

You Know Me By Al, Himself

There has been so much talk lately about the K. Russell Smith seaplane base at the Alderson end of Harvey's Lake that we decided to postpone our columns about the oldtimers and write about the Lake's planes.

Most of the talk is misinformation repeated, and in the repeating the story gets worse as those things are apt to do. For instance if we have been told that the Harvey's Lake Protective Association is not going to do anything about it we have been told a dozen times. It is not true. The Protective Association has been complaining for three years to the Pennsylvania Aeronautics Commission at Harrisburg and has been sending committees to the capital at its own expense each spring when the Smith franchise comes up for renewal, protesting the re-issuing of this license.

We have a copy of a summary of the minutes of the Aeronautics Commission of a meeting held in Harrisburg November 16, 1948. Present at the meeting were: Honorable Raymond E. Smith, Acting Chairman; Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchinson, Vice Chairman; Ralph Earle, John H. Leh, Honorables Wm. R. McMillen, Charles C. Smith and T. Newell Wood, Commissioners. Also present were Wm. L. Anderson, Executive Director and John W. McFarlane.

At this meeting a letter was read from Robert W. Johnson, President of the Harvey's Lake Protective Association. The letter states in part:

"Dear Mr. Anderson: The Board of Directors of the Harvey's Lake Protective Association has authorized me to say that after giving due consideration to the suggestions made formally by you in regard to flying at Harvey's Lake, the Board is not in accord with them and is convinced that all flying at Harvey's Lake should be prohibited by the Commission. . . . "As for the second alternative, that of placing buoys to mark off a landing strip, the Directors felt that the buoys themselves would constitute a hazard, and that it would be wrong to take away a section of the lake from public use to advance private interests. Therefore we are asking the Commission to take the necessary steps to prohibit all flying at Harvey's Lake."

Now that letter does not sound as if the Protective Association is not trying to prohibit flying at the lake. In fact aside from a few letters sent the Commission from private individuals living at Alderson, it is the only body taking any official action to prohibit lake flying.

We are happy to mention that

Willard Durbins Have Anniversary Dinner

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Durbin, Shaver Avenue, Shavertown celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a dinner party held at Irem Country Club, Saturday evening, June 18, Mrs. Durbin is the former Harriet Hays, daughter of Jess M. Hays, Acme, Pa. Mr. Durbin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Durbin of Plymouth.

The couple was married by Rev. T. H. Carson at the home of the bride. They are the parents of three children, Mary Louise, Willard and Anna Marie.

The party table was decorated with a large wedding cake and roses.

Attending were, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Durbin, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Durbin, Carol and George C. Durbin, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Llewellyn, Plymouth; Jennie Hill, Mary Louise, Willard and

the buoy placing suggestion did not come from the Association as has been whispered around the lake. It was a suggestion of the Commissioners and if anything incensed the residents of Alderson it was that. "What right has anyone to take a lane of the lake away from us," could be heard on all sides.

To say that seaplaning on the lake is not a nuisance to some is stretching a point. Especially were the planes a nuisance when the big sea boats were in action. They made so much roaring noise that not a baby or a sick person in Alderson could get any sleep in the day time. To say that seaplaning on the lake is not a hazard to some is stretching a point, but so is speedboating a hazard to swimmers, canoeists and rowers. As Smith points out, even walking across the road is a hazard.

Ten years ago we had a little swimmer's dock off a piece of property owned by Squire Davis on which we had a camp. Almost everyone who didn't own a dock swam there. We still have pictures of twenty-two persons swimming off this dock. The squire rented a piece of ground next door to Smith to build a seaplane dock. Uh, uh! we thought here is where gas and oil will be spilled in the water and spoil our swimming, so we talked to Smith and a more cooperating person we never met. Not a drop of any refuse was ever spilled into the lake. He asked us would we move our raft fifteen feet further up the lake as he had a difficult time maneuvering his plane in on certain windy days. We complied and got along as two good neighbors should. With this former meeting in mind we visited Russell Smith Sunday to get his side of the story.

He told us that he has invested \$18,000 on the hangar at Alderson, and has complied with all the rules and regulations of the Aeronautics Commission. He has agreed with the state authorities that only the quieter planes should be used on the lake, and as for the placing of buoys for a lane for his planes alone, he is as much against it as the Protective Association. He stated that if any business man or citizen of the lake will point out to him where his planes are a nuisance or a hazard he will take steps to rectify it. He says that he will cooperate fully with anyone.

Well, we all have our troubles, and ours right now is to keep this column short enough so it will be published so let's cut it off here. Our wife just turned on the radio anyway. What fun!

-A.G.K.

