

are urged to do so by August 14, as papers will be closed on that date.

The next meeting will be held at the Community House Monday, August 25, and a full attendance is requested.

Notes from the March 17, 1920 meeting: Government rifles and ammunition to be used in connection with military funerals are about to be issued to every post of the American Legion.

The rifles will be loaned. Ammunition is to be sold at cost price.

Ten rifles will be the limit loaned to each post. It is expected that the War Department will soon be ready to issue them at the requests of posts.

Illinois posts are asked by State Commander Foreman to cooperate with the U.S. Public Health Service in locating additional space for treatment of ex-servicemen who are tubercular patients. The government will pay \$3 a day per person for such facilities. It is desired that when patients' conditions warrant it and facilities are available that they be treated in sanitariums near their homes.

May 12, 1920: The drive for members is now on over the entire U.S., and it is predicted that Illinois will show an increase of 20,000 new members by May 22 when the drive closes. State Commander, Milton J. Forman, commenced a tour of the state on May 9, and will visit a number of cities until May 20. On Tuesday, May 18, he addresses an evening meeting at Rockford, and on Thursday evening a meeting at Dixon; a large attendance of Legion members is expected at every meeting and those in the vicinity are urged to attend both of the above mentioned meetings.

May 26: Shirley Tilton Post 97, American Legion, was well represented at a membership drive meeting held Thursday evening in the Armory Hall at Dixon under auspices of the Dixon Legion Post and addressed by State Commander Milton J. Foreman and other officers of the Illinois organization.

American Legion founded in May, 1919.

8/18/20: American Legion posts of Ogle County held a picnic near Byron on Labor Day, September 6.

Shirley Tilton was killed November 5, 1918 in France during the Argonne Campaign. His body was returned to Oregon for Oct. 19, 1921 burial. The funeral was conducted by the members of the Shirley Tilton Post 97 American Legion named in his honor. The funeral was held on the Court House Square, attended by several thousand people. (The funeral was attended by Charles Mongan, who said he remembers it well.)

The procession, headed by the gun carriage bearing the flag-draped casket drawn by four black horses, with regulation artillery positions and guarded with six pallbearers marching beside it, all in overseas uniforms, approached Fourth Street. The Legion men composed a double file across the Court House yard, backed by the multitude of civilians, through which the casket was borne at shoulder height to the point assigned. Rev. Geo. H. Williams, pastor of the Oregon Presbyterian Church delivered the address. (His sermon followed).

One of the standard bearers was John G. Waldie, Veteran of the Civil War.

Shirley Tilton was the son of Warden D. and Elizabeth Tilton. He was a member of Company G, 355th Infantry, 89th Div. He was killed as he served as a dispatch bearer. He was previously buried at Romaine in France and was interred after the service in Oregon at Washington Grove Cemetery.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT NO. 97 OF OREGON, IL.

Compiled by Eva Leddy

A Women's Auxiliary of Shirley Tilton Post No. 97 of the American Legion was formed March 2, 1920. About 25 women, relatives of ex-servicemen participated. The election of temporary officers resulted in the following being chosen: Mrs. Harriett (E. D.) Etnyre, President; Mrs. Edith (R. F.) Nye, Vice President; Mrs. L. H. Poundstone, Secretary; Mrs. Charlotte (M. A.) Fleming, Treasurer.

The next meeting was held at the Legion Hall on March 16, 1920 when they applied for a charter. The charter list was held open for some time in order to secure as many women as possible.

The following standard of eligibility was established according to the National By-Laws. "Membership in the Auxiliary shall be limited to the mothers, daughters and sisters of all men and women who were in the military or naval service of the United States between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918, and who died in line of duty or after honorable discharge and prior to November 11, 1920. The committee appointed to secure members consisted of Mrs. Fannie (Dr.) Cottlow, Mrs. Alpha Jones, Mrs. Kate (Joseph) Leddy, Mrs. Myra Cos and Mrs. B. L. Eyster. Every eligible woman was requested to attend the meeting on the 16th. They received their charter in August 1921.

Section 3 of Department of Illinois Constitution and By-Laws.: The American Legion Auxiliary is a patriotic service organization dedicated to the purpose of aiding The American Legion in carrying out a great peacetime and wartime service to the United States of America, including contributing to the rehabilitation of disabled war veterans and the welfare of their dependents; the encouragement of 100% Americanism and promotion of an adequate National Security.

Members were: Ethel Beaman; Alice Bichenbeck; Myra Cox; Eva Camling; Fannie Cottlow; Mary Duck; Edna Davis; Clara Dawsett; Hattie Early; Harriett Etnyre; Leona Eyrick; Marjorie Eyster; Charlotte Fleming; Ina Fleming; Ida Halverson; Mrs. Jay Harris; Elizabeth Hastings; Ruth Himert; Edith Knapp; Vern Leddy; Jessie Lebowick; Kate Leddy, wrote first history of unit in 1929; Mrs. Emil Lehrke; Mrs. Walter Lehrke; Christina May-silles; Gertrude Mix; Laura McConkey; Cora McGee; Edith Nye; Mrs. L. Ogle; Mrs. L. Poundstone; Lucy Reinema; Blanche Roe was responsible for placing of

drinking fountain at Coliseum; Alice Rumery; Mrs. W. J. Salisbury; Minne Seas; Ella Seyster; Matilda Stroh; Mrs. Alpha Jones; Mrs. W. D. Tilton (Gold Star Mother); Ida Wade; Cora Wood; Emma Woodworth (assisted in organizing Girl Scout Troop in 1931).

The nationwide sale of the Memorial Poppies was begun by the American Legion and Auxiliary in 1921. The crepe paper poppy was selected as the official poppy rather than other materials because it provided the maximum of work for the disabled men.

In 1924 the American Legion gave the American Legion Auxiliary complete charge of the national poppy program.

Every year the Auxiliary sent a high school girl to Illini Girls' State at Normal, Illinois, after it was organized; gave 8th grade and high school students medals and certificates for outstanding citizenship. The first Girl Scout troop in Oregon was organized by the Auxiliary under the supervision of Imildrith Pryor.

In the 1930's, farm magazine subscriptions were sold, using the Auxiliary as sponsor, for which they received hospital equipment. They had a number of wheel chairs, complete hospital beds, walkers, etc. which were stored in the Court House basement and loaned out under the supervision of John Dentler. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Illinois had a nine-point program to which the local unit contributed every year. The programs were—Treasure Chest, Insulin Fund, Canteen Books, Vaponefrin Fund, Hospitality Fund, Veterans Crafts and Child Welfare programs, and paid per capita tax for each member.

To earn funds to carry on their programs, the Auxiliary served banquets for the Legion, served lunch at Legion dances, sold cakes at Legion carnivals, helped put on home talent plays, held card parties, and served Scout dinners. They also sold extracts and sponsored magazine sales, held silent auctions and style shows, cooked and served the Legion Stag dinner in November and sold poppies in May and used the excess poppy money for their rehabilitation program.

Locally, they gave to Cancer, March of Dimes, Heart Fund, Red Cross, and T. B. Bond. They sent a girl to Girl Scout Camp, gave toward Christmas baskets, made tray favors for hospitals and helped entertain veterans at Dixon State Hospital. In 1973 they gave money to the Oregon Grade School for playground equipment for the new playground. Starting in 1960 the only money made for programs was the sale of poppies in May and serving the Legion Stag dinner in November.

From 1970-1976 there were no money-making activities and the Auxiliary existed on collected dues. The existing money in the treasury was used to pay for department and school programs. By 1976 the Auxiliary had eight members and the Department of Illinois stated that there had to be ten members, so due to lack of interest, the Auxiliary gave up their Charter on October 20, 1976.

Officers at that time were: President, Mina Clemmons;

Vice President, Fern Leigh; Secretary, Helen Jones; Treasurer, Eva Leddy; and Historian, Florence Schwarte.

Past Presidents of American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 97: Mrs. Edward Etnyre 1921-22; Mrs. Edith Nye 1922-23; Ida Wade 1923-24; Alma Weick (½ yr) 1924; Emma Woodworth 1925-26; Neva Messenger 1926-28; Imildreth Pryor 1928-29; Sarah White 1929-30, 1926-37; Christina Maysilles 1930-31; Edith Elliott 1931-32; Mary Seyforth 1932-33; Arlene Waggoner 1933-34; Eva Leddy 1934-35; Vera Fishel 1935-36; Harriett Driver 1937-39; Ruth Decker 1939-40; Eloise Etnyre 1940-41; Vera Woodworth 1941-42; Mollie Abbott 1942-44; Ethel Beaman 1944-45; Etta Flood 1945-46; Anna Wade 1946-47; Barbara Cox 1947-48; Lois Tremble 1948-49; Florence Dentler 1949-51; Bertha Deuth 1951-52; Isabelle Wright 1952-53; Jean Dyson 1953-54; Edith Fridley 1954-55; Betty Landers 1955-56; Norma Deuth 1956-67; Edith Elliott 1957-58; Betty Basler 1958-59; Jeane Berger 1959-61; Betty Basler 1961-63; Dorothy Beard 1963-64; Edith Elliott 1964-66; Mina Clemmons 1966-76.

Compiled by Eva Leddy

ANCHOR

Submitted by Florence Prior

The first session of a Widow-Widower support group was held June 10, 1981 at the Yellow Bird Center with an attendance of approximately twenty seniors. The resource leader at the first meeting was Chris Frey. The purpose of this group is to inform and help people, especially seniors, who have lost a spouse.

Jane Reid, the Executive Director of Yellow Bird, and her assistant, Margaret Jones, thought a support and sharing group for widows and widowers of Ogle County would be helpful.

When the group first started, meetings were held every other month at the Yellow Bird Center.

In March 1982 the name ANCHOR (A New Challenge Helping Ourselves Readjust) was chosen for the group. Meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month, with the exception of June, July and August when no meetings are held.

The programs cover a wide range of topics from travel tips, breakfasts, food talks, crafts, to inspirational messages from area ministers.

Ogle County Senior Services, Inc. (formerly Yellow Bird Center) sponsors the group.

BLACKHAWK GRANGE

Submitted by Cecil Bartow

Blackhawk Grange, No. 1822, was organized on June 22, 1922. For the first three years meetings were held in the homes of members. Earl Wilmarth served as Master from organization to 1923. Ezra Wilde served as Master from 1923-1926, during which time the old Keedy School property was purchased and remodeled into a Grange Hall. The building was dedicated in December 1926.

Hulse, and C. G. Gilbert. It was not noted who was president at that time. The stated purpose for which the corporation was organized was: To support Civic and Patriotic Enterprise, and Promote Better Business Relationships.

In a meeting on May 9, 1950 members voted to change the name from Oregon Better Business Association to Oregon Chamber of Commerce. On the document filed for incorporation June 19, 1950 the names listed were W. W. Hulse, President, and William H. Hinkle, Secretary.

In 1960 the corporation was dissolved for failure to file reports as a corporation. It was reinstated as a corporation in 1977. However during those years the Chamber still continued to function. The reason 17 years elapsed before it was reinstated is not known.

In 1971 an Information Booth was built on the northeast corner of the Courthouse Square after an agreement was reached between the Chamber of Commerce and the County of Ogle.

At the present time the Chamber of Commerce is housed in City Hall during the winter months and in the Information Booth on the Courthouse Square from May 1st until the first weekend in October.

In recent years some of the Chamber projects have been: Creating a recreation area at Sandsucker Hole; An architectural survey of the downtown area; creating a Country Christmas Candlelight Walk in Oregon; manning the tourist information booth seven days a week, May through September; initiating tax abatement for industrial/commercial development from all taxing bodies in the county and city; received grant to develop a brochure to attract industry to the area; Christmas decorating contest, offering prizes to businesses as well as residences.

The Chamber of Commerce has also instituted a Citizen of the Year Award. The first awarded was Mrs. Jean Davis in 1985, E. G. (Tim) Landers 1986, D. Dean Dye 1987 and in 1988 Daniel (Danny) Roos.

The Executive Board for the year 1988 is President, Deb Wuebben; Vice President, Mike Maxson; Secretary, Sharon Engel; Treasurer, Julienne Crowley; Executive Director, Carmen Maxson.

Today the stated purpose of the Chamber of Commerce reads:

- to promote and perpetuate the business, commercial and manufacturing and civic interests of the City of Oregon;
- to advance the agricultural interests of the county;
- to develop a unified public spirit in all, whereby we may put forth a unified effort in the aid of our city and county to make them more prosperous, more beautiful and better places in which to live and work.

CHAPTER 324 OF THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Written March 1968 for the special edition of the 125th Anniversary of Oregon by Florence Willis, Secretary

Sinnissippi Chapter #324 of the Order of the Eastern Star was instituted January 25, 1896. Sister Anne Spoor

was Worthy Matron and Brother Asa Dimon was Worthy Patron.

Listed are the charter members: Sis. Ada Mix, Sis. Nancy Jewett, Sis. Bessie McKenney, Sis. Lillian Sears, Sis. Laura Fesler, Sis. Mabel Adams, Sis. Rossetta Dimon, Sis. Jennie Dimon, Sis. Mary Washburn, Sis. Loulie Haas, Sis. Anne Spoor, Bro. H. A. Mix, Bro. T. A. Jewett, Bro. Joseph Sears, Bro. J. C. Fesler, Bro. R. F. Adams, Bro. W. L. Middlekauff, Bro. Asa Dimon, Bro. Geo. M. McKenney, Bro. (?) Washburn.

Here is a copy of the letter sent to the members of the newly organized Chapter:

Mrs. and Mrs. Washburn:

You are requested to be present at a meeting in the Masonic Parlors, Friday evening, January 24, '96, for the purpose of organizing an order of the Eastern Star.

The work will be in charge of Deputy Grand Lecturer C. C. Nichols, assisted by Mesdames Nichols, Walker, Brown and others of Aurora. Meeting will be called to order at 7:30 o'clock.

Per order of Oregon Lodge No. 420, A.F. and A.M., Oregon, Ill.

There were 44 members the first year.

A copy of a speech given by Sis. Helen Andrew when she was installed as Worthy Matron in 1923:

The old records of Sinnissippi Chapter #324 of the Order of the Eastern Star read like a story, so full are they of the names of friends, some long since gone and many names whose dear faces are still with us, records packed full of good deeds, gay times, trials and discouragements, so that our own times are but a repetition of the past.

Previous to January 1896, when the Masonic Order in Oregon had been instituted 33 years, some of the Brothers and their wives talked the matter over and decided to start an Eastern Star Chapter in Oregon. You can close your eyes and see them, meeting each other on the street, in parlors under a kerosene lamp, getting the interest up until on the evening of January 24, 1896, twenty came together and took the oath, under the guidance of Grand Lecturer C. C. Nichols, assisted by Sisters Nichols, Walker and Brown, all of Aurora, and the charter was granted October 15, 1896.

