

Collingtonian

~ News and Views ~

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IN MEMORIAM

It's God's will that we grow beyond our racial animosities and that we must commit ourselves to continue that work. That's why I am here. I am not here for any other reason.

John T. Walker
Episcopal Bishop of Washington
July 27, 1925-Sept. 30, 1989

A WORD FROM AN EDITOR

While away I wrote about what I missed about Collington. During that time I had an opportunity to assess my move and the ways it can enrich and enliven my life and allow me to channel my energies now that they are somewhat less abundant than once they were.

Since I have been back, several people have said to me, in one way or another that it must have been hard to leave Maine. The fact is that I have looked forward to returning; nor have I been disappointed. I have been warmly received by my Collington friends and by residents who have come during my absence. I think the thing which continues to impress me the most is the degree to which residents express and demonstrate concern for one another while respecting each other's privacy. Relationships develop naturally, and deepen at a pace which promises real stability.

I have talked to many people this summer about the advantages of life at Collington. How often people agree that such a move would be wise some time in the future -- when they can no longer remain where they are. Collington residents, however, had the courage and the imagination to make this commitment before failing health forced a change and came here eager

to make the most of new friendships, the opportunities for stimulating and varied activities, and new avenues to contribute to the well being of others. It is this spirit which animates our community and which, for me, made my return at the end of the summer a happy homecoming.

Mary C. MacLean



DR. MARION RODRIGUEZ: A PROFILE

Dr. Marion Loyal Rodriguez came to Collington as "Clinic Coordinator" just a year ago, one month before Collington's official opening and the opening of the Health Center. She left the position of Director of Nursing at Hyattsville Manor to become one of the leaders in developing health services for Collingtonians which meet the motto, **Help When You Need It.**

As her title implies, Dr. Rodriguez has broad administrative responsibilities. She not only supervises our outpatient clinic and physical therapy service but is

(cont. on next page)

DR. MARION RODRIGUEZ (cont.)

also responsible for a variety of other essential services including response to health emergencies, provision of needed home care, and transfers of residents to the Health Center when necessary. In addition, she gives residents helpful personal assistance. For example, as many of us can testify, she provides care for relatively minor problems in her office. And any of us so unfortunate as to have a disabling injury or health problem can count on her coming to our units to assess the problem and arrange for any needed transportation and medical care.

Dr. Rodriguez brings to these responsibilities a combination of nursing expertise, management and teaching experience, and a unique educational background. After finishing high school, she studied business administration for a couple of years at a college in Atlanta. She then moved both geographically and educationally -- to Pittsburgh (her birthplace) and to education in nursing, qualifying first as an L.P.N. and then as an R.N. She also married and had four children. (She now has 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.) Though she is still a few years short of the usual minimum age for residence at Collington, she thinks her age is sufficient to help her understand our problems as senior citizens.

To return to her educational achievements, these continued apace. At intervals of a few years, she earned a bachelor's and then a master's degree in education, a bachelor's degree in nursing, and a PhD. This doctorate, awarded by the University of Pittsburgh, was in education with an orientation toward nursing. Her dissertation was concerned with administrative guidelines for directors of nursing in nursing homes.

While achieving this educational record, Dr. Rodriguez held a series of full-time positions in hospitals, nursing and retirement homes, and a Veterans' Administration Medical Center -- all in

the Pittsburgh area -- until she became Director of Nursing at Hyattsville Manor in 1988. Her responsibilities in these positions ranged from those of supervisor in an operating room and head nurse in a psychiatric unit to the very broad duties of administrator of a nursing home. She continues to be much interested in teaching, and this past year taught an evening course for geriatric nursing assistants at a training center in Silver Spring.

What are Dr. Rodriguez' goals as Clinic Coordinator at Collington? When asked this question, she emphasized the following:

1. Helping residents to preserve their independence as long as possible;
2. Providing emergency care quickly and effectively whenever needed;
3. Easing the transition to residential care in the Health Center for those whose condition necessitates moving there; and
4. Making Collington the best life-care community there is!

She also pointed to the motto quoted at the beginning of this article. The goal of providing **Help When You Need It** must and will be met.

Helen Wood
Health Services Committee

MORE ON RECYCLING

Supplementing his answers to the interview published in last month's COLLINGTONIAN, Dick Van Wagenen would like to mention the other six able bodies who indulged themselves on a very hot day at the great newsprint orgy of 5 August. They were Les Whitmer (Board member, who supplied not only muscle but his large pickup vehicle), Jim Reilly (4106), Norb Schnaubelt (1015), Malcolm Wall (1009), Karl Wirth (144), and Joe Butler (Environmental Services staff, with a Collington van).

