

SOCIAL

Idetown Couples Club still going strong 35 years after start

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Thirty five years ago, the pastor of the Idetown United Methodist Church decided it might be a good idea to form a young couples club at the church - a club in which young couples belonging to the church could get together and plan some social events of good fellowship. He invited all young couples, married or single to attend a meeting at the parsonage one evening during the week. At that first meeting three couples, and the pastor and his wife attended. Despite being few in number, those at the meeting were ex-

cited about the club and went out to recruit some of their friends. At the next meeting, a large number of interested couples came out. Among these were Henry Bergstrasser and his wife, who are still members of the club. In fact, Bergstrasser is president at the present time.

As the club grew in size, the members moved their meeting to the church house where they met regularly and planned various social events. After meeting for about a year and half, they decided to raise money to help underwrite expenses.

Some of the members suggested that they hold an auc-

tion. The others agreed and instead of a small committee, all of the members went out and solicited merchandise and stored it in Robert Wilson's basement until the date of the first auction.

That first auction was held on property across the highway from where Kugler's Service Station is located. It went so well that Wilson estimated that the club had raised about \$200 but when the members counted the proceeds they had more than \$800. They decided they had collected all the merchandise to be had that year, so they would not hold another auction. But the next year, people started

bringing the merchandise to the Couples Club, so they decided to hold a second auction and have now held one every year for 32 years. Robert Wilson serves as auctioneer and some of the other men help out. Bob Wilson's brother, Bill, also helps with the auction, according to Bergstrasser.

"We now have about 40 members in the club," Bergstrasser said. "We still call it the Couples Club, although we invite those who have lost their husbands or wives to join or continue as members. We have some good times."

"We meet the third Saturday of every month and we have

speakers come in and once a year we have a spaghetti supper which is prepared by the men, although there is one woman who prepares the sauce. Her husband used to do it; when he passed on she said she would like to do the sauce," Bergstrasser explained. "We also have a pancake supper every year and we also hold a Christmas Party."

"The money we make goes toward church improvements. Our club has paid for the vinyl siding and the members helped with the work."

Bergstrasser said the club often gets some unusual items for the auction. He said one year,

Wilson received a flock of chickens to auction off. They have also had milk cans, Tiffany lamps, brass beds, pictures, and many other items.

When the club was first founded it was for church members, but now others are invited to join.

The officers are Henry Bergstrasser, president; Willis Ide, treasurer; Lorraine Coburn, secretary.

Rev. Michael Shambora is the pastor of the 125-year-old church.

October 21, the club will have Manny Gordon as speaker and the public is invited to attend.

Back Mountain Seniors plan Halloween, Christmas events

Back Mountain Seniors Citizens of St. Therese's Church, Shavertown, met on October 5, with Joseph Precone presiding. Forty one members were in attendance.

The President, and Deacon Joseph Feerich handed the charter to Father Joseph F. Meighan, pastor of St. Therese's Church, who was moderator.

Secretary Betty Beline read the report of the past meeting, Treasurer's report by Katy Hudak was also read, Victoria Leo gave the membership report, and mentioned the 1990 dues are due.

Sunshine report was given by Gertrude Miscavage. Birthdays for month of October are Joseph Precone, Joe Balavage, Marjorie O'Hara, Ann Spaciano, Joseph Baltrushes.

Bakers for this meeting were Ethel Baltrushes, Ann Gallaccio, Nancy Dombroski. Hostess chairman is Florence Precone.

A basket picnic will be held October 12 at "Riverlands" (PP&L plant) in Berwick (Rte. 11). Members will leave from St. Therese's Church parking lot at 9:45 -10

a.m. Cars will be pooled, for those who do not have transportation.

Ann Balavage gave a report on the Kingston Armory "Folk Festival" And anyone needing tickets should call 696-2400. The Festival will be held on Oct. 12, 13, 14 and 15. Tickets are \$3.50.

Members wishing to bowl, meet at Bonomo's every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

A 50-50 raffle also was held and winners were: 50-50 Lee Rogers. Other prizes were won by Bob Rogers, Gertrude Kostelnich and Emily Pezzulo.

The club meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday each month at 1:30 p.m. New members are always welcomed. The next meeting will be held on October 19. A Halloween Party, with a covered dish and members in costume will be in order.

A Christmas party also will be held in the church basement sometime in December. Catering Service will be held. The hall will be decorated in Christmas array. Lillian Sonerski is chairperson, assisted by Pat Baloga.



Lumleys to observe 40th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edwin Lumley, RD 6, Box 107, Dallas, will observe their 40th wedding anniversary on Sunday, October 15. They were married in St. Therese's Church, Shavertown by the late Rev. J.J. O'Leary.

