

Reunion, First Sight of Sisters Make Glad Week-end for Local Woman, Man

Tots Show Thoughtfulness With 75th Birthday Party

A group of 8-year-old tots proved Saturday that thoughtfulness and consideration aren't the exclusive properties of adults.

Four little girls who regularly play with 4-year-old Margo, daughter of the B. T. Whitneys, in the spacious yard at 1004 Acacia Ave., learned that Margo's grandmother, Mrs. Jeanette Elliott, would be celebrating her 75th birthday Saturday.

Mrs. Elliott has always been on hand at the play sessions to pass out cookies, candy, ice cream, or some other treat for the tots. They in turn decided they wanted to do something for her to help say "Happy Birthday."

So with the help of Mrs. Albert Fiorelli they baked a birthday cake for their 75-year young friend. They molded the confection in the shape of a lamb, iced it in white, and hung a lei of pink and blue flowers around its neck. Then they placed the cake on a platter banked in Easterfish green grass and pink and blue flowers and took it over to Mrs. Elliott.

Arranging the happy surprise were Roberta Fiorelli, Joann Eisenbrandt, Janice Treloar, and Karen Henderson.



REUNITED . . . Mrs. Anna Maria Hoepfner, right, and her sister, Mrs. Francisca Fuchs, catch up on the news during the 28 years they were apart. Mrs. Fuchs arrived here from Nuremberg, Germany, Friday morning to make her home with her sister at 1326 W. 219th St. In left hand corner is a replica of the sign, bedecked with roses, which Mrs. Hoepfner painted over the doorway in honor of her sister's arrival. German words are English counterpart of "Welcome home from the bottom of my heart."

After 28 Years 'Welcome Home' Says Mrs. Hoepfner to Sister

Herzlich Willkommen.

In bright red against the white doorway of the 1326 W. 219th St. home of Mrs. Anna Maria Hoepfner, these letters spell "Welcome home from the bottom of my heart" to a sister whom, until last Friday, she had not seen for 28 years.

Mrs. Francisca Fuchs got off the train at a Los Angeles depot at 10 o'clock that morning, and there were tears of joy on both sides at the homecoming. She recognized Mrs. Hoepfner immediately, exclaiming: "How elegant you are dressed!" But the Torrance woman could only stare in astonishment and cry: "But I hardly know you; you look so different!"

The 28 years since Mrs. Hoepf-

ner left their home in Nuremberg, Germany, because she wanted to see America brought so many changes in her sister that: "Imagine! I didn't even know her!" But they are getting reacquainted now, sitting up until the wee hours of the morning.

Things will settle down to normal after a time, though, for Mrs. Fuchs is in the United States to stay and will make her home with her sister. Already she is fitting herself into American life, borrowing one of her sister's American dresses for the photo accompanying this story and eager to learn English. Since it has been many years since Mrs. Hoepfner used her native language, in moments of excitement she forgets that her sister doesn't know English. Then Mrs. Fuchs exclaims, "But you are so American! Please talk to me in German; I can't understand a word you are saying!"

The television set is a big help to her sister in learning how to "talk American," Mrs. Hoepfner's sister said. "She likes it very much here and thinks everything in America is just beautiful. I think maybe she may get homesick after a while—she has lived all of her life in Germany—but she says no, she likes it here too well."

DOGS HER HOBBY

One thing she may get homesick for, though, Mrs. Fuchs admits, is her dogs. In Germany, her hobby was raising dogs, the fox terriers and a German breed, Reischenschauzer. She has many prize-winners to her credit.

"So we are very interested in finding someone here who is interested in dogs," Mrs. Hoepfner said, "so that my sister may not miss too much her own pets."

The Torrance woman began negotiations to bring her sister to the United States about a year ago and was overjoyed when all the red tape was finally ironed out this summer.

"You see," she said, "I am all alone since my husband died, and my sister also is all alone because her husband has passed away too, so I wanted to bring her here so we would both have company. Life is too short to be separated from your loved ones!"

Mrs. Hoepfner's husband, the late John H. Hoepfner, arrived at Long Beach Harbor from Germany 64 years ago and was one of the pioneer farmers with the Dominguez Land Co. here. Although both were born in Deutschland, the couple first met in Torrance.

Torrance Man Gets First Look at 24-year-old Sister

"Are you John H. Gardner?" the pretty brunette girl asked.

"Why yes," the Torrance man responded, a little puzzled.

"Well, I think I'm your sister," the girl said.

