

Candy Strippers' Work In Hospital Praised

By BOB WILTON

Interest in the Candy Strippers of the Harbor General Hospital has increased due to the teenage auxiliary group's impressive activity record and the recent picture and story coverage in a number of leading national magazines.

Candy Strippers could be anything from employees in a confection factory to members of a teenage club, but in Torrance this title belongs to a serious-minded group of young people taking an active part in the daily routine of the hospital as part of the institution's work program.

This 400-strong group is helping a worthy cause and at the same time learning things valuable in their future lives — like planning occupations pertaining to jobs and professions and preparation for marriage and parenthood. Many of these youngsters know from the first few weeks of duty that they want to become doctors and nurses. Others find they are qualified for office work or hospital technical fields. Still others just learn about life and living. But all of them progress toward definite goals for later years.

The Candy Strippers, organized in 1953, are made up of all denominations and all nationalities. They are recruited by personal contact by their supervisor from clubs, churches and schools in the area. Membership is open to both boys and girls.

Requirements for duty with the Candy Strippers, besides the age bracket, are just a willingness to learn, a desire to serve, a respect for authority, and a general conduct befitting the institution where they are assigned. When a member does



LEADER . . . Mrs. Marguerite McAllister, who organized the Candy Strippers at the Harbor General Hospital, is pictured with a doll dressed in a replica of the uniform of the day for girls of this group. Candy Strippers are teenage members of the hospital's auxiliary and serve in many capacities at the institution.

not live up to the rules of their organization, is lazy or inefficient, they are dismissed and sent home.

A four-four plan is set up giving the members four hours at school and four on the job. Leadership is the keynote of the Candy Strippers, and although there is no actual pay to the youngsters for their services, they receive honor awards and certificates, for their tour of duty is counted as work experience and may be used for future reference in job applications. These youngsters are in probation for one month and are asked to stay on the job for at least six months.

Candy Strippers work in 20 to 30 hospital departments, ranging from service with doctors, nurses and patients, to clerical and business departments. Their duty is timed for after-school hours, week ends, vacations and holidays — daytime and evenings. Their work consists of making hospital rounds of patients and assisting in all departments of the hospital. Club meetings are held once a month, they have officers and members who check on their work, although they are basically on an honor system.

Candy Strippers are proud of their organization, their activities and their uniform. They dress in white dress, or trousers, with a white and red striped pinafore or shirt. Although their total work hours add up to an impressive figure each week they do not replace any regular employee.

Mrs. Marguerite McAllister, Mrs. Mac to all of her young workers, comes from a family of doctors and professional people, and her educational and working background qualifies her as a nurse and public health administrator. So, it is only natural that she would know the need for supervised teenage help in crowded general hospitals.

When Mrs. McAllister was hired by the Harbor General Hospital, in 1955, to organize the volunteer program, she went to work and soon had a well functioning combination of adult and teenage members. She knew she had to fill the hospital's work needs and also give her "kids" a program more constructive than that of hostesses and guides. About her recognized success she modestly says, "We have grown because we have something to offer."

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O. N. Dobbins Newlyweds at Home Here

Mr. and Mrs. Odell Norman Dobbins are now at home at 183 E. 213th St., following a honeymoon in Santa Barbara. Mrs. Dobbins is the former Miss Ruth Frances Boulden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Boulden, Union Valley Rd., Newfoundland, N.J. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Montie Dobbins, 1331 W. 221st St., Torrance.

The couple were married at the First Lutheran Church here on Jan. 2 with the Rev. William Roleder officiating. For her wedding Mrs. Dobbins wore a champagne lace afternoon dress with beige hat and gloves. Cymbidium orchids formed her corsage.

Mrs. Margaret Dobbins wearing a pink dress and a corsage of deep pink carnations, was the bride's attendant. Raymond Dobbins stood as his brother's best man.

A reception for close friends and relatives was held at the Torrance home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Dobbins.

Life in Tripoli

Far East Walled City Attracts Cunninghams

Life in Tripoli on the Mediterranean was a glamorous and educational experience for Mrs. Ken Cunningham, who recently returned to Torrance after 21 months in the historical walled city in the Far East.

Mrs. Cunningham went to North Africa with her husband when he was assigned by Northrup Aircraft to Wheelus Air Base, outside of Tripoli, where he was a sleeve target apparatus inspector.

During her stay in the Old World community Marjory Cunningham lived in a hotel that housed many nationalities, including Italians, Arabic, and Jews. She and her husband were the only Americans living in the hostelry, built hundreds of years ago. She found the natives friendly and soon was able to greet them in their languages and make herself understood to the shopkeepers.

Each shop held business hours according to their faiths. Some closed at noon and others at 4 p.m., but all opened again from nine to midnight. The men of this country attended places of worship and amusement together, while the women also go together. Women of the Moslem faith wear a baracas, a garment resembling a large and colorful bedspread, constantly and never expose more of their face than one eye while on the street, or in the presence of strangers and people of other religions, according to Mrs. Cunningham.

The Torrance housewife reported that she kept busy while in Tripoli with her hospital activities at the medical mission. Social activities with officers wives from the air base filled in to balance out her time. She explored the old Roman ruins at Leptis, Maadia and Sabratha and swam daily in the Mediterranean. She said she thought the Ramadan, an annual thirty-day worship period, was most interesting, and that the Mohammedan's pilgrimage to Mecca the highlight of this event.

Marjory Cunningham is again living at 1923 Reynosa, and said she was glad to be back home, but would be ready in a moment's notice, to return to Tripoli.

Y-Wives Hold Baking Contest

Torrance Y-Wives will hold a just-for-fun Valentine baking contest at the meeting next Tuesday, Feb. 10. Each member will bring a decorated cake, cookies or other baked products for an exchange. A prize will also be given for the best entry.

