

'Honest' Abe settles in Sun City

By LYNN PYNE
Staff Writer

Now that he's moved to Sun City, residents may be rubbing elbows often with Abraham Lincoln.

The newcomer isn't completely settled yet, since he just arrived Oct. 15 from Springfield, Ill. However, he's excited about the move West and says he never did like Midwestern weather.

Clubs on the lookout for a lively political speaker won't be able to find "Lincoln, A." in the 1977 Home Owners Directory. He'll be listed under an alias, Richard Blake, 18621 103rd Ave.

ACTOR BLAKE may be familiar to some Sun Citians already. He has appeared on all three major television networks during his 10-year portrayal of Lincoln.

Certainly those from the Midwest know of him, since he has performed the Lincoln role more than 1,800 times there and in Eastern states.

Blake's specialty was comedy when he first began stage work in Chicago. He later joined a succession of six community theater playhouses, gaining extensive experience with

roles in more than 30 plays.

After listening to Hal Holbrook's portrayal of Mark Twain, Blake became "entranced" with the idea of putting together a one-man show.

"I THOUGHT, 'Gee, I'm six-foot-four.' I started looking around for a tall man," Blake said. He hit upon Lincoln, a role which also would provide interesting make-up possibilities. He decided to investigate.

For two years, Blake studied books that had been written about the former president. One, written by Lincoln's law partner, described his physical mannerisms and speech.

"You can sit and read about Lincoln for the rest of your life, so much has been written about him," Blake said. "Once you've been bitten by the Lincoln bug, you're a fanatic."

Although Blake doesn't consider himself to be a fanatic, he has become a Lincoln scholar of sorts and he heatedly debates questionable points with other theorists. Primarily, he studies the historic figure for clues to his character and responses.

AFTER HIS initial two

years of study, Blake wrote a script for an act which he called "A Look at Lincoln." Although there have been a few minor changes in it, the script remains essentially the same.

It opens with Lincoln's first political speech.

"I show him as a greenhorn getting out there and trying to make something out of nothing," he said, adding, "When a man at age 23, without an education, goes out there and runs for office, he's got a lot of ambition as far as I'm concerned."

The script takes Lincoln through the storyteller, lawyer, politician, and presidential times. It ends with the dream scene in which the President had a premonition of assassination, and the scene in which he wished for a quiet life once again in Springfield.

AS FOR the dream scene, many people think it is shrouded with mystery.

"I don't. I'm logical, like Lincoln," Blake observed. "He'd had about 80 threats of assassination, which was a lot in those days. It was a very serious matter."

When writing the script

for his act, Blake sometimes shortened speeches and edited some, but he never added anything or killed the idea, he asserted. With the exception of an occasional "bridge" between ideas, all the words are Lincoln's.

He uses this scene for the lawyer days: "Well, Jesse, you have a good case in technical law, and we can without a doubt win it for you. We can also set a whole neighborhood at loggerheads."

"We can distress a widowed mother and her six fatherless children. And we can get for you \$600, to which you seem to have a legal claim, but which rightly belongs, it appears to me, as much to the woman and children as it does to you."

"NOW YOU must remember that some things legally right are not always morally right. You'll have to get some other lawyer to win this case for you. I couldn't do it."

"All the while I'd be in front of that jury, I'd keep saying to myself, 'Abe Lincoln, you're a liar.' I believe I'd forget myself and say it out loud..."

Blake's normal

speaking tone is lower than the higher-pitched Midwestern twang he uses when portraying Lincoln. "People are surprised," he said. "They expect Lincoln to have a deep, resonant voice, but he didn't."

He said scholars have praised his portrayal as consistent with what they have learned about Lincoln. They also are amazed at the physical similarities.

BLAKE AND Lincoln are the same height. The bone structure is similar. Blake measured his shoes against brass cutouts made from a tracing of Lincoln's shoes—they were the same length. He compared his hands to a mold taken of Lincoln's hands and they were the same size exactly.

"People always ask if I believe in reincarnation. I don't," he said, adding that he does believe the physical similarities, coupled with his acting abilities, result in an authentic portrayal of Lincoln.

Blake doesn't wear a beard, since President Lincoln didn't grow one until he was in the White House. He portrays the historic figure both before

and after election to the presidency.

"My purpose is to show the man as a human being," he said of his Lincoln role. "There are so many myths about Lincoln, it's hard for the average person to understand him."

"THEY DEIFY him so much, people can't identify with him. My purpose is to get in and show him as a human being."

Blake's first performance as Lincoln was an audition for the Chicago school assembly service. He got a two-year contract and began performing in high schools and colleges throughout the Midwest in 1967.

From there, he toured the East. "I lived on the road for four years, eight months of the year. I've been in about every small town in 22 states," he said, smiling. "That's where you polish your program!"

After that, Blake was on his own and offers poured in at an ever-increasing rate.

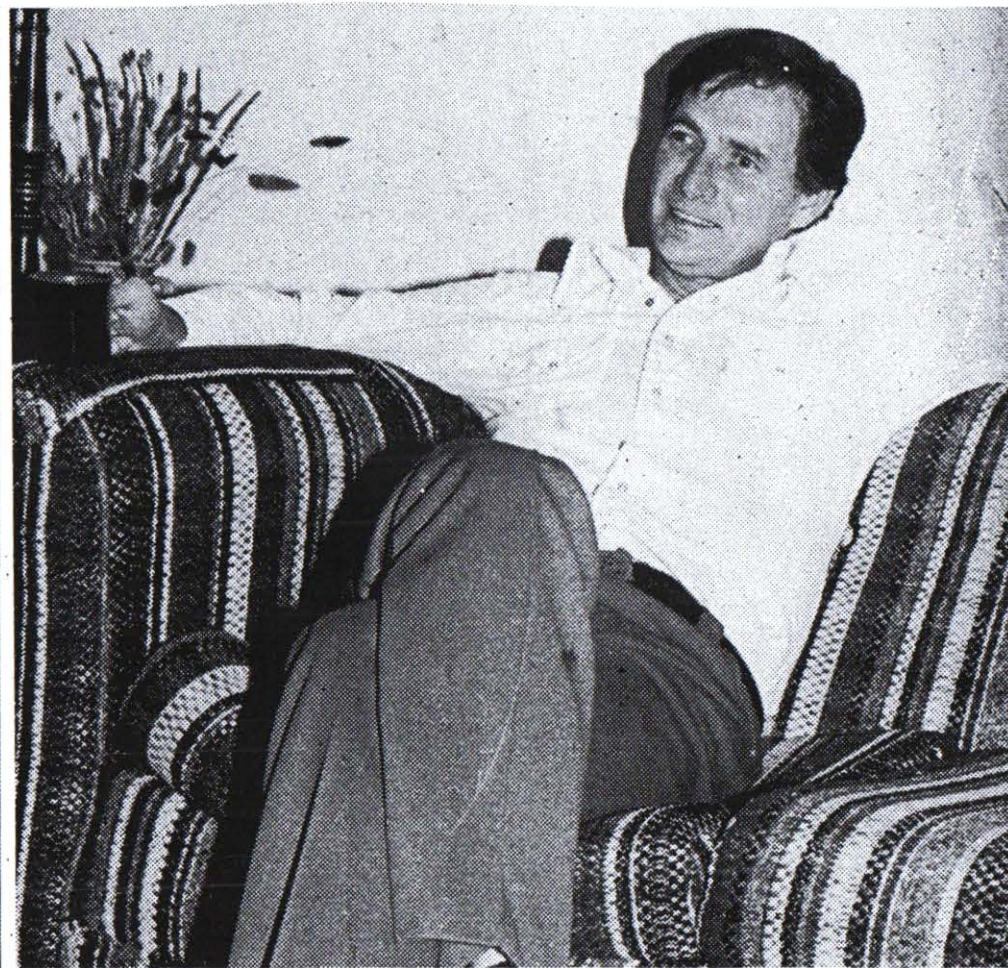
Now that he's moved to Sun City, Blake essentially is making a fresh start in finding organizations for which to perform his "Look at Lincoln." OVER



Resemblance to Lincoln is striking, as Blake reenacts lawyer President's twice-yearly judicial circuit ride in Illinois. Lincoln didn't grow beard until he entered White House, although Blake asserts that some people think Lincoln was born with facial hair. Blake aims to present Lincoln as human being and he digs up such information as fact that Lincoln owned dog named Fido.



Blake, as Abe Lincoln, is well enough acquainted by now with historic President's gestures, voice, walk, and reactions that he performs that part of role somewhat automatically. It only takes him about 20 minutes to don makeup which deepens hollows in cheeks, facial lines, and eyes. Blake theorizes that Lincoln's jokes about his ugliness merely were 19th century humor.



Blake, as himself, relaxes in new Sun City home and looks forward to landscaping yard. Although he says he looks more like Civil War president as he grows older, Blake sees few similarities beyond physical ones. However, they share same political philosophy and Blake says, "I wish I could be as great as he was."

(News-Sun Photo)

'Mrs. Sun City' has 'em rolling in aisles

By TIM CLARK
Staff Writer

"MRS. SUN CITY," as some have dubbed her, was talking about her favorite town.

"I wouldn't give up my home on the 18th green of North Course for anything," she told a busload of Vacation Special visitors. "I can sit there in my kitchen and see those fellas nudge their little white balls into a better position, trying to improve their scores."

With a wink and a jab to her seat companion in the front of the bus, she adds, "And the gals do it too."

Mrs. Garnet Burnham, hostess coordinator for Del Webb's Vacation Special program, has told her admittedly "corny jokes" and related a kind of residents' folk history to thousands of visitors in the last decade. She estimates 75-100,000.

IN THE PROCESS, she has become kind of a mini-celebrity who can't eat lunch in a local restaurant

without having a half-dozen residents greet her: "I was on your tour four years ago."

Naturally, the whole purpose of Mrs. Burnham's talk, and the rest of the Vacation Special program, is to sell houses — the Sun City soft sell. She sprinkles her talk generously with suggested questions for salesmen.

"They talk the dollars — I talk the sense," she tells visitors.

She tells an interviewer, "I sell Sun City; the houses sell themselves."

But her bantering tour talk is more than a chatty, bright pitch for Sun City as a place to live. She also plants the suggestion of what is and is not accepted in Sun City's lifestyle.

FENCES, for example. She doesn't like them and tells the riders that putting up fences cuts residents off from their neighbors whom they may need to rely on some day. The unspoken message is that fences are unsociable.

With an average of 15

busloads a week during the busy winter season, Garnet naturally can't handle all the tours herself. She supervises about four other hostesses who give the tours and help at breakfasts and dinners for Vacation Special visitors.

They call themselves "Garnet Burnham's Call Girls" because they work when they are called, which may be once, twice or three times a week, depending on how many bus tours or private tours need guides.

"I pick my girls for a sense of humor and an outgoing personality," Mrs. Burnham said. Not a bad start on a self-portrait except it leaves out vivacious and energetic.

"PEOPLE ASK me if I ever was a teacher," she told a group this week during an extended monologue. "I taught for a year but the parents complained because the kids never had a chance to recite."

The almost nonstop chatter on the 90-minute bus tour includes banter with the bus drivers. "We're gonna creep by here, honey, creep," she directs a driver.

In an aside to her seatmate, she observes with a sigh, "This is hard work."

Heading north on 103rd Avenue from Peoria Avenue, she points to a row of five male mulberry trees, which of course remind her of a story.

"I pointed out those male mulberry trees to one group, and a man asked how I knew they were male. Well, nobody had asked me that kind of a question before, so answered, 'I guess they found out in the nursery,'" she said to groans, grins, guffaws and grimaces from riders.

THE MALE mulberry tree is not the only flora that draws mention from Mrs. Burnham. In addition



Checking list to make sure all scheduled are on hand for one of her Vacation Special tours is part of Mrs. Garnet Burnham's tasks as hostess coordinator for Del Webb program. Dubbed "Mrs. Sun City," she's guided and chattered with more than 75,000 visitors over past decade.



During uncommon quiet moment at home, Mrs. Garnet Burnham works at putting shells on mirror, one of her hobbies. As hostess for Del Webb for 17 years, she has welcomed thousands of visitors — and potential residents — to Sun City.

(News-Sun Photo)

to the cacti, palo verde and other shrubs and bushes, she finds a "government tree" for the visitors.

"We call it the U-Clipped-Us (eucalyptus)" she said.

Helpful hints abound throughout the talk. "Look at the landscaping on this side of the street," she relates. "Those people spend lots of time cutting and trimming and they won't have time for their golf game."

Mrs. Burnham claims she and her husband, Reuben, purchased their golf course home "in 26 minutes flat."

AS SHE RELATES it, her husband ran a Phoenix employment agency that was rounding up workers for the Kings Inn just as Sun City was opening in 1960.

She accompanied him to an afternoon appointment with a Webb manager, and they wandered over to see the model homes to kill time before the appointment.

Sales manager Jack Hayden was preparing to close the office at the end of the day, but they went in and looked at a map filled with lots of little red flags and a single blue one.

After learning that the blue flag represented the last golf course lot in Sun City, Reuben told the salesman, "We'll take it."

A FLABBERGASTED Garnet didn't, for once, know what to say. Until that time her husband had insisted that homes 20 miles from Phoenix never would sell.

Garnet gradually worked her way into the Del Webb organization by observing that potential buyers looking at models didn't know what did and did not go with the units they were buying.

The sweet young things hired to hand out literature on weekends knew little about the homes being sold, so Mrs. Burnham persuaded someone at Webb that the firm needed Sun City women to explain things to the customers. Garnet was among them.

The company initiated its Vacation Special program in 1967, and Mrs. Burnham was there from the start.

EARLY TOURS weren't confined to Sun City but tried to show visitors much of the Valley.

"We used to stop at Hobo Joe's for strawberry pie," Mrs. Burnham said. "I still have people come up to me and ask whether the buses still stop for strawberry pie."

Even if she retires, it's hard to imagine Garnet Burnham moving from her 30th — and last — home, Sun City.

A country in transition

Retha Beveridge calls Korea second home

When Retha Beveridge of Sun City returned to visit South Korea last summer, she was greeted by more than 100 people.

The reception came from former Korean students she had tutored in Seoul during the turbulent years of the 1950s and '60s.

By teaching in a country that put a high priority on education, she was able to establish close ties with her students.

Mrs. Beveridge, 70, was in Korea from 1958 to 1964 when her late husband worked for the U.S. State Department as a forestry advisor to the Korean government.

Her feeling for that country was evident as she talked about her experiences.

The Korean artifacts and paintings that adorn the wall in her home offer further testimony to that feeling.

Mrs. Beveridge also has seen the country emerge from the ashes of the Korean War into a modern industrialized society.

She said that half-destroyed buildings, bomb craters and other remains of the war were among the sights she encountered during her early trips to Seoul.

"Any Koreans who escaped from the North were living on the streets or in bomb craters," she said.

She recalled how she and a Korean friend were able to aid three vagrant teenagers who found shelter in a bomb crater.

"Since I taught in a home near the boys, I would take food to them," she said.

Mrs. Beveridge and her husband were able to help one artistic boy, Kim Kee Won, attend a university in Seoul and later adopted him through the Korean courts.

"He now teaches art in Korea," she said.

Mrs. Beveridge was in Korea when students

overthrew the Syngman Rhee regime in 1960 and when Park Chung Hee staged a bloodless military coup in 1963.

The day the students stormed the presidential mansion in Seoul, she was tutoring in a house near the mansion.

She remained trapped in the city until a Korean friend, Willie Park, who worked for the U.S. District Engineers, came to her rescue.

"The streets were filled with students," she recalled.

"It took us three hours to get from the presidential mansion to the military compound, when it ordinarily would have taken only 20 minutes," she said.

Mrs. Beveridge said the corruption of the Syngman Rhee regime created the dissent which led to the revolution.

"I knew something was brewing when I would see groups of teenagers huddled together in the homes where I taught," she said.

Through her tutoring, Mrs. Beveridge established close associations with the Korean people and officials which kept her safe during the revolution.

The tutoring program was a result of her desire to learn about the country and people she was living with.

As a tutor, Mrs. Beveridge would teach conversational American English to the adults. Among her students were members of the Korean Supreme Court.

Even though Korea has improved under modernization, it has lost some of its intimacy and charm, she said.

Mrs. Beveridge retired to Sun City in 1964 but has been back to Korea six times. Her travels have taken her to 137 countries but Korea remains her home away from home, she said.

"I would live in Korea," she said, "if I didn't live here."

BEVERIDGE, RETHA

VF Personalities Butterfield, Jennings

Jennings & Lillian

FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS, Jennings Butterfield and his wife Lillian have worked in cooperation with the community to bring the Sun City Symphony to a prestigious level. To mark the decade, Jennings looks both backward and forward regarding symphony music in Sun City and notes things which have changed and other which will not, from a music director-conductor's point of view.
MORE ON PAGE 4



1978

The Interstate Music Teachers Association

By virtue of
the authority vested in it by its member organizations does hereby declare that

Jennings Butterfield

has satisfied the requirements of the Association for the

Certificate of Experience

and is qualified by the Association as a

Teacher of Violin

In Witness Whereof this Certificate, duly executed by the proper officers
of the Association, has been granted this third day of May, 1955

Elizabeth Perry
Corresponding Secretary

Hyman J. Konigard
President

Sidney Morrow
Secretary

Eleanor Bacon-Pick
Treasurer



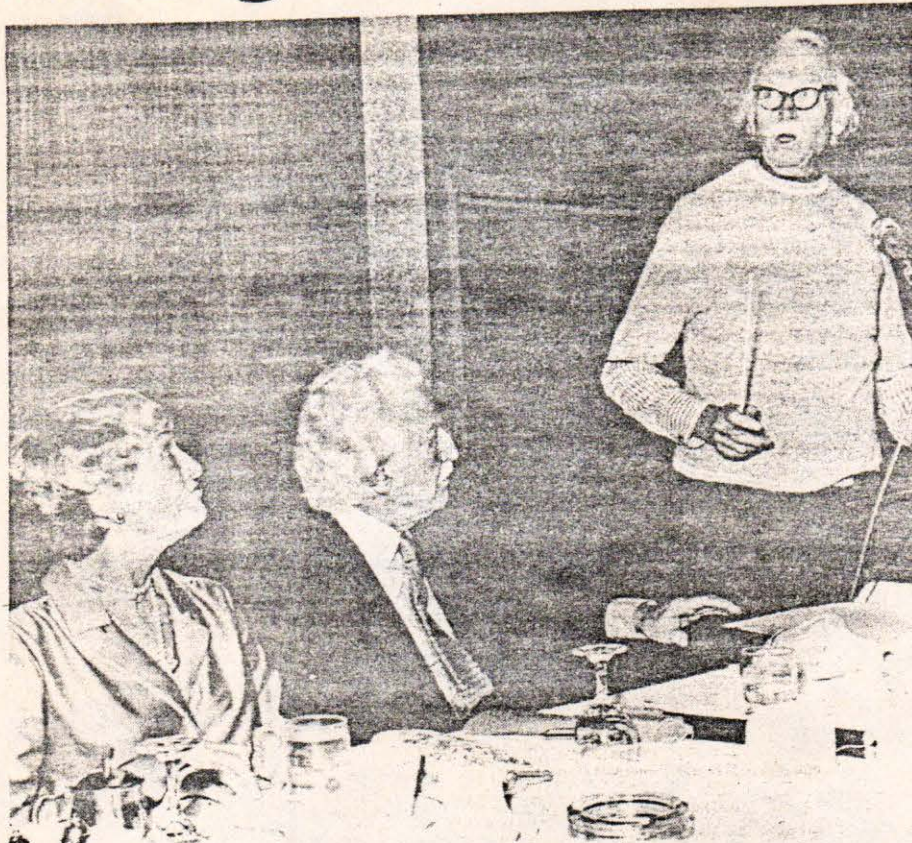
Member Organizations

Associated Music Teachers League, Inc.
Bergen County Music Teachers' Guild
Brooklyn Music Teachers' Guild
Music Class Forum of New York

Music Educators Association of New Jersey, Inc.
Music Teachers' Association of Northern New Jersey
Music Teachers' Council of Central Westchester
Piano Teachers' Congress of New York
Violin, Viola, and Violoncello Teachers' Guild of New York

Overflow crowd witnesses loving tribute to Jennings

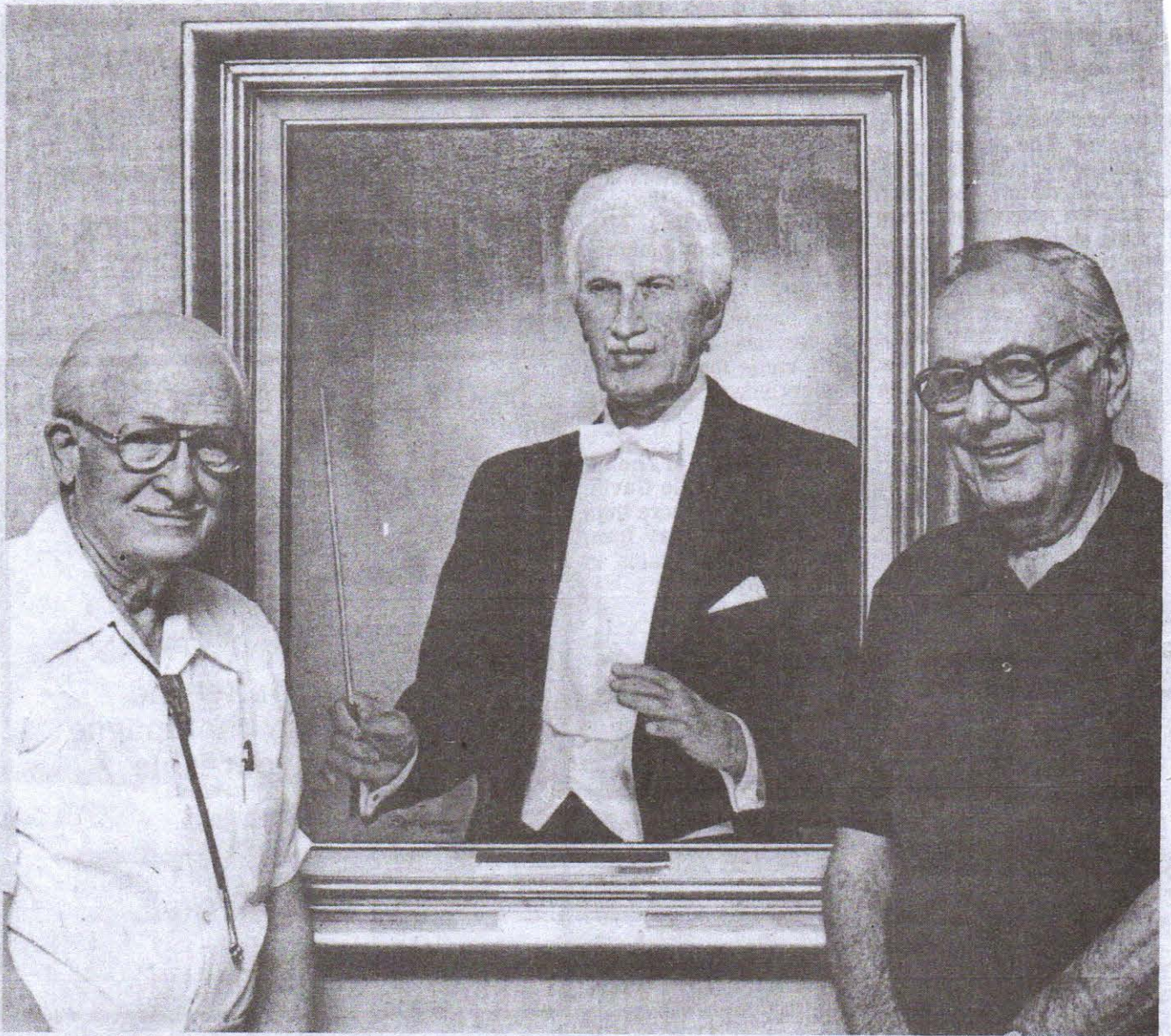
1980



There was humor, pathos, love and part of the overflow crowd was seated Lakes Club hallway Monday as more than 350 people honored 420 Jennings Butterfield, founder and maestro of the Sun City Symphony Orchestra, on his 80th birthday. Coordinated by the symphony board, guild and orchestra members, all those, plus benefactors, former board members and special guests of the Butterfields, were there. Emmett Sarig, board president, hosted both the serious and humorous tributes. Top, Carl Moore, flutist, donned white moustache for parody of Jennings at rehearsals, which broke up Lillian and Jennings. Middle, Jennings examines a popgun given by Ed Cummins, vice president of First National Bank, to "guard the Butterfield stage." And, bottom, Arlene Steele furthered the story (Jennings is indeed related to the founders of the stage line), presenting a replica coach while Sarig directs a "happy birthday" cheer. (Photos by Brad Whitehead)



IF Personalities Butterfield, Jennings



Butterfield portrait shown in Sundial

In honor of Jennings Butterfield, this portrait of the retiring conductor of the Sun City Symphony is on display in the lobby of Sundial Auditorium. Emmett Sarig, left, president of the Sun City Symphony

Orchestra Association, and portrait artist Robert Luscombe approve the placement. Presented by Luscombe, the portrait had been hanging in the Sundome since last November. (News-Sun Photo)

VF Personalities Butterfield, Jennings

At this dinner the Board presented Jennings with a check for \$1,000 - and pinned me with a beautiful orchid
VF Personalities
Butterfield, Jennings

Emphasis ON LIVING

Friday, April 17, 1981 NEWS-SUN

1C

Butterfield feted at 'thank you' party

By LORAIN TOWNE
Staff Writer

Looking forward with a backward glance — that was the experience of more than 70 guests at the "Thank You" dinner in honor of Jennings and Lillian Butterfield.

