

# Creative Family Living



By Dorothy L. Law

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### QUESTION FROM A READER . . .

*My husband insists upon stressing table manners with our children, 3 to 6 years old, to a point at which many a meal is a tearful one for them because of his strictness. He also believes "children should be seen but not heard" and allows very little talking at the dinner table. I do not believe this is necessary, nor do I feel that it creates a healthy experience for the children. Would you discuss this type of problem for us please?*  
Mr. and Mrs. CCK

It is true that our parents as well as our grandparents often enforced the type of agreements described above. Perhaps they found it effective, but I wonder if it may not have created as many problems as it was originally intended to overcome.

Learning to communicate with children is an art in itself. Many people do not put forth the effort to understand the child's contribution to the family dynamics. Children deserve a place in the family circle to share their experiences in everyday living. It is a must if they are to be helped to develop a true social consciousness, and awareness of group responsibility.

Meal time, especially dinner, is often the one meal in today's culture, at which all members of the family are gathered. It is the most logical place for sharing one's day.

This can be a very worthwhile experience for a child. It also is true that children can tend to carry the ball away, so to speak, in conversation, but once again home is the place for them to learn to give others a chance, to listen as well as to contribute. Enforcing silence at meal times creates a great deal of tension, since children, being so physically active, would tend to fidget and wiggle, which may cause more disciplining to be necessary. In all, add over stressing of manners, a few sharp words, tears, and you have the makings of a good case for ulcers, indigestion, dyspepsia, and the like.

Meal time should be a happy time of laughter and pleasant, easy-flowing conversation, with mother and father watching their manners, remembering "pleases" and "thank yous" to one another. If parents set the example for the child by exhibiting courtesy in their everyday life together as well as treating the child with respect and good manners, the child will be receiving the finest lesson in the world.

Children learn what they live. What the parent does is far more important than what he says. Learning table manners can be made into a game at other times than at the table. It also is far better to point out this type of instruction just as the meal is concluding, when good feeling is established, and a pleasant experience is drawing to a close.

I wonder just how successful the most formal dinner party would be if the guests sat around the table in dead silence. I'm sure it would be a most uncomfortable situation for all!



(Herald Photo) BACK TO SCHOOL . . . Miss Carol Armstrong, 16-year-old student at Marymount College, shows off a flaming red frock perfect for classroom wear or a casual date. Dress is among teen-timers to be shown at the Court St. Catherine, Catholic Daughters of America garden party next Thursday afternoon. Women's suit and sport ensemble from The Gay Shop also will be shown.



(Herald Photo) GOTCHA! . . . Richard Derouin, 8 1/2, all dressed up in cowboy regalia, and 4-year-old Andy Rudnick, a regular little "dude" in corduroy jacket and brown slacks, stage a mock shootin' match. The two boys will be among members of the small fry set modeling togs from Guys 'n' Dolls at the annual garden party, to be staged by Court St. Catherine, Catholic Daughters of America, at 1010 Beech Ave. home of Mrs. Laura Felker next Thursday.

## Reveal Models for Court St. Catherine Style Show

Models are busy with last-minute fittings this week as Court St. Catherine, Catholic Daughters of America, completes final plans for its annual garden party, to be held next Thursday afternoon at the 1010 Beech Ave. home of Mrs. Laura Felker.

A dessert luncheon will start off the festivities at 12:30 p.m., then models will take the spotlight with suit and sportswear from Guys 'n' Dolls and The Gay Shop. Appearing in the lineup will be members of the Court, their daughters and sons. Models include Mmes. Charles O'Hara, press chairman, reported, "and the Junior Court will be instituted as soon as organization is completed."

The Court also donated \$10 to Community Chest and heard reports from Mmes. Derouin, program; William Hardesty, ways and means; Frank H. Forester, share the faith; Joseph Turkmany, librarian; N. G. Hayward, sunshine; Thomas Moore, secret pal; Frank West, press book; and Andrew Rabel, telephone.

Study Club will resume meetings next Monday, Sept. 20, at the 3424 Criddlewood St. home of Mrs. Francis J. Cavanagh, Monday night at the parish hall. Also highlighting the session was a vote to sponsor a Junior Court of Catholic Daughters of America.

Membership will be composed of girls from 12 to 18 years of age and Court St. Catherine members will act as counselors. "This work with the youth is regarded by the national organization of CDA as one of the most important phases of its varied program," Mrs. Lyle J. O'Hara, press chairman, reported. "and the Junior Court will be instituted as soon as organization is completed."