These charter members being, Sisters Anne Spoor, Ada Mix, Nancy Jewett, Bessie McKenney, Lillian Sears, Laura Fesler, Mabel Adams, Rossetta Dimon, Jennie Dimon, Mary Washburn, Lulu Haas and Brothers H. A. Mix, T. A. Jewett, Joseph Sears, J. C. Fesler, R. F. Adams, W. L. Middlekauff, only six of whom are now living.

The meeting was called by order of the Oregon Lodge #420 A.F. & A.M. and organized under the name of Sinnissippi Chapter #324 taken from the name which the Indians had given our river, meaning rocky waters, and #324 of course being the number of Chapters in Illinois. Then this evening there was appointed and duly installed Sister Anne Spoor, Worthy Matron, Sister Ada Mix, Associate Matron and Bro. Asa Dimon, Worthy Patron. This meeting was held in the old Masonic rooms in the Burchell building upstairs, and continued there until the present Masonic Hall was built and occupied in February 1904.

This Chapter meant much to the social life of Oregon, and the steady increase of members, sixty the first year, shows with what enthusiasm the work was entered into, and the records also show that the Chapter fulfilled its obligations to the widows,



Past Masters of Black Hawk Grange are: Seated (l-r), Earl Wilmarth, Ezra Wilde, Ferd Avey, Ernest Mumma, Roy Avey. Standing: Mark Meador, Jay Thomas, Lester Myers, and Orville Sell. Photo taken at 25th Anniversary celebration in 1947.

Fred Avey was Master from 1927-1930. During his term 743 Farm Bureau members were served by the Grange, the largest crowd ever fed by one organization in Oregon.

Blackhawk Grange was incorporated in 1931 and additional land was purchased. Masters who served during this time were Ernest Mumma, Mark Meador, Jay Thomas, Ray Avey, Lester Myers and Ernest Mumma who served a second term in 1938.

Orville Sell served as Master from 1939-1942 and Raymond Nicholson served during the years 1943-1945. Orville Sell then served until 1958 and had the unusual record for never missing a meeting while he was Master and missing only one meeting since he became a member in 1935.

James Nicholson, Orville Sell, Carl Grove and Gordon Bailey served as Masters for the years from 1959-1971. Cecil Bartow was elected in 1971 and served until 1984 when Carl Grove was elected for the year 1985. Cecil Bartow was elected Master for 1986 and again in 1987 and is the present Master.

In addition to sponsoring several youths at the Grange Youth Camp, members of the Blackhawk Grange have participated in annual Community Service projects including cleaning up and maintaining old and forgotten cemeteries and arranging for a stop sign at a dangerous intersection. For years the Grange has served public dinners for organizations.

The Visiting Committee annually places flags on the graves of deceased members. Each grave also has a Grange marker.

The Blackhawk Grange, with a long record of faithful service to the causes of the Grange, continues to do its best to do the work assigned to it.

Met at Oregon in 1929

At the Fifty-eighth Annual Session of Illinois State Grange, held at Oregon, Ill., December 10, 11 and 12, 1929, the following granges in Ogle county submitted reports: Byron, Leaf River, White Rock, Black Hawk, Pine Rock, Stillman Valley, and Ogle County Pomona Grange. State Grange Worthy Master, E. A. Eckert, spoke to the session as follows: "We have passed through a 10-year period of depression which has left financial wrecks and abandoned farms by the thousands. During that time about five million people left the farms for the city. It has been stated that those that lacked ambition or the ability to be good managers, drifted into the city. This is only true in part. The fact is that in many cases the finest specimen of physical and intellectual manhood have gone from the farms. We have lost the very type that is needed in the readjustment period. But the past is history and the future is what concerns us now. . . . We are developing great commodity organizations. Everywhere we come in contact with great combinations dealing in foods and taking the place of thousands of individual buyers. This must be met with equally strong marketing associations owned and controlled by the farmer. Great nation-wide farm cooperatives are in the making."

The national Grange also played an important role in the development of the Extension Service and rural free delivery for mail.

CARING AND SHARING

Submitted by Hilda Partlowe, Leader

This group was organized in October, 1985 by Neil Holland and Hilda Partlowe as a support group for recent widows. We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30. We do exactly what our name implies: we care, we share, have fellowship, guest speakers, films, and fun. You are welcome to attend our meetings.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Compiled by Carmen Maxson

In 1924-1925 a brochure about Oregon was printed by The Oregon City Club. This club may have been the forerunner of the present day Chamber of Commerce.

The earliest record found to date on the Chamber of Commerce is a document filed under the name Oregon Better Business Association dated October 23, 1947. The names listed on this document were John Hayden, Wayne R. Bettner, Ernest D. Landers, Guy Bradbury, M. W.

Hulse, and C. G. Gilbert. It was not noted who was president at that time. The stated purpose for which the corporation was organized was: To support Civic and Patriotic Enterprise, and Promote Better Business Relationships.

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orphans and needy, by many gifts and tokens. It was whispered to me of the times the Worthy Matron Sister Spoor made and packed a basket of sandwiches and took them with her to these meetings and how Bros. Ed Plum and Ed Hetfield would slip out and start the coffee pot to perking on the tiny two-holed stove in the kitchen, and how Bro. H. A. Mix would make all the officers toe the mark in a straight line on the floor and put them through the secret work of the Order. And how that first year the Worthy Matron Anne Spoor made a trip to Chicago to buy the jewels that we are now wearing, also the emblems.

The years rolled by, still with the steady increase of members and with all the problems, that every organization is subject to; the night that everything was set for installation, when a fire broke out in Dr. McKenney's office across the street, and how when the fire was over, there were not enough officers in the hall for the installation and it had to be postponed for another meeting. Of how some meetings had to be dismissed on account of no heat, and another time bad weather and no one out, how the bills came faster than the money came to pay them. The initiation fee being \$2.50 and yearly dues 50¢. I find in these first years, some of our present officers, holding the chairs—Sister Sarah Barden, Chaplain, Sister Mary Sears Conductress and Sister Nora Waldie, Adah.

Then came February 1904 when the Masons and Eastern Star held a banquet together in the new hall, and then the problem of making money for buying the new furniture and the red letter nights when the new silver was used for the first time and the new stove in the kitchen feeds at these times were (I am quoting now) "fit to set before a King." How the new desk was purchased so the secretary would have a proper place and finally the new piano purchased in August 1907 for \$150 when Sister Mary Campbell was Worthy Matron.

Then the night in December 1904 when Bernice Chapter of Milledgeville was invited to put on our work and how there being three candidates, they asked that Sinnissippi Chapter take one candidate and put on the work first and what excitement quivered around; for Milledgeville was extra fine in their work, and how well our officers did is told in newspaper clippings preserved and the scandalous hour our Chaplain kept that night waiting for the two o'clock train when the visitors departed.

Then in 1905 Sinnissippi Chapter visited Corithian Chapter in Polo, and then the evening Bernice Chapter invited Sinnissippi to come and put on the work for them, but that was before the days of automobile so Sinnissippi could not go, for the trains did not run at night.

Then the night-of-nights, when the Masonic orders and Eastern Star, had a never-to-be-forgotten Carnival with booths selling all sorts of things and the parade of the countries, when the sedate Brothers and Sisters dressed as different countries and Sister Kezie Bacon, the fortune teller, that broke hearts and mended them as fast as her palm was crossed with silver.

On January 1908 a joint installation of the two orders of Masons and Eastern Star was held, and there have been three visits of the Worthy Grand Matron and some of her officers, once in 1902—Nancy Jewett as Worthy Matron; In 1911—Sister Edith Crowell as Worthy Matron; in 1915—Sister Frances Ribberger as Worthy Matron; and in 1925—Sister Edna Snyder as Worthy Matron.

In 1912 Sister Hattie Cartwright presented to the Chapter our present gavel, which she brought from the Holy Land.

So marches the time up to the last few years when The Vocal Star was given, expressing the beautiful message of our Order.

The Golden Chain has been lengthened and broken many times, but always we are thankful for the beautiful associations and memories vouched us and held in our hearts—"The Fairest Among Thousands—altogether Lovely."

It was a very active Chapter in years gone by. They served a number of dinners, had dances and parties and had combined Christmas parties with the Masonic Lodge. This, of course,

was before television, movies, etc.

The membership at the present time numbers 107 and we have three candidates to initiate this month. Hope to get some more members this year. We do our best to meet your obligations and support the Grand Chapter in all their worthy causes.

Listed below are the names of the Past Worthy Matrons and Past Worthy Patrons and the year they served:

Anne Spoor/1896/Asa Dimon, Ada Mix/1897/T. A. Jewett, Anne Spoor/1898/Asa Dimon, Anne Spoor/1900/Asa Dimon, Anne Spoor/1901/H. E. Wade, Nancy Jewett/1902/W. J. Emerson, Nancy Jewett/1903/William Waldie, Anne Spoor/1904/William Waldie, Anne Spoor/1905/William Waldie, Anne Spoor/1906/William Waldie, Mary Campbell/1907/Z. A. Landers, Bessie Hopkins/1908/Joseph Sears, Edith Crowell/1909/Joseph Sears, Edith Crowell/1910/E. I. Wolcott, Edith Crowell/1911/F. G. Taylor, Edith Crowell/1912/John D. Mead, Mary Sears/1913/John D. Mead, Mary Hettiger/1914/Homer Althouse, Frances Ribberger/1915/Homer Althouse, Carrie Reed/1916/Homer Althouse, Sadie Mackay/1917/Frank Gantz, Sadie Mackay/1918/Homer Althouse, Hattie Cartwright/1919/Wm. P. Fearer, Hattie Cartwright/1920/Francis Burchell, Sadie Mackay/1921/Frank Nye, Lucy Canode/1922/Frank Nye, Helen Andrew/1923/Charles Dugdale, Anna Farrell/1924/Frank Murray, Edna Snyder/1925/George T. Snyder, Amelia Althouse/1926/Frank Nye, Julia M. Garard/1927/Frank Nye, Julia M. Garard/1928/Frank Nye, Julia M. Garard/1929/Hugh G. Speed, Fannie Doeden/1930/Hugh G. Speed, Fannie Doeden/1931/Elmer Shelly, Grace E. Little/1932/Elmer Shelly, Elvira Speed/1933/Elmer Shelly, Ellen F. Rudy/1934/F. W. Gantz, Myrtle E. Short/1935/B. H. Thomas, Grace A. Ehman/1936/B. H. Thomas, Edith M. Edelman/1937/Homer Edelman, Sarah B. White/1938/Homer Edelman, Grace A. Ehman/1939/Homer Edelman, Edith Elliott/1940/Leon C. Ward, Alma M. Pickering/1941/Leon C. Ward, Florence Smith/1942/Harold Elliott, Sarah I. Reed/1943/Homer Edelman, Hazel D. Kereven/1944/Ivan L. Kuntzelman, Lola Steinhagen/1945/Roy Steinhagen, Janet C. Johnson/1946/Clarence T. Johnson, Sarah I. Reid/1947/Clarence T. Johnson, Sarah I. Reid/1948/Monroe H. McDowell, Mae Whittney/1949/Clarence T. Johnson, Evelyn McDowell/1950/Monroe H. McDowell, Ruth A. Catey/1951/Robert M. Catey, Gladys M. Patrick/1952/Clarence T. Johnson, Blanch Morehouse/1953/DeLos Morehouse, DeLorise Winterfield/1954/Bernhard Winterfield, Grace Forman/1955/Walter Forman, Justine Remour/1956/Leslie Remour, Reba Wilson/1957/Harlan Hughes, DeLorise Winterfield/1958/Leslie Remour, Hazel Kereven/1959/Leslie Remour, Margaret Hinkle/1960/Walter Hinkle, Justina Remour/1961/Harlan Hughes, Mina Clemmons/1962/Harlan Hughes, Mina Clemmons/1963/Harlan Hughes, Grace Ehman/1964/Charles Case, Waive Whitten/1965/Charles Case, Waive Whitten/1966/John Remour, Vena Colson/1967/John Remour, Elva Burman/1968/Charles Case.

At the present date there are twenty-nine Past Matrons and Past Patrons still active in the Chapter.

Charlotte Hardesty/1969/Charles Case, Marjorie G. Taylor/1970/Charles Taylor, Tenny Anderson/1971/Charles Case, Martha Phelps/1972/Clarence T. Johnson, Linda Young/1973/Clarence T. Johnson, Martha Phelps/1974/Clarence T. Johnson, Waive Whitten/1975/Louis I. Whitten, Grace A. Whman/1976/Louis I. Whitten, Janet C. Johnson/1977/H. Donald Hay, Janet C. Johnson/1978/Clarence T. Johnson, Esther Mongar/1979/Clarence T. Johnson, Louise Hay/1980/H. Donald Hay, Marian Walters/1981/Rex B. Walters, Mina Clemmons/1982/Clarence T. Johnson, Wilma De Puy/1983/Philip Louis De Puy, Katherine Coy/1984/Harold Holverson, Louise Smith/1985/Clarence T. Johnson, Marian Walters/1986/Rex B. Walters, Linda Cash/1987/Clarence T. Johnson.

On February 15, 1979, Mt. Morris Chapter merged with the Sinnissippi Chapter. This increased our membership and they were a welcome addition to Sinnissippi. Many of them were experienced officers and faithful members and have continued to be.

At the present time we have twenty-one who have been members for fifty years or more. One member (a Sister) has been a member for seventy years. Three members are between sixty- and seventy-year members and the others between fifty- and sixty-year members.

We have a meeting once a month. There are eighteen officers and we are instructed by a Grand Lecturer as to how the work is to be done. We contribute to Grand Chapter projects and also to some local projects. We also sponsor a Sister who is in the home at Macon, Illinois.

In 1986 we had a membership of 127. At the end of the year we had 119 members. Many of the members are out of town and out of State, so are unable to attend and be active.

OREGON AMBULANCE EXPLORERS

Compiled by Harry Fletcher

Oregon Ambulance Explorers was started in 1985. The group is sponsored by the Oregon Ambulance

Service. It is part of the Boy Scouts of America and membership is open to anyone between the ages of 14 and 21.

Founding members of the group were Kate Norfalise, Clark Hummel, Chris Draege, Maggie Lyons, and Ken Farrey who was the first advisor. In 1986, Harry Fletcher became the new advisor and in 1987 the troop gained Associate Advisors Karla Schabacker and Chris Draege. The membership now consists of Maggie Lyons, Marcia Dales, Robin Hartsell, Beth Carlson, and Sandra Farrey. The Troop's Advisory Committee is made up of Donald Dales, Clarence Hartsell, Maryann Burdette, Steve Burdette, Fay Formon and Margaret Linscott.