It was held Sunday night in Palmbrook Country Club.

The no-host champagne dinner was sponsored by present and former members of the Board of Trustees of Sun City Symphony Orchestra Association. Breitel Haire was chairman for the event.

"I kept copies of the minutes for 13 years, so I knew who had been on the board," she explained. "We have a very good representation. More than three-fourths of them are here tonight."

SHE TURNED to help Frances Hobert with her name tag. "Frances is a new board member."

Frances replied, "I have already found out that it is a working board."

Four past presidents of the board bantered with Jennings. They were Frank Wilson, Clint Poertner, Clyde Wells and Marion Shideler.

Frank said, "Clyde was founding president. I am very pleased with the success we have had over the years."

"I AM especially happy, as are all of us, that we have a new home in the Sundome. It is quite a contrast to our first home which was then known as 'Town Hall South.' It is now Fairway Rec Center. We were there in '68."

"Then we moved to Mountain View where we could accommodate an attendance of 800. Next we moved to Sundial where we ended up with 1,800 in attendance."

"Now we average 5,000

for every performance at the Sundome. This is the largest average attendance of any symphony in the country. We had 5,600 at our last concert."

Ann Walling and Jennings had much to reminisce about. Ann is president of the Sun City Symphony Guild.

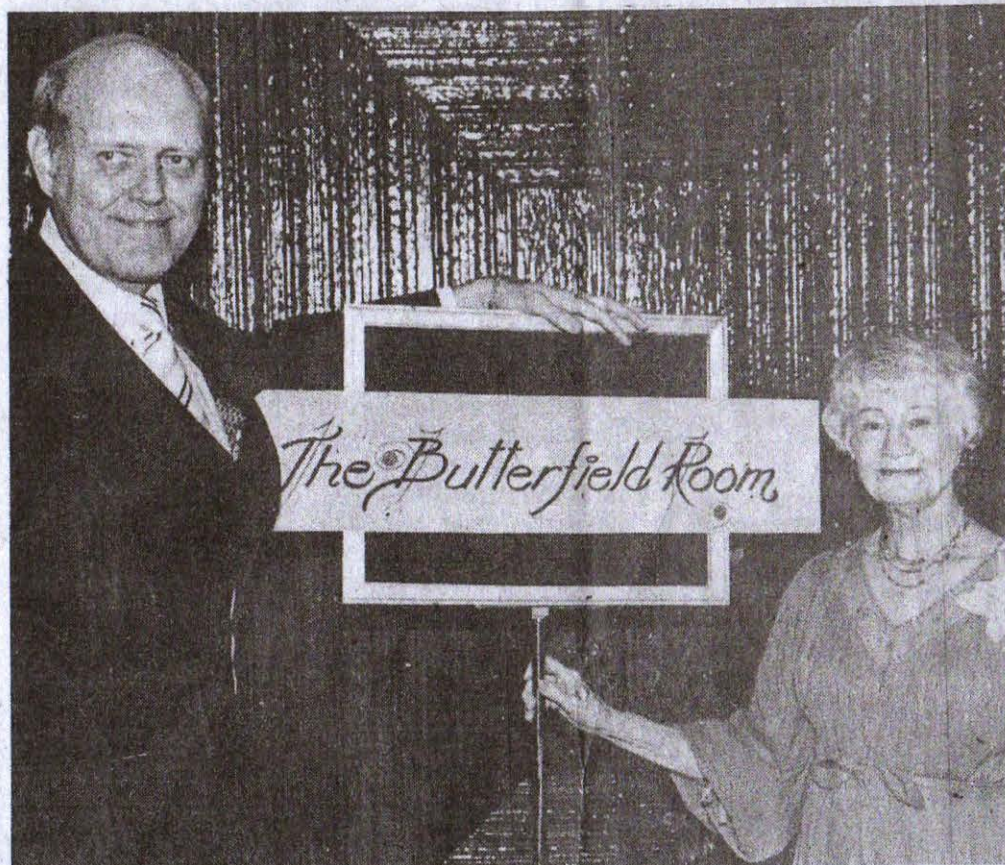
SHE SAID, "Jennings has contributed immeasurably to the guild. His benevolent, protective interest for its firm establishment has given the guild a permanent and lasting identity."

Lillian Butterfield and Jim Handley posed for a picture at the entrance to the dining room. Jim had painted a sign that read, "The Butterfield Room."

Lillian said, "I always wanted to have my picture taken with Jim. He seems to get taller every year and I get shorter."

She wore a white orchid on her shoulder. It was a gift for the occasion. Jennings had been pinned with a white boutonniere.

JIM ADDED, "It's wonderful to see everyone together tonight. So many of these people were here in the early days of the symphony."



Jim Handley and Lillian Butterfield admire the sign Jim made for the "Thank You, Jennings" party Sunday night.

She continued, "Did you know that Loise Copes was declared Woman of the Year 1980 by the

Jennings affably conversed with James and Margaret Ruccolo. Margaret is a violinist with

is our new home, and that it is attracting so many people in this area and the Valley as well. This

SC Symphony founder readies for retirement

By CHERYL SWEET
Staff Writer

He began playing the violin at the age of six. While most kids were out playing baseball, he chose to practice his music.

In his thirties, he founded the first of three symphony orchestras he would conduct in his career.

Characterized by a wry smile and a matching sense of humor, the musician plans to retire shortly as conductor and founder of the Sun City Symphony Orchestra.

Having begun the orchestra in 1968, Jennings Butterfield admits his stay lasted a bit longer than the normally accepted conducting period with the same symphony.

BUT HE DOESN'T feel he has overstayed his welcome. Quite the contrary. At 80 years old, he frankly tells you he will be completing his 50-year conducting career with a grand finale.

"I'm leaving it right on the top. I'm doing the finest conducting I've ever done in my life."

Butterfield was apparently musically inclined early in life.

HE REFERS TO his early indoctrination into the world of music as a natural phenomenon. The acquisition of his first instrument is passed off as incidental.

"How I got the violin is still a mystery to me." All he remembers was that it felt right, adding, "the violin was for me immediately."

Butterfield studied violin and theory in New York at Cortland and Binghamton Conservatories of Music. Then, moving to the New York City area, he studied with the "finest teachers in New York."

HE WAS DIRECTOR of instrumental music in West Orange, N.J., public schools for 30 years and went on to start a symphony orchestra there.

Before moving to Sun City, he also founded and conducted a symphony orchestra in Cape Cod, Mass.

The conductor attributes his success to natural ability and training with top musicians.

"I HAVE HAD the most glorious experience. I have had the pleasure of studying with the finest conductors."

He studied violin with John King Roosa, Paul Stassevitch and Louis Persinger. He later conducted under Bernhard Paumgartner, a well-known Mozart exponent.

Possessing musical talent, Butterfield says, is something one instinctively knows he has. His success and confidence attests to his unique talent. "Where the talent comes from, God knows," he said.

For those who are uncertain about becoming a professional musician, Butterfield suggests giving the field a trial period.

"MOST PEOPLE play instruments for a few years and then wisely give it up."

If things don't look promising, Butterfield suggests going into banking, law or some other field "where you can make some money."

The conductor warns against expectations of getting rich in the business. "Most symphonies in the country are always in trouble financially," he said.

Unlike European orchestras, which are fully subsidized by the cities or states, symphonies here depend on ticket sales and private contributions to meet expenses, he explained.

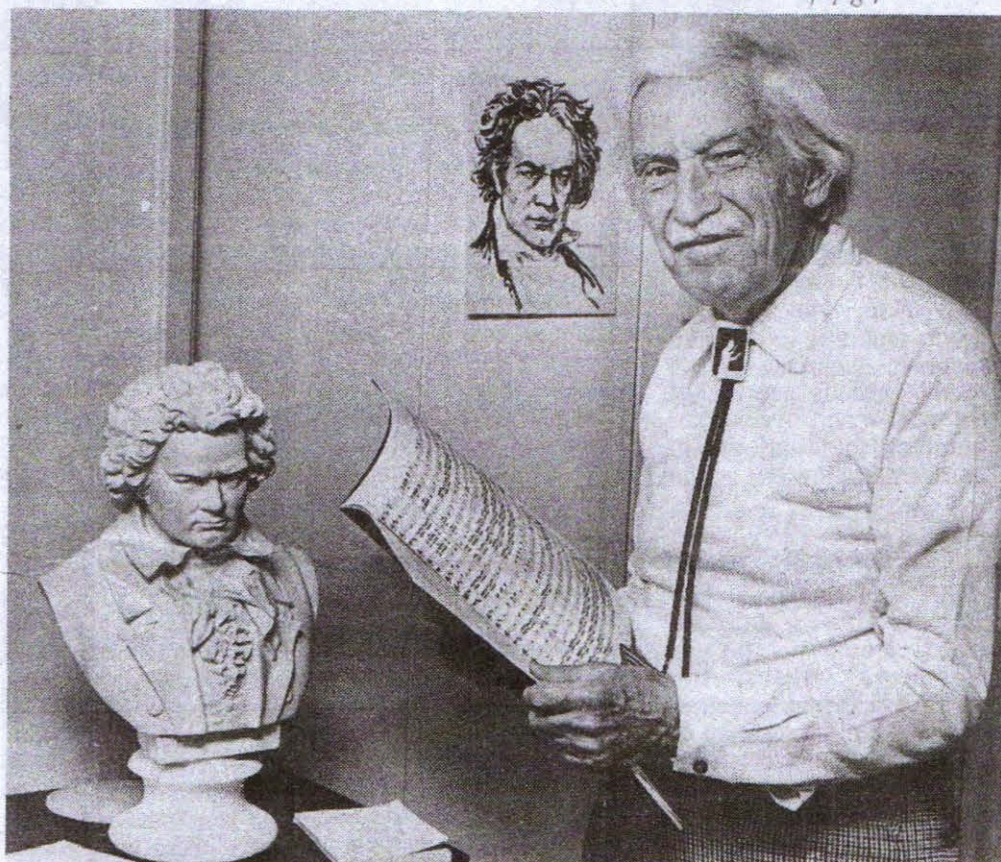
TICKET SALES account for only 45 percent of an orchestra's operating expenses, which still leaves salaries, costs of shipping instruments and various staff expenses.

Nevertheless, Butterfield has no regrets on his chosen work.

He says he has enjoyed playing for Sun Citizens—possibly more than other audiences. They have "more appreciation, have gone to symphony concerts and are knowledgeable."

Butterfield's last concert will be at 8 p.m. April 5 in the Sundome.

1981 News Sun
Jennings
Butterfield,
Personalities
of



Jennings Butterfield, under the watchful eyes of Ludwig van Beethoven, looks over arrangements for his farewell concert April 5 in the Sundome. Butterfield founded the Sun City Symphony in 1968. (News-Sun Photo by Jim Painter)

Dynamic couple

Blindness doesn't stop them from enjoying productive lives

AB Republic
June 23, 1982 NW
A

By Thelma Heatwole
Special for The Republic

SUN CITY — Being blind doesn't stop Adele Brown from sewing a fine seam on her home machine — or from cooking, housekeeping and entertaining.

A woman on the go, she lives life to its fullest without letting blindness get in her way.

She instructs a blind and deaf woman in sewing, teaches a class in home entertainment at the Sun City Center for the Blind, and has written a book, *So What About Sewing*, that was produced in Braille, large type and on tape.

Recently, she presented a program here titled "Touch Sewing" at a Sew and Sew Club meeting, and members were fascinated.

Her leader dog, Abbey, is a big help. Just about everywhere she goes outside her home, Abbey's sure to go.

Her husband, Richard, shares her busy life and understands her problems for a special reason. He is totally blind.

Mrs. Brown, 62, lost 90 percent of her sight before she was 30.

Brown, blind at 9, was a rehabilitation specialist for the blind at the Veteran's Administration in Chicago until his retirement in December.

Perhaps, the fact that blindness struck relatively early in their lives helped them adjust.

"When you are younger, you have so much of your life left," Mrs. Brown said.

"To live a happy life, you just learn to do things you want to, and if you want to sew, you sew."

Sewing is her main hobby.

They met at a party for blind friends.

She remembers that her husband, a baritone, sang, *I Told Every Little Star*. A few months later, they were married.

For their 25th wedding anniversary

in 1977, the couple flew to Virginia. They visited attractions by bus and taxi. In Charleston, S.C., they took a walking tour that included tape cassette explanations along the way.

"We could see that way," she said.

Now that he is retired, Brown sings and plays guitar and writes music. His ambition, his wife said, is to be a composer.

Among other activities, the couple enjoys walking and playing dominoes and chess. They attend the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Brown does not use a leader dog. Instead, he gets about outside the home with a long white cane.

Some facilities at their home have been adapted to make everyday living easier.

An abacus by the phone is used to record telephone numbers, and there is a Perkins Braille machine.

The cook-stove temperature controls are marked by raised screws. The stove's top-burner knobs are marked with tape strips, while the timer has raised dots.

The Browns bought their Sun City home because of its proximity to La Ronde Shopping Center. To facilitate shopping at a supermarket without a store helper, they have a two-page Braille layout of store departments.

If their shopping list includes canned goods, they carry Braille printed tape markers backed with masking tape to apply on the cans they select. The markings allow them to locate the proper cans at home.

Mrs. Brown said she was 14 when she was prematurely and later suffered scarlet fever. She finished high school and was working at a mailing job when blindness struck.

"I looked up one day and realized I could not see across the table," she said, explaining she does have some light perception.

"I've a teeny, tiny bit of sight, but

— *Blindness, Extended*



Arrives at the Sew and Sew Club with her leader dog, Abbey. She wrote a book on sewing and is in a dress she made.

Brown, Adele

OVER

Blindness

Continued from Extra A

ometimes goes out altogether so I have to do things by touch."

She lost her job and went into training and work at the Chicago Light House for two years. Then she left the sheltered program.

"I thought I was going to have to send out thousands of form letters," she said.

However, she sent out six and got a job in letter-mailing work.

Learning to sew was a project she tackled with determination.

Her first study was through Singer Sewing Machine Co. instruction. She gives credit to the teaching of Vera Daws, a friend in her hometown of Broadview, Ill. The teacher also designed a basic dress pattern for her.

Patterns for the blind are often of muslin material cut from commercial-tissue patterns. The basic pattern is basted and fitted, ripped apart and the various pieces then bound with bias tape. Braille markings are added.

The muslin gives substance to patterns and facilitates cutting the material.

In time, Mrs. Brown helped at sewing classes for the blind at an Illinois state rehabilitation center.

She was prompted to write her book in the 1960s because she could not buy a sewing-instruction book or the blind.

"I thought this was something needed. If I wanted instruction, surely others would want it."

Mrs. Daws designed the sewing methods for the course, but Mrs. Brown is the book's author.

The book can be purchased from the Guild for the Blind, 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 60601. Her book is also at the Bell Center library here.

Before moving to Sun City, she sold her old sewing machine. She then bought a Singer Sewing Machine 1411 and uses a seam-guide card to set the machine's seam-guide equipment.

If the machine seam guide cannot be used, she uses pins as guides, making sure they are removed ahead of the machine pressure foot.

Friends also are helpful.

One made her a basic pattern, and another taped a Singer sewing-instructions book allowing for adaptations, she said.

At the club meeting where she and her student were featured, Mrs. Brown cut fabric with a basic pattern. She wore a princess-style dress she had made of fine-printed cotton in cool white with red buttons.

The Browns lead an active lifestyle.

"We entertain," she said. "We made up our minds to have a dinner party once a month and



Ruth Catlin, a sewing student who is deaf and blind, in turn is teaching Mrs. Brown sign language.

invite different people. We go to parties and visit neighbors.

"We decided to be completely independent of each other. He wants to be able to do all the housework, and I want to be able to take care of finances."

She believes the blind and visually handicapped in Sun City should take advantage of local

rehabilitation programs at the blind center. VIP club workers, as the name implies, help visually-impaired people.

The couple's privacy, of necessity, sometimes is invaded — a volunteer comes to their house to read their mail aloud.

"Usually," she said, "our volunteers (helpers) end up to be our friends."

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Ann Walling, Symphony Guild president, reminisced with Maestro Jennings Butterfield.

the early days of the symphony. This is like a reunion.

"But we are sad it is on the occasion of Butterfield's retirement. He started working on our symphony 14 years ago."

Several board members and musicians have moved to Sun City West. Among them were George and Loise Copes, who conversed with their guest, Jewel Heffelman.

George is a member of the present board. Jewel is a violinist with the Sun City Symphony.

"I LOVE Jennings. This will be my third season with the orchestra, and I am looking forward to it," Jewel said.

News-Sun recently? She contributes a great deal to our Sun City West community."

Loise changed the subject. "We were very active with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra."

Ruth Bone, a member of the present board, also has moved to Sun City West. She said, "We are looking forward to having a Sun City West Musicians' Club similar to the one in Sun City. It's in the process of being organized now."

RICHARD AND Ariel Hammon were talking with their Sun City West neighbors. Richard is a member of the present board.

guest is a violinist with the Sun City Symphony Orchestra. James was guest artist for the party.

"I have played with the Sun City Symphony and I wanted to perform tonight for Jennings," James said. "I have been requested to play 'The Tides of Manaunaun,' It's about creation, by Cowell. I am professor of piano at Arizona State University."

His wife added, "I am music consultant to Cartwright School District. I don't help my husband except by giving him my ideas."

NORMAN AND Kathleen Christensen held a discussion with Russell and Madeline Warren. Norman and Russell are both board members.

Norman said, "I think we are very fortunate to have a man like Jennings who came here and formed our symphony. I think it is one of the finest things we have going in our Sun Cities."

"We are particularly pleased that the Sundome

speaks well for the quality of our orchestra. We owe Jennings a debt of gratitude."

Russell added, "The
(Continued on 2C)

America

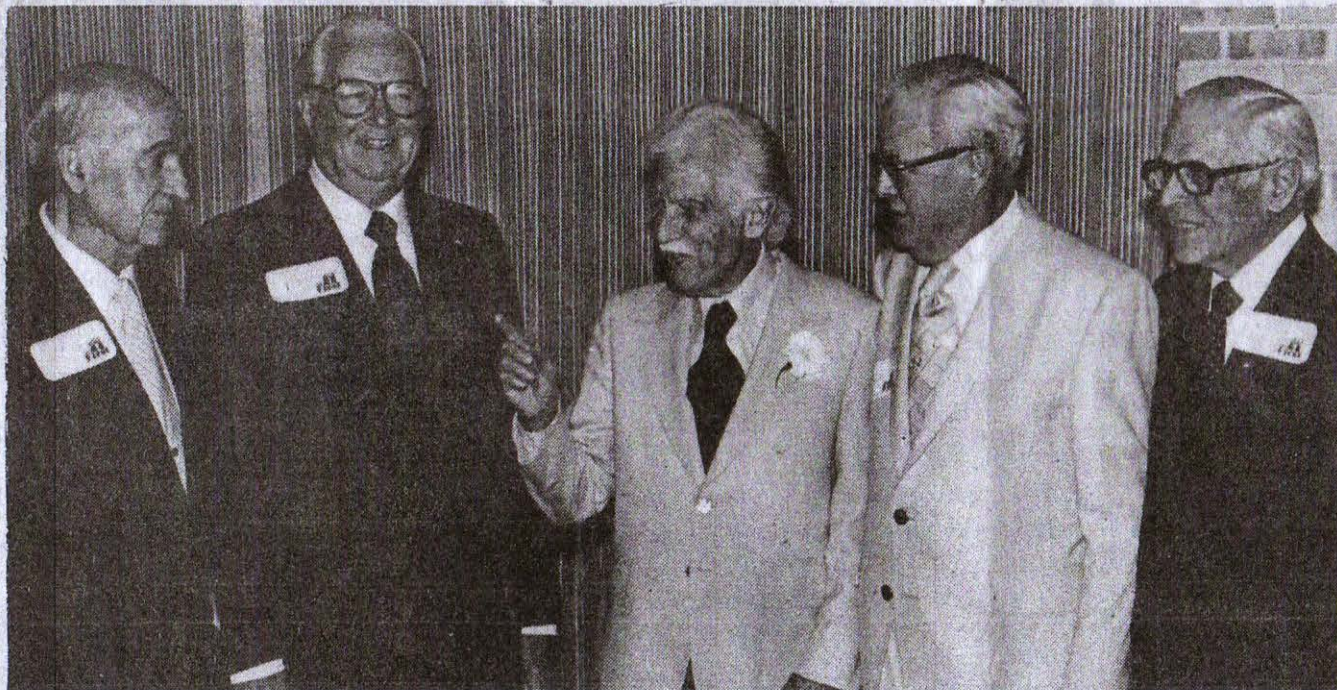
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Four past presidents of the Board of Trustees of Sun City Symphony Orchestra Association visit with Jennings. From left are Frank Wilson, Clint Poertner, Jennings, Marion Shideler and Clyde Wells.

News-Sun Photos by Robert Filley

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- ★ PLACEMENTS
- ★ SHOWER CURTAINS
- ★ NAPKIN RINGS
- ★ BLANKETS

PLACEMENT

Huge Selection of

Buehrig, Gordon



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE — Sun Citian Gordon Buehrig, who will be inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame this

fall, holds a model of a Duesenberg, which he designed. He also worked as a designing engineer for Ford Motor Co.

News-Sun photo by Mollie J. Hoppes

VF - Personalities

0N3R

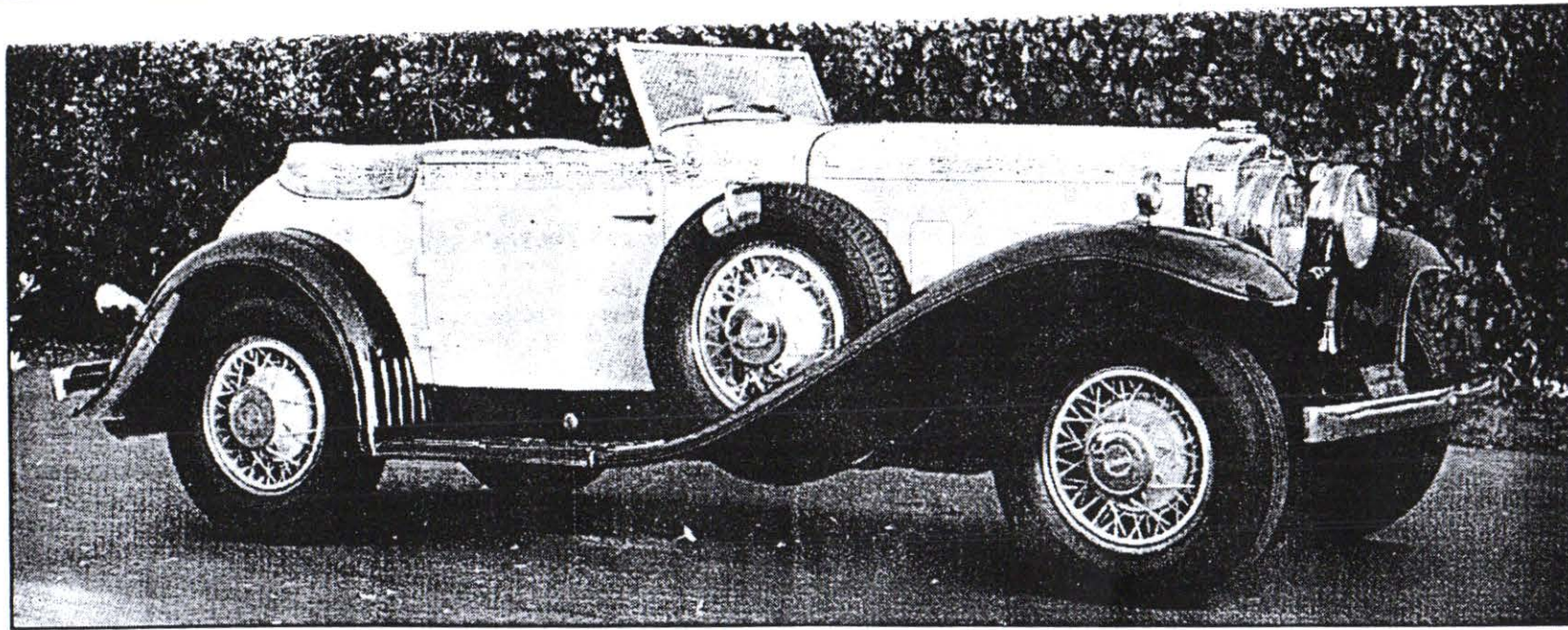


Photo courtesy of Gordon Buehrig

STUTZ SUPER BEARCAT — Another of Sun Citian Gordon Buehrig's classic automotive designs is this 1932 Stutz

Super Bearcat. Buehrig will be inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame this fall for his contributions to body design.

