

Chance Encounter

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Kachino dolls are representations of spirits. Hazel says, "The men carve them from the roots of the cottonwood tree, and they hang the dolls on the wall and the children learn about the spirits like our children learn catechism." The dolls are carved to look like men who impersonate the spirits on special occasions.

Her Indian friendship has also piqued her interest in other Indian artifacts and her home abounds with pottery, baskets and jewelry she has collected. Hazel even refers to one room of her home as her "Indian" room, and when she is asked to show her slides, she carries representative samples of her collections with her.

She and her husband traveled to all 50 states before his death last summer, and Hazel says, "I have been seeking out Indians wherever we travel." Her most northern Indian doll is from Alaska and her most southern is from Florida.

Also when she speaks, she frequently wears her Seminole Indian skirt, typical of Florida's Seminole Indians. It is a bright full cotton skirt, and with the addition

of some turquoise jewelry, Hazel makes a colorful image.

Frequently, Hazel tries to get pictures of the creators of some of her Indiana artifacts, but she admits that it took her nine years before Minnie would allow herself to be photographed.

Hazel notes that some of the Indians from whom she purchases items wish to trade something for part of the money. Coffee and other supplies may be requested.

In addition to her study of Indians, Hazel has visited about 80 of the country's national parks, and has a slide show on the parks too. Alaska is the topic of yet another speech, and it was, in fact, this Alaska speech which helped Hazel decide to become involved with the speaker's bureau.

Before they left for Alaska in 1970 Hazel says she bought a 35 mm camera and took slides. When she returned she showed the slide program to her farm women group (Society 1, of which she is currently president), after which a friend suggested she join the toastmasters group so she could give more talks.

As a result she is now a member of the Lancaster Toastmistresses

Club and is a regional officer for the region which includes part of Canada. She is also on the Lancaster Toastmaster's Speakers Bureau and it was through that that she gave 25 presentations last year.

A former school teacher, Hazel enjoys the opportunity to tell of her experiences and help others learn and enjoy through the use of slides.

But she does not just fill her time by giving talks. Hazel was recently elected as second vice-president of the County Farm Women, a commitment through which she will become county president in four years. She is also custodian of the Farm women jewelry for the state.

She volunteers one day a week at Landis Valley Farm Museum as a guide, and teaches the young adult Sunday School class at St. John's Lutheran church in Brickerville. She is past president and remains active in the Lutheran Church Women there. Hazel is also secretary of the Baroness Steigel Lioness Club. And once a week she can be found in the Clay School helping children work on the computer? This is the same Clay School where she spent the majority of the 36 1/2 years she was a teacher.

Hazel's Indian friendship is a slide talk which helps people understand the Navaho Indians, but it is also the story of a friendship which has flourished despite cultural differences and the handicap of distance. Hazel's chance encounter opened a whole new world of study and interest for her, and it is a world she likes sharing with others.



This traditional Navaho Indian costume was sewn for Hazel by her Navaho friend Minnie. Hazel requested the silver buttons, and she notes that the use of several pieces of jewelry is strictly in the Navaho custom. It was this skirt which was responsible for Hazel's 20 year friendship with the Hoskie family.

Green Clover 4-H Prep Club

Green Clovers 4-H Prep Club members held two meetings in 1984. Officers were elected at their January meeting. The new officers are: President, Matthew Matarazzo; Vice-President, Lindsay Suckno; Secretary, Patty Hawkes; Treasurer, Michelle French & Club Reporter, Lorraine Calvaluzzo Refreshments hostess is Janice Kaczorek Tim Aldrich, a

new club member, was a special helper.

The group toured McDonalds during February. They observed the food and supply storage places and the money safe. Club members learned how to use the soda machine. Each child was able to use it.

They will take a trip to Candyland Factory for their next meeting.

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