

Valley Organizations Cater to Teen-Agers

Groups Meet for Discussions, Fun, Other Activities

By JIM FRAKE
Mail Tribune Staff Writer

In Jackson county there are more than 4,000 teen-age boys and girls wanting something to do, someplace to go, something to see . . . any activity within their age group.

Schools, churches, and city recreation agencies have all contributed their time, facilities, and personnel to help fill up the time gap in the life of these youths. Perhaps just as important in offering youth activity are the private, independent organizations sponsored by a variety of ways-commercial outlets, individuals, and other groups.

Among the more active groups catering to the interests of the teen-age population

are the Young Life club, the Hi-Fi club, the Medford Junior Rifle club, the Ashland Radio club, the Medford Yacht club, and the Sage Riders.

One of the Newest

Perhaps one of the newest and drawing quite a bit of interest especially in the Medford area is Young Life Campaign, Inc., organized last fall.

Jim Henkle, Medford, local director of the program, points out that most of the members are juniors and seniors in high school, totaling about 40 as of early last month. During the school year they have been meeting for one hour on Tuesday nights.

Young Life has its headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo., with branch clubs throughout the U.S. Other clubs in the area include those in Eugene, Grants Pass, Salem, and Portland.

A typical Tuesday night program would consist of singing, a skit put on by several members, an informal youth discussion, and a clos-

ing prayer or thought. Although it is an interdenominational meet, and is not connected with any specific church, spokesmen say that it does promote interest in church activities.

Officers of Group

Officers of the group as of the last school year were Kelly Somers, president; Keith Berg, vice president; Karen Morlan, Pam Gilkison, Dave Ryn, and Linda Morlan, secretaries; and John Norris, Marty Wyatt, Ric Middlekauff, and Harold Holmes, bounceers.

The club is locally sponsored by Fred Robinson, Dean Anderson, Bill Cochran, Helmer Tinseth, Albert James, Vince Smith, Paul Culbertson, Clarence Wilson, and Jim McGoodwin.

One of the features of the Young Life program is the annual summer Malibu club camp in British Columbia, Canada. So far this summer, two groups totaling about 30 teen-agers have attended the camp located on Prince Louisia inlet. This is the seventh summer that the summer camp has been offered. It lasts about 10 days.

The club first originated in this region after several high school groups went to Malibu last summer. They returned and organized the club after school began.

Acceptance of Members

New officers and acceptance of new members will probably take place in September, according to Young Life officials.

Boasting more than 2,300 members is the local Coca-Cola Hi-Fi club broadcast by radio KMED. Lee Davis, station director for the club, reports that more and more valley teen-agers are "signing up," and the club is continuing its activities "via radio waves" throughout the summer.

The Hi-Fi club, which is nationally sponsored by the soft drink company, originally started in this area on KYJC, then was transferred to KMED some six months ago.

The local promoters have set up "school representatives" in nine valley institutions in order to solicit new members. As of the last school year, the representatives and their respective schools included Stuart Crum and Gene Lantz, Medford High; LaVonne LaFevre, Crater; Joanne Millet, Ashland; Molly Gregg, Eagle Point; Elizabeth King, Talent; Sherill Bowman, Phoenix; Ann Bennett, St. Mary's; Allen House, Hedrick Junior High; and Vickie Ingram, MacLoughlin Junior High.

Replacements Planned Because several of these students were seniors and have graduated some replacements will be made this fall after school begins, according to Davis. Membership cards, which are free to any teenager or a student who will be in a junior high school this fall, are also available at Swens Record shop, Medford, and Leon's, Medford.

During the summer the program is broadcast Monday through Thursday from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. KMED, however, is contemplating changing the hours to an earlier time this fall if it can be scheduled.

The program itself consists of playing popular recorded music, having recorded interviews with entertainment personalities, and having contests with prizes going to about four winners each evening. Summer activities including picnics and record hops have not been offered as yet, but are being considered.

Some of the prizes being given away and the number of items since the program first started include king-size Coke, close to 2,500 bottles; knapsack bags (hot or cold food carriers), 20; key chains, 50; pen and pencil sets, 120; cameras, 12; 14-record holders, 120; 80-record racks, 15; dance socks, 40 pairs; plus records and other gifts.

