

# Coffee Break

By Adeline Daley

Since we already have been reminded numerous times "Why Johnny can't read"—or, for that matter, add, subtract, spell or know the capital of Latvia—I'm waiting for a report on "Why Mommy Can't Relax."

How can she, when if she isn't involved with homework or the PTA, she's busy reading articles on the best way her first grader can qualify for a Fulbright scholarship or at least get into college in 1980. Although at times I'm willing to "pay each grade as it comes," to borrow from the vernacular of the coaching profession.

You see, they keep talking about all of the "Rapid Learners," but omit to add that there are an equal amount of "Rapid Forgetters."

On one hand, you will have articles, such as, "Don't Demand Too Much Performance!" The theory being that students will become "hostile, unhappy and unproductive due to nagging parents." My kids love these and cut them out for our bulletin board, especially around report card time which has been known in this household as "Bad Day at Black Rock."

But if a parent were expecting to be spared guilt for a "laissez faire" attitude toward their children's education, fear not. For most of the time parents are exposed to advertisements in magazines which will show a picture of a sad, little dunce, sitting in the corner of the classroom because his parents didn't buy him a 30-volume set of encyclopedia.

The whole idea is for parents to keep their child ahead of Johnny-who-lives-down-the-street. In fact, Johnny-who-lives-down-the-street is the most superior kid in America because he is also healthier for his mother buys him the right brand of corn flakes, bread and vitamins.

Then there's the advertisement which shows the little girl standing on her tiptoes, reaching for a book off the top shelf, with the caption stating, "At 4½ she's reading 3rd grade books." I'm impressed because I have known third graders who have trouble with books intended for four-year olds. And it looks as if this toddler is reaching for the Canterbury Tales by Chaucer, even if it's illustrated by Disney.

But the idea behind this ad is that it is never too early to start preparing your child for the educational race to success.

I figure if this keeps up a parent can expect to see an advertisement suggesting that you buy your child a slide-rule—to use as a teething ring.

And you can bet that bound volumes of Shakespeare will come out cloth-bound—in a washable fabric so that mother can wipe off those spills from the high chair.

I even see a change in the little lunch pails that grammar-school kids tote with them. Instead of their favorite TV characters, I expect tomorrow's educational lunch pails to carry pictures of Huntley and Brinkley or Walter Cronkite. And as a mother, I'd like my children to be the first to have an "Eric Sevareid Lunch Pail." If not these, the panel from "Meet the Press." And why not a "Lawrence Spivak Coloring Book?"

So, as they say, "what's a mother to do?" I know what I'm going to do—start relaxing, even if it means my kids will bring home report cards which ask me to bear in mind that "nice guys finish last."

## Beta Sigma Phi Council

### Breakfast Sunday

XI Epsilon Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi will host the bi-monthly breakfast meeting of the Southern California Council next Sunday morning, May 26, at 10 a.m. at the Elks Club, 4101 E. Willow, Long Beach.

Theme chosen for the event will be "Spring Time," reports Mrs. Margaret Byrne, chairman, who will be assisted by Miss Alice Gordon. Mrs. Grace Barham, chapter president, will welcome the guests and Miss Roberta Fayle is taking reservations. Mrs. Alvy Moore, Southern California Council president, will preside at the business meeting and give a report on the recent Beta Sigma Phi convention held in Los Angeles.

In a candlelight installation ceremony, Mrs. Moore will seat Mrs. A. W. Anderson of Long Beach Council as the new Southern California Council president.

A large number of Beta Sigma Phis from the South Bay area will be in attendance. Torrance chapters represented include Phi Zeta Rho, Alpha Alpha Omega, Mu Omicron, and Xi Zeta Lambda.

Mrs. Alan S. Moore of Torrance, sponsor of the South Bay Area Council, will be in attendance.

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## Bay Harbor Hospital

### Guild Installs Officers

Mrs. Thomas Yoshida, wife of Dr. Thomas Yoshida of San Pedro and mother of five children, is the 11th president of the Bay Harbor Hospital Guild. Mrs. Yoshida is also the first doctor's wife to head the volunteer workers' organization, which holds the distinction of being one of the few such groups to have been organized and working three years before the hospital was formally opened.

A resident of the Harbor area for many years, Mrs. Yoshida was born in Wilmington, grew up in Lomita and Wilmington, was a graduate of Narbonne Junior High School and of Long Beach Poly High School. She served two years as president of the Navy Wives Association for the 10th Naval District and has been a member of the Bay Harbor Hospital Guild for the past four years.



MRS. THOMAS YOSHIDA  
... Guild President

Mrs. Charles Sell of Torrance is the retiring president of the Guild group and will become the new treasurer. Other new officers are Mmes. Olin Grubbs of Lomita, vice president; William Russell of San Pedro,

recording secretary; Van Lisman of San Pedro, corresponding secretary.

Committee chairmen who will serve during the coming year include Mmes. Ted Springfield, gift shop; Charles Crawford, ways and means; Katie Crooks, volun-

teer workers; M. J. Shepard, Candy Strippers; Glenn Wymore and Peter De Vriendt, co-chairmen of vending machines; Steven Meier of Wilmington, publicity and maternity teas; William Johnson, hospitality; E. J. Benson, historian; Gary Gustafson, hours; Glen Dale, arts and crafts; Ruth Pilgren, sewing; and Jerry Large, parliamentarian.

New officers were inducted into office by Dr. George Wall of San Pedro at the annual installation banquet May 18 at the Palms Restaurant in Torrance. New officers were pinned with sashes by Hospital Director Frank Kredel.

