

# The Collingtonian

## ~ News and Views ~

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### EDITOR'S NOTE

It has been suggested that I should tell you what I miss about Collington during my extended absence in the Maine woods.

That is really easy, but in order to give a true picture, I must begin by talking about what I do not miss. Does that make you anticipate a litany of complaint? Quite the reverse! Rather it is another way of saying what I value about Collington.

If I do not miss the quiet of the country, with lots of trees and birds and a place for Mischief to take the air, it is because I have all these in spades. For the same reason, I don't miss having breakfast on my porch, the leisure to read the paper (I do miss the POST) or the availability of music and theatre. Maine in the summer provides me with all those things; they are not on my miss list.

What I do miss is being in the midst of a busy community where to venture out is to share friendly response, and to join friends (or new acquaintances) for dinner is to enjoy interesting and varied conversation over fine food.

I recently had a tree taken down before it could fall on my house; at Collington the decision and the fee would have been someone's else responsibility. How nice it was last spring to receive help with a balky fire alarm in the middle of the night and to know that merely taking the phone from its hook would bring a quick response in case of emergency.

The weather is beginning to turn cool here, and although I anticipate staying into September,

you can bet that I shall miss the immediate reaction of my thermostat when the morning temperature is close to 50 degrees. In fact, if you see me around much before the 15th, you will know that being too cold in the morning turned the tide and made me hasten home to the things I have looked forward to enjoying again ever since I left them behind me in June.

Mary MacLean

### EARLY HISTORY OF COLLINGTON SITE

On July 21, Mrs. Susan Pearl of Prince George's County Historic Commission told us about the land on which Collington now stands. She also showed slides of the old cemetery in early March of this year when she had gone up on the hill near the old barn. Here is a condensation of her remarks.

Collington Episcopal Life Care Community is located on land that was once part of the 375-acre Waring family plantation called Heart's Delight, which was purchased in 1721 by Marsham Waring. When he died in 1732, he bequeathed the land to his son Basil, who built the plantation house and lived there with his family until his death in 1793. His tombstone is still in place in the graveyard.

Basil Waring left a widow, Susanna Darnall Waring, and five grown children. The widow continued to reside at the plantation house described in 1798 in the first Federal Direct Tax as a frame dwelling, 30 feet square with a hip roof and an addition that measured 24 by 28 feet; the house was assessed at \$600., at that time a

(cont. on next page)

**EARLY HISTORY OF SITE (cont.)**

substantial sum for a frame house. In addition, within the one-acre nucleus of the plantation there were eight other buildings: a kitchen, a milk house, a meat house, a corn house, a stable/carriage house, a poultry house, an overseer's house, and a storehouse. There were six other buildings on the plantation: one large slave quarter, two smaller quarters, a barn, and two tobacco barns. The labor force consisted of 32 slaves. Susanna Waring died in 1806, and is buried beside her husband. (In addition to the graves of Basil and Susanna, there are the graves of their three-year old grandson, Henry Waring Brooke, and of their son-in-law, Jesse Wharton.)

The plantation passed to the eldest son, Marsham Waring I of Heart's Delight, who had to mortgage the property in 1810. He died in 1812, and the plantation was sold to pay his debts to a man named Lufboro of Georgetown.

It was Marsham Waring II of Heart's Delight who recouped much of the family property, including Heart's Delight and three other parcels of land -- St. Andrews, Three Sisters, and Orphan's Gift. He renamed the plantation Warrington. After his marriage in 1824, he built a new plantation house to the east of the old one. There he lived until his death in 1860. He is buried with members of his family in the graveyard on the grounds of the Warrington plantation, now known as Enterprise, or the Newton White Estate.

In this century, Warrington was purchased by Newton White, a retired U.S. naval officer, who had once had command of the U.S.S. Enterprise. He developed the land into a model dairy farm and built the brick mansion which still stands there. After his death, his widow sold the property to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The house, the Newton White Mansion, is now

available for receptions, weddings, etc., and the grounds have been developed into the Enterprise Golf Course.

