

Dreamhouse Quest

I was down at the station early in the morning picking up my wife who was returning from a 3-day weekend at her Sister's in Seattle. We embraced. Absence keeps the marriage on track. We hung a right on 5th, and then out Charnelton en route home. Something was up. I started counting sheep jumping over a white picket fence backwards like a film in re-wind. This is my usual way to keep myself from blurting out a hundred nervous questions when I feel someone is preparing to lay an oppressive trip on my delicate consciousness. Your focus is on their short tails coming at you. It works great.

"Joan and Peter have bought a beautiful modern house on Lake Washington. Nice built-ins. Blue wall-to-wall carpeting. Brick fireplace. 2½ baths. View of the Lake—sailboats."

This had a familiar ring to it. 67, 68, ah! One with a black tail.

"David, do you remember how re-assured we felt when the realtor kept repeating that we were purchasing 'a starter home'?"

"You know, sweetheart, memory is not my strongest point; and that was back in 1971."

"Yes, my true love; you have hit on my point precisely. 14 years in 'a starter home'."

The next sheep—a big curly-wooled ram—landed on top of the fence; and began to squirm. That was the last one I saw. Only thuds were audible as their butts struck the other side of the fence below my vision.

"Wouldn't it be awfully difficult for the children to adjust to another house?" I suggested.

"On the contrary. It's time Annette had her own room. She's getting to be a young woman, in case you haven't noticed."

As Fate would have it, the smog over my memory began to dissipate. April, 1971. "Starter home." \$17,000. \$2500 down. Owner will carry contract at 8%. Over 800 sq. ft., all usable. At the time the gloss of owning our own home smoothly covered certain undesirable qualities of the small house. We thought in a year or two we'd move to something a little more up and up. And here we are in 1985, seemingly, only a blink from when we moved in.

"Well," I said, "I think we should approach the children cautiously. It's the only home they've ever known."

"You're the one who's attached, David. They'll be tickled to move. You'll see."

In 16 years of marriage I've only been right four times; so I might as well assume Julie's right again. Besides it's a little Un-American not to be in debt.

After dinner I called Annette and Sharon (we named them after our two favorite Mouseketeers) into the modest, cramped kitchen, our habitual room for family meetings.

"Girls," I eased out onto the ice, "Your Mother and I have something to discuss with you. A rather serious matter." I could feel my eyebrows raise.

"Are you guys going to get divorced?" asked Sharon excitedly.

"Grandpa died and Nanny is going to move in with us?"

"You both got fired?"

"You got caught smuggling coke into Oregon and they're going to put you in the slammer for 20 years?"

"You guys finally slept together again and we're going to have a wee brother or sister?"

I looked over at Julie who had her hand over her mouth. Perhaps the children were more sophisticated than I gave them credit for.

"We are considering a move to another location. . . ."

"Oh, excellent! Let's move to Hawaii!"

"Can we get Cable too? I feel so out of it at school."

"What's for dessert?"

When I returned from work the next day, Julie had the Register-Guard Real Estate section spread on the living room floor with red circles and cryptic messages scrawled in the margins.

"Darling," she said, "the good news is that our one-time 'starter home' from 1971 is still a 'starter home'; only now 'starter homes' start around \$29,000. We have full equity in it, can take a loan against it. In a nutshell, we're rich!"

"And?" I questioned, on about the 9th step of the gallows.

"There's a really cute house in a quiet neighborhood, with a lawn in the back, 1200 sq. ft., hardwood floors, kitchen nook in the South Hills for \$67,500 at 11¼%. Also, if we're careful to finance it through FHA, the seller will carry the points."

"Oh, good. Points."

Where we used to go hiking and have picnics together as a family on weekends, we are now actively engaged in "Dreamhouse Quest." Daytime serial filled with copious meetings with strange gray-haired men and sultry women from one of the 187 Real Estate offices. We carefully outline our desires to each, and we (either alone or together) meet at some clandestine coffee house and map out the joy route we will embark upon after one more refill.