The regular exercise period and dancing will precede the general business meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Juniors Have Busy Slate

Torrance Junior Woman's Club has planned a busy agenda for its meeting next Wednesday evening at the clubhouse. A nominating committee will be elected, the second annual Vogue Sewing Contest will be staged and the "Miss Teen of the Year" candidate will be chosen.

At CNPA Meet

Mr. and Mrs. Kent Milton, 21821 Paul Ave., returned Saturday afternoon from San Francisco where they had gone to attend the California Newspaper Assn. convention. They drove up Friday to be present at the awards breakfast Saturday morning when Mr. Milton's firm, Angelus Mesa News Advertiser, won an award.

District Garden Clubs Will Host State Board

District 2, Los Angeles-Bay Harbor California Garden Clubs, Inc., will be hosts to the state board meeting at the Wilton Hotel in Long Beach on Thursday, Feb. 12.

Mrs. Henry Hunter of Visalia, state president, will conduct the meeting. The San Pedro Garden Club, charter club of the organization, will serve punch at 5 p.m. on Thursday.

On Friday, Feb. 13, there will be an open meeting for all garden enthusiasts and their friends.

Luncheon will be served at 12:30 and reservations must be in not later than Feb. 9.

Hostesses for this second day will be Mrs. R. O. Young, of Hermosa Beach, director; Mrs. M. H. Hubbell, Long



BACK FROM FAR EAST . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ken Cunningham, 1923 Reynosa, recently returned to Torrance after 21 months duty in Tripoli. Marjory models a baracas, garb of the Arab women, while Ken displays a brass serving tray made by an arabic Moslem orphan boy in handcraft school in the historic city.

Mrs. Young Is Speaker

Mrs. R. O. Young, director of District 2, California Garden Clubs, Inc., was guest speaker when the Beau Jardin Garden Club met at the home of Mrs. William Singery. She spoke on houseplants and their care. Reporting of plants was demonstrated with Mrs. Young doing several plants and planters for the members.

Other featured items were an all-purpose garden apron, time saving garden hints, and several novel gift ideas. Refreshments were served to the following members and guests:

Mmes. L. Archibald, J. Beattie, L. Chase, D. Drorbaugh, R. Hills, B. Holden, M. Langwell, K. Moe, J. Regan, W. Singery, J. Stadler, F. Worgul, A. Yackle, C. Fitzpatrick, R. Shapiro, and R. Young.

Girl Scout Troop 380, sponsored by Beau Jardin, are assisting other Junior Gardeners in the making of place cards to be used at the district luncheon which will be held in Long Beach on Feb. 13.

Welcome Wagon

Torrance Welcome Wagon Club will meet for luncheon at 12:30 next Wednesday, Feb. 11 at the Plush Horse Restaurant. All newcomers in the area are invited.

World Day of Prayer On Friday

World Day of Prayer will be observed next Friday, Feb. 13, by the United Church Women of the Torrance-Lomita area, announced Mrs. M. M. Schwab, president of the local council.

Services will be held at the First Baptist Church, Manuel and Carson, with the worship hour set at 11 a.m. Miss Gertrude Waterman, American Baptist Missionary, home on furlough from Mead Christian Center, Osaka, Japan, will be the speaker at the 1 o'clock program.

Each woman attending is asked to bring a sack lunch and coffee and dessert will be provided.

The World Day of Prayer is always on the first Friday of Lent in the United States. It is sponsored by United Church Women, a general department of the National Council of Churches.



MID-WINTER BLOSSOMS . . . Mr. and Mrs. George Peterson, 1872 Del Amo, pose here with their giant Camellia bush which has ignored all seasonal conventions. The bush last week had 204 gorgeous pink camellia blossoms and 94 healthy buds. The camellia bush is 8 feet tall and is located on the northeast side of the house.

YOUR PROBLEMS
by Ann Landers

"Don't Make Like Trujillo"

Dear Ann Landers: I'm a senior in high school and my steady girl is giving me a gift. She breaks up with me whenever she gets a chance to date someone else but if I look at another girl she screams bloody murder.

Last week she accepted a date with another guy who lives out of town, so I asked her girl friend for a date the same night. She heard about it in school, cried all through study hall and her eyes swelled up like two balloons. Finally the school nurse asked me to drive her home.

I bought this girl a set of matched luggage for her birthday and a typewriter for Christmas. Valentine's day I gave her an orchid and a \$20 teddy bear. She uses my car whenever she feels like it. I take her to all the best places and treat her like the Queen of Sheba. What is wrong with our love anyway?—Dick.

Call it "love" if you want to; I call it a case of a foolish boy trying to buy a girl's affection, and the little gold-digger is taking him for all she can lay her hands on.

The gifts you describe are pretty rich for anybody's blood, let alone a high school kid. I was surprised to see your letter came from Salt Lake City. I thought surely you must be from Houston or Dallas and had a couple of oil wells pumping in the backyard. Such spending is neither sensible nor in good taste.

My advice is to drop this Greedy Gertrude and date other girls. And quit trying to make like Trujillo or you'll only attract more dames with dollar signs on the eyeballs.

Dear Ann: A problem concerning my mother is making me sick. She's almost 70, and the most wonderful woman God ever made. Before Dad passed on he said "Son, don't ever let me want for anything—she's



YWCA DRIVE IN ORBIT . . . With the moon as their goal, YWCA workers took on the role of the people of Mars as they gathered at the local Y recently to prepare for their flight to the moon. Carrying out their theme as they spearheaded the drive are from left, Mrs. Loraine Harper, president of the Harbor YWCA, Mrs. B. O. Bertolson, new life member, and Mrs. E. G. Croom, meeting hostess.