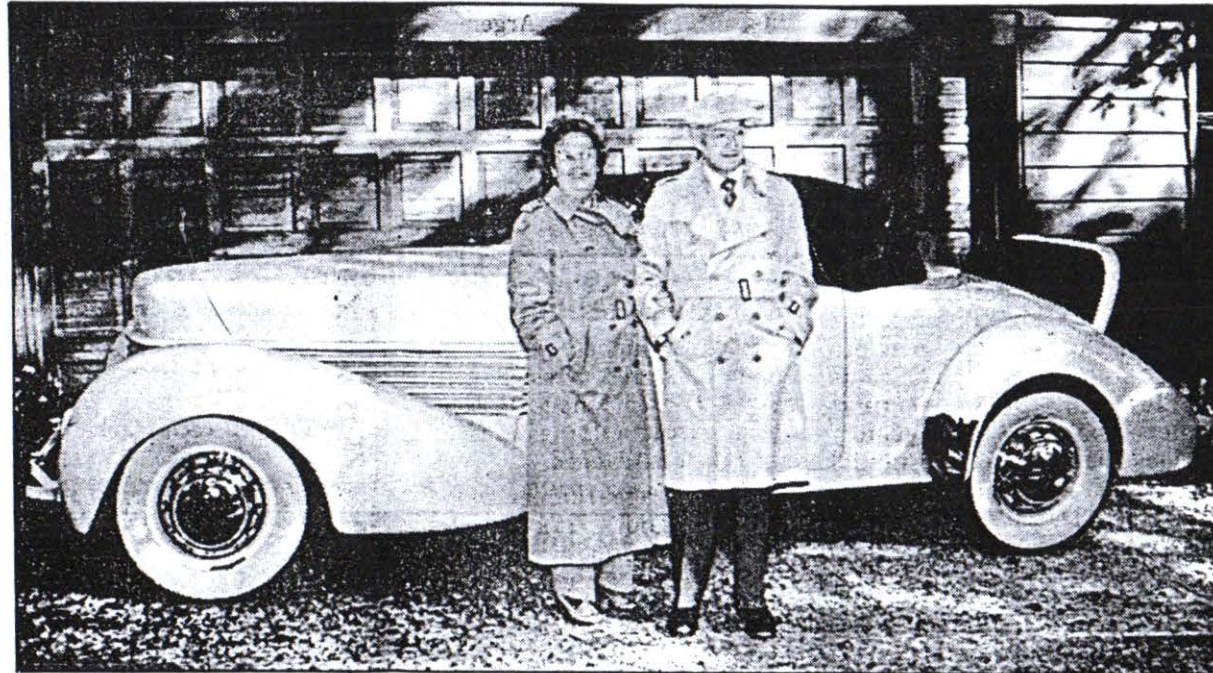


Photo courtesy of Gordon Buehrig

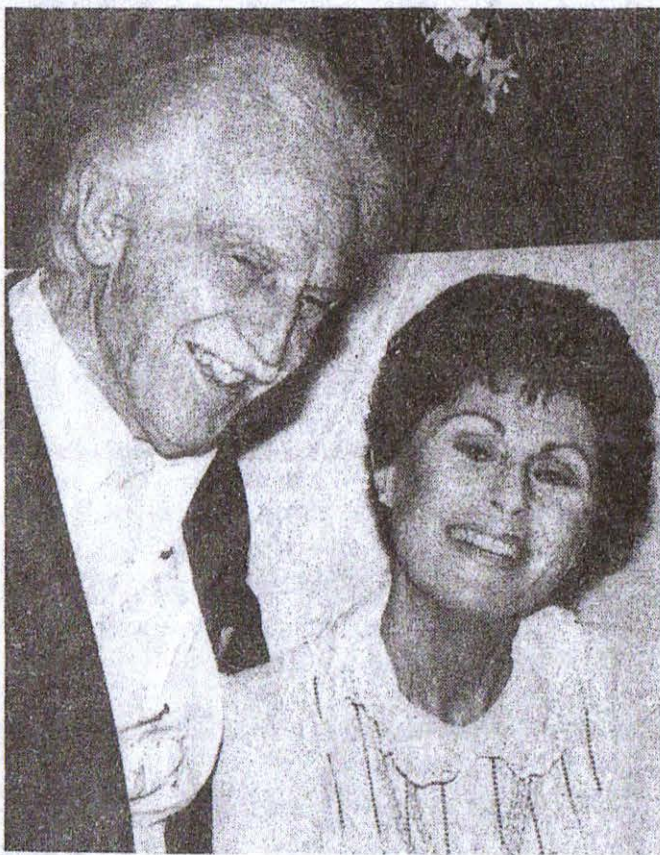
CLASSIC CORD — Gordon and Kathryn Buehrig stand beside the 1936 Cord Model 810, which Gordon designed.

work is considered one of the top automotive designs of all time and as an performer.

Emphasis ON LIVING

Friday, April 10, 1981 NEWS-SUN

1C



"Your orchestra gave me magnificent accompaniment tonight," Roberta Peters told Maestro Jennings Butterfield after his final concert Sunday.

Roberta Peters, husband star at post-concert party

By LORAIN TOWNE
Staff Writer

Roberta Peters arrived at Tivoli Gardens on the arm of a handsome gentleman, her husband, Bert Fields. She cradled a bouquet of American Beauty roses in her other arm.

Hammond and Arlene Steele lovingly embraced their guest of honor. It was Sunday night after the Sun City Symphony concert at the Sundome.

Roberta calls the Sun Citian "Auntie Arlene." They have been like family throughout her career years.

Roberta's warm personality endeared her to the more than 70 guests. The party was off to a good start.

'AUNTIE ARLENE' HOSTS

The opera star placed the roses in the center of her table to share with everyone. Guests gathered around to meet her and Bert, or to renew acquaintances. This was not their first visit to Sun City.

IN RESPONSE to queries about her stage costumes that evening, Roberta said, "The first dress I wore was an Oscar de la Renta, of European silk brocade in pink and gold.

"My second gown was turquoise blue with a shrimp pink sash. It was by Richlene. I wore a turquoise necklace. That is my favorite color."

She continued, "The or-

used at the party had been a gift from Jan Peerce. "I have never used it, so I decided we'd use it for Roberta's party tonight," she said.

BERT VOICED his observations of the Sundome.

"Regarding the theater where Roberta sang, it was designed with a great deal of intelligence to meet the demands of this community.

"The need is for a hall on one level to accommodate the people who come in chairs and walkers. I noted that people can drive into the parking lot and walk to their seats without one up or down

speech at the Symphony Guild luncheon yesterday that her teachers had used recordings by Galli Curci in her training.

"It is interesting to note that the recording, 'The Youngest Member of a Great Tradition,' (RCA LM 1786) included Luis Tetrazzini, Amelita Galli Curci, Lily Pons and Roberta Peters."

Jennings and Lillian Butterfield received a hearty welcome upon their arrival. Jennings conducted his final concert with the Sun City Symphony Orchestra just prior to the party.

HE SAID to a friend, "Wasn't it a wonderful concert? Miss Peters not only sang superbly, but projected all of the poise and dignity that only one



Arlene Steele, left, and her husband, Hammond, threw the party Sunday night for Roberta Peters, artist from the Metropolitan Opera.

chestra was wonderful. I enjoyed working with them. I had a good time.

"My husband and I plan to remain in the area incognito for about a week. We hope to catch up on our tennis. We must be in Boulder, Colo., next Saturday for I have a concert at the university.

"I AM happy to be on the boards of the Metropolitan Opera Co. and Carnegie Hall. I hope that I can help from the artists' standpoint."

Arlene chatted with friends nearby. She glanced at Roberta with affection and said, "Roberta told me after a party in New York recently, 'Arlene, I will always be your little girl.' This is true of so many of the musicians I worked with during my years with Sol Hurok and Columbia artists.

"Those include Jan Peerce, Van Cliburn and many others — about 2,000 of them. I hear from them by telephone, cards and notes."

One of the tablecloths

stair.

"It is difficult to have a sound system for that size auditorium. I thought it was excellent.

"Roberta loves the audience here," Bert continued.

"The next time, we are coming in time to play tennis. The tennis courts here in Sun City West are gorgeous. I am going to play for sure the next time we come. Those new courts are magnificent."

TWO LONGTIME friends of Bert and Roberta came to the party. They were Herm Spowal of Phoenix and Paul Sweitzer of Flagstaff.

Herm said, "Bert and I met during our Army days. A few years ago I was with your Sun City FM station, KWAQ, with my afternoon opera concerts.

"Now I am with KHEP with 'The World of Opera.' It is the most popular opera program in the entire West. I am convinced that at least half of the people in Sun City listen to 'World of Opera.'"

with her training, experience and talent possesses. She told me that the orchestra gave her 'magnificent accompaniment,' and she was 'very pleased with it.' "

Ray and Ann Walling chatted with some of the Sun City Symphony Guild members. Ann, president of the guild, reviewed the busy week they had just experienced.

"I feel that our 'Musical Housewalk' was most successful. We had about 86 volunteers including musicians and chairmen, which was a good representation of the guild.

"Roberta was most generous in her talk at our luncheon. It was far beyond our expectations, and everyone was most appreciative to her.

"IT WAS truly a busy week. Tuesday night was the last of the previews for the programs that are going to appear. These are sponsored by the guild. Dorothy Tulloss was the guest speaker for this last preview.

"On Thursday night the guild assisted the orches-



"Auntie Arlene," center, poses with Roberta Peters and her husband, Bert Fields. The party followed Roberta's performance with the Sun City Symphony Orchestra.

News-Sun Photos by Robert Fillev

Paul added, "I am a good friend of Roberta. I am from Flagstaff where I work for the Arizona Daily Sun as editor of the Sunday Magazine.

"I FIRST heard her sing on a Metropolitan broadcast in 1952. I finally met her in '75 when she sang in Flagstaff. I was the reviewer when she sang for the Festival of Arts, and again when she returned as guest artist with the Flagstaff Symphony."

Herm said, "Someone here tonight mentioned that Roberta told in her

tra at their farewell rehearsal for Jennings with a potluck supper for an attendance of about 120. We decorated, furnished the dessert and oversaw everything.

"The guild also sponsored the mini-reception for the musicians at Charlotte Emmons' house. This took place after the housewalk and prior to the luncheon. Roberta Peters attended and graciously met with the musicians."

Hugh and Elizabeth Clifton shared a candlelit

(Continued on 2C)

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VF ~~Personality~~ Personalities Butterfield, Jennings

Sun City Symphony founder dies

By Thomas Goldthwaite
Leisure and Arts Editor

Jennings Butterfield, 81, died on New Year's Day at his home in Sun City. The cause was not known.

He had been the conductor of the Sun City Symphony from its founding until his retirement from the podium last spring.

His passing closes a chapter in the musical life of the 50,000 residents of Sun City and in the general musical climate in the Valley.

Butterfield founded the Sun City Symphony shortly after he moved here from Massachusetts in 1968, where he founded and conducted the Cape Cod Symphony.

His accomplishments won the respect of Valley musicians, and his authority as musical arbiter for the Valley's west side became a formidable challenge to several competing organizations that looked longingly at the large audiences he attracted.

Lois Holler, an honorary member of the symphony's board of directors, said of Butterfield and the founding of the symphony, "Those were hard-working years, and he was our guiding spirit. I feel that his passing is the end of an era. It was a time of creativity, courage and faith. Jennings Butterfield epitomized that spirit."

He would never allow a strictly professional membership in his orchestra. For years his players performed without fees, except for the imported talent he needed.

Under Butterfield's direction, the orchestra grew to 80 members, including 20 active and more than 40 retired professional musicians.

He drew on local professional and amateur players to supplement the sections in the orchestra, providing many Valley musicians with additional income.

It was his special concern to secure young artists as soloists. Many were gifted young Valley musicians.

The development of the orchestra took it from the modest Mountain View Auditorium to the Sun Dial Auditorium and then, finally, in triumph, to the newly completed 7,000-seat Sundome in Sun City West for his final season.

His tastes were solid and if, as critics said, his enthusiasm exceeded polish in performances, he nonetheless attracted a large and faithful audience for his many seasons, which were invariably sold out.

Technique and perfection were not a part of Butterfield's goals for the orchestra. A Beethoven symphony or a Wagner overture didn't faze him or his players, and over the years the repertoire of the orchestra included almost every major classical orchestral work and certainly every major concerto.

Butterfield's capacity to generate enthusiasm was well-known. In a 1972 article in *The Arizona Republic*, he was characterized as an amiable conductor intent on getting his musicians through a score as fast as possible with limited rehearsal, often no more than a single reading.

"Jennings," a bassoonist called out during a pause in rehearsal, "can we go back to the Letter D for a moment?"

"John, don't worry about it" Jennings answered. "Just follow me. There's no time to go back."

He was driven throughout his retirement to promote fine music, not only for his orchestra but for other projects as well.

He and his wife, Lillian, founded the Thursday musicals at the Phoenix Art Museum. He also taught violin for the Phoenix Parks, Recreation and Library

Department beginning in 1970, and added the popular summer sessions in 1973.

He was a regular subscriber to the Phoenix Symphony concerts and the Phoenix Chamber Music Society and was a familiar figure at Valley musical events.

A dapper man with a clipped white mustache and flowing white hair, Butterfield struck everyone as a handsome, elegant conductor perfect for his role. His musicians seldom heard him speak crossly to anyone. Most were amazed by the vitality and the endurance exhibited on the podium by a man in his 70s.

Even guest artists who had performed with him marveled at his ability to pull off a concert and especially a concerto under circumstances most conductors would find terrifying. When he attended concerts, he would be among the first in the audience to rush backstage to congratulate a performer, and he knew many artists from his years of experience as conductor for the New Jersey concert symphony and as head of the music department of the West Orange, N.J., school system.

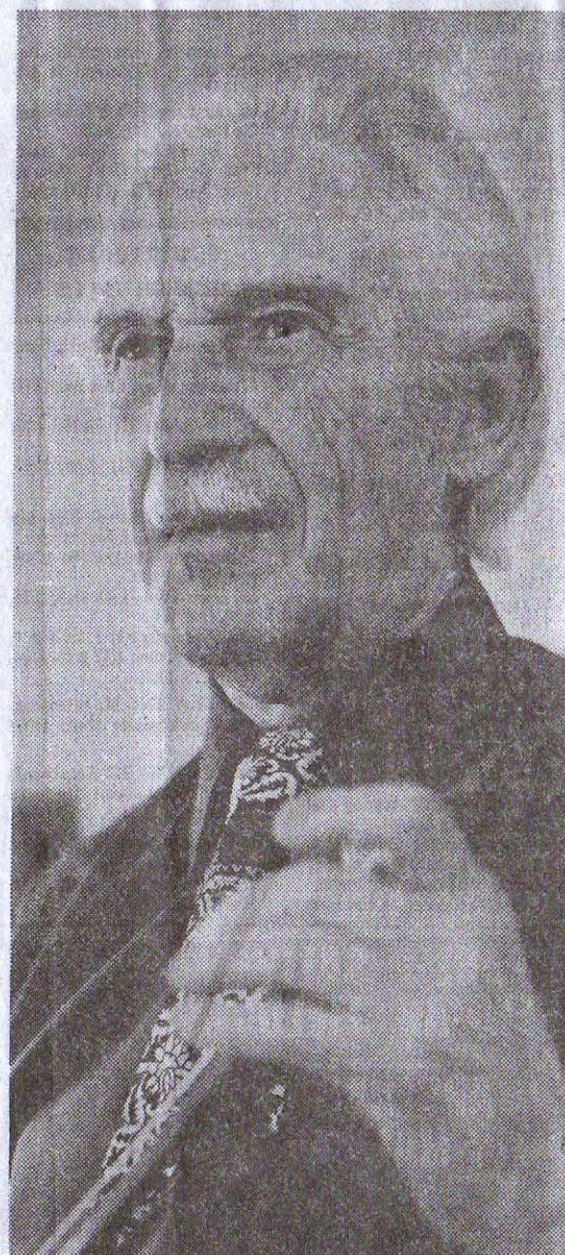
He had supervised many musical careers from among those students.

He was born in Courtland County, N.Y., on Feb. 28, 1900.

He was a member of the Sun City First Church of Christ, Scientist, the Sun City Rotary Club and the Masonic Lodge No. 72.

Masonic and Christian Science services will be today at 11 a.m. in Lundberg's Golden Door Chapel, Youngtown.

Survivors include his wife, Lillian, of Sun City; daughters Jean Bolm of Woodland Hills, Calif., and Gerri Martin of Mesa; a brother, Charles, of Warren, Ohio; and a sister, Ina Kettelson, of Baltimore.



Jennings Butterfield looked upon the Sun City Symphony as a community orchestra rather than a professional symphony.

Arizona Republic Jan 5, 1982

VF Personalities

Butterfield, Jennings

DAILY NEWS-SUN 25¢

34 PAGES

VOL. XXV NO. 140

Sun City, Arizona

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1982

Maestro Butterfield, 81, dies

A memorial service for Jennings Butterfield, founder and 12-year maestro of the Sun City Symphony orchestra, will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Lundberg's Golden Door Chapel. Mr. Butterfield died in his home New Year's Day.

During his first months in Sun City, Mr. Butterfield recruited and trained musicians from Luke Air Force Base, local universities and colleges, as well as the community. Within a year he shaped the original 45-member Sun City Symphony orchestra that premiered in Mountain View Auditorium

in 1969.

Under Mr. Butterfield's direction, the orchestra grew to 80 members, including 20 professionals and more than 40 retired musicians from the Sun City area.

"THOSE WERE hard-working years and he was our guiding spirit," said Lois Holler, honorary member of the symphony's board of directors. "I feel that his passing is the end of an era. It was a time of creativity, courage and faith. Jennings Butterfield epitomized that spirit."

Ed Comins, also a founding member

of the symphony board, remembers Mr. Butterfield as "exuberant and energetic."

"He was the sort of person that once you met you could never forget," said Comins, assistant vice president of the First Interstate Bank in LaRonde Centre. "It was never if a symphony could be organized, it was when."

MR. BUTTERFIELD and his wife, Lillian, also organized the Thursday Musicales still presented for the benefit of the Sun City Art Museum.

The maestro moved to Sun City in

1968 from Massachusetts where founded and conducted the Cape Cod Symphony. He also conducted the New Jersey Concert Symphony and headed the music department of the West Orange, N.J., school system.

Mr. Butterfield was a member of the Sun City Rotary Club, Mason Lodge 72 in Sun City and the First Church of Christ, Scientist.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Gerri Martin of Mesa and Jean Bolm of Woodlawn Hills, Ohio; brother, Charles of Warren, Ohio; and a sister, Ina Kettelson of Baltimore.



JENNINGS BUTTERFIELD

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JENNINGS BUTTERFIELD

Butterfield, Jennings

for Lillian -

Jennings Butterfield, 81; founded Cape Symphony

SUN CITY, Ariz. — A memorial service was held Jan. 5 in Youngtown, Ariz., for Jennings Butterfield, 81, a former resident of Chatham who was one of the founders and first conductor of the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Butterfield died New Year's Day at his Sun City home.

Mr. Butterfield helped start the Cape Symphony shortly after moving to the Cape from New Jersey in 1961 and conducted its first concert in 1962. He served as musical director and conductor until 1967 and moved to Arizona a year later.

Mr. Butterfield was named conductor emeritus of the orchestra in 1968. He served as string instrument teacher and orchestra director of the Barnstable public schools during the early 1960s.

Within a month of moving to Arizona, Mr. Butterfield recruited and trained

musicians and founded the Sun City Orchestra, which he conducted for 12 years.

Mr. Butterfield attended conservatories in Cortland and Binghamton, N.Y., and later studied violin with John King Roosa, Paul Stassevitch and Louis Persinger.

He also studied composition and conducting at New York University and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria.

Mr. Butterfield was a member of the Sun City Rotary Club, Masonic Lodge No. 72 of Sun City and attended the First Church of Christ Scientist, Sun City.

Survivors include his wife, Lillian Alexander Butterfield of Sun City, formerly of Brewster; two daughters, Gerri Martin of Mesa, Ariz., and Jean Bolm of Woodland Hills, Calif.; a brother, Charles of Warren, Ohio; and a sister, Ina Kettelson of Baltimore.

Jan 1, 1982



*The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall
not want. He maketh me to lie
down in green pastures; He leadeth
me beside the still waters. He
restoreth my soul; He leadeth me
in the paths of righteousness for
His name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death, I will
fear no evil; for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort
me; Thou preparest a table before
me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the
Lord forever.*

**In Memory Of
Jennings Butterfield**

**Date of Birth
February 28, 1900
Cattland County, New York**

**Entered Into Rest
January 1, 1982
Sun City, Arizona**

**Memorial Services
Lundberg's Golden Door Chapel
January 5, 1982 11:00 A.M.**

**Officiant's
Robert Hahn - Reader
and
Masonic Funeral Committee**

**Concluding Service
Private**

Service for Jennings Butterfield

II Chronicles 5: 13 to second ;

Ezek. 33: 32 to :

Words of Hymn # 64 (Christian Science Hymnal)

From sense to Soul my pathway lies before me,
From mist and shadow into Truth's clear day;
The dawn of all things real is breaking o'er me
My heart is singing: I have found the way.

I reach Mind's open door, and at it's portal
I know that where I stand is holy ground;
I feel the calm and joy of things immortal,
The loveliness of Love is all around.

The way leads upward and its goal draws nearer,
Thought soars enraptured, fetterless and free;
The vision infinite to me grows clearer,
I touch the fringes of eternity.

It is our privilege today to pay tribute to a very special man,
Jennings Butterfield who is so greatly loved by his family,
his host of friends, and the community at large, all of whom
have been touched by his gentleness, devotion and great talents.

The following readings are from the King James version of the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy, including Prose Works and the Christian Science textbook, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.

Psm. 16: 5,6,8,11 to ;

Psm. 36: 7-9

John 1: 1-4

John 6 : 27 to:, 35,38,40,47,48,63

John 17: 1-3

1 John. 5: 11-13 to ,

Unity of Good. 37: 1-3,11-15

38:3 only,9,14-17, 19

60: 28

Mis. Writ.....186: 13-22

187: 3

Unity of Good...131: 8-13

Science and Health:

204: 5(starting with Paul)-17,20

26: 19-25

428: 3-6, 22-23,26

426: 11-14

427: 1-7, 14-16

410: 4-12 ;

598: 23

468: 26 (Life) —27

The Lord's prayer

And now a special benediction for our dear Jennings:

" Peace on earth and Good-will !

Souls that are gentle still

Hear the first music of this

Far-off, infinite, Bliss ! "

(Sir Edwin Arnold quoted by Mary Baker Eddy in
Miscellaneous Writings page 153.)

Editorials

His life, his legacy: music

During Sun City's existence, there have been special people who have strongly influenced its character and image. Jennings Butterfield was one of those special people.

He was a successful and honored symphony conductor and teacher before he came to Sun City. He could have considered his past accomplishments and found them sufficient, but he saw a cultural void in his new community and lent his exuberant energies to filling it.

He called a few musicians together in his home 13 years ago to form the nucleus of a symphony for Sun City. Its progress stands as a testimonial to his ability to create, to inspire others with his enthusiasm and to attract outstanding guest artists to this community.

When the concerts were moved to Sun City West's Sundome, Maestro Butterfield felt his job was finished; the symphony was successful, highly admired and enjoying solid community support. He stepped down, but not really to retire. He continued to work with and give encouragement to youthful musicians, to conduct Thursday

Musicales for the Sun City Art Museum and to teach.

