



Sandra and Beth Ray

Warsaw Girls To Attend Debutante Ball

Sandra and Beth Ray of Warsaw will be among five Duplin County girls highlighted by the 1983 Debutante Ball in Raleigh September 9. The Rays are especially pleased; they say sisters seldom get invited together.

"I often wonder who nominated us," Beth Ray, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Horace T. Ray, said. "The whole summer has been exciting and the experiences, fun. But, I have to admit I have a great deal of curiosity and wish I knew who to thank for the nomination." Each year debutantes are selected by delegates of the Terpsichorean Club of Raleigh. The delegates reside in different parts of the state and nominate girls within their community. Each delegate remains anonymous to the debutante and their family. Nominations are made each season and all invitations are mailed on the same day.

"The whole summer has been a good experience," Sandra Ray said. "I have met a lot of new people from all parts of the state as we have attended debutante parties this summer. It has been a lot of fun and I consider the invitation a great honor, but right now I don't get too nervous thinking about the ball. I guess it will hit me that night." As debutantes, the Rays have attended summer functions planned for regional and statewide 1983 debutantes. The summer functions are concluded with the presentations of the young women by their fathers at the Debutante Ball during the weekend of September 8-10. The ball and weekend events are planned by the sponsoring organization, the

Terpsichorean Club.

The 1983 Debutante Ball will mark the 57th annual presentation of selected young girls to North Carolina society. The Ball traditionally began as "The Raleigh Fall Festival" in 1923 and it was sponsored by the local merchants. Like all festivals, the annual selection of a queen was the highlight of the celebration and prominent girls from all across the state participated as candidates for the top title of the Raleigh Fall Festival. Each year the queen was crowned by the Governor.

The Terpsichorean Club was formed in 1927 and held its first ball that year. The club name is taken from the Greek mythological muse "Terpsichore," who was the goddess of dancing and choral song. The ball has been given each year since 1923 with the exception of years 1942-1945, during World War II.

Beth Ray is a junior at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson where she is majoring in business and economics. Beth is 20 years of

Card Of Thanks

We would like to express our appreciation and love to all our friends, neighbors and relatives for every act of kindness shown to us since Lori's accident.

To the Kenanville Jaycees, we would like to say we will always have a special place in our hearts for you and your organization. Many thanks to this fine group of young men. May God bless each and every one of you.

Larry and Sue Mitchell
Trina and Lori

Along the Way

By Emily Killeto

Growing up in Duplin County, the folks hear and tell many stories about how towns got their names or other interesting facts about the municipalities.

Even when an article is published like the September 16, 1949, article in THE DUPLIN TIMES about how the town of Warsaw got her name, the reader has to be reminded this is just one of the stories or legends. According to the article, the town of Warsaw was officially named when a post office located. The community had grown to the point which the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad chose to pass through the settlement and establish a commissary there. When the commissary opened, railroad officials sent Thaddeus Love from Wilmington to Warsaw as manager of the store.

Due in part to the growth

spurred by the railroad in the community, a postoffice was soon to be established and a name was needed. And, according to the 1949 publication, the citizens requested to name the office after Thaddeus Love and the newly marketed novel

"Thaddeus of Warsaw." Due to the length of the name, Thaddeus of Warsaw, postal officials refused the entire name and shortened it to just Warsaw.

The article did not point out the reason natives of the settlement requested the postoffice be named after a man who had been in the community such a brief time. Today we do know that many postoffices were established within towns and operated by store clerks. The postal service was small business and shop owners could earn a little extra money selling stamps and distributing and collecting community mail.

There is a good possibility Thaddeus Love operated the postoffice from the railroad commissary at Warsaw.

As each town ages, it suffers growing pains. The growing pains are easier seen looking back and one example within Warsaw is evident from an article published in the August 5, 1949 issue of THE DUPLIN TIMES. The county of Duplin established an agricultural-based economy early and markets for the produce were built in each town. Wallace became famous for its huge strawberry market and Warsaw had a strawberry and produce market, too.

As time passed, the Warsaw produce market was abandoned and the town was left with a large investment in the sheds and lots. After the market was abandoned,

the town participated in the opening of a food cannery. The cannery was opened at the site of the old market.

The market sheds were converted into a cannery building by R.F. Wadkins. The cannery opened in 1944 preserving 3,500 cans of local fruits and vegetables. During the summer of 1949, about 10,000 cans of local produce had been preserved.

The sheds, along with \$60, was donated by the Warsaw town board; Duplin County Commissioners contributed \$300 to the project and local citizens gave tanks for cooking vats to help establish the cannery. The purpose of the cannery was to teach local people to can in tin containers and preserve the summer surplus of Duplin produce. The operation was run on a non-profit basis.

NAMED NATIONAL AWARD WINNER

The U.S. Achievement Academy announced that Miss Veronica DeWitt has been named a 1983 U.S. National Award winner, in business education.

Veronica, who attends James Kenan High School, was nominated for this award by Mrs. Grace Carlton, a typing teacher at the school. Veronica's name and biography will appear in the official yearbook published nationally.

Veronica is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy DeWitt

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