

GLADY

The Newsletter of the Near and Now

Volume 3 No. 1

January 1976

Group News

The beginning of the month saw the final Olympic Day profit to be \$567.89. Congratulations to those of you who went out knocking on doors.

Another thing that happened during the month was that Andy was voted on to the Executive as a member-at-large to replace Lee who was leaving for army duty.

Late congratulations are in store for former tenor Bob Vesey who became a father in early December.

Donna Jensen, well known to a good many of us, parted company with her appendix in December but this didn't stop her from enjoying Christmas.

Dave Blizzard now joins the working world five days a week with having to struggle into Border Customs Brokers on St. Janos in Montreal.

Bruce Mitchell has been relaxing in Florida, the lucky dog.

Arni, the bearded wonder, is once more a school boy with going into the Social Science field at Champlain Regional College. Now for once in your life Arni concentrate on the books and not the women.

Anyone who wishes he could see Peter McArthur do some acting, now has a chance for he is part of the cast who will be putting on a play at Centennial Regional High School in Greenfield Park starting March 18.

Paul Pedersen is a very independent person these days for he now has his own apartment and with Carole telling him where to put things probably wishes he didn't have it now.

Like Gilbert is doing okay up in hospital. Speedy recovery fellow.

Cornwall Weekend

Jan. 17-18

Saw most of the group at the Cultural Centre roughly around 9:30 and once Andy's drums were loaded on the bus we were off to Ontario. We left the Centre about 10:00 with a total group numbering 28 people and 29 if you count Roger. Sheldon brought his car along so that he could leave very quickly after the church service so that he could get home to watch the Super Bowl on the television.

The trip down was rather uneventful with people either doing what comes natural to quite a few humans—sleeping or else they were talking or listening to the music that Roger provided by the radio on the bus.

We arrived around 11:30 and after attempting the parking lot once we made it on the second try. The equipment was very quickly put in

Lewis Hall for it was awful nippy standing outside waiting for equipment to be unloaded from the bus. After that frosty chore was completed, eating was the next thing on the list. The meals were bought at a restaurant across the street from the famous King George Hotel and orders ranged from take-out french fries for Serge to Colossal Club Sandwiches and a banana split for Peter to roast pigeon for Dave and Launa.

After we had help to pay for the restaurant staff's salary some of the group went to browse the local stores for any kind of a bargain while others went back to the church to set up quarters for the weekend. The rest of the afternoon passed without too much of anything at all happening except for the Cornwall Violin Association down in the basement and a group practice in Lewis Hall.

Supper came at 5:30 with a meal that was meant for a king set out in front of us. The ladies of the church prepared the meal for us and we very royally stuffed ourselves. After that was accomplished, once again not much was done until the show at 8:00. There was one major drawback for the cigarette smokers in the group, they had to go outside to have a cigarette because of a law from the Fire Marshall's Dept. that said that smoking was not allowed in the building. So whether you stayed in St. Lambert or wore on those side steps of the church, you know that it was a COLD weekend to have to go outside for the sake of having that cigarette.

The 8:00 o'clock show was a coffeehouse affair and there were roughly 100 young people from the church and Cornwall itself in attendance. The highpoint of the evening, as far as Bob was concerned, was when we got a majority of the people up with us to sing a few songs. The show lasted until almost 10:00 and then after some of the group went out to our favourite restaurant for some coffee while others who were not so brave to battle the cold breezes, stayed in the warmth of the church and listened to Serge and Sheldon on the guitars in the church itself where the equipment had been moved to after the show in Lewis Hall had been completed. Some of the young people had stayed behind to listen to Serge as well, and two extra large all dressed pizzas were delivered to the church at midnight and were evenly distributed amongst us. The funny part of the mini concert given by Serge was that Roger curled up in one of the pews and went to sleep in the midst of all that noise, and at 1:00 A.M. when quiet time was set, he woke up because of the lack of noise. Anyway, I think, he found a place to sleep in Lewis Hall.

With quiet time established, group members scattered throughout the church to attempt at getting some sleep, which the Heat and Now weekends are not known for, while others stayed up to listen to Arni on the piano in Lewis Hall or to go down to the basement and join in the poker game that was going on down there. Around 2:00, the basement group was treated to Tim Horton Donuts that were old enough to vote or were dead and the highlight of the evening, Arni's streak. This was just the right touch to go off to sleep with, I think.

The morning came early with sound of the day awakening, Lee smashing his arm on a radiator in his room and Andy hopping around in a zipped up sleeping bag waking people as he went. The morning also brought Arni back into action, only this time dressed in his white thermal track suit. Morning also arrived too early for Bob and Judy who were woken to the sounds of a drum solo and for Debbie Saul when Firemen Lee Morris and Dave Blinnard to haul her out of the supposedly burning church while Arni attempted to get into her sleeping bag to wake her up. A pancake breakfast followed this insanity with a 9:00 group practice to follow that.

The church service was at 10:00 and we performed in front of a completely full church congregation who greatly appreciated our musical

version of a regular Sunday morning worship service. When the service was finished some of the people stayed in the church to listen to Arni on the piano until the lunch was served to us. Lunch was prepared by the youth group of Knox United and it consisted of hot dogs and a BIG bowl of beans, a lovely reminder of somebody named Mike who had his initiation into the group in Hagog. Two big bowls of beans was good enough for Mike.

After lunch was completed the crib board was again set up while others did their thing outside in the Arctic like weather while still others either read, talked or slept until the 2:00 departure time came. The 2:00 time came and went for when Roger went out to try the bus it wouldn't even do as much as sputter. Well if you had been standing outside all night in a temperature of -22C. or F. your battery would probably not fire up either. So with this information learned the group went back to what they were doing until the problem could be fixed. The general statement going amongst the group was another possible night in Cornwall which probably would have sat well with the group.