Plans for the acquisition of new and unusual equipment for the use of patients at the Bay Harbor Hospital at 1437 Lomita Boulevard in Harbor City were outlined in a brief talk by Mrs. Yoshida. She pointed out that during the past eight years since the hospital opened its doors in June of 1960, the Guild has raised and spent more than \$20,000 for equipment, including special therapy treatment tanks recently added to hospital facilities.

### Former Resident Becomes Nurse

Friends have received announcements of the graduation of Miss Anna Marie Payne from the University of Arkansas School of Nursing, in Little Rock. Miss Payne, with her family, lived in Torrance for many years and was graduated from Bishop Montgomery High School. She also attended the University of California at Santa Barbara before moving to Arkansas.

## Riviera Garden Club

### Announces Annual Flower Show May 28

"Holidays in Flowers" will be the theme of the Riviera Garden Club's tenth Annual Flower Show, to be held Tuesday, May 28, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Tom Witt, 408 Via La Selva, Hollywood Riviera.

Mrs. Joseph Walter, president of the club, stated that this will be a standard placement show. It will be divided into two main categories—an Artistic Division and a Horticultural Division. The Artistic Division will feature flower arrangements made from fresh cut flowers and plant material or dried from dried-treated plant material. Each sub-division in this category is designated as a holiday, such as Christmas, Fourth of July or Valentine's Day. Arrangements must be suitable for the specific holiday under which they are entered. The Horticultural Division will feature plant and flower specimens grown by members of the club.

Children of club members may enter exhibits in the Junior Division under categories similar to those in the adult divisions. All Junior entries are to be solely the efforts of the child entering.

There will also be a section for Educational Exhibits featuring individual entries by members and juniors.

Chairman for the event is Mrs. Willett Rowlands. Assisting her are Mmes. Anthony Maggio, co-chairman; Robert Short, entry chairman; Stanley Robertson, judge-clerk; Guthrie Worth, properties; Robert Atha, hospitality; E. L. Sims, refreshments; Melbourne Wylie, publicity; Neill Scott, Junior Division; Haywood Shelton, invitations.

There will be six accredited judges from Los Angeles District of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

### Guild Plans Sing-Along

St. Gerard Guild of St. Margaret Mary Church in Lomita is planning something new for parishioners and when they hold an old-fashioned "sing-along" at the new parish hall, Saturday evening, May 25, at 8:30 p.m.

There will be barbershop quartets, bano-players and guest soloists. Guild members will serve refreshments featuring pizza.

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## Mrs. Winship Entertains Both Boards Las Ninas to Stage Membership Tea

Mrs. Robert Winship, president-elect of the Torrance Woman's Club, has invited this year's club officers to a "Kaffeeklatch" at her home tomorrow to meet with the officers-elect.

Projects for the 1968-69 club year will be discussed, and the new officers will be briefed on their club duties.

Invited to this informal meeting are the following officers: Mmes. R. E. Moffitt, J. A. Tweedy, Fred Sandstrom, F. M. Shaw, Leondrus Stamps, William Faulds, James Wilkes, Bruce Marsh, W. C. Moyer, Richard Dorothy, Morton Diener and D. L. Sears.

The invited officers-elect are Mmes. Richard Rankin, Leslie Steigh, Frank Briet, H. F. Heinlein, A. D. Boyd, and R. A. Bingham.

Las Ninas de las Madrecitas will entertain at its annual Membership Tea on Saturday, May 25, at 1 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Ralph Wenger, 3004 Via Victoria, Palos Verdes Estates. Mrs. Paul Chambers, co-adviser, is general chairman. She will be assisted by Miss Molly Hathaway, president, and Misses Kathy Shull, Ann Foster, Paula Chambers and Barbara and Pat Wenger.

Traditionally, the tea is held to acquaint daughters of Las Madrecitas with volunteer service at Orthopaedic Hospital. Guests from the hospital will be Miss F. Helen Parker, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Crippled Children's Guild, and Mrs. William Thompson, Director of Volunteers.

Mrs. Edward Sokolski, president of Las Madrecitas, and Mrs. Chadwick F. Smith, auxiliary sponsor, will also be guests.

Las Ninas was established by Las Madrecitas, South Bay Auxiliary of the Crippled Children's Guild, as a junior auxiliary and is limited to thirty girls of high school age sponsored by Las Madrecitas and including daughters of Las Amigas de Las Lomas, Rolling Hills Auxiliary of the Crippled Children's Guild.

Invitations have been extended to Las Ninas and their mothers and to more than twenty prospective Las Ninas members and their mothers.

## Shower Fetes Miss Harding

Miss Karen Harding, bride-elect, was guest of honor at a shower given Saturday evening, May 11, by Miss Janet Lemen at her home, 2721 Andree Ave.

After several games, the honoree opened her gifts and the hostess served refreshments.

Guests were Mmes. Don Harding, Gerald Kealey, David McKenzie, Don Lemen; Misses Debby Fox, Vicki Hayes, Candy Marquand, Mary Noone, Carol Pickrell, Sherry Riggs and Helen Smooh.

Unable to attend, but sending gifts were Misses Lynne Beahan and Nancy Mullen.

Miss Harding and Steven Kealey will be married June 9.

## Entertains Her Board

Mrs. Robert E. Moffitt, president of the Torrance Woman's Club, entertained her executive board of the club at a luncheon on May 21 at her Arlington Avenue home.

Members of the board, who have worked with Mrs. Moffitt during the past year, are Mmes. J. A. Tweedy, Robert Winship, Fred Sandstrom, F. M. Shaw, Leondrus Stamps, William Faulds, James Wilkes, Bruce Marsh, W. C. Moyer, Richard Dorothy, Morton Diener and D. L. Sears.

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