



I AM AN AMERICAN

Little Jeanette Bruckner, two years old, at the left, represents the fourth generation in this local family and is the only one who can say "I Am an American." Jeanette was born at the Little Company of Mary Hospital. She is pictured here with her mother, Mrs. Helga Bruckner, 23, her grandmother,

Mrs. Annemarie Heinermann, 43, and her great-grandmother, Mrs. Anna Haller, 65, who leaves soon to return to her home in West Germany. Jeanette's parents are now studying to become American citizens. (Press-Herald Photo)



MOTHER-DAUGHTER FASHIONS

Fashions, music and refreshments will provide a delightful afternoon next Saturday when the Women's Society of Christian Service, Riviera Methodist Church, presents its Country Gardens fashion tea for mothers and daughters. Anticipating the event are, from left, Mrs. James E. Davoli, chairman of the fashion show, and her daughter, Patty 2½ years, Anne Peak, also 2½, and her mother, Mrs. Fred Peak, who is on the tea committee. Tickets may be obtained by calling Mrs. Kenneth Wood.

(Press-Herald Photo)

## Future Brides

### Rogers - Ries

An August wedding is being planned by Miss Carol Ann Rogers and Roger Lee Ries.

The announcement of their daughter's engagement and wedding plans is made today by Mr. and Mrs. Tone Rogers of Norco, Calif., formerly of Torrance.

The bride-elect was graduated from North High School in 1965 and is presently attending Gladys Morgan's Cosmetology School in Torrance.

Mr. Ries, son of Mrs. Vera Ries of Torrance, is a 1963 graduate of North High School. He is now serving in the United States Air Force stationed at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

CAROL ROGERS

### Robinson - Venti

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Robinson, 4509 Greenmeadows, Torrance, announce the engagement of their daughter, Jan, to Mike Venti, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Venti of San Gabriel.

The bride-elect, a South High graduate, attended Whittier College. She is employed by Hughes Aircraft.

Her fiance, a graduate of San Gabriel High School, is employed by Ralph's Co. in San Marino.



### Fiestadores Relive

## 'Roaring 20s' Era

Las Fiestadores Dance Club staged a "Roaring Twenties" party as its April event.

On the committee were Messrs. and Mmes. Jack Brooks, Don Moyer, Rod Norris, Bob Tolson and Tommy Wilkes. The cocktail party was held at the Rod Norris home after which guests traveled to the Wayfarers' Restaurant for dancing.

Attired in costumes of the "roaring era," guests competed in dance and costume contests.

Attending were Messrs.

### She's a Charming Two Year Old

## Four Generations-One U.S. Citizen

By JERRY REYNOLDS  
Press-Herald Staff Writer

Jeanette Sonja Bruckner is an unusual little girl.

Happy, active Jeanette—at 2 years of age—can speak two languages and is the only American citizen in a family which spans four generations.

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Jeanette, the daughter of Ernst and Helga Bruckner of 23007 Fonthill Ave., speaks German and English, both learned at the knees of a trio of teachers.

But Jeanette will soon say goodbye to her favorite teacher, great-grandmother Anna Haller. Mrs. Haller, who has been visiting her family for the past two years, is leaving May 12 for Mutterstadt, West Germany.

While in the United States, however, Mrs. Haller has presided over the Bruckner household, which includes her daughter, Mrs. Annemarie Heinermann, now 43, and her granddaughter, Helga, now 23, and little Jeanette—in addition to a couple of men.

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Their story began 65 years ago in Yugoslavia, where Mrs. Haller was born. Since then, it's been a story of war, of concentration camps, of flight, and finally, a quiet, peaceful life in the United States.

"It would take three days to tell about our life," Mrs. Heinermann said. But, briefly, this is it.

Mrs. Heinermann was born in Romania, where she and her husband, Michael, welcomed Helga, their only child, in 1943. A year later, she would hear of her mother being placed in one of Marshal Tito's camps in Yugoslavia, and a few months later, she would be interned in a Russian camp in Rumania.

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Those days are painful memories for

the family, days they don't like to think about. And there's a little bitterness.

"Americans don't like to hear of how Tito killed 500,000 Germans," Mrs. Heinermann said, recalling the days immediately after World War II. The Heinermanns fled from Rumania in late 1945 and made their way to Austria, where, after 10 years, they secured permits and came to the United States.

Mrs. Haller, released from Tito's camp in May, 1947, made her way to West Germany, where a second daughter and her family now live.

After a few months in the east, the Heinermann family made its way to Los Angeles, and in 1960 moved to Torrance.

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In 1958, Helga, then 16, met her husband, Ernst at a 16th birthday party for a girl friend. They were married Aug. 4, 1962. Bruckner, who was born in Germany, left that country for Canada in 1956 and came to California in 1958. He has since served two years in the United States Army and he and Helga have applied for American citizenship.

Jeanette, born at Little Company of Mary Hospital, is a citizen; a singular distinction in her family, at least until her parents acquire their naturalization papers.

The Bruckners went to Germany in 1963 "to meet the in-laws," Helga explained. Asked how she likes the United States, she quickly replied, "We came back."

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Now it's Mrs. Haller's turn to go back—home to another daughter and great-granddaughter in West Germany. She hopes, however, to return to visit the Bruckner family again.

But Jeanette's bilingual education should not be interrupted. Grandmother and Grandfather Heinerman will still be here, as will mom and pop.



COLORFUL CONVENTION ATTIRE

Ponchos of bright floral prints and matching shoes will be worn by Jaycettes as they join their husbands, the Jaycees, for the state convention in Palm Springs this weekend. Mrs. R. Davis, left, Jaycette president, is modeling a completed poncho, while Mrs. W. F. Faulds, at the machine, is making her attire. Mrs. R. Grippo, a convention delegate, is getting the finishing touches on her costume from Mrs. M. Zappitelli. Three days of activities will be concluded with the President's Ball Saturday evening.

(Press-Herald Photo)

## All Eyes Will Be On Torrance

### At Jaycee Convention

When the Jaycees and their wives, the Jaycettes, from over the state of California converge on Palm Springs Thursday for the annual State Convention of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Torrance will be well represented by a huge, enthusiastic delegation.

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In the group will be 20 Torrance Jaycettes outfitted in brightly colored "Ponchos" trimmed with tassel fringe. Their shoes will also be of the brightly colored floral print. The young matrons will wear the costumes to all convention functions, to prove that Torrance turned out in full force.

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On Thursday, the opening day of the convention, the group will attend get-acquainted coffee and parties. On Friday, May 6, they will participate in a three-hour homes tour visiting luxurious Palm Springs Estates.

The special event on Fri-

day will be the dinner, with their husbands, at the Mediterranean room.

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On Saturday, May 7, the Jaycettes will be entertained at a Fashion Show and Luncheon at the El Mirador Hotel's Starlight Room. Eagerly anticipated is the "Tour of Gold" set for 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday afternoon when the visitors to Palm Springs tour the unique shops at the resort.

Climaxing the three days of exciting activities, will be the brilliant President's Ball on Saturday evening.

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Jaycees and Jaycettes making the trip to the spa will be Messrs. and Mmes. Douglas Hedde, R. Davis, H. Smith, H. Lindborg, J. Clau-son, W. Faulds, R. Grippo, R. Long, M. Zappitelli, J. Hussey, R. Peterson, D. Morris, G. Saran, R. Spaan, R. Morris, L. Taylor, R. Gran-ger, W. Morris, F. Bolander and S. Batelle.