

Retiree lives alone and likes it



FRANK AUMEND relaxes with best pal, Mr. Jones, in his backyard. The Sandy River is in background.

(Post Photo)

Foster homes needed immediately in area

An urgent need for foster and shelter care homes for children exists in Clackamas, Multnomah, Columbia and Washington Counties, according to Mary Brinkhoff, Coordinator of the Foster Parents Association.

The association is cooperating with the state's Children's Services Division in an effort to find 1,000 homes in the four-county area immediately.

About 900 homes are needed in Multnomah County and about 50 homes are needed in Clackamas County. Washington County is seeking 50 and Columbia County will require about 40. Even if the 1,000 homes should materialize overnight, an additional 70 homes would be needed each month simply to stay even with the board.

The foster home crisis is not unique simply to Oregon's metropolitan area, nor even to Oregon. Mrs. Brinkhoff pointed out, citing similar drives by other communities elsewhere to find homes for youngsters.

What's the difference between a foster home and shelter home? The foster home provides long term care (months to years) while the shelter home care is short term

(hours to a maximum of 60 days).

The state pays for this care on the following scales: to age six, \$70 per month per child; age 6-12, \$85 per month per child; teenagers, \$105 per month per child. Medical and dental care also is furnished.

It costs \$1,260 a year to care for a teenager in a foster home, but it costs more than \$10,000 per year to care for the same child in an institution, ac-

cording to the association.

Foster parents must be 21 years of age and, ideally, should not be more than 60. Foster parents may have children of their own in the home. A few single persons have also qualified as foster parents recently.

For additional information, write the Foster Parents Association, 718 W. Burnside St., Portland, Ore., 97209 or telephone 226-1659.

PSU offers special gymnastics program

A special Saturday gymnastics program will be offered at Portland State University with registration beginning March 31 at 10 a.m. in the PSU gym.

The program offers lessons for both beginners and advanced students under the

Ash returns to homeport

Navy Petty Officer First Class John A. Ash, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob M. Ash of 120 S. Tupper Road, Sandy, has returned to his homeport at the Naval Weapons Station, Concord, Calif., after an 11 month deployment in the Western Pacific aboard the ammunition ship, USS Hout Katmai.

He is a 1958 graduate of Exeter Union High School, Exeter, Calif.

guidance of Randy Carruthers, PSU gymnastics coach, and members of his varsity gymnastics team.

Lessons for students age 13 and over are from 9 to 11 a.m., and for those under 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the PSU Health and Physical Education Building, SW 10th and Hall streets.

Fee for the nine-week session is \$20 per student. Students must supply their own clothing and towel.

For further details contact Carruthers through the PSU Physical Education Department, 229-4401.

OBITUARIES

Milton Suckow

Funeral services for Milton Suckow were held Tuesday March 20, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Sandy.

Suckow was born on January 28, 1911 in Sandy, Oregon. He was raised in the Sandy area, attended Sandy Ridge School and was graduated from Sandy High School.

After finishing his education, he continued living in the Sandy area. In 1934 he married June Gantenbein. The couple made their home near Sandy where Suckow farmed and logged.

In the mid 1940's, they moved to central Oregon to farm. From 1952 until 1969, they lived in Washington and then moved to Boise, Idaho to live.

Suckow, 62, died on March 15 in Boise.

He is survived by his wife, June Suckow of Boise; four sons: Fred Suckow, North Bend, Oregon; Curtis Suckow, Washington; David Suckow, Thailand; and James Suckow, Georgia; one daughter: Judith Worrell of Washington; one brother: Richard Suckow of Sandy; and 14 grandchildren.

Interment was at Sandy Ridge Cemetery. Sandy Funeral Home was in charge of services.

Memorials may be made to the Heart Fund.

"I want to do as much for myself as the good Lord will let me," exclaimed Frank Aumend. "Anything I can do, I do!"

And he does. Aumend, who owns his own home on the Sandy River, is an independent bachelor. Besides keeping house for himself, his activities might include gardening, carpentry work, or making popcorn "for the birds."

Aumend recently installed a new sun roof over his porch, and is proud of his handiwork. But he cannot survey the results himself. Because of a crippled back, he is unable to lift his head to look up. His spine is fused into a permanently stooped position.

"I can't reach too well, but I can handle anything in front of me. I'm still agile. I move furniture, and cut down trees," declared Aumend.

He is especially proud of his house, which he designed and had built on property which had been in the family since 1946.

"Did you notice that the counters and plug-ins are lower than usual, in order to accommodate me?"

His many visitors are more apt to notice how orderly Aumend keeps his cottage.

"The way I clean house, I don't break my neck. I'm a picker-upper. 'It's like painting a bridge; I just keep on going.'"

That Aumend's house looks "ship-shape" is no coincidence. His 36 years working on Portland's waterfronts has left him with an abiding interest in ships. This is reflected in the interior of his home, like that of a ship's cabin, and in his hobby of building model boats.