By E. A. Belinky

**HOMER GUDELSKY**

Benefactor of Collington, Homer Gudelsky, on whose gift of 128 acres we live, died July 13, in Baltimore of leukemia.

Through his activities as a developer, including Tysons Corner and Wheaton Shopping Center, he had "shaped much of the suburbs encircling Washington" according to the **WASHINGTON POST**.

He wanted to put the acreage on which Collington is built to philanthropic use. So in 1981, he offered it to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington as the site for a continuing care community. The next year he followed up with a \$50,000 gift to take care of the expenses involved in obtaining the Certificate of Need that was required before any building could take place.

Among his many other benefactions were: University of Maryland Hospital, Baltimore; Strathmore Pavilion in Rockville, Maryland; Public TV programs "Mr. Rogers" and "Reading Rainbow;" the Maryland Center for the Handicapped; the University of Maryland Veterinarian Center; and laboratories and dormitories in Israel.

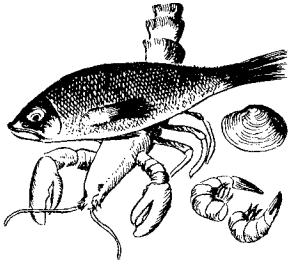
We who live in this spacious sylvan community are his debtors.

Betty Clark

**SOIL IMPROVEMENT**

There are some residents at Collington who might be interested in the fact that on September 22, at 10:30 a.m., Bob Stewart from the University of Maryland is planning to come to the Flower Room and the area outside (between there and the apartment building, where the original landscaping plans called for a rose garden and/or cutting garden). He has offered to help with plans for improving the condition of the clay soil.

Francesca Steere



### RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS

"There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern or inn."

Samuel Johnson, March 21, 1776

**The Sly Horse Tavern** 2 Village Green, Crofton. Md. 1-301/721-4550. Open weekdays for lunch at 11:30 a.m. and for dinner from 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. Open Saturdays from 12 noon on. Sunday brunch at 12 noon and Sunday dinner beginning at 4:00 p.m. Open Bar. Wine, beer, and cocktails served.

**The Sly Horse Tavern**, with its colonial decor and its informal atmosphere, though a little noisy, has charm and good food. On one occasion, we dined elegantly with candles. It was well worth the visit.

Entrees usually on the dinner menu range in cost from \$12.75 (Wiener schnitzel) to \$17.95 (twenty ounce choice T-bone steak) and include, in addition, crab imperial, Virginia country scallops, grilled mahi mahi, Chesapeake backfin crab cakes, choice N.Y. sirloin, grilled lamb chops, chicken of the day, Chef's catch of the day, and Chef's veal of the day. There is also The Horse Sheet, which includes a soup, various special entrees, a beer of the week and a wine of the week.

I selected the Veal of the Day, Veal Rockefeller (\$15.50); the veal was topped with a rich spinach - cheese cream sauce and served with au gratin potatoes and steamed mixed fresh vegetables - - very appetizing. Others in the party chose Grilled Salmon (\$15.50), excellent though possibly a trifle overcooked. All entrees were preceded by a salad with generous portions of greens and pieces of fresh vegetables mixed with a delicious House dressing.

Appetizers range from Stuffed Mushroom Caps (\$4.95) to Texas Barbecued Shrimp (\$6.50). Soups such as Vegetable Beef, French Onion au Gratin, and Cream of Crab are available. A recent lunch menu offered Split Pea Soup and New England Clam Chowder, a Spanish Omelette, a Diet Center Entree - Ocean Perch Supreme with a House Salad (\$7.25), a Curry Chicken Salad on Rye (\$4.95), Veal with a Port Wine Sauce (\$7.25) and the Catch of the Day - Blackened Red Snapper (\$6.95). The vegetable served was Steamed Zucchini.

Desserts included Mile-high Pie (a mountain of various ice creams with chocolate sauce), Raspberry Cheese Cake with whipped cream, Williamsburg Rum Pie, Chocolate Mocha Divine, and Key Lime Pie - delectable, but loaded with calories!