Update: Bids on the P.G. County hauling contract are due on 6 October and the winner will be required to begin Collington collections the week of 1 January. Our own Recycling Subcommittee held a planning meeting on 28 September.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER**TRAFFIC LIGHT AT LOTTSFORD AND LANDOVER ROADS**

You may wish to extend written words of appreciation to County Executive Parris N. Glendening for accelerating the installation of this light, which will much enhance the safety of comings and goings from Collington. Mr. Glendening clearly heard the concern of staff and residents. The light is expected to function when Lottsford Road opens in late October.

DEDICATION/BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

We are all looking forward to the activities planned for Sunday, October 22, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. You are encouraged to invite family and friends. Additional written invitations may be obtained from Janet Jenkins, Development Coordinator (x2121). Since many guests may be interested in dining in the Dining Room, **all residents who intend to have the midday or evening meal should make reservations.** Advance notice to Dining Services will facilitate service. This celebration is a special opportunity for persons interested in residing at Collington to tour the community. In addition to visiting furnished residences, guests will be able to see unreserved units.

ENTRANCE FEE RATE INCREASE DEFERRED UNTIL November 14

The proposed 2 1/2 % entrance fee rate increase has encouraged many interested persons to explore residence at Collington. Approximately 10% of the cottages and apartments are currently unreserved. Additional time made available by deferring the entrance fee rate increase will allow interested persons a few additional weeks to consider residence here. As always, a major source for interested persons has been those who live here. You are encouraged to help achieve full occupancy in 1989 by making additional referrals to Resident Services (2250).

LIBRARY NOTES

Two important reference books have recently been received.

The Municipal Yearbook. 1988

This is the authoritative source book on urban data and developments published by the International City Management Association. It includes: management issues and trends, Congressional and administrative actions affecting municipalities, profiles of individual cities and counties, sources of information, as well as statistics on cities and counties. The Basic References were compiled and edited by Mary Knobbe.

Congressional Quarterly's Washington Information Directory. 1989-1990.

The directory is arranged by 17 different subjects -- for example, consumer affairs, energy, health, education, the federal government offices, congressional committees, and private non-profit organizations are listed under the appropriate category. Each entry lists name, address, and telephone number, the name and title of the director or best person to contact, and a brief description of the organization.

Aids to use of the volume include an excellent subject index and complete name index. It is an up-to-date, easy, efficient source for a wealth of information.

John Voorhees

GHA MEMBERS

You have received notice of the Open Forum of the Group Health Senior Advocates that is to take place on October 28. It would certainly be a good idea for Collington members to be represented. Maybe we should have a meeting and find out how many of us there are. Then we could draw up a message for these "advocates". Who knows, we might find out something many of us are not sure about -- just how GHA services mesh with Collington's health service. It would be handy to know by the time the "open season" takes place.

If you're interested or have some thoughts on the subject, call 7209.

A WALK IN THE WOODS (cont. from September)

[In the last issue, we left our heroine stranded in the woods after dark, cold and slightly apprehensive. The conclusion of that adventure follows. Editor]

Suddenly I heard a roaring noise and saw a blazing light coming towards me. Belatedly, I realized it was a helicopter with a searchlight on. I therefore went to a little clearing, took off my jacket, and waved it with what I considered an inviting flourish. Since I was bathed in brilliant light, I thought he couldn't fail to see me. We repeated this little performance eight or nine times until he gave up, and so did I. So it was back to the log, and memory games, etc. Then twinkling lights came through the trees from a direction opposite to that from which I had come. "Yoo-hoo," tentatively from me as I wasn't sure whether these were rescuers or rum runners. Rescuers won the toss, and we greeted one another warmly, a ranger and two members of the canine corps, one animal and one human. The human one had a walkie-talkie on which he reported to headquarters that I was found and was all right, and we would start back. The helicopter had not sighted me, but two teams had started out, one from each end of the trail, and they had found me first.

