsters, something new has been added in the form of a 2 1/2-foot puppet to play the role of Jiminy Cricket, friend and conscience to the puppet Pinocchio.

Mrs. J.D. Campbell, AAUW member, constructed the puppet of felt and papier mache. The newest cast member is hand - operated, with special extension rods making both arms and legs movable.

Pinocchio, Jiminy and the rest may be viewed at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, and at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26.

A benefit performance also will be presented Thursday, Feb. 24, for more than 300 children from Our Lady of Providence, the Plymouth State Home, Wayne County Child Development Center and Hawthorn Center.

In keeping with a long-standing tradition of AAUW children's theater, the young members of the audience will be able to meet and talk with the cast after each performance.

MRS. JOHN ANDERSON is directing the two-act play. Cast members are Mrs. Joseph Uhl as Pinocchio, Mrs. Juergen Badendieck, Mrs. Donald R. Edwards, Mrs. J.D. Campbell, Mrs. Fred Andres, Mrs. Richard Panko, Mrs. Glenn Davis, Mrs. Michael Malmer, Mrs. Robert Dwyer, Mrs. Richard Fritz, Mrs. William Gratch, Mrs. Richard Kirchgatter, Mrs. David Van Hine, Mrs. Donald Helm, and Sue Moco. Musical accompaniment will be provided by flutist, Jane Visser, a Central Junior

High student and Plymouth Youth Symphony member.

"Pinocchio" is being produced by Mrs. William A. Fisher. Business manager is Mrs. B.W. Secord, assisted by Mrs. Gene J. Schirmer. Other committee chairmen include Mrs. William A. Riley, scenery; Mrs. Jerry Steele, costumes; Mrs. Frank Belobradich, music; Mrs. David Cunningham, props; Mrs. Eddy Fleming, make-up; Mrs. Sanford Burr, stage manager; Mrs. Alan Wakenhut, publicity; Mrs. Margaret Larson, posters; Mrs. Gary Baloni and Mrs. P.D. Vincent Jr., luncheon.

TICKETS for the play are 50 cents each and available Feb. 16, 17, 18 in the Plymouth elementary schools, as well as at Plymouth Record and Tape Center (formerly Melody House) beginning Feb. 17. Tickets may also be purchased by contacting ticket chairman, Mrs. George Pethel, 14595 Shadywood, Plymouth.

Livonia ticket sales will be handled by Mrs. C.M. Clemens, 9950 Levan and Mrs. Michael Malmer 14630 Susanna.

Based on past experiences, Mrs. Pethel advises parents to purchase tickets early as there are usually few, if any, tickets available at the door. Two additional performances will be presented at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 11 in the Northville High School auditorium. Ticket information for these performances may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Pethel or Northville ticket chairman, Mrs. Douglas Whittaker, 1068 Grace Court.

Proceeds from the play will be donated to the National AAUW Fellowship Fund, which assists American and foreign women in graduate study programs here and abroad.

A PUPPET named Jiminy Cricket has been fashioned by Mrs. Ruth Campbell for the upcoming Plymouth AAUW children's theater production of "Pinocchio." Jiminy gets into the act here between Gepetto, played by Laurna Badendieck, and Pinocchio, also known as Mary Uhl. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)