

Social

Blanche Thompson - birdwatcher & collector

Blanche Thompson of Dallas and Harveys Lake, is not just a birdwatcher but a bird collector as well.

She first became interested in birdwatching about 29 years ago when Howard Risley got the first feeder for the new home she and June MacCloskey were building in Dallas.

"In September, 1959, the interior of our new home was completed so June and I came out from our West Side apartment to spend the weekend.

"We had no shades or curtains on the windows and on Saturday morning I was in the kitchen when I spotted the first bird, a Blue Jay. He plunged into the feeder set up in the yard and looked in the window.

"I went to get some food for him and he followed from window to window watching me. It was a great experience," said Blanche.

She said that they now have several feeders at their Dallas home and three or four more at their Lake home where she and



Blanche Thompson with some of her bird collections.

June spend the summer.

"We had bluebirds the first two years we were in Dallas but the third year

starlings destroyed the bluebirds eggs. The bluebirds have never come back. We're looking

for the special bluebird houses to try to entice the birds to our area."

During the summer a variety of Blanche's feathered friends visit the Lake residence.

There are two families of wrens. Each year the wrens choose their bird houses. In 11 or 12 days the babies are born. Blanche watches them closely and rises at 5 a.m. to watch the young ones

Cardinals are in the yard all of the time. This year, a rose-breasted grosbeak, his wife and children make daily visits to the feeder. The father leads the group and makes certain all of them eat.

The chickadees have special feeders. There are three holes in their feeders. It's interesting to watch them. They weigh

the seeds. If a seed isn't heavy enough the chickadee drops it and selects another.

"One morning," said Blanche, "A chickadee kept flying through the porch. Finally, he came in and perched on top of a chair, took his seed and hid it in the woven rush on the chair back. Another morning, June and I were eating breakfast on the porch and a hummingbird flew down and perched on the edge of the sugar bowl and proceeded to eat the sugar.

"We have had pine warblers, song sparrows, and one year, a mockingbird. He stayed all year and lived in our shrubbery. We've also had visits from Morning Doves and many birds not common to this area."

Exciting as Blanche finds birdwatching she finds bird collecting equally so.

Started collecting about the same time I started birdwatching. I collect only wood carvings. Most of them are the work of Peter Peltz of E. Sandwich, Mass. He works in his 'bird barn', an unusual building. He sits in an old church chair at an old wooden desk. He has all kinds of driftwood which he transforms into his lifelike carvings of

song and water birds."

Blanche has a collection of about 30 birds including songbirds, water birds, sandpiper, snipe, sanderling, oriole, snow bird, thrush and catbird. Each carving is life size and from a distance appears to be a real bird.

Her interest in birds includes a complete set of the Audubon prints. She also is a member of the Audubon Society.

Blanche accompanied June to the first meeting of the Back Mountain Collectors Group, not because she interested in collecting but to be company for June. Those attending did not know one another but Blanche's auditor-accountant experience came to the fore.

She took down names and addresses to help all become better acquainted. Wach member stated what she collected. When the others asked Blanche what she collected, she replied "I don't collect." "What about your birds?", asked June.

I never thought of them in that light, Blanche told the Post. She said she always thought of it as a hobby. "But I guess I do collect-birds, shells, bells and slides of our trips to New England, Caribbean, Canada and throughout the United States."



Susan Lynn Dreher

Susan Dreher to wed Rick Denmon

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert S. Dreher, 140 Elizabeth St., Dallas, announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Lynn to Rick Denmon, RD 2, Box 322, Harveys Lake.

employed by World Book-Childcraft International Inc., Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Denmon is a graduate of Tunkhannock Area High School and is employed by Irem Temple Country Club.

The wedding will be solemnized Nov. 20, 1982, at the Noxen United Methodist Church, Noxen.

Miss Dreher is a graduate of Dallas High School. She attended Wilkes College and is



Christine Gamble named 'Little Miss Bathing Beauty'

Prestige Pool Inc. of Wilkes-Barre recently held a "Little Miss Bathing Beauty Contest" for young women from age one to seven. More than 100 young women participated in the two-hour event, held poolside at the Wilkes-Barre establishment.

youngsters involved in the pageant were awarded prizes and the young lady who captured the title also received a bicycle. Judges for the event were Manny Gordon, WNEP-TV personality; Mark Sinclair from KRZ radio, and Faye Brown, director of the In Vogue School of Modeling, Kingston.

Bathing Beauty" and young Megan Murphy was the winner of the Junior Miss Scholarship offered by In Vogue School.

Jim Ward of WARD radio was master of ceremonies. All of the

Miss Christine Gamble was named "Little Miss

Shown from left: Mark Sinclair, Manny Gordon, Faye Brown, Michael Minichello and Bill Dickinson of Prestige Pools. In front is Christine Gamble.

BACK COUNTRY BRIEFS

Frank Wagner, Sr. of Demunds Road is a patient at the NPW Medical Center in Plains.

Friends of Bill Smith of Orange will be glad to learn he came home on Aug. 9 after a stay in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

September meeting of

the Franklin Township board of supervisors will be held Tuesday evening, Sept. 7, at 8 in the Orange United Methodist Church basement. The meeting is being setback because of the Labor Day holiday.

About 90 children attended the annual Daily Vacation Bible School,

which was held during the week ended Aug. 7 at the Northmoreland Baptist Church in Centermoreland. Theme of this year's VBS was "Making Christ Known Around The World."

Mrs. Robert Statnick was director of the school and teachers included the nursery, Mrs. Ralph Johns, Nancy Rowlands; kindergarten, Mrs. Dana Race and Elaine Race; primary, Mrs. Allan Malkemes, Sharon Statnick; junior girls, Mrs. James Howell; junior boys, Mrs. Ted Montross and Mrs. William Weidner; teenagers, Ralph Johns. Craft-time for all classes was in charge of Mrs. Lois Button and Mrs. Al Dixon.

Closing program for the school was held Sunday evening, Aug. 8. In charge of music for the school was Mrs. Ara Charney. Mrs. Michael Rowlands served as secretary. A poster contest was held and contest winners were the Michael Rowlands family.

DPW issues guide for adult services

A step-by-step guide to "Adult Residential Services in Pennsylvania" is now available from the Department of Public Welfare.

The guide describes the various services available to adults who are elderly, physically handicapped, mentally retarded, or who have been mentally ill.

The guide contains complete information about community living

arrangements, personal care boarding homes, community residential rehabilitation, and domiciliary care facilities. It also suggests ways to determine service needs, choose an appropriate facility and plan for placement.

Copies of "Adult Residential Services in Pennsylvania" may be obtained by writing the Welfare Press and Publications Office, Box 2675, Harrisburg, 17105.

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HSA 515 Research Methods Monday 7:15-9:45 PM	HSA 530 Legal Aspects of Administration Wednesday 6-8:30 PM

HUMAN SERVICES REGISTRATION
Wednesday, August 18, 6-8:30 p.m.

OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT
CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 31st

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