His death Friday came as a shock to Sun Citians. He is mourned not only for his outstanding contributions to this community, but for his warm, caring and optimistic outlook and his great capacity for friendship.

Named conductor emeritus by the Sun City Symphony Orchestra Association in April when he retired, Jennings Butterfield also had received the News-Sun's first Apex Award for "continuing exceptional service to community" in March.

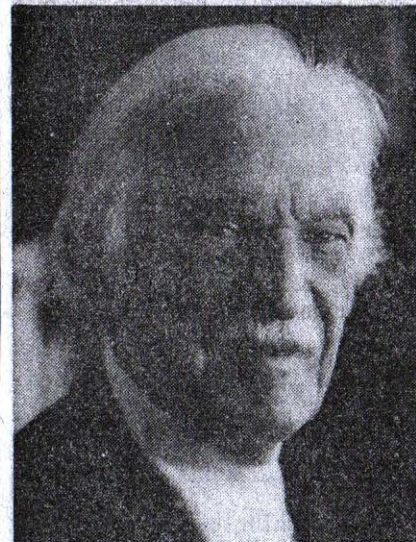
The plaque given him by the symphony association conveyed the deep affection of his colleagues and commended him for "his 13 years of boundless devotion as developer and conductor of the Sun City Symphony Orchestra, thereby winning for Sun City and Sun City West a place of esteem on the map of musical America."

That is a fitting tribute to this gracious and talented man. It will stand as his legacy to Sun City.

Maestro Butterfield dies

He brought music to life, and life to music; but he was more than music — he was an extraordinary human being . . . talented, thoughtful, concerned, absolutely indomitable and blessed with a sense of humor that kept everything in balance.

When Jennings Butterfield decided that Sun City must have a sym-



Jennings Butterfield

. . . maestro phony, that was the end of the question. The only thing that remained was to work out the details. This, he did; and the young community donned the attire of an artistic adult.

He died New Year's morning in the peace of his own bed at home, a couple of months short of his 82nd birthday. That's a long life, especially when it's a good and productive life.

If I were asked to describe Jennings Butterfield in one word, it would be "dignity" — the kind that makes everything it touches a little better for the contact. In a community that comprises innumerable extravagant talents, he was unique.

Jennings always had time for others. While up to his baton with the Symphony and with Art Museum musicales, he somehow found time to work with school children, to bring the world of good music to fledglings.

The Sun City-Sun City West Symphony is not merely an outstanding musical organization, it's the monument to a man . . . whose smile will be seen . . . whose voice will be heard . . . whose dedication will be felt in every note.

We can't diminish Lillian's sorrow in the loss of her husband; but we hope she'll smile when she recalls our pride in having known him.

So long, friend . . . the choir of angels will be more harmonic now that you're there.

Doug Morris

vt Personalities Butterfield, Jennings

April '81



Conductor emeritus

Lillian and Jennings Butterfield exchange happy smiles just after he had been designated "conductor emeritus" of the Sun City Symphony Orchestra. The board of the Sun City Symphony Association took to the stage before the final concert number Sunday night, and Emmett Sarig, association president, presented Maestro Butterfield with a plaque of appreciation for his 13 years of devotion to the symphony. With the Butterfields, at left, are Sarig and Jim Handley, an association board member. (News-Sun Photo by Karen Pennington)

Butterfield farewell called 'memorable'

Oh, what a beautiful evening!

The largest audience in the Sundome thus far enthusiastically applauded and expressed their appreciation to Roberta Peters, Jennings Butterfield and the Sun City Symphony Orchestra for their exceptional performance Sunday evening.

This occasion also marked the farewell appearance of Mr. Butterfield, who not only founded the orchestra, but who has dedicated the past 13 years to developing and improving the organization. And this event proved that conductor and orchestra members alike should be equally proud of their achievements.

The program contained something for everybody—works by Mozart, Donizetti, Romberg, Lehar and Loewe.

IN ORDER to report on any such event, it seems only fair to base the comments on two of the most important factors involved in making it a success: first, the artistry, tone quality and ability to project of the soloist—in this case, Roberta Peters; second, but of equal importance, the type of auditorium or facility in which the artist will be heard—in this case, the Sundome.

Roberta Peters enjoys the distinction of having completed 30 years as leading soprano at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City, and she recently renewed her contract for the next three years.

Her superior technique as a coloratura soprano, plus her vocal warmth and sparkling personality have endeared her to audiences all over the world. Her extensive repertoire ranges from the most demanding operatic roles to the lighter classics and her outstanding abilities deserve the best possible facilities.

Of course, it is a well-known fact that the most acclaimed and prestigious concert halls and recital halls in which great musicians appear do not rely on electronic amplification. Since it has been my privilege to hear Miss Peters many times throughout the years, I am thoroughly familiar with her technique and tone quality. For this reason I would like to point out that while the interpretation of the first two Mozart arias—Voi che sapete from "The Marriage of Figaro" and Voi avete cor fidele—were produced in the usual manner, the sound system injected some harshness into the tone quality.

SHE MUST have realized this, since by changing her position in relationship to the microphone there was a profound improvement in tone when she sang the aria from "Don Pasquale" and, as a result, the real Roberta Peters emerged and the audience went wild. This portrays graphically the importance of an auditorium.

The orchestra's beautiful rendition of the familiar Mozart Haffner Symphony under Maestro Butterfield's direction clearly pointed out the tremendous progress this symphony has made since its founding 13 years ago.

The lovely tone quality of the violin section, so necessary to a successful Mozart performance, was outstanding. And it seemed that the conductor and orchestra combined every effort to make this a memorable occasion—which it will be.

The second half of the program was pure joy. The orchestra opened with selections from "The Student Prince" by Sigmund Romberg—always a favorite. This was followed by our soloist, who sang Meine Lippen from Lehar's "Giuditta," next the

lilting "Vienna, My City of Dreams" by Siczynski and the thrilling "Vilia," also by Lehar. And it is safe to say that so far as is known nobody has surpassed Roberta Peters' superb rendition of the above.

AND NOW, returning to my comment regarding the second requirement for a thoroughly satisfying performance: the preferred type of auditorium for the various kinds of entertainment.

Our Sundome is particularly appropriate for the extravaganza type of attractions, the large bands, the huge variety shows which appear in the auditorium arenas, although one cannot help wish that the stage could be wider and the distance from front to rear not so great.

However, there will be many occasions throughout the coming years when the proper productions will be enjoyed. Nevertheless, I would be remiss if I did not mention the fact that smaller auditoriums also have their place, that they always have been and, so far as we know, always will be (if properly constructed) more satisfactory because electronic amplification is not a necessity.

This more truly results in better performances by soloists, some orchestras, small groups and single entertainers and brings maximum enjoyment to their listeners.

—Arlene Steele

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Butterfield acclaimed by hundreds

By LORAIN TOWNE
Staff Writer
"WHO—ME?"

Who else but Jennings Butterfield would be acclaimed by close to 400 dear friends Monday night at the Lakes Club.

Jennings is quoted as saying, "I hear that a lot of people are going to celebrate my 80th birthday. That isn't true. To be accurate, it's the 60th anniversary of my 20th birthday." He and wife, Lillian, were surrounded by family and friends.

EMMETT AND Elizabeth Sarig, together with Raymond and Ann Walling greeted guests at the door. Emmett is president of the symphony board; Ann is president of the symphony guild. Emmett was toastmaster for the evening.

The Butterfields' daughter, Jean Bolm, with husband, Olaf, came from California for the occasion. Jean played the cello through high school and Middlebury College. She was a Lt. j.g. in the SPARS and is now in real estate in California.

She explained her musical accomplishment.

Crosby Golf Classics attracted nationwide attention. They have three children and presented Jennings and Lillian with a great grandson recently.

JENNINGS' sister, Mrs. Wolber Kettelsen, sat with Jean and Olaf. She is a graduate of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N.Y. She has had a distinguished career as head dietitian in hospitals in New York and Maryland.

Bettina Rubicam and Bruce Pfeiffer exchanged comments about the evening's honoree. "I think it is very suitable that Jennings should be given this accolade tonight," remarked Bettina. "I remember when there was no symphony here in Sun City. He was the first one to organize it."

Bruce Pfeiffer added, "I think he has performed a miracle and is reaping his just desserts tonight. I first knew Jennings about 14 years ago when the idea was first born for a symphony orchestra in Sun City."

BRUCE is an officer and a staff member of Taliesen West. He is director of the music department and one

Butterfield, Let your forthcoming birthday carry you into a wonderful decade. Sorry not to be able to join you for your party.

"Please give my affectionate greetings to Mrs. Butterfield who shared your life these many years. (signed) Olgivanna Lloyd Wright.

"P.S. Under separate cover I am sending you the autobiography of my husband. Feb. 3, 1980."

Gail and Helen Lancaster are active in Sun City's musical life. "Gail was organist in the great movie theaters in Atlanta, Birmingham and Chattanooga. He has been organist for the United Church of Christ in Sun City for many years." Helen informed on her husband.

"Hal Sunday is an old friend of Jennings," Lillian said. "He is president of Local 586 of the American Federation of Musicians. He has been most cooperative and helpful to the Sun City Symphony from its early beginnings."

Mrs. Rex Brewster of Phoenix owes her success as a choir director to one lesson from Jennings. She

"To the 3 'D's — Determination — Devotion — Discipline —"

The many speakers and acts on the program included a tribute by John Meeker, president of Del E. Webb Development Co. Jerry Svendsen and Don Tufts added their accolades. "I'm looking forward to working with Jennings at the Sundome next year," Don said in part.

JERRY is a vice president of Del E. Webb Development Co. Don is director of entertainment for Sundome Center for the Performing Arts.

LILLIAN Butterfield had her turn at the microphone. "Jennings calls me his 'idea girl.' Often, in the middle of the night, I get an idea; it must come from above. Then I call to him, 'Honey, are you awake?'"

"Oh, yes, what is it?" "We're going to have a meeting in the kitchen." Then, over hot chocolate, ideas flow and plans materialize.

"The other day Jennings came home from shopping and told me a woman in the checkout line at Safeway had come up to him and



"Who, me?" remarked Jennings Butterfield after receiving best wishes from hundreds of friends and relatives honoring him Monday night in the Lakes Club. He is pictured with his wife, Lillian.

(News-Sun Photos by Brad Whitehead)

"I always suspected the reason I learned to play the cello was because my parents needed me to make up a trio. My father played the violin. Mother played the piano. I really wanted to play the sax. But 'they' outsmarted me in the sixth grade when I took lessons to learn to play the cello."

Jean's husband has been with the Young and Rubicam Advertising Agency for a long period of time. His photography for the Bob Hope and Bing

of Mrs. Wright's closest advisers for Taliesen.

Reed and Phyllis Mack of Paradise Valley spoke enthusiastically about the progress of Sun City Symphony. "I was a member of the original board of trustees. We held our first meetings in my bank, Valley National, in Youngtown." Phyllis is very supportive of the symphony; she also is an active music person.

Toastmaster Sarig read a letter from Mrs. Frank Lloyd Wright: "Dear Mr.

was a member of the first board when Jennings founded "Young Audiences in Arizona."

MR. AND MRS. Douglas Driggs of Paradise Valley enjoyed being guests at Jennings' party. "Douglas has been a long time president of Western Savings and Loan, and at present is chairman of the board. He is now engaged in raising millions of dollars for Brigham Young University," said President Sarig.

Rev. Howard Blackburn gave a short prayer followed by a toast to Jennings,

kissed him on the cheek. Women are always kissing him. I am used to it. But tonight—a lot of men have kissed me." Lillian's eyes twinkled impishly.

THE TIME had come for Jennings to take control of the microphone. Feigning surprise—"Who—me?"

"I appreciate this more than you know," he began. In part, he spoke, "We needed more rehearsals. I listened when it was suggested, 'Why don't you get the string players together and rehearse one morning a week?' We held our

rehearsals on Monday mornings. But we needed a place to rehearse. Where?

"Suddenly, the 'idea-producer' suggested the art museum . . . they're closed on Mondays . . . Sue Gordon, curator, made us very welcome. Besides, the museum could use the rent we would pay . . . and I want to say to you . . . all of you . . . protect that art museum. We don't want to lose it! . . . There is no such thing as a problem that cannot be solved . . . Just hold the problem up and look at it squarely . . . Then handle it graciously.

"This has been a glorious experience here in Sun City . . .

"Who—me?"



Charlotte Bowling

Charlotte Bowling, a longtime resident of Sun City (1967) has a favorite golden rule that goes like this, "In my hands I hold two keys — one is thank-you and the other please. With these two keys I can open any door".

Growing up within the strict bounds of a Southern woman's sphere she quickly adjusted to many changes. She relocated to foreign countries and various different states but always got involved with community affairs and social functions.

Starting with New Orleans, her hometown, she was a member of the Council of the P.T.A. where she succeeded in unlocking the playground gates for after school activities; member of the writer's division of the Community Chest; Chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee of the Y.W.C.A.; member of the Citizens Recreation Committee, and helped to gain a children's concert by the New Orleans Symphony Orchestra.

With limited space we could not list all of the things she accomplished in other locations, but in Walla Walla, WA, she again became active as Red Cross program chairman, member of the Symphony Board and Executive Director of the Tuberculosis Association.

(Continued on page 2)

(Bowling, continued from page 1)

When her husband Eugene retired in Sun City she began all over again and enjoyed every minute of it. She became Vice President of Sunshine Services, and five years of service as a board member is just completed. She previously held such rewarding positions as a moving force to bring good music to Sun City with the Symphony, publicist of the first S.C. Pops Orchestra, publicity chairman of a fund raising drive in Sun City for the Pioneer Arizona Foundation, one of two Sun Citizens named to the Maricopa County Task Force, (she served as a member of the Health Facilities Task Force, one of a series of task forces created as part of the Comprehensive Health Planning Council of Maricopa County).

Next in Sun City came the Bicentennial celebration. She received a plaque from the governor in appreciation of her work. Charlotte was not content with all of these activities so she organized and served as president of the Cactus Wren Chapter of Questors. She had a paper on Victorian antiques accepted by the national organization.

But — one successful project that we are all grateful to Charlotte for is her work with the HOA to rid the Sun City area of the cattle feed lot and its foul smell. She had to enlist health agencies to back up her belief the odor was unhealthy. It was really an uphill fight but she won. They moved.

Charlotte Bowling believes that everyone should contribute in some way because as she says, "I have always disliked people who take but will not contribute. We are here for such a short time and must do something that will make the world a better place because of us". She certainly lives by this principle. Thanks Charlotte!

CHARLOTTE BOWLING

Wednesday, May 24, 1989

Daily News-Sun

A spot in automotive history

Sun Citian is named to Hall of Fame

By MIKE GARRETT
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Many of a part-time Sun City resident's car designs are in U.S. museums. Now his place in automotive history will be preserved.

One of America's most honored and renown automobile designers will receive the ultimate automotive award Oct. 10.

On that date, Gordon Buehrig of Sun City and Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., will be inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame in Midland, Mich.

Buehrig, 85, is known for his classic car designs of the Duesenberg, Cord, Auburn and Stutz. And for 17 years, he was a chief cog in Ford Motor Co.'s automotive design and engineering departments.

Induction into the Automotive Hall of Fame is reserved for only a few in the industry, according to Chairman Robert P. Mallon.

In announcing Buehrig's induction, Mallon said: "Induction into the Automotive Hall of Fame is reserved for those who, like Buehrig, have significantly affected their communities and their industry. It is the greatest honor which can be bestowed on an individual in the industry.

"As a 1989 inductee, your contributions will be preserved alongside more than 80 of the greatest automotive personalities who have made this industry what it is today," Mallon said in his induction letter to Buehrig.

The induction honor comes at a time when Buehrig is still involved in automotive design and consulting projects. He's entering his design of an aerodynamic large car in an international car design contest in Geneva, Switzerland. For the past five years he has also been a consultant for the Franklin Mint series of 1950s classic car miniatures.

"It means quite a lot really from a personal standpoint," said Buehrig, who winters in Sun City and lives the rest of the year in Grosse Pointe Woods.

The Hall of Fame honor culminates a 60-year career filled with honors. Perhaps his most notable was for his design of the 1936 coffin-nosed Cord Model 810, considered by most automotive design experts as one of the eight finest examples of automotive art ever created.

Buehrig said he is also proudest of some of his 1930s Duesenberg designs. Those cars are now among the most prized by classic car collectors and have been sold at auctions for well over \$1 million, including one that went for \$3.2 million.

"I think my favorite designs were some of the Duesenbergs," said Buehrig. "They've suddenly taken on an aura as works of art. We went to a Geneva auto show a year ago and six of the Duesenbergs were sent over. Every one was insured for a million dollars.

"In 1986, I received an honorary Ph.D. for my design work with Auburn and the Duesenberg. Also in 1986, I received a fellow greater membership in the Society of Automotive Engineers for my inventions and engineering innovations including the popular T-top type of convertible I invented in 1948."

Last year he received the first Steuben Lifetime Achievement Award. It will be given annually in his name. And in a 1981 New York Times survey of the top 30 auto men in U.S. automotive history included his name along with such industry legends as Henry Ford, Charles Kettering, Henry Rolls, Ferdinand Porsche, Carl Benz, Alfred B. Sloan and Ransom Olds.

But Buehrig doesn't believe in resting on his rockerarms. After retiring from Ford in 1965, he taught automobile plastics applications at the prestigious California Art Center College of Design for five years and then retired again.

Buehrig was one of the early pioneers in plastics development and application during his last few years at Ford.

"At the time there were only about six pounds of plastics used See Honor, D7

BUEHRIG, GORDON

OVER

Honor culminates 60-year career

— From D
in an automobile. I headed up a small research group in a scientific lab on the application of plastics, and I learned how you can use them. I made several trips to Arizona testing plastics in the hot weather out here.

"It's just amazing what has been done in the plastics industry in the last 30 years." He said plastics used to be a dirty name in the automotive industry but it's now a very integral part of automotive design because of the strength chemists have given them.

"People never thought of an object being made of plastic unless it broke. Nowadays all kinds of things are made of plastics

and they're so much better in their applications than other materials," Buehrig said.

Since teaching plastics at the California design center, Buehrig said he has run across several former students who have gone on to notable careers of their own, including Honda Motor Co.'s chief designer in California.

"But you can't make an artist; he has to be born with talent," said Buehrig.

"It was so much fun working with these kids because they were so good. A lot of what you see today is really due to advancements in body engineering. The things they're doing today we didn't know how to do when I

was in the business.

"It's very easy to design windows flush with the sheet metal when you're making a clay model. But they didn't know how to build that when I was designing cars. We didn't have and couldn't make these streamlined headlights or curved glass they have nowadays," he said. When Buehrig was designing, the federal government declared as illegal such features as wraparound headlights.

Buehrig said he still gets involved as an expert witness with lawsuits involving car safety designs against the domestic car companies, including one involving his T-top design.

Buehrig thinks today's cars are much safer and stronger than the ones built in his day, disagreeing with the popular misconception that they don't build cars as safe as they used to because of their lighter weights.

As an example, he said the tempered glass used in today's cars has been proven five times as strong as the old laminated glass.

"They have made them lighter by better engineering, thinner sheet metal and more use of plastics."

Now if he can just win that contest in Geneva with his 1/8 scale model of his LBA (Large Beautiful Automobile), which he is designing in the basement studio of his Michigan home.

The prizes include a free trip to Geneva, a Rolex watch and \$50,000 Swiss francs.

Buehrig says his design is more than 30 percent space efficient than a comparably sized Lincoln and is powered by a V-6 engine in the front and a four-cylinder engine in the back, which he says increases fuel economy.

And what does this self-confessed "automotive nut" drive for his own pleasure?

He can be seen in a 1971 Chevrolet Corvette or his red Honda CRX or a 1951 Ford Victoria he helped design, or a Lincoln sedan or the Harris Special, a sports car.

Buehrig always was good at shifting gears.

Founder of musicales series looks forward to yet another season

By **YOLANDA MUHAMMAD**
Sun Cities Independent

Delicate and elegant as a greenhouse orchid, Lillian Butterfield carries on her husband's work as if she were wearing silken combat boots.

A warrior in the cause of cultural pursuits, she has been in the Sun City trenches since the 1960s.

Her late husband, Jennings, founded the Sun Cities Symphony in November, 1968, after the couple had moved here in April of the same year from Massachusetts.

Mr. Jennings had also founded and conducted the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra, so his talents were well honed.

He wanted to find a place where some of the players could get in some extra practice, Mrs. Butterfield says, so she suggested the upstairs studio of their home, but in time that space grew too small.

When that happened they contacted the Sun Cities Art Museum, and shared that space after hours. This was during the time the art museum was a satellite of the Phoenix Art Museum, and located further east on Bell Road.

One evening while the Butterfields were discussing this arrangement, Mr. Butterfield said, "You know, Lillian, I would like to do something for the art museum to show my appreciation."

"Jennings, I said, 'I have just the idea. Why don't you put on a series of chamber musicales and invite the public,'"

He said he could not do it with the symphony orchestra because that would not be fair or proper.

"I will have to hire the players, but that costs money. Where will we get the money?"

"I said, 'don't worry about that. You get the players and I

will get the money,'" Mrs. Butterfield says with a laugh.

So she started on a campaign all over the city with all of her friends, making phone calls to raise funds. Because the musicales were to be free to the public, they were able to obtain money from the musician's union, who paid half of the artists' fees.

It was about this same time that the Sun Cities Art Museum directors decided to break away from the Phoenix Art Museum and go on their own, but for a time, before a building could be built, "they were a museum without a home -- just in the air -- in their heads," Mrs. Butterfield recalls.

Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield went to the All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church, at Burns and Hutton, and spoke to them about using one of their halls for the musicales.

"We started out with 25-30 people in 1974," Mrs. Butterfield says, smiling. "We needed a hall as big as a table top, but it grew and grew. Now we get about 180 at the programs."

After an illness and after Jennings had passed away in 1982, Lillian Butterfield wanted to make sure the Jennings Butterfield Musicales continued and were well administrated.

"I was worried no one else would get on the phone and make calls to get the money all day like I did," Lillian says.

Through the help of several friends, Mrs. Butterfield was able to establish a local endowment fund, as well as garner a grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts.

"Now I can go to sleep at night and not worry about the musicales."

Once when she missed a meeting because she was out of town, Lillian returned to find that in her absence her committee had dropped the name Jennings from the series and renamed them simply

Butterfield Musicales, so that Lillian might be honored for her efforts to provide this cultural addition to the Sun Cities.

"People kept calling me and asking me if I was going to continue the Musicales after Jennings passed away. I wasn't sure that I could. I knew who the performers were through Jennings, but he had always made the arrangements."

BUTTERFIELD, Lillian

OVER

So Mrs. Butterfield got help from an agent who lines up all the acts. All the performers are from Arizona and they are all members of the musician's union, with the exception of an Indian artist who will be part of the series for 1989-90.

One feature that the audiences like about the musicales, Lillian says, is the intimacy with the artists. The musicians come out and talk

to the audience, explain the instruments and the background of the pieces -- "And people love it!" she exclaims.

"It's like being invited to a very delightful party. It's so interesting! And by the time the thing is over, I'm always all lipstick all over my face!

"Everybody comes in with love and kisses and it is so charming. And everyone who has come has wanted to come

IN A MOMENT OF REPOSE, Lillian Butterfield shares some of her beautiful memories and hopes for the future of the Butterfield Musicales.

Bret McKeand/Independent



back. Our programs are tops.

"People like that they are small and quiet and held in the church -- it makes a difference -- sets them apart."

Modesty prevents Lillian Butterfield from taking all the credit she deserves for her work in behalf of the Sun Cities.

She says she and her husband, Jennings, had a wonderful life in Sun City. She feels that Mr. Butterfield opened the doors for the cultural development of the area with the founding of the symphony.

"We were the first to present music in conjunction with an art museum. They are doing it all over the country now."

She says she is very pleased with the musicales and "if Jennings were alive, he would be stunned. He wouldn't believe how beautifully it has worked out.

"I am grateful because it brings his name across, but also because it has brought a lot of joy to a lot of people.

"And it's free! People don't have to say, 'I can't afford another \$5,' it's there for everyone.

Lillian retired from a career as a lady's ready-to-wear buyer. Of her fellow Sun Citizens she says, "the women here dress very well. I think they care about their hair. As far as I can tell they are always sitting in the beauty parlor.

"You would think all that heat would do them in," she says laughing.

The first program in the 1989-90 series of the Butterfield Musicales will be a concert by the Joseph Wytko Saxophone Quartet.

It will be presented 3 p.m. Nov. 9 at All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church, corner of Hutton and Burns drives, Sun City.