Since the group was started, their activities have been numerous. Members have taken the Lifeline helicopter safety training course, First Responder First Aid Course, and they are certified in C.P.R. Besides training, several members founded T.N.T., (Teens Need Teens) which has evolved into Operation Snowball. Also, members have worked with the Lions Club at their Pancake Days and have helped Oregon celebrate 150 years by dedicating the Oregon Flag at City Hall's open house. Members were also color guards at Oregon's Bicentennial Industrial Recognition Reception, Oregon Ambulance Open House and Autumn On Parade.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POLICE CADETS EXPLORER POST #649

*Compiled by Lisa Schultz-Advisor and Kathy Oltmanns-
Post Captain*

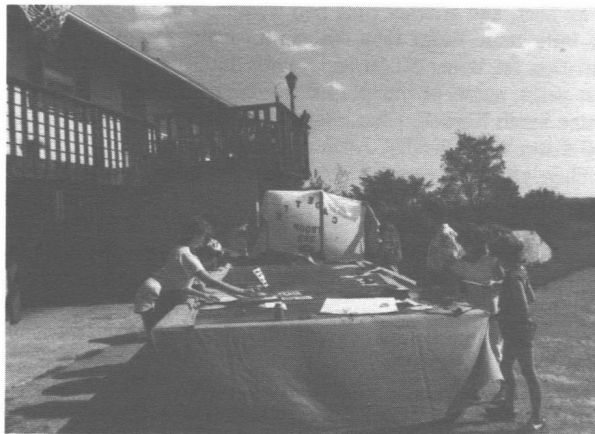
Ogle County Sheriff's Explorer Post #649 received their first charter in October, 1975. The post is chartered by the Boy Scouts of America and is a co-ed Post with an emphasis in Law Enforcement. Sheriff Jerry Brooks is the Post sponsor and Chief Executive Officer. Serving as the Post adult committee are Don Kinn, Committee Chairman, Captain Melvin Messer and Cpl. Neil Minnis Post Committee Members. Reserve Deputy Wilbert Schultz serves as Post Coordinator. The Post has elected Offices of President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. Post ranks are Captain, Lieutenant, and Sergeant, Present Post Captain is Kathy Oltmanns; serving as Post Lieutenant is Janelle Knight, and serving as Post Sergeant is Chad Rakowski. Lisa Schultz is present Post Advisor and Darlene Schultz serves as Post Co-Advisor. Other present Post members are: Bobby Leddy, Dennis Dummer, Shawn Knight, Lonnie Nichols, Doug Coulthard, Connie Hollister.

The Post is dedicated to Community Service and all Post members are trained in first aid and CPR. The Post has assisted the Galena Police Department with traffic control and public safety during Galena's Annual U. S. Grant Pilgrimage when there are thousands of Boy Scouts in the city. The Post assists the Sycamore Police Department in traffic control with their Annual Pumpkin Festival when there are thousands of people in that city. The Post assists the Oregon Police Department with traffic control at the city fireworks display during the Autumn on

Parade. The Post lines up, starts and maintains control of the parade during the same weekend. The Post assists in judging Boy Scout Camporees, Cub Day Camp, Traffic Control, and many other community services.

The Post co-sponsored a dance with the Oregon Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The Post sponsored a Helicopter Safety Course with Lifeline helicopter for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Explorers, ambulance personnel, police personnel, and parents. The Post assists in community projects such as Sandsucker Park Clean Up, Oregon Chamber of Commerce Candle Lite Walk, box and distribute food for Easter for the Oregon Food Pantry.

Training is on all aspects of law. Guest speakers include,



Sheriff, Judges, Probation, State, County and City police officers, Crime Lab, States Attorney, Coroner, Sinnissippi Mental Health, FBI, etc. After completing a required training course, Post members are allowed to work Jail, Front Office, Radio Room and ride with the deputies on duty.

The Post has assisted Police Departments in locating lost children. The Post operates in accordance with the Post by-laws made and approved by all Post members.

Post trips include Great America, Colorado for the National Explorer Conference, Campouts at different locations and a week of living on the Aircraft Carrier USS Yorktown in Charleston, South Carolina.

The Post membership is open to all boys and girls ages 14-21.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF MINISTRIES

Submitted by Pastor Bob Hoffman

The Oregon Fellowship of Ministries is comprised of persons and institutions recognized by the organization as conducting valid ministries in the Oregon Community. The date this group was organized is not known, though records show it pre-dates 1959.

Whereas originally it was an association composed only of pastors of the churches in Oregon, it now has representatives of the Oregon Bible College and White Pines Living Center as well.

The O.F.M. meets monthly for fellowship and to conduct its business. Fellowship is one of the main purposes of the organization. It provides a good opportunity to meet others involved in similar work, to exchange ideas and to study topics of interest, and to provide support for each other.

The O.F.M. seeks to present a united voice on issues of concern in our community and world. In recent years a Hunger Awareness Dinner raised over \$5,000 for world hunger. Presently the O.F.M. is studying ways to give leadership to the community in the area of moral values. The goal is to help enable people make better choices in their daily lives.

Through donations given to the organization the O.F.M. has been able to assist transients and others in need. Over \$1,000 was disbursed in 1986 to provide meals, gasoline, or lodging to those in need.

The O.F.M. also sponsors and conducts ecumenical worship services (e.g., the Good Friday service) during the year.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Submitted by Esther Mennenga

The Friendship Club of Oregon had its beginning December 6, 1963 under the sponsorship of the Oregon Ministerial Association and Rev. George Chermak.

At first it was called "Senior Citizens Club," implying age, but then it was changed to "Friendship Club" which included friends, regardless of age.

The first meeting was held in the Farm Bureau Building

on December 6, 1969. There were eighteen people in attendance.

In March 1964 the First Presbyterian Church became the regular meeting place and it has been held there ever since, except for the period after their fire loss. While the new church was being constructed the meetings were held in the United Methodist and Lutheran churches.

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month at 1:30 p.m. and on the last Friday of each month there is a potluck at 12:30 p.m. At the regular meeting a minister from the various churches gives a devotional message, which is followed by a business meeting and a program. Refreshments are served by the ladies of the church whose minister gives the devotions.

Over the years many beautiful, informative and interesting programs have been enjoyed. There have been slides from all over the world—the Holy Land, Pakistan, India, Vietnam and the U.S.A. from east to west and north to south including Alaska and Hawaii.

During the Oregon Centennial a style show was presented depicting the clothing worn many years ago. One man recently brought his exhibit of railroad items and depot pictures.

This club has also taken tours—Stronghold Castle, Taft Campus, Ogle County Historical Museum, John Deere Museum, Chrysler Plant at Belvidere, Rockford Airport, Bishop Lane Retreat House of Rockford and the Ogle County Jail. Picnics in the area parks and lunches and breakfasts in various restaurants in the vicinity have been enjoyed.

Following the refreshments, visiting and fellowship is enjoyed and if time allows, a round or two of 42 or 500.

The Nash Park District provides the program and if someone has a program they would like to share they are asked to call Linda Watts at the Park District.

4-H CLUBS

Submitted by Nancy Etnyre, Youth Advisor Ogle Co. Extension Service

For over 50 years 4-H clubs have played an active part in the Oregon community. Some of the familiar club names in Oregon's history have been Carefree, Rockvale Daughters, Lucky Clovers, Double O, Rockvale Knight Owls, Carefree Girls, Pleasant Valley, Blackhawketts, Blue Bonnets, Dynamite Dudes, and Ogle-lets.

Most early clubs were corn, pig, beef, sewing and canning clubs. During the World War II years, Oregon 4-H'ers as well as 4-H'ers across the nation took part in Victory gardens and conservation—conservation of food, clothing, furnishings and energy.

City beautification projects, petting zoos, special visits to nursing home residents by 4-H'ers and coordinating fund raising activities with other local service clubs are some of the community service activities Oregon 4-H clubs are involved in.

The success of the 4-H clubs in Oregon comes from the dedicated leadership of volunteer adult leaders and

junior leaders, who play an important role in the 4-H program. Through the years, Oregon area individuals who have served 10 years and more as a 4-H Leader include Mrs. Earl Arnold (27 years), Mrs. Claude Bolt-house (12 years), Mrs. Robert Catey (15 years), Mrs. Douglas Pettigrew (11 years), Frank Svoboda (15 years), C. H. Taylor (15 years) and Ted Thomas (12 years).

Today there are three active clubs in Oregon, Carefree, Sunset and Rockvale Knight Owls. 4-H'ers now have over 120 projects that they can choose from ranging from computers, electricity and entomology to veterinary science, covies and nutrition. 4-H is the youth education program of the University of Illinois, Cooperative Extension Service and the United States Department of Agriculture. 4-H is for all boys and girls 8 to 19 years old. 4-H members grow in knowledge, skills, citizenship and leadership through their club experience.

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Compiled by: Betty Gigous (former leader), Louise Priller (former leader), Deb Stienmetz (leader). Sources: Newspapers, records and Girl Scout releases

It was March 12, 1912 in Savannah, Georgia when Juliette Gordon (Daisy) Low launched the beginning of the Girl Scout movement. With the guidance of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell she met with her first company of Girl Guides. The first uniform was blue and the first handbook was called "How Girls can Help their Country."

The Company of seven girls has turned into the Troops of more than a million girls. We are known nationally as Girl Scouts of the United States of America. Many foreign countries have kept the name of Girl Guides.

Daisy's concept of Girl Scouting was to teach girls the art of surviving in the out-of-doors. It grew to include homemaking, the arts, community service, until it covered every aspect of a young girls life to make her a better person, to grow with confidence and courage and learn her self-worth. The troop atmosphere helped her deal with others and work together toward a common goal. They had the guidance of adults to help them. Adults are an important part of Girl Scouting.

Fortunately, Oregon is a part of the Girl Scout movement. It began when the first Girl Scout Troop was organized in Oregon in 1931. It was organized by the American Legion Auxiliary #97. It met in the Peek building. Mrs. Vivian Carter Johnson was the executive secretary of Girl Scouts of Rockford and helped organize Troop #32.

Adult members of that first Troop were: Mrs. E. L. Pryor 10-13-31—organized the troop; Mrs. Edith Elliott, 10-14-31—Committee Woman; Mrs. Josephine (Donald) Crowell 10-14-31—Committee Woman; Mrs. Ruth (Gene) Lebwick, 10-14-31—Committee Woman; Miss Violet Bergstrom (teacher in Oregon schools) 9-31—Leader; Mrs. Miriam (William) Fischer 10-31—Assistant Leader; Miss Gertrude Cann (teacher in Oregon schools)

10-14-31—Lieutenant; Miss Helen Swenson (County Nurse) Lieutenant—10-14-31.

Girls who were members of that first group were: Louise Cann (Priller) 10-14-31, Betty Putnam (Diven) 10-14-31, Kathryn Farrell (Wilde) 10-14-31, Leonore Dale (Coons) 10-14-31, Viola Koontz (Myers) 10-14-31, Martha Adams 10-14-31, Lillian Corcoran 10-14-31, Loretta Cullen (Eyster) 10-14-31, Hazel Dale (Lovett) 10-14-31, Wanita Elliott 10-14-31, Jean Farrell 10-14-31, Rogene Franklin (Fearer) 10-14-31, Betty Grimes (Stauffer) 10-14-31, Genevieve Joworski 10-14-31, Juanita Leddy (Eytalis) 10-14-31, Elizabeth Snyder 10-14-31, Madeliene Weyrauch (Smith) 10-14-31, Margaret Wilde (Gearhart) 10-14-31, Jean Beck (Ryerson) 11-6-31, Adelaide Jenkin (Finch) 11-6-31, Marian Johnson 11-6-31, Dorothy Jones 11-6-31, Joyce Mabel Strang 11-6-31, Norma Taylor 11-6-31, Dorothy Wheatcraft (transferred from New Milford), Margaret Argall (transferred from Rochelle).

In October, 1956, 25 years of Girl Scouting was celebrated at the Oregon Grade School auditorium. Mrs. Vivian Carter Johnson spoke at this very special occasion. Many visitors returned to be a part of this celebration. Adults were honored for long years of service to the program. A twenty-year pin was awarded to Flora Blomquist (long time teacher in Oregon). Other pins were awarded as follows: Miss Gladys Thomas (19 years) teacher in Oregon system, Mrs. Ernest Etnyre (19 years), Miss Frances Smith (16 years) long-time teacher, Mrs. George Schneider (13 years), Mrs. Dorothy Kuntzelman (Ivan) (13 years) (teacher), Mrs. E. L. Pryor (13 years), Mrs. Clare Adamson (12 years), Miss Gertrude Cann (12 years) teacher in Oregon system, Mrs. Howard Engelbrecht (11 years), Mrs. Helen Peterman (11 years), Mrs. J. E. Dale (10 years) Lutheran Minister's wife, Mrs. Eva Leddy (10 years)

In 1957 Mariner Girl Scout Troop #232 was established. Vivian Maxson (Robert) and Louise Priller (Melvin) were the leaders. This was a water oriented program. Paul Holland helped the troop with canoeing, sailing, and swimming skills. The troop participated in many Regattas in the Rockford area and in Monominee-Marionette, Michigan. They were very competitive and won many top honors. Service was also part of their program. Many girls volunteered at Pinecrest Nursing Home in Mt. Morris.

Each year we have five to seven troops. There are from 80 to over 100 girls with 15 to 20 adults as leaders. Organizations and interested adults help, giving their support and interest.

In 1965 we sent 16 girls from Oregon and area to the Senior Round-up in Idaho. Mary Priller and Cathy McGinn went from Oregon.

1967 found Girl Scouts celebrating their 36th year in Oregon. Window displays were put up depicting the different aspects of Girl Scouting. Flowers were planted in honor of the 50th Anniversary ("Blossoms for Spring") of Girl Scouting.

Community Services include decorating the trees at the library at Christmas, marching in the Memorial Day Parade and caroling for shut-ins.

November 1977 Rock River Valley Council of Girl Scouts, Inc. celebrated 50 years in existence with "Its Nifty to be Fifty." Booths provided background of the Girl Scout programs.

1987—75 years of Girl Scouting. At 4:00 in the afternoon Girl Scouts reaffirmed their pledge—every troop all over the world. Oregon troops met on the Court House lawn for this occasion.

We are known for Cookie Sales and Calendar Sales. The profits from these sales go to various places:

- 1) some remains within the troop to help finance outings;
- 2) some to Rock River Valley to keep Camp Medill McCormick so the girls can camp there week ends and go to summer camp;
- 3) the remaining to scholarships for camping, to help assist girls who cannot afford to attend. This is *not* charity—it is money the girls have earned through sales.