Birthday Party At Maple Grove

Honor Those Married Or Born In June

A birthday party in honor of persons having birthday and wedding anniversaries during June was held at Maple Grove Methodist Church Parish Hall recently.

The following had charge: Decoration: Miss Evadna M. Ruggles and Mrs. Frank Dennis; refreshments, Mrs. William LaBar, Mrs. Walter Pall and Mrs. Paul Williams; entertainment, Alex Ballantine, Walter Pall, Elmer Wolfe, Dorothy Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Holcomb, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Ruckel.

Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dennis, Janet Cornell, Thelma Burkhardt, Jennie Steltz, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Cornell, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Rood, Ann Marie Ruggles, Bess M. Klimetob, Lawrence Stitt, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ruggles, Fred Ruggles, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Ballantine, Mr. and Mrs. William LaBar, Mrs. Dinah Pollock, Frank Moyer, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Ruggles, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Williams, M. L. Ruggles, Barbara Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Holcomb, Jr., Prof. Henry J. Kiessel, Evadne M. Ruggles, Mary Alice Stitt, Gladys Burkhardt, Dorothy Gray, Lois Cragle, Anne Gray, Gloris Steltz, Marjorie Wolfe, Beverly Steltz, Mr. and Mrs. John Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wolfe, Mrs. Jessie Shupp, Mrs. Mayme Dymond, Iona Holcomb, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pall, Burton Steltz, Connie Pall, Lucy Stitt, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Ruggles, and Elwood Ruckel.

The next party will be held on July 15th, 1949, with the following committees in charge: Refreshments: Mrs. Willard Cornell, Mrs. Burton Steltz and Mrs. Jessie Shupp and Decorations: Mrs. John Graham, Marjorie Wolfe, Gloris Steltz and Anne Gray.

Friendship Class Meets at Trucksville

Friendship Class of Trucksville Methodist Church met last evening in the social rooms and outlined plans for a picnic to be held some time in August. Co-chairmen are Matilda Croom and Blanche Atherholt.

Entertainment in charge of Matilda Croom consisted of piano solo by Wilma Robbins and vocal duet by Mrs. Robert Clark and Mrs. Howard Garris of Fernbrook accompanied by Mrs. Paul Smith. Present were: Betty Bennett, Blanche Atherholt, Cathleen Cashmark, Matilda Croom, Alice Davis, Cathleen Palmer, Mary Shaver, Pearl Walton, Helen Hess, Helen Gaylord, Peg Robbins, Pender Rice, Lorraine Greenly, Ruth Clark, Ruth Shertz, Marian Stookey, Elizabeth Harrison, Alberta Lohman, Ruth Pritchard and Minerva Owens.

Jackson Firemen's Ice Cream Social

Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Company will hold its annual ice cream social at Norris Glen Wednesday afternoon and evening, July 13.

The Auxiliary which had planned to meet at the home of Mrs. Paul Gross on that day will meet the following Monday at the DeCaris home where the men will also hold their meeting.

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Miss Betty Shields Is Bride of Dr. G. Douglas

At a very pretty wedding, Miss Betty Shields of Nicholson, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Shields, became the bride of George K. Douglas, son of Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert F. Douglas of Birmingham, Ala., in Nicholson Methodist Church Saturday, June 10 at noon. Betty has a good many friends and relatives in the Back Mountain area. A graduate of Mansfield State Teachers' College and University of Michigan, she has been acting as music supervisor in Nicholson. The couple will reside in Birmingham where George will interne in his father's clinic.

Mrs. C. A. Boston and her mother, Mrs. W. B. Risley of Lehman Avenue entertained at a tea in honor of the bride-elect last Friday at the Boston home in Nicholson.

Joan Vanderberg Is Bride Of Dushore Man

At a very quiet ceremony, Miss Joan Sarah Vanderberg of Lopez, daughter of Mrs. Ellen Gruver, became the bride of Bud Joseph Dieffenbach of Dushore Monday afternoon at 2:30 in the parsonage of the Lutheran Church at Noxen. Rev. Henry C. Kraft performed the ceremony.

Attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Space, sister and brother-in-law of the bride.

The bride wore pink waffle weave street length dress with matching accessories. Her shoulder bouquet was of red roses. Mrs. Space wore gray dress with pink accessories and red roses.

The couple will reside in the Dushore section where the bridegroom is engaged in farming.

Express Appreciation

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Nulton, Sr., Donald Nulton and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gibson are, indeed, grateful to their many friends and neighbors for the kindness shown them during the illness of Mr. Gibson and Donald. They wish to express their appreciation for all the flowers, fruit, cards and gifts sent them and for the blood given.

