

# Camp Trip to Alaska, Homestead Visit Rare Summer Adventure for Brunners

Camping trips are a regular part of the American summer vacation, but while most local residents take outings in nearby mountains or at the seashore, the Paul Brunner family of 1219 Cranbrook Ave. traveled a total of 8884 miles (including the trip home) to the far-off territory of Alaska.

Making their way by car via the inland route to Seattle, Paul, his wife Maxine, and 12-year-old daughter Jerry Ann, drove through British Columbia to the Hart Hwy., only automobile route to their destination, Anchorage, Alaska.

## PACK HEAVILY

They took along three extra tires (if you have a blowout along the way, it costs heavily to replace a tire), sleeping bags, a tent, cooking utensils, an axe to chop firewood, and enough food supplies to last throughout the seven day journey. Canned meats, vegetables, and fruit juices were the main items in the food bag; these were supplemented by fish from several streams by which they camped.

"The biggest surprise of the whole trip," Mrs. Brunner said, "was that the road was so good. Although it is mostly gravel, with only a few paved spots, constant improvements are being made so that it will soon be a wonderful highway. It's not a bit frightening to drive, for you don't have to worry about crossroads or stop signs."

The scenery particularly impressed the Torrance housewife.

"I never saw so many huge rivers, all rushing as if they were in a hurry to get somewhere. The country isn't barren, as I always thought it would be. In most places the greenery is magnificent, and even in the snow and glacial areas there are always scrub spruce."

## DAY NEVER ENDS

One of the scenes most deeply engraved on Mrs. Brunner's memory is that of driving through the glacier region. "It was the season of the 'midnight sun' during our trip," she said, "so it never got completely dark. As we were driving across the mountains, the sky was a faint pink, with clouds drifting above the ice-capped peaks. I have never seen anything so beautiful."

Because of the midnight sun, the weather was mild throughout their trip and even hot during the day when they reached Anchorage. "Our own High Sierras and most of Washington and Oregon, are colder," Mrs. Brunner said, giving the lie to the popular belief that Alaska is an "icebox."

Anchorage impressed the Brunners with its "enormous amount of civic pride." The city has "wonderful department stores, beautiful hotels and California-type houses. In fact, it looks very much like one of our own coastal cities."

## VISIT HOMESTEAD

High above Anchorage overlooking the entire city and Cook Inlet, the Torrance family visited Mrs. Brunner's brother and his wife, the Gordon McCrarys, and her mother Mrs. Mamie Braly, who are "homesteading."

Within the two months the trio have been in Alaska, McCrary has erected his house and started work on another for his mother. The McCrary cabin, constructed of celotex, will ultimately have log siding, but Mrs. Braly's home will be entirely log-built, the chimneys filled up with moss. A spring runs downhill right near the cabins, and if the city hadn't redirected Meadow Brook for flood control, "my family would have a salmon running right by the front door," Mrs. Brunner laughed.

The homesteaders have most of the conveniences found in American cities — an electricity plant provides power for illumination and the popular television set. Almost the only reminder that they are pioneers is an outhouse instead of a modern bathroom.

It's almost but not quite the only primitive quality — for the homestead is relatively inaccessible. No automobile can climb the steep road to the cabin sites; the settlers and their guests have a more unique mode of transportation.

## WINCH NECESSARY

Seated in an Air Force weapons carrier, equipped with a strong winch, the travelers climb slowly up the steep hill. When the powerful mechanism cannot move under its own power, the driver hooks a line from the winch around the nearest tree, the winch slowly tightens the line, and the weapons carrier pulls itself up, inch by inch, with the aid of the tree.

The profusion of wild berries ("they bloomed and ripened in the two weeks we were there," Mrs. Brunner said) and the close proximity of wild animals ("I came muzzle to muzzle with a couple of moose,") are the other reminders that most of the land is still wilderness.

To aid the "wilderness wives" in determining which of the many fruits and berries are

edible and which are poisonous, the government puts out a botanical pamphlet. Also a big help, especially to the family far away from a city, is another pamphlet telling the homemaker how to provide well-balanced meals even though many items are hard to obtain.

Included are tips on how to "cure" meats so they will not spoil, an oil method of storing eggs so they will keep for many months, diet charts showing the relative vitamin content of wild berries, and recipes for making soap and yeast to be used in bread-baking. Scafood recipes are found in still another pamphlet.

## SOIL EXCELLENT

The scarcity of fresh vegetables is not due to any soil deficiency but rather to a lack of cultivated land. Mrs. Brunner said, for where the land is cultivated, especially in the Matanuska Valley near Anchorage, garden produce grows to an enormous size. "On my brother's homestead," she said, "the top soil, which is largely peat moss, is two feet deep."