Yes, Girl Scouting is very active in Oregon and a vital part of girls growing and living here.

The purpose of Girl Scouting is the same, but has been updated to meet the challenges of today, to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service, so they may become happy resourceful citizens.

Girl Scouting is an informal educational program.

Program Emphasis:

- 1) Developing self-awareness
- 2) Relating to others (respect and sensitivity to their needs and rights.)
- 3) Developing values. Help her re-examine her ideals as she grows and changes.
- 4) Contributing to society. Well-being of community and its people. Use of the Girl Scout Laws and Pledge.

The five worlds of Girl Scouting: World of Arts, Outdoors, well-being, people and world of today and tomorrow.

We have changed from Blue to Green, but Daisy's dream is in full force today—helping young girls develop into the women of tomorrow, and to meet the challenges head-on with dignity and courage!

September 22, 1987—Update on Girl Scout Information (by Deb Stienmetz)

Starting the 1987/88 year, Girl Scouting in Oregon has 117 registered girls and 29 registered adults.

The Daisy Troop which is led by Nancy Francois, Lynne Krogh, and Nancy Boyden consists of 11 girls who are in Kindergarten. Daisy Girl Scouting started three years ago for the 5-year olds. In 1986 Oregon had two Daisy Troops but with a smaller class of kids this year only one Daisy Troop was needed to fill the need of girls. Daisy Troop 558 meets on Wednesday after school at the Presbyterian Church. Their sponsor is The Rock River Bank.

Brownie Girl Scouts consists of girls in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades. Oregon has two 1st grade Brownie Troops.

Brownie Troop 218 meets on Monday evenings from 6:00-7:15 at the East Oregon Chapel. Leaders for those 11 girls are Grace Reimer, Helen Mead, and Candy Mayberry. They are sponsored by The Stillman Valley National Bank.

Brownie Troop 168 meets after school on Tuesday at the Lutheran Church. Charlene Woodworth and Kay Tallyn are the leaders for 16 girls in that troop. Their sponsor is the Women's Auxiliary of the VFW.

Brownie Troop 288 is the 2nd grade troop which consists of 20 girls. Those girls meet Monday evening from 6:00-7:15 at the Coliseum Basement under the leadership of Di Drozd, Ellen Zell, and Helen Drozd. Sponsoring those girls is the Blackhawk Presbytery.

The 3rd grade Brownies belong to Troop 76, which is under the leadership of Becky Taylor, Jenni Lang, and Nancy Kerwin. Eighteen girls meet Tuesday after school at the Lutheran Church. Their sponsor is the Oregon Rotary.

Girls in 4th, 5th, & 6th grades all form the Junior Girl Scout Troop. Troop 561 consists of 29 girls with Jan Spielman, Shirley Stenger, and Nancy Herrald as the leaders. They meet Thursday after school at the Presbyterian Church with the Oregon Savings Center as their sponsor.

Cadette Troop 289 consists of girls in 7th, 8th, and 9th grades. At that age, the 12 girls in the troop are busy with all kinds of projects which leaves them a chance to meet once a month at the home of their advisor. The Advisor for those girls is Deb Stienmetz. Troop sponsor is Bill's Shoe Service.

1986-87 GIRL SCOUT TROOPS IN THE OREGON AREA:

Girl Scout Consultant for Oregon Area: Kathy Rager
BROWNIE GROUPS:

First Grade—Troop 288:

Leaders: Diana Drozd, Helen Drozd, Ellen Zell
13 girls in troop

Second Grade—Troop 76:

Leaders: Shirley Stenger, Deanna Reinbolz, Danette Livingston, Nancy Herrald
19 girls in troop

Third Grade—Troop 218:

Leaders: Lynne Krogh, Nancy Francois
19 girls in troop

JUNIOR GROUP: (fourth, fifth and sixth grade)

Troop 561:

Leaders: Jan Spielman, Nancy Herrald
18 girls in troop

CADET GROUP: (seventh, eighth and ninth grade)

Troop 289:

Leaders: Debbie Stienmetz, Grace Reimer, Helen Drozd

8 girls in troop:

Mindy Howey—President, Jody Ewald—Refreshments, Nikki Stienmetz—Treasurer, Tina Reimer—Sgt. of Arms, Angela Morningstar—Program director, Christina Sanders—V. President, Stephanie Pfoutz—Secretary, Rachel Laferriere—Clean-up.



Leader Lynne Krogh works with Brownie Scouts Colleen Halverson, Lucy Richardson, Marcie Donaldson and others to prepare a song for the weekly flag ceremony. (Donna Kennedy photo)

The purpose of Brownie Troop 218 is to provide experiences and opportunity for each girl member to be involved in decision making, planning and DOING a wide variety of activities that will help her grow in her awareness and understanding of herself and the world around her—it's people, art, music, past & future, career



Brownie Scouts "Pledge Allegiance" to the flag of our country at each meeting. American Flag Bearer—Megan Killeen; Troop Flag—Meghan Lambe; Guard—Jenny Magnuson. (Donna Kennedy photo)



Kneeling: Christie Troha, Kristie Paul, Angie Cronk.
 Second row: Lori Symons, Kate Ryder, Heather Swartz, Kasey Rager, Michelle Heng, Carrie Carpenter.
 Third row: Cindy Lenox, Colleen Lambe, Tarah Allen, Shannon Spielman, Kathie Rager, Co-leader, Meggan Herrald, Peggy Ginger.
 Wearing uniforms from the past. Troop 561 (Junior Scouts). Leaders: Jan Spielman and Nancy Herrald. Picture provided by Troop 561.



Lively songs are a fun part of Brownie Flag Ceremonies. Singing "Girl Scout Feeling" are Jaci Basler, Heather Reed, Tracy Koenck, Kristin Hoff, Marcie Donaldson, Vanessa Farias, co-leader Emily Farias, Lucy Richardson, leader Lynne Krogh, Carrie Krogh, Melissa Schwartz, Heidi Kaffenbarger, co-leader Nancy Francois and Jenny Magnuson. (Donna Kennedy photo)



Brownie Scout Heather Reed and friends check the "Caper Chart" to discover their job for this day's meeting. Jobs rotate between taking attendance, passing out notes, choosing the song, organizing the flag ceremony, setting out the snack and cleaning up. (Donna Kennedy photo)



Bottom left: Ginger Miller, Shelly Kendall, Amanda Burke, Teri Taylor, Cecily Nieman, Stephanie Martinez, Beth Oltmanns.

Top left: Jenny Becker, Ellen Zell Co-leader, Nicole Allen, Bambi Finkle, Sara Jones, Marni Heller, Dana Drozd, Helen Drozd Co-leader, Jodi Whitsell. Not pictured: Kristen Stowe, Diana Drozd Leader. Picture provided by Troop 288.

potentials, etc. Meetings and trips are planned toward individual participation, learning and discovery. We also provide community service project opportunities such as public park & building beautification (planting flowers) and collecting canned goods for the needy. (Captions and text on Troop 218 provided by Lynne Krogh.) (Photos by Donna Kennedy)

THE OGLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Submitted by Carol Moore

The Ogle County Historical Society was proposed as a project for the Ogle County Federation of Women's Clubs by Mrs. H. B. Walker in March, 1953.

The proposal was accepted and a committee appointed to follow through with the plans. Gerald K. Garard's legal advice was graciously donated to the new Society. Incorporators were: Miss Ella Chaney, Chana; Miss Ruby Nash, Oregon; Mrs. Ivan Kuntzelman, Oregon; Mrs. Yale Bates, Rochelle; Mrs. Harold Walker, Byron; and Mrs. Arthur Beebe, Stillman Valley. Mr. C. Merle Haselton was the first charter life member of the Society.

On May 31, 1955, the Constitution was completed and adopted by the membership. The first Board of Directors consisted of Victor Conkey, Frank Coffman, Willard Jones, Mrs. Isaac Canfield, Miss Lillian Storz, Russell Poole, Everett Webster, C. C. Parks, George Etnyre, Kenneth Cleaver, Mrs. C. M. Tilton and Mrs. Edith Carmichael.

Mrs. John L. Moore, Oregon was the 1986 President and Margaret Knight, Lindenwood, is the current President of the Society.

In 1961 the Ruby Nash home was purchased for use as a Museum. Later a garage was built for display of artifacts. Recently the Museum has been restructured to more closely resemble the "Home Museum" that it is. The rooms look as though the inhabitants of the house have gone out and will return shortly.

Many projects have been carried on by the Society to acquaint county residents with the Society's goal of preserving history. Miss Linda Hoch of Forresteron designed the winning entry in a county-wide contest in a search for an official seal for the Society.

The Henry Boss History of Ogle County has been reprinted for sale by the Society. Free copies were given to all schools and librarians in the county. The 1864 Map of Ogle County was reprinted as well as pamphlets and placemats showing the historic sites in the county.

Tours of historic sites have been held. A project was undertaken whereby all cemeteries in the county were surveyed and listings were made of all buried therein.

The Glenn Borneman log cabin was acquired by the Historical Society and reerected, as an example of pioneer life, at Taft Campus in 1968.

The Society has been instrumental in the repair of historic stones and in obtaining historical markers throughout the county.

The Museum, located at 113 North Sixth Street in

Oregon, is the former home of long-time Oregon school teacher, Ruby Nash. The house was built in 1878 by Chester Nash, Ruby's father, who was a Civil War veteran and the inventor of the Nash Cultivator.

The Museum is open to the public, free of charge every Sunday from one to three from May through the first week-end in October. Private tours for fraternal groups, school children and others are easily arranged by contacting the President of the Society throughout the year.

THE OGLE COUNTY HOSPICE ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Julie Gatz

Hospice is a special way of caring for individuals with terminal illnesses, and their families. Hospice addresses the needs and concerns of pain and discomfort, fear and loneliness, worry about family and friends, anxiety about what lies ahead and the practical aspects of dealing with these things in positive, loving and concerned ways. Hospice strives to meet all the patient's needs—physical, emotional, social and spiritual—as well as the needs of the family.

How did OCHA begin?

In 1981 members of the Comprehensive Health Planning Commission, a federally-sponsored project covering nine counties, discussed the need for hospice services in northern Illinois. With the encouragement of the commission individuals in Ogle County began to plan for the organization that exists today.

For nearly two years Alonzo Maginnis, Dr. George Lauback, Lorraine Allen, Eloise Polstra, Mary Ann Hall, Frank and Norma Hewett, and others traveled county-wide speaking to physicians, nursing homes, businessmen, churches, and service organizations about the possibility of forming a county hospice organization. Because of the larger population and the proximity of the Rochelle Hospital, Rochelle became the meeting place for the beginning organization. On April 26, 1983 the group made the decision to organize a hospice. The planning Committee determined the need for a more official organization and created a board of directors and elected officers for hospice.

By the end of the year, Kathi Alberts-Espe was hired as Executive Director of OCHA and has remained in that capacity until the present time. Other paid staff representing OCHA include Virginia Hough, Patient Care Coordinator. The addition of this position was necessary several years ago due to the continued growth of Ogle County Hospice.

The OCHA office is located at 811 N. Second Street, Rochelle, in the Medical Arts Building next to the Rochelle Hospital.

Dr. William Johanson is the medical Director and advisor to OCHA.

The Ogle County Hospice Board consists of nine Directors and six officers representing all areas and walks of life in Ogle County. Ministers, pharmacists, nurses,

teachers, businessmen and women, mental health specialists and many others serve on the board. They share one common goal—to help provide the best quality care to any family in need of hospice care.

OCHA became licensed as a health agency by the State of Illinois on November 27, 1985.

The most serious obstacle for the first Ogle County Board was financial. The Kelly Fund, left by a prominent Rochelle family, provided the financial base on which serious plans could be made. Problems of locating office space, hiring personnel, printing, operating expenses, providing on-call service to families were greatly alleviated by this one-time organizational "boost." Many donations were made during the first year of service and since that year has elapsed, hospice (as a non-profit organization) has occasionally been hard pressed to stay in the black.

The Hospice Philosophy

The objectives of the Ogle County Hospice association philosophy are:

1. to help the patient live as full and normal a life as possible.
2. to make the patient comfortable in their own home.
3. to coordinate nursing, home care, legal, psychological and spiritual support services as needed.
4. to supplement but not duplicate existing services.
5. to provide bereavement care and support for the family.
6. to minimize financial costs.
7. to provide and direct a program for training volunteers.

What Do the Volunteers Do?

Volunteers may help with household chores, errands, transportation, personal care, companionship and provide support for the family. The volunteer may assist the family in learning techniques for providing personal hygiene, bathing and other comfort care information to help care for the patient. They listen to the patient and family and their concerns. Volunteers frequently contact the Executive Director or Care Coordinator with questions the family may have about various things. Helping provide comfort and peace of mind for the entire family is of the utmost importance to the volunteer.

Referrals to Hospice

Hospice services are often recommended by the attending physicians, clergy, neighbors and friends or the family themselves may want to learn what hospice can do for their family.

When a family of a prospective patient (or other individual with the permission of the family) requests the services of hospice, the Patient Care Coordinator goes to the home and visits with the family and the patient. An assessment of the needs of the patient and the family is completed and if the patient meets the criteria and accepts hospice services, a program for the care of the patient is developed with the assistance of the physician. The normal criteria for hospice care are:

- the approval and participation of the attending physician
- life expectancy defined in terms of approximate length of time
- a primary-care person(s) to give or coordinate care in the home.

A volunteer team is assigned to the patient and the family and care is available seven days a week and 24 hours a day if emergencies arise in the night. The Executive Director and Patient Care Coordinator are available and work closely with the patient and the volunteers.

Hospice care is provided to each patient at little or no cost to the family.

Since 1984 the Ogle County Hospice Association has provided care for approximately 135 patients and their families in all areas of the county.

OCHA is funded solely by memberships, memorials, bequests, donations, fund raising events and contributions of funds or equipment.

Ogle County Hospice is a non-for-profit organization.

THE OGLE-LEE UNIT OF THE ILLINOIS RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Gertrude E. Cann,

Contact Person for Oregon, Illinois

The Ogle-Lee Unit of the Illinois Retired Teachers' Association was organized April 20, 1960. Katherine Grover, Chana, Illinois was the first president. This organization has served the retired teachers of this area for twenty-seven years.

The purpose of the organization is to promote and improve professional, social, and economic status of the retired teachers, school nurses, and administrators formerly employed in the public schools of Illinois.