It's the third month now of our Quest. I try. All reservations have passed. I accept my destiny. Be it a \$50,000 or \$100,000 mortgage. Where would we be without an occasional needle in our soft backsides? After all, no pain, no gain. I can now recognize a realtor's car from three blocks away. As it approaches I begin to drift into a mild delirium, similar to what I feel in the dentist's chair, 10 minutes post-novocaine. I appreciate my job more each week. Whereas I once looked forward to a two-day respite from work, I now see five glorious holidays beginning each Monday. I realized I had become complacent in my life; too content and relatively free from worry. I've begun to smoke anew. Without filters. Sometimes we force Sharon and Annette to accompany us in our weekend treasure hunt. It's their future we have in mind. And I for one want them to appreciate what my Mother taught me: to live is to suffer.

CLASSIFIEDS

ARTS/CRAFTS

Develop your fine arts & crafts into your business with very low overhead. Call Saturday Market at 686-8885 for information.



PARADE - STREET FAIR - ENTERTAINMENT -

Booth Space Available
• Crafts • Commercial
• Antiques • Food
741-4523

Springfield Downtown Association

SATURDAY, MAY 11

AUTO

Phil's Auto Service

\$19.95 Tune-Ups
most 4 cylinders
General Mechanics \$12/hr.
free estimates
683-6501

HARRY'S AUTO REPAIR

Backyard Prices
Free Estimates
10 Years Experience
485-6296

COUNTRY COOPERATIVE GARAGE

EST 1973

Care & Repair of

TOYOTA • DATSUN
VOLKSWAGEN • SUBARU
AND OTHERS

WORKER OWNED FEMINIST COLLECTIVE

683-3780
3144 W. 11th, Eugene

CERTIFIED GUARANTEED WORK

BUSINESS

Photo enlargements (with clipping): 5x7—89¢, 8x10—\$1.99. 8x10 photo posters—\$6.99. PAGE'S (behind 5th St. Public Market), 484-7243.

40% discount on most color film processing (with clipping). PAGE'S (behind 5th St. Public Market), 484-7243.

COUNSELING

COUNSELING—TUTORING

Adlerian-Dreikursian Counseling: Individuals, Couples, Families. Academic Tutoring. Plan now for your child's summer tutoring program. Steve Katz, MS, M.Ed., Oregon Certified K-9, Pearl St. Counseling Services, 345-4278.

LEGAL OPTIONS—Attorney and Counselor at Law. Sliding scale, campus office. Phone for Barry, 343-3656.

Dance Therapy. Groups now forming. 6 sessions, 2-hr. session, \$85.00.



Emmy Bramble
R.N., M.A.

IN-DEPTH COUNSELING
Jungian Oriented

Eugene, Oregon - 344-4114

Learn the secrets to employment success. Affordable. Rewarding. Effective. Employment counseling and training. The Agency, 343-7242.

COUPLES, FAMILIES, STEPFAMILIES
Competent counseling at reasonable prices. Put aside past discouragements; learn to interact cooperatively in the present. Donna Taggart, MS, NCC, Pearl St. Counseling Services, 345-4278.

DYNAMIC, EFFECTIVE THERAPIST
Eleven years serving Eugene. Well trained, highly experienced, helping individuals and couples successfully overcome life stresses and make lasting changes. Gypsy Frankel-Podolsky, MSW, 485-1449.

Would you like to uncover the beliefs and attitudes with which you're creating your reality? I've trained in the Option Process with Barry Neil Kaufman and am interested in working with people familiar with his work who want to explore themselves through Option dialogues. Karen Payne, 343-7837.

Nurture and love your body. Solve eating problems with caring and expert counseling for overweight, compulsive eating, bulimia, anorexia. Barbara Weinstein, MS, 344-7696.

MITZI LINN—PSYCHIC COUNSELOR/HEALER
Spring tune in special—1 hour reading, \$15.00. Painless polarity treatments, past life regressions: 345-0233.

FOR RENT

Beach cabin for rent. Completely remodeled and rebuilt. Clean, quiet, comfortable; sleeps ten. Reasonable rates. 344-6918.

FOR SALE

SUNNY DAYS

Bakery, equipment and retail accounts. Takes small investment and 4 people. Will train. P.O. Box 11583, Eugene 97440, 344-3589.

