

Auxiliary President Guest Here

Mrs. Richard Gearhart, of Portland, Oregon, department president of the American Legion auxiliary, made her official visit to the Medford unit April 18. A cocktail party was given in her honor at the home of Mrs. Earl Bigelow prior to a banquet held at Rogue Valley Country club.

Other guests present were Mrs. Jack Larson, Springfield, state vice-president; Mrs. Bethal Smith, Coos Bay, district president; Mrs. Linn McBeth, president of Jacksonville unit; Mrs. Lela Lamb, representing Central Point; Mrs. Polly Offutt, Veterans Administration, representative at White City for the auxiliary; and Mrs. Earl Bigelow, Medford, past department president and now serving as national committee woman for Oregon.

Reports were given to Mrs. Gearhart of the activities of the local units which included the child welfare work done in the county, participation in the Red Cross blood donor program, heart fund drive, rehabilitation work at White City, and the teas sponsored twice a year for the new citizens held after the naturalization ceremonies.

Mrs. Gearhart spoke to the group of the work being done by units throughout the state and stressed the idea that not enough is made known to the public of the programs carried on by the auxiliary. Mrs. Fred Beck was introduced as a new member.

Mrs. Edward McGinty took care of arrangements for the dinner.

Mrs. Walter Collins, Medford unit president, conducted the meeting. Members from Jacksonville, Central Point and Medford attended.

Singer Wins Regional Auditions

Louis O. Clayson, former assistant professor of music at Southern Oregon college, Ashland, has won the regional finals for the San Francisco Opera Debut auditions. It was announced by Dr. Herbert Cecil, chairman of the SOC music department.

A panel of four judges, headed by Kurt Adler, the general director for the San Francisco Opera association, selected Mr. Clayson. He will sing with the San Francisco Opera orchestra for the finals at the War Memorial Opera house in mid-July, and have the opportunity to participate in the seven week Metrolia memorial fund training program.

Winners will sing with the San Francisco Symphony orchestra in concert at Stern Grove and are considered for contracts with the Opera company.

Mr. Clayson is presently on the music staff at Sacramento State college. While in Ashland he performed in a number of musical events as a director and soloist and was instrumental in founding one of the college's outstanding singing groups, the Populares.

Meeting Announced For DAV Auxiliary

The auxiliary to Disabled American veterans will meet Thursday, April 26, at 11 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Lavina James, 5223 Gebhard road, Central Point.

A potluck luncheon will be served at noon.



The roles of Baroness Livenbaum and Prince Bounine are played by Judie Brookman and Greg Kelth in the production of "Anastasia" which opens at Medford High school auditorium Thursday, April 26, for a three-night run. It is being given by the school's Thespian troupe, under the direction of Mrs. Lenore Zapell. Tickets will be on sale at the box office.

Needlework, Crewel Gaining Popularity

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor

New York—Needlework had its origins in the stone age when women first stitched for necessity. Today, she is a rare female who doesn't do some sort of sewing, either from necessity as did her sister of centuries ago, or for relaxation and satisfaction of the creative talents.

It is of this latter group we wish to speak now—the women who are turning out needle point and crewel embroidery which are works of art.

Sources in the needlework field agree there is a whole resurgence in the hand-made. Women who once confined their sewing to putting a button on hubby's coat now are taking lessons in needlepoint and crewel.

Some of them have become true artists, as exemplified in the first national exhibit this week by the American branch of the Embroiderers' Guild, a British-based organization with branches throughout the English-speaking world.

Original Work
More than 100 members, including some men, showed embroideries ranging from centerpieces to a priest's cloak, from framed "paintings" to handbags, from cushion covers to play shoes to a birth certificate.

The American branch of the guild, founded in 1958, is made up of embroiderers who are artists with the needle. Some have been doing needlework since childhood. Most are amateurs, but a few are professionals who teach privately, at arts and crafts schools, or at colleges and universities, and create designs for others to embroider.

Some of the amateurs do their own designs. Others consult with the professional designers. That centerpiece for a large dining room table was done in varying shades of brown thread on a natural-color linen background.

"How many hours did I spend on it?" said its creator, Mrs. Daryl Parshall of Millbrook, N.Y. "I've no idea. I usually have four or five pieces of embroidery going at once. To ask how many hours one work took is like asking a movie fan to estimate how many hours she spends each year going to the picture shows."