Look for Lillian Butterfield in the audience, she will be the gentle little lady back by the donation fishbowl with that lovely smile, of accomplishment.

First 'pedal pusher'

still cycles

Daily News-Sun Monday, Feb. 5, 1990 C-1



Daily News-Sun photo

PEDAL PUSHER — Pedal Pusher Bicycle Club founder Rose Butler still rides with the group.

By P. ATWOOD WILLIAMS
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — When she's not riding her exercise bicycle, Rose Butler is writing family histories.

It wasn't always an exercise cycle that she rode.

Butler's friends affectionately call the 92-year-old Sun City pionner "Queen Rosie" because she and her husband, Gene, formed the first cycling club in Sun City.

The Pedal Pusher Bicycle Club now boasts more than 200 members.

She and her late husband, Gene, moved here in 1960. They soon helped organize the Republican Club and became voter registrars. Gene became a precinct committeeman and served on the Peoria School Board.

"I told my husband that Sun City was a perfect place for a bike because there were no chuck holes and such perfect mountain views."

A year after moving here, they purchased bikes.

Their first morning out, a couple invited them to join them on their patio. Her husband was making donuts. They were the first couple to join up.

Soon the neighbors began cycling with them at 7 each morning and at sunset. One insecure rider had a tumble into a cactus causing the painful removal of dozens of thorns.

By May, there were 10 who would ride to the Highway House (King's Inn) or Memory Lane (Melody Lane) restaurants at Grand and 107th avenues for breakfast occasionally.

"Riding a bike, we could appreciate the landscaping of each yard," said Butler. "No two houses were allowed to be

BUTLER, ROSE

over

painted the same color, nor could the front elevations be of the same design."

When the group grew, instead of meeting in the driveway of the Butler home on West Cherry Hills Drive, they met at the United Church at Sun City Boulevard and 107th Avenue.

"There was a map of the country painted on the pavement there, and we would ride back and forth and brag about riding coast to coast," said Rose.

Frequently Rose cooked a ham and others brought side dishes. She charged 15 cents a serving, and the group donated the money raised to area charities.

Rose said her husband was asked if he would manage a Schwinn bike shop in Sun City, but he was too busy helping Sun City to "get started as a place to really live."

She was a member of St. Joachim and St. Anne choir and retired after 25 years; a charter member of the parish Sodality where she was a Sodality Mass song leader; and a chartered and retired mini-golf member.

"I am now a prodigal daughter returned to my first love — a pedal pusher."

She said that after Gene's death, she didn't ride regularly with the group until 1986.

A man in a grocery line heard her talking about joining an exercise class and suggested she join the Pedal Pushers, the organization she had help to form!

The next morning, the riders gathered on her patio for breakfast, "and I was with my first love, pushing pedals."

These days she only rides with the group in good weather, choosing to ride her exercise cycle on the patio otherwise.



Daily News-Sun photo

WRITING HISTORIES — Rose Butler keeps busy writing family histories. In foreground are the placards on the golf car she rode in the Sun City 30th Anniversary Parade proclaiming her a founder of The Pedal Pusher Bicycle Club in 1961.

She says she plays mind games and rides the hypothetical distance to the grocery store.

"But sometimes I have to leave myself there, and ride home the next morning."

"We have many retired members of Pedal Pusher Bicycle Club," said Cyclemaster John Sybenga.

They no longer ride weekdays with the red-jacketed group but attend the many social events such as the Saturday breakfasts late spring pancake breakfast, spring and Christmas dinner parties at the Union Hills Country Club. A business meet-

ing is on the first Tuesday of each month at Tom Tates.

And the group has a tour chairman to arrange short and long Arizona and Southwest tours.

In April, they will ride the train from Williams to the Grand Canyon where they will do some sightseeing and perhaps cycling.

To become a member, a biker may join the group at 9 a.m. weekdays in the Sun Bowl parking lot.

After 25 rides, a biker will be invited to join the club. Dues are \$3 a year.

Information: 974-3107.



FROM THE SCRAPBOOK — Dr. Marvin Brown is pictured in 1941 at his office in Cleveland, N.Y.

Country doctor

Book captures memories of 'a good life'

By BRITT KENNERLY
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Back when heart transplants were unheard of, Dr. Marvin Brown was doing something foreign to many doctors today — making house calls.

Those were the days before sulfa drugs and penicillin — when Brown, practicing in the sometimes treacherous climate of northern New York, often needed road crews or snow shoes to visit his patients.

These days, Brown, the 1930 central New York junior tennis champion, is likely to be practicing his swing on a Sun City tennis court.

But he has vivid memories of his life as the "father" of Oneida Lake's North Shore, chronicling his colorful and rewarding career as a country doctor in a 1988 book titled "House Calls: Memoirs of a Country Doctor."

For 43 years, Brown tended to the medical needs of the people in a 400 square mile area. He could correctly diagnose and treat patients on 20 to 30, even 50, house calls in a day.

"It was a good life," said Brown, who earned his doctor of

medicine degree at Syracuse University College of Medicine. "When I had been in practice 25 years, a spontaneous reception was given for me at a local school. About 500 people showed up. Some were the first babies I delivered, now grown-ups with babies of their own. You don't see that, practicing in a big city."

He said, "I delivered more than 600 'at home' babies. We're starting to see more and more home deliveries again. Also, across the country now, the percentage of deliveries that are caesarean is about 35 percent. My caesarean rate was a little more than 1 percent."

Brown once delivered a baby in a farmhouse where there was no electricity. The mother was a 14-year-old. Brown stood on the stairs at the foot of the girl's loft bed as the girl's father held a flashlight so that the doctor could see to bring the baby into the world.

"My patients were like my family," Brown said. "I treated them that way."

Brown has seen the general population lose its awe over the years of the medical profession.

"You know that as well as I do," he said. "It's not the same for many reasons. My wife Hilma called a physician to schedule a physical about two weeks ago. She was told that the soonest she could get an appointment was Dec. 17. That's almost a month from the time she called. It's ridiculous."

Brown moved to Sun City about 21½ years ago after the death of his first wife, Bee. The couple had four sons: Terry, who lives in Paradise Valley and came to Arizona in 1975 to serve as a hospital administrator; Neal and Stephen, both of New York City; and Miner, who lives in Baltimore. They also adopted a daughter, Gerda, who lives in Vienna, Austria.

Reference to the couple's struggle with Bee's heart problems is in a review of "House Calls" in a 1989 issue of Journal of the American Medical Association.

After mentioning technical flaws found in the book, the reviewer said, "The book is well worth reading despite these problems, perhaps most for the tender and moving description of his wife's illness and death."



Daily News-Sun photo by Mollie J. Hopper

DOCTOR TURNED AUTHOR — Dr. Marvin Brown holds a copy of his book, in which he chronicles his colorful career.

Every physician can benefit from this doctor's view of the impact of illness on himself and his family.

Brown's views on illness and death reflect his work as a family physician and his concerns today.

"Arizona is way behind. Look at all the kids who haven't had measles shots," he said. "Then again, Arizona is only my age. It's a new state."

The retired physician prepares living wills, does work with area diabetes programs and is chairman of the bereavement committee of Hospice Service of the Sun Cities. He will spearhead the committee's January bereavement program.

Had Brown been able to choose whether to practice medicine at the time he did, or to be a practicing physician today, would he have chosen modern technology?

"If I had a young son now,

and he wanted to go into medicine, I'd try to talk him out of it," he said. "Everyone's looking over a doctor's shoulder. Medicaid and Medicare have new regulations every time you turn around. Their fees are terrible."

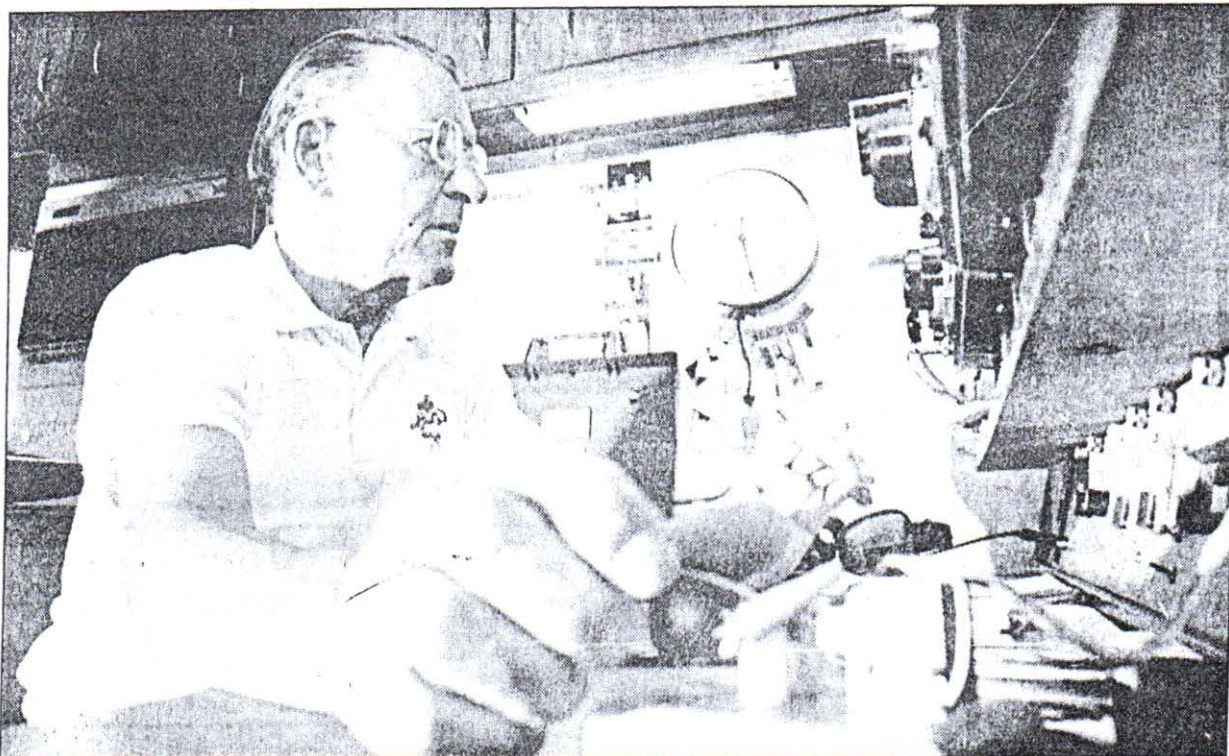
Does he feel today's doctors make a more-than-adequate living?

"Many of them are prima donnas," he said. "They go into an area and figure out how many days or months they'll have to practice before they can buy a Porsche."

In defense of his peers, he said, "They have a big overhead. Sometimes it takes five or six other people to keep a big office going, and the cost of malpractice insurance is tremendous."

He added, "I don't like to use the term malpractice for insurance. It's just liability insurance — let's call it that."

IS NOW, DR. MARVIN



Daily News-Sun photo by Stephen Cherek

LETTING HIS FINGERS DO THE TALKING — Amateur radio operator Ed Blaszczyk taps out a word in Morse Code in his Sun City home. He often uses code to talk for hours with people across the world.

Sun Citian taps out Morse Code rhythm

Language using dots, dashes connects world

By JACQUE PAPPAS
Daily News-Sun staff

Ed Blaszczyk talks in dits and dahs.

The 73-year-old Sun Citian "talks" to people from California to Cambodia by using staccato rhythms on the airwaves.

He is a master of Morse Code — a form of communication that is 147 years old.

"There's something about the dots and dashes that's musical to me. Some people say Morse is too difficult, but it's second nature for me," Blaszczyk said.

Blaszczyk learned Morse Code 53 years ago and has since corresponded with thousands of people including Barry Goldwater, King Hussein of Jordan and Rajiv Gandhi, former prime minister of India, who was killed last week.

"You can talk to anyone by sound. All you have to know is a dot from a dash," Blaszczyk said. "You can even laugh in Morse Code."

Samuel Morse sent his first telegraph message 147 years ago, spelling out the biblical phrase, "What hath God wrought?" Morse's assistant, Alfred Vail, who many think may be the real originator of the code, returned the message within seconds.

Morse Code uses dots and dashes as signals. It can be written, heard or seen with flashes of light.

The most famous signal is SOS:

Although Morse Code has virtually been shadowed by modern electronic technology, the machines used to send messages have come a long way.

"They say Morse Code is a dying art, especially now with digital communication coming out," he said.

Blaszczyk said he has gone from using receivers made from oat-meal boxes and coil to electric keyers that keep the signals consistent.

There are even keyboards that automatically convert typed words into Morse Code.

But Blaszczyk, who can send at least 55 words a minute in code, said he prefers tapping in the code himself with a few quick moves of his fingers.

After two people communicate on the airwaves in Morse Code, it is customary to send each other a type of postcard called a QSL card.

Blaszczyk, who has thousands of QSL cards from all parts of the world, said he still communicates with some people he only knows through a conversation of dits and dahs.

He has made some people in Third World countries electronic keyboards so they can more easily send messages.

Ham Radio and Morse Code operators use separate frequencies but are both licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.

Until February, a ham operator had to know Morse Code before getting the very basic

OVER

BLASZCZYK, ED



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Morse Code

International Morse Code

The Morse code was once used to send telegraph messages in the U.S. and Canada. The International code is now used chiefly to send messages by short-wave radio.

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Did you hear the one about ... ?

Sun City resident captures top honors in stand-up comedy contest

By RICK GONZALEZ
Sun Cities Independent

Anyone who reads the papers, watches the news on television or listens to the news on the radio knows that doing any of these things can be a depressing activity, what with all the bad news being reported.

Sun Citian Edythe Bregnard, known locally as "The Pixie Poet," has her own approach to dealing with all of that depressing news — she turns it into comedy.

Earlier this month, Mrs. Bregnard, a member of the International Platform Association (IPA, an international speaker's association with about 5,000 members), was awarded the 1991 IPA "Monologue" Award for her stand-up comedy routine.



Sun Citian Edythe Bregnard.

A permanent resident of Sun City since 1974, Mrs. Bregnard says she had never done any comedy or writing until she and her

husband, Frank, moved here from California.

"I started writing poetry out here," she says. Eventually, she developed a routine where she combined her poetry with monologue and comedy.

Since then, Mrs. Bregnard has presented her routine to just about every local civic organization as well as other groups from coast to coast. To date, she has had over 1,000 speaking engagements at conventions, churches, reunions, colleges, assemblies and associations. In that time, she has also produced three books of poetry, having sold over 40,000 books since 1978.

In 1985, competing in IPA's international competition in the "Light Verse" category, Mrs. Bregnard walked away with a first

place award. Along with the victory, Mrs. Bregnard also carried the distinction of being the first female to win that particular award.



The "Pixie Poet" tells a story.

In last year's IPA competition, Mrs. Bregnard won the "Academy of Poets" Award.

In this year's IPA competition, in the monologue contest, participants were allowed to do anything from reciting part of a play to just talking or telling a story, etc. Participants were judged on such areas as the content of their material and how well they presented the material.

Participating in these international competitions, which are held in Washington, D.C., is "a learning experience," says Mrs. Bregnard.

"I'll be learning until I die."

Mrs. Bregnard also takes her "humor and health" seminar on the road. Through the seminar, she says, she tries to get people "to take life lightly."

Mrs. Bregnard says she started off taking her show to all of the local civic clubs, such as the Kiwanis and Lions, when she finally decided to do it professionally.

Since then, her travels have enabled her to visit about half of the entire United States. However, she adds, "I would love to do cruise ships."

While not performing, Mrs. Bregnard keeps busy locally, including serving on the Sun Cities Salvation Army Advisory Board. She is also a past president of the Arizona Poetry Society and participated in the most recent Ms. Senior Arizona Pageant, where she captured third place.

"I'm going back (to the next pageant) to win this time," she adds.

"There's no grass growing under my feet."

If she wasn't doing comedy and poetry, as well as serving the community, Mrs. Bregnard says she would be "an old lady. The Lord blessed me with a lot of energy."

Mrs. Bregnard's advice to others is to "get involved and stay involved. Stay busy."

"Look outward instead of

inward."

People who look inward, such as always looking at their aches and pains, she says, tend to start feeling sorry for themselves.

"Keep going. Try to help other and you've got life made. And watch cartoons!"

As for herself, she says, "If I can help anybody, anywhere, with anything, I'll be happy to. I'm always open to anyone."

Mrs. Bregnard says anyone can contact her, either to book a show or just to talk, at 977-2264.

"As long as the Lord gives me strength, I'll keep doing this (comedy and poetry). It's fun. It's tiring, but it's fun."

"If I can bring to others the joy that I've had, I'll do it."



Comedy queen.

'Frontier foundlings': Lost in life, in history

By Joyce Valdez
The Arizona Republic

More than 80 years after he was abandoned in a New York City hallway to begin life anew in rural America, Ed Burmeister has no gripe with fate.

"My life turned out OK," concluded Burmeister, who represents a forgotten chapter in American history. "I had the opportunity to go to college, get married and have children. I've had a pretty good life."

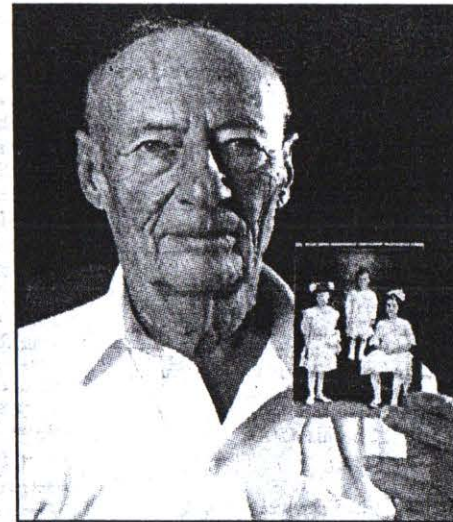
The Sun City resident is among an

estimated 150,000 waifs and other unfortunate children who rode "Orphan Trains" from New York to foster homes in the West from 1854 to 1929. Only about 500 train riders survive to share their experiences, which have been overlooked in history books.

"They are remarkable people," Mary Ellen Johnson, 53, the "little sister of the Orphan Train riders," said in a telephone interview Monday.

The history buff founded the Orphan Train

— See 'FRONTIER,' page A5



Tom Story/The Arizona Republic

Ed Burmeister, who rode "Orphan Trains" as a youngster, holds a 1914 photo of himself (center) and foster sisters Kaye Benois (left) and Sally Fellman. "I've had a pretty good life," he said.

'Frontier foundlings': Lost in life, in history

— 'FRONTIER,' from page A1

Heritage Society six years ago in Springdale, Ark., after reading a newspaper article about the era.

"I was fascinated, but surprised that there was no more written about the Orphan Trains than there was," she added.

About 125 train riders will reminisce about their lives as "frontier foundlings" at the society's annual meeting later this month in Arkansas. The society's members, most of whom are in their 70s and 80s, include about 15 Arizonans.

After attending last year's meeting, Burmeister, 81, was inspired to dig into his past.

He was only a week old when he was abandoned in the vestibule of a New York City apartment building on Dec. 16, 1910. The city Bureau of Child Welfare, which probably handled hundreds of such cases at the time, named him Edward Drake, assigned him a date of birth and declared him a Roman Catholic.

He was cared for in a Catholic-run nursery until May 1912, when he made the journey by rail to rural Iowa. Although he does not remember the trip, Burmeister assumes he was accompanied by other children and at least one nun.

Like most of the youngsters, Burmeister was placed with a farm

“
My life turned out OK. I had the opportunity to go to college, get married and have children. I've had a pretty good life.

ED BURMEISTER
'ORPHAN TRAIN' RIDER

family — Percy and Tillie Brassfield, who owned a spread near Eagle Grove, Iowa.

"You made a good adjustment to this home, were dearly loved and well provided for by your foster parents," records kept by the New York Foundling Hospital indicate.

Most of the Orphan Train riders were relocated through the hospital or the New York Children's Aid Society, agencies administered by the Catholic Church.

Shortly after Burmeister joined the family, his adoptive father died. Tillie Brassfield remarried, and Burmeister took the surname of the second husband, a kind man who didn't live long after that.

A third marriage ended unhappily for Tillie, who was left to provide for Burmeister, another adopted son and

three biological daughters with no help.

"I don't know how she did it, but she did," Burmeister said, adding that she sometimes took in boarders to make ends meet.

Burmeister was among the lucky orphans.

Other children were taken in by people who mistreated them or saw them as cheap labor, Johnson said.

"Some of them were whipped, fed in barns, if fed at all, or worked to death," she said. "Some of the girls were forced to do terrible things."

One rider recalled being put on public display while farmers inspected available children as they would livestock.

"We were sent down to this part of the world as child labor because farm people needed help in the fields," he said.

Despite such abuses, Johnson said, the Orphan Trains probably saved the lives of thousands of abandoned or starving children who would have perished on the streets of New York.

Burmeister scoffs at the notion that he is somewhat of an American treasure.

His 80-year-old wife, Pauline, lovingly disagrees.

"After what he's been through, I'd say Ed is a special human being," she said. "I think his children and grandchildren would agree."

Time walker

Sun City man shares hiking knowledge

By JONATHAN DALTON
Daily News-Sun staff

For most people, simply surviving a hike down the Grand Canyon is adventure enough without stopping to survey the scenery.

But in the 46 years since Harry Butchart of Sun City first reached the Colorado River at the base of the canyon, he has seen plenty.

Hiking

Butchart estimated he has spent more than 1,000 days inside the Grand Canyon, and has reached the Colorado River at 160 different places. The 84-year-old has kept logs of each of his journeys, and taken photographs of the places he's seen.

"I usually have enough information when I come back from a trip to fill a single-space sheet of typing paper," Butchart said. "I also take pictures of things that are interesting to me and others — rapids in the river, strange routes to the bottom."

Butchart was featured in the book, "The Man Who Walked Through Time," and has written three canyon guidebooks, entitled "Grand Canyon Treks" one, two and three.

"I take the attitude that I like to share what I've learned because maybe it will save the next fellow some extra effort," Butchart said. "Any way you can think of to get to the bottom, I've probably tried it."

In his logs, Butchart takes notes of new things he sees in each trip. Some of these have been passed along in the guide books.

"I keep notes on things I feel I didn't know about before, like if I run into some bighorn sheep or see a new waterfall, Indian ruins or any caves that might be interesting," he said. "I've found signs of old mines, and even ruins of white man's habitations."

In his journeys, Butchart has picked a favorite path — the Kaibab Trail.

"Some of the trails lose charm when they get too familiar, but I like the Kaibab," Butchart said. "It took some ingenuity on the part of the engineers to find a place to put the trail in the first place."

Butchart first went to the canyon on a bus tour from Flagstaff. A few years later, while he was teaching in Iowa, a teaching position opened at Northern Arizona University.

"I always liked the Rockies," Butchart said. "One day, I took a compass and a map and measured the distance from Grunnell (Iowa) to Estes West (Colorado). Then I did the same radius from Estes West and Flagstaff was in it."

"When I got notice that there was an opening in Flagstaff, I hoped to apply as eloquently as I knew how and I got the job."

While at NAU, Butchart brought groups of students to

the canyon as part of a National Science Foundation program. One of the physical tests the students had to pass in order to qualify for the trip was to climb Sunset Crater, north of Flagstaff, in 25 minutes.

This was, of course, in the days before Sunset Crater was closed to the public.

"My best time for climbing Sunset Crater was 18 minutes," Butchart said. "That wasn't bad considering you keep sliding

back down a little. We would take selected students on a day trip to the bottom and back out."

On one of the trips to Sunset Crater, Butchart and some students explored the lava tubes to the west of the crater.

"The farther you go in, the narrower it gets," he said. "Well, we were 25 to 30 feet from the final stopping place when one heavy-set student said, 'Fellas, I'm stuck.' Eventually, we got him loose, but I really

felt sympathetic toward him."

Butchart doesn't hike the canyon as often anymore, but he does offer advice to those interested in making the trek themselves.

"They need to make sure to carry enough water, and they can't expect to get out as fast as they got down," Butchart said. "The rangers say it takes twice as long, but if it does, you're probably not in that good of shape."

over

BUTCHART, HARRY



Frances Guarino/Daily News-Sun

Harry Butchart has spent more than 1,000 days inside the Grand Canyon and has reached the Colorado River at 160 places. The Sun City man has written three canyon guidebooks.

DOERS' PROFILE

**Wallace
"Wally" Britton**

Vita: Former superintendent and vice president of construction for Del Webb Corp.; former owner of Denny's decorating service in Youngtown and Sun City.



Hometown: Elk City, Okla.

Marital Status: Married to Peggy; two children and two grandchildren.

Motto: "Every day is beautiful but some are better than others" and "Work is cheaper than medicine."

Greatest Feat: "To me every day is an accomplishment of some kind."