This organization works in cooperation with the Illinois Retired Teachers' Association, the National Retired Teachers' Association and the Illinois Educational Association, and other organized groups in the interest of retired teachers and of educational advancement.

The regular meetings are held three times a year on the third Tuesday of April, July, and October. There are about 200 members enrolled.

A memorial service for deceased members is held the first meeting of each year.

JAYCEES

Submitted by Andy Colbert

The Jaycees are a relatively new service club to the Oregon area. Chartered April 25, 1978 by the United States Jaycees, this chapter has attempted to make a positive impact in the local area. The Jaycees' membership encompasses both females and males between the ages of 21-39. Currently, Oregon has yet to attain its first female member, but hopes to in the near future. It should be noted that women have participated in many of the Jaycee activities and have been invaluable in their contributions.

Among its organizational objectives is the formation of an internal environment for individuals to develop leadership abilities and promulgate and disseminate knowledge. The national organization offers programs in management development, individual and community development. Ideally, this type of programming offers the opportunity for each member to not only help themselves, but help out the community.

The process of serving their community is the major commitment that the Oregon Jaycees have strived to attain. This has been accomplished by donations of funds and labor resources to various groups, organizations, private individuals and families. Secondary to this, some of the Jaycee's resources are directed toward both national and state causes. Supporting St. Jukes Children's Research Hospital (U.S. Jaycees) and Camp New Hope for Handicapped Children (Illinois Jaycees) are two examples of this.

The major fund-raiser for the Oregon Jaycees has been the operation of a bratwurst stand during the Autumn on Parade Festival held each fall. There have also been many other less significant fund-raising activities.

Examples of things that the Jaycees have helped support or sponsor include Park District programs, Scouting, Oregon Fire and Ambulance, Bikathons, Blackhawk Jr. Tackle, MDA Chili Cook-offs, the Chana ball diamond, Oregon school programs, 10 K Run, an outdoors 50/s 60/s Music Show, and many others.

Oregon regularly also competes in Jaycee regional sporting events, such as basketball, softball and bowling. They have also hosted district basketball and softball tournaments. Jaycee members also have the opportunity to represent Oregon at regional or statewide Jaycee conventions and meetings. Some members have even become involved with other Jaycee charters by helping them conduct a few of their events.

Of the current membership, only one person remains as a charter member. That individual, Pat Donahue, was also the first Oregon Jaycee president. Of any one person, Donahue has probably been the most instrumental in enabling the Jaycees to accomplish what they have in the community.

Other past presidents have been Bill Nordman, Craig Ayers, Tim Mitchussen, Marty Bernardin, Marty Buhs, Alec Lay, and Andy Colbert. Looking ahead to the future, the Oregon Jaycee's primary goal is to continue attracting new people into their organization. By doing so, the chapter can continue to remain active and enjoy a mutually beneficial relationship with the local community.

The Jaycee Creed:

We Believe

That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life

That the brotherhood of many transcends the sovereignty of nations;

That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise

That government should be of laws rather than of men;
That earth's great treasure lies in human personality;
And that service to humanity is the best work of life.

KIWANIS CLUB

Submitted by Tom Shouer

The Kiwanis Club of Oregon was chartered on December 16, 1978 and was sponsored by the Dixon Kiwanis Club. Charter members numbered 31 and originally held their weekly meetings Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at Maxson's Schiller House Restaurant, Oregon, Illinois.

Oregon Kiwanis Club's first year officers consisted of: Eugene Boeckelman, President; Tom Shouer, 1st Vice President; Merlin Hageman, 2nd Vice President; Mike Fager, Treasurer and Jim Drymiller, Secretary. These officers, along with Jerry Brooks, Jim Rosenbalm, Bob Personette, Frank Svoboda and Bill Reardon served on the Board of Directors.

Major projects supported by the Oregon Kiwanis Club consisted of constructing the Oregon Kiwanis Riverside Park, Annual Toys for Tots Program, Spastic Research Foundation, Oregon High School Scholarship Fund, Red Cross Blood Drive and Yellow Bird Breakfast, and other financial support for local problems.

Oregon's Kiwanis Club's well-known fund-raisers consist of their Annual Sweet Corn Sale, Peanut Day, and Autumn on Parade Bar-B-Q Nacho Booth.

Kiwanis is a worldwide organization appealing to men who have a desire to become personally involved in making their communities better places in which to live. As a group, these men achieve what individuals cannot do alone. Working together, Kiwanians voluntarily share the challenge of community improvement and leadership assuming personal responsibility for humanitarian and civic projects that public authorities are not able to perform. They include such activities as assistance to youth and aging, conservation and natural resources, development of community facilities and creation of international understanding and goodwill. Kiwanians are

motivated by a common desire to serve, and to achieve an appreciation of good fellowship.

Since 1981 the Oregon Kiwanis have held their weekly Thursday morning meetings at the Yellow Bird Senior Citizens Center. Past Presidents include Eugene Boeckelman, Tom Shouer, Bob Personette, Tim Nieman, Steve Pemberton, John Patterson, Larry Leerhoff, Dave Etnyre, Mike Fager and the current President, Wayne Reising. John Patterson also served as Division 13 Lieutenant Governor in 1984-1985.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OREGON COUNCIL, NO. 1092

Submitted by John Conroy

The Knights of Columbus, Oregon Council #1092, was organized and became an official entity on 26 February 1906, with forty-four charter members from Oregon, Mount Morris and Byron, Illinois. It was the 1,092nd Council organized in the Western Hemisphere. The present membership is composed of one hundred members from Oregon and Mount Morris.

The Knights of Columbus is an organization of Catholic men with four basic principles which are: CHARITY, UNITY, FRATERNITY, and PATRIOTISM.

Some of the functions that are sponsored or supported by the Knights are as follows:

The Newman Foundation is the number one charity of the Knights of Columbus. Funds are given to this foundation to establish facilities which provide a Christian presence on University and State college campuses.

The Mentally Retarded program is one of the principal functions of the Council. Donations are collected locally on an annual basis with ninety percent of the funds returned to the local Council for distribution. The Village of Progress, located here in Oregon, Illinois, is the major recipient.

The Disaster fund was established in the 1920's after World War I to get immediate aid to any disaster area in the State of Illinois. This was offered on a non-denominational basis. In order to avoid any delay, the local Council makes the decision to assist the needy without higher approval.

The Knights and the Oregon-Mt. Morris Kiwanis Club jointly sponsored the annual Red Cross Blood Drive. Approximately, ninety to one hundred pints of blood are donated annually by local citizens.

An event of long standing is the annual Halloween Parade. Children from pre-school through eighth grade parade through town, led by the City of Oregon's fire truck and the Etnyre Middle School Band. They then assemble at the Oregon Coliseum where costume judging is done with awards given to the winners at the various grade levels.

Recently, spelling bees and free-throwing contests have been sponsored for all youth of Mount Morris and Oregon.

During recent years, in the spirit of ecumenism, the Knights and the Masons of Oregon jointly sponsor the annual steak fry, which is open to the general public.



Assembling climbing blocks donated to Oregon Day Care Center—Tom Shouer (right), Bob Personette (center), Rose Thomas (left), Stephanie Pfoutz and Todd Haugh (children). (Photo courtesy Tom Shouer)

This event has now grown to include all service clubs: Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, and the Jr. Chamber of Commerce.

The Oregon 4th Degree Council is affiliated with the Father Boland Assembly, which includes Councils from Dixon, Sterling, Amboy, and Morrison. PATRIOTISM, the fourth principal of the Order, is the function of the Assembly.

LIFE-LINE FOOD AND SELF-HELP PROJECT CLOTHING RESALE

Submitted by Virginia Shetter

The Life-Line Food and Self-Help project was initiated in Oregon, Mt. Morris, Byron, Polo and Forreston in 1982.

The individuals responsible for the founding were: Rev. James Reid, Rev. John Patterson, Mrs. Mina Clemmons, Mrs. Luanne Pickel, Mr. Jim Schultz, Miss Helen Thomas, Mrs. Florence Schwarte, Mr. Robert Lowden and Mrs. Eileen Gifford. Mrs. Pickel was the first president of the group and under her direction many other services were introduced.

The idea for this organization was to provide canned staple goods and low-cost donated clothing for those in need. Emergency aid for complete meals is also provided for a three-day period.

People are referred to LIFELINE through state aid, ministers, township officials, just to name a few. There is a form to be filled out and kept on file. This helps the organization to be efficient in this work.

People are given food, a \$10 voucher (for fresh meat and dairy products only), to be used at the Super Valu, and clothing if needed. The donated clothing is also available to EVERYONE at a nominal cost of 10 cents to one dollar for shoes to coats.

The Life Line has been supported generously through the food-gathering by the churches, donations and recently we have received a \$1,500 award authorized under Public Law 99-500 to supplement and extend emergency food and shelter programs. All of these funds must be spent by September 15, 1987.

As a result of this funding, Life-Line has doubled the amount of canned goods, staples and hams to serve 96 families. These items were distributed on April 10 and 11, 1987.

Easter baskets were distributed in 1985 and 1986 to 48 families. Plans are for continued expansion of services in the areas of Oregon, Mt. Morris and Forreston.

Grateful thanks are extended to all the volunteers who have helped throughout the past years. Volunteers are always needed.

Volunteers for Life-Line Food and Self-Help projects are as follows: Jean Pelgen, Fern Anderson, Jane Loveland, Judy Beesing, Barb Holland, Doris Hendricks, Ruth Bolwahn, Kay Taggart, Margaret Anderson, Gertrude Cann, Ceil Mantsch, Betty Berger, Rose Ruth, Margaret Mitchell, Evelyn Fruin, Luann Pickel, Mina Clemmons, Sharon Wallace, Hattie Baumgarten, Dorothy Stone,

Eileen Gifford, Jane Fischer, Carm Yocum, Florence Rouse, Jane Etnyre, Ruth Donaldson, Cathy Lamb, Dottie Flessner, Mary Suneson, Helen Swoffer, Benita Hawkins, Kate Kruger, Eva Leddy, Katie O'Rourke, Ruth Hughes, Jean Borger, Darlene Sanders, Carolyn Hahn, Betty Gigous, Leona Ellerby, Ann Krajco, and Wanda Smith.

Board members are: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Allen (co-treasurers), Earl Martin, Mina Clemmons, Thurston Sarber (co-vice presidents), Sylvia Swope, Sally Walker, Sharon Wallace (co-secretaries), Jackie Gambrel and Virginia Shetter, (co-coordinators).

Drivers for distribution of food: John Conroy, Robert Wallace, Robert Pickel, Howard Mantsch, Richard Head, Earl Gambrel, Ted Suneson, Jim Rogers, Robert Pelsma, Warren Shetter, Bill Ellerby, Ray Farber, Wilbur Schults, the Explorer Scouts, and members of the Immortals Motorcycle Club: Cliff Barcai (President), Patti Barcai, Lynn Spangler, Jim Goley, Scott Gouker, Jim Wakenight, Jr., Jim Wakenight III, John Kerr, Junior Dwyer, Al "Bulk" Goodwin, and Tony Brødeson.

LIONS CLUB

Submitted by Dexter F. Clow, Secretary

The current Oregon Lions Club was incorporated on September 23, 1954 for the purpose of promoting desirable civic, educational, health and other community welfare matters for the common good. Incorporators were Max Kneedy, Edwin Zum Dahl, Glen Moody, James Hulmes, and Joe Powell. The club had been in unofficial existence for about two years before it was incorporated. The first officers included Ray E. Reidesel, President; Earl Martz, Vice President; Edward Anderson, Secretary; Robert F. Mershon, Treasurer; Clarence Anderson, Lion Tamer; and Paul Behan and James M. White, Tail Twisters.

The Oregon Club was sponsored by the Polo and Franklin Grove Lions Clubs and in turn has served as sponsors for Lions Clubs in Mt. Morris, Byron and Leaf River. Three of the original thirty-six charter members are still active in the Oregon club: Clarence Anderson, Samuel Jenkin and Edwin Zum Dahl.

The major causes which the Lions Clubs, local, state and international, have supported have been work among the blind and deaf. Today this emphasis includes providing eye examinations and glasses for needy children, providing hearing tests and hearing aids for the needy, sponsoring blind or hearing handicapped children for Camp Lions, contributions for basic hearing and sight research, support for the Winnebago Center for the Blind, support for the Leader Dog for Blind Center, assisting to detect the leading causes of blindness—diabetes and glaucoma—through the Lions Mobile Screening Units, eye donor pledge drives to give the gift of sight to the blind, and collecting used eye glasses and hearing aids to be refitted for those who can use them. The main courses of funds for these activities are the annual Lions Candy Day and the Rose Sale.

As the world becomes smaller and smaller, and as the

needs of developing nations increase, the Lions Club now contributes to CARE for such projects as building bridges in Nepal and assisting farmers in the Philippines to increase yields.

A national problem is drug abuse and the Lions Club has become active in combating this problem through a drug awareness program and through QUEST, a national school class program designed to teach young teens skills for modern living. These programs include such subjects as handling peer pressure, establishing personal goals, dealing with losses and disappointments, improving communications with family, teachers and peers, resisting drug abuse, and gaining confidence and self-esteem. This program began in the Oregon Middle School in September 1985, one of the pioneer schools in Illinois for the program.

Within Oregon, the Lions Club has always been very active. For several years the Oregon Lions Club sponsored the Soap Box Derby and the All Sports Banquet. The Club furnished the materials and members have constructed the dugouts at the baseball field and local athletic teams have been sponsored. A large project in Oregon was construction of the Lions Park which was designed by Wilbur Knutson. This project was completed in 1968 with the construction of the park shelter. For the past 29 years the Oregon Lions Club has been serving traditionally mouthwatering pancakes at the Ogle County Fair. Succulent barbecued pork chops are prepared and served by the Club during Autumn on Parade. An annual donation is given to the Village of Progress to assist with their worthy, local work. Special pancake days are also held in conjunction with the local scouts.

The Oregon Lions Club greatly appreciates the long-standing generosity and support of the Oregon community for its fund raising activities. It requires both the volunteer service and effort of the individual Lions and the backing of the community to carry out the ever-increasing activities at local, state, national and international levels to maintain a strong, growing local Lions Club.

The Lions Club has through the years endeavored to live up to its stated purpose for existing—to promote desirable civic, educational and health causes within the community. The fifty men currently members of the Oregon Lions Club strive to continue fulfilling this noble purpose through their specific contributions.