**The Sly Horse Tavern** is just off Route 3, which begins at the junction of Routes 50 and 301. You either take 50 (east from the outer Beltway) to 3 north. Or, you take 202 to Central Avenue (Route 214), turn east and go to Route 301, and then go north about 10 miles to the junction of 301 and 50, where you pick up Route 3. You are now on your way to Crofton. When you reach Crofton, you will see a large brick wall gateway on your right marked CROFTON in large letters. Turn right and drive through the gateway entrance. Shortly, on your right, you will see **The Village Green** and **The Sly Horse Tavern**.

Bob Willing

### BIRD OF THE MONTH--Eastern Kingbird

Happily, the Eastern Kingbird is a species that has returned to spend the summer around our lake. Since its food consists mainly of flying insects, we should all welcome it. This bird is slightly smaller than a robin with a dark and white breast. However, the marking to look for is a white band across the bottom of its tail. The name comes from the aggressive behavior, especially toward larger birds, such as crows and hawks, which might pose a threat to their nests and young.

## UPCOMING LECTURES ON HEALTH PROGRAMS

We Collingtonians will have an opportunity this Fall to learn more about health matters of special interest to us and about how to deal with them. Our Health Care Committee, after consulting with the staff of Collington's Health Services, is planning a series of lectures on health problems, starting the end of September. The Committee would greatly appreciate hearing from you about those topics you think should be discussed.

The first speaker will be Dr. Edgar Weiss, the psychiatrist on line to provide any psychiatric or psychological services needed by Collington residents. On September 28, at 11 a.m., he will talk to us about depression and how to avoid and surmount it. On November 9, he will speak about the problems of Alzheimer patients and how to meet their needs.

Suggested topics for other lectures include: arthritis, hypertension, Parkinson's disease, and the complicated issue of catastrophic health insurance. Which of these subjects would be of interest to you? Are there other health problems you would like to have discussed? Have you any suggestions about possible speakers?

Please give your suggestions and comments to Morris Oxman, Chair, Health Care Committee (Unit 4002; Phone 7334)

Helen Wood



## MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AT COLLINGTON

Since January 1989, the second Monday in each month has been a time of merriment for all persons who have birthdays in that month. Each such birthday party has been marked by a theme illustrated in the colorful handmade invitations and carried out in the program.

Highlights have been:

- JANUARY:** Skit **Romeo and Juliet** with John Marshall and Carroll Shaw
- FEBRUARY:** Fun game with all persons participating in "You Know You are Growing Older when..."
- MARCH:** Irish songs with Bill Himelright, and Who am I? game.
- APRIL:** Theme "April Showers and Flowers", music by Al Folop and Newton Blakeslee, "My Happiest Birthday" by Elizabeth Barton.
- MAY:** Crowning of the May Queen (Callie Hanson) by Prince Collington (Bob Miller) who read an original poem to the Queen. Gwen Edwards, Lorraine Phillips, and Maude Robinson sang "Welcome Sweet Spring-time" with Virginia Colony at the piano. Poems of Spring by Helen C. Kelley and singing and dancing to the Queen by The Frivolous Few (Helen Eisenhart, Cornelia Marshall, Maude Robinson, Conna Shaw, and Alice Thomsen).
- JUNE:** Theme "Graduating from Collington". All birthday persons received certificates. The Singing Group sang graduation songs (under Al Folop and Virginia Colony) and The Collington Song written by Helen Bellman, two piano numbers by Helen Bellman, "On Being Graduated to Collington" by Mary Price and Helen Wood. Charge to graduates by Martha Cox.
- JULY:** The Singing Group sang patriotic songs including the Collington Hymn (words by Bob Miller and music by Helen Bellman). John Marshall on his great grandfather who wrote "My Country 'Tis of Thee", and readings by John Voorhees and J. B. Ross. Theme "Collington Patriots" and each birthdayer was awarded a certificate.
- AUGUST:** Theme "Good Old Summer Time/Vacationtime" with Helen C. Kelley "On Being Born in Iowa" and Isabel Gerhard "On Being Born in Japan". Each birthdayer was identified by place of birth and his/her