During their stay in Anchorage, the Brunners and their hosts made a side trip to the Russian River, where Jerry Ann outdid her father and his brother in catching trout.

Enroute to Fairbanks, the family continued camping out, making one of the most memorable meals from a salmon Paul caught in one of the huge rivers.

They had to cross rivers by ferry five times, for heavy rains had washed out the bridges. A little way past Tok junction, they journeyed to Dawson in the Yukon territory, a former gold rush town of 25,000 people where now only a handful remain. The natural beauty of the rivers too has been despoiled by gold dredgers which have left only high mounds of gravel in their wake.

From Dawson, the Brunners returned to the Hart Hwy., resuming their original route home. They returned filled with enthusiasm for the life of a homesteader in Alaska and memories of a colorful and unique trip, the envy of any would-be adventurer.

## Fuchsia Club Rites Held at Lomita Home

Deep pink flowers, fashioned from icing as a symbol of their club, graced a white birthday cake at the Lomita Fuchsia Society installation, held last Thursday evening at the C. O. Ellipser home, 25333 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita.

Celebrating their eighth birthday was on the club's evening agenda, as well as installing Mrs. Robert Riegles as president; Ellipser as vice-president; Mrs. Jack McKinley, secretary; Miss Mary Shurgot, treasurer; Mrs. Ruth Bain, auditor; and Mrs. Martha Mannasto, historian.

Joe Littlefield of Pasadena acted as installing officer, and a spoke to the group in the Ellipser patio setting on fuchsia care. Potluck dinner was served before the evening ceremonies.

Guests gathered in the garden to admire the host couple's flowers and enjoy cake and coffee after the installation. Three past presidents honored at the affair were Mrs. William Farber of Whittier, the first leader; Ellipser and Miss Shurgot.



SHOESHINE GIRLS . . . Maxine (Mrs. Paul) Brunner and her 12-year-old daughter, Jerry Ann, are still hard at work cleaning heavy boots they wore this summer when they took a camping trip to Alaska. The family, who lives at 1219 Cranbrook Ave., traveled a total of 8884 miles.

## Week-end Brides Reveal Ceremonial Attendants

Two lovely August brides, who will change their names this weekend, revealed the names of their wedding parties this week.

Matron of honor for tomorrow's wedding, which will unite Miss Virginia Buchanan and Wayne Hollins at the Methodist Church, is Mrs. Wayne Kobus.

The bride has selected Misses Jane Moffatt, Carol Maloy, Janice Crabtree, and Jackie Richmond as bridesmaids, and the petite Dolores Prenevost will be flower girl.

Kent Harding, Woodrow Buchanan, Bob Buchanan and Glen Hollins will usher guests to their seats, and David Strall will be best man. Ring bearer is Robble Tippin, and Doris Munson will attend the guest book. Serving coffee at the reception will be Mrs. Lawrence Hanna and Miss Pat Larson, while Miss Sharon Kicks will serve cake.

Helping with gifts will be Misses Mary Lou Hutchison and Sarah Ann Cox. Miss Barbara Irvin, who will marry Joseph Simz at the St. Mary Margaret Catholic Church in Lomita Saturday, has chosen Miss Karen Pedersen as maid of honor. Judy Patterson and Shirley Endo will attend as bridesmaids, and ushers are Stan Campbell and Bob Bowman. Best man will be the bridegroom's brother, Ben Simz, and Mrs. Wayne Nelson will be in charge of the reception.

Two tiny twins, Mary Ann and Kathleen Deis, will be flower girls. At the guest book will be Mrs. Tom Colby, while Miss James Kenneth Morrow, and Carl Sack and Miss Annette Grace will serve at the reception, to be held at the VFW Hall.

## Milk is "Health in a Glass" for Boys and Girls



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## 100 Little Misses Display Dolls at Afternoon Tea

Pretty tea tables took the spotlight when the first annual mother and daughter tea and doll fashion show, sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department, was held Friday afternoon at the Civic Auditorium.

About 100 children and 75 adults were on hand for the occasion to see the display of dolls brought from girls at local playgrounds. Climaxing the day was a mother-daughter fashion parade and a daughter-dollie parade.

Judging of dolls, for which ribbons were given, was done by crafts director Betty Sharp, girls sports director Doris Avis, and director of Seaside School Alicia Lorange. A program of talent acts by local playground children rounded out the event.

Winners of the doll show were: oldest doll; Judy Bristol, first prize with a doll that was 125 years old; Charlene Snyder, second, 105 years old; Joy Bebbing, third, 105 year old; Linda

## Pink 'n' Blue Event Fetes Mrs. Walker

Baby gifts were found in a pink and blue beruffled bassinet when Misses Lois Jones and Marjo Strobe surprised Mrs. Harry Walker III (nee Sandra Scott) with a stork shower Saturday night at the 130 Calle de Andalucía Strobe home.