Roland Kenneth Drake

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Drake, Main Road, Trucksville, have announced the birth of a son, Roland Kenneth at Nesbitt Hospital, June 18. This is the Drake's first child. Mrs. Drake is the former Marguerite Lynn.

Robert Allan Thomas

Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas, Main Road, Shavertown, announce the birth of a son, Robert Allan on June 21 in Nesbitt Hospital. They have two other sons, Billy and Richard. Mother is the former Ruth Colbaugh. Mr. Thomas is service manager for Howard Isaacs, local automobile dealer.

The Book Worm

The Bookworm is conducted for and in the interest of Back Mountain Memorial Library.



By Mary Elliott Gates

I arranged my easel at the side of a road and picked up a handful of brushes. My gaze went searching across the meadow to distant hills and I relaxed in the warmth and quiet as my senses absorbed the subtle colors and gay yellow patches of sun on newly green fields. Subconscious memory of teaching I had known, remembered bits of work of the masters in painting and drawing, fascinating human anecdotes and the influence of their times and countries drifted through my mind. I thought of the years of work that went into the development of those masters that they might express their joy in nature and help others to see, and be happier for seeing, what lay about them.

I was considering how my interpretation of what I saw before me might resemble or differ from the same scene if recorded by a VanGough or a Cezanne or the Englishman Turner who painted such thrilling skies.

Lost in my thoughts I jumped when a voice said "What are you doing?" "Why?" I took a look at the half grown boy who stood beside me. "Well," I said, "I guess because I like to." "What do you like to do?" "I like to look at the book I have about dogs—it has pictures." "And who do you suppose painted those pictures?" "I don't know. Nobody I guess."

How many grown-ups really have any more curiosity or information about illustrations and paintings! Actually most of us only half see and often miss entirely what the artist has to say.

Would you like to become acquainted with some painters? Here is how. Maybe you are one of the nice folk living in the Back Mountain area. You go to the Back Mountain Library more or less regularly. You support the auction sale. You give money for books. You take out one or two new novels when you return the last batch and you have re-read several good books from the stacks as well as books on sports, building dream houses and playing bridge.

On a lower shelf in the pantry I found the step-children. But don't look there. The next time you go to the library walk past the desk, stop before the first case beyond, and have a look. Don't let a sober dress throw you off. There is plenty of drama and controversy inside.

You have heard of Leonardo da Vinci! Have you read about his years of painting and the fascinating inventions he dreamed up? Get acquainted with Titian, painter of white skin and red hair; Valasquez, the wealthy Spanish Court painter and his charming and serene existence; Goya and his turbulent life! When you wonder at the sadness in the eyes of a Rembrandt portrait, read his life. Read of Corot for an exploration of his gentle pictures, of Frans Hals, the robust Hollander and his jolly portraits.

Perhaps you collect only Americana! Here is an excellent book, "American Pictures and Their Painters", by Bryant. You may like the reproductions of paintings of lush nature and rugged mountain scenes painted by what came to be known as "The Hudson River School" (and by some of us later as "The Muddy Hudson River School") Thomas Cole was one of the first of this group. He went on a walking trip to the foothills of the Catskills and was so moved by their grandeur that he painted many beautiful canvasses. Thomas Doughty, a Pennsylvanian of the early 19th century, went to London and Paris, but it was scenes of his native country that brought him fame. Cecelia Beaux who lived in eastern Pennsylvania arrived the hard way. Miss Beaux first painted on china, then did crayon portraits from photographs (horrors!), but later did most appealing studies of young girls from life. Her "Dancing Lesson" is very beautiful.

Maybe you are one who mumbles "I hate Modern Art!" Read of Thomas Alexander Harrison who painted the famous "Castles in Spain" now at the Metropolitan Museum of Art." He went to study with Gerome in Paris and was big enough in himself to find out what the then eccentric methods of artists there were all about and to develop his own talent in the evolution of a new art. Cezanne and Matisse helped us to see color (no mud for them!) Just before the war Cubism was developed in Europe and brought to this country and this influence has refined much of our modern drawing.

Nor has Europe been our only source of stimulation to adventure and development. On the Memorial Shelves of the Library are several fine books on Art. "Art of the Americas" the "Art News Annual" with beautiful reproductions of (Continued on Page Seven)



Barnyard Notes

If you want to have plenty of robins, plant a few cherry trees. If you want to have midnight serenades, keep a couple of tabby cats.

If you want to have kids in your yard all day, pitch a pup tent. If you want to find notes like this stuck in your back door, pitch the tent when the cherries are ripe.