Chairman of the exhibit is another skilled embroiderer, English-born Mrs. Frederic P. Houston, wife of a New York lawyer.

Mrs. Houston said the American branch of the guild has 750 members scattered in all parts of the United States. "The professionals tell us that the way needlework is growing as an art, we could double our membership tomorrow," she said.

Ages Old
Embroidery, historians say, flourished in England from the Middle Ages, when most of the work was done in the convents and abbeys for the churches. The first Queen Elizabeth and the unfortunate Mary, Queen of Scots, both were accomplished needlewomen, and some of their works still survive.

Crewel embroidery gets its name from the word "crewel," which means a ball of worsted thread. Originally it was done with woolen threads, but now embroiderers work with a variety of materials. One series of paintings at the exhibit included gold and metallic silk on silk, pulled work on linen, wool on canvas, applique, and wool on brocade.

One New York firm whose clientele reads like a combination who's who and the social register agreed that needlepoint addicts are increasing steadily. Albert Mintz, manager of the needlework art shop, said one of the reasons was the satisfaction a woman received from making a beautiful handbag, rug or cushion.

The shop's customers include the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Princess Grace of Monaco, Mary Martin, Mrs. Gary Cooper, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Mrs. Henry Cabot Lodge and model-actress Suzy Parker.

Women's News Social Events

Gardeners Elect Officers At Spring District Session

Talent — Mrs. O. V. Poe, 5127 South Pacific highway, was elected Siskiyou district director of the Oregon Federation of Garden clubs at the recent spring district convention. Sessions were held in the Talent City hall, with the Talent Garden club as host group. Mrs. L. C. Gordon, Central Point, was elected assistant director; Mrs. Dale Hoover, Ashland, secretary; Mrs. Ira Fitzgerald, Central Point, treasurer.

Federation officers attending were Mrs. A. H. Mason, Portland, president; and Mrs. J. W. Scheel, Corvallis, vice-president. Retiring district officers who conducted the meeting were Mrs. C. O. Long, Talent, director; Mrs. Poe, of Medford, assistant; Mrs. E. G. Taylor, Talent, secretary; Mrs. L. F. Cline, Medford, treasurer.

In her talk Mrs. Mason urged garden club members to take an interest in the younger generation and to educate them in gardening.

Winners Named

Winners of the 1962 conservation poster and essay contest were announced by Mrs. R. H. Westerfield, Ashland. In the poster contest, fifth and sixth grade winners were Bonnie Ayris, first, of Rogue River; Jay Wilson, second, Shady Cove; Connie Kearns, third, Rogue River. Seventh and eighth grade winners in the poster event were Elaine Haley, first, Central Point; Judy Badley, second, Rogue River; Kathy Thorpe, third, Rogue River. High school winners were Marsha Bever, first; Carol Griffin, second; Richard Muller, third, all Central Point.

In the essay division the fifth and sixth grade winners were Jack Snook, first; Elspeth Miller, second, and Cathy Anhorn, third, all of Central Point. Winning in the seventh and eighth grade were James Anhorn, first, and Rosetta Bower, second, both Central Point, and Russell Brokaw, third, Sunny Valley.

The high school winner was Karyl Bishop, Shady Cove, first.

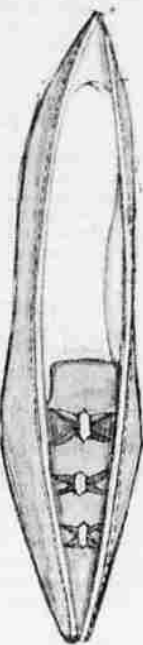
M. B. Hubbel, county weed control agent, spoke on ways of controlling weeds in lawns. He named the various chemicals suitable for use, and urged caution in handling them. He said poisons should be kept in locked cupboards out of the reach of children and the empty containers should be burned or deeply buried.

The Rev. Violet Bolliger, First Methodist Church, Talent, gave the invocation and Talent Camp Fire Girls led the flag salute. Mrs. B. L. Lockwood, president of the Talent club, welcomed the group. During the noon hour Mrs. John Stone entertained with organ music and Mrs. William Johnston sang.

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