

# HIGHACRES PERSONALITIES

Mr. J. Richard Mattern who was born in Troxelville, Pa., (Snyder County) has been in the teaching profession a long time. He started to teach in rural elementary school near Adams Township in 1924 after he obtained an emergency teaching certificate from an eight week course. While there he taught about thirty children in all of the eight grades besides being



MR. RICHARD MATTERN

his own janitor. Looking back Mr. Mattern says, "Since I taught them all at the same time the rapid progress they made was more noticeable."

After two years at the school he went on to Susquehanna University from which he received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. Following this he taught high school for twelve years and acquired a Masters in Chemistry from Bucknell University in 1938.

Mr. Mattern became associated with the Pennsylvania State University in 1944 when he started teaching at the Altoona Campus. After a year he came to the Hazleton Campus and can recall having to teach twenty-seven periods of Chemistry and Physics a week when he first started. At that time the campus was in one old building on Broad Street with an attendance of fifty-seven students which jumped to four-hundred and forty-five a year later in 1946.

Up until last year Mr. Mattern was a Student Council Advisor.

About the students he says, "I wanted responsibility for the students so they could live up to it and they did."

He enjoys doing his own carpentry work and is an avid golfer. Although, he sometimes finds the checking of papers tiresome he likes to see the work of the individuals since he feels it has a reflection on his own work as the teacher.

As a reflection on his own life in various teaching positions, Mr. Mattern says, "Do the work you're interested in, and do not pay too much interest to the dollar end of it."

Mr. Mattern is especially interested in the new science building and looks forward to the continued growth of the whole campus.

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"To touch the sky" is the secret dream of Nancy Ancharski. An active participant in campus affairs, she lives in Hazleton and is now a sophomore majoring in Psychology. Her interest in Psychology comes through "... through experiences with young people who had problems. I felt I could really get involved in working with adolescents and children."

As a reporter for the Collegian and a representative on Student Government affairs, Nancy sees a need for "... individual opinions and for other people to respect those opinions."



NANCY ANCHARSKI

In her spare time she does volunteer work at the Outlook and Company, a sheltered workshop for retarded adults. Nancy enjoys, "all kinds of music from classical to hard rock; from flute to Donovan."

She was one of the winners in the Dramatic Reading Festival with a poem written by E. E. Cummings, "Let's Touch the Sky." Another favorite poet is Rod McKuen.

Working with children is another interest in Nancy's life. She has been a playground supervisor and enjoys babysitting when she can.

In bygone days Nancy went to a "... hated Hazleton High School. I felt they were close minded and not aggressive enough. A few good friends helped make high school endurable."

Among the few things she dislikes are: cold wet weather, inconsiderate people and working in stores like Woolworth's. She is also a victim of claustrophobia.

When asked about her parents she said, "I've learned to appreciate them more as I've grown older. They're really great and understanding." Of her four brothers and two sisters, "They are the best friends I could ever want."

Nancy will be leaving next term for University Park. After two years here her observation is, "The students should not be so afraid of change. By changing they will grow."

The things that Nancy likes most are honest people, anything connected with the ocean, taking walks and sewing.

## S.G.A. TO PURSUE COMMON HOUR

The newly-elected officers of SGA assume their positions at a regularly scheduled meeting which was held April 29.

Newly-elected president Barbara Sipler cited two of many goals to be pursued by the new government. Foremost of these is the acquisition of a common hour. Mrs. Sipler stated: "I feel a common hour would be beneficial to everyone. In fact, it is imperative if students want harmony and efficiency at the Hazleton Campus." A common hour is a period reserved for student activities.

Orientation was also discussed. Bonnie Bangor, outgoing vice-president stressed the urgency of a revised and more satisfactory orientation program. Methods of improving this program were also discussed. They will be further considered and acted upon at future meetings.

## Parnassus

### Elects Officers

At its annual initiation ceremony, the Parnassus Honor Society of the Hazleton Campus of the Pennsylvania State University elected new officers for the 1969-1970 Academic school year. Elected by closed ballot were the following members: Rich Dino, president; Denise Neopolitan, vice-president; and Cheryl Fetterman, secretary-treasurer.

Parnassus is the Hazleton Campus branch of the Keystone Honor Society at Penn State. The purpose of the Keystone Society is to enrich Student life at the Hazleton Campus by encouraging both academic study and positive participation in organized activities; and to better the morals on the campus and the prestige of the campus in the community. Membership in Parnassus is granted to undergraduate students on the basis of character, scholarship, leadership, and service in campus life, and consecration of democratic ideals. Professor Ralph Crawford is the faculty advisor of the Parnassus Chapter of the Keystone Society.

### CORRECTION!

The May Ball (Greek Ball) is to be held May 24, not May 29, as was previously stated in the last publication of the Collegian.

See! This big space could have been where your Fantastic, fascinating, informative, and important article was printed. Fight this depressing feeling and join the Collegian Staff.