"Dear Mr. Risley: Bobby Moyer, Duaglas Cooper and Murry S. were eating your cherries. Signed Unanimous."

Henry Jones' household was thrown into a dither the other day. His pet China goose, bought at the Library auction last year, had a sun stroke. None of the Jones family knew what to do so they right away called Glen Billings who knows all of the eccentricities of geese and he came over at once and diagnosed the trouble. Now Alexander is just as good as ever and up to his old tricks of showing off in front of the other geese.

It seems that a gander will go through all sorts of antics to impress the females. On this especially hot day Alexander was out-doing himself. He gracefully swam circles around his two girl friends; he dove until only the tips of his toes and tail showed above water. He was full of animal energy and wasted it with prodigality. He made another dive, his hundredth for the afternoon. This time he didn't come up. Henry, who had been watching him all afternoon, knew there was trouble. He pulled on his hip boots, ran to the pond and yanked his favorite clown out of the water. Poor Alexander was paralyzed. His tinkling toes were distorted and misshapen.

The beautiful feathers were rumped. The brave spirit was quiet. It looked as though Alexander were done. Was it a heart attack? Had he drowned? It was then in desperation that Henry turned to Glen. Glen explained that drakes frequently suffer sun strokes, especially when they are overzealous showing off on hot days in front of girl friends.

Glen and Beatrice Billings know geese. They are raising two hundred at their farm in East Dallas. Last year they gave three Chinas to the Library Auction. This year they are giving three more. The Chinas or whites, are the only domestic geese not strictly monogamous but Toulouse geese choose only one mate.

The Billingses had an interesting experience this spring with a China drake and a Toulouse female. They separated the white from the black geese. They didn't want cross breeding. After they had divided them into two flocks, the following morning they found a China gander over with the Toulouse flock.

They put him back, but he refused to associate with any of the girls of his own breeding. His heart was set on a Toulouse female. He exhausted every effort to reach her, even swimming under the wire fence that ran through the middle of the pond separating the flocks. He refused to eat. He moped. And to make his masters lives more miserable he honked continually.

Finally Mrs. Billings, softer hearted than her husband, released the Toulouse female putting her in the same field with the Chinas. Her boy friend went wild with joy. From a distance of several hundred feet he flew to her side. The story might end on this happy note, if it weren't that their goslings, being half breeds, will be marketed for food and not as breeders.

Geese are not the best mothers in the world, Mrs. Billings says. If four or five are sitting on nests they will all rush over and desert their own eggs to mother the first gosling hatched by another.

The Billingses' springer spaniel, Sally, is however a kindly mother to all goslings. Glen first observed this when he saw her licking and fondling the young goslings as they came from the incubator. He has capitalized on this instinct. Now Sally is tethered on the hillside with a flock of ninety. During the day the goslings wander all over the place, but every night they come back and bed down with Sally, while she watches that no fox harms them.

Verna Sheehan found the clothes pin bag that hangs on the line back of her home on Huntsville road filled with twigs. The youngsters were playing a joke on her. She tossed the twigs out and went about her business of hanging up the clothes. A day later she found more twigs in the bag. This time she investigated more thoroughly. At the bottom of the bag she found a tiny nest. From a nearby shrub a song sparrow chattered and flitted about to distract her attention. This time she didn't disturb the twigs and the female came back and continued to build the nest while the male kept up his hubbub in the shrub.

Edgar Williams of Idetown has one of the best vegetable gardens in this area. On the first day of summer he had green peas from it and on Monday night he had his first string beans. There are nine 100-foot rows of the prettiest potatoes to be seen anywhere—and this isn't a bad year for potatoes in any man's garden. Edgar's corn is twenty-eight to thirty inches tall. The remarkable thing about this garden is that it has lain fallow for several years. This spring Mr. Williams cleared it of underbrush and weeds and planted it early. His hard work is now bearing the fruits of satisfaction.

Clara Ohlman bears us out that grey squirrels will rob bird's nests. A few days ago she observed one in her yard, sitting on top of a bird house and shaking it with both paws. In spite of efforts to drive him away she later found the bird house on the ground, the nest scattered.

Mrs. Bertha Reynolds Is Guest of Class

Mrs. Bertha S. Reynolds of Zephyr Hills, Fla., former Trucksville resident, was guest of honor at a party given by the Reynolds Class of Trucksville Methodist Church Tuesday evening. Thirty attended.

Mrs. Reynolds organized the class some years ago.

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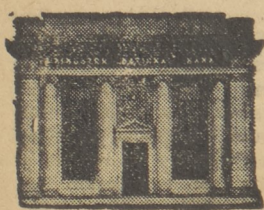
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