preference for vacationing. Bob Willing at the piano for summer and nineties songs. Special feature was chartering "The Nineties Club" with members as follows: Robert Cook, Gladys Eagle, Arthur W. Fawcett, Mary Hyman, Grace Knoeller, Matilda Schelle, Dorothy Shaffer, and Caroline Ware. Caroline Ware, whose birthday fell on the 14th (the day of the party), spoke on "What it Means to be Ninety".

Two common features of all birthday parties are: 1) the introduction (which takes a different form each month) of all birthdayers, and 2) a beautiful birthday cake (with design of flower of month) and punch.

Birthday parties are under the auspices of the Hospitality Committee.

Now, we need your ideas for theme, program, participants, invitations, etc. for the coming months. We urge you to call Ruth Quarles #7279 and help make the parties even more joyous and memorable.

This activity includes EVERYONE...sooner or later YOU will be there!

Ruth Quarles

### BONNET BELLE

Hats and Helen go together  
 In this or any other weather!  
 Her hats are always ultra chic,  
 And, when she passes a boutique,  
 An occult force restrains her there  
 She pauses, turns, begins to stare,  
 And then, drawn by some super force  
 Goes in, "to simply look", of  
 course!

But "looking" seems to lead to  
 "trying",  
 And "trying" always ends in buying!  
 Triumphant, presently she surges  
 Out in the Mall, and she emerges  
 Attired as a true fashion plate.  
 We know we never have to wait  
 To see the latest Paris fashion  
 While Helen has this lovely  
 passion!

William Robert Miller

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON RECYCLING

A reporter from THE COLLINGTONIAN recently put to Dick Van Wagenen some questions about recycling with which many residents have been concerned. The following interview resulted:

**Q.** What is the overall P.G. County plan for recycling, and what stage has it reached?

**A.** The plan is to provide a recycling opportunity for as many people as possible and to keep it voluntary as long as possible. The present pilot program, of which Collington is to be a part, will cover some 10,000 residences at start up and is expected to cover about 20,000 more in the next few months. If the voluntary programs fail to cover the whole County in 2 years or so, legislation will be sought.

**Q.** What was the result of the recent pick-up of newspapers at Collington?

**A.** The Collington effort of August 5 cleaned out the newspapers that had been put aside by many of us since we moved in. Seven men (five residents, one Board member, and one staff member) loaded two trucks with approximately 6 cubic yards of newsprint, accompanied the trucks to the County recycling collection point some 8 miles away, and unloaded them. It took nearly 3 hours.

**Q.** Will Collington receive any reimbursement for material turned over to the County for recycling, or will the financial benefit come entirely from a reduction in our trash collection bill? If we save newspaper and also glass and metal for recycling, the amount of our trash will obviously be greatly reduced.

**A.** That's correct. Any financial gain will be indirect. However, the major reason for recycling is to save materials that would otherwise be wasted and to save landfill space.

**Q.** Will Collington or the residents be called upon to finance any portion of the program?

**A.** No.

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## RECYCLING (cont.)

**Q.** What part of the program will individual residents be asked to undertake?

**A.** The general shape of the system can be outlined here, but the details still have to be designed and agreed upon.

The County will supply a plastic basket to each living unit. This will be used as a receptacle for cans and bottles. Newspapers will be bundled in paper grocery bags or tied. The Collington staff will separate cans from bottles after collecting the baskets.

**Cottage** residents would put out the baskets and papers when they put out their trash -- twice a week, as at present. The only two extra steps, according to present thinking, would be the bundling of the newspapers (also separating slick paper from newsprint) and the rinsing of bottles (but not washing them or removing labels).

**Apartment** residents would place the newspapers and the recycling basket at a place on each floor that has not yet been designated. All other trash would be placed in the chute, as at present.