Their attendants were Nora Austin and the late Eugene Sheridan. Their ushers were Leon Austin and Bob Lauderbaugh. The bridesmaid was Shirley Jones and flower girl was Sandra Weaver Starner. Mrs. Lumley is the former Alice Austin, daughter of the late Gordon and Alice Austin of Shavertown. Mr. Lumley is the son of the late John and Celestine Lumley of Fernbrook. Mr. and Mrs. Lumley are graduates of Dallas Township High School and both are retired factory workers.

They are the parents of two daughters, Kathleen at home and Mary Alice who lives in Rochester, New York. A family dinner will mark the occasion.

New women's fellowship at Shavertown Methodist

A few women have a big vision for our community. The newly formed Back Mountain Community Women's Fellowship is meeting weekly on Wednesdays, 9:45 - 11:15 a.m. at the Shavertown Methodist Church, on Pioneer Avenue in Shavertown, in the lounge.

It is an interdenominational group forming to meet the spiritual needs of women in our community. October 18 starts a fall

series on "Becoming the Noble Woman".

"The noble woman in Proverbs 31 had the same concerns as women today - running an efficient household, being a good companion to her husband, giving her children the best start in life, and making her mark in the business world." Come join us and let's learn together. Baby sitting available. For more information call Connie Hovis, 696-1819 or Lucy Jones, 675-6425.

Son Matthew born to Ruches

Ted and Dianne Ruch of 75 Shaver Avenue, Shavertown announce the birth of their first child Matthew on Friday, September 22, 1989 at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

Matthew is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Tometchko,

Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ruch, Media.

Great grandparents are Stephen Desciak, Dallas, Eva Tometchko, Larksville; Mary Krostag, Swyersville and Dorothy Ruch, Kingston.

Precones announce birth of a son

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Precone of Sweet Valley announce the birth of a son, Jacob Joseph, September 29 at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

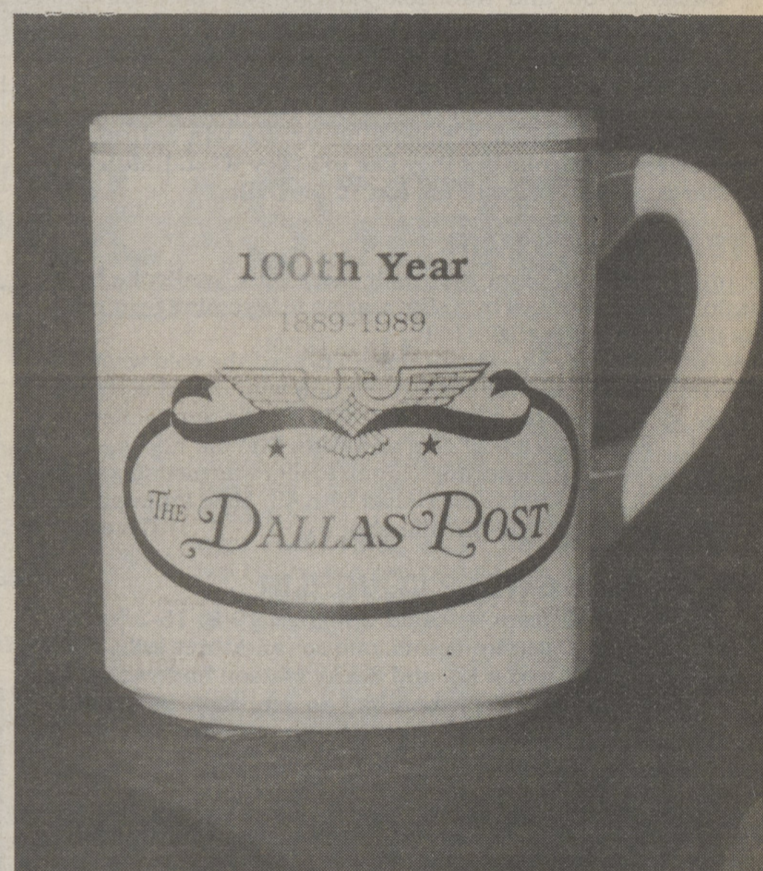
Paternal grandparents are Mr.

and Mrs. Joseph Precone of Overbrook Ave., Dallas.

Maternal grandparents are Mary O'Donnell and the late Charles O'Donnell of Kingston.

This is the couple's first child.

A very special gift to mark a centennial event



1989 is the 100th year of publication for The Dallas Post, making it one of the oldest newspapers in North-eastern Pennsylvania. We have commissioned a special mug to commemorate the event. This ceramic mug is gleaming white with a royal blue imprint noting the Post's 100th year. A gold "halo" around the rim gives the mug a distinctive touch.

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