"I started out in 1933, when there were no unions. I had one of the better jobs-paid 85 cents an hour-at the American Hawaiian Steamship Company. Some companies paid only 50 cents."

Aumend eventually joined the union, the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union. He held a variety of jobs, including that of cargo checker, dispatcher, and supervisor. He spent 12 years, serving as secretary-dispatcher at the union hall.

"I still get together with my buddies from the union. In this picture of us retired guys from the local chapter," Aumend pointed out, "I'm the youngest one there. That's because I started out younger than anyone else."

An orphan soon after birth, Aumend is not certain of his birthplace or birthdate. He thinks he was born about May 10, 1909, in San Jose. At an early age, he was taken out of the orphanage.

"Mother took me on approval, without adoption. I guess she decided to keep me."

Aumend attended school in Portland, but was a "grammar-school dropout" at the age of 15, when he went to work in a box factory.

"My education is nil-I don't have it. What I've learned, I've learned from life."

Used to working hard in the past, sometimes 30 days without a day off, Aumend likes to keep active in his retirement. He adheres to a regular schedule each day.

"I never get up till nine o'clock in the morning, and I never answer the phone till then. Every night, I go to bed at eleven, and watch Johnny Carson."

In between, Aumend is just as punctual about daily errands. Clerks at the Sandy Post Office, and the Sandy Rexall Drug can almost set their clocks by him. Every afternoon, he drives up Meining hill to the post office to pick up his mail, then stops at the drug store for coffee, and an ice cream cone for "Mr. Jones," who always accompanies him on his rounds.

"I get vanilla only for Jones," says Aumend of his particular friend.

Who is Mr. Jones?

Hearing set for tonight

Rep. Ed Lindquist, chairman of a special sub-committee of the House Local Government and Urban Affairs Committee has announced that a public hearing on HB 2320 will be held at Clackamas Community College tonight at 7 p.m.

The bill relates to Housing Authority Commissioners. The meeting will be held in McLoughlin Hall, Room 256. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

"He's my best pal, buddy, and soul, that's all," says the retired bachelor of his "Heins-57 variety" dog. "He's a good watchdog; he knows every move I make. I didn't want a dog, but a friend insisted upon giving him to me. Now he sleeps at the foot of my bed."

Animals of all kinds play an important part in Aumend's life by the river. He plays host to birds, squirrels, chipmunks, and any other wild animal which chances into his yard.

"Every week, I buy two sacks of sunflower seeds, and regular feed for the birds and animals. I also make popcorn every week, and buy peanuts for the squirrels and chipmunks. I just put out the food and leave it. They feed like there's no tomorrow!"

Aumend gets along with his human neighbors as well, but

doesn't believe in getting too involved with them.

"I'm not against anybody, but I like to mind my own business. I'm not one who goes and gets tangled up too much with other people."

He does appreciate the thoughtfulness of his closest neighbors, the Carl Hatfields, who reciprocate help with outside chores occasionally. Mrs. Hatfield checks on Aumend regularly.

"Jeanne's so faithful; she calls every day."

Many of his old friends and family are gone now, but his sister and mother, are still alive. Aumend supports his mother, now 83 years old, who lives in her own apartment in San Francisco.

"I'm good to my mother, but she has her own life. She won't come and live with me."

A relative newcomer to Sandy, this retiree seems to enjoy his solitary existence, and considers small town life "perfect." Aumend reminisces about his younger years when he traveled the Pacific coast extensively, and even climbed Mt. Hood. However he has no wish to live in the past.

"The old days were no better than today. I wouldn't go back."

Aumend admits he is "outspoken," takes pleasure in expressing his opinions on a variety of subjects.

On the younger generation: "It isn't any worse now than it ever was. The public just hears about the bad thing they do now. There's a Peck's Bad Boy in everyone-I've been one myself—but no one knew about it!"

On schools: "They're

teaching too much backward stuff. They should go forward. What do we care what Brutus said?"

On TV: "It's the worst medium as far as spreading crime. People get ideas from watching the news."

On the recent peace: "I think it's going to last. The public wants it too fast, but it took time to get in the war, and it takes time to get out."

On credit? "People get so much on credit; I always pay cash. I think it's the right way to do things. A cash basis would put our country in better shape."

Aumend's philosophy which enables him to make the most of his retirement years, is a simple one.

"I live from day to day; I don't care what happens tomorrow!"



THIS SQUIRREL, cadging a free meal on the picnic table, is one of Aumend's regular boarders.

(Post Photo)



MODEL SHIPS are displayed on face of loft in Aumend's home.

(Post Photo)



SAWED-OFF LOGS have many uses, according to Aumend. He and Mrs. Hatfield look for spring flowers in these, which he has hollowed out and uses for planters.

(Post Photo)



EACH MODEL SHIP has well over 100 pieces. Aumend enjoys the challenge of constructing them; often works with a mirror on desk, so that he can watch the TV set behind him, at the same time.

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