What had transpired was that Liesl had called me, but I never heard her (poor hearing). She concluded that I'd gotten across further up the creek. She was also apprehensive about the lengthening shadows. Anyway, she too crossed the turbulent water, and when she reached the double arrow, she took the path into the woods and came out at dusk in the vicinity of Clifton. She asked to use the phone at a farmhouse and called the park. The rangers told her my car was there, but I wasn't. Between hysterics, Liesl spluttered that I must still be in the woods. They came for her, got a description of me and the path we had taken, called my husband Charles, who, to allay Liesl's fears, said in effect

not to worry, she's been in the woods at night before. (We camped a lot.) The police were very kind and wanted to send someone to sit with Charles, but he declined. They also wanted to know if I had a history of running away! And, of course, they were activating the search.

Back in the woods, we intrepid adventurers (the ranger, the dog, his handler cop, and me) were struggling over the homeward route. The ranger did know a sort of short-cut, not better but shorter. The cop's walkie-talkie went out; one flashlight gave out, leaving us with the weak, flickering light of the remaining one. We got lost and had to wait while the ranger searched for the right path. My feet had turned to stone anyway so I really didn't mind falling into puddles and streams or over roots and logs. The dog had a wonderful time.

Finally, we came to an easier path and soon met two more officers of the law. They decided home was the place for me. I parted from my rescuers with heartfelt thanks and warm handshakes and was delivered home at 3:30 a.m. It was a comedy of errors all around. We never did find out where the rescue team had come from or where the end of that Blue Trail was, if it ever existed. When I looked at the map, the only one I could find was down at Occoquan.

Virginia Colony

BIRD FEEDING

Now that autumn has arrived, concerned Collington residents are embarking on a major project -- feeding the hungry.

Hungry birds, that is.

Our bird-lovers will, of course, be catering to such regular customers as goldfinches, titmice, doves, and mockingbirds. But they'll be hoping also to attract winter visitors coming down from Canada; with luck they could manage to land pine siskins with touches of yellow on their sparrow-like plumage, or redpolls sporting bright red caps on their foreheads, or, perhaps, best of all, the handsome evening grosbeaks smartly

turned out in black, white and yellow and looking something like outsized goldfinches.

How do we attract the birds we want most? Partly, of course, by providing their favorite foods. Most birds relish sunflower seed; some experts say a new small variety sold as Oil Seed is the very best. Thistle seed is ambrosia to many finches. Mockingbirds have a weakness for raisins and berries. Woodpeckers, deprived of their summertime insect diet, go for suet in a big way. Bluejays are especially partial to cracked corn.

The choice of a feeder may help determine success. To attract small birds like chickadees, titmice, and finches, you may have to discourage bullies like bluejays, grackles, and starlings. One way to do this is to use a narrow cylindrical feeder with carefully designed small perches that won't support the weight of bigger birds. An alternative is a wider bowl-shaped feeder with a cover that can be lowered to bar the take-over types. But birds of any size may be driven away from the feeder by squirrels, though these seem to be no real problem at Collington so far. If they do intrude, defensive measures are in order. The same feeder covers that will fend off the bully-birds can serve as anti-squirrel guards. Or you can resort to a feeder especially designed to thwart squirrels: their weight on the entry tray brings down a panel blocking access to the food.

Another key to bird-feeding success may be the feeder's location. For the best watching, of course, the feeder must be near a window. But it's also desirable, where possible, to place it near a tree or shrub that provides a sort of launching pad for birds planning a dash to the feeder. And it may be that some birds feel more at home with a feeder hung from a tree branch rather than one placed atop a pole or on a window sill.

Worth remembering, too, is the standard warning against interrupting a feeding operation once it has begun. If the cafeteria ceases to provide, the customers just may

go hungry in midwinter. If you must be away during the main feeding season, ask a neighbor to take over.

Despite the various do's and don'ts, there really is no great secret to bird-feeding success. Years ago I made a crude wooden tray, stuck it on a window sill, loaded it with an ordinary seed mix bought at a supermarket -- and managed to attract some 20 kinds of birds.

Edward Behr



COLLINGTON PETS

Meet Kintrey - a thoroughbred brindle Scottist Terrier and the pride and joy of Jane and Malcolm Wall. Age six, Kintrey had a grandmother who was pure white - a rarity in this ancient Highland Terrier breed believed to be the oldest variety of the canine race indigenous to Britain. Until age two, he was owned by an American Naval officer and his Japanese wife, who called him Kinta - Man who lives with a Bear. His name was changed to a more appropriate Scottish name - Kintrey, which means Country, when Jane and Malcolm acquired him. Kintrey is friendly but reserved. He never jumps or licks you. His favorite pastime is riding in the car draped around Malcolm's neck like a feathered boa neck rest. Kintrey is amenable to training, has been to obedience school, and always politely stops when Jane or Malcolm talk to Collington residents when out for a stroll. Kintrey's favorite food is Cheddar cheese and salted peanuts.

