

Writers Forum

By George B. Run



MISS AMEY WALKER

"The only way to have a friend is to be one."

By RALPH W. EMERSON
The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas should be called Friendship Month.

At this season, the air we breathe seems to effervesce with friendliness. People meet and exchange friendly smiles and jovial greetings. Everyone is cheerful and eager to pass on the spirit of good will and friendliness.

Now is a good time to cast inhibitions into the sea of forgetfulness. Join the league of likeable-ones—the friendly bunch. There is, my readers, a friendly one than a prestigious prude.

You are probably thinking that it doesn't pay to be too friendly. You're right, it doesn't pay to over do anything. Besides, there is to be taken into consideration the pollutions of our times: lawlessness had increased and the love of the greater number of mankind has cooled off. You have the idea by the horns, "good friends are hard to come by."

Now that the backyards of the world are less restricted by various schisms, people force themselves to be affable and neighborly, nevertheless, even many of these are prone to draw the line where genuine friendship is concerned.

It goes without saying, the world "friend" has various meanings: acquaintances are often considered friends; friendly mannerisms are frequently mistaken for evidence of friendship. Also, you have met folk who readily switch to a first name basis evidence their friendliness. Don't be misled. Some folk would rather die than call you Mr. or Mrs. So, they would rather put everything on a first name basis.

Back to "friend," "Friendship," "friendly." Friend has come to be applied to a wide range of relationships: a business associate, a childhood playmate, a trusted confidant. Too, the word friend has been applied to various businesses: "Friendly neighborhood food markets, friendly travel agents, friendly bankers," "the friendly skies" of an airline. We even have rings and charms as symbols of friendship. As Americans say, "it all depends on what you have in mind: superficial, casual, situational friendships.

The older generation is quick to admit that friendship is not what it used to be. These are they who are no longer giving of themselves—they expect Mohammed to come to the mountain.

Young people, once they get the idea are better givers-away than most grown-ups. Since most of them haven't much money to spend, they have only themselves to give. They are ingenious at thinking of ways of making themselves well loved—friendly. Older people are inclined to project themselves with quantities—money being foremost. They use cash to blaze a pathway to the doors of opportunity—to get better acquainted.

The young are breathtakingly impulsive. They have fewer inhibitions; they are less afraid of being snubbed. They like doing nice things for others—and do it. They act on a generous impulse before it has

time to cool-toned down by some older person whose store house of memory is stuffed with negatives: They know when—

The concept of bygone years, when friendship was regarded as a strong band linking people together almost as closely as blood ties, when friends were a protection against lawless and immoral persons, has nearly withdrawn from these mundane shores. Nevertheless, true friendships do exist and thanks to all persons know the great joys of permanent friends. They know fully the value of friendship—of being friendly. Join others like Miss Amey Walker, develop a lively and interesting personality, become gracious, friendly and lovable.

Amey Walker says, "a friend is a special individual who enjoys the things you like. Someone to talk shop with, go places with. These friendships don't usually include trust, confidence or loyalty but they are nice for sharing experiences with."

Amey is a sophomore at Durham High School; she is a member of the J. V. Cheerleader squad, president of the Girl's Chorus; a member of Union Baptist Church, a teacher of the Primary Class of U. B. Sunday School; also, secretary to the Union Baptist Sunday School; Amey is secretary of the Church's Junior Choir. She is the niece of Mrs. Hester Lyon of 304 Macon Street.

LANDSCAPING TIPS

Different shaped houses require different shaped plants. A tall house, for example, may need spreading plants between the doorway and the corner to lower its apparent height. North Carolina State University extension landscape specialists suggest keeping the planting below the window. If the house is a low ranch-type, it probably needs few foundation plants. Use ground covers and small trees freely. You can get printed information on landscaping your home from the local county extension office.

Garden Time

Espalier-Train Plants For Landscape Design

By M. E. GARDNER
N. C. State University

If you want something different from your neighbors, or wish to create a point of interest in your home landscape, make arrangements now to espalier-train a suitable plant as you have time during the dormant season.

The word espalier means a trellis, framework or wall on which fruit trees or shrubs are trained in flattened form. The trellis may be made by using No. 9 galvanized wire attached to six inch posts and stretched taut. Two or three wires may be attached and spaced about two feet apart, the first wire being two feet above ground. The framework may be shaped according to the pattern you wish to follow in training your plant. Any suitable wall (brick or wood) can be used.

