

MRS. FOX HOSTESS TO BRIDGE CLUB

Mrs. Gregory Fox was hostess to her Friday night bridge club at her home on Laurel Lane Jan. 25. Mrs. Pat Randolph held high score; Mrs. Harold Patton, low; and Mrs. Joseph Scannell won the bingo prize.

Others present were Miss Martha Covin, Mrs. Jim Uzzell, Mrs. Steve Uzzell, Mrs. Harry Clarke, and the hostess.

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The first glimmer of dawn from the darkness of the depression came in 1940. This, of course, was because the rumblings of war were getting frighteningly close. The government started building miles of barracks and taking the young men for selective service.

I found that I could get 90 cents an hour by going to Ft. Bragg. I was getting \$12.00 per week here. Minnie was working in a cotton mill, but by the time she paid her board and transportation she didn't make much. Well, I packed my tools, a few duds, and left for the post. I had many interesting experiences which I might tell you about sometime, but this is the last sickness of Mama's that I will relate.

I had went to Ft. Bragg in late fall, came home briefly at Christmas, and found Mama ailing. She was 80 then. It was along toward spring that Minnie wrote me that if I wanted to see Mama alive I had better come home. She had quit her job in order to nurse her for Dad was down with the flu, and Len wasn't able to do anything by that time. My children were there with Minnie, and there was a teenaged grandson that Dad had raised, but most of their time was spent in school, and then they had parking to do.

I came home on a week-end and found Mama very sick. There was an infection in her ear and other complications. The worst thing was that she seemed to have lost her zest for living. Her children all had families of their own, this grandson was old enough to make his way. She realized that the

light grayed. Of course there were Dad and Lennie for someone to care for but she was 80 and tired.

Dr. Hemphill was doing what he could. He had performed what amounted to major surgery with no help except Minnie and my oldest daughter, not even local anesthetic could be used. Yes, she was very low, I felt as I went back to my job on Sunday night that this was the last, if something didn't happen to arouse the old-time spark of determination she was gone.

Minnie's daughter was soon going to have her first baby, her time was drawing near. Nothing could keep the mother from her only child. There was nothing to do but my daughter, Daphne, to quit school and take care of Mama. She never went back to school here, she went to Berea the next year. But the miracle had happened—Mama was better, the infection in her head had "broke," and relief had come. It took most of the hearing capacity in that ear, but the old fire was back.

The phenomenon came about this way. One day an elderly, but very charming man was visiting. Now Dad had always had "a way" with women. Mama was laying as if in a coma, we that were there thought it was just a matter of time. During the conversation our visitor said: "Mr. Walker, if the end does come it is possible that you and I might spend our sunset years together." Mama stirred gently, her eyes fluttered open feebly, she looked at Dad and said weakly, "Jule, I'll out-live you!" And she has by more than 32 years.

After deepest sympathy to all those that traverse the North Fork road. The old weeping willow that has stood for so many years beside the stream that flows from the Powell cove near the old Jane Walker place has at last succumbed to the ravages of time and storm, and lies in grotesque wreckage on the ground.

The first time I mustered up nerve enough to visit the (city?) of Black Mountain I remember this tree. It used to be said that if you planted a weeping willow you would surely die when the tree was big enough to shade a grave. But nurserymen have proven this a fallacy. One of the nicest pastoral scenes that I remember is this tree on a hot summer day with a herd of cows in its grateful shade contentedly chewing their cud, and the hazy mountains in the background. I know that its loveliness has been captured by many a photographer. Around this place has always been a favorite hangout for ghosts, many folks say that they have seen a lot of the supernatural along here. Well, it is sad, but the wind will moan no more through the low hanging branches.

Such a magnificent sunset this Saturday evening! We are lucky to be located where we have a good view of the evening sky. There were filmy "mare's tails" spreading up from the western mountains, with edges of yellow ocher, burning into dark orange at the core. Closer were billowing cumulus russet underneath, dark gray on top, and shot through with streaks of vermilion. Variations of all the warm colors extended around into the southwest, with random windows which one could look through at a sky that was pure turquoise blue. Here a

noteworthy interest in boys' aviation makes no fancy predictions. She is 2 1/2 more years at Owen High School, but in the meantime she has spent most of her spare time around airplanes, flying for a chance. For a start, Barbara earned an additional 4 flight hours by Thurman Baird of West Virginia.

