

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
June 7, 1962 SECTION D

Drama School Adds 2 Instructors to Staff

The Cranbrook Summer Theatre School will have as staff members this season dramatics instructors from both Birmingham high schools. Katie Bigge is returning from Groves and Richard Bagz from Seaborn will be with the school for the first time.

Also returning are Mrs. Paul Geiger, head of the junior and intermediate divisions, and Mrs. Thomas Kelly, head of dance. Both are from Birmingham.

THE THEATRE school, starting June 18, provides nine-year-old through college age students a summer of dramatic experience through informal classes and participation in weekly one-act plays.

The mornings are spent in Cranbrook's outdoor Greek Theatre and, each afternoon, every-

one may swim in the Cranbrook pools.

AN UNIQUE scholarship program for older high school boys has been devised by Carl Wonnberger, head of the school.

The program offers an opportunity to boys interested in a future on the stage, radio or television to study speech, stage

production, directing, pantomime, stage-dancing and make-up.

Some talent and experience are necessary but boys also are selected on their desire to learn and participate in the program, Wonnberger said.

THIS YEAR the theatre school has a record enrollment from the Birmingham area but can still take more in each of its three age divisions.

Among former scholarship students from the Birmingham area in the field of dramatics are Dana Elcar, actor on Broadway and TV; and Tom Hawley, recipient of a Fulbright scholarship in dramatic arts and active in stage and TV.

OTHERS ARE Ted Mansfield, a local resident who is active in college theater; Robert Whitlatch, who has his doctorate in theatre and has been appointed as an assistant professor of speech at Illinois State Normal College.

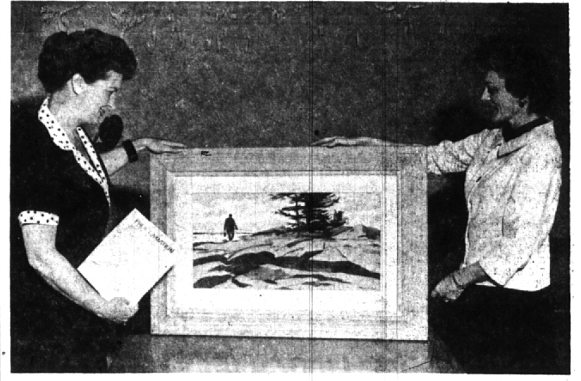
Music Group Plans Officers' Luncheon At President's Home

Mrs. Vernon L. Venman, president of the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs, will entertain her fellow officers at a luncheon and a all-day meeting at her home, 420 North Eton Road, Birmingham on Wednesday.

Mrs. Ralph Curtis, of Oxford, immediate past president of the state group and Mrs. Walter S. Strange, public relations and publicity director, will also be present.

Mrs. Venman will preview plans for the coming year, with club extension a pertinent topic.

Mrs. I. W. Robertson of Birmingham, was elected and installed as corresponding secretary of the state organization at the April meeting in St. Joseph.



MAYOR FLORENCE H. WILLETT presents a proclamation to Mrs. Jean Beetha, designating June 20 "Birmingham Day" at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Permanent and special exhibits will be on view and

B'ham to Get Day of Its Own At Detroit Institute of Arts

By a proclamation of Mayor Florence Willett, June 20 has been proclaimed "Birmingham Day" at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

A special tour of the institute's Founders Society and to visit the Detroit galleries.

growth of the people of Birmingham and the entire metropolitan area is most important to the social advancement of southeastern Michigan.

She also said the Detroit Institute "provides many of the necessary activities as well as inspiration for the cultural development of both children and adults."

FOUR OTHER AREA communities have been invited by the sponsoring organization, the Founders Society, to participate in the events planned for the day.

THE SOCIETY gives financial support to the institute, enabling it to add to its collection and to provide an activities program. It is honoring a total of 41 area communities with special days.

They are Bloomfield Hills, Beverly Hills, Franklin and Troy.

A special tour of the institute on Birmingham Day will begin at 7:30 p.m., followed by a puppet show at 8:00. A reception in Kresge Court will climax the day's events.

Other attractions will be the puppet theater and photographs of Birmingham area school children who participate in the institute's extension services.

MRS. WILLETT, noted in the proclamation that "the cultural

Other attractions will be the

THE SOCIETY provides support to the art institute through corporate and individual memberships.

Art work by Shirley Steine, 1860 Humphrey, Birmingham, was displayed at a recent exhibit of student work at Madonna College, Livonia. The show was held from May 27 through Sunday.



Artists' colony member Mrs. C. A. Hall, 20730 Kenneway Circle, Beverly Hills, concentrates on her work at the Birmingham Arts Center where fellow devotees of the arts gather twice weekly to share inspiration and commentaries on their work.