The advantage of the trellis, or framework, lies in the fact that you can place either in full sun. This does not rule out the wall but it will be best not to use a wall in deep shade, as most of the plants suitable for espalier training require some sunshine. The trellis is better adapted for formal patterns while the wall is best suited for informal ones.

While a number of plants are suitable for espalier training, perhaps the most commonly used are full dwarf apple and pear trees, probably because of their early popularity in France and England. Ornamental plants would include pyracantha, lilac, flowering quince, crabapple, forsythia and cotoneaster.

I suggest that you select plants so that training can begin as soon as planted. Ask your local nurseryman to help you select a plant that will require the minimum of initial pruning.

You will want to give your plant some extra care, so begin with a good job of planting. The next step is

selecting and training your main branches so they will conform to whatever formal or informal pattern you select and also to the flat surface, if against a wall.

Frequent pruning during the growing season will be necessary to properly direct the growth and maintain the flattened form. This will consist of careful thinning out and heading back as needed.

It will be necessary that the main stems or branches be tied to the trellis or wall. You can figure out the best way to do this. Just remember that precautions should be taken not to use anything around the branch that will girdle it or constrict growth.

A+ IDEA

Surveys show that motivation can be just as important as a high IQ in the struggle for top grades. One way to instill motivation in your child is to provide a well-equipped study center. It's difficult to concentrate when you have to work in the kitchen, or in the TV room. Junior doesn't need a computer, just a quiet space to call his own. Make sure his supplies are handy. Keep pencil mug, paper clip holder, all the desk-top necessities where they can always be found; taped to the desk with Scotch sealing tape. It's a quick answer to the student who can stretch the "I-can't-find-a-pencil" school of excuses into days of neglected homework assignments.

Technocrats' Techniques

The technocrats are once again commanding our attention, via space walks, moon buggies and the possibility of cassette television. Even today's modern office equipment is becoming "2001" efficient. Making secretarial headlines is IBM's new Selectric II typewriter. It comes with a dual pitch mechanism, allowing the typist to alternate between two distinct spacings with a flick of a lever. Letters and reports can be typed in a large 10 characters-per-inch style; documents and forms in a compact 12 character style. z



MRS. RENA LEE HAWKINS

Mrs. Rena Hawkins to Appear in Community Leaders of America

Link Rena Lee Hawkins, Syracuse New York resident, has been selected to appear in the 1971 Edition of "Community Leaders of America" a publication honoring America's leaders.

Cited for outstanding humanitarianism, Mrs. Hawkins holds membership in and has served numerous local, regional and national organizations of social significance.

Among her affiliations are the United Fund and Red Cross, League of Women Voters, Board of Electors and Urban League of Onondaga

County. Though active in the above organizations, Mrs. Hawkins has found time to serve on the Onondaga County District Attorney's Advisory Council and to complete courses in practical politics.

Founder and first president of the Syracuse Chapter of The Links, Inc.; Mrs. Hawkins also holds the distinction of being founder and first president of Syracuse's National Council of Negro Women.

"Community Leaders of America" will be available early 1972.

short cycle. If pressing is needed, always use a slightly dampened cloth, the specialist advises.

If you plan to use the "machine washable" wool fabrics in home sewing, remember that facings, trimmings, bindings and linings must all be washable, too.

Machine washable wools are especially good for children's clothes, on-the-job clothes for women, robes and winter sportswear, concludes Miss Barrier.

COSMETIC CAPE

When a plastic raincoat becomes too shabby to wear, cut it to waist length, shorten

the sleeves and use it as a "cosmetic cape" when you shampoo your hair, apply make-up or do anything that requires the protection of an easy-to-clean smock.

GREAT GASOLINE DEBATE

A clean car means cleaner air. But who can blame non-technical drivers for being confused when it comes to choosing a non-polluting gasoline?

According to American Oil Co. spokesmen, any gas will keep your car running, if it has the proper octane rating. Big difference: non-lead fuel permits the use of catalytic exhaust emission control systems that cut auto-caused pollution.

So-called "less lead" gas won't work. Even small amounts of the deadly metal foul the air and reduce the life of the catalysts that change pollutants into harmless substances.

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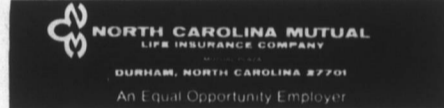


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