And so outside the trailer home at Torrance Trailer Park on Torrance Blvd., where Gardner lives with his wife, he got a first look at his 24-year-old sister Saturday evening. The story of their lives reads like a book.

DEATH SPLITS FAMILY

When their mother died shortly after the girl, Gladys (now Mrs. Bill Segger) was born, there were no other relatives to take care of the parentless tots. So the two sons and five other daughters were sent to The Cradle, orphanage in Chicago, Ill.

John and his brother, Herman Charles, were taken almost immediately to a foster home. They lived in a succession of four private homes, then Herman, the eldest, decided to strike out for himself. He left the home for Louisiana in 1936, and John has not seen him since.

Following his brother's example, John left the home nine months later, making his way to California. He worked at a series of odd jobs, anything he could find. During World War II he was with Patton's Third Army in Germany, and after his discharge moved with his wife, Beth (they will celebrate their 11th anniversary Sunday) to San Bernardino, where he was engaged in the construction trade. The couple later moved to Torrance, and he has been employed at National Supply Co. since 1951.

GLADYS ADOPTED

In the 24 intervening years since John left Illinois, baby Gladys was adopted by a family in that state and until the first of this month did not know that she had any brothers or sisters.

Connecting link bringing John

Council PTA To Approve New Chiefs

Ratification of new chairman for the coming year will be the most important business on the agenda when council officers and newly-appointed chairmen of the Gardena-Wilmington Council PTA meet Wednesday, Aug. 18 at the Torrance Park at 10 a.m.

Mrs. Michael Foxhoven, president of the Council, has asked the executive board to meet at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of electing a new treasurer, Mrs. Robert Ross, former treasurer, found it necessary to resign her post.

The president further stated that to have a successful year a close relationship among the officers and chairmen, who will head the various departments of Council activities, is very important.

A "get-acquainted" time for the group will take place at a potluck luncheon which will follow the meeting.

VFW AUXILIARY TO MEET TONIGHT

Members of the VFW Auxiliary, Post 3251, will meet tonight at the Alan-Richard Hall at 8 o'clock for their regular gathering.

Mrs. Arthur Moore will install and institute the Lomita Post President's Club on Aug. 26.

Refreshments will be served after the business session.

Lombard, Ill. home Monday morning, and in the meantime had scheduled a visit to one of his Navy buddies. The Gardner would like to pay a return visit to their relatives soon, but unfortunately they have already used up this summer's vacation time.

"But as soon as I get my vacation next year," John avowed, "I'm going to see my sister!"

EDUCATES YOUTH

Mrs. Hoepfner also has another hobby which gives her even greater satisfaction. She is providing funds to educate her brothers' three children in Germany.

"We need a good generation," she said. "The children are the ones who will carry on the world, and we must give them the best education possible. When my niece and nephews are 21, I hope to bring them to America."

For to most Germans, as well as other peoples throughout the world, America is still the great dream. As Mrs. Fuchs said (and her sister translated for us): "When I told everyone I was coming to America, they envied me for the chance to come to the best land."

SISTERHOOD PLANS TOUR, LUNCHEON

Luncheon will be served Tuesday, Aug. 17 by the Sisterhood of the Gardena Valley Jewish Center at the Matchless House on Wilshire Blvd.

Before the meal, visitors will have a guided tour through the Matchless House. Proceeds from the event will go to the building fund. For information, contact Marion Ross, 14926 Doty Ave., Hawthorne or Mildred Halkin, 1529 W. 152nd St., Gardena.

Termed as a success was the membership social of the Center, held last Saturday night at the Gardena Community Center. Participants enjoyed entertainment provided by talented members of the center, a buffet supper, and dancing.

Safety BPW Theme for Dinner Meet

Business and Professional Women members will learn about safety when they gather Monday evening, Aug. 16 at the Chalon Restaurant, 1455 W. Manchester Blvd. at 7 o'clock.

Ernest Chiella, who is connected with the safety department at Douglas Aircraft Co. in Torrance, will speak on "Don't Learn Safety by Accident." The program will be presented in conjunction with Health and Safety Month, which is being observed this August.

On the planning committee for the event are Mmes. Gladys Bestick, Maxine Ruffgraf, Dorothy Kirkpatrick, Teresa Bolton and Gertrude Schwartz.

Reservations may be made for the dinner meeting by calling Mmes. Virginia Beck at FA 8-5241 or Betty Massie at FA 8-1280 during the evening; or Mrs. Bess Tufts at DA 6-3150 during the day.

