

Social Events ♦ Women's News



Christmas is a time for singing. Although the radio and television now provide a wealth of music for all tastes, the "do it yourself" variety still provides entertainment and recreation for families and groups. When Medford Congregational church held its annual Christmas festival not long ago, carol singing was a part of the program with both young and old taking part. Shown around the piano (left to right) are Kay Smith, Marvin McCoy, Robert McCamant, Angie Bish and Karen Smith. Mrs. R. A. Schuchard is at the piano and she holds her small daughter, Susan. (Simonson-Walker photo)

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Christmas Trees Aren't Just Trees

By JOYCE SCHULLER
United Press International
Chicago — (UPI) — Christmas decorations for the home look like anything but this year.

In keeping with the trend of recent years, the tree is as likely to be gold, silver, white or baby blue.

The shape of baubles for the tree runs even further afield. Among the more bizarre new ones are Walt Disney characters, seahorses, harlequins, miniature oil lamps, drummer boys, Indians and mermaids with pearly tails. There are gilded spiders, too, spinning silvery webs. And for the sophisticated, there are pink elephants.

Traditional ball-type ornaments are still around, but many have grown to balloon size. Still others look like jumbo fresh-water pearls. Star-shaped ornaments and twinklers, spin in the heat of the tree lights.

The lights of the tree, too, have undergone changes. Many look like strings of red roses or white reindeer, each rose or deer centered with a light. Others look like snowballs. White, but translucent,

Family Leaves For Trip South

Ashland — Mr. and Mrs. R. Drew Lamb and son Jimmy left Ashland recently for Houston, Texas. Later they will visit with relatives in Jackson, Miss. The Lambs' older son, Richard, is playing the lead in a New York musical comedy and will be unable to join the family.

The snowballs have different-colored bulbs inside and take on the rainbow hues of icicles in sunlight.

Santa-shaped tree ornaments wear orange, green or brown caps instead of the familiar fur-banded scarlet one. And icicles of silver foil have given way to saron ones in blue, green and gold as well as silver.

Decorations for the hearth, table, windows and door have remained more traditional. They include huge felt stockings in white, red, green and powder blue; gamboling reindeer, decked with sprigs of holly, wreaths of roses and gilded halters; and angels made of loops of white satin ribbon with gold paper wings.

There are still sleigh-shaped baskets to fill with pine cones, baubles or greens for a centerpiece and wreaths of every size for windows and front door.

Medieval Folk Enjoyed Peacock for Christmas

By JEANNE LESEM
United Press International
New York — (UPI) — Peacock was the piece de resistance at Christmas dinners in medieval England. The elegant bird was usually served roasted, garnished with its brilliant plumage. But sometimes it appeared in a pie, with head and tail emerging from the crust.

The English have long since abandoned this custom, but they continue to serve roast beef, which was also popular in the Middle Ages. Cooking the "joint" in those days was literally a dog's life. The unfortunate animal was harnessed to a turnspit where it had to run constantly to turn the beef until it was done. This sometimes took as long as three hours.

Beef itself became part of England's Christmas tradition for a practical reason, says the American Meat Institute. Few medieval farms had enough barn space or feed to care for all livestock through the winter. Consequently, the oldest oxen were slaughtered in the fall, and the meat hung to cure and age until Christmas.

Elsewhere in Europe, Christmas dinner traditions sometimes stemmed from religious beliefs. An old Ukrainian custom called for Christmas Eve dinner of 12 courses, one for each apostle. Among the traditional foods were buckwheat and mushroom soup, prunes, pancakes, cabbage, fish, bread and nuts.

England's King Henry VIII is remembered best for his many wives and elegant table manners. But he is also credited with establishing the tradition of boar's head for Christmas dinner.

The club plans a covered dish luncheon January 27 at 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Esther Coleman, Mrs. Carrie Walters, Mrs. Anita Carroll and Mrs. D. L. Chase make up the hostess committee.

Ceremony Held For Electa Club

Electa Social club held installation of officers at a recent meeting at Girls Community club. The ceremony was conducted by Mrs. J. J. Brown.