The Recycling Subcommittee plans to meet in September to begin drafting a precise plan to be agreed upon by the Residents Council and P.G. County.

**Q.** When is the recycling system expected to begin?

**A.** It will probably be the end of the year. The County has already held the pre-bidding conference on its bidding documents and has drafted amendments. The winning bidder, however, requires 60 to 90 days to prepare before operating, so this looks like December or January. Until then, we will have to discard any recyclable materials that we cannot store in our own units.

**PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE HUMMINGBIRDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 15--so they won't be tempted not to migrate.**

## LIBRARY NOTES

1. The magazines displayed on the back wall of the Reading Room of the Library are for your perusal there or in your residence.
2. A small box marked "Questions - Suggestions" has been placed on the Library "Charge Out Desk." Your comments are welcomed.
3. **The Harvard Medical School Health Letter** is currently placed on a table in the Reading Room. This prestigious publication for the layman merits the attention of all residents.
4. Watch this column for news about your Library.

John Voorhees, Chair  
Library Committee

## FROG CROAK

Why is a tree frog in the wet grass?

A frog in the grass? Alas, alas.  
Where does frog go when water leaves clay?

Down in the culvert, to sit there  
and pray?

Anonymous

## ANSWER THE DOOR, EVEN LATE AT NIGHT

If you are awakened from a deep sleep some night at Collington because the doorbell is ringing continually and there is a loud knocking, don't just lie there. Get up, look through the peep-hole in the door, and shout. You may deeply regret it if you don't.

The other night shortly after 11, I had just fallen into a deep sleep when I heard an awful racket at the door of my cluster home. I told myself it was probably a drunk; so I decided to ignore it. But, the noise kept getting louder. Finally, in disgust, I got up and approached the door shouting, "Why in the devil are you making all that noise this late at night? Go away and let me get some sleep!" Immediately, the reply came, "Your son in Tennessee has been trying to reach you for over an hour. Your phone must be off the hook." They

went on to explain that my son had telephoned Security and asked them to check that I was OK...I usually did not go out at night. They asked if I knew my son Frank's phone number. "Of course," I replied, "and I will call him immediately".

But when I tried to put through the call, I discovered that my telephone was indeed dead. So I tried to use the one by the TV and to my annoyance found this little-used phone was off the hook. When and why, I wondered; then I remembered that a friend had phoned and asked me to look up some address for her. I had replied via my bedside phone, completely forgetting about the other phone.

Thank heavens, my son could now stop worrying about me and get some sleep! Unless Security had awakened me, I could have gone for a day or two without discovering that the seldom-used phone was off its hook. Three cheers for Security!

Martha Furman

#### REMEMBER OUR ANNUAL MEETING

On August 25, 60 days prior to the date of the Annual Membership Meeting of the Collington Residents Association, Inc. (October 25), each Collington resident was advised by the Nominations Committee of the proposed slate of officers to be voted on. It was noted that additional candidates can be nominated by a petition signed by 25 members; the petition must be submitted to the Nominations Committee no later than September 25. Petition forms can be obtained from Eileen Henderson, Unit 1116, X7231.

#### STAMP CLUB

The newly formed Stamp Club will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month at 2:00 p.m. in the Game Room. Please save any interesting foreign or domestic stamps and bring them to the meetings. There you will hear our plans for making the Stamp Club an interesting venture.

Helen Hindle

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

##### ENTRANCE FEE RATE INCREASE

On October 1, entrance fees for Collington will increase by 2 1/2 percent. This adjustment does not affect either residents or future residents who will move to Collington by November 14. It will, however, cause interested persons, particularly those who have been thinking about residence at Collington in 1989, to explore present possibilities.

You residents have had a tremendous impact on those who are interested. As they tour the campus and meet you, they are impressed with our friendly and interesting Community. Continue to encourage your friends and relatives to consider living at Collington.

##### PERSONS MOVING TO COLLINGTON IN 1989

Approximately 60 cottages and apartments are presently vacant but will be occupied before the end of the year. Biographies of most of these future residents are already in the Library. You may find it interesting to read about your neighbors prior to as well as after their arrivals.

The staff is making every effort to be ready for the additional effort these new residents will require. New employees are joining us, but it will take time for them to understand their duties. Please be patient with us during the busy months ahead.

##### FELLOWSHIP FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

With only one full quarter remaining in the year, many residents are reviewing their charitable giving with an eye to reducing anticipated tax bills. If you are among these planners or simply want to help to continue the achievement of economic diversity among our residents, make a contribution to the Collington Fellowship Fund. There are applicants for residence who could reside at Collington if additional help were available. As a group they have been in careers that were

(cont. on next page)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont.)**

less remunerative than many, but their work helped others, and they are interesting people. With another \$20,000 in principle, enough additional earnings can be produced by the Fund to allow two more Fellowship Fund applicants to move to Collington. Foundation and corporate contributions are being pursued, but your assistance is important.

**A WALK IN THE WOODS**

By Virginia Colony

Easter came early the year Liesl and I went to Bull Run Regional Park Good Friday afternoon to see the Virginia bluebells, which were at their peak. In the parking lot at the Trail entrance, we saw a sign, "Blue Trail, 8 miles." To Liesl, a Sierra Club member, 8 miles is the equivalent of a stroll around the block, and I wasn't about to chicken out. As we went, we enjoyed the flowers, bluebells as well as others, and kept an eye out for the blue trail marks. We also met some friends coming from the other direction, and they reported that a ranger had told them not to go beyond the bridge.

However, when we got to the bridge, Liesl said, "It's too nice to stop here." We were walking along the creek now and the road was full of puddles, ruts, and mud because the creek had overflowed earlier. Then the path led us into the woods and up fairly steep hills before it came down again to the creek. Now we had to cross several little streams that had swollen over their banks so crossing was difficult but not impossible until we finally met one wide enough so we probably would have to turn back. I volunteered to go up this stream to look for an easier crossing, which I did by struggling through underbrush, brambles, more mud, etc. (Liesl had her right arm in a cast.)

After I had gone a fair distance and found nothing better, I returned to where I had left Liesl, but she wasn't there. Had

she retreated or advanced? Calling produced only bird laughter. However, I thought that we were so close to the end of the trail that she probably wouldn't have gone back. It was likely she had crossed the creek after all, and if she could, I could. I did have two good arms. So I did. I found a log that I could use to go to a little island in the middle of the stream. From there, I could leap from hummock to hummock and then scramble up a muddy bank. It was comforting, however, that the blue marks continued.

All this, of course, took considerable time, and the shadows were lengthening. But I expected to come out at the end of the trail at any moment so I marched along. I did get off the trail at one point when I followed a path for quite a distance before I noticed there weren't any blue marks. Still I did get back to the correct trail and then I continued until I came to a sign with arrows. One pointed into the woods, and the other into the creek. This made it difficult. I did a little more reconnoitering but it was soon too dark to see the blue marks, so there wasn't anything I could do but settle down for the night. Furthermore, I was pretty tired. So I found a good log and put it against a tree, which made a good seat. No way was I going to flounder around the woods at night. It was getting chilly, but I knew the temperature would go down to only 35, so I didn't think I would freeze. When I started to shiver I'd get up and jog in place until warmed up. Eventually the stars came out which was helpful because then I could tell that time was really passing.

(To be continued)

**PIANO RECITAL**

On August 22nd, we were treated to a delightful piano recital. The young and talented pianist, Kenner L. Bailey from Missouri, currently working toward his degree in Piano Performance from Northeast Missouri State



University in Kirksville, Missouri, presented us with an exuberant performance executed with impressive virtuoso technique and contagious enthusiasm.