Bob Willing

FOOD SURVEY

An amazing 204 of the 286 Collington residents at Collington in September responded to the recent Food Survey. Although not all replies on all forms were complete, the sheets brimmed over with comments and suggestions about food and service.

Especially significant were the views of 128 persons who "wish to follow a diet low in fat, salt and cholesterol, with abundant fruits, vegetables and whole grains." Also, 72 persons reported physical problems that require dietary restrictions, especially cholesterol, salt and sugar. On the other hand, 60 Collington residents "think I may eat what I enjoy, now that I have reached this age".

Comments on the menus ranged from "I find the entire menu very satisfactory" to "Since I came to Collington in late January the deterioration has gradually increased".

Specific suggestions and comments about the menu varied so much that the Food Committee members collating the results of the Survey could do little more than list them. There was some agreement that more variety would be welcome, that vegetables are frequently overcooked and green beans over-emphasized at the expense of other green vegetables, that fruit is often in short supply on the cold table, that ice cream runs out, and that fruit should be on the dessert list as well as among the salads.

In general, gratitude was expressed to the dining services management, with appreciation for the handicaps they face, particularly the shortage of service help. Accepting and improving buffet service, with assistance to those who need it, was frequently recommended. Many stressed the need for more training of waiters, with emphasis on attention to the usual needs of diners. There were some unhappy comments about the embarrassment of having guests under the present situation. [However, many favorable comments by guests have

been overheard, despite current inconveniences. Editor]

The responses are now in the hands of Collington's Director of Food Services, Rich Baker. He is sharing them with other members of the Dining Services staff and with Doris Henning, Collington's Dietician, who is preparing new menus.

A number of personnel changes have been made in the kitchen, and several older waiters will be augmenting our young friends in the Dining Room. Mr. Baker says he is determined to give Collington the enjoyable, healthful dining that is an important part of the expectations of Collington residents.

Margo Labovitz
Dining Services/Food Committee

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT AT ST. BARNABAS

The first Candlelight Concert of the season at St. Barnabas took place on Sunday, September 24. Collington was well represented in the audience, but it occurred to me that there may be some residents, particularly among those recently arrived, who are not aware of these most enjoyable events.

The Rameau Ensemble, consisting of Peggy Carr, flute, David Mankin, oboe, Robert Snyder, bassoon, and Scott Alexander, harpsichord, with Gary Kirkeby, baritone, played a program of Baroque chamber music by Loeillet, Handel, Couperin, Haydn, J.S. Bach, and Graupner. Most of the selections were off the beaten path, and refreshingly unfamiliar (at least to me). It was especially interesting to hear a sonata for oboe, which has been neglected as a solo instrument since the Baroque period. In spite of the fact that Deems Taylor once termed it "an ill woodwind that nobody blows good," Mr. Mankin's performance of Handel's Sonata No. 2 for oboe was one of the highlights. Also outstanding was Ms. Carr's performance of Bach's Suite in B minor for flute.

Other candlelight concerts will be given every other month through May, the next featuring the Birchwood String Quartet on November 19 at 4 p.m.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

According to a recent conversation I had with members of the Collingtonian Editorial Board, there has been, since the first issue appeared in February, a perception of a latent problem -- what should be done about submitted stories or articles that are longer than news stories and are delightful? Up until now, the Editors skirted the problem, either by asking the authors to cut their copy or by printing half of the offering in one issue and continuing it in the next. The essay, by its very nature, can't be cut (the author tried), can't be divided, and can't be used. Too much is going on at Collington and must be covered. Also the available space is limited by cost.

So the question has to be faced. What can be done now and subsequently? One possible solution is a magazine -- perhaps THE MAGAZINE -- that would be published at convenient intervals and would contain the literary efforts of residents who enjoy writing. (There seem to be quite a lot of them.) This was the point at which I was invited in to check on the interest in and on ways of producing such a publication.

I am, therefore, asking each of you if you would be interested in contributing to such a publication (essays, poetry, short stories...no novels, please) and/or if you would be willing to subscribe to it. If there are enough subscribers and authors, and if we keep the printing simple, we might be able to do it at low cost. Let me know about your reaction by a note in my message box.

