

Singles

(continued from page 1)

She was married 13 years then divorced. (Yes, sometimes it still rumbles.) There are two sons - Dale, 33, a BFI Industries supervisor in Lakeland, Florida, and Clyde, 30, with Litton Industries in Unityville.

Clyde has one daughter, Rebekah, 5, whose wise ways beyond her years are what helps to keep Nana Thompson young. She says, "I am very grateful for all of them. They are wonderful to me."

Thompson is quite matter-of-fact about her lifestyle and there is no crying over any spilled milk in her past. She obviously believes in Art Linkletter's saying, "Since I intend to spend the rest of my life there, my interest is in tomorrow - and the best thing about tomorrow is that it comes one day at a time!"

She thrives on gardening, when she can, and even likes painting, the house kind, inside or out, it doesn't matter. With retirement looming on her horizon she looks forward to "getting into some serious craft work." But after her divorce, as a greenhorn single, and after work, there were too many lonely hours to fill. She had heard of a club for divorced or widowed singles but she also heard that it had folded for lack of inter-

est. Thompson thought she could do better. She couldn't. Her first attempt folded in the same way; they met a few times at Kingston corners but reached a peak of only five members. "They came, and they went."

Did this experience deter Thompson? Not one bit - three years ago, grimly determined to prove her ideas right, she took another stab at organizing some "coffee and pie" evening meetings.

The new group took hold and started to grow, slowly but surely, meeting first at Ollies, then Mark II, and within a short time were permanent fixtures at Luzerne's Holiday Pancake house, each Tuesday evening at 7:30 on the dot.

Mary Lou began to relax and enjoy the fact that it finally was working. Their membership now bumps 30 and is holding steady; on a good night two dozen may show up.

Jean Silveti, Pancake House manager, says "For years now we've had them here every week. Sure, they are good for business, but we love having them anyway...they are all nice people." Mary Gilbert, waitress, says they're fun to wait on.

Thompson's drive to make the club work could stem from her own youth, when a week was jam-packed with activities like dances at Kunkle, at San Souci and the Wyoming Hose House, affairs at Sweet Valley, St. Stephen's in town, the Kingston Legion and Pete Wolfe's.

"Imagine," Thompson marvels, "Seven different things to do in a week, one each night. It was just great."

That background also makes her a good singles club proxy. On meeting nights, after a little business is conducted (yes, there are minutes to be read, and yes, there are dues - \$1 a month) she may review coming attractions for members like the ones they have already enjoyed...clambakes, cookouts at Frances Slocum, day trips to Atlantic City, Pocono Downs, trips to Reading's outlet stores, Kirby events in town, a Philly zoo trip, Sunday evening concerts at Irem (those we never miss, she says) plus bowling, dances and indeed, any freebie within reach.

It is little wonder present membership swears by the club. Widower Mort Holdsworth of Meeker Road, a former long-dis-

ance truck driver says, "It fills a need. We all had time on our hands and it can get to be a drag. This group helps fill up that time."

Millie Race of Beaumont, a member since February says, "I like it a lot...they are a nice bunch." Ed Krystofosky, a barber from Larksville, has been a member about five months. He has been a widower five years and doesn't miss a meeting. Ed claims, "This is one great idea."

Romanie Volovicz of Plymouth just attended her first meeting. She clipped the club ad and hung it on her refrigerator door, wondering if she would have the nerve to reply. She did, and it only took a week. Now she says, "I wouldn't have missed it for anything. This is a marvelous idea."

Club officers are Cay Gorman of Swoyersville, vice-president, and Barb Laning of Trucksville, secretary/treasurer. And of course, Mary Lou Thompson is president and founder and appreciative of this opportunity to "wave the flag" about her project. Not one to do any resting on laurels, Mary Lou says, "We can always use new members. There's a lot of things coming up so give 'em that number again...675-1910." "Try us! You'll like it!"

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Back Mountain briefs

Lake Twp. recycling center open Aug. 13
 The voluntary recycling drop-off center for Lake Township will be accepting recyclables on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 10-12 noon at the township building. The following items may be dropped off: aluminum and bi-metal cans, clear, brown and green glass, plastic #1 and #2 only. No motor oil containers can be accepted.

Dallas Band Boosters to meet Aug. 16
 The Dallas Band Boosters will hold an organizational meeting August 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Dallas High School cafeteria. All Dallas marching band parents are asked to attend. Band camp for the marching band begins August 15 and continues daily for two weeks from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The band's first performance will be at an away football game with Marion Catholic on September 3.

The Dallas Band Boosters are planning to operate a refreshment booth at the Luzerne County Fair, September 7-11.

College pool to close for repairs Aug. 15
 Due to scheduled repairs, the pool in College Misericordia's Anderson Sports-Health Center will be temporarily closed beginning Monday, August 15. The pool will reopen when the repairs are completed. For information on fall programs in the Anderson Sports-Health Center, please contact the continuing education office at 675-3862.

Bulford family reunion Aug. 21
 The 73rd annual Bulford reunion will be held August 21 at the home of Mrs. Hazel Fielding, Sutton Rd., Huntsville. A covered dish picnic dinner will begin at noon. Please call 696-2709 if you plan to attend.

L-L Band Boosters to meet Aug. 15
 The regular monthly meeting of the Lake-Lehman Band Sponsors will be held August 15, 7 p.m. in the high school. Among the topics to be discussed will be the Back Mountain antique car show, to be held August 21. All parents and friends are urged to attend.

Nearly New Shop lists hours
 The Nearly-New Kids Shop, operated as a community service by the United Methodist Women of the Trucksville United Methodist Church, announce a "Super Sale" for the month of August. All merchandise, will go on sale for only 25¢ each. The proceeds go to the Back Mountain Food Bank and the United Methodist Women's mission projects.

Irem Women to hold luncheon
 Irem Women's Auxiliary will hold a luncheon August 18 at Irem Country Club at 12:30 p.m. This luncheon is open to friends and members. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, Aug. 16 with Mrs. Alfred Colmer Jr., 675-9057 or Mrs. Carl Rosencrance, 655-0972.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - Joseph O'Donnell, Chairperson of the Dallas American Legion, and Donald Hazeltine presented a \$500 check to Lake-Lehman High School graduate Joshua Bower, center.

Students earn scholarships from the American Legion

Dallas American Legion scholarships were awarded to Daniel F. Brody of Dallas High School and Joshua Bower of Lake-Lehman High School. Brody will further his studies at Luzerne County Community College, studying Laser/Electro Optics. Brody was a member of the Dallas state championship football team in 1993.

Brody is a member of Saint Frances Cabrini Church in Carverton and its youth group. Brody is the son of Allen and Judy Scoble and resides at RR 3, Wyoming.

Lake-Lehman graduate Joshua Bower will attend Pennsylvania College of Technology, in Williamsport. While in high school he was vice president of the technology students association, played football for three years and was a member of the Track and Weight lifting program and has participated in Adopt a Highway program.

He was a member of the Wyoming Valley Truck club and has attended Dallas Rotary leadership camp. Bower is a member of the Church of Christ and its youth organization.

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NEWS
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