

Rockhounds Live in Stone Age

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This year, Wearin laughingly explains, his wife, Cora, "got ahead of Lola" in asking him to lead a 4-H rock club. Cora Wearin, a teacher in Leaburg Grade School, is Lane County's veteran leader, receiving her emerald pin this year marking 30 years in the 4-H program.

"It's handy leading a club at home," Wearin said. "We've got the lapidary equipment here in the garage and workshop and a couple tons of rock lying around. Besides with both Lola and me leading clubs we're one rock club ahead."

Rocks have held a fascination for Wearin ever since he moved to the McKenzie River farmstead as a 13-year-old in 1910. That was the year his parents moved from Kansas to the fertile stretch along the McKenzie River—the same 36 acres where Everett Wearin and his wife have lived for 36 years.

BUY ROCK
But it's only within the last five years that the interest in rocks fainted into a hobby.

It's something that Cora's just as interested in as I am," he said. "We must have at least two tons of rocks that we've lugged home from Montana, Canada, the Dakotas, Idaho, and Eastern Oregon. With all these rocks piled up it was high time we did something with them."

Their first piece of lapidary equipment was an inexpensive rock saw, Wearin recalls: "We wore it to a nubbin in two years, zipping through rocks to discover how the insides looked."

One of the big thrills of the hobby for the Wearins as well as for the 4-H Rocky Rockhounds is projecting thin slices of rock on the movie screen.

"It's an exercise in imagination," the leader said. "We can see all sorts of fantastic things—desert sunsets, palm trees along the beach, stormy skies, even grasshoppers and dinosaurs in these rock slices."

Three years ago Cora surprised her husband with a deluxe model diamond saw fully equipped with automatic water spray cooling system and a shatter-proof plastic cover.

"The diamond saw was our undoing," Wearin admits. "Now we've invested in the works—trimmers, sanders, tumblers, polisher, and grinders."

"What's more," he added, "we can't even plan a vacation with-

out a copy of the 'Rockhound Guide' in our hand."

LIKES TO TRADE

This summer the Wearins will pack their camping gear and rock hunting equipment in the station wagon and head for Montana in search of rare agates.

Almost as much fun as hunting the rocks are visiting with other rockhounds, cajoling them to divulge the secret whereabouts for rich hunting grounds, and haggling over trades. Oregon "thunder eggs" and petrified wood have high priority in trading, Wearin volunteered.

"I know now where they get the name 'rockhound,'" Mrs. Wearin said. "Everett can sniff another rockhound miles away—no matter whether we're in Canada or Eastern Oregon. And he'd rather trade than eat."

But it is not necessary to travel thousands of miles to find valuable rock specimens, Wearin says. Some of his favorite haunts are in Lane County.

In the business of buying young dairy and beef animals which he feeds out for sale, Wearin has discovered that business and hobby dovetail to perfection.

"When I'm looking for stock I also keep an eye peeled for good rock-hunting land," he explains. "That's how I discovered the petrified wood near Pleasant Hill."

Do people mind letting him rock hunt or take specimens? No, says Wearin. But he's a strong believer in showing his appreciation by presenting the landowners with samples of his hobby.

"I never thought I'd be much

at designing jewelry, but I enjoy it. The results aren't too bad," he said, admiring a pair of handsome Apache Tears earrings. "This hobby has solved our gift problem. You know, no woman ever turns down jewelry!"

SHARE THEIR HOBBY

Currently, Wearin is collecting large size specimens of rock and petrified wood to carry out a landscape plan. But it won't be a second Peterson's Rock Garden, he quickly adds. His ambitions extend only to another planter his wife wants in the front yard. He has already completed one three-sided 14x18-foot planter.

But the absorbing phase of their hobby now is sharing it with twelve 4-H'ers.

"They won't get around to using the saw this year," he said. "But they'll use the tumbler, grinder, polisher and trimmer. These pieces are not as tricky or dangerous as the saw."

Better yet, he added, "they'll know a rock when they're out on a tour."

"I like to think of these youngsters being able to classify rocks for adults—and knowing something about the cost and operation of lapidary equipment. Rocks could become a hobby these youngsters will enjoy a lifetime."