# The Social World

## ...for and About Women

Agnes Bolter, Editor



(Herald Photo) AT THE SHIP'S HELM . . . Captain and first crew of the good ship Epsilon Sigma Alpha Juniors who will officially take their posts tomorrow night at an installation-dance at the El Camino College Campus Center are, left to right, Delyna Smith, treasurer; Carol Sue Jackson, secretary; Sara Sue Ward, president; and Jackie Allen, vice-president.



(Herald Photo) CHOOSING DECOR . . . Assisting Miss Joyce Hutchinson, right, social chairman, in choosing the proper motif for tomorrow night's installation dance of the Epsilon Sigma Alpha Juniors are left to right, Cathy Rusch, education chairman; Ann Freas, Jontiqui girl; Betty Rusch, secret sister; and Judy Slater, surprise chairman. Affair will be held at the El Camino College Campus Center and after the ceremonies the girls will don Hawaiian costumes to carry out the island theme. This is the first big social event to be staged by the 'younger set' sorority.

## Council PTA To Instruct In First Aid

A class in First Aid, cosponsored by the Washington Adult School and the Gardena-Wilmington Council PTA, will begin next Tuesday, Sept. 21, for the 17 local parent-teacher associations and all other interested persons.

Sessions will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Community Center, 1651 Market St., Gardena, and will continue for 10 successive weeks. In order to receive a First Aid certificate, the individual must attend all classes, and five members must attend five of the sessions in order to give their PTA parent-education credit.

Mrs. Gwendolyn, a teacher at Washington Adult School, will instruct the course. Child care will be available, according to Mrs. L. C. Rush, parent-education chairman for the Council. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 21, with a sign-up fee of 25 cents. Further information may be obtained by calling the president of each local PTA or the Community Center.

Co-chairmen of the event, Mmes. Laurence Derouin, Gerald Loew, and Leroy Armstrong gave the final report at the regular business meeting held last of Mrs. Francis J. Cavanagh, Monday night at the parish hall. Also highlighting the session was a vote to sponsor a Junior Court of Catholic Daughters of America.

## YW Board Shines Spotlight On Community Chest

Community Chest took the spotlight at the September meeting of the Harbor Area Board of Directors of the YWCA. Mrs. Bert Swearingin, San Pedro Community Chest chairman, reported that Mrs. Andrew Tipich is serving as co-chairman and that already 88 San Pedro women had been recruited from among the YWCA membership.

Mrs. Swearingin stated that the YW will solicit the business area this year. The telephone committee at work recruiting workers included Mmes. George Herman, Howard Hartly, Edith Nelson, Carl Mondrum, Oscar DeJeri, Mitchell Reskusch, Jean Stewart, Wallace Berg, Harold Clayson, Al Fisher, R. E. Kraebel and Miss Frances Dastarac.

Mrs. Harold Larmar, Wilmington YW chairman, reported that the Wilmington YW is in charge of solicitation for one-half of Wilmington. Nell Colburn, Torrance YW Branch chairman, reported that work there is progressing satisfactorily.

According to Mrs. Larry Lightner, camp chairman, 62 girls from the harbor were sent to Camp Tahquitz Meadows for a total of 65 camp weeks. She expressed appreciation for these who contributed camperships so that many deserving girls who otherwise would not have had a camping experience were sent to camp. Marian Futout, teenage coordinator who served as program director at camp during July, told of how the program was used as a goal to help develop girls.

committee, reported on the progress being made on converting the basement of the Headquarters building to rooms suitable for a teen-center.

"This is the year," Mrs. O. R. C. Grow, Centennial Chairman, stated "when we bring our gifts of gratitude and gifts of faith to the YWCA as a climax to the three year Centennial Celebration. We will have an area meeting on Centennial on Friday, September 17, at the Wilmington Community Center.

Mrs. Gerald Griffith, chairman of the adult committee announced the fall classes to start soon and stated that Friday, September 24, will be registration day at the YW for all of those wishing to sign up for the fall term.

The committee to plan the Elector's Assembly was announced, with Mrs. Paul Kornegay, San Pedro Membership chairman, as chairman. Others on the committee are Mrs. Rufus Sandstrom, Torrance Membership Committee chairman; Mrs. E. G. Croom, Wilmington Membership Committee chairman; and Mrs. Louis Ladra and Mrs. Griffith.