The new officers are Mrs. Ina Huson, president; Mrs. Beryl Lyons, vice president; Mrs. Mamie Schrack, secretary-treasurer. Each new officer received a corsage.

Committee chairmen appointed by Mrs. Huson are Mrs. Jennie Thompson, chairman; Mrs. H. E. Olsen, hostess; Mrs. D. L. Chase, music; Mrs. D. W. Bowers, publicity chairman; Mrs. Fred L. Ryde, program chairman; Mrs. Ben Bolin, retiring president, card committee chairman.

The club plans a covered dish luncheon January 27 at 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Esther Coleman, Mrs. Carrie Walters, Mrs. Anita Carroll and Mrs. D. L. Chase make up the hostess committee.



Potpourri has been making good use of a little Christmas present given us last year by Mrs. Kenneth Murray, and which was made by some of the children in her room at Howard school. Mrs. Murray read in this column that the society editor was a bit grouchy over the bad taste of stamps and envelopes, and wished that the manufacturers would flavor them with mint or chocolate. So Mrs. M. and the children gave Potpourri a little decorated bottle with a rubber dispenser on top, like those used for mulligatawny. When filled with water, it makes quick work of dampening stamps and envelopes.

So, we say thank you to Mrs. Murray and her children, a year late but nevertheless, gratefully.

This reporter learned with amazement the other day that the popular toy called "teddy bear" was named for former President Theodore Roosevelt. According to the New York Times, President Roosevelt sometimes went hunting to relax and when in Mississippi on such an excursion, a little, frightened bear cub wandered into the President's hunting camp and he refused to shoot it.

Clifford Berryman, cartoonist for the Washington Evening Star, tied the incident together with a border dispute then going on between Mississippi and Louisiana and portrayed the President refusing to shoot the bear.

At the time, says the Times story, Morris Mitchom, an immigrant from Russia owned a small candy store in New York. Seeing the cartoon picturing the frightened bear, he fashioned a little stuffed bear in its likeness and put it in the window of his store. Before the day was over, it was sold. Mr. Mitchom and his wife made others like the first bear and sent one to President Roosevelt. They asked the President for permission to name the bear after him—the Teddy bear. President Roosevelt replied, by hand, "I doubt if my name will mean much in the cub bear business, but you may use it if you wish."

Whether it is the name, or the appealing look and feel of the cuddly animals, Teddy bears have been a favorite toy with American children ever since.

Merry Christmas, everyone. O.S.

Groups and Individuals Help Decorate Hospital

Through the efforts of several individuals and groups, Rogue Valley Memorial hospital has taken on a festive appearance for the holiday season, according to Charles I. Gustafson, administrator.

Arrangements for Christmas decorations throughout the building were made by Mrs. Robert H. Riechers of the hospital auxiliary. This is done as part of the auxiliary's "staff service" currently under the chairmanship of Mrs. Robert J. Morris.

The large lighted evergreen tree in front of the hospital was procured from the Elk Lumber company by the hospital Founders' group. Smaller trees used inside were given by T. K. Oliver of Timber Products.

Holiday wreaths and poinsettia plants at the information desk in the lobby, and at the nurses' station on second floor were given by Hoppe's Greenhouse, Ginn's, Medford Flower shop, and Chapel Mortuary. Rogue Valley greenhouse provided decoration for the planters at the front entrance.

Members of the Junior auxiliary, working under the direction of Mrs. A. K. Morse, decorated the tree in the lobby, and also prepared a tree for the second floor solarium. Mrs. Jack Ingram and Mrs.

Vacationers Leave For California

Ashland — Holiday vacationers in southern California include many Ashlanders. Among them are the Rev. and Mrs. Karl Pfeiffer, who left early this week to spend Christmas and the next few weeks with their children and grandchildren in La Canada.

Also leaving on Monday for the south was Mrs. Louise Perozzi of Granite St., who will be the guest of her daughter in Los Angeles. She will remain for the winter.