Key to longevity: "You never get too old to learn something."

Book: "The Bible is the greatest book ever written."

TV program: "This Old House."

Business owner serves as chair for local society

By J.J. McCORMACK
Daily News-Sun staff

Who better than Wally Britton to preside over the remodeling and expansion of the first model home built in Sun City — now the headquarters of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society?

And who better than the former Del Webb Corp. vice president of construction, ace carpenter, repairman and longtime local decorating business owner, to serve as chairman of building and grounds on the historical society board of directors?

No one. That's why the historical society contacted Britton when the group purchased the Oakmont model home, affectionately known as "This Old House." Society members knew Britton, who oversaw the construction of nearly 20,000 Sun City homes during his 16-year tenure with Del Webb, had settled in the retirement community he helped build.

Now that he's retired from the construction and decorating business, there's not a lot Britton would rather do with his time than keep "This Old House" spruced and in good repair.

"I come by every two or three days to see what needs to be done," he said during a recent visit to the Oakmont Avenue home with his 15-year-old grandson, Shane.

There are some other activities usurping Britton's time every day, like golfing at least twice a week, taking his dog "Rusty" for early morning walks, doing odd jobs for friends and neighbors and serving as Mr. Fix-it for his wife Peggy's Soroptimist club.

"I'm a Soroptimister," Britton said after describing his appliance repair, carpentry, pickup and delivery work for the Soroptimist charity thrift store in Youngtown.

A tall, tanned and muscular man, Britton took a break from raking leaves with Shane outside "This Old House" to talk about his zeal for community service work — and work in general.

Although technically he retired in 1991 — the year he sold Denny's decorating shop after 16 years in business — Britton has not and has no intention of ever quitting work.

"I just do what I want to do and for people that I want to do it for," he said as he pulled a pile of home-repair requests from his shirt pocket. The requests were from friends and neighbors who knew they could count on Britton the same way the historical society and the Soroptimists did.

"That's (helping people) what life's all about. It's a lot cheaper than medicine," he said, adding, "I enjoy working for people that appreciate the work."

Britton learned carpentry from his grandfather while growing up in Elk City, Okla.

"Through necessity everything had to be built by hand," he said.

His woodworking skills landed him a job in Kansas during the post-World War II housing boom. He later returned to Elk City and opened a cabinet shop, but an economic crunch there forced him to head west and build more houses, first in Colorado and then at Luke Air Force Base before being awarded the millwork contract for Del Webb's first Sun City.

In addition to the homebuilding he supervised in Sun City, Britton helped arrange and build the first 60 homes in the Country Meadows subdivision in south Peoria from 1975 to 1976. All told, he has been involved in the homebuilding and decorating businesses in the Northwest Valley for 36 years.

Ironically, Britton's lifelong ambition has been to design and build an underground home — a type of dwelling he considers well-suited to a desert environment.

Alas, time has not afforded Britton the chance to tackle his dream house.

"I'm always too busy to do anything for myself."

BRITTON, "WALLY"

DOERS PROFILE

Evelyn Bucknam

Vita Attended business college; insurance underwriter and claims superintendent for 28 years.

Hometown Wichita, Kan.

Valley home Sun City, 27 years.

Marital status Widowed



Self-portrait I like people and try to help others.

Motto People are more important than things.

Greatest feat My good, happy marriage. I cherish the memories I have.

Walter Mitty fantasy I don't have one; I'm very comfortable with who I am and what I have.

Inspiration My mother. She was a very special person.

Good/bad habits I keep up on world events through newspaper, TV and radio. My bad habit is not accepting my limitations.

Favorite food/drink Chicken/water.

TV programs "Jeopardy" and the news.

Books at bedside Light reading to put me to sleep.

Vacation spot/luxury: England; I don't have a luxury.

Key to longevity Stay healthy; proper diet and exercise.

Last words You have to do something with your todays or your tomorrows will be filled with empty yesterdays.

Bucknam looks back on service

After dedicating 21 years of volunteer service to Meals on Wheels, Evelyn Bucknam retired this year.

Bucknam, a 27-year Sun City resident, is a charter member of the non-profit organization, which rolled into action on May 1, 1972.

"One of the founders was the co-founder of my church," she said, referring to the Rev. Duane Thistlethwaite, who also helped establish First United Methodist Church in Sun City.

Meals on Wheels provides people who cannot cook for themselves with two meals a day.

The cost is \$5.70 a day, but the agency will pick up the tab for clients who cannot afford to pay.

Many of the clients are visually impaired, bedridden or just home from the hospital, Bucknam said.

"This saves a lot of them from having to go into care homes," she added.

When it started 21 years ago, Meals on Wheels had seven clients. Last year, Bucknam said, it delivered 78,000 meals.

Bucknam started out as a driver and later transferred to the application office, where she interviewed prospective clients.

"I got involved because I wanted to do something to help in Sun City, and certainly there was a need. People in Phoenix have the idea that we're all wealthy out here, golfing and going to parties all the time," she said. "That's not true. We have people out here who cannot afford the \$5.70 a day for two meals."

Bucknam said she felt "guilty" when she retired, and still feels a longing to help others.

"But my bad habit is, I don't accept my limitations," she said.

Looking back on 21 years of service, Bucknam said it was very rewarding.

"I never did it for recognition; it's been very gratifying."

BUCKNAM, EVELYN

DOERS PROFILE

**Isabel
Brown**

Vita: Volunteers for Meals on Wheels, Westside Food Bank, Interfaith Services Adult Day Care Center. She also serves ice cream sundaes for residents of a local retirement center.



Hometown: Portland, Ore.

Marital Status: Widowed since 1972.

Self-Portrait: "I'm laid back."

Fantasy: "I want to win the lottery and travel around the world, but I would probably go home half way through the trip because I would miss my volunteer work."

Greatest feat: "Moving to Sun City not knowing a soul and knowing I could do it."

Inspiration: Myself

Last Words: "Laughter is the best medicine."

Sun Citian caters with food, care

By TRACY CHARUHAS

Isabel Brown of Sun City likes to keep busy. That's why she spends most of her days volunteering for more than seven organizations in the Sun Cities and surrounding areas.

"I'd go crazy just sitting at home all day," Brown said. "I love meeting new people. That's why I volunteer my time."

Twice weekly, Brown hops in her car and delivers food to home-bound residents through the Meals on Wheels program. The food, prepared in the kitchen of the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital, is delivered by volunteers Monday through Friday. Brown said she has made a number of friends on her route.

"We don't have a lot of time to chat with them, but we have just enough time to drop off the meal and make sure everything is OK," Brown said.

'We don't have a lot of time to chat with them, but we have just enough time to drop off the meal and make sure everything is OK.'

Occasionally, when one of the food carriers gets tied up with a client, they can just pick up the phone and call for someone to help deliver the food.

"Our main job is to deliver the food, but if someone needs to talk, we try to find time for that," she said.

On Tuesday and Saturday afternoons, Brown prepares root beer floats and ice cream sundaes for retirees at the Peppertree Square retirement center located at 83rd and Peoria avenues.

"Sometimes a resident will come up to me and apologize for not having enough money to pay for the ice cream. I just say to them, 'All I want is a smile,'" Brown said.

"You should see some of the smiles I get. That's what I love about that job. Seeing those people smile."

A majority of Brown's volunteer work involves food because she has a food handler's license. When she's not serving ice cream or delivering meals, she works as a kitchen aid at the Interfaith Services Adult Day Care Center.

"I have to keep busy," Brown said. "When I was up in Portland, I stayed home a lot. I got so down sometimes. These days I rarely feel down. There isn't any time for that."

Several days a week, Brown can be found packing boxes with food at the Westside Food Bank in Surprise. On the first Friday of every month, she boards a bus which takes her to the warehouse at 43rd Avenue and Indian School Road in Phoenix.

Brown, an employee of Pacific Northwest Bell for 35 years, is also a member of the Telephone Pioneers. The Pioneers are made up of retirees of telephone companies around the country.

"I've been working so long that I need a regular routine in my life," Brown said. "When I first moved to Arizona I knew I couldn't just sit around and relax. I needed to do something with my life. My volunteering helps others and I enjoy that, but mostly it helps me to be happy."

Brown said she couldn't choose a favorite volunteer job because she enjoys all of them equally.

"I've met so many interesting people and I keep on meeting them each day," Brown said. "It's a wonderful experience."

BROWN, ISABEL

Bugler trumpets SC band

By TOM EVANS
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Cliff Brelsford has been blowing his own horn steadily for the past 15 years — in the Sun City Concert Band as well as several other musical groups in the Sun Cities.

The 70-year-old trumpet player was among the two dozen charter members of the band, which has grown to 75 performers and celebrates its 15th anniversary during a private party tonight at Oakmont Recreation Center.

Brelsford retired his trumpet for much of his adulthood, but shortly before retiring and moving to Arizona he started playing again.

"I just didn't have the opportunity to play before," he said. "I was in the service for several years, and then I went back to school. I didn't play for 25 to 30 years."

He was living in Aspen, Colo., when he started playing again.

"It just more or less happened," he said. "I had some friends over for dinner, and one started playing piano. I went down into the basement and dusted off my trumpet."

Brelsford had no trouble picking up the beat, even though he hadn't honed his musical skills since playing in the high school band.

"I've been fortunate to have a little bit of natural ability to make up for my lack of formal training," he said.

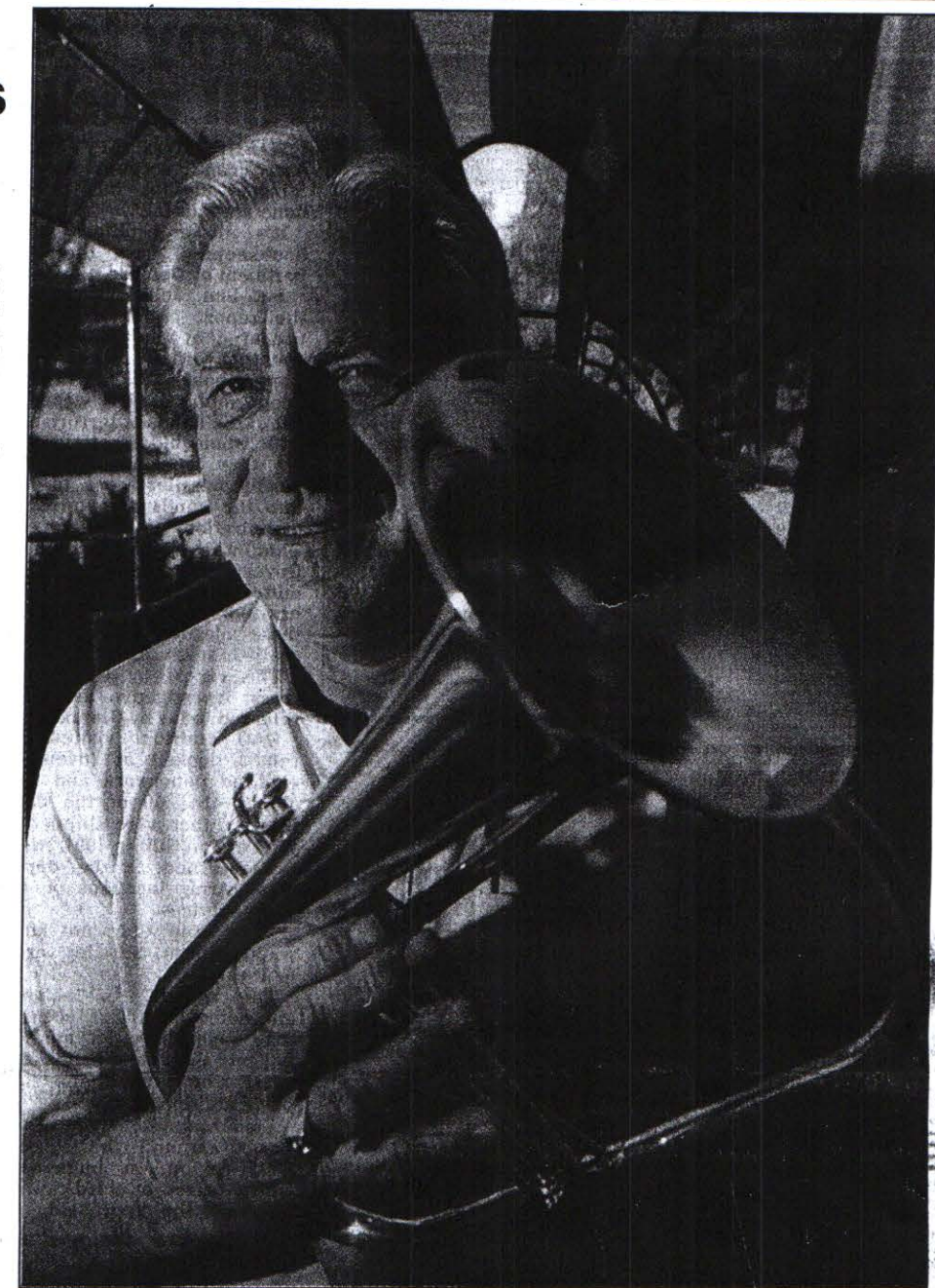
When Brelsford dusted off his trumpet in Colorado, his love affair with music began anew and he hooked up with other musicians.

"It was really enjoyable to start up again," he said. "We met in my basement one night a week, and I enjoyed it quite a bit."

After moving to Sun City, Brelsford played in several bands, including the concert band, the Sun City Polka Band and the Rhythm Ramblers dance band.

Brelsford prefers playing Dixieland and dance music, but the concert band has expanded the range of his abilities.

The band, which performs several concerts a year, is practicing for its Veterans



Rick D'Elia/Daily News-Sun

Sun Citian Cliff Brelsford, a 15-year member of the Sun City Concert Band, shows off the trumpet he plays with the band and other area musical groups. The concert band is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year.

Day show at 10 a.m. Nov. 11 at the Sun Bowl.

"I think they are a very good band," he said. "There's lots of talent there. There are a lot of formal musicians and also people like myself."

"I've learned quite a bit since I've been down here," he said. "When you play in groups like I have been, you get more discipline than when you play alone. ... It's always enjoyable to perform at a well-rehearsed concert

or a nice dance."

Music always attracted Brelsford, and being in the concert band and the other groups has brought him a little closer to a childhood dream.

"As a child, I used to dream of being a conductor," he said. "But the circumstances I grew up in made that out of the question. I lived in a rural area of Kansas where things were pretty primitive. I even graduated

from high school before we had plumbing."

Brelsford said he has always enjoyed music, and playing trumpet is something he will continue to do as long as he can.

"It's just something you can do and forget the rest of the world," he said. "You just concentrate and play. If you enjoy music, you enjoy it whether you are playing it or listening to it."

BRELSFORD, CLIFF

Master crafter

1995

Sun City woman honored as best leather artist

By J.J. McCORMACK
Senior staff writer

SUN CITY — Beth Berry hasn't had to buy a wallet in the last 40 years.

She hasn't had to shell out much for home decor either, or spend a lot of time shopping for gifts.

A master leather crafter, Berry has fashioned dozens of wallets and decorated her Wyoming ranch home and Sun City condominium with leather craft goods.

Framed leather paintings and leather-wrapped horseshoe lamps and clocks are just a few of the items emerging from her garage studio.

Berry usually spends two to three days a week in the studio, where she's currently carving the leather for a pair of chinks, or short chaps, for her cowboy nephew.

"I never knew you could make so many things out of leather," said Jean Heinlein, a friend of Berry's.

Berry's relatives and friends have known for a long time what the rest of the world now knows — that Berry is one of the top leather artists in the world.

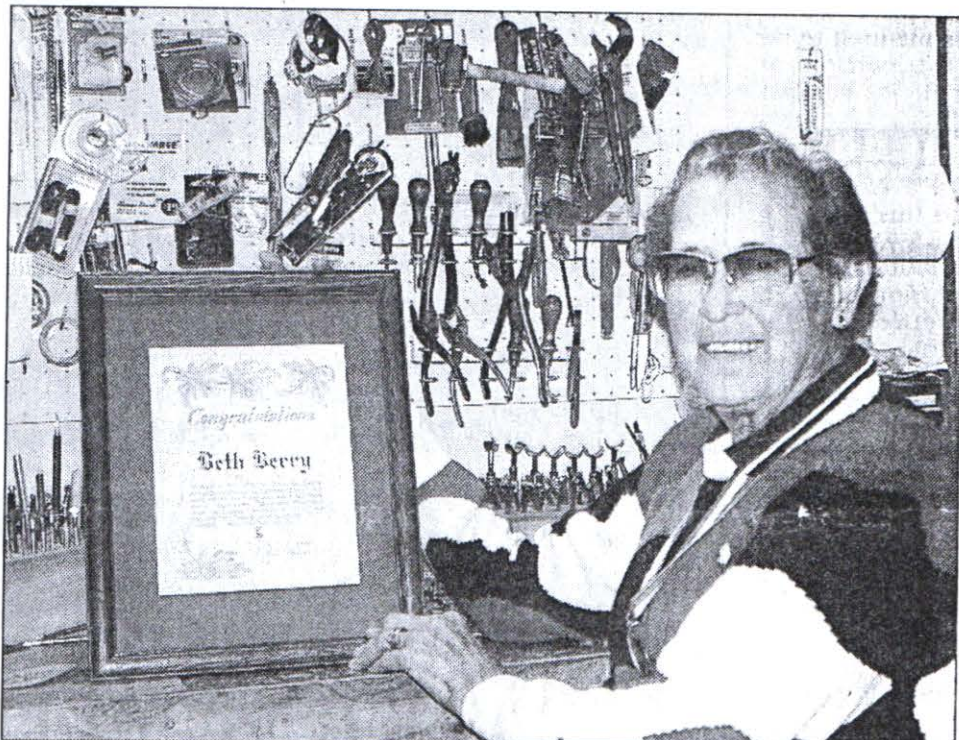
Last week, during the International Federation of Leather Crafters Guild conference in Springfield, Mo., Berry became the 12th recipient of the Al Stohlman Award for Achievement in Leather Craft. The award annually recognizes leather crafters who have made outstanding contributions to the art during their lifetimes.

The award is named after the world's premier leather crafter, Canadian Al Stohlman.

The competition drew artists from across the United States, South Africa, Australia, Japan, Sweden and Germany.

Berry had been serving as a federation judge for several years and decided to enter the lifetime achievement competition this year. "It was all done, why not?" she said, pointing to a hand-crafted leather portfolio filled with anecdotes and photos chronicling her rise to the pinnacle of the leather art world.

Berry was nonchalant about the



J.J. McCormack/Daily News-Sun

Beth Berry holds the Al Stohlman Award for Achievement she received last week during the International Federation of Leather Crafters Guild conference. The award recognizes leather crafters who have made outstanding contributions to the art during their lifetimes.

international award as she talked about her passion for leather craft — an affair that began 40 years ago when her husband gave her a set of leather-carving tools for her birthday.

The Berrys lived on a ranch near Cheyenne, Wyo., and Beth wanted a western purse.

"It was too far to go for instruction and, even if it wasn't, there was no one in town to teach me," she said.

So, using instructional kits and books, Berry taught herself to carve, dye, paint and tie leather.

"By trial and error, I did it," she said.

When she got to the point that she wasn't embarrassed to show her work, Berry sought critiques from a Cheyenne saddlemaker and family friend who encouraged her.

"You have to work at it a long time to carry a purse that you've made," said the tall, lean Berry — a genuine cowgirl.

Before long, Berry was teaching leather craft to 4-H kids, was commissioned to make awards, trophies and gifts for charity, was showing her work in galleries and was selling belts on the retail mar-

ket. In 1979, just before retiring, she wrote her an instructional book called "Custom Cowhide Creations." The book is available in 16 foreign countries.

A leather map of Wyoming, which Berry crafted several years ago, hangs in the Wyoming state museum.

Berry spends winters in Sun City. She has taught leather craft the last 15 years for the Sun City Leather Craft Club in Marinette Recreation Center.

"I taught young kids and now I'm teaching the old kids," she said.

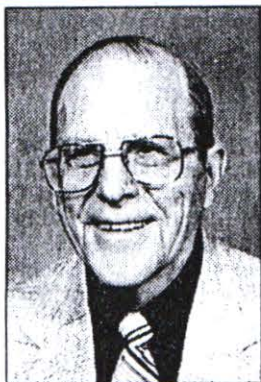
An avid golfer, Berry belongs to a women's golf circle that has a waiting list as long as the current membership. Berry's friends say everyone wants to be in the golf group so Berry will make them one of the group's signature accessory bags.

International acclaim hasn't fazed Berry, who plans to continue teaching and quietly plying her art.

"There's nothing I can do to gain any more prestige," she said. "But I'm still interested in doing what I've been doing. This is not going to change my life in any way. It just makes me smile a lot."

Monday, April 8, 1996 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

DOERS PROFILE

**William
Butler**

- Vita:** Retired railroad administrator
- Hometown:** Sandusky, Ohio
- Family:** Wife, Alyce; three children, five grandchildren
- Self-portrait:** Compassionate. "My wife said she needs help at home and I'm always out helping someone else."
- Motto:** "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."
- Greatest feat:** Our children
- Inspiration:** My mother, Alma. She taught me right from wrong. She led me along the right paths and took me to church.

1-on-1 service keeps volunteer in driver's seat

By J.J. McCORMACK
Senior staff writer

Bill Butler used to be one of the most prolific volunteer drivers in the Sun Cities.

As a van driver for the American Red Cross Transportation Service and Good Shepherd Retirement Center, and as the transportation coordinator for Sun Cities Area Interfaith Services, Butler spent a lot of time behind the wheel.

He no longer navigates Sun City-area streets to help people get around. But he remains one of the community's most prolific volunteers.

The difference is now, "I have to use my head instead of my body," Butler said.

A debilitating neuro-muscular disease called peripheral neuropathy forced Butler to give up driving several years ago. It also caused him to quit the handyman and companion volunteer jobs he once held at Interfaith, jobs he loved because they put him in close content with people who needed help.

Butler is still a regular at Interfaith. These days he can be found behind the reception desk at the adult daycare center in St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church. From that vantage point, he keeps tabs on daycare participants and helps center staffers with clerical tasks.

Butler's physical impairment hasn't stolen his ability to teach monthly "55-Alive" defensive-driving courses for the American Association of Retired Persons. He also is able to continue serving as a mentor to new instructors in the Sun Cities-area, a volunteer job that once had him traveling around the state training instructors.

Neither has Butler's disability prevented him from being active in the choir and the men's group at Lakeview United Methodist Church.

And, not a morning goes by that Butler doesn't jump out of bed and onto his exercise bike for a 3- or 4-mile ride.

Five months ago, he and his wife, Alyce, completed training with Hospice Volunteer Services of the Sun Cities.

Butler said he was drawn to hospice work to fill a need for male volunteers to work with the families of the terminally ill. He said he's driven to help people on a one-to-one basis.

"Someday I might be in their shoes. From the looks of things, I will be.

It's satisfying to me to be able to help others," he said.

Butler was presented with a 13-year service plaque during Interfaith's recent volunteer recognition banquet. He doesn't deny that voluntarism has been his passion since he and Alyce settled in Sun City in June 1983.

"The friend who invited me out here said he never saw someone transfer so easily from a full-time (paid) job to a volunteer job."

Butler said he didn't have time to do volunteer work other than through his church before he retired. He said he had planned to take up woodworking and upholstery as hobbies in retirement, but never found the time.

"I never thought when I retired I'd have to have an engagement calendar," he said.

Do you know a Doer? Send nominations to J.J. McCormack, P.O. Box 1779, Sun City, 85372, or call, 977-8351, Ext. 208.

William Butler

Monday, Dec. 16, 1996

DOERS PROFILE

Lola
Boan**Hometown:** Red Oak, Iowa**Family:** Two daughters; son**Greatest feat:** "Influencing young people to think they can strive above and beyond what they normally think they could."**Inspiration:** "If we want our country to forge ahead in the world economy, we have to put a top priority on education."**Key to longevity:** Exercise, good nutritional food and feeling of self-worth in trying to help other people.

Volunteer lobbies for fair education

By P. SOLOMON BANDA
Senior staff writer

Not all lobbyists work for big businesses. Lola Boan, 66, of Sun City is a retired teacher, rearing to put pressure on the state Legislature when it convenes in January.

She, as a member of the board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Maricopa County in charge of lobbying in behalf of education, will join other groups to lobby for a resolution to the school funding system.

In 1994, the Arizona Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the system districts use to build and repair schools — relying on property taxes that give some districts more than enough money and others hardly any.

"You have to have a lot of people to influence the politicians," Boan said.

Boan, by her own reckoning, has influenced at least 700 young minds during her 27-year teaching career in Glenwood, Colo., and in the Pendergast School District.