Toshiba Tape Deck with Dolby B & C and leather touch controls. New \$325. Two years old: \$125 or best offer. Also Pioneer turntable, \$75. 746-5189.

GROW LIGHTS

Lowest Prices Anywhere
Indoor Growing Supplies
Top Quality
ALL UNITS GUARANTEED
20 years experience in Grow Lights
Serving Indoor Growers Since 1978
Call Anytime
998-3218

LEARN THE STARS!

Accurate and beautiful star map glows in the dark! Each deep blue poster comes with a separate guide to the stars and covers the skies over the U.S. Total cost is \$7. To get one, call Larry Deckman at 343-7166 or come by 2406 Lawrence St. in Eugene.

HEALTH/FITNESS

Experience Rebirthing! Heal, awaken, vitalize, pleasure yourself through conscious breathing. Affordable rates. Richard, 344-7604, 342-5472.

HERBALIST 17 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Herbal consultations: personal \$20 per hr. Educational or commercial: \$50 per hr. Custom formulations. Product development. Largest stock of wild and organically grown tinctures and extracts on the West Coast. John Mancinelli, C.H. For appointment call 484-1932.

WORK YOUR BUNS OFF!

A high energy aerobics class for men and women who aren't afraid to sweat. Drop in anytime. First class free. WOW Hall, 8th & Lincoln, M-Thurs 5:30-6:30 pm; Sat 10-11 am. Robyn Barzilay, 343-0000.

Amazon Kung Fu classes for women start May 7. Sliding scale—for information call 345-6490.

If you have recurring back, neck or shoulder pain, read this...

HARWYLER BACK THERAPY is an effective blend of deep tissue release and stretching, which lengthens chronically contracted muscles and allows the space needed for normal placement of bones and organs.

Imagine trying to fit a tent pole (spine) in a shrunken (contracted) tent (body).

For an appointment call

Jake Harris, LMT 687-2650

Hours 2-10 Tues. thru Fri.

KEN ROWLETT

Certified Yoga Instructor

• CLASSES

• INDIVIDUAL

345-4388

Almost Too Good to be True

• HALF-HOUR TUB/
HALF-HOUR RUB—\$12
• DEEP TISSUE
BODY THERAPY \$20

Harwyler Center
687-2650

HELP WANTED

Dynamic, self-motivated advertising salesperson wanted for established, progressive, artistic publication. Stipend plus commission. Send resume and qualifications before May 6 to PO Box 95, Eugene, OR 97440.

THE EUGENE FAMILY YMCA
is looking for people to work in Child Care for a Membership Trade. 6 hours for a 1-year membership—4 hours for a single membership. For more information, call Ginny: 686-YMCA.

INSTRUCTION

OPEN-HEART THEATRE WITH D.K. TAYLOR
Classes include meditation, movement and theatre-of-the-moment. 6 week course. Thursdays, 6-8 pm, May 2-June 6, \$60. Call 688-1251 for registration and information.

WORKSHOPS

BREATH THERAPY WORKSHOPS

Group Rebirthings: Sat, April 27, 1-4 pm. Thursday, May 2, 7-10 pm. Each \$20. Nina Cherry, LMT, 485-8090.

CAREER PLANNING WORKSHOP

Five consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning 6 May. Free introduction, 7-8 pm, 6 May. Sponsored by Eugene Center for Healing Arts, 1094 Monroe. Phone 686-3313 to register. Led by Dr. Paul Frishkoff.



Rolfing

free
evaluation

JON CARROLL
KAREN LACKRITZ
Certified Rolfers
(503) 683-3689

SAVE \$10.00

on one
month's
service*

SPRING CLEANING?
OPTIONS
345-9174

*with minimum
purchase of 15 hours
CLIP and SAVE

Announcing an additional work location

Nina Cherry, licensed
485-8090

massage!

and
Hakomi Bodywork



Focus your personal
inner strength on
getting what you want
out of life. . .

- lose weight
- stop smoking
- manage stress
- create new directions

Call or write for free brochure.

You have the power, I have the tools!

1257 High St. Suite 7, Eugene, OR 97401 484-1969