The 1986 officers were: Dick Adams, President; Dexter Clow, Secretary; Bob Schulz, Treasurer; Bill Steffen, 1st Vice President; Bob Querio, 2nd Vice President; Ray Appler, 3rd Vice President; Dean Gruben, Lion Tamer; Gary Davis, Tail Twister; and Jim Grove, Jim Laughlin, Scott Campbell and Jerry Hinrichs, Board Members. The 1987 officers are, President Bill Steffen, Secretary, Dexter Clow; Treasurer, Dean Gruben; 1st Vice President Bob Querio; 2nd Vice President, Jim Laughlin; 3rd Vice President, Jim Grove; Lion Tamer, Stan Gifford; Tail Twister, Dale Collins; and Board Members, Scott Campbell, Jerry Hinrichs, Roger Brunner and Dan Boehle.

LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRIES CENTER *Submitted by Glenn Oswald, Program Director/Administrative Assistant Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center*

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC) is the year-round camp, conference, and environmental education center of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregations of Illinois and Missouri. These congregations have been involved in outdoor ministries and organized camping since 1927. LOMC now serves more than 9,000 guests and campers annually.

The 650-acre LOMC site lies two miles south of the Ogle County Court House just west of Illinois Route 2, south of the railroad tracks, and north of Devil's Backbone Road. It straddles Devil's Backbone Ridge and includes a pond, Gale Creek, forests, native Illinois prairie, farm fields, and meadows. LOMC can accommodate 150 guests in air-conditioned and winterized facilities plus those in the campground and tent villages.

Prior to 1972 the LOMC site was owned by the Calumet Council of Boy Scouts of America. Prior to that it consisted of two farms, one of which is believed to have dated back to the late 1800's. Some of these farm buildings are still in use and several ruins of other farm outbuildings can still be seen at LOMC.

Since 1975 additional renovations and improvements have been made: a 7½ acre pond, the Barn, the Administration Building, the Infirmary, the Yurts, landscaping, hiking and cross-country skiing trails, family campground, campground pavilion, foot bridges, a fifth retreat house and the Corral.

The primary purpose of LOMC is to provide quality Christian experiential learning and growth in an outdoor recreational setting. It conducts a variety of weekend retreats, workshops, and summer camp experiences for people of all ages and situations. Groups may rent the facilities and receive leadership assistance from the LOMC staff. LOMC also conducts environmental/outdoor education with public, private, and religious schools.

MASONS

Submitted by Ralph Young

At the 24th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held in the Hall of the House of Representatives in Springfield on Tuesday, October 5, 1864 in the report on lodge under dispensation, a resolution was offered that charters be granted to a number of lodges among which was Oregon Lodge as Oregon Lodge 420. In this same report, the condition of Oregon Lodge was given as follows: Members 30, Initiations, 21; Passings, 20; and Raisings, 20.

The regular communications were held on the Wednesday on or preceding each full moon.

The record is not clear as to where the lodge met in the early days. It is believed that the first Lodge Hall was located in a building on the southeast corner of Franklin and Third Street where the Church of God General Conference building now stands.

The Lodge was moved to the Burchell Building, located

at 302 Washington Street and continued to meet there until the present Temple was completed at 117 South 4th Street.

On March 12, 1903, the Secretary of the State of Illinois issued a certificate of the organization of a corporation (not for pecuniary profit) known as the Oregon Masonic Temple Association with its principal office at Oregon, Illinois.

According to the minutes of the first meeting, the Oregon Masonic Temple Association was founded for the purpose of erecting a Masonic building in the City of Oregon, Illinois and that it is necessary for said association to purchase certain real estate on which to erect said building. They proceeded to enter into a contract with Charles D. Etnyre and Eva G. Etnyre, his wife, for the erection of a building on the present site which is 117 South Fourth Street.

Construction was begun very soon and the association met in the new building for the first time on March 14, 1904. The portion of the building owned by the associa-

tion was in the second and third floors and space needed for heating and access to the lodge rooms.

The association leased the Masonic Temple rooms to Oregon Lodge No. 420 A.F. & A.M. for the first five years at the annual rental of \$267 and the payment of taxes and repairs.

A sizeable amount of income was received by the association from dances, banquets and civic functions, as the rooms were used as a civic center for a number of years. The charge for the use of the Dance Hall was set at \$10 and \$5 extra for the banquet hall and kitchen.

The cost of the building, as near as can be ascertained was \$6,900, architect fees were \$276 and land costs were \$1,260.

As other facilities became available for civic affairs, these rooms were used almost exclusively for Masonic and Eastern Star functions.

The Masonic Fraternity is one of the largest charitable organizations in the world. Between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 per day are spent on charitable causes. Along



OREGON MUNICIPAL BAND (CIRCA) 1935

Front row, left to right: Josephine Marino; Barbara DeArvil; William Himert; Randall Woodworth; Prof. DeArvil, bandmaster.

Second row: Nelmer Joesten; Billy Riley; Mary Jane Sharick; Gerald Corcoran; Harry Hays; Thomas Corcoran; Ralph Grimes; Wilbur Pickering; Bud Eakle.

Third row: John Franklin; George Joesten; Cecelia Laskos; James Welden; Franklin Bassler; Tim Landers; Henry Joesten; Sidney Hess; Mildred Hiscox.

Fourth row: Kenneth Corcoran; Barbara Yetter; Jack McGurk; Henry Joesten; Raylen Bocker; James Chasm; Robert Gantz and Philip Campalongo. (Photo Courtesy James E. Chasm)

with their appendant bodies they support such causes as the Illinois Masonic Home, The Illinois Masonic Children's Home, The Illinois Masonic Nurses Training Scholarship Foundation, The Illinois Masonic Medical Center, The Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children, The Shriner's Burn Centers and many relief and service activities.

Any man 21 years of age and over, who would be interested in becoming a member of the Fraternity may contact any member for details.

NEWCOMER'S CLUB

Submitted by Betty Persenaire

The Newcomer's Club was started in Oregon in 1970 by Eunice Schmidt. She was new to this area, lonely, and wanted to get acquainted not only with the local people, but also with the businesses and services offered here.

She went to several real estate agents in the area and got names of women who were also new, and began contacting them. They started meeting in each other's homes and the practice continues today.

The type of meeting in those early years also continues. Programs are not only topics of interest, but informative as well. Following the program there is a time of socializing; a time when you get to talk and visit with the person next to you or across the room. That is what Newcomer's is all about: getting to know the people in your community.

Newcomer's meet every month on the first Tuesday, with exceptions of January and the summer months, at 7:00 p.m. Helen Swoffer and Betty Persenaire are co-chairman for the year 1987. Anyone wishing information may contact these ladies at 732-7143 or 732-7097.

THE OREGON OWLS (OREGON BACHELOR CLUB)

Gathered from articles by Charles Robbins and local papers.

This organization was started by the late Judge Cartwright in 1869, though at the time he was not a judge but a 27-year old bachelor. It seems that there was an important gathering in Oregon and young Cartwright, with several other young men skipped the ceremonies and rowed to an island in the river. (This island was later named as a memorial to Margaret Fuller, a brilliant young author, who, when visiting Oregon relatives in 1843, was so impressed by the beauty of the bluff overlooking Rock River, the old cedar tree and the spring which flows into Rock River, that she wrote a poem, "Ganymede to His Eagle." After her tragic death, this island below the bluff was named and dedicated in her memory in September 1880.) Young Cartwright and his friends initiated the idea of a club for unmarried men, and before the day was over these young men had established the rules of the OREGON OWLS.

Meetings to determine the prospective victims (members) and to plan the parade through town followed by an

all-day picnic at Margaret Fuller Island were started directly after July 4. Members were called to the meetings by blowing a horn from the window of the "Opera House." This horn was approximately six feet long and could be heard all over town. The organization was not one that could be joined by choice or invitation. Names proposed by members were voted on and accepted or black-balled. It was not necessarily the candidate's choice. The unsuspecting bachelor was "grabbed" by surprise and properly, more likely improperly, initiated into membership. The initiation was most vigorous. Wooden paddles used in initiation ceremonies were made by the Schiller Piano Factory. Often a new member could not sit down for days and some of the fellows went into hiding during meeting nights. Many members were from neighboring towns.

The highlight for the general public was the parade to and from the picnic. The big event was usually scheduled around the middle of August. The group assembled at the "Opera House" directly across from the Court House. (When the organization began the second Court House was in use. The present Court House was built in 1892.) A Fife and Drum Corp led the parade. For many years music was provided by George Myers, his father and a Mr. Fitzgerald from Leaf River. One of their favorite renditions was "The Girl I Left Behind Me." Though it was never known to have rained on the great day, all members of the Club carried yellow umbrellas; the new members carried red, white and blue umbrellas; and every fifth year Ex-Owls were invited and carried black umbrellas. They paid a fine of \$5 when they married. The flower of the order was the sunflower.

Edith Fridley and her sisters used to sell sunflowers to the OWLS when they had their parades. The OWLS wore sunflowers on their lapels. They always had them but Edith doesn't know why they wore them.

Other features of the parade were a huge pen five feet long, presumably used to sign the register when admitted; a giant golden horseshoe, a large silver platter and a pair of large wooden shoes. The "Owlet" (the youngest of the new recruits) carried a stuffed owl. For many years Roy Knodle, (a bachelor, of course) furnished boats for transportation to and from the island. Fancy programs were printed with varied humorous content. After arriving on the island the morning was spent in sporting events—foot racing, boat rowing, horseshoe pitching, tugs of war, etc. Pools were sold on each contest and often the pools were quite large.

The picnic fare consisted of spring-fried chicken and catfish from Rock River. For years Uncle Joe Rippberger worked all night frying the chicken to a deep brown. He had a style all his own in cooking them just right. Also, on the menu was green corn, tomatoes, melons, sweet potatoes, mashed white potatoes, gravy, pies, fruit and lemonade.

After the meal a picture was taken of the group. The afternoon was spent playing poker or visiting. Election of officers followed the evening meal of "leavings." Then

MEMBERS

Watch us grow. Eighteen new members this year

- I. H. Cartwright
- J. W. Bardwell
- John C. Spencer
- I. B. Coomer
- F. R. Artz
- Scott Gale
- L. C. Hornell
- T. M. Elliott
- H. Johnson
- I. S. Sanders
- C. W. A. Reynolds
- James N. Davis
- L. G. Taylor
- C. H. Hornell
- O. S. Gaton
- G. W. Hornell
- James A. Barden
- H. H. Sewell
- E. S. Newcomer
- Henry H. Maynard
- C. E. Hibley
- E. A. Perry
- John Hoffman
- C. A. Sensor
- Henry Young
- E. J. Kailer
- C. Gerard
- A. J. Hewitt
- H. C. Burchell
- S. Munn
- F. Young
- A. L. Ettinger
- A. L. Velle
- Wm. A. Long
- I. W. Bartlett
- S. D. Wallace
- Arzie J. Elliot
- Wm. A. Enyree
- I. T. Muffineman
- S. F. Steffa
- Wm. H. Clark
- F. E. Dwight
- Gus. Smith
- E. T. Mellony
- H. H. Dwight
- W. E. Cushing
- S. Lee Anstene
- C. M. Gale
- F. M. Gilbert
- G. E. Harrington
- A. F. Herbert
- C. T. Throop
- John T. Ray
- S. B. Wadsworth
- F. M. Brock
- Samuel Ray
- W. E. Ray
- C. H. Talmadge
- Geo. R. Wertz
- Jesse Bradstreet
- Samuel Rober
- F. E. W. Sturdevant
- C. D. Enyree
- Abraham Vedder
- John Sharer
- Edward Myers

- I. B. Countryman
- Tom Webb
- M. Newcomer
- J. F. Mungler
- H. H. Thomas
- I. C. Seyster
- E. A. Ray
- Clinton L. Booth
- L. M. Sharer
- Henry A. Smith
- Frank D. Sheets
- Merritt W. Pinkney
- Will W. Wertz
- William Smith
- C. H. McKenney
- M. Farrell
- Levi S. Bowers
- A. J. McCrea
- F. E. Stitley
- F. Reiman
- Frank E. Reed
- I. D. Armstrong
- Chas. Rystrom
- F. B. Gale
- G. Bamberg
- Albert Carlson
- B. S. Marshall
- Geo. D. Wilson
- Dick McKenney
- M. R. Harned
- Wm. W. Light
- Frank Black
- Wm. L. Pond
- I. C. Crowell
- Arthur E. Fisher
- G. V. Farwell
- J. W. Johnston
- Allen Stewart
- Nathan Andrew
- Edwin Rystrom
- John Shultz
- John H. Bunn
- R. J. Sensor
- Jacob Swingley
- H. I. Seibert
- E. I. Allen
- C. E. Price
- Elmer M. Johnson
- W. H. Strong
- Emory Neff
- A. W. Mahey
- H. R. Blackstone
- C. L. Allen
- Wm. Motter
- S. L. Enyree
- Floyd Thompson
- Wm. P. Fearar
- W. L. Enyree
- Phineas Weaver
- Albert J. Stewart
- W. D. Mackey
- G. B. Miller
- Will Rystrom
- John D. Seibert
- Fred Arnap
- Fred Maynard

- Delos W. Baxter
- Bert F. Peck
- Leon A. Reed
- Geo. Crowell
- Wm. R. Eyster
- Bert B. Baxter
- Geo. E. Robbins
- Elias E. Enyree
- I. M. Cheshire
- E. G. Southwell
- Robt. M. Brand
- Alpha Jones
- J. F. Brook
- G. P. Evans
- Ferd Rippberger
- J. F. Canode
- C. R. Hart
- D. E. Seyster
- E. L. Reed
- Art Clevidence
- A. Tice
- Howard Canode
- S. W. Crowell
- Geo. N. Peck
- Ernest Beeler
- L. Hanger
- J. L. Rice
- Martin Esbbaugh
- Clarence S. Haas
- Frans J. Plym
- Geo. B. Canode
- Wm. H. Gamble
- Noble Thomas
- W. H. Roat
- R. F. Adams
- W. H. Keedy
- Fred V. Gale
- H. L. Allen
- Henry A. Mix
- L. R. Spaulding
- W. W. Overfield
- Chas. W. Young
- Eugene F. Dresser
- Lewis Price
- John Kideen
- Mathew S. Heinly
- Chas. W. Stires
- G. H. Mix
- H. Lebowich
- Geo. H. Jones
- John Boyle
- F. McNeil
- A. G. Baker
- Geo. C. Hopkins
- Walter Malarkey
- Fred B. Silsbee
- Matt Johnson
- Eugene Hettiger
- R. F. Nye
- Ethan Sechler
- A. W. Johnson
- A. C. Rud
- J. C. Ellerhusen
- C. G. Gilbert
- T. Johnson
- Ralph Douglas

- G. W. Allen
- H. E. Ferris
- Ed. Rippberger
- W. W. Bennett
- D. Fay Carney
- William Wagner
- H. C. Jewett
- Dr. Sheets
- W. F. Smith
- John Cooper
- E. C. Reed
- Frank Shaffer
- E. B. Jones
- Bert Baker
- H. G. Koistad
- Lawrence Rippberger
- F. W. Burchell
- W. J. Emerson
- G. R. Haas
- Wm. F. Jungkunz
- F. G. Crowell
- James V. Gale
- P. A. Peterson
- Frank Reed
- H. L. Craumer
- Chas. E. Slagle
- A. B. Clevidence
- Charles Lucas
- L. R. Spaulding
- Claude Householder
- Ed W. Hayes
- Floyd T. Hausen
- T. J. Hill
- Arthur Mix
- C. F. Rinker
- Ed. Pankhurst
- R. B. Munn
- H. C. Peck
- F. W. Posselt
- James Purves
- E. H. Alexander
- Fred Bischoff
- Ira M. Fry
- William Kaiser
- Oscar Rutledge
- Leo Hawthorn
- Frank Watson
- F. W. Burchell
- Emery R. Fry
- Thurston Johnson
- Glenn Andrew
- T. S. McGuffin
- Norlvet Berve
- A. A. Glander
- C. E. Lamb
- Roy Jetter
- Geo. Sandberg
- Geo. W. Himert
- S. D. Lippert
- Ios. Beier
- C. L. Reber
- Will Miller
- H. D. Stauffer
- Charles Grow
- Harry Rutledge
- Celia Wooding

Homer Edelman

Robert Brackett

May we never be too old to be young

You are cordially invited to participate

in the

Fifth Annual Picnic

of the

Devoted Order of Ex-Owls

to be held at

Margaret Fuller Island

Oregon, Illinois

Friday, August Nineteenth

Nineteen Hundred and Ten

Cavalcade will start from Court House at

Nine A. M. sharp

If it were not for the Faithful Ex-Owls

How could the Owls expect to survive?