Bob Miller, Unit 1017

SO THIS IS AUTUMN

Now far and near on field and hill
We watch the death of chlorophyll
As early autumn rushes in
With xanthophyll and carotin.

I hold that ignorance is bliss,
Considering the fact that this
Is how a botanist perceives
The colorings of autumn leaves.

W.W.Watt

**PARTICIPATING IN
PEACE WITH JUSTICE WEEK**

For seven years, Peace with Justice Week has been a rallying point for growing numbers of people concerned with issues of social justice, peace, and environmental integrity. This year, the week is scheduled for October 16-24. And a long list of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish organizations have joined together in inviting wide participation.

At Collington, our opportunity to participate will be on Wednesday evening, October 18 (in the Chapel at 7:30 p.m.). We shall have with us Diane Stanton-Rich, who served with the Methodist Board of Global Ministries and is now with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, working on energy assistance projects for low-income groups -- including Navajo Indians, whom she has visited. She will talk to us about Peace with Justice issues and also sing some Peace with Justice songs which she has written. And she will bring with her the book **Becoming Peacemakers** of which she is the author (now on the reading list of the United Methodist Women).

Helen Wood

FUN AT THE JOUSTS

Cries of "Charge Knight of Windy Hill" and "Charge Maid of Mid-Valley Vista" blared from loud speakers as we approached the crowded Christ Church courtyard. Here was the Calvert County Jousting Tournament at Port Republic. We had driven down from Collington, which is only about an hour away, and parked along the road. Jousting is Maryland's official state sport, and we were anxious to see this medieval activity. There must have been several hundred spectators from all over Maryland. We met a number of friends from Chevy Chase and Leisure World.

A few jousters were in medieval costume, though most wore blue jeans. Each had a fanciful adopted name and was addressed by that name -- Knight of Twin Rivers Overlook or Maid of Second Hand Rose. After a parade in which each

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FUN AT THE JOUSTS (cont.)

jouster was introduced, the competition began.

In the first joust, two men charged one another, and one was unhorsed. After that, jousts, with lances leveled, would charge down the track at rings suspended over the track, and try to spear a ring. There were always three rings suspended, and a good charger would spear all three rings. However, there were many who came up with two or less.

Jousts were classified as novices, amateurs, semi-professionals, and professionals. The rings were 2 inches in diameter for novices, but much smaller for the more experienced. The pros charged at rings about 1/2 inch in diameter. Some novices came away without any rings; the real pros could spear three rings on every charge.

The smallest jouster was an 8-year old girl riding a pony. She and the pony were so short that she had to hold her spear at a steep angle just to reach the rings. She drew a cheer when she finally knocked a ring off, even though she failed to spear it. Most jousts were tall enough so that they could hold the spear level with the ground, on a line with the rings. The winners had horses with steady gaits that they were obviously accustomed to.

The time went very fast, and the afternoon was over before we knew it.

John Marshall

FULL FARE

I have to relate that the menu is great:

There are so many things to adore
That even a puffin would savor a
muffin.

The spaghetti? A yeti'd want more!

The tender roast beef, I've no
doubt, is a chief
Cause of satisfied sighs at the
table.

Mashed potatoes with gravy would
lead our whole navy

To war to get more, if they're
able.

The chocolate pie makes the gourmet
guests sigh,
The crust's so delightfully flaky.
And the puddingy part makes the
beat of my heart
Reach a rhythm that leaves me quite
shaky.

A well baked potato, a thin-sliced
tomato,
A salad with blue cheese and chives
Would make folks that roam eager
just to get home,
And a sultan take leave of his
wives.

But no one can bake a superb
chocolate cake
Half as well as our pastry chef
can.
A weight watcher's trouble is much
more than double
Resisting it -- woman or man.

The menu is printed, and when we
have squinted
Along the delectable list,
It is not a surprise that
gargantuan sighs
Mark the items we cannot resist.

I should say a lot more about food
that's in store
For the diners in Collington's
Hall,
But I've just had my dinner. I'm
thicker, not thinner.

Full fare is the cause of it all!
William Robert Miller
Collington, June 9, 1989

"PROMISED LAND" ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

A collection of poems I wrote about Collington (**Promised Land: a Life Care Community**) has been accepted for publication by Winston-Derek, Inc, Nashville, Tenn. In his letter of acceptance, Robert Earl, Poetry Editor, said: "...It is not often that we encounter poetry that is suitable to add to our list of authors."

