

An American institution

What happened to Sunday afternoon drives?

by MARGARET SCHMALE

Once upon a time, in a beautiful country called America, gasoline was 17 cents a gallon.

The people drove medium-size cars that held an entire family, the dog and a set of luggage. The car was well-built, was never recalled and it got excellent mileage. It was common for people to take outings on Sunday, trips to the zoo and vacations in the summer.

The people were under-taxed, contented and able to provide for the future. Everything was running too smoothly, making the pretty country of American look different than the rest of the countries.

So one day, an evil spell was cast over the country by the wicked witch Inflation. When she waved her nasty wand over the land the people gradually became over-taxed, underpaid, on strike, out of work, in debt and trapped in a day-to-day existence just like the other countries.

But the knight in shining armor will ride again. The people of American fought the dragon of Tyranny and the multi-headed monster of Inequality. They would slay the witch of Inflation some day.

I decided to do a little crusading to show my girls what it was like when I was young and the family went on a Sunday drive. This was not going to be a multi-purpose trip to conserve fuel like they were used to. I was not go-

ing to amalgamate groceries, banking, the post office, four stops for my husband and McDonalds.

I was presenting a new concept to them, the fun drive.



Margaret Schmale's

Bits
and pieces

The thought staggered their imagination. I was burning up gas just for fun.

How sad, I thought, that the economy had tightened the purse strings to choke off a simple pleasure like a drive in this beautiful country. The Sunday drive was as common to me when I was young as going to church and reading the funnies. I used to think it was as American as chicken dinner and Norman Rockwell.

Sunday was going to be a great day for a drive. The weather was perfect and the chicken fried to a crisp. The

idea of the drive was too good to hoard to ourselves. It didn't take the girls long before they invited Grandma, Grandpa, an uncle and a couple of friends. I stuffed everyone into the car plus the dog who looked like he was dying of a broken heart. I kicked the tires, checked the gas and prayed for a miracle. All systems were go.

The Sunday drive was ready for take off if the car could just make it out the driveway. As I drove I remembered being in the back seat with my sisters and their friends, an uncle, and my parents; now I was driving. Funny how things don't change as much as we think they do. I also remembered how we rarely stopped along the way and how crumpled up I got sitting in a car being elbowed by a sister every three minutes. Once in the same situation, I could understand why my mother was more weak than rested after returning from her Sunday drive.

I could also see how my father, who drove, managed to keep his sanity and the family's safety. He must have put himself in a trance, tuning out everyone else in the car and just followed that little yellow line.

I drifted away from the bickering, singing, whining and yacking into a state of concentration on the car in front of me and the one next to me. I was all by myself going for a Sunday afternoon drive. It was very nice.

The reality of the group broke into my private trip at the rest stops when the dog pulled at the leash and my youngest rode me piggyback, but I knew I could rest once we all got back into the car. That was the trick to a happy Sunday afternoon drive.

Former Sandy resident engaged

Former Sandy resident Jane Emerson has announced her engagement to Captain Martin L. Brown of the U.S. Army.

The couple has not set a wedding date.

Emerson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David M. Emerson of Sandy,

graduated from Sandy High School and the University of Idaho. She is currently a teacher in Vencenza, Italy.

Brown is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brown of Cerritos, Calif. He is a graduate of Wake Forest University and is stationed in Italy.

Piner joins U.S. Air Force

Steven Piner of Sandy has enlisted in the U.S. Air Force's Delayed enlistment program.

Piner is the son of Lillie Piner of Langensand Road.

Piner will graduate this

year from Sandy High School and report for duty July 27. He will receive a six-week basic training course, then further instruction in the field of security specialist.

Boring man enlists in service

Michael D. Kom of Boring has enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and reported for duty two weeks ago.

Kom is the son of Walter and Myrna Kom of Dogwood

Lane in Boring. Airman Kom left in February for Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. He will receive six weeks of basic training, then receive further training in mechanics.

Outdoor program aims at teens

A new program, aimed at high school students in Clackamas County, will focus on the outdoors to help teens with their personal development.

"Outdoor Challenge" is a new 4-H program which is

designed to get teens interested in outdoor challenges, such as white water rafting, rock climbing and backpacking.

For more information contact Mark Hillyard at 653-6763.



Larry Hanks and Laura Smith

Mountain Music society sets pair of concerts

The Mountain Music Society is sponsoring a concert featuring two traditional folk musicians Saturday, March 7 at 8 p.m.

Larry Hanks and Laura Smith, folksingers from Bellingham, Wash., will perform at the Hoodland Women's Club.

"Larry and Laura are two of the warmest folks I've seen perform," said Will Frank, one of the music society's coordinators.

Frank said the duo's music "spans this continent from old west tunes to Appalachian Mountain tunes."

Hanks and Smith just returned from an 11-week tour of England, and Frank predicted their journey would be reflected in their concert, in the form of "tales

to tell and songs to sing."

Tickets for Saturday night's concert can be purchased at The Store Natural Foods in Wemme, and will be available at the door.

Frank said two other musical events are scheduled for the month of April. Caroline Wheeler and family of Sherwood will perform at the Hoodland Women's Club April 4.

The music socie' also plans another evening of contra dancing April 8. Frank said that contra dancing is an old English form similar to square dancing.

Information about the Mountain Music Society or any of its activities can be obtained from Frank at The Store Natural Foods.

Summer school slated for gifted students

Applications are now available for the University of Oregon's summer program for gifted and talented students.

The program is open to students in grades six through eight.

The Summer Enrichment Program, in its second year, is designed to extend the education of young students beyond that of the public schools.

"The program offers a gifted and talented student things the public schools may not," said program coordinator George Sheperd, "freedom of choice in classes, individual instruction and a methodology of teaching specifically designed for the gifted and talented student."

"We try to emphasize problem solving, discovery and inquiry—three areas a gifted and talented child is particularly good in," he added.

Gifted and talented students include those who demonstrate superior ability in the areas of educational achievement, intellectual ability, leadership, creati-

ty or the visual or performing arts.

The 1981 program is divided into three two-week sessions: June 28 to July 11; July 12-25; and July 26 to Aug. 8. Each session offers about 25 classes from which each participant may choose five. Classes range from computer science and astronomy to creative writing and psychology. Each session is limited to 150 participants.

Last year there were more than 650 applications for 450 available spaces. Students are selected based on the documentation submitted.

In addition to the application, documenting evidence of two or more of the following is required: measured intelligence above average, achievement at least two grades higher than the present grade, unusual creative or productive thinking ability, proven leadership ability in the visual or performing arts. A student may be nominated by parents, teachers, counselors, psychologists, principals or other adults.

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