

Adam and Eve



John and Nancy Biesecker

While presiding over the first autumn meeting of the student council at Elizabethtown High School in 1958, the eye of the President, John Larry Biesecker, fell upon "a cute little sophomore" who had just been elected to the council.

In order to get to know her, President Biesecker appointed the cute sophomore, whose name was Nancy Johnson, to a committee of which he was chairman.

It wasn't until the following February, however, Saturday, February 28, 1959, to be exact, that John got around to taking Nancy out on a date in his 1953 blue Plymouth. They went to Lancaster to see the new movie, "Rally 'Round the Flag, Boys."

Nancy was very-impressed by being taken out by the president of the student council and had doubts about whether she was just a passing fancy or not - until on the following Monday she saw John waiting for her by her locker at school.

They started seeing each other regularly.

Late in the spring of 1959 they were out together on a biological bug hunting expedition when they got caught in a downpour of rain. John suggested they go to his place in Locust Grove, where Nancy could meet his mother.

Nancy, soaked and bedraggled by the rain, was afraid of the first impression she would make on John's mother.

But as soon as she met Odessa Biesecker who had gone to her garden to do some weeding when the rain started and who was even more bedraggled and mud-died than Nancy, Nancy relaxed and felt welcome immediately by John's family - and has ever since.

John graduated that year from high school and enlisted right afterwards in the Navy. He says now that he had courted Nancy "to have someone to write to while in the Navy." He was not disappointed; at least at first, Nancy wrote to him every day.

All through his three years in the Navy John and Nancy kept in close touch by writing and seeing each other as often as possible. John spent a lot of time in a

submarine in the North Atlantic, out of touch not only with Nancy but with all the rest of the world. He read and studied a lot in the sub, and during brief periods when the sub was surfaced he would gaze at icebergs and think deeply about the world.

While John was away in the Navy Nancy had a few dates with other fellows, but they were only "polite dates." John too, although a sailor, says he was "true blue."

Toward the end of his service he came home frequently, due to an injury. Nancy and John's father would always be waiting for him at the train station in Lancaster.

Out of the service, he at first intended to pursue an early ambition to be a state policeman, but Nancy thought he had other potential, and urged him to go to college. Nancy herself was studying to be a medical technician at Elizabethtown College.

John enrolled as a part-time student at Elizabethtown.

They were planning their lives together, and in March 1964, they were married. Coincidentally, on their wedding night the show on "Sunday night at the Movies" was "Rally 'Round the Flag, Boys," the same movie they had gone to see on their first date five years before.

They did not watch the movie a second time.

They settled down now to a life that was both arduous and complicated. Nancy was working at St. Joseph's Hospital in Lancaster as a medical technician, and John had transferred to Millersville State College. He was also working full-time in Grinnell's Foundry

in Columbia.

They lived in a cramped little apartment on Orange Street in Lancaster, which was a hot and noisy place for John to try to sleep as he had to in the daytime.

Sometimes John and Nancy would not see each other for days, although they were living in the same place. They'd leave notes for each other in a little notebook in the kitchen.

Before John finished at Millersville their daughter Amy was born, and their schedules became more complex.

At last, in 1967 John was graduated from Millersville and took a job teaching social studies and coaching football and track at Hanover High School. Nancy, who was pregnant, nevertheless attended every football game. The Bieseckers' son Johnnie was born while they were in Hanover.

Life seemed settled at last, but not for long.

John had an opportunity for a grant to do graduate study in social work at the University of Maryland, and after one year of teaching resumed his studies.

He and Nancy took an apartment in Elizabethtown, and John shuttled between an intern's job with the Bureau of Children's Service in Lancaster and attending classes at the University of Maryland. At Maryland his roommate was an Episcopal priest.

After two years he received his master's degree in social work and took a permanent position with the Bureau of Children's Service. At the same time Nancy and John bought a house near Maytown and began to lead a more settled life than before with Amy and Johnnie.

John has moved to a new position as Child Welfare Specialist with the Regional Office of Services to Children in Harrisburg.

From their first date John and Nancy have been communicating well with each other. But, their communication continues to improve.

Nancy has learned to express anger more readily, get it out of her system, instead of letting it build up unexpressed. Then, reasonable discussions and solutions of problems follow.

The Bieseckers continue to plan a new future together. They want more children, but in today's over-populated world John daily sees children who desperately need homes. John and Nancy plan to adopt children.

Occasionally, John and Nancy get out the notebook in which they used to write notes to each other when they lived in that cramped little apartment on Orange Street and re-read their communications.

The marriage of John and Nancy Biesecker has been built on communication, the sharing of meaning between two people who mean much to each other.

Mayor Scott in Bainbridge

Richard M. Scott, Mayor of Lancaster, will be principal speaker at Memorial Day Services sponsored by Libhart-Dyer Post 197 American Legion and Auxiliary in Bainbridge on Saturday, May 31.

A parade will start at 9 A.M. at Bainbridge Elementary School. Bainbridge Band will provide the music.

A Memorial Service is scheduled for 9:30 A.M. at the Bainbridge Cemetery. Mayor Scott, who is a Brigadier General, U.S.A., ret., will speak at the ceremonies, which will be conducted by the Legion. Rev. Charles A. Snyder of Bainbridge, will officiate.

Dawn Marie Nauman, Bainbridge fifth grader, will read her own essay on Americanism, which won first prize in a contest sponsored by the Auxiliary.

DID YOU HEAR...

Philip M. Horst, junior mathematics major, 209 Marietta ave., Mt. Joy, has been named to the "Dean's List" at Eastern Mennonite College in Harrisonburg, Va., with perfect 4.0 grade point averages for the winter term.

Donegal Fish and Conservation Ass'n. Stocks Creek

Last Monday evening, May 12, about twenty-five members of the Donegal Fish and Conservation Association stocked the Donegal Creek with rainbow trout. They used the method of float stocking which distributes the fish evenly along the course of the stream. The fish are gathered by nets from the nursery, placed in buckets, carried to a large tank on a truck, then transported to the creek, taken from the tank in buckets and poured into screened boxes in the stream. A couple men then walk down the stream, towing the screened box with them and allowing the fish to slip into the

one by one.

All in all, the Association stocked about a mile and a half of the Donegal. Each box was towed through the stream about a half-mile.

The Association rears the fish which it stocks at its hatchery and nursery. President is Ken Depoe, Vice-President, Gerald Grove, and Secretary-Treasurer, Brubaker.

Purpose of the organization is the preservation of trout and of streams for trout. Membership in the Association is \$2 a year. Anyone interested in joining can do so by calling any member or officer.



Bob Zeler Bob Zeller and Bob Brubaker with a box of trout.