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San Francisco—Mrs. John Daly, the former Virginia Warren, was married Thursday to the television moderator in Glendale Methodist church in San Francisco. She is the daughter of United States Supreme Court Justice Warren and Mrs. Warren. The newlyweds are spending a honeymoon in Honolulu. (UPI Telephoto)

Newlyweds In Honolulu

Honolulu—(UPI)—Virginia Warren, daughter of Chief Justice Earl Warren, and TV moderator John Daly honeymooned in Hawaii today after a candle-light church wedding Thursday in San Francisco.

They plan to stay until after the holidays when they will return to New York to make their home.

Mr. Daly appeared nervous at the Congregational rites. But Miss Warren was the traditional radiant and calm bride as her father, former California governor and vice presidential candidate in 1948, gave her away.

The wedding was held in the second floor sanctuary of the Glendale Methodist church. Dr. Ernest Stillwell Heeren performed the Congregational rites in the Methodist church because the church best accommodated the 200 guests.

A champagne reception was held at the Fairmont hotel to which 200 guests were invited.

It was the first marriage for Miss Warren. Mr. Daly was divorced last April from his wife of 23 years, Margaret Criswell Neal. They have three grown children.

Also in the pediatric unit are several colorful figures loaned by Mark Taylor from Brophy's Jewelry. These include a moving Santa Claus, an angel and a caroller.

Hospital employees held their annual Christmas party in the cafeteria Wednesday afternoon. The tree for this room was decorated by Girl Scouts of Troop 2, McLaughlin Junior High school led by Mrs. Paul Kurovsky. The girls made most of the colorful ornaments at their meetings.

Girl Scout Troop 116 gave the hospital a seasonal gift, a scrap book of comics especially chosen for expectant fathers.

Hamlet Called Fruitcake Center

Claxton, Ga. — (UPI) — This tiny hamlet calls itself the "holiday fruitcake center of America."

Fruitcake demand is so seasonal that Claxton laces alone, making a mere 300 pounds of the delicacy daily from New Year's through mid-summer. But as the leaves on Georgia pecan trees take on darker shades of green, the bakery staff springs to life.

Ingredients arrive by freighterload and truckload, and 50 bakers work around the clock in the largest bakery of its kind.

Rich fruit-and-nut mix batter whirled through special drums with stainless steel mixing blades, 750 pounds at a time, all day and night.

The powerful mixers are the envy of housewives among the tourists who throng to the bakery, many of the women recalling their own struggles with hard-to-handle fruitcake batter.

The mixture is cut and loaded into a half dozen gas-fired ovens which turn out 4,500 cakes at one time.

Shower Honors Mrs. Don Tosh

Central Point — A shower honoring Mrs. Don Tosh was given recently at the home of Mrs. Earl McKibbin, 578 North Fifth street, Central Point.

Assisting Mrs. McKibbin with serving were Mrs. Pat Mahoney and Miss Suzanne Beecham. Guests attending were Mrs. Cyril Gay, Mrs. Marie Von Stein, Mrs. Alf Brewold, Mrs. John Brewold, Mrs. Ira Tosh, Mrs. John Beacham, Mrs. Jim Tosh, Mrs. Pat Mahoney, Mrs. Joe Stovall, Mrs. Claude Self, Mrs. B. M. Tosh and the Misses Phyllis Tosh, Suzanne Beacham, Beverly Tosh and Marion Stovall.

Dinner Held

Shady Cove — Shady Cove-Trail Lions auxiliary held the December dinner meeting at the Riverview cafe in Shady Cove. Mrs. Dan Aberghe became a new member.

Knights To Hold Annual Service

The annual Christmas observance and breakfast, sponsored by Malta Commandery, Knights Templar, will be held Sunday, December 23, in the Masonic temple, Ashland.

The service will start at 8:30 a.m. and the breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. It is stated that the service is being started earlier than usual to permit those who wish to attend church to do so.

All Knights Templar, their families and house guests are invited to attend, officers state.



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