ENTERTAINERS . . . Among those to feature new songs when the Vel-de-Nez Music and Record Club meets tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock at the Redondo Beach Community Hall are, left to right, Penny Chill, vocalist of Torrance; Mickey Turner, vocalist and accordionist; Pim Haeblerin, vocalist of Hermosa Beach; Irene Hollinsworth, guitarist and vocal artist of Torrance; Jack Cravens, pianist and singer; Mary Lou Gelasco, dancer; Coleen English, dancer and songstress; and Verna Flynn, club accompanist and vocalist.

### SET SUNDAY PICNIC

A "whoop-de-doo" picnic is on the fun agenda for the Gardena Valley Jewish Center next Sunday, Sept. 19, at Torrance Park, according to the transportation chairman, Mary Fein.

Food will be furnished by the committee and games for adults, plus special races and contests for children, will round out the afternoon.

### Local YWCA Director Attends Asilomas Meet

Fifty-eight women, including Mrs. Joseph (Charlotte) Lukes, executive director of the Torrance YW and YW; and improvement branch, added up 400 years of YWCA work among members when they attended a conference at Asilomas last month.

Among highlights of the session were workshops on new units of YW work geared to the modern, fast-growing community; creative relations between the YM and YW; and improvement of professional relationships within the staff.

## Vel-de-Nez Club to Hold Autumn Rally

After a month's vacation members and friends of the Vel-de-Nez music and record exploitation club will rally again to begin the fall program with a group of talented entertainers and song writers tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock at the Redondo Beach Community Hall.

Members will parade their songs before the board "Panel of Review" judges, who are chosen from among the group present. Winning song of the first contest is now accepted for publication and recording contacts are now being made.

This number, "Is There a Way" is fast becoming a favorite with bands, orchestras, and dancers about the country, according to the president, Mrs. Inez Brumbelev.

Janet and Darryl Lister of Loma Linda, yodeling team with many radio shows behind them, will be one of the special attractions at the meet. Other attractions will be Ruth and Roger McAllister, recording artists and entertainers of Los Angeles and P. A. Orchestra lead of Lynwood, Larry Anderson, who has featured the number one song for several weeks at the Officers Club in San Pedro.

## Glen Ranch Honeymoon Claims Irwin Kastens

Honeymooning at Glen Ranch today following their wedding at the First Lutheran Church Tuesday evening are the former Miss Jeanne Whitten and her husband, Irwin E. Kastens.

The pair expect to return after a week to make a home at 1870 W. 218th St. The Rev. Paul Wenske officiated at the 8 o'clock rites, for which the altar was adorned with large baskets of white flowers and white candelabra.

The bride, who makes her home with her mother and stepfather, the Mark McIvaines of No. 5, CCMO Lease, was escorted down the aisle by her father Harry G. Whitten, who is affiliated with the Union Oil Co., merchant marine division.

Her gown, fashioned of traditional white lace, formed three tiers over a hooped petticoat, and she carried white orchids surrounded by stephanotis en bouquet. Her maid of honor, Miss Joan Stephens, wore a pink and cerise nylon net gown with matching nose-gay.

Four bridesmaids, Claudia Smith of Calton, Cal.; Ann Stephens, Marca Wright, and Susie Benard, also were gowned in pink and carried matching nose-gays. Nylon tulle hats in the same color complemented their costumes.

Little Margie Anne Coleman, frocked in pink organdy, scattered flower petals in the pathway of the bride. Bearing the ring was Stephen Jones, while serving as best man was the brother of the groom, Don Kastens. William Altman, Nick Zortovich, John Mitchell, and

William Johnson took ushers' posts.

Two traditional solos, "Because" and "Through the Years," offered by Miss Janet Williamson to organ accompaniment played by Miss Katherine Mills, set the wedding mood. At the post-nuptial reception, Miss Lois Fitzgerald-registered guests.

For the occasion, the bride's mother chose a champagne satin frock, matching shoes, and a velvet hat. A brown orchid corsage gave the final touch of restrained elegance to her costume. Powder blue silk with white accessories and a pink orchid corsage formed Mrs. Kastens' attire.

Taking posts of honor at the festivities were Misses Anne Steinbaugh and Charlene Grace and Mrs. M. B. Dalaba, sister-in-law of the groom.

The new Mrs. Kastens is a '53 graduate of Torrance High School. She attended Whittier College for one year and works in the office of Dr. Stanley Chais.

A football star at Torrance High School when he graduated in 1951, Kastens is following this sport as a junior at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles.