

Coffee Break

By Adeline Daley

"Look, there's nothing to be nervous about," I told myself, biting my tongue and clenching my fists. "So what if there are 200 people in the audience? This isn't the first time I've faced this situation."

Now there was no turning back — the house-lights dimmed, the red velvet curtains parted and the play in which my son, Brian, was appearing had begun.

I sat immobile. "I know," I repeated, "I know just the kid's going to forget his lines, or fall flat on his face." But, of course, none of these disasters occurred. They never do, only in the minds of parents, who, in our case, are always more nervous than our kids who are appearing on stage.

You'd think by now that I'd have gotten over "stage fright" — from this side of the footlights — but I get butterflies in my stomach, being in the audience at spelling bees, Christmas programs and rope-tying exhibitions of the Cub Scouts, no matter how often I've seen my kids perform in the limelight.

I have been known to pace up and down before gym programs, asking, "Now are you SURE you know your part? This is something not to be taken lightly."

"Yes, Mom, all I do is three somersaults and a head-stand along with 30 other kids."

The most agonizing part about our kids participating in these events, however, is that they always seem to be one of the last to appear on stage, to keep up your suspense.

It seemed I died a thousand deaths the other night, anticipating Brian's appearance in the role of the Sheriff.

"Hark, I hear hoofbeats, could it be our friend, the Sheriff?" someone would ask. But it was never the Sheriff.

"For God's sake! Somebody send for the sheriff," I wanted to get up and shout.

But I don't think my husband is any more composed, for I have seen him pat one of our children on the shoulder in the manner of a Warner Baxter on the late, late movie on TV, offering encouragement backstage to Ruby Keeler: "This is it, kid. The moment you've been waiting for all your life. Give it your all!"

All this for a Bluebird "Salute to the Flag" ceremony at a PTA meeting?

Preceptor Party Opens Rush Season

Alpha Chi District Meet Slated

Preceptor Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi will entertain members and guests with a "Krazy Hat Party" tomorrow evening at 8 p.m. in the home of their president, Mrs. Blanche McCallum, 3843 W. 173rd St., Torrance.

Invitations for the informal rush party have been sent to prospective members who are eligible for the Preceptor Degree and at present are members of Xi Alpha Nu, Xi Theta Xi, Xi Zeta Lambda Exemplar chapters in the South Bay area.

Prizes will be awarded to the member or guest wearing the most original or outlandish creation.

Members of Preceptor Alpha Beta, who will attend are: Mmes. Harold Collins, Andrew Foster, Robert Marble, Eugene Olson, Sidney Lamberger, Dominick Nardelli, Gardena; Robert Nickelson, Palos Verdes Estates; Louis Below, Inglewood; Lester Mayfield and John Wise, Lawndale; Raymond Millhouse and Frances Nichols, Hawthorne; Miss Martha Oehlerking, Torrance and Mrs. McCallum.

"Fraternity Lamplighters for the Future" will be the theme of the Fourth Province - District XIX Alpha Chi Omega Alumnae meeting to be held March 3 and 4 at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Barbara.

Collegiate and alumnae from Arizona, Southern California and Hawaii will meet for the purpose of electing a province president and a district alumnae chairman. This meeting, held on the alternate year from the national convention, also provides general education on fraternity matters.

Special guests at the district conclave will include Mrs. Margery Warner, Dean of Women, San Diego State College; Mrs. Charles Crawford, National Altruistic Director, and Mrs. Thomas Lowe, Area Financial Advisor.

Delegates from the Alpha Chi Omega South Bay Alumnae Club will be Mrs. Dale Vandenberg, president, and Mrs. John Thayer, corresponding secretary.

Delegates Will Report to WSWS

Camp Fire Girls Donate Cakes

Monthly meeting of WSWS of Central Evangelical United Brethren Church will be held Tuesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Joan Huber, Elvia Scoville, Margaret Good, delegates to the WSWS convention at Mission Springs will report.

WaKaTa Camp Fire Girls baked seven cakes to be donated to Juvenile Hall for the birthday celebration of the children at the Hall.

The cakes were donated through the Arnold School PTA. Mrs. William C. Fisher is guardian of the Camp Fire Girls and Mrs. Joe Crabtree is assistant guardian.

Annual Marina Flower Show Slated Saturday

Annual flower show and tea of Marina District 18 of the California Federation of Women's Clubs will be held at the Inglewood Woman's Club, 325 N. Hillcrest Blvd., corner of Florence and Hillcrest, Inglewood, on Saturday, March 4.

"Through the Garden Gate" is the theme chosen for the 1967 show, which will feature floral arrangements, specimen blooms, and potted plants grown by green thumbs of 27 women's clubs in the Centinela-South Bay area. On exhibit, also, will be table settings, miniature arrangements, and a special section from children. Prizes galore will be offered visitors, and specimen plants from club members will be on sale at the plant booth.

Show chairmen are Mrs. Frank Robinson, Marina District gardens chairman, and Miss Dorothy Stoll, Marina District vice chairman of

Zetas Hear Program On 'Very Great'

"The Very Great," based on historical and religious leaders, was the program presented by Mrs. Mark Hulse, at the meeting of the Xi Zeta Lambda Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi Monday evening.

Mrs. Les Teers was hostess in her Lawndale home with Mrs. William Guthonsen, president, in charge.

A report on the tricycle and paper cups to be presented to the Garden Valley Mentally Retarded Association was given by Mrs. Clyde Turville, service chairman.

Members of Xi Zeta Lambda honored their sorority sister, Mrs. Phillip Chowning, Coronation Ball Queen, South Bay Area Council, with a special toast at a Valentine Dinner Party at the Guthonsen home in Lawndale.

Mrs. Bert Whited of Gardena has arranged a special Civil Defense program to be presented to the chapter in March.

Long range plans for a fireworks stand, to be sponsored by Xi Zeta Lambda in July, will be outlined by Mrs. C. Turner of Hollywood Riviera, ways and means chairman.

Square Dance Club Slates Family Night

Thursday night has been established as Family Fun Night by the Swing'n Whirl Dance Club.

On Thursday evening, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., pre-teens, from 7 to 13 years of age, are taught to square dance and from 8:30 until 10:30 mom and dad take over.

A new class of beginners has been scheduled to begin Thursday evening, March 2.

The dance classes are held at Chuck n' Walt's Dance Studio, 1953 1/2 W. Carson. The classes will be open for registration until March 9.

The studio is equipped with 3,500 square feet of hardwood floor and one of the best sound systems in the Harbor area.

gardens; Mrs. A. E. Glad, district president.

Three authorities from the garden world will act as judges for the entries in horticulture and floral arrangements, Mmes. Maria Wilkas, Rose Bluth and Jessie Black.

The show will open its doors to the public from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tea will be served from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Acamporas To Live In Rome, Italy

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Acampora and sons, Martin 10, and John 14, who lived in Torrance for about nine years prior to moving to Eastview, will leave soon to make their home in Rome, Italy, for three years.

Douglas Aircraft Co has named Mr. Acampora as their Rome representative to Italian Airlines, who recently purchased DC8s and DC9s from Douglas. He will be headquartered in Rome with the Italian Airlines.

The Acampora family moved to Torrance 11 years ago. Mrs. Acampora, an active member of the Torrance Woman's Club, served as its president in 1964-65. She is also a member of the Zeta Phi Zeta Delphian Chapter.

Tentative departure plans are for late March.

Next Saturday evening, Mr. and Mrs. David Mathews of Torrance will entertain at a farewell party honoring the Acamporas.

Guild Slates Pre-Easter Hat Sale

Guild 9 of St. Lawrence Martyr Parish will sponsor a Pre-Easter Hat Sale on Saturday, March 11 at the St. Lawrence Martyr Parish Hall, 1960 S. Prospect, Redondo Beach from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. All hats are the latest styles and are being furnished by a local hat store.

The public is invited and tickets will be available at the door. Dessert and coffee will be served.

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