Artists' Colony Joins Hands at B'ham Center

BY JULIE CANDLER
Special Writer

A small group settled down in the Birmingham Art Center Monday to establish a colony.

They were the first to utilize the "Artists' Colony" for Bloomfield Arts Association members.

THE COLONY has been established by popular request of BAA members who like company along with their canvases. They enjoy the stimulation that comes from working side-by-side with others.

They are working artists who also like seeing the spacious and well-lighted classroom areas at the Art Center.

Actually, two colonies are being established. A daytime group will paint from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each Monday, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Roy G. Michell, Jr., of 290 S. Glenhurst.

AN EVENING GROUP is getting together from 7 to 10 p.m. Mondays, with Edward Mertz as chairman.

Along with the painting comes what BAA Director Carolyn (Mrs. C. A.) Hall calls "spontaneous seminars."

"That's when everybody gets tired and just stands around for a while and talks," explains Mrs. Hall.

AT A "SPONTANEOUS seminar" Monday, one painter recalled her first lessons in oil painting at the Bloomfield Art Association.

"I worked on the same lemon for six weeks," she said.

One of the colonists Monday was hanting to finish her still life containing an apple.

She was hungry.



Katie Bigge



Richard Bagz

Potpourri

by ROBIN BAHR

FOR THOSE who have never had the pleasure of seeing Winnie Collin on stage, the time has come!

Winnie is playing Fanny Rice in "The Bloomingham Newcomers"—the original, all-city musical, part of the Birmingham Arts festival which runs June 21-24 at the Arts Center.

The Rice family, (Fanny, husband Herb and daughter Sally) are transferred from small-town Moadore, Ohio, to fact-paced, organization-minded Bloomingham — and then the fun starts.

A LADY BASSO (she calls herself), Winnie is delighted with her stage husband Bob Dearth, whom she says, sings like a dream and plays his engineer-turned-gate-man role to perfection.

She is also deservedly proud of her real husband Dean Coffin, author of the show and its forerunner "The Bloomingham Eccentrics."

As she explained, "It's rather awkward to be asked what I think of the show, being married to the author. But now that you ask me, it's great!"

WINNIE GAVE a capsule version of the show to the women who will be selling tickets at the request of ticket chairman Mrs. John K. Gageby.

The gestic dance (which goes up at the Birmingham Arts center June 16th) where the show will be given, (See POTPOURRI, 6-D)



Suburban Serenade

Five members of the housewives' chorus in "The Bloomingham Newcomers" rehearse their lyrics to accompaniment by Mrs. John Schmidt. The songsters are (from left)

Mrs. Boyer Craton, Elizabeth Bayne, Mrs. Thomas G. Kelly, Mrs. H. Samuel Greenwald and Mrs. Richard J. Meurer.

Festival Tour Lists Seven Art Studios

The Birmingham-Bloomfield community is preparing to fire its fifth annual salute to cultural pursuits, via the Birmingham Arts Festival, June 21 through 24.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Robert A. Thom announced the names of artists who will open their studios to visitors for a one-day festival event.

IN OTHER festival activities, special plans for Children's Day on June 23 were revealed today by Chairman Mrs. Jack U. Klarr, of Chesterfield, Birmingham.

Mrs. Thom is chairman for the studio tour, scheduled for June 22 from 1 to 5 p.m.

At a morning coffee at her home on Surrey Road, Bloomfield Township, Mrs. Thom announced seven artists will open their doors for the tour. The event is a repeat of a popular feature of last year's festival.

AT THE HOME of Dorothy and Frederick Simper, 3075 Spring Road, West Bloomfield, visitors will see the studio in which Mrs. Simper does her oil paintings. In a separate studio, her husband paints his watercolor, five of which are now in the permanent collection at The Detroit Institute of Arts.

Paintings by the Simpers will be exhibited in a special two-week show at Jacobson's Studio of Fine Arts, opening simultaneously with the festival.

BIRMINGHAM studios to be opened to visitors include the red barn at 188 N. Hunter where Malcolm Moran and Donald R. Ruby create their architectural sculpture.

Outside her main floor studio at 565 Percé, Birmingham, portrait painter Jean deVos Steinhilms will hang an exhibition of her students' work for four days.

Ceramics and instructor Mary Ann Hatos is readying her new studio at 2710 East Maple for the tour. The new workshop is in a (See FESTIVAL, 6-D)

Local Best Sellers

FICTION
Ship of Fools—Katherine Anne Porter
Young Blood Hawk — Herman Wouk
Prolong to Love—Taylor Caldwell

NON FICTION
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Six Crises—Richard Nixon



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