MENU

The bachelor's life is a dreary one.

It's the little things in life that make it worth living.

FORTY-SEVEN VARIETIES OF CHICKEN

Roasted Boned Chicken	Braised Chicken
Jellied Chicken	Roast Chicken
Boiled Chicken	Stuffed Chicken
Fried Chicken	Tricasser Chicken
Grilled Chicken	Chicken Fritters
Imperial Chicken	Baltimore Style Chicken
Chicken A La Vienne	Chicken Chartreuse
Chicken Souffle	
Chicken Loaf	Chicken Chandfroid
Hot Chicken	Cold Chicken
Chicken Mayonnaise	
Potted Chicken	Stewed Chicken
Chicken Salad	

All vegetables used at this picnic will be furnished from G. C. Hopkins' Garden
Gathered the night before by George Mix and F. E. Ripberger.

Remember too that perhaps you aren't
The sort of husband that father used to make.

T O A S T S

To Our Wives,

May they be as blissfully trustful
As we are trustfully blissful.

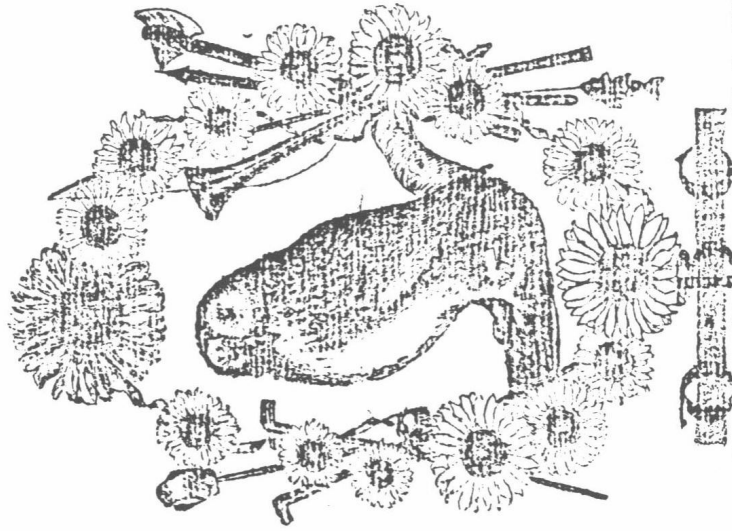
Roosevelt and I agree	C. Wooding
I like smaller hands	E. Reed
Let me take a dollar home	C. Booth
Not even one small hill in sight	T. J. Hill
Billiards vs. Chicken	Wm. Etnyre
Out with the boys once a year	J. A. Barden
I want to come back to stay	E. I. Neff
Two can live cheaper than one	Mike Farrell
I will accept the office of G. K. S.	Joe Rice
Down the river will I come	J. Bradstreet

The mother-in-law joke was invented by a bachelor.
To the married man the mother-in-law is no joke.

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL PIGNIG

MARGARET FULLER ISLAND,
OREGON, ILLINOIS.....

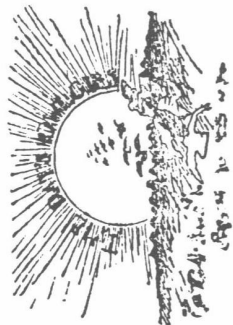
..... August 12th, 1898.



S. G. T.	W. J. EMERSON
J. G. T.	S. W. CROWELL
G. K. Q.	GEO. B. SHEETS
G. C. H.	F. B. SILSBEE
G. T. I.	GEORGE MIX
S. G. D. (Ex-Officio Chaplain)	W. L. MIDDLEKAUFF
Grand Deacons	ED. JONES, GEO. FARWELL
G. K. S.	J. W. CHARTERS
Owlet	WALTER MALARKEY

Imperial Roost of the Most Renowned and Hallowed Order of the Oregon Bachelor Club.

PROCLAMATION: To the Honored Members Scattered throughout the Domains of Madagascar, Mesopotamia, Terre del Fuigo, Afghanistan, the Orkney Islands, Van Dieman's Land, and All Other Countries, Powers and Principalities on which the Eye of the S. G. T. Rests with Loving Compassion at the Stroke of the Wood Tick in the Bouyon Tree.



GREETING: Too Whitt, Too Whitt, Too Whoo!

MOST DEVOTED AND CONSECRATED BEINGS!
 BEING now at the tenth revolution of the fourth diurnal where in beauteous splendor and wondrous majesty sets the imperial presence of our Great Founder, by the gracious order of His Most Luminous Orb, the Sun, duly signed by His Celestial Chief of Staff, the Moon, your Unspoited Servant has again designated the date upon which with great joy and glorious purposes you are to command to appear at the Celestial Roost for the perpetuity of all goodness rests signs which make us a bulwark; on which the advances of the insidious creatures the Forest of the Stygian Shade prepared to resist the advances of the insidious creatures who have from the time of Father Adam to the present, been ever a drawback to our advancement. Let us remember the Apple and how our genealogical researches have been frustrated by Mother Cain. Their descendants, emboldened by our tolerance and enraged by our indifference, have banded together, calling themselves the Um-zoo-wees but are called the Onas-who-woo. But let our valorous Owls be slow to engage them for victory or' them is dearer than defeat. Though they welcome an engagement yet they'll not fall back even when closest pressed but instead fall on your arms. Though covered with powder yet they do not falter and even when completely surrounded will not retreat but yet surrender at the first proposal. But yet they refuse to be exchanged and insist on remaining prisoners unless released for another engagement. From such creatures, filled with the same dauntless ardor and unconquerable purpose as Old Diogenes with his Electric Search Light, it will require the exercise of your magnificent courage and sublime bearing to prevent yourself from falling a victim to their strategy.

Let you also come prepared to carry out the purposes of our Patron Saint who blesses us above all other beings and never fails to keep us in the radiance of his presence. Let us consecrate ourselves to the abolition of all social ties which work to the ultimate breaking away of the barriers which enhance our greatness; let us ever bear in mind the terrible evils which result from contact with bachelor's orphans; let us forever remember the ban which is placed on the odious game of croquet which debauches the mind and impoverishes the body.

Therefore, as the Wood Lichen reaches the heart of the Great Yam Yam and the White Feather floats aloft at the Descent of the Muffed Hoot you will follow the flight of the Fire Fly and the path of the Bee Mot; to the Imperial Roost, where you will consecrate yourself below the halo at the foot of the august officials.

Signed at the foot of the Ironwood Tree in the Imperial Cypress Swamp.

Senior Grand Tycoon.

(Witness the Double Claw and Pitch Pine Seal)

(Attest) O. F. Q.

Toasts

In the Arms of the Enemy W. J. Emerson,
 The Eattle Axe Dr. McKenney,
 Closely Pressed F. B. Gale,
 Chicken-Hearted John Beard,
 Love's Young Dream Ed. Treuhaff.

Commissary Department.

Sandy Dago Soup. Deodorized Spanish Garlic Breath.
 Hard Tack on the Port Bow. Artillery Soup.
 \$10.00 to the funder of a Maiden's Hair in the Consomme.

Spanish Mackerel from Santiago Bay Caught by Schley.
 Spanish Fly from Schley. Truffled Tortoles.
 Spanish Lobster Caught by Hobson.
 Catfish in Oil from Cubau Soil.

Perforated Spanish Armor Steak, well done, American range.
 Bicycle Calves with Striped Stockings.
 Jerked Pullets with Gberkins. Whipped Dons.
 Army Graybacks. Fricasseed Toads.
 Cannon Balls in Spanish Grease.
 Umbrella Shortiribs.

Padded Pipestems. Escalloped Breastworks.
 Powdered Schoolmams aux Onion Sauce
 Varnished Spider Legs. Whale Bone. Corset Trimming.
 Fumigated Senoritas Powdered Earthworks.
 Raw Rubber Necks.

Fresh Air Mites in Alcohol. Warmed over Zoosweeums.
 Horlicks Baby Food for the Owllet.
 Subterranean Fudges. Marble Hearts.

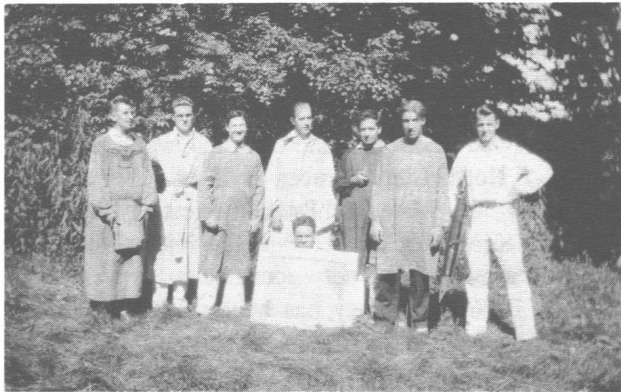
Watermelons from Waterman gathered in the pale of the Moon by the S. G. T.
 Smokeless Swan's Down Powder. Powder Puffs.
 Strawberry Blonde Short Cake in Knee Pants.
 Oh-so-easy Pudding. Scrambled Dons.
 Fresh Umzoozee Dry Toast.

Dewey Eye-Opener. Schley Hot Scotch.
 Sampson's Spanish Bitters. Hobson's Choice.
 Twilight Twinklings with Rainbow Gleams.
 Spanish Vinegal Tonic.
 Castor Oil as a Chaser.

Orders of the Day...

- 7:30 A. M. Revellie.
- 8:00 " " Mobilization.
- 8:30 " " Capture of Breastworks.
- 9:00 " " Embarkation.
- 9:30 " " Debarcation at Island.
- 10:00 " " Grand Review.
- 10:30 " " Foraging Expedition.
- 11:00 " " Sale of Prizes.
- 11:30 " " Naval Battle.
- 12:00 M. Kailer Cup.
- 12:00 M. Charge of Light Brigade.
 Champion Belt.
- 12:30 P. M. Advance of Heavy Artillery.
- 1:00 " " Raid on the Commissary Dept.
- 2:00 " " Storming the Pickets.
 Sam Kay Piacc.
- 3:00 " " The Army Sacked.
 Diamond Badge.
- 4:00 " " Target Practice.
 Silver Horse Shoe.
- 5:00 " " Descent on the Hole.
 Election of Officers.
- 5:30 " " Court Martial for Deserter.
 Presentation of Chromo.
- 6:00 " " Award of Medals. Responses.
- 6:30 " " A Drink from the Old Canteen.
- 7:00 " " Re-Embarkation.
- 7:30 " " Grand Welcome Home.
 Display of Trophies.

it was time to cross the river and wind up the day with a parade back to the hall. The member considered the most likely to marry during the coming year carried a framed picture of a naked baby, known as "Little Dan" and two members each with a long cane hooked around his neck marched on either side. At the end of the parade the OWLET was herded under guard, usually transported in a baby carriage. Jeers and cheers emitted from the sidelines as the onlookers enjoyed the scene. After the parade reached the hall, all paraphernalia was packed away until the next year. The day after the 4th of July, the horn would blow again, calling the OWLS to the roost at sundown. The last Owl gathering was in 1935 when Jim Beck had the joy of being the Owllet!



The horn in hand of gentleman at right was hung out of third floor window of the Opera House. At sunset they blew the horn repeatedly . . . "owl hoots." This continued until their picnic in August. Initiations were done in the nude; large paddles with holes were applied appropriately. The initiate was shown a red-hot poker; he was then blindfolded; and soon the aroma of burning hair filled the air (poker applied to old piece of fur . . . but the implication was clear).

L-R: Leo Sauer, Chas. Lewis, Paul Smith, Don Carr, "Bobby" Murdock, Carleton Crowell, and (I think) "Bing" Kuntzelman; and Cecil Crowell in center front. (Photo courtesy Margaret Sauer)

No beer or liquor was allowed on the island and that is probably one reason the organization lasted so many years. This rule was broken the last few years and some rowdiness occurred.

This was a "one of a kind" organization, entirely locally inspired by a small group who got together for a picnic and though it no longer exists its memory lives on in the hearts of many people.

P.E.O.

Submitted by Janet Lou Rhoads

The P.E.O. Sisterhood has been active in Oregon since local Chapter IU was organized in 1954.

Forty women in the Oregon area take part in this philanthropic and educational group, which counts over 375,000 women as members in the United States and Canada.

Their main interest is bringing increased opportunities for higher education for women.

Young women from Oregon have benefited from loans made by P.E.O. to help them with their education beyond high school. These loans are made from a revolving loan fund that is supported by all P.E.O. chapters.

Cottey College, located in Nevada, Missouri, a liberal arts two-year college for women, has been owned and supported by P.E.O. since 1927. A fully accredited college, Cottey prepares 350 students each year for senior college.

An International Peace Scholarship Fund provides grants-in-aid to women foreign graduate students to study in the United States and Canada. This project was established in 1949 to promote peace through education.

