

CHURCH FAMILY PROFILE

This month we are faced with a very difficult task - we're going to talk about our relatives - relatives we've been close to since our younger days. We realize there are some things better left unsaid but we'll endeavor to bring you up to date on the lives of our cousins, Eleanore and Pete Harry.

Us Lymans were married in 1936 and the Harrys decided to become Mr. & Mrs. on June 19, 1937. They spent some of their "courtin" time at our home and we had some great times together which have continued thru the years.

Perhaps a little family history is in order - Lowell (better known as Pete), son of Walter & Gertrude Norcross Harry was born in Casco Twp. Mar. 7, 1915. At that time Pete's folks lived in the house across from Mt. Pleasant Subdivision, the family later moved to the larger home where Grandpa & Grandma Harry had resided. Pete has 1 brother and 3 sisters, he attended McDowell School and graduated from So. Haven Hi. He also took an Agricultural Short Course at Mi. State. His father was a farmer and one of the first cauliflower growers in this area and Pete recalls that his mother was a school teacher and taught at Bradley, MI. (just so. of Wayland) and drove a horse and buggy home on week-ends to visit her folks - she also taught in the Evergreen Glade district, so. of Hawkhead.

Eleanore, daughter of Uncle Edgar and Aunt Grace Lyman Rice, was born in Hinsdale, Ill., a long time ago (as she puts it). Our birthdates are pretty close and we feel that we make up quite a lively little group of St. Citizens, of course she has twice the pep of the 2 of us put together. Her family moved to MI. and settled in Kibbie. She completed her 8 grades at Kibbie school, graduated from So. Haven Hi and was ~~one of the~~ first female cheer leaders in that school - ERA was at work within her even back then. She attended Allegan Co. Normal and after obtaining her teachers certificate, she started her teaching career at McDowell school. The school board consisted of Harry Cogdal, C. J. Lilly and Harold Fowler. She taught there 2 yrs. but since the school burned down shortly after Christmas the second year, they had to move into the Church next door to complete the second half - then after teaching 1 yr. at Beechdale, she became a homemaker and a full time Mother.

Uncle Edgar attended McDowell school - his family lived just east of the church across from the Trigg family - while Aunt Grace grew up in the house where Dick and Myrtle Tourtellotte lived and attended Buys school - among her teachers were her sister, Aunt Cecile Paquin, and her brother, Dad (Ed) Lyman - I wonder if they kept her after school.

When Eleanore came to the McDowell district, Pete decided he would date the school marm and as a result, they became man and wife. Pete (an enthusiastic hot-rodder) had farmed with his Grandfather Norcross prior to their marriage which occurred at Kibbie Community Hall with Rev. Wright officiating. During winters Pete worked at various other jobs - at Nat'l Motors, Bohn Aluminum and Fleming Oil Co., sometimes milking cows before going to his factory job. He also served on the Federal Land Bank Board.

The Harrys started housekeeping on the Rundell farm across the road from Everett Fowlers (the Rundell farm was later the John and Pearl Shilling place). We can remember taking our sheets and pillow cases with us and spending some fun weekends there.

(continued on next page)

After 3 yrs. at this location, they moved to the Minnie Ziegler home just south of the Norcross homestead and after a year they purchased the Norcross farm where they have resided since.

They have 5 children and 8 grands. Walter, the oldest, is Probation Officer for 7th. Dist. Court in So. Haven, and resides in Casco Twp. Steve is in Systems Analysis and lives in Baton Rouge, La. Cindy, a teacher, is located in Allegan and keeps busy raising a family, is active in school and church and serves on the State Bd. of Cooperative School Nurseries. Debbie makes her home in Gallatin, Tenn., and is Regional Sales Mgr. for Fleetwood Trailer Co. Laura is now a resident of So. Haven and spends the summer months farming with her Dad and is employed by Fleming Oil Co., during the remainder of the year.

When another cousin, Eva Hodgman, broke her leg while teaching at Hadaway school an emergency call was issued to Eleanore to finish the school year. She accepted even tho' she was very busy with home and family and also taking courses earning her degree from W. Mi. U. and at the end of her second year there, the Dist. merged with So. Haven and since she now had her degree, she went on teaching for 11 yrs. in the So. Haven system till her retirement.

Eleanore is an avid reader and they like to dance and travel. They've made trips to Europe, Mexico and several within the good old USA, including Hawaii. Just a few weeks ago they returned home from a church work trip to Haiti.

Both our subjects have been and still are very involved in all church activities - Pete is Treas. of our Men's Club and has been a good worker and contributor to the Bazaar, Chicken Bar-B-Q, Auction Sale lunches and various other work projects - they both really pitch rite in!

At present Eleanore is Pres. of the So. Haven Branch of A.A.U.W., and is Coordinator of Christian Social Involvement for the Kazoo Dist. UMW, and is a driver for Mobile Meals. I don't know if she has a title but for what it's worth I might add if you have a problem locating something in the church bldg., contact Eleanore. She does an excellent job of cleaning all our closets and crevices.

Think we should add too that this couple furnish the cabbage and the use of their basement etc., for our kraut making for each year's Bazaar and this is not all pure pleasure - gets pretty smelly before time to bag it up and they have a messy basement to clean up after we've finished - as well as a messy house since we always have a good potluck as soon as the job is done---of course they get caught with having to do a lot of the bagging as well---pretty tolerant, generous people I'd say!

There! I think we're done and it wasn't as bad as we tho't it would be. We're proud of your achievements - just keep on doing what you've been doing - it seems to be working.

P.S. Must tell you 'bout the time when Eleanore was sick and Pete was helping out by doing some baking - he called to Eleanore and asked, "When the recipe says cream the butter & sugar, how much cream should I use?" I'll bet there are a few men who can't see anything funny about that.

Then there was the time in their early married life when their water works quit working - the water was pumped between the two houses and Eleanore didn't think the system too sanitary - so she threatened to take the baby and go home to her folks. Well, she packed up and as she was leaving Pete said, "If I wasn't so darned busy I'd go with you." Needless to say - the