The Wearins are making sure it's a hobby the 4-H'ers will never forget. Already plans are shaping up for rock hunting expeditions to the Oregon coast for agates when tides are at lowest ebb this spring, to Pleasant Hill for petrified wood, to the Thundeggs near Madras, to Bear Creek for the rare moss agates, and along Crooked River in search of the famous Sheep Creek agates.

Every 4-H Rocky Rockhound has a reward to anticipate. In addition to the specimen boards and exhibits they'll complete for display at the Lane 4-H Fair, and the bookends, tie clasps, belt buckles, and jewelry they will make, Wearin has promised one of his custom-made pieces for each of the Rocky Rockhounds.

Club Installs New Officers

MEADOWVIEW — New officers have been named by Meadowview Ladies Club. They are Mrs. Edwin Bleyhl, president; Mrs. Paul Skinner, vice president; Mrs. George Macklin, secretary; Mrs. Robert Powell, treasurer. Mrs. Richard Lyon will install the officers at the June meeting.

Annual picnic will be June 21 at 12:30 p.m. at Awbrey Park on River Road.

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(Clark photo)
MR. AND MRS. HARLOW GREEN (Darlene Migas, married May 12 in Assembly of God Church in Cottage Grove, are making their home now at Drain.

Green-Migas Wedding Rites at Cottage Grove

COTTAGE GROVE — Baskets of pink and white snapdragons and white candles in candelabra decorated the Assembly of God church the evening of May 12 for the marriage of Miss Darlene Migas and Harlow Green. The Rev. Raymond Alcorn, pastor, performed the double-ring ceremony. The bride's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Michael Migas of Cottage Grove and parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Green of Yoncalla.

Barry Minton sang "Because" and "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Wayne Monroe.

The bride's floor-length gown was of lace and tulle, the fitted bodice of lace made with long sleeves and scalloped neckline and an overskirt of lace. Her lace-edged fingertip veil fell from a tara of seed pearls and sequins and her cascade bouquet was of white carnations centered

with pink rosebuds. She was escorted by her father.

Miss Judy Migas, sister of the bride and her maid of honor, wore a dress of sheer pink nylon and corsage of gardenias. Victor Vian served as best man and ushers were Mike Migas, brother of the bride, and Dolph Angle.

The reception was in the Fellowship Room, where Mrs. Alfred Dorn and Mrs. John Migas, aunts of the bride, served coffee and cake; Miss Barbara Migas, sister of the bride, served punch; Miss Louise Green of Yoncalla, sister of the groom, and Miss Beverly Fallert of Lorane were in charge of gifts, and Miss Gloria Niehaus kept the guest book.

For their wedding trip to the coast, Mrs. Green wore a blue taffeta sheath dress and matching duster with white accessories and the pink rosebud corsage from her bouquet.

The couple is at home at Drain, where Green is employed at a plywood mill.



DONNA RAE HORN
To Wed Kent Parsons

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Horn of Springfield announce the engagement of their daughter, Donna Rae, to Kent Parsons of Albany, son of Mrs. Phyllis L. Parsons of Seattle and F. O. Parsons Jr., of Ukiah, Calif.

Both are 1960 graduates of University of Oregon. Miss Horn is teaching currently at Seaside High School. Mr. Parsons is employed by the State of Oregon in Salem.

A summer wedding is planned.

Art Center Calendar

MONDAY, MAY 22
7:30 to 10 p.m.—Workshop for Art Center members, drawing from model.

TUESDAY, MAY 23
1 to 3:30 p.m.— Oil painting for beginners, Vivienne Fendrich, instructor.

7:30 to 10 p.m.— Water color and oil painting, Ray Levra, instructor.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24
7:30 to 10 p.m.— Beginning drawing and design, for construction of paintings, Vivienne Fendrich, instructor.

THURSDAY, MAY 25
7:30 to 10 p.m.—Workshop for members only, sand casting for garden panels.

SATURDAY, MAY 27
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.— Children's art class for 6½ to 11-year-olds, Eleanor Herbert, instructor.

Anyone interested in the Art Center of classes may call DI 3-9453, or PA 8-7731. All classes and meetings are held in the Art Bldg., 531 W. 13th Ave.

PETUNIA!

The baby's not a baby now— He's up and gone to school. (His high chairs—done duty) As a handy kitchen stool!



Good idea, Petunia! Most high chairs, with the arms removed, make dandy kitchen stools with a backrest too.

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