Winston-Derek has a national distributorship that includes public and parochial schools, colleges and universities, churches, libraries, and general as well as Christian bookstores. They mail out more than 50,000 catalogs annually.

Bob Miller

I'M GLAD I CHOSE COLLINGTON

Recently I visited a friend who lives in a continuing care retirement community in southern California. It has both cottages and apartments and different levels of health care. Since it was started over 30 years ago, it also has lovely landscaping. But ---

The kitchen is a closet with a 2-burner stove; no oven, a small under-the-counter "frig, with no freezing capacity, and about the smallest kitchen sink I've ever seen.

Only one cabinet under the sink; but it does have a pantry.

No laundry facilities in the cottages. One has to sign up for a turn in the laundry room, and somehow one is usually doing something else when that turn comes.

Skimpy bath towels, which some residents have complained about.

It is no place for scooters; I saw none in 3 days. The terrain is rough, and often there's a ramp or steps leading up or down to a cottage -- after you've walked up or down the hill.

No room for walking or hiking trails on the 16 acres.

It is one of a number of communities owned and operated by a very conservative church. Recently the Chaplain told the ladies who had been given space in the basement of the chapel for a rummage sale that they would have to vacate, referring to them as the money changers in the temple!

So, despite our growing pains, I'm glad I chose Collington.

Gwen Edwards

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Dr. Albert Bowker chaired the committee which has just selected F. Fernandez, of Dade Co., Florida, as new Superintendent of Schools for the City of New York, one of the most prestigious and difficult secondary education jobs in the country. Dr. Bowker is former Chancellor of the City Universities of New York and of the University of California at Berkley, and most recently had been executive vice president of the University of Maryland.

The Rev. David Hegg, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Morristown, N.J., and his wife Judy have spent the past month as residents of Collington while on a three months sabbatical leave from his parish. He has been studying the ramifications of aging throughout the country while Judy, a librarian at William Paterson College in New Jersey, is investigating newspaper libraries. They will continue their studies in Florida and Southern France. We have enjoyed having them among us.

Francesca Steere, chairman of Collington's flower arranging committee, recently participated in a three day seminar for flower show judges, sponsored by the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs. Held at Tyson's Corner Sheraton, the gathering drew flower arranging experts from all over the country. Francesca spent two years studying flower arrangement in Japan.

John Wilhelm, dean emeritus of the College of Communication at Ohio University, was guest of honor recently at a dinner in Washington hosted by former associates and students to recognize his forty years in the field of foreign journalism. A letter from President Bush was read at the dinner, congratulating him on a career that included stints as a W.W.II war correspondent, a foreign correspondent thereafter, director of McGraw-Hill's world-wide News Service, and 21 years at the university where he sent over 100 students to foreign news bureaus as interns.

Our sympathy is extended to Mildred Fike, whose husband, Stanley, died Friday evening (September 29) at Prince George's Hospital. Mr. Fike, a former newspaperman, served for 24 years as administrative assistant to Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri. The Fikes, longtime residents of Silver Spring, came to Collington the end of June.

FOR ALL THOSE BORN BEFORE 1945

Consider the changes we have witnessed:

We were born before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill.

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens; before pantyhose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes -- and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. How quaint can you be?

In our time, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of". Bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer Jeans were scheming girls named Jean, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins. We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent.

We were before house-husbands, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers and commuter marriages. We were before day-care centers, group therapy and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt, and guys wearing earrings. For us, time-sharing meant togetherness -- not computers or

condominiums; a "chip" meant a piece of wood; hardware meant hardware, and software wasn't even a word! In 1940, "Made in Japan" meant "junk" and the term "making out" referred to how you did on your exam.

We hit the scene when there were 5 and 10 cent stores, where you bought things for five and ten cents. For one nickel you could ride a street car, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi, or enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity, too, because gas was 11 cents a gallon!

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mowed, coke was a cold drink and pot was something you cooked in. Rock music was a lullaby and aids were helpers in the Principal's office.

We were certainly not before the difference between the sexes was discovered, but we were surely before the sex change; we made do with what we had. And we were the last generation that was so dumb as to think you needed a husband to have a baby!

No wonder we are so confused and there is such a generation gap today!

But we survived!!!! What better reason to celebrate?

Submitted by Katherine Kendall

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