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DOWN TO EARTH

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for the Birmingham Eccentric

Hidden Valley Has Fall Beauty

HIDDEN VALLEY, Gaylord, Michigan: During the season when nature gives us the exotic coloring of our fall leaves, you only have to jump in your car and drive 225 miles to see a site which could compare with Jasper park in the Canadian Rockies.

The development of this site, the home of the Otsego ski club at Hidden Valley, came as a vision to Mr. Donald B. McLouth, who was well known in this area. During

World War II, traveling was difficult and industrialists felt as though they could not venture too far from their responsibilities in the war effort.

So four hours' driving time from

Have You Met...

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Flannery, Jr., of Yorkshire road? They moved to Birmingham from Baltimore, Md., and have a son, J. J. Flannery III (Jeff). Mrs. Flannery is a graduate of Temple university and Johns Hopkins hospital school of nursing. Her husband graduated

from University of Pennsylvania and is employed in the sales promotion department of Burroughs Corporation. He served five years in the United States Navy in World War II and at present holds the rank of Commander in the Naval Reserve. Golfing is the Flannerys' hobby.



LOOKING OVER THE INVITATIONS FOR Tuesday's event are (from left) Mrs. Albert W. Maas, Mrs. Harold R. Chapel, hostess, and Mrs. Fritz Fiesselmann.

Alpha Sigmas to Honor New Panhellenic Prexy

Mrs. Harold R. Chapel, 336 Suffield, Birmingham, will be hostess for the formal reception honoring Detroit Panhellenic Association's new president, Mrs. Wallace Hall, an Alpha Sigma Alpha.

Mrs. Chapel, an Alpha Sigma Alpha, has been interested in the association's activities—she has a Panhellenic family. Her daughter, Nancy is a Phi Beta Phi, and her new daughter-in-law, Bill's wife, is a Kappa Kappa Gamma.

Invitations have been sent to various national, province and state officers in the Birmingham area, past presidents of Panhellenic and presidents and delegates of 23 chapters of National Panhellenic Congress in Detroit.

TEA from 2 to 4 p.m., Oct. 10 will be served from a table covered with a Italian linen cloth centered with an arrangement of red and white carnations, colors of Alpha Sigma Alpha.

Birmingham area women assisting at the tea table will include Mrs. Herman D. Myring, Phi Mu; Mrs. Robert F. Oliver, Delta Zeta; Mrs. William Milby, Alpha Sigma Tau, and Mrs. Robert W. Dodson, Phi Kappa Sigma.

Mrs. Thomas Crawford of Sigma, Sigma, is chairman of the reception and Birmingham members of her committee are Mrs. Albert W. Maas, Mrs. Fritz Fiesselmann, Mrs. Gale Sprague, Mrs. Russell Mowry and Mrs. A. F. Boening.

National Officers attending will be Mrs. Harver Bumgardner of East Long Lake road, Miss Louise McArthur and local president, Mrs. Walter Shepley.



Mrs. Burlingame

DEVELOPMENT OF THIS location as a site for winter and summer sports was sponsored by the Gaylord chamber of commerce, with the backing of Detroiters, and as the bank president told me, "It has meant as much to us as a good industry."

Be sure to place on your 1957 wish list a trip up in the state to see one of Michigan's finest performances.

Mrs. Alex La Pointe, of Henri-

etta, Birmingham, has had the pleasure of having her flowering

crab in flower in September.

The Brooklyn botanical gardens, one of our most aggressive garden centers, has a large research program, manned by a staff well known in the field of horticulture.

They have just published a handbook, price \$1, which would be a good investment for a person battling soil texture on his property.

The name is, "Handbook on Soils," Brooklyn botanical garden, Brooklyn, 25, New York.

THIS BOOK WILL tell you how to convert subsoil to topsoil. This is a paramount factor for a gardener with a large area. We are glad to see that they recognize the importance of spreading sharp sand to break up "hardpan."

Should you plant earthworms to aerate your soil? They say that if they are not present chances are that the soil would not support them if new ones are introduced.

In order to build up the humus quotient, add a ground cover on the soil as a winter mulch then the worms will begin to follow.

Every time I dig in my humus pile made up of last season's leaves I am always looking over my shoulder for a fisherman who would enjoy big fat, wiggly worms.

SOME OF OUR gardeners have light sandy and gravelly soils. They dry out rapidly and don't hold plant food. It is a good idea to add clay to such soil. Add peat and fertilizer to assure an abundant growth.

When you have moss on your area surface it can be due to poor drainage, too much shade and especially low fertility. If you break up the surface with a coarse rake and add fertilizer, you will notice a great difference. You may wish to trim up your nearby trees to allow in more light.

It is not necessary to time the soil in this area, according to the PH count. This fact is shown in soil tests for samples in the Birmingham area. Save the money you would use on this purchase and buy fertilizer with a balanced formula.

Pledges Sorority

Jo Beth Bremer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger E. Bremer, 6730 Oakhill drive, Birmingham, has pledged Sigma Sigma sorority at Hope college, Holland.

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