Scout Trails

Home with tales of swimming, an excursion to Lake Arrowhead, handicraft, hiking, song-fests and other camping activities are BOY SCOUTS OF TROOP 219, sponsored by the Torrance Kiwanis Club.

The Scouts returned Saturday after a week at Rim of the World Camp, where they enjoyed various camping activities and worked for their merit badges. Highlighting the trip was the excursion to Lake Arrowhead, which was arranged by the Turf Club.

Families of the boys took them to and from the camp. Dr. Thurston Weir, representing the sponsoring Kiwanis group, made one trip.

Back in Torrance after their week in camp are Billy Johns, Thomas Ziaoch, Leo Robertson, John Pat, and Paul McCarthy, Danny Slaek, Arthur Hedrick, James Cameron, Bobby Schott, Francis and Al Gately, all Scouts of Troop 219; Fred Cameron Jr., Jack McNeil and Michael Gurnola, all Explorers of Troop 219 Explorer Post.

The Social World

...for and About Women

Agnes Bolter, Editor



IN PATIO SETTING . . . Wheeling in brunch on a portable serving cart at a Torrance Woman's Club brunch held Tuesday at the home of Mrs. W. I. Laughon, 1538 El Prado, are, left to right, Mmes. William Cook, Ray Rogers, president; and H. J. Osborne. Event was the first ways and means project held during the 1954-55 year, and proceeds will swell funds to be expended for philanthropic this term.

'Daze' Dance Set Saturday

Teen-agers will dance Saturday evening, Aug. 14 when the Torrance Recreation Dept. presents a "Vacation Daze Dance," to be held at the Civic Auditorium from 8 to 12 p.m.

Colorful travel posters will be featured in decorations, and variety numbers are scheduled by the Torrance Talent Troupe.

Admission price is 50 cents per person, \$1 a couple. Tony Gallo and Mrs. Arthur Billings, both of the recreation department, are in charge of the event.

Tomorrow's Bride Priscilla Reynolds Feted At Pink 'n' White Shower

Surrounded by a circle of her friends, Miss Priscilla Reynolds opened gaily bedecked gifts Sunday evening when she was honored at a shower at the home of Mrs. George Bray, 3402 W. 228th St.

Pink and white were used as a decorative motif in the Bray home. The same colors were echoed in two cakes, one inscribed with the names of the affianced couple and the other topped by a crystal candy tier. Advice to the bride was given when guests played traditional shower games.

Miss Reynolds will marry Laddie Cham Hall at the Community Methodist Church tomorrow. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Reynolds of 24405 Neece Ave., Waltham.

Feting the bride-to-be were Mmes. W. W. Reynolds, her mother, Stephen Reynolds, Warren F. Reynolds, Alcesta Pestoff, Della Cloward, Priscilla Basham, the benedict-elect's grandmother; B. L. Vancil, his mother; Louise McFarland, Frank Guippe, Maxine Thompson, Diane Milan, Glen Babcock, Rox Hill; Misses Alene Pestoff, Julia Montgomery, Lynn Foley, Kay Crowshaw, Virginia Haake, Carolyn Hill, Babs Hazard, and Sue Johnson.

Bridal Party Revealed by Miss Jackson

Wedding excitement is in the air for pretty Miss Sara Ann Jackson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Winfred W. Jackson of 8540 Del Amo Blvd., as there are just two more days before her Aug. 14 wedding to Dale Angel at the First Baptist Church.

Names of the wedding party were revealed by the bride-elect this week. Attending Miss Jackson as matron of honor will be Mrs. Clark Leonard. Mrs. Gay Doehrohl and Miss Shirley Snelling will be senior bridesmaids, and the bride-to-be has chosen her two sisters, Janice and Jo Beth Jackson, as junior bridesmaids.

Kent Jackson, the bride-elect's brother, and Bill Shipper will be candlelighters. Miss Bernice Jones will register guests, and ring bearer will be Rickey McHale.

Attending the bridegroom will be Paul Pierson as best man. Ushers chosen are Phillip McHale, Roy Pursche, Hal Hudson and Talmay Edwards, nephew of the benedict-elect.



LUCKY FELLOWS . . . are these three, who danced with Torrance royalty at the Coronation Ball at the Western Club last Friday night. Taking a whirl with Miss Torrance of 1955, Norma Guine (center), is Ralph Mehan of Redondo Beach, Runners up in the contest, Miss Shiplee Garner, left, and Jo Ann Davie, dance with two Torrance men, John Trent and Jack Johnson, respectively.