It wasn't until after she retired that she branched out to influence the minds of the state's 762,000 K-12 students by putting pressure on the Legislature.

"I'm trying to deal with the politicians because they have the purse strings," she said.

Boan, through her work as a teacher in two school districts in different states, knows why legislators have been dragging their feet for two years.

"Their wheels aren't squeaking," she said. "I hear people commenting that people have plenty of money."

She points to the school districts that many legislators live in and how they drive past schools that are in great condition, which doesn't give them any indication that some districts are not as well off.

Boan knows how this works. She said when a report came out in the early '80s titled "Nation At Risk," detailing how poorly American students were doing in comparison to other nations, she read it and thought, "forget it."

"I couldn't see a problem," she said. "All my students (in Glenwood) were doing well. Then when I came here and taught. I saw how personal problems and gangs can affect kids."

She has spent time on a Arizona State Board of Education committee, writing curriculum that increased the standards in kindergarten through grade 12.

"Education at any age is our most efficient way to spend our tax dollars," she said. "Think how many lives were enhanced through the G.I. Bill. Our country prospers due to this program."

And a good local example of how education can turn somebody's life around is the Genesis West program at Estrella Mountain Community College for teen-agers that have dropped out.

"We need more solutions like Genesis," Boan said.

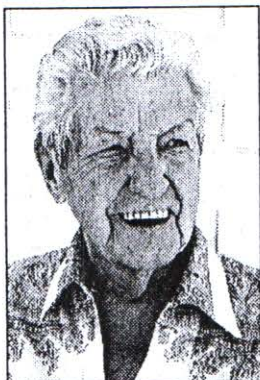
But come January, she will concentrate on giving children in all districts across the state a decent place in which to learn.

Boan, Lola

Monday, July 7, 1997

DOERS PROFILE

Donald Bouma



- Hometown:** Grand Rapids, Mich.
- Family:** Three children, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren.
- Inspiration:** My mother.
- Philosophy:** "Count the day lost whose low descending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done."

Retired professor adds his thoughts to book on women

By MAMIE LIMERICK
Staff writer

Donald Bouma is a Renaissance man from the old school: an iconoclast who embraced feminism when it wasn't politically correct and a traditionalist who remembers the roots of a strict Calvinist upbringing.

A Sun City resident since 1984, Bouma is a professor of sociology, former reporter and author. Most recently he contributed memories of his formative years in Grand Rapids, Mich., to "Tough Times, Strong Women," a compilation of anecdotes about remarkable women of the 20th century.

"I remember getting by on very little," said Bouma, recalling a childhood spent in the Depression. "You don't waste things. It's a value that persists today."

"My mother was a very clever and creative person, and that helped our family of five get through the Depression," he said. "Three days a week, she scrubbed floors on her hands and knees for the more affluent people in town. This supplemented Dad's meager income as a tinsmith."

"Mom could make the simplest foods a special treat," Bouma said. His favorite dish was a humble creation concocted by his mother of pinto beans and Blue Karo Syrup. "We could have them only on Wednesday nights. Begging for them on Monday was to no avail. We came to look forward to that special meal."

Bouma was raised in the Christian Reformed Church, which required attending two 90-minute services on Sunday. Only quiet activities such as catechism study, sedate walks and maybe a game of Old Maid were allowed on the Lord's day in Bouma's home.

Within the confines of this environment, Bouma learned early on to be "content in whatever state he was in," a philosophy he credits to St. Paul.

Bouma's parents did encourage higher education, but stipulated that he would have to pay his own way through college. As a senior in high school, he worked in Kroger's Market, fetching groceries and adding the totals for customers with pencil and paper. Once he had entered Calvin College in Grand Rapids, he worked in a shoe store, painted dorms and wrote a sports column for the Grand Rapids Press to earn tuition.

Inspired by an "intriguing professor" and the practical basis for its application to real life, Bouma chose to major in sociology. He later earned a master of arts degree in sociology and education and a Ph.D in sociology from Michigan State University.

The transition from his Calvinist roots to the world of academia proved to be Bouma's entry into a brave new world. In 1961, Bouma proved himself to be on the cutting edge, espousing the concept that women are superior in every way to men. In an article published in the Kalamazoo Gazette, Bouma predicted that our society is heading swiftly toward the greatest matriarchy ever known. "Women represent a tremendous potential that could be harnessed at short notice," he said in the article.

Bouma set out to break the mold when it came to traditional roles played by men in our society as well.

Although his primary profession was teaching in various Michigan universities, he was also active in many community organizations and served as president of the Council of Social Agencies, Family Service Board and Family Life Council. He also helped found the first Human Relations Board in Grand Rapids.

These days, Bouma remains active in the Church of the Palms, where he lectures three times a year on social issues. He is also president of the University Club of the Sun Cities, a group of retired professors from 60 universities across the country.

Bouma, Donald

9/15/17

DOERS PROFILE

Mabel
Brunner**Hometown:** Cottonwood, S.D.**Family:** Married for 49 years to
Lawrence, now deceased.**Philosophy:** "You only pass through here
once. Anything we can do to
help someone else I think we
should do."**Greatest Feat:** "Speaking for the animals, mak-
ing it known they are to be cared
for ... they're God's creatures."**Motto:** The Golden Rule

Growing up poor provides riches throughout life

By TINA SCHADE
Staff writer

Growing up poor on a farm in South Dakota, Mabel Brunner never anticipated how much influence her childhood would have on the rest of her life or on the lives of others around her.

"We were poor, but we didn't know it. We learned all the basics of life — honesty, integrity, fairness, kindness, generosity and love — from loving parents," Brunner said.

She carried those lessons throughout her life and applied them whenever possible.

For the last 20 years, she's devoted much time to the Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church in Sun City, particularly the Lutheran Church Women and its Christian Action arm.

Christian Action, for which Brunner served as president, promotes visits to shut-ins — or love-ins, as members of the organization refer to people who are homebound. Members offer companionship by making telephone calls and sending cards.

Brunner also serves on the Worship Commission for the church, where church members evaluate sermons and tape and deliver copies of the sermons every Sunday to homebound parishioners.

"They can hear the services the same day this way," Brunner said.

In addition to her work with the church, Brunner champions the rights of animals.

"I was from a farm and naturally I love animals," Brunner said.

She served as treasurer of the Arizona Humane Society Auxiliary for 10 years and was president of the auxiliary for two years. And, she managed the group's thrift shop on Cave Creek Road for several years.

Involvement in one activity spurred other projects.

When she was treasurer, Brunner realized the coffers were drained. So she decided to pet sit for local residents and give the money to the auxiliary.

"Each dog had its own little dish. ... We even had hot dog parties," Brunner said.

Her generosity did get her in a bit of trouble with the county after a neighbor alleged she was running a kennel in a residential neighborhood.

After a year and a half of hearings, Brunner convinced the county to change its kennel ordinance, lifting restrictions on the number of pets an individual could own.

Throughout the years, Brunner has cared for hundreds of pets. At one time she owned 23 dogs, but is down to three today.

As manager of the Arizona Humane Society thrift store, Brunner found a use for some of the items that didn't sell in the store.

Every week for nearly five years, Brunner and her husband would load up their Volkswagen van and take usable, but for whatever reason unsellable, items to migrant farm workers in Surprise and Phoenix.

When she's not helping others, Brunner likes to organize family albums for her nieces and nephews.

Do you know a Doer? Send nominations to Tina Schade, P.O. Box 1779, Sun City, 85372, or call, 977-8351, Ext. 208.

Brunner, Mabel

Poet named 'Woman of Letters'

SC's 'Pixie Poet' earns international recognition, title

By JEFF OWENS
Staff writer

Edythe Bregnard spent Friday in bed in her Sun City home, relaxing while recuperating from a nasty blood clot in her left leg. You'd think that might put her in a bad mood, at least for a little while.

But no.

This is, after all, the always-cheerful "Pixie Poet of Sun City."

"I'm always in a good mood," she said emphatically.

Among the many honors and distinctions that have come her way over more than 26 years of verse-writing and 1,000 speaking engagements at home and abroad, one of the most distinguished came in July. As the 15th World Congress of Poets celebrated its closing banquet in the Main Banquet Hall of the Newland's Park Manor House in High Wycombe, England, on July 25, Edythe Bregnard was formally bestowed with the title Poet Laureate Woman of Letters.

This entitles her to use the honorific "L.W.L." after her name. She refuses to do this.

"I'll never be able to use the letters," she said. "Because of my poetry — I write light verse."

Edythe apparently believes that



Submitted photo

Edythe Bregnard, Sun City's "Pixie Poet," was awarded the title Poet Laureate Woman of Letters by the 15th World Congress of Poets in High Wycombe, England.

since her wordcraft tends toward the humorous and accessible rather than the ponderous and pedantic, she shouldn't use "L.W.L." after her name.

She simply doesn't want to, either, and drives the point home with an excerpt from her poem, "Sour Grapes:"

"I haven't done this, and I haven't done that,
And I haven't gained much fame,
But I've managed to get all the letters inside my name."
Point well taken.

"I keep telling everybody, 'I'll never be able to use those letters and hang them on the outside of my name,' " she said, adjusting the blankets on her bed. She doesn't look ill.

She is reminded that "Edythe Bregnard, L.W.L." may look dignified.

"Phooey," she said.

The "Pixie" title came several years ago, from former Daily News-Sun editorial page editor Evelyn Barber, who watched Bregnard work her poetic charms on an audience at a gathering of nurses.

"She said I was 'working my pixie magic on the crowd,' " Bregnard said. "After a few years, I thought, 'Well, that's kind of cute, I think I'll pick it up.' "

So she won't use the extra letters. But she might wear the crown of gold laurel leaves that came with the honor once in a while. She received a lovely and elaborate certificate, too, but it's written entirely in Latin. She has no idea what it says.

The awards were presented to her by Dr. Ronald Shafer, president of the 15th World Congress of Poets, during the five-day event, which lasted from July 21 to 25.

In his congratulatory letter to
► See Poet earns, A5

Poet earns letters

◀ From A1

Bregnard, Shafer wrote, "I meant it when I said I'd put you on the program on opening day as a way of starting off on a good, strong note, and you certainly didn't let me down. Your talk was dramatic and effective, and you are an inspiration to me; your positive attitude and buoyancy are ever compelling and engaging."

Not bad for a woman who never aspired to a life of words — she didn't start writing poetry until moving to Arizona from California with her husband, Frank, now deceased, 26 years ago.

Don't ask her how she became a poet. She doesn't recall.

"I don't know," she said. "I've never studied poetry. It just came."

Well, all that verse which "just came" fills three books of hers which have been published: "Yesterday, Today and Forever," "I Am Not an Old Lady (Just a Little Girl With Wrinkles)," and "How Old Would You Be If You Didn't Have a Mirror And Didn't Know When You Were Born?"

A manuscript for her fourth book is now being reviewed by a publisher. It's different from the other three — a journal-type account of Frank's gradual descent into Alzheimer's disease.

Bregnard, a past president of the Phoenix Writers Club and Arizona State Poetry Society, is laying off on the speaking engagements for a while. She and her doctors aren't sure how long the leg problem is going to keep her laid up, but she has long since paid her dues.

"I did every Lions Club, every Kiwanis Club, every Rotary Club throughout the Sun Cities area," she said. "I

did the Exchange Club, the Optimists Club, the Soroptimists Club, I did 'em all. I paid my dues — seven years of it."

She said she started out writing some pretty heavy spiritual verse, until a friend asked her if she was ever going to lighten up.

"So then I started writing silly verses," she said.

As demonstrated by her recitation of one of her most recent poems, "To A Not-So-Chicken Chicken," it doesn't get much sillier:

"Your feathers are ruffled as cars pass you by,
It doesn't seem to faze you a bit

You peck and you scratch at the side of the road,

Don't you realize you could be hit?

And what would become of you in that event?

You're a tough old bird, I must say

Too rubbery even for the menu,

At the Roadkill Cafe down the way"

Bregnard, Edythe

Monday, June 1, 1998 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

DOERS PROFILE**Gerd
Bjorseth****Hometown:** Oslo, Norway; later Seattle**Family:** 4 children, 1 grandchild**Philosophy:** "Don't worry about anything that you can't do anything about."**Key to longevity:** "Keep active."**Inspiration:** My mother.**Career serves
as training
for volunteer****By TINA SCHADE**
Staff writer

After only five years in Sun City, Gerd Bjorseth knows her way around the area's volunteer circuit.

Looking after the needs of others was a natural for the 73-year-old who worked in customer service at Nordstrom's department store in Seattle.

"We would do anything for our customers and our supervisors wouldn't be angry with us. They encouraged us to help," Bjorseth said.

Bjorseth's caring nature propels her to serve a number of projects both near and afar.

The native of Norway volunteers at her church and with her condo association, serves as a caregiver and takes time to give back to her homeland.

For the Sons of Norway, Bjorseth is somewhat of a stamp collector with the determination to lick some of the debilitating diseases that cripple children in Norway.

Bjorseth bounces between four or five businesses a week collecting discarded envelopes that customers use to send in their bills.

She then spends hours removing the stamps from the envelopes and passes the stamps along to Tubfrim, short for Tuberculosis Frimerker or stamps for tuberculosis.

Tubfrim then distributes the stamps to collectors around the world. But because TB is no longer the threat it used to be, proceeds from stamp sales also help disabled children in Norway.

Bjorseth doesn't really have time on her hands, but she finds it to serve as treasurer for the Thunderbird Condo Board where she is responsible for writing vouchers and handling the petty cash.

At the American Lutheran Church in Sun City, she serves on the fellowship committee. Part of her responsibilities are stirring things up in the kitchen by helping with church dinners and making coffee.

"I just like to help people and I'm just happy to be healthy," she said.

Faith is such a vital part of Bjorseth's life that it has inspired her travel itinerary. Less than a month ago, she spent time in Israel, visiting the Tiberias, walking the paths where it is believed Jesus traveled.

One of Bjorseth's favorite volunteer projects is shopping for an elderly friend, who's not getting around like she used to.

"She's still independent and such a smart lady. It's something I feel I have to do, because she gives me such a lift," Bjorseth said.

Away from volunteering, she likes to join in water aerobics at Oakmont and Sundial recreation centers and play bridge.

To nominate a Doer, call Tina Schade at the Daily News-Sun, 876-2514.

Bjorseth, Gerd

Sun City resident led early tourists around community

By HELEN ALLEN
Staff Writer

After 24 years, Garnet Burnham is still introducing people to the Sun Cities.

But, it's no longer prospective home buyers.

The spry and spunky 80-year-old Sun Citian, one of the original Del E. Webb Development Co. hostesses, is proudly showing off the retirement communities to foreign visitors. And she still enjoys the job, now done on a free lance basis, as much as she did in the 1960s.

HER WORK with Devco, in which she hosted bus tours for prospective home buyers, ended last December due to a company age policy.

Most of the foreign visitors, she said, are from Japan, but some also come from England and Germany to look over or study the retirement community concept.

The Japanese are particularly interested in the Sun Cities and have become almost regular visitors, Mrs. Burnham remarked, as the country under-

goes a culture change.

YOUNGER Japanese families, she explained, no longer want to live with older members of their families. This, in turn, has caused a problem of what should be done with older family members.

For Mrs. Burnham, hostess work turned out to be the long-

Mrs. Burnham's services as a hostess were a "selfish way of getting acquainted with other people."

est job she has ever held. The Western Illinois University graduate said she had taught school for one year and then did some volunteer hospital work while raising three children.

Approaching Devco in early 1961 to offer her services as a

* Resident, C21

*Resident led tours

—From C20

hostess, she said, was, in reality, "a selfish way of getting acquainted with other people."

SHE WAS ONE of six Sun City women assigned to hostess duty, at first working Sundays on a volunteer basis. They were placed on Devco's payroll about 1½ years later.

Her duties in the beginning, Mrs. Burnham said, was to greet prospective home buyers in the model home sales area off Grand Avenue. She then became hostess coordinator for the vacation apartments.

The first vacation apartments, she said, were built east of King's Inn in the mid-1960s.

Del Webb, she added, then got the idea to provide bus tours of the retirement community for conventioners at three of the Valley's major hotels.

"WE WOULD drive to Mountain Shadows, Camelback Inn and Townehouse Resort and bring the folks back to Sun City in buses to tour our streets," Mrs. Burnham remarked.

The bus tours, she said, were later extended for prospective buyers to other parts of the Valley and also included a breakfast or dinner and entertainment.

"At times, we were using up

to 27 hostesses and, one week, I worked 54 hours," she commented.

THE VALLEY tours and entertainment, she added, were halted by Devco after about two years because of the high expense and also because they kept the visitors out of Sun City too long.

Mrs. Burnham recalls telling Devco officials the bus tours were "keeping people out of town so long they didn't

"At times we were using up to 27 hostesses and one week I worked 54 hours."
--Garnet Burnham

have a chance to buy a home."

The tours were then limited to visitors staying at the Devco vacation apartments and the confines of the Sun Cities.

HER RECORDS, Mrs. Burnham said, show 4,666 bus tours arranged by Devco between 1968 and 1981. Multiplying each tour by 40, she estimates about 190,600 people viewed the Sun Cities through the windows of a bus.

* Tours, C25



Tours

Garnet Burnham volunteered her services to Del E. Webb Development Co. for a job as hostess to groups of prospective home buyers. Her method of getting acquainted with people turned into a 22-year career of shepherding almost 200,000 people through the retirement communities, by her reckoning.

© The Arizona Republic Monday, December 14, 1998

Respite care gives families needed break

By Jim Gintonio
The Arizona Republic

Playing the piano has been a major part of Rea Buchan's life since she was 7 years old.

Now, 85 years later, it has been instrumental in helping her make the transition from her daughter's home to a respite-care program operated by Interfaith Services Inc.

The organization, which has facilities at five sites in the West Valley, has been in operation for almost three decades.

Its respite-care facility in Sun City West is the only one in the Phoenix area. The other sites offer day care only.

Many of the respite-care clients, whose average age is 84, aren't able to afford such care on their own.

The program gives family members the opportunity to leave their loved ones for a night or two and not feel concerned or guilty. Trained staff members are on site, and a nurse, if needed, is only a few minutes away.

For Buchan's daughter, Jeanine Headington, who brings her mother to the day-care facility twice a week, the respite program is a godsend.

"The people here are angels," Headington said. "My mother has lived with us for 29 years, and the first time we (Headington and her husband) were able to get away, we were like two kids out of school."

To help agencies such as Interfaith Services run programs like respite care, *The Arizona Republic* and the Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation in Chicago sponsor Season for Sharing, an annual fund-raising campaign for agencies that serve the Valley's children, the hungry, the homeless and the elderly.

Eligible clients for the respite program can receive up to \$500 in services. The cost for a 24-hour stay is \$105.

"This is a great benefit for families," said Christy Whispell, the center supervisor. "It helps give them a break and a rest. We

FYI

10 tips for caregivers

- Feel the pain. Allow yourself to feel a range of emotions.
- Cry. Tears can be your most therapeutic tool.
- Talk. Re-establish communication with family and the outside world.
- Let go. Don't let bitterness engulf you.
- Find your own comfort level. Create daily rituals that feel right to you, such as prayer or meditation.
- Learn to laugh again. Rediscover your sense of humor. Disloyalty to your loved one is not in finding joy again but in giving up on living when you still have life.
- Nurture your body. Exercise and eat right.
- Don't hesitate. If you need outside help, ask for it.
- Let life grow. Develop new interests, skills and friends. Focus energy in new ways, such as church, senior centers or special-interest classes.
- Do what is comfortable. You don't have to visit your loved one every day. Do not feel guilty.

Source: Sun Health Alzheimer's Support Group

knew Rea would be comfortable here when one of the workers brought his fiddle, and they played together."

Headington said she was nervous at first, but now is convinced the program offers an excellent alternative for main providers.

"I'm always anxious to come here," said Buchan, the oldest member of the respite-care program. "We have a ball."

Buchan has come full cycle. A former volunteer for Interfaith, Buchan is now a visitor after suffering a stroke and a



Charles Krejci/The Arizona Republic

Rea Buchan plays some Christmas songs for Christy Whispell, Interfaith Services day-care supervisor. Buchan is ever ready to provide a song. She says her name, Rea, stands for "ready, eager and able."

heart attack.

There's a piano at the facility, and Buchan constantly is on call to provide a song or two for other clients or staff members.

In fact, she said her name is a reflection of her willingness to tickle the ivories. She said Rea stands for "ready, eager and able."

"I probably know 300 songs," she said. "I know people by the songs they like. I don't know all their names. I love to play the piano, and I get a lot out of it if I can do something for someone."

"I don't know about talent,

but I have a lot of fun. If I didn't have my music, I'd be an old grouch."

In 1987, when Buchan was 81, she surprised her daughter.

"I came home, and she said she wanted to go back to work," Headington said.

And for four years, Buchan drove a golf cart to a Sun City restaurant to play the piano.

She started playing piano at young age. When she was 16, she began doing road shows, and she picked up gigs from N

— Please see **RESPIRE**, Page

OVER

Respite care gives families a break

— **RESPITE**, from Page 1

braska to California. She also played the piano for silent movies.

When she was playing for a radio station in Denver, she would end the show with a mystery tune. Whoever identified it won a prize.

"I got her to tell me what the mystery tune would be one day, and I called the radio station," Headington said. "I wanted to win a radio. When she found out what I did, I got the radio, but I got a spanking, too."

For Headington and other caregivers, turning over some of the responsibility isn't easy.

"There's a caregivers' support group here, and you learn that you are not alone," Headington said. "When I heard some of



Charles Krejcsi/The Arizona Republic

their stories, I broke into tears."

Interfaith also offers a home care program and has received international attention for the way the agency blends its home

and community-based services.

Jim Gintonio can be reached at 444-7125 or jim.gintonio@pni.com via e-mail.

“

The people here are angels.

**JEANNINE
HEADINGTON**

REA BUCHAN'S
DAUGHTER

"I'm always anxious to come here," Rea Buchan says. "We have a ball."

DOERS PROFILE

Bob Briscoe



Hometown: Aberdeen, S.D.

Family: Five children, seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren.

Fiancee: Purna Anderson.

Inspiration: His Aunt: "My aunt was the most kind person ... she was always there to help someone. Every time I had a little crisis as a teen-ager, she would say, 'When God throws you lemons, make lemonade. When God closes one door, look around because it means He opened another.'"

Greatest accomplishment: Raising five children.

Board president finds happiness through service

By MONICA ALONZO
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Decisions, decisions. It seems Bob Briscoe has been making decisions his entire life.

The South Dakota native lived for many years in Wausau, Wis., where he was elected to the school board and served for six years, two as president, making decisions that would benefit the students and improve the school.

He spent 12 years as a member of the board of directors for the YMCA in Wausau, two years as president and seven years as the chairman of a physical education committee, deciding what types of programs would be best for students.

When he moved to Sun City, he worked as the director for Recording for the Blind, overseeing about 100 volunteers who would read books for blind students.

He retired from that job after five years and went back to volunteering.

"I think the people that come here to retire have such diverse backgrounds and (this area) probably has the greatest pool of talent, education and experience than anywhere else in the U.S.," he said. "We owe it to give back some of our time and try to help out in whichever way we can."

He gave back more by serving for five years on the board of directors, one year as president, for Sunshine Service, an organization that loans medical supplies, such as wheelchairs and crutches, at no charge.

Now, as the the president of the Sun Cities Recreation Centers Board of Directors, Briscoe is still making decisions.

He's also a member of the Sun City Community Fund and will help make decisions about the disbursement of donations.

"It will be a lot of work and a tremendous amount of responsibility," he said, adding his involvement with so many boards has prepared him for the challenge.

The biggest challenge he faces when he volunteers is managing his time to make sure he does everything properly to make positive changes in the community.

Part is Briscoe's philosophy is taking one day at a time.

"Inch by inch, it's a cinch. Mile by mile, it's a trial," he said. "It's very true. Take every day one step at a time ... rather than everything at once, you will be successful."

But for all he's accomplished, Briscoe considers his children as his main success in life.

"I think the most important thing that I've done in this world is being a father to my five children," he said. "I'm proudest of that."

He also has seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The example of service to others that he has set for his children is one he learned from his aunt.

"My aunt was the most kind person ... she was always there to help someone," he said. "Everytime I had a little crisis as a teen-ager, she would say, 'When God throws you lemons, make lemonade. When God closes one door, look around because it means he opened another.'"

She always encouraged him not to get discouraged and to strive to be better.

Briscoe said he believes that his aunt, who lived to be almost 100 years old, lived as long as she did because she kept active in helping others.

"Being active with people and seeing them smile makes you happy about yourself," he said.

BOB BRISCOE

Daily News-Sun • Friday, Jan. 14, 2000

Library aide honored for voluntarism.