The newest educational fund is the Program for Continuing Education. Started in 1973, financial assistance is given to mature women who need to resume their



Left front corner, front row: Peck Stone, Jerry Wooding's dad (lying down), , Dwight Mackay (white hat in front of him), picture of baby held by , (helping hold picture), , Frank Gantz, ,
 Left front corner, second row (short row): (with pipe), (with pipe), , ,
 Left to right, third row: , , Bob Murdock, , "Ditty" Sears (with straw hat), , Walt Bergner, Albert Gale, Leo Curtis, , Smith, , Jim Murdock, (with loose tie), ,
 Left to right, fourth row: George Shindle, Burt Sauer, Fred Nordman, , Lester Grimes, , (with pipe in hand), , Pete Reid, (with arms folded), , (with glasses), , Leonard Oslander.
 At far back we have no identification except for Frank Cleary (in cap directly behind "1870" sign). (Photo courtesy John Snapp)

education. Since its beginning, 5,000 women have received grants from this fund.

As a Sisterhood, P.E.O. members have as their fundamental objective, maximizing the value of the individual.

In Oregon, officers for Chapter IU, P.E.O. are Sally Stuart, president; Lana Colehour, vice president; Bridget Broderick and Judy Zeigler, recording secretaries; Barbara Wissing, corresponding secretary; Val Beaty, treasurer; Myrle Fuller, chaplain; and Betty Pazera, guard.

Meetings are held at the homes of members on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings at 7:45 p.m., September through May.

THE PRAIRIE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF OGLE COUNTY

Submitted by Thelma Carpenter, Secretary

The Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County originated in Oregon under the sponsorship of the Ogle County American Revolution Bicentennial Commission with an organizational meeting at the Lorado Taft Campus on August 17, 1975. It was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization on October 10, 1975. Oregon continues to be the center of its activities with regular meetings at the Oregon Public Library.

Several of the society's founding officers and charter members were also members of the commission, which provided advice and generous financial support. Mrs. Lewis (Lucy) Pierce served as the first president from the initial meeting until 1978 with the following slate of officers: Vice-president, R. M. Jarrett; Treasurer, Floyd Bienfang; Secretary, Thelma Carpenter; Directors: Russell Poole, Keith Blackmore, Mrs. Orson (Ellen) Hill, and Mrs. Carl (Marie) Hill; Consultants: Douglas E. Wade and George (Tim) Keller.

The fundamental purpose of the society always has been threefold: (1) to preserve prairie remnants and other unique natural areas in Ogle County, (2) to ensure proper management and appropriate educational research uses of these areas, and (3) to encourage responsible enjoyment of natural areas.

The primary accomplishment during the society's first five years was the purchase and development of the Bicentennial Prairie. Working closely with members of the commission the society selected, from several prairie remnants, an 11.2 acre tract of "limestone" prairie situated about a mile from the intersection of Crestview and Kishwaukee Roads in Marion Township. On October 7, 1976 an Agreement for Deed with Charles and June Peterson of Stillman Valley was signed, and the society took title to the property on February 28, 1977. Floyd Bienfang, Vernon R. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Pierce, R. M. Jarrett, Mrs. Fred Bushnell, Jr., Russell Poole and Douglas Wade were outstanding among those who conducted the membership and fund-raising drive which made the acquisition possible. The Bicentennial Commission contributed \$13,000 from the sale of their book, *Bicentennial History of Ogle County*. The final payment was made on March 1, 1980. In 1982 this prairie became

one of 128 "Dedicated Nature Preserves" in Illinois that are restricted primarily to research and education uses under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission.

In the years since 1978 there have been four presidents: Mrs. Fred (Peg) Bushnell, Jr., 1978-1980; Margaret Knight, 1980-1982; Douglas Wade, 1982-1987; and Keith Blackmore, 1988-. Margaret Knight, Robert Piros, Peter Csiacsek, Jon Binhammer and Ethel Horn have served as vice-president. Floyd Bienfang, who so admirably managed the society's financial affairs during the crucial period of land acquisition, resigned in December 1981 because of failing health and was succeeded by Margaret Knight, who continues as treasurer. Thelma Carpenter, who recorded the minutes of the first meeting, and Armour Van Briesen, who was appointed historian in April 1977, both still serve in these offices.

Vince Carney, George M. Etnyre, Jr., Robert Piros, Vernon R. Smith, Gene Wilmarth, Clint Strang, Philip Bratla, Vivian Maxson, Cade Bushnell, Peter Csiacsek, Donald J. Horn, Linda Graber, Lyle M. Crowe, Ellise Prasse, Dorothy Wade, and Deana Forrest have served as directors. Keith Blackmore, Douglas Wade, Tim Keller and Paul Sorensen have been consultants.

Since 1976 the society has held an annual banquet each spring with Margaret Knight serving as chairman. Speakers have included Robert Betz, Floyd Swank, Paul Sorensen, Wayne Pauley and Lorrie Otto, who are well known for their work in the fields of ecology, biology and environmental studies. More than 100 members and guests regularly attend these dinner meetings which have been held at the Lorado Taft Campus, Stronghold, St. Mary's Community Center, and the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center.

Each fall during Oregon's Autumn on Parade Festival, members sell fresh cider, pressed by Tim Keller in Sterling, as the society's main fund-raising effort.

Other activities pertain to management, preservation, restoration, protection and education. As soon as weather permits in the spring, a burning schedule is organized and volunteers recruited to burn prairie remnants on public and private lands using the society's equipment. Owners of prairie areas are encouraged to permit management of these tracts with regular burning and removal of encroaching woody species. Pioneer cemeteries, particularly the Beach and Brooklyn Cemeteries, have been improved with management. Roadside prairies in the county have been marked with "Do Not Mow or Spray" signs supplied by the society.

Enclosures to protect stations of rare prairie species from grazing have been built in some instances. The most notable of these were the two erected on Commonwealth Edison property to protect the largest station of red root (*Ceanothus ovatus*) found in Illinois. This work was partially financed with a grant from the Illinois Non-Game Wildlife Fund as the result of a grant proposal written by Douglas Wade.

Educational activities have included guided field trips

to natural areas, participation in Ogle County Teachers' Institutes, cooperation with classes involved in prairie restoration and other prairie related projects, distribution of books, pamphlets, and other informational materials to the county schools, recognition of exceptional teachers in ecological and environmental studies promoting prairie, and providing resource people and programs for local organizations. The society's meetings, usually with a speaker or other program, and special events such as the Aldo Leopold Centennial Celebration and a screening of The Nature Conservancy's film, *The Garden of Eden*, are open to the public without charge.

In 1983 Vivian Maxson produced *Discovering Prairie*, an 80-slide program with narration on a tape cassette. The society has provided copies which circulate to schools and organizations throughout the midwest.

Beginning on May 17, 1976 and continuing at irregular intervals several times each year, Douglas Wade has published an "Information Sheet" designed to make members aware of the society's activities, prairie related events in the midwest, and environmental issues of nationwide concern. Each year the first issue includes a comprehensive financial report, list of officers, membership application blank, spring burning schedule, and information about the annual banquet. Subsequent issues contain a schedule of summer field trips and work days as well as news items about other organizations such as the Illinois Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, Lee County Natural Area Guardians, the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and Natural Heritage Division, Save the Prairie Society and Grand Prairie Friends. The annual Northern Illinois Prairie Workshop, the North American Prairie Conference and other similar meetings are well publicized.

In the fall of 1986 The Nature Conservancy purchased 465 acres of mixed prairie grasslands, pasture, cropland, brush, marsh and fens in Lee County just north of the Ogle County line, known as the Nachusa Grasslands. This prairie tract, one of Illinois' largest, was saved at the last minute by purchase at auction. The area was brought to the attention of The Nature Conservancy through the sustained efforts of Douglas Wade and Tim Keller, who recognized its value and held field trips there as early as 1966. In the mid-1970's they also built four enclosures on the property, one of which protected a seven-acre gravel hill prairie, the site of several rare species. During this time Douglas discovered the largest concentration of prairie bush clover (*Lespedeza leptostachya*) found in Illinois. It is on the federal endangered species list with only a few scattered Illinois sites. The society participated in Nachusa Grasslands Day on August 8, 1987 when 500 people attended a day-long picnic celebration. Additional acquisitions, especially the Colwell Tract, have expanded the Nature Conservancy's largest Illinois prairie to more than 900 acres.

At the 1987 annual meeting of the Illinois Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, the Cyrus Marls Conservation Award was presented to Douglas and Dorothy Wade, and

Tim Keller received the Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Since Douglas Wade, who died suddenly at his home on September 15, 1987, played a crucial role in the long and successful campaign to save the Nachusa Grasslands, it was most appropriate that memorial contributions be used for the purchase of the Colwell Tract, the site of a thriving station of prairie bush clover.

The concept of a local organization devoted to preserving and protecting the natural environment, particularly prairie remnants, was one which Douglas Wade brought to Ogle County and made a reality. As an outstanding environmentalist and naturalist widely recognized both in this country and Canada, he devoted his life to the continuing struggle "to preserve an environment fit to support citizens and fit for all life." In memory of the strong but quiet gentleman who was both the initiating and sustaining force of the society, the Bicentennial Prairie was re-named the Douglas E. Wade Prairie with a dedication ceremony at the prairie on July 3, 1988.

ROTARY CLUB

Submitted by Frederic G. Deuth

The Oregon Rotary Club will be celebrating it's 50th Anniversary this year, having been chartered on April 27, 1938. The club was sponsored by the Sterling Rotary Club under its then President Walter Palmer.

The charter was signed by eighteen businessmen and the original officers were: John F. Putnam, President; Gerald W. Fearer, Vice President; Roland L. Kiest, Secretary; Gerald M. Poley, Treasurer; and Directors were Hal Billig, Dr. Henry L. Hefty and Joseph C. Reed. The other members were Richard E. Chandler, Harry B. Franklin, Charles C. Gilbert, Burton E. Haas, Robert L. Leach, Ralph R. Leigh, Arnold I. Maxwell, Wayne H. Prince, John Rhoads, Benjamin F. Shelly, and Daniel E. Warren. The last surviving charter member, Arnold I. Maxwell died in December, 1987 and had remained active in the club as long as his health permitted.

In November, 1941, the Oregon Rotary Club, under the guidance of Roland L. Kiest, sponsored the Polo Rotary Club which has been very active in that community.

This club has prospered during the years and has now reached an active membership of 47. It is involved and very active in many community projects and activities as well as promoting world fellowship and better understanding through its motto, "Service Above Self."

Some of the various programs and projects are Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Brownie Girl Scouts, Little League Baseball, Boys' State, Summer Music Camp, Easter Egg Hunt, Yellow Bird Senior Citizen Center, Village of Progress, and Group Study Exchange Teams. These are teams of six young businessmen coming to us from foreign countries, some of which have been Denmark, Germany, Argentina, Japan and Australia.

On the Foreign Student Summer Visitation Program, a student is invited to live in our community with various families as a member of the family, to learn something

about our way of life and we in turn pick up information on their home and country. Some wonderful friendships have developed from these, as well as a better understanding of the people of foreign countries.

One young man came to us from Nigeria, Africa, and stayed on to attend the University of Illinois through the African-American Institute. He went on to complete his medical degree and we were invited to stand up with him as his parents "in absentia" for his graduation. He continued his studies and now is a thoracic surgeon in the Los Angeles area. We have continued a very close relationship with him and are still "Mom and Dad" to him.

Over the years, our club has contributed over \$8,000 to the Village of Progress as well as sums to the Yellow Bird, and to different school activities and programs. Oregon Rotary has a Student Loan Fund from which loans are made to deserving students to help on their college education. The loan is interest free while in school, until leaving or graduation and then to be repaid at a low rate of interest so that the funds can be made available to others. A more recent program is two \$500 scholarships given outright to students who have completed their freshman year and have demonstrated a desire to continue on through graduation. Both of these college programs have proven successful and well received.

Through Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation, much has been accomplished in a way of better understanding and fellowship throughout the world. Rotary now has clubs in all the free world, numbering 161 countries and over 23,200 clubs with over one million members.

Through the Rotary Foundation there are many different programs of education offered to students both outgoing, as well as incoming, to colleges and universities anywhere in the free world, with all expenses paid. This year there will be over 6,000 students participating in these programs. The average cost per student for one year abroad is \$16,000.

Our club had the privilege of sponsoring Robert Seibert to the University of the Philippines; John Conroy, Jr. to the University of Strasbourg, and John Lamb to the University in Manchester, England. Each of these has returned with a much greater knowledge to assist them in their occupation.

Funds for the Rotary Foundation to further its world-wide work, come from contributions from the various members and clubs throughout the world. The big program which Rotary Foundation is now working on is called "Polio-Plus" and the plan is to immunize every child in the world under five years of age against polio, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, tetanus and any vaccine-preventable disease. This requires all the clubs in the world plus the general public to raise over \$120,000,000 over a five-year period. Our club has pledged to raise \$40,000 to immunize 333,333 children and at the present time have over three-fourths of the funds raised.

The Oregon Rotary Club, in addition to regular donations, is contributing through becoming Paul Harris Fellows. This requires a special payment of \$1,000 either by, for, or in honor of a given member or spouse or friend of the Rotary Foundation. The current Paul Harris Fellows are Howard Ashbaugh, Harry Franklin, Gerald Garard and Arnold Maxwell, all deceased, and Larry Lillie, George Noone, Wilbur Pickering, Forest Gillespie, Fred G. Deuth, Bertha Deuth, Ed McCause, Lillian McCause, Harry Nurmet, Brian Savage, Kim Krahenbuhl, and Robert Moehle. Several other members are working toward their Fellowships by making partial payments, thus becoming sustaining members.

Over the years the club has used many means of raising monies to support the various projects, such as: minstrel shows, travel shows, lemonade stand at the County Fair, pancake breakfasts, raffle of the 4-H Fair prize beef and hog, at Autumn on Parade, and trash and treasure auction sales. Most recently the second Las Vegas Nite was held for the specific purpose of raising funds for the Village of Progress.

Many other activities have been undertaken to raise funds for numerous school and community projects and programs as well as world-wide interests to help promote better understanding and peace between nations.



Schiller Piano Factory Band in front of the Court House. Late 1890 or early 1900.

OGLE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES, INC.

Submitted by Joan Patterson

This Organization came into being as Yellow Bird Senior Citizens, Inc. because the Ministerial Association of Oregon was concerned about a need for a Senior Drop-In Center—a place where seniors could gather and have fellowship. Each minister brought lay people from their respective congregations and met at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Here the planning sessions began. Grants were submitted and the first local financial backing supplied by the Oregon Junior Woman's Club. In June of 1975 the Center opened its doors in the back room behind the Village of Progress Store on 4th Street, and was named The Yellow Bird Center.