

# Potpourri

by JULIE CANDLER  
Special Writer



A lot of people don't know what Potpourri knows about Paul of the folk-singing group known as Peter, Paul and Mary. He was ambly his lanky limbs down the Seaholm High School halls only six or seven years ago. In those days, he was known as Noel Paul Stookey.

Word piped into the Potpourri pipeline this week says that Seaholm (Birmingham) grads of the USA is full of them, you can catch them the night of Dec. 14 on "77 Sunset Strip."

They will sing a madrigal, a new song written by Noel Paul Stookey and titled "A Soalin."

Howard Coffin, one of the Dean Coffins' folk-singing sons, rates Peter, Paul and Mary as "the most listenable folk-singing group in the country."

"Not just charming primitivism," says Howard, "but good musicians and good singers, really terrific."

Howard was in high school at the time Noel was there. When told that Noel Stookey was now with the famous group, Howard said, "I THOUGHT that guy on the front of my 'Peter, Paul and Mary' record album looked familiar!"

**BIGGEST NEWS** about them is that they will appear in a special concert at New York's Carnegie Hall Saturday. Noel's parents, the George W. Stookeys, will fly from their present home in Pacific Grove, Calif., to attend the concert.

If you're a real Peter, Paul and Mary fan, and we understand Birmingham and the rest of the USA is full of them, you can catch them the night of Dec. 14 on "77 Sunset Strip."

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**FROM THE LOUELLA** Parsons of the Potpourri world, comes now my first exclusive.

The first writers' conference at MSUO was so successful that the co-sponsors, MSUO and the Detroit Writers Club, are ready to hold another one next year.

The planning committee of Women Writers and the MSUO conference officials made the decision last Thursday.

**NEXT, THE PLANNING** committee will recommend to writers' club members that they co-sponsor the event again in '63.

It looks now like the members will approve, since writers from all over Michigan got a boost from this year's event.

In conjunction with it; and at the request of Detroit Women Writers, Gov. John B. Swainson (remember him?) proclaimed the week of Oct. 14-21 as Michigan Writers Week.

Libraries set up displays of books and writings of Michigan authors, and the state's scribblers were given special recognition in many communities.

AT MSUO on Oct. 21, 350 writers, both professionals and beginners, attended the conference led by 20 successful Michigan writers.

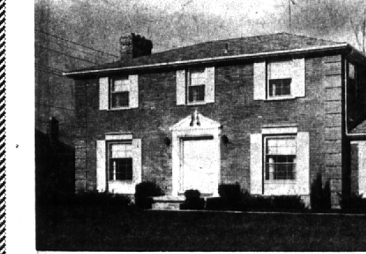
Since it was the first such conference, co-chairman Priscilla Jackson, assistant director of MSUO's Continuing Education Department, said they anticipated a turnout of from 30 to 100.

Every one of the conference-goers to whom I have talked said it was tremendously stimulating. Not only that, they tossed verbal bouquets at the conference leaders. Most felt it was the best-run conference they had ever attended.

**PRISCILLA QUOTES** poet Sheila Pritchard on the subject of Michigan writers.

An interviewer asked the talented poet what the people of Michigan can do for their writers. She answered, "Read them."

Wolverine State writers are going to be turning out a lot of good reading material, when all the creative sparks kindled at that conference start heating up some typewriter keys.

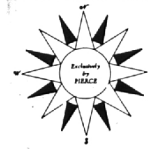


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## Behind the Welcome Mat

by CORRINE ABATT

Every December I plunge into the frantic fray around the necktie counters to pick out new wear for each of my male relatives.

For my own peace of mind and theirs too, I am about to call these forays to a halt. It isn't that I dislike ties, I just think a man should be able to choose his own.

When you think about it the poor little skinny necktie is the last ditch refuge of individuality in business attire. Suit colors are pretty much limited to shades of brown, blue and gray and until you are close enough to count the buttons on a suitcoat, the cut of the cloth looks about the same.

Put the poor male who has a tie rack full of his mother's, his wife's and his Aunt Mary's choices.

**THROUGH** the years I have been given hints to lay off the buying, but I wasn't ready to give up. Some of my most sensational choices have elicited a noncommittal response like, "Well, well, well, isn't that some tie." Not a great

Even in the off-season when there is ample time and area in which to browse, the buying is frustrating. I may buy a tie that I like, but I hit the right guy with the right tie on the right day. On a gray mood day, I present them with funeral grays and blacks and on a somber mood day I spring circus stripes.

**THE SKEPTICS** who aren't convinced that men should pick out their own ties might reverse the situation. Many women add a spark of color, a show of personality, a touch of creativeness to a plain suit or dress with a special hat.

Imagine the men crowded four deep around a hat counter madly picking out bonnets for their female relatives. What a horrifying picture!

**Men,** take yourselves down to the tie store and indulge in some impulse buying.

Satisfy the urge to own a pink, a purple or gold tie. Stop on your lunch hour and buy a tie to tie you for a special occasion. If you feel like spreading sincerity around like peanut butter, stop and get a sincere tie to match the mood.

**NOW—THAT'S** settled, but what do you buy for the men instead? Let's see . . . green and red striped socks for Cousin Joe, pink and black socks for Brother Phil, brown and orange socks for Dad . . .