Bowling Contest

Every other week a bowling contest is held at the Medford Bowling lanes with two different schools participating. Another organization attracting teen-agers, both boys and girls, is the Medford Junior Rifle club, according to Harry Heidrenreich, junior instructor and coordinator for the club.

Current officers of the club include Eddie McGrew, president; Edward McGinty, Jr., vice president; Connie King, secretary; and Andre Besonette, treasurer.

The club reports they have about 30 active members with new groups expected to come in this fall. They have discontinued meeting during July but will resume next month. New members will be accepted at their meeting the first Monday in August, according to Heidrenreich. Applicants should either contact him or plan to attend their meeting at the Medford Pistol club, East Vilas rd., west of the

Crater Lake highway four corners.

Classes are also offered in safety and marksmanship with several awards being made available for outstanding records.

Also attracting valley youths is the Ashland Radio club organized by 16 charter members in 1932. Only four or five had licenses, but the rest began classes to learn the International Morse code, a requirement to obtain a radio operators license. Three of the original members are still active in the club.

The club, which is open to anyone interested in radio, hosts only a few teen-agers in the summer, but draws many more during the school months, according to club member Max Crowson, Ashland. Students, as well as adults, from all over the valley have been invited to participate in the club's activities.

Although they have in the past met in member's homes and assorted club houses, they are now meeting behind the Walker school on Homes ave., according to Crowson.

Besides a program of training in radio operation, they

also offer several social events throughout the year. In time of emergency, they provide invaluable assistance for Civil Defense during floods, fires, storms, and even during the Roseburg disaster last summer.

A non-profit organization, the club organized in March, 1956, and meets each Tuesday evening at 8. A business meet is slated for the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Officers include Tony Kandler, president; Lydia Crowson, secretary-treasurer; Max Crowson, station trustee; and Wes Smith, sergeant-at-arms.

Catering to girls mostly is the Ashland Garden club which meets once a week. Their activities consist of making garden and flower arrangements for personal and show use, as well as learning about conservation and gardening. Mrs. Robert Fremd, Ashland, is one of the group promoters.

Archery Popular Archery also is popular with the young generation, although not too much organization has developed locally. Regional clubs are for the most part filled with adults.

Of special interest in the summer are skin diving and yachting, also still on an individual level, but open for organization if interested teen-agers desire.

The Sage Riders of Ashland report varied teen-age activity with shows and riding practice weekly. R. L. Reedy, president, reports about 16 to 20 young members who practice riding at the Ashland speedway.

Activities, clubs, organizations, and general youth recreation is available just by looking around in Medford, Ashland, and other surrounding communities. The groups featured here are but a few of the scores of movements providing religious, educational, civic-duty, and fun, opportunities for the teen-agers of southern Oregon.

As one youth points out, "It isn't a matter of nothing available, it's just deciding to join a group and contribute something to it."

REPAIR COURSE PFC Darryl D. Sutton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd O. Sutton, 3761 South Pacific highway, Medford, completed the 25-week carrier equipment repair course recently at the Army Signal school, Ft. Monmouth, N.J. Sutton completed basic training at Ft. Ord, Calif. A 1959 graduate of Medford High school, he entered the Army last October.



'DO YOU LIKE TO BOWL?' — Discussing the aspects of bowling are two Hi-Fi club members at the Medford Bowling lanes last week. Kathy Newcomb (left) is a sophomore at St. Mary's High school in Medford; and Wally West is a senior at Eagle Point High. July 18 Eagle Point challenged St. Mary's in bowling. They played three games, then the team and individual high scorers received free Coke, records, and other prizes. The bowling program is carried on every two weeks sponsored by the lanes, Coca-Cola, and KMED.



HERE WE COME — Awaiting a new group of campers to join them are several of the counselors and directors of the Malibu club in Canada. The boat brings the teen-agers from Vancouver, B.C., up the Princess Louisa inlet to the resort spot. Young Life Campaign, Inc., was organized in the Medford area in November, 1959, after an initial delegation of high school students returned from Malibu the previous summer. Other Young Life organizations near-by include those in Grants Pass, Eugene, Salem, and Portland. (Lynn Kinney Photo)



SUMMER CLUB HOUSE—Shown is a "summer" club house for the Ashland Radio club located atop Mt. Ashland. Each year in June or July the group travels to the house and conduct radio operations in the "shack." Unidentified members of the club are shown surveying the countryside while others are inside "talking to the world, via radio." (Max Crowson Photo)