LOVE OF BOOKS:

Sun Citian earns Minnie Harlow award

JOSH KRIST
DAILY NEWS-SUN

She's shelved a lot of books, and now Jeannie Burbach has some awards to put on her own shelf.

Burbach received the Minnie Harlow Humanitarian Award this week for 23 years of volunteer service to the Peoria Public Library.

"Oh, this is unbelievable," Burbach, now a Sun City resident, said at the sixth annual volunteer recognition award breakfast at the Sun City Country Club.

Brenda Brown, Peoria's library manager, told the breakfast audience that Burbach started her voluntarism when the library had only one paid employee.

"When we found out she'd won the award, the staff was screaming and yelling. And remember, this is a library," Brown said.

Burbach works in the section of the library that prepares newly arrived books for circulation. Brown told the story of another library that recently had to turn down a donation of 10,000 children's books.

"Jeannie was appalled. She said 'Get those books, and I'll



Jeannie Burbach

take care of them," Brown said.

Libraries are in many ways the cornerstone of freedom of ideas, Brown said.

"Volunteers like Jeannie help us make available a wide range of viewpoints and ideas," Brown said.

Burbach was full of enthusiasm and table slapping on Tuesday morning when she emphasized her points.

"I love being with people. I had just retired and thought it was something I want to do. I love books and wanted to learn more about them," Burbach said.

Burbach was with the library during all its relocations. When she started in 1977, the library was in city hall. Then it moved to the old post office, to 75th Avenue and Cactus Road, finally settling at its current spacious two-story municipal complex location.

"So it was quite an experience. All the lovely people I've worked with, they make volunteering a pleasure," Burbach said.

She started by volunteering five days a week but now works one four-hour shift every week. When she started in 1977, the library only held about 2,000 books. Now, it has about 155,000 items to lend, 34 employees and 45 regular volunteers.

Although Burbach started in circulation, mainly shelving and checking out books, she doesn't have a favorite library section or duty.

"I just love the library. No matter where they want me, I'll go," she said.

The Minnie Harlow Humanitarian Award is named after the woman who founded the Sun Cities Community Council, which became the Northwest Valley Regional Community Council. The council serves under-represented populations, such as seniors and children, through partnerships with public and private agencies. Minnie Harlow died in 1994.

JUNE 27-JULY 3, 2001

A Name to Know

The Sun Health Auxiliary recently selected **Helen Marie Boyle** as its Volunteer of the Month for June.

Mrs. Boyle has been volunteering at Boswell Memorial Hospital for the last 30 years, doing what she feels she needs to do.



"I just feel like I want to be doing something for someone else," she said.

Living in Sun City since 1965, Mrs. Boyle began volunteering at the hospital after reading in the newspaper about the need for morning volunteers.

"What started me was that my husband was a late sleeper and I am not," she said.

Mrs. Boyle would volunteer at 7 a.m. and be home before her husband was completely ready for the day.

For 10 years Mrs. Boyle volunteered in patient care. In addition, she served as a telephone reassurance volunteer, calling patients who were in need of daily contact. Most recently, Mrs. Boyle has been making tray favors for the hospital.

Moving to Arizona in 1927 from Santa Fe, N.M., and graduating from Phoenix Union High School, Mrs. Boyle considers Arizona her home. Her two sons, two grandsons and two great-grandsons were all born in the Phoenix area.

"I wouldn't want to live anywhere else," she said.

Prior to retiring to Sun City, Mrs. Boyle and her husband owned and operated a farm at 67th and Peoria avenues. Unlike many residents who have retired to the community from all over the world, she only had to move five miles.

Sun Citian recognized for volunteer efforts

By JEREMY PEARLMAN

Independent Newspapers

Sept. 12-18, 2001

Mary Bovard is a volunteer.

To her, giving of her life to assist the lives of others is not an occasional occurrence, but a lifestyle.

Never a career woman, the Sun Citian has given meaning to her life by volunteering in every community she has lived in since 1946.

Looking for volunteer opportunities was the first thing she would do when moving to a new community.

While living in New York, Louisiana, Illinois and now Sun City, Mrs. Bovard has assisted others for more than 55 years.

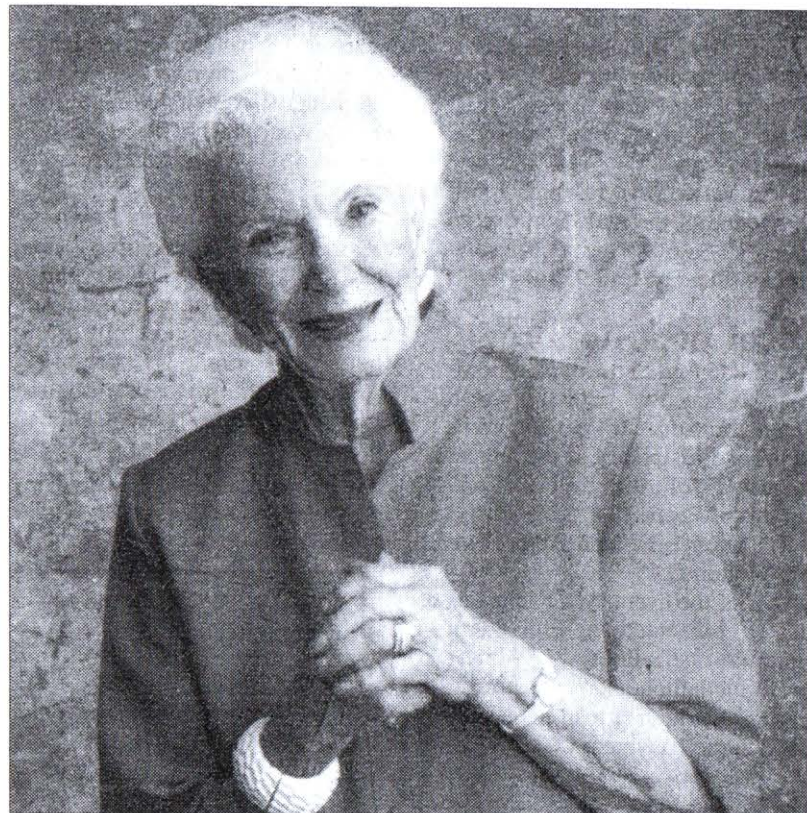
"I guess it could be called my mission in life," Mrs. Bovard said about her efforts. "I have had a wonderful life. I attribute that wonderful life, every bit, to volunteerism."

On Sept. 29, she will be recognized for her efforts by being awarded the state's most prestigious award for volunteering — The Hon Kachina Volunteer Award, presented by The Luke's Men, an organization made up of volunteer business and professional men, and KNXV-TV, Channel 15.

The award recognizes individuals who contribute their time and abilities in efforts to improve their communities.

Along with Mrs. Bovard, eight other volunteers statewide are being awarded with the Hon Kachina Volunteer Award on the silver anniversary of the awards.

Also honored are Phoenix residents Laura Aguilar, Edith Jordan and Helen Trujillo; Glendale residents Nga Bui and Donna Pickering; Mesa residents Ruth Tan-Lim, M.D. and Gary Venjohn; Prescott resident Russ Rusing.



Submitted Photo

Sun Citian Mary Bovard will be honored Sept. 29 with a Hon Kachina Volunteer Award for her work helping those in need of assistance.

To Mrs. Bovard, being honored for what she deems her lifestyle, is an awkward feeling.

"I am very honored but it's something totally unexpected because I'm getting an award for what my lifestyle has been," she said. "If I thought by getting this award it would convince one person to go

into volunteer work, it would be wonderful."

Mrs. Bovard was nominated for the award by Sun Health, where she volunteers in the Hospice Care Services and Residence and serves on the board for the Sun Health Foundation.

She also volunteers at her

church, the Sun City Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, where she serves on the board.

While she has been giving her time and money to a variety of organizations and charities, Mrs. Bovard may be best known for her support of Interfaith Services.

In April, The Mary F. Bovard Center, also known as Mary's Place, opened in Sun City.

The IFS facility is a day center for victims of Alzheimer's disease, a facility for which Mrs. Bovard funded the purchase and remodeling.

"It's just a beautiful building," Mrs. Bovard said. "On the back side of the building it says Mary's Place. I like that."

"Caring and sharing is the secret to happiness."

The silver anniversary Hon Kachina Volunteer Awards will be presented Sept. 29 at Marriott's Camelback Inn, 5402 East Lincoln Drive in Paradise Valley.

A reception for the awards will begin at 5:30 p.m., with dinner and the awards ceremony beginning at 7 p.m.

The black-tie event is open to the public. Tickets are \$200 per person, with proceeds distributed to the organizations represented by the honorees.

For more information, call 480-905-1578 or visit the Web site at www.honkachina.org.

The award program will be televised on KNXV-TV Channel 15, 5 p.m. on Oct. 20.

FEB. 27-MARCH 5, 2002

Name to Know

Sun Citian **Mary Bovard** continues to assist the community in which she resides.

Chosen in 2001 as one of nine Arizona residents to receive the state's most prestigious honors for volunteers

— the Hon

Kachina

Award —

Mrs.

Bovard

gives of her

time to Sun

Health's

Hospice

Care

Services and Residence, the Sun Health Foundation board and the Sun City Christian Church, Disciples of Christ.

The Hon Kachina Award is presented annually to Arizona residents who have donated countless hours helping others in their communities. The award is presented by the Luke's Men — an organization made up of volunteer business and professional men — and KNXV-TV Channel 15.

Recipients of the award, are recognized for their effort at a black-tie event, which took place Sept. 29.

As part of being a Hon Kachina award winner, Mrs. Bovard was recently presented a \$3,000 check to designate for a charity of her choice.

Mrs. Bovard chose the Sun Health Foundation to receive the funds.



SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

SEPTEMBER 25, 2002

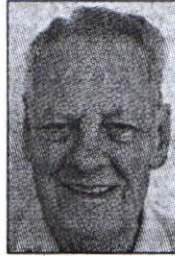
■ A Name to Know

Bob Brisson is trying to make his retirement years meaningful.

A volunteer at Boswell Memorial Hospital and with Volunteers For Hospice, Mr. Brisson aspires to make every day worthwhile.

"I find (volunteering) very satisfying," Mr. Brisson said.

"It gives you something worth living for because old age is no fun.



"I think volunteering is probably the greatest thing a person can do," Mr. Brisson added. "I do a lot of volunteer things. I find it more satisfying than golf because you're actually accomplishing something."

Although in his professional life, Mr. Brisson climbed to the top rungs of the corporate ladder, he is overjoyed to do even the most base volunteer tasks, such as delivering the newspaper to patients in the hospital.

As a volunteer with hospice patients, Mr. Brisson tries to make dying individuals' last days worth living.

"I lead a very mundane life but I enjoy doing the volunteer work that I do," Mr. Brisson said. "I don't do it for the glory.

"The people that you do things for appreciate it and that's who you do it for."

For more information about volunteering at Boswell Memorial Hospital, call 876-5387. For more information about volunteering with Volunteers for Hospice, call 583-4490.

November 6, 2002

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

Bovard honored for volunteer work

By **Ryan Jones**
Independent Newspapers

The Interfaith Community Care House of delegates named Mary Bovard the winner of its second annual Bill Wolfrey Community Service Award Oct. 24.

The award was named for Bill Wolfrey, who developed the idea for Interfaith Community Services, formerly known as Interfaith Services. ICS has now grown to encompass the entire west Valley and provides services for about 2,700 individuals with the help of about 500 volunteers.

"We consider (The Bill Wolfrey Community Service Award) a prestigious award," said Chelsea Evans, marketing director for ICS. This award is given to recognize either residents or businesses that go above and beyond the need for volunteering.

Mary Bovard is one of the hardest working volunteers, according to Ms. Evans. "She not only gives financially, but she gives of herself and she does it very well."

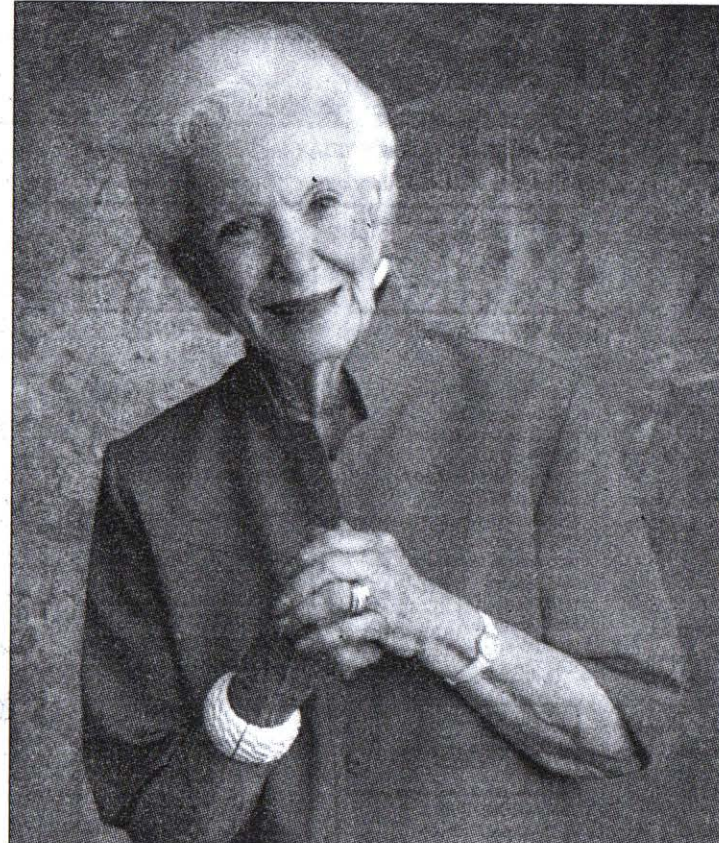
At ICS, Ms. Bovard has funded the development and opening of the Bovard Center and Mary's Place. This is

the only memory care day center available in Arizona, according to Ms. Evans. Ms. Bovard now spends her time as an honorary board member and volunteers her "kind and caring spirit with the participants there," said Ms. Evans.

Ms. Bovard started her volunteering career in 1946 with the Red Cross. Since then, she has gone on to help at the New York Goldwater Charity Hospital flying chronically ill patients above New York City in a small charter plane.

She also volunteered at Sun City Christian Church and worked as a member of the finance, building and grounds and permanent endowment committees. Ms. Bovard also helped Habitat for Humanity build homes in cooperation with the Sun City Christian Church. She volunteers to visit patients at the Sun Health Hospice Care Center. Ms. Bovard also spends time volunteering and sitting on the board of many more organizations.

ICS is a nonprofit, community supported, human services agency that has been dedicated to helping residents and their families



File photo

Mary Bovard of Sun City was recently selected winner of the Interfaith Community Services Bill Wolfrey Community Service Award.

for over 20 years. For more visit the Web site at information on services www.interfaithcommunity-care.org offered, call 584-4999 or

Second Annual Wolfrey Award bestowed

By Marie Scotti

The person who has earned the prestigious Bill Wolfrey Community Service Award for 2002 has given of herself beyond the measure of most volunteers and donors. In addition to her generous financial support to the community, she has given an even more precious gift—her time, talent, and caring as a volunteer for uncounted worthwhile organizations.

Sylvia Wolfrey, widow of Interfaith founding president, William T. Wolfrey, made the presentation of the Interfaith Community Care Award to Mary Bovard of Sun City. She said, "We, in Interfaith Community Care, are so very grateful that today's honoree was inspired to walk in our direction." The award was presented during the recent Interfaith Community Care House of Delegates meeting.

The honoree is a member of the Sun City Christian Church where she has served faithfully in many capacities—the Finance Committee, Buildings & Grounds Committee and Permanent Endowment Committee. Not stopping there, she hosts fundraising dinners for the church's seminars and retirement centers.

She has been a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity through her church in helping build homes for needy families. She actively serves on the Board of Directors of Sun Health Foundation. She took the necessary training to become a volunteer visitor with Sun Health Hospice Care patients.

Wolfrey said, "We are grateful for the lucky day when our honoree appeared at then Interfaith Services to learn whether they



At Interfaith Community Care Second Annual Bill Wolfrey Community Service Award ceremony, Sylvia Wolfrey (l.), widow of founding Interfaith president William T. Wolfrey, presented the award to Mary Bovard, honoree. Photo, Marie Scotti

would accept her golf cart which she wished to give to them. That marked the beginning of learning what Interfaith was doing to help meet the problems that inevitably develop in communities inhabited by senior adults. She decided that this organization could use her volunteerism and thus she began as a receptionist."

When Interfaith reached out to develop an all memory day care center, Bovard stepped up to the plate and totally invested herself in bringing this project to fruition. Today, Interfaith Community Care takes great pride in Mary's Place on Del Webb Blvd. at La Ronde Center in Sun City. This is the first all memory day care center in the entire state of Arizona.

Bovard serves at the Day Care Center, Mary's Place, two days each week contributing her kind and caring spirit to participants.

John Bergh—a loss to the SCW community

By Marie Scotti

John Bergh of Sun City West passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 2. A native of Holland, John was born on Jan. 8, 1922. He had a distinguished career as a Research & Development Engineer. John and his wife, Maryann became residents of Sun City West in 1985.

He has been the "heart and soul" of church programs at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church. John installed a sound system in the church a few years ago, he served as property chairman, two terms as elder on sessions, was president of Men of the Church group and enjoyed being a soloist at the church.

Getting the job done was important to him. He was widely admired and respected by both women and men in Sun City West for the contributions he made to the community. His phi-

losophy was "The more you give, the more you get."

His memberships and Board positions in professional organizations included: five years in the



John
Bergh

SCW Sheriff's Posse, seven years on the PORA Board, eight years as president of the Sun City West Community Fund Board, three years on Sun City West Foundation Board, Director on the Sundome Board and Property Board—Sun Health Del E. Webb

See **A LOSS**, Page B4

Memorial Hospital and Boswell Memorial Hospital.

John assisted the PRIDES with the handling of repairs to equipment for three years.

John served as secretary, vice president and president of the Sunrise Lions. He was the recipient of the Lions highest honor—the Melvin Jones Award for 2001-2002.

He worked tirelessly as a volunteer in a wide range of community activities. One of John's hobbies was to restore antique cars when not working as a volunteer. He also found time to repair donated bikes for children.

John Bergh was a retired Lt. Colonel in the Dutch Army and was a member of the Dadalians at Luke Air Force Base. He also was very active with helping needy children.

John was a multi-talented gen-

tleman. The residents of Sun City West are proud of John Bergh and realize the wealth of knowledge and energy he contributed to the community. He had an essential quality of goodness and humanity which is difficult to articulate.

He is survived by his wife Maryann, two daughters, two sons and three stepsons.

A memorial service was held at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church on Friday, Dec. 5 in Sun City West.

Isabel Brown

Isabel Brown has been a busy woman since her retirement in 1981.

She arrived in Sun City in April 1987 after she decided to take a leap of faith and move to the southwest from Portland, Oregon where she worked for 35 years with Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company.

"I didn't know a soul," she said, "but I wanted a different style of life."

Soon after her arrival, she registered with Sun City Volunteer Services. "Fifteen minutes later I got a call to go to Meals on Wheels. I've been there ever since," she said.

She enjoyed Meals on Wheels so much she decided to expand her volunteering efforts and ultimately ended up volunteering six days a week for the first several years she was in Sun City.

"I wanted to get out of the house. You've got to be with people," she said.

She began volunteering in the ice cream parlor of the Pepper Tree Retirement Center. Then in 1989, she also began volunteering in the salvage department of the Westside Food Bank. She also has served, up until last year, as secretary of her condominium association.

In 1994, she signed on with the Saint Clement of Rome Adult Day Care Center, working in the kitchen and for the past decade, twice a year, she also has volunteered at SCAT stuffing envelopes for their biannual fund drives. For the past three years, she worked with the Salvation Army at Arrowhead Mall manning the Christmas Tree Angel program.

"My favorite is Meals on Wheels," she said. "I'll never give that up. I'll deliver Meals on Wheels even if I have to go in a walker! I love the people, you get a lot of hugs."

Isabel will turn 83 in July. Although she has had to slow her volunteering efforts she said she will not quit them all. "There's still a lot of things I want to do," she said. "I'll keep volunteering with SCAT and doing the Christmas Tree too, neither of those are tiring."

To her, volunteering is much more than "giving back to the community." It is what keeps her happy.



BUCHLI, John A.

2/8/05

"Head sets to talk to his players during the game, jump ropes to build strength and endurance, blinders to perfect the dribble, running with ankle weights, warming up to "Sweet Georgia Brown" and "Rock Around the Clock:", all innovations by Coach John Buchli who takes over as head basketball coach at Fargo Central." This a quote from the Fargo Forum in 1954, the year John Buchli took over as head coach at Fargo Central.



John A. Buchli was born December 18, 1917, and passed away Sunday, December 19, 2004, at the age of 87. He was born in New Rockford, North Dakota, to Christ and Lillian Buchli. John played basketball and football for the New Rockford Rockets and served as Class President, graduating in 1936. After attending Hibbing Junior College, he joined the United States Army Air Corps, became a pilot and stayed through the war.

Upon returning to civilian life, John attended and graduated from Hamline University. He then took the head coaching job in Bowman, North Dakota, where he met and married Lillian Heinle. The couple moved to Park River, to take over coaching duties as head coach for the Walsh County Aggies. Two daughters, Barbara and Mary Kay were born there, as was son, David. The Aggies had some dream teams (1951 to 1953) that drew attention to Buchli's coaching style, that brought an offer from the Fargo School system.

The family moved to Fargo in 1954 and the coaching career at Fargo Central began. Along with basketball duties came assistant football coaching and teaching biology. In 1957, Keith was born and the family was complete. During the 11 years at the helm of the Midgets, Buchli's teams made it to 9 Class A State tournaments, finishing 16-7 in his final year at Fargo Central.

When John retired from coaching and teaching, he took up full time employment at NDSU in the Plant Pathology Department, another job he loved. Throughout the years he continued his studies working on his masters course, taking classes at Montana State University and earning his Master's degree from UND. John accumulated many hours past a masters and never quit reading.

John and Lillian moved to Arizona for each winter and Lake Lida in Minnesota, each summer. John and Lillian led a full and active life, always involved in golf activities and community affairs. John was recognized by the Rose Society for his volunteer efforts to keep the rose beds of Sun City beautiful. His renowned rose beds remain in Sun City. Both enjoyed collecting antiques from Depression glass to the fabulous horse

bit collection donated to the state of North Dakota. Ultimately, living year round in Arizona they enjoyed a home in Sun City and a wonderful getaway on a golf course in Dewey, Arizona.

Even with the onset of Alzheimer's Disease, John continued an active life. Golf, bowling, and even lifting weights. He fought the disease with all his might and courage. On November 28, he suffered a stroke that ultimately saved him from the ravages of severe Alzheimer's, but took him from this earth to be with Lillian, his wife of 58 years. Lillian passed away in Arizona on June 2, 2004.

Over the years, John heard from former players, expressing their appreciation for his guidance and strength during trying times in their lives such as Vietnam, tragic deaths, health problems. He touched the lives of many. He will be missed by many.

John Buchli is survived by his children: Barbara (Paul Ellis) of Montana; Mary Kay of Montana; David and family of Arizona; Keith of Arizona; brother, Martin (Virginia) Buchli of Sun Lakes, Arizona; nieces and nephews. Also Lillian's sisters: Loretta Berdahl of Santa Cruz, California; Esther Jones of San Diego, California; Ruth Kelstrup (Ron) of Reno, Nevada; Norma Petty (Charles) of Hamilton, Montana; Lillian's brother, Kenneth Heinle of Littleton, Colorado; sister-in-law Mildred Heinle (Walter) of North Dakota and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Lillian; brothers: Elmer, Bill, Leonard and sister Mary.

John and brother, Martin, participated in the Alzheimer's Research Institute program called "Mirage". Mirage compares siblings with Alzheimer's disease to those without. John Buchli's last noble act was to participate in the Brain Donation Program at the Alzheimer's Research Institute.

A memorial service will be held to celebrate the life of John Buchli at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday February 12, 2005. The service will be held at Lakeview United Methodist Church, 10298 Thunderbird Avenue in Sun City, Arizona.

Condolences and correspondence may be sent to: Keith Buchli, 3309 North 70th Street #107, Scottsdale, Arizona 85251.

Memorials may be made to the Cleo Roberts Center for Clinical Research, 10515 W. Santa Fe Drive, Sun City, Arizona 85351.

The family thanks all for the enduring friendships and support over the years. Comfort: When you were born you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so when you die, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

Arrangements handled by Sunland Memorial Park, 623-933-0161.

Visit this person's Guest Book At www.dailynews-sun.com.