

Mrs. James Garber Active Mount Joy Housewife

By Mrs. Charles G. McSparran

Mrs. James M. (Martha) Garber, Mount Joy RD2, wife of a beef cattle feeder and mother of five active children finds time not only for community activities but also puts her creative talents to use by engaging in many arts and crafts.

The Garbers bought their 132 acre farm ten years ago but lost ten acres to the state when route 283 by-passed Mount Joy. They have also been farming 140 to 150 acres of nearby farms where they grow largely corn and hay. They buy Holstein bull calves and keep them until they weigh 1200 to 1400 pounds then sell them to Baums, Elizabethtown, who make bologna. They have 40 bulls at the present time, also 150 to 200 Angus and Hereford steers. They finish about 300 steers a year.

Mr. Garber also sells Weaver Star silos. They are of poured concrete. He was at their booth all this week at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

James is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Garber of Mount Joy and Martha is the daughter of Mrs. Menno (Florence) Sauder, Lititz, and the late Roy Stauffer, Lititz, who originated the business known as Stauffer's of Kissel Hill. Stauffers opened their first roadside stand at the Kissel Hill location about 30 years ago. Prior to coming there Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer lived on a nearby farm. There were twelve children in the family, six of the family are in the business and three are on farms. There were two sets of twins, Mrs. Garber being a twin sister of Mrs. Arthur (Mary) Sweigart, Mount Joy RD1. Mrs. Garber helps her family at busy seasons and loves to do it. The Stauffers now have three locations. Besides the original one, they have one on route 222, one mile north of the Lancaster Shopping Center, and one in Rohrerstown.

Mr. and Mrs. Garber have five children. Julie is in ninth grade at Manheim Junior High School, taking a college prep course. She helps her mother and also Mrs. Wayne Miller, who runs a guest farm, with housework. Julie collects old handbags and enjoys knitting. She knitted a scarf and beret and a dirndl skirt with her mother's help. She has had Hereford steers in the Red Rose Baby Beef and Lamb Club for two years and has been in the Mount Joy 4-H Sewing Club three years. She expects to be in both clubs this year also.

Phillip is twelve and is in the seventh grade at Manheim Junior High School. He had a Hereford steer in the 4-H club last year and plans to have another one this year. He takes guitar lessons.

Beverly, eleven, is in fifth grade at Elm Tree Elementary School and enjoys writing stories. She was in the 4-H sewing club last year and served as president. She expects to be in second year sewing this year. She takes piano lessons. She likes to help her mother with household chores.

Roger is six and enrolled in Elm Tree kindergarten. He helps entertain his one year old sister Melissa.

Mr. and Mrs. Garber are members of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association and Mr. Garber was serving on the membership drive this month. He was vice-president of PFA for five years. Mrs. Garber is on their flower committee and as such makes flower arrangements for their convention and banquets. The committee functions about three times a year. Mr. and Mrs. Garber served on the host committee at the PFA convention November 8-11 at the Penn Harris Motor Inn, Camp Hill, serving Pennsylvania foods to the delegates and guests.

Mrs. Garber is room mother for Roger's kindergarten class



Mrs. Garber shows two pictures she made from dried flowers and sprayed weed seeds, under beveled glass.

and helps with Parent Teachers Organization of which Mr. Garber is president.

Martha is vice-president of Farm Women Society 27 and has served on various committees.

She was a helper last year for the Mount Joy 4-H Sewing Club and served three years as a leader for the club. She helped in second year sewing. Last year they had twelve girls in second year sewing and 30 the year before. Mrs. John Nissley is the leader for the whole Mount Joy 4-H Club sewing group.

Mr. Garber is serving on an advisory board for the National Central Bank.

Garbers are members of Bossler Mennonite Church, between Mount Joy and Elizabethtown, where Mr. Garber is a trustee and assistant superintendent of the Sunday School.

A project of the family each year is raising sugar peas. Last year they planted 25 pounds of seed and they didn't have a large crop but the year before they planted fifty pounds of seed and produced 200 bushels of sugar peas. They sold them through Thomases' roadside market on route 230 and local stores, also through Stauffers at Kissel Hill. This is quite a job to stake and tie them up and to pick them.

Each year they have a nice garden and have some extra corn, string and lima beans to sell. Mrs. Garber does some canning and a lot of freezing of the vegetables.

This may all sound like a lot of work but James and his father recently panelled their basement and they have a pool table in there for relaxation. Jim also enjoys playing golf and hunting. He is a member of a nine-man hunting club.

Mrs. Garber does her own papering and painting and does her own interior decorating. Their large farm house is about 200 years old and she has retained many of the beautiful old features yet modernized the kitchen and bathroom and decorated the other rooms with interesting and decorative color schemes and wall treatments. Added to this in every room are

various kinds of decorations she has made.

She makes arrangements from dried flowers, weeds and grasses, milk weed pods, pine cones, nuts, gourds, artificial as well as fresh flowers and artificial fruit.

She puts into use old discarded household items and parts of farm machinery. Probably one of the most unusual decorations may be found in the strangest location in their home but the effect is striking and most attractive. Their bathroom has been remodelled with beautiful dark wood cabinets and moss green tile and fixtures. With this Martha used a green striped wallpaper. The unusual decoration is made from three discarded corn planter discs sprayed with dusty rose paint, then a piece of moss green ribbon woven around the open spokes and an artificial cat and kitten (a flower) sprayed green, fastened in the center. These are hung, one above the other.

Another unusual arrangement is made from a yard long piece of about a six inch wide dark green striped ribbon. She used dried weeds and flowers and

fastened them on jar lids with Quick-set, then sprayed the whole with gold paint. Again using Quick-set she fastened four of them on the ribbon, one above the other, placed a gold medallion at the bottom, turned bottom corners of the ribbon up to form a V end and used a gold tassel on the V end. The top was turned down an inch or so and a gold braid accents the edge. With a little metal ring at the top to hang it by, this wall hanging is complete. She made two of these and has one hanging on each side of their living room archway. You can go from room to room in Garber's home and spot one unusual arrangement after another which Martha has made. She also takes orders for and sells all kinds of arrangements.

Mrs. Garber started with a glass lemon reamer, fastened some old glass jars and sherbets on top and covered the whole with papier-mache then sprayed the whole thing with a dull blue paint and antiqued it. These are used as candleholders.

Martha took a course at Stauffers to learn to make dried (Continued on Page 24)



Mrs. James Garber holds a kissing ball she made with hundreds of hemlock cones and decorated with teal blue ribbon. On the bathroom wall, in the background, are plaques made from corn planter discs. She is wearing a raspberry dress she knit.

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