'PART OF THE SCENERY' — Vacationers at the Malibu club in Canada are not surprised to find scenes like this. Shown between activities are (lower left) Bonnie Lowry, Medford, and Mrs. Shirleen Short, then was transferred to KMED some six months ago. (standing left) Sandra Bates and Vicky Enders, both of Medford; Carol Buell and Carolee Tomseth, Springfield, both counselors; and Miss Pat Clatchey, Seattle. Young Life, sponsor of the summer camp on the Princess Louisa inlet in British Columbia, is headed in the Medford area by Jim Henkle. There are at least two groups that go to Malibu from this area each summer for about a 10-day period. (Lynn Kinney Photo)



WHAT'S THE SCORE? — Everyone tries to find out the score at a recent bowling meeting of the Coca-Cola Hi-Fi club broadcast locally by radio KMED. Shown (left to right) are Kathy Newcomb, St. Mary's sophomore; Linda Lewis, St. Mary's senior; John Landers, Medford senior; Lee Davis, KMED director; Don Davy, 1960 St. Mary's graduate; Molly Gregg, 1960 Eagle Point graduate; Connie Gregg, Eagle Point sophomore; Wally West, Eagle Point senior; Gary Sheldon, Eagle Point junior; Larry DeHaven, Eagle Point sophomore; and (seated) Jerry Zemlicka, Medford High junior who was score keeper. These students represent just two of the nine area high schools which have club members. The program gives free prizes and refreshments to the team members plus free games.



JUNIOR RIFLE SHOOTERS — Shown admiring a trophy presented to the local group with the best shooting record are several members of the Medford Junior Rifle club. From left to right are Ward Conger, a student at MacLoughlin Junior High school; Rachel Guetzlaff, a Lone Pine student; Lee Nelson, a Hedrick Junior High student; Jim Shaw, a Medford High school junior; and Harry Heidrenreich, club director. The club is divided into five groups with students from 11 to 18 years old participating. There are five or six students in each group. The trophy, awarded by Century Sporting Goods, Medford, is presented each month to the team scoring highest in the matches. At the end of the year, the team winning the cup the most number of times during the year will have members' names engraved on the trophy, and each will receive a special medal. The award system was first started this spring.

4-H Club News

Griffin Creek Dairy The Griffin Creek 4-H Dairy club met at the home of Russell Fields July 13. The meeting was called to order by our president, Marthase Goodwin.

Russell Fields was appointed secretary, replacing Bonnie Brantly who resigned. We all worked on our entry blanks for the fair.

Peppy Clark and Russell Fields gave a report on their trip to Corvallis summer school at a previous meeting. Our club had all members present at the Talent pre-fair.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Steve and Peppy Clark on Madrona lane, July 27. Margaret Goodwin, Reporter

Forestry Club Members of the Central Point 4-H Forestry club met at the home of Mrs. Skyrman Wednesday evening. We are all trying to complete our exhibits before the fair. Business over, discussions were raised concerning our trip to Lake of the Woods for an overnight trip. All members and parents are invited. Pat Brusha, Reporter

Beef Club The regular meeting of the Central Point 4-H Beef club was held Monday at the home of Carolyn Sidener. In the absence of Floyd Charley, Percy Charley, a junior leader, took his place. Larry Toner opened the meeting. Roll call was answered by each member, saying how many animals and what kind would be taken to the fair. Patsy Charley told about the fitting contest and what was needed in it. We also talked about pre-fair and what time they had to be

there. Pre-fair will be held July 30 at the fair grounds.

Refreshments were served by Carolyn Sidener. The June meeting was held at the home of Bill Mike, and Jeff Anhorn. A film was shown. Refreshments were served by the Anhorn's. An executive meeting was held July 11 at the Anhorn home. Rules for the coming fair were discussed.

Carolyn Sidener, Reporter

Ornery Squirrel Didn't Have Rabies

Salem —(UPI)— Health authorities reported Saturday that so far tests have failed to detect a trace of rabies in a mean squirrel who bit seven persons on the Capitol grounds this week and was shot by a policeman Wednesday.

The ground squirrel was no kin to the popular tree squirrels who live in two parks adjacent to the Capitol grounds, according to state officials.

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