Anyway two and a half hours later, after two attempts with boosts off powerful batteries, the engine roared into life and Roger guided the bus to the church to pick up the equipment. The guys all got together and had luggage and equipment on the bus by 5:05 and we headed back to St. Lambert in a very cold bus. The only problem besides the cold on the trip back was that the equipment shifted once just outside Cornwall and this caused an anxious moment for Andy but fortunately his drums didn't suffer any serious scratches.

There were only two major casualties during the whole weekend and they were 1. a window which some mighty miss decided to pull off instead of trying to open and 2. the French language when Arni spoke to Roger about his night of sleep "Est-ce que tu passe un bon do-do" and secondly when he learned about the engine problems. "Hey Roger, le moteur ne pas turnover." Keep it up Arni and maybe Berlitz will take you off their Lost Cause list in the near future.

That's it for Cornwall

1975 - - - AS IT WAS

January '75

..... was a rather active month in terms of Performances, Arrivals and Departures. The three shows were at Lt. Royal Presbyterian, Calvin United in St. Hubert and at Our Lady of Conselata. Departing people were June Anslow, Phil Lang, Janice & Debbie Palmer, Tim Dolla, Dean Allatt, Sheila Reoch and Andrea Smith as well as Eric Brown. Arrivals were Dave and Keith Blizard, Roberta Lanier, Paula Bell, Donna Thompson, Sheldon Harvey, Lee Morris, Pam Keeler, Bob Vesey and the return of Bruce Mitchell to the group.

February '75

..... The Near and Now tradition of being late was put to rest this month when we were early for our Feb. 9 show - 1 week to be exact. The only other performance of that month was at Preville School on the 28th to help the school close off its winter carnival activities. Arrivals were Joe Parish Departures were Al Blackstock and Red Norman.

March '75

..... Brought the 4th Anniversary Party at the Golf Club on the 15th which provided for all who came a very enjoyable evening. The month also saw another command style show at Macdonald Cartier Memorial High School on the 21st and 22nd. After the Saturday night show there was Kapetan's

with its star attraction Criscoe the cook and his steaks. The only departure was Kian ~~Sho~~ while the arrivals for the month were Andy Mackenzie and Glenn Matthews.

April '75

Was Magog on the 12th and 13th. Who can forget the Union, the wedding shower, that fantastic group(??)The Safes, the all night noise makers, Joe sleeping in a cupboard and cymbals, chairs, a trumpet reveille and a desire for steamed hot dogs on Sunday morning. Departures for the month were Pan Keeler, Steve Doman and the arrivals were Mike Simmons, Rick Jefeocat, and Don Webber.

May '75

3rd and 4th were the days that the group hit Waterloo and it was rather quiet compared to Magog except for the cries of agony from Leo and Joe who rode ten speeds up from St. Lambert. The other show for that month was on the 31st for the Senior Citizens of St. Lambert followed by the Kinfest at the arena that night.

June '75

Was an attempt at television for the group with an audio tape at Quebec Sound and a video tape at CHLT television in Sherbrooke. The video tape once it was completed had us home at 4:00 A.M. The only departure was Wayne Ponting and there were no arrivals.

July '75

Was a very quiet month what with vacations and summer jobs the performance schedule was rather lean for the month with the only exception being at Camp Massa wippi at Ayers Cliff which is the summer camp for the Montreal Association for Deaf and Crippled Children. The arrival for the month was John de la Mothe.

August '75

Was St. Lambert Days with shows scheduled for four of the five days of the festival, but this proved to be a rather wet and dry event for us to undertake. The only major problem during the month was that Arni had to go back into the hospital to have his back put back in one piece again. The arrivals were Greg Somers and Paul Pedersen.

September '75

The only show of the month was at Belmont Park for the annual picnic of the Macdonald Tobacco Company. St. Mary's Hospital breathed a sigh of relief when Arni was thrown out for making passes???? The departures for the month were Debbie Parkes, Paula Bell, Megan Parker, Donna Thompson, John de la Mothe, Glenn Matthews and Bob Vesey.

October '75

Was a month with three performances. First at the Cultural Centre for the Official Opening of the building. Second at Lee's father's church in Lasalle on a night that was better off for Noah than for us. The third show was a Hallow'een show at the Children's Hospital without complaints from anyone for having to get dressed up. The arrival was Vic Gnaedinger and the Departures were Karen Leslie and Alison Nish.

November '75

Was another month with three performances at Greenfield Park United Church, the Mackay Centre for the Altrusa Club, and at St. Barnabas Church here in St. Lambert. Tony officially resigned as Treasurer for the group and Dave Blizard was nominated to succeed him. Finally we closed off the month with a very successful Olympic Blitz. The Arrivals were Ron Bourne, Michele Skinner and Gaye Henderson

December '75

Was the month for Christmas shows at Sunnydale Park School in Dollard des Ormeaux, Jubilee School in Greenfield Park and at Garden-ville United Church in Longueuil as well as Christmas carols sung in downtown St. Lambert

T H I N G S

T O

C O M E

WATERLOO WEEKEND

either SATURDAY MARCH 27-SUNDAY MARCH 28

or

SATURDAY MAY 15-SUNDAY MAY 16

(Either of these two dates to be confirmed later)

The 5th Anniversary Saturday April 3 at the Golf Club
325 Golf St. St. Lambert

Group Performance at Greenfield Park United Church
Sunday April 25 (tentative date)

Group Performance in Pierrefonds Friday April 30

That's all from Gladys for now.

Anyone who wants additional copies of either the newsletter
itself, or a specific page, see me at practice or call me

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