

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

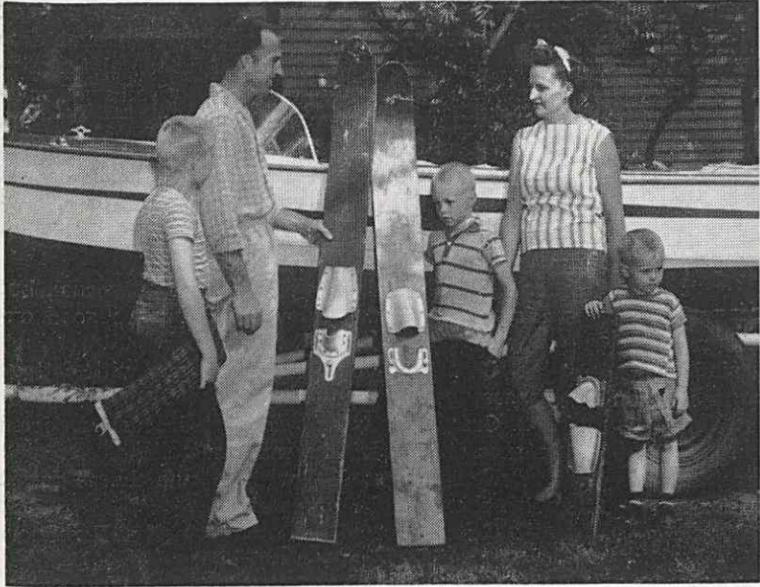
GASTONIA, N. C., JUNE, 1958

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One must never lose time in vainly regretting the past, nor in complaining against the changes which cause us discomfort, for change is the very essence of life. —Anatole France

Laughter is God's hand on a troubled world — it 'doeth good like a medicine.' Learn to laugh with the world and at yourself, and life will take on a new meaning for you. —Oliver G. Wilson

VOLUME VII



READY FOR FUN IN THE SUN

June, the month which brings the marriage of Spring and Summer, walks with the glory and freshness of a dream. It conjures up a million memories and suggestions of good-time living under Mid-South sun. To the Firestone employee from the Carolinas' hill country maybe it means berry-picking time, a kingdom of highland flowers, box suppers and fried chicken, family reunions and bare-foot boys heading for the swimming hole. For the folks in the Piedmont, June could mean these things too, but most likely it includes a reference to fishing and outing along the Catawba, the Santee Cooper or anywhere else a-body can pilot a boat. The William Massey family represents many Firestone people who make boating a part of their summer fun. In the picture, from left: Billy, Mr. Massey, Ronnie, Mrs. Massey and Timothy get ready for a day of skiing and fishing on the Catawba. Mr. Massey works in Twisting.

Gastonia Area Boy Scouts Earn Achievement Honors

Thirteenth Top Company Award Goes To Gene Martin

For the 13th consecutive year, a boy from the Gastonia area has received the Firestone Company's highest honor for excellence in Scouting. Gene P. Martin of McAdenville was presented the Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., Award at a May 29 dinner-meeting ceremony honoring him and 48 other Boy Scouts for outstanding achievement during the past year.

Young Martin, rated outstanding in all phases of the Scout program during the contest period from April of 1957 through April of this year, received the engraved silver medallion, symbol of the award named for the Company Chairman. The 14-year-old boy from Troop 2, McAdenville, holds the rank of Life Scout, and has the Bronze Palm and ten merit badges.

Besides the medallion, the winner received a Certificate of Merit, a \$100 US Savings Bond and a check for \$25.75 to help defray expenses for two weeks at Camp Lanier for Piedmont District Scouts, near Tryon, N. C.

Each of the other 48 boys received from Piedmont Scout executive Eugene Jones a Merit Certificate and a check for \$25.75 to apply on expenses at the

Tryon Camp, or for purchase of Scout equipment of their choice.

WINNER of this year's top award is the son of Mrs. Betty Martin of McAdenville. He received a Firestone Merit Certificate at last year's annual Scout banquet. In the rating pro-

gram over the past year he scored 469 points out of a possible 475. His crafts project was a pack frame.

"Gene Martin is a Scout anyone can call 'tops'", comments his scoutmaster, Frank Austin.

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MERITORIOUS SCOUT — General Manager Harold Mercer (center) shows the Harvey S. Firestone Jr. Award to this year's winner of the honor, Gene Martin of McAdenville Boy Scout Troop 2. Looking on is scoutmaster Frank Austin.

AVOCADOS GREW IN GASTONIA

Garden Club Is Winner In National Contest

Firestone Variety Garden Club celebrated its second birthday about the same time its members received nationwide recognition as first-prize winner in an avocado tree contest. The rivalry, sponsored by the Florida Avocado and Lime Commission of Homestead, Fla., was open to all federated garden clubs in the United States.

The club here won a cash award of \$100 for its photo-

graphic entry of a display of four avocado trees as background, with other tropical fruits, variegated pittosporum, spring flowers, and pine cones in different sizes. In the foreground were dessert dishes featuring avocado fruit.

Miss Louise Ballard of Raleigh accepted the \$100 prize for the club at the 29th annual meeting of the National Council of State

Garden Clubs, Inc., in Seattle, Wash., May 20.

SOME months ago Variety Club members saw an advertisement of the contest in a garden magazine. They began an intensive study of the tropical avocado, planted seeds and grew trees for the display.

The contest judges' suggestion of an "imaginative group" likely came about because of the letter which project chairman Mrs. W. R. Turner, Sr. wrote to accompany the entry from Gastonia. In it she depicted the explorers Coronado and Cortez in their separate excursions coming upon Central American natives eating avocados. They were grown there in 1485 for the first time anywhere.

In notifying the club of its good fortune, the contest sponsors said: "Judges were pleased not only with the attractiveness of your display and the beauty of your trees, but they were highly impressed by the wide scope of your club program in your many uses of Florida avocados. You have an imaginative group."

Contest judges were Dr. George D. Ruehle, director of the sub-tropic experiment station; John D. Campbell, Dade county agriculture agent, and professor Frank D. Campbell of the department of marketing at the University of Miami.



ON TV—The Betty Feezor Show at WBTB in Charlotte, May 19, featured the Variety Club because of its winning first place in a national avocado contest. With the emcee of the homemaking show is Mrs. W. R. Turner, Sr. (right). She guided the club in this project which brought Firestone Textiles national recognition. The contest entry display was reproduced for the TV audience.

Stay Alert And Live On Summer Trips

By the time June arrives, the vacation season is in full swing. In view of the fact that a large number of persons die each year in road accidents between Memorial Day and Labor Day, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators sends out some general reminders intended to promote safety on the highway this summer.

The largest single cause of highway fatalities is a highly individual one. A third of our highway deaths occur in non-collision accidents where the car has simply gone off the road or overturned, the AAMVA says. It listed the causes of such accidents as drowsiness and that dangerous trance-like state sometimes referred to as "highway hypnosis."

There are a few simple rules for staying alert at the wheel this summer.

FIRST: Don't drive at all if you are truly tired. The other three rules apply to drowsiness and "highway hypnosis":

1. Drive with windows open; get plenty of fresh air.
2. Talk to others in the car, or if alone, listen to the radio.
3. Make a safety stop every 100 miles or so. Walk around, have a cup of coffee; do not drink anything with alcoholic content.

Good drivers will at all times remember these rules. By putting them into practice, you can save your own life and the lives of others.