The program of three compositions, one classic, one romantic, and one modern, provided him with an excellent opportunity to use his talent to great effect, technically and stylistically. The opening Bach number, the "Chromatische Fantasie und Fuge" with its crashing chords and racing runs and trills, was performed with great mastery notwithstanding its technical demands. The contrast between the bravura of the "Fantasie" and the more controlled rendition of the "Fuge" was striking. The "Mephisto Waltz" by Franz Liszt was likewise technically demanding but presented no problem for the pianist. It was a rousing performance with great style well suited to the music itself, in turn dramatic and then lyric, so typical of Liszt. But it was in the final number, the Prokofieff "Toccata", Opus 11, that Mr. Bailey seemed most at home. Prokofieff's music, when written, was considered impossibly dissonant, but now, some 50 years later, is no longer shocking. Certainly it is colorful and dramatic, combining elements of romanticism with the more astringent modernist idiom.

It was obvious that Mr. Bailey thoroughly enjoyed this music and performed it with great flair. It was gracious of Mr. Bailey to add a few personal comments before his performance of the Liszt and Prokofieff compositions. It is easy to understand why he has already won many piano competitions in the Midwest. He will be entering the William Cappell Piano Competition at the University of Maryland in 1990. We wish him well.

Emily Abouchar



## PENNYSAVER FUN

Don't toss that **Pennysaver** into the closest wastebasket! You can enjoy free weekly entertainment by speculating what may lie behind some of the ads. What do you think is the story behind these?  
**REFRIGATOR, FREE, GREEN...**: ["Either you get rid of that green monstrosity, or else..."]  
**SET OF WEDDING RINGS (THREE)**: [Yes, polygamy is illegal.]  
**CAMPER'S METAL-FRAMED BACKPACK**: [Hiking during our recent monsoon season wasn't much fun, was it?]  
**AM CHANGING MY FRAGRANCE**, selling all unused Avon "Pearls and Lace": [Guess the new boyfriend is turned off by Pearls and Lace.]  
**LARGE BAG WOMEN'S CLOTHING**: [Presume this is a large bag, not large bag women.]  
**LADIES'S GOLF SHOES...EXCELLENT CONDITION**: [New shoes won't guarantee an improved score.]  
**LADIES' LARGE SLACKS**: [Ah, at last a diet that worked.]  
**PLATO, ARISTOTLE, KEPLER**  
**BRITANNICA**: [We tried to give our children culture, but they preferred heavy metal.]

M.H.Parry

## "AMERICA"

When we celebrated the July birthdays, I thought it was appropriate to note that the first public performance of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" took place on July 4, 1832, in the Park Street Church, Boston.

The story begins with Samuel Francis Smith who was born in Boston in 1808. After graduating from Harvard, he entered Andover Seminary, Andover, Mass. In 1832 while a student in the Seminary, he was given a German book of songs to translate for his friend, Lowell Mason, a composer who later became known as the "Father" of American church music. As Smith described it: "Falling in with the tune of one of them and being pleased with its simple and easy movement, I glanced at the German words. Seeing it was a patriotic hymn, I instantly felt the impulse to write

"AMERICA" (cont.)

a patriotic hymn of my own to the same tune." In half an hour he had produced "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

The first verse is very patriotic, and the last is religious. The first sings of "sweet land of liberty"; the last to "our Father's God".

This song, as noted, was first sung at Park Street Church, Boston, on July 4, 1832. It became very popular and was considered the unofficial national anthem until 1916, when Congress established the Star Spangled Banner as the national anthem.

Samuel Francis Smith was a member of the famous class of '29 at Harvard which included Oliver

Wendel Holmes as a member. In a class poem at a reunion, Holmes wrote:

"And there's a nice youngster of excellent pith,  
Fate tried to conceal him by naming him Smith.  
But he shouted a song for the brave and the free  
Just read on his medal: "My Country 'Tis of Thee".

Samuel Francis Smith lived to be 87, and when he was in his early 80s, he took a trip around the world to Burma to visit his son, my grandfather. At a meeting in India where he was honored guest, he was introduced by his English host as the author of the American national anthem "Yankee Doodle".

John F. Marshall



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