Engagement Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Norris of Shallotte have announced the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Melissa Dawn, to Randy Etheridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Etheridge of Holden Beach. A November 24 wedding is planned at Letties Grove Pentacostal Free Will Baptist Church at 3 p.m.

To Wed Sept. 21

Mr. and Mrs. Lathion Simmons of Ash have announced the engagement of their daughter, Carol Marie Simmons, to Jamie Lloyd Inman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Inman of Ash. Their wedding will take place 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, at New Britton Baptist Church in Ash, with a reception afterwards in the fellowship hall. Friends and relatives of the couple are invited.

McIver To Wed

Ms. Ethel Mae McIver of Greensboro has announced the forthcoming wedding of her daughter, Veronica Gail McIver of Greensboro, to Hobson Martel Bryant, also of Greensboro. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Bryant of Route 3, Supply. The wedding will take place 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at St. James Baptist Church, West Florida Street, Greensboro. A reception will follow at the Lee Center, Greensboro College. All friends and relatives of the couple are invited.

Toastmasters Rated 'Competent'

Two members of Brunswick Toastmasters have earned the rank of Competent Toastmaster (CTM) from Toastmasters International.

To achieve certification, Jim Brown of Southport and S.R. "Buddy" Rudd of Yaupon Beach completed a series of speech projects in Toastmasters' basic international communications and leadership program. The self-paced program helps participants improve their speaking and leadership skills in a club environment. In addition to basic techniques of public speaking, they learn to offer constructive evaluations of others' efforts, to listen more effectively and to serve as club leaders.

"I think Toastmasters gives each person confidence in themselves to be able to communicate in front of a group or one-to-one," said Brown, who is president of the Brunswick Toastmasters. "Everyone could benefit from Toastmasters", regardless of what field they're in.

"With all the miscommunication there is, it's surprising how much we still accomplish."

He and Rudd received their certificates at a recent club meeting. They are now working on advanced speech projects in specialties of their choice.

Brown, 46, is manager of the beach office for Margaret Rudd Realty and is currently president of Brunswick Toastmasters. Rudd, 41, is a licensed plumbing contractor and real estate broker and owns and operates Rudd Plumbing Service. Both have been members of Brunswick Toastmasters for approximately 2½ years.

Members of the group work together to help each other achieve their personal development goals.

"Toastmasters literally changed my entire life," said Brown, who switched from food store management to real estate management through contacts made through Toastmasters membership. "I'm much happier in what I'm doing now."

A former minister, Brown had more public speaking experience than most new Toastmasters when he joined, but says he's still learning.

"I had spoken primarily from written material; I joined to get more experience in extemporaneous speaking," he recalled. "It's been a tremendous help to me. And I enjoy the association with people of similar interests. We have a lot of fun."

Brunswick Toastmasters meet for breakfast each Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. at the Ship's Chandler in Southport. Visitors and prospective members are welcome.

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Lions Hear Literacy Effort, Needs

Twelve tutors trained by the Brunswick County Literacy Council are helping to teach more than 3,000 non-reading adults in the county how to read, Council Chairman George Clementson told members of the Shallotte Lions Club at an Aug. 14 meeting at the Seafood Barn in Holden Beach.

The local council, formed in 1981 by volunteers working in conjunction with Brunswick Technical College, is part of a nationwide movement to combat illiteracy, he said.

Clementson stunned the Lions, said Secretary Leonard C. Ferguson, with figures for illiteracy across the nation: 800,000 citizens considered functional non-readers, unable to read well enough to handle day-by-day situations such as obtaining a driver's license and shopping for food.

The national illiteracy rate is approximately 10 percent of the present popultaion, but is increasing at the rate of 2.5 million per year.

It is estimated, added Clementson, that 75 percent of all persons now unemployed are functional illiterates and that there is a direct relationship between illiteracy and unemployment, welfare and the prison population.

The phonetics-based Laubach method relates words and sounds to pictures and is typically used in a one-on-one situations.

Laubach tutors are adult volunteers who work without pay and in strict confidentiality, usually tutoring in the home of the adult student.

Information on the program can be obtained by calling 754-8446 or Brunswick Technical College, 754-6900.

Clementson was presented by Lion Milton Coleman.

In other business, the Lions completed plans for the Lions yard sale on Saturday, Aug. 24, at the home of Lion Jess Parker, and for the Lions fish fry, to be held at Shallotte Municipal Park Saturday, Aug. 31. Grants given by the club during August for sight care and treatment also were announced.

Holden Reunion Set September 1

The family reunion of Richard W. Holden and Dora Dilsavor Holden will be held Sunday, Sept. 1 at the home of Kenneth Holden on Stone Chimney Road in Supply.

Guests are asked to bring a covered dish lunch. Lunch begins at 1 p.m.

BCTS Class Has Reunion

The Brunswick County Training School graduating class of 1965 holds its 20th reunion Saturday, Aug. 24, at 7 p.m. at the Sea Captain Lounge in Southport.

All teachers of the school are invited to join the class celebration, said William A. Davis, class president.

Sorn Born To Norrises

Gregory Wayne and Chaundra Galloway Norris of Supply have announced the birth of their first child, a son.

Jabin Wayne Norris was born Monday, July 29, at Cape Fear Memorial Hospital in Wilmington. He weighed six pounds, 12 ounces, and was 19½ inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harry Galloway of Supply. The paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Laverne Norris, also of Supply.

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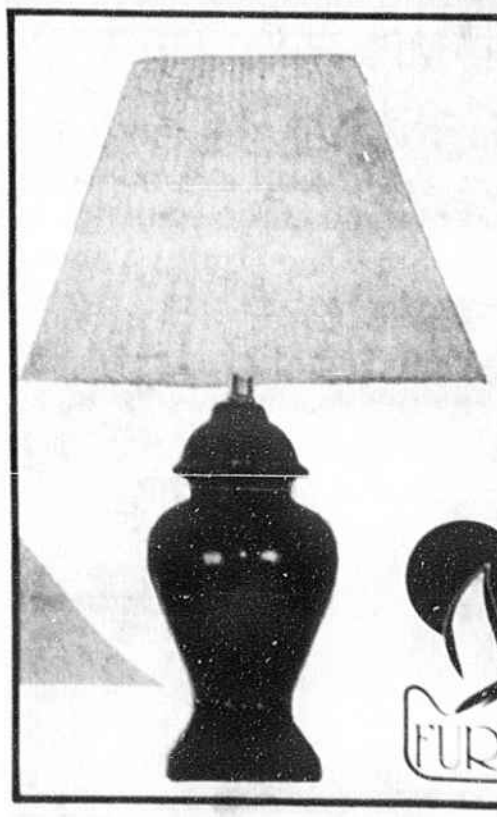

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