**BRUCE FRANCIS,** tenor and award winner of the operatic scholarship, was accompanied by Eugene Bossart.

His opening selections of the "Dichterliebe" by Schumann were well interpreted. These "little songs" ranged from the dramatic, sustained songs to the staccato and delicate tender.

**Singing in German,** Bruce Francis was precise in his diction so that every word was clearly understood.

He then presented two arias—one from "Manon" by Massenet and the other from "La Traviata" by Verdi.

**AT THIS POINT,** I do feel that his tenor range was being a bit stretched, and his ability to maintain his high notes with a degree of masterfulness was weakened by his breath control. Of course, Francis is a relatively young singer, and in time will surely have the control that comes only from experience.

Debussy and Cilea concluded his portion of the program, and for his encore he selected a lilting Italian song.

Francis held his audience with his fresh enthusiasm and his relaxed mood. He had a well selected group of diversified songs, covering Italian, French and German composers.

**IN THE forthcoming** series of the Cranbrook Guild, we will be fortunate to be able to hear Dr. Henry Cowell on Jan. 15, one of our foremost teachers, composers, and lecturers in the United States today.

Cowell just made an appearance in the area with his contribution of a composition for flute, harp, and violin, commissioned by MSUO for their Arts Symposium.

It is indeed a gratifying feeling to know that in the local Birmingham area we are fortunate to have a music guild that is interested enough to want to bring us accomplished musicians, as well as expose us to young, up-and-coming talent.

**THE FOURTH** and final meet will be at 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 20, in the Oakland Hills Country Club lounge.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. O'Neil are co-chairmen of the mixed bridge tournament, which is sponsored by Oakland Hills Country Club's special activities committee of which Edwin O. George is chairman.

The mixed duplicate bridge league will resume competition Thursdays in February, 1963 under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Clinton.

**Winners at the North-South** position were: First, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Gunn; Second, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Lyman; and Third, Mrs. John W. Chenuit and Mrs. A. J. Pettit.

Winners at the East-West position were: First, Mr. and Mrs. C. V. DiPietro; Second, Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Benecke; and Third, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Horigan.

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## BRIDGE in BIRMINGHAM

By HUD MAYBAUM  
Southern Michigan Bridge Association

The recent regional bridge tournament in Toledo, Ohio, brought out many bridge experts from the Birmingham area. Just about all of the big names in bridge in the country attended this tournament.

Fred Canaday, from the Birmingham area, held today's most interesting hand. The hands were duplicated in all sections of this game, and Fred not only received a top in his section, but a top in all sections.

Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
▲ A K 10 8 6  
♥ 9 6  
♦ 10 9 6 5  
♣ Q J

**WEST**  
♠ J 9 5 2  
♥ Q J 10 5  
♦ Q J 8  
♣ 5 4

**EAST**  
♠ Q 7 3  
♥ A 7 4 3 2  
♦ 7 3 2  
♣ 7 2

**SOUTH (Dealer)**  
(Fred Canaday)  
♠ 4  
♥ K 8  
♦ A K 4  
♣ A K 10 9 8 6 3

The bidding:  
**SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST**  
1 ♠ pass 1 ♠ pass  
2 NT pass 4 NT pass  
5 ♣ pass 6 NT all pass

Opening lead: Q ♣

This hand created much interest in Toledo, so I checked the results, and found that many played this hand at six clubs, some played it at three or four spades, many played at four no trump.

In fact, Steve Learnmouth and Margaret Pitkin, from Flint, but no strangers at Birmingham tournaments, who were playing East and West, found their opponents playing this hand at one no trump, and received a top, in their direction, and were leading the field East and West at the end of the first session.

Fred received the usual lead of the Queen of hearts and the hand was a lay down for six no trump. However, Fred's response of two no trump, was the only such one, and that is why he arrived at the top contract. True, he didn't have 19 or 20 high card points, but his hand added up to this with his long club suit.

With the king of hearts unprotected by a lead from East, he knew he must be the no trump player. Credit must be given Fred for this well-planned attack to obtain this top board.

**RECENT WINNERS** in the Birmingham area tournaments include Dr. Campbell and Ralph Larson; Stan Wexley and Tuckie Stinson; Grace Miller and Joan Distler; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Malstrom; Mr. Botter and Lucille Beck; Mr. and Mrs. Herman, Jim Fenwick and Kay Clinton; Henry Georgia and Jim Noren; Jean Hugh and Shirley Campbell; Ralph Tyson and B. Pope.

Several hands that I have produced recently advocated the Carter Variety of the Stayman. No Trump Response. In the Toledo tournament, I had the pleasure of playing against Dave Carter. The reason it was a pleasure, was that we were able to garner 24 points out of a possible 24 points against his seeded pair.

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| I | 24    | 1.50 | 1.75 | 1.93 | 2.09 | 2.25 | 2.38 | 2.48 |
| G | 28    | 1.60 | 1.94 | 2.09 | 2.24 | 2.40 | 2.49 | 2.84 |
| H | 32    | 1.92 | 2.10 | 2.44 | 2.77 | 2.92 | 2.98 | 3.29 |
|   | 36    | 2.26 | 2.56 | 2.85 | 3.16 | 3.40 | 3.55 | 3.76 |
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