A white stork standing on a pink ruffle centered the refreshment table, and the infant-carrying theme was further carried out in tiny colored storks, fashioned from gum drops and pins.

Pink and blue flowers graced a sheet cake, which was topped by a blue stork holding two baby dolls, gay lollipops and striped candies, served with pink lemonade and bridge mix in diaper nuptials, added the last note to the party fare.

Traditional shower games were played, including a story of the baby's arrival with party sticks held by each guest providing the Torrance visit of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. O'Sullivan of Mobile, Ala., who are staying at the home of their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Arbuckle of 22119 S. Normandie Ave.

The infant was born ahead of schedule at 2:40 a.m. Aug. 23 at Harbor General Hospital. His parents, who expected to be home before his arrival, have named him James Miles.

## Torrance Church Calendar

### NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1447 Torrance Avenue  
Rev. Patrick McGuinness, Pastor  
Telephone FAirfax 6-2776  
Sunday School 9:00-10:00 (High)  
9:00-10:00 (High)  
2:15-3:45 (Pub. Sch. 214 West 2000 rd.)  
Wed. (Pub. Sch. Torrance, Wednes-  
day Evening Devotions at 7:30  
p.m. Confessions Three Times Gu-  
ilty from 8:00-9:00 p.m. at  
11:00-12:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. to 9:00  
p.m. Baptisms Saturdays and Sun-  
days from 9:00-10:00 a.m.  
St. W. Carson Nativity Catholic  
School, Three annual groupings be-  
longing to the last year of  
1st School.

### CENTRAL CHURCH EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN

Marcelina & Arlington  
100 W. Walter M. Stanton, FA 8-3010  
10- Morning Worship  
10- Youth Fellowship  
30- Evening Worship  
Midweek Worship Service 7:00  
Wednesday evening

### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Carson and Flower  
Rev. Paul Wenske, pastor  
Phone FA 8-5884-Res. FA 8-3249  
Sunday:  
9:00-Worship Service.  
10:00-Youth School.  
10:45-Worship Service.

### TORRANCE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

8648 Torrance Blvd.  
Sun. 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School  
11 a.m.—Morning Worship  
10 p.m.—Evangelistic  
Wednesday Night Bible Study  
Conducted  
Rev. W. T. Holcomb, Pastor  
Telephone RA 8-5002

### FOUR SQUARE GOSPEL CHURCH

107 El Prado—Tel. FA 8-5738  
Rev. and Mrs. Jax P. Lowen,  
Pastors  
SUNDAY: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Group Singing 11:30 a.m.  
Evangelistic 7:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY: Wednesday  
Evangelistic 7:30 p.m.  
BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday  
Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.  
PUBLIC INVITED

### ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Arthur E. Bello, Rector  
1432 Encarnacion  
1355 From Torrance Memorial  
Hospital  
Holy Communion 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Family Service 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.

### THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

El Prado at Manuel Avenue  
Rev. John L. Taylor, Minister  
Church School for all ages, 9:00  
Early Worship—Youth choir,  
church school fourth grade and  
10:00 Church School, all ages,  
extended sessions fourth grade  
and below  
11:00 Morning Worship—Adult  
choir  
Infant care from 9:00 to 12 a.m.  
High School Youth Fellowship

### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Pastor, Elder Stanley C. West  
Corner of Asacia & Sonoma  
Sabbath School — 9:30 a.m.  
Church — 10:30 a.m.  
Prayer meetings—Wed., 7:30 p.m.  
Young people's meeting—  
Sabbath, 7:30 p.m.

### THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF TORRANCE

2930 El Prado, Torrance  
Rev. Robert Walker, Pastor  
Res. Phone FRontier 5-5258  
Sunday School—9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship—10:30 a.m.  
Christian Youth Fellowship—  
7:30 p.m.

### HOPE CHURCH EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN

3547 W. 174th St.  
Rev. Homer H. Miller  
Ph. ME 8-77—Res. ME 9-3542  
9:30 a.m.—Sunday School  
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship  
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship  
Church Fellowship Night—  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

**WELCOME TO TORRANCE . . .**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
AT CARSON AND MANUEL STS., TORRANCE  
C. MILES NORTHRUP, PASTOR

Bible School 9:30 A.M. Wed., Friday and Friday Service  
Morning Worship 10:30 A.M. 1:00 P.M. A Nursery is provided for  
Fellowship Training 8:30 P.M. all services. Also non-sectarian mothers'  
Evening Service 7:30 P.M. room in balcony.

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