Barbara Boone, sophomore at Owen High school, soloed an airplane from Nichols Airport Saturday afternoon, Jan. 26. She was 16 years and one day old on that day, and had planned to do it at even 16, but was prevented due to delay in obtaining a CAA student pilot certificate.

Barbara has been interested in airplanes and flying since she was 13, at the time she began to visit the airport with her younger brother Michael. Since that time she has flown occasionally with several private pilots, but did not start her formal training until two weeks before date of solo, having less than 4 hours certified dual flight time before solo.

Like most high school students, Barbara had no money to spare for flight training and until about the first of 1957 had little hopes of flying solo for a long time to come. About that time, D. L. Skelly, owner of a 65 h.p. Aerocraft "Champion" airplane, agreed to furnish his plane in exchange for a clean-up polish-wax job on the plane by Barbara.

Sanders V. Hudson, Jr., part-time pilot-instructor at Nichols Airport, a flyer for 26 years and not



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Cpl. Goodman Is At Supply Center

Albany, Ga., (FHTNC)—Serving at the Marine Corps Supply Center, Albany, Ga., is Cpl. J. Goodman, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Goodman of Black Mountain, N. C., and husband of the former Miss Janice M. Patton of Swannanoa.

Cpl. Goodman has been assigned duty in the Services Company, Headquarters Battalion.

After the small guests had assembled party refreshments were served followed by an afternoon of games and contests.

Those helping Judy to celebrate were Nancy Pollard, Betty Roberts, Tommy Simpson, Brent Heiser, Ricky Allred, and Mary Benedict.

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We Salute—

We salute you on your birthday.

Feb. 15—Rickey Buckner, Steve Blankenship, Bobby Powell, Mrs. R. M. Richardson, Michael Alan Candler, Mrs. A. R. Rudisill, Sheila Ann Goodman, Mary Lou Stafford, Leroy Verner, G. B. Quesberry, Fred Mason, Bobby Hensley, Burgin Edwards.

Feb. 16—J. H. Sneed, Charles Michael Sobol, Claude Brooks, William Metcalf, Richard F. Gauthier, George C. Joyner, Jr., Mrs. Bessie Knight, Mrs. Myrtle McCall.

Feb. 17—Bill Lindau, Bill Wyatt, David R. Briggs, Townsend Gay, Robert Owenby, Lois Mumpower, Kiah Ferguson, Sandra Wright, Veranda Walker, Maxine Cook.

Feb. 18—William Morris, Lynette Greene Cawthon, Oscar Lewis, Teresa Tatham, Eunice Jackson, Sophronia Massey, Mrs. Leroy Mashburn, Michael N. Jolly, Mable E. Freeman, Walter Croy, James H. Biddix, Claude Runion, Frances Frye, Eunice Bell, Beulah Presnell.

Feb. 19—H. L. Payne, Margaret Cook, Erlene King, Harry McCall, Sadie Fortune, Kathleen V. Babb.

Feb. 20—Mrs. A. L. Stephens, A. E. Walters, Malcolm Stewart Ware, Mrs. John Brown, W. F. Schiefen, Bessie Howell, Bertha Nichols, Pat Russell, Alene Gardner, Jean Massey, Eloise Bartlett.

Feb. 21—A. C. Alexander, Juanita Camby, Frances Stepp, Mary K. Woodcock, Thurmond Woodruff, R. V. McCall, James E. Caldwell, Frances McDevitt, Annie Swann, Mayme C. Gough, Loretta Hall.

Last Rites Held For George Jaih

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, Feb. 8, in the chapel of Harrison Funeral home for George Jaih, 74, of Swannanoa. Mr. Jaih, a retired coal miner and former resident of St. Paul, Va., died in an Asheville hospital Thursday after a long illness. After he became ill he made his home with his step-daughter, Mrs. Lee Allen of Swannanoa.

JUDY BENEDICT HAS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Surviving in addition to Mrs. Allen is the widow, Mrs. Lula Jaih. Pallbearers were Frank, France, Fred, Bill, and Earl Allen and J. D. Hardin.

The Rev. Charles Smith officiated and burial was in Mountain View Memorial park.

Judy Benedict and a group of friends celebrated her sixth birthday anniversary Thursday afternoon, Feb. 7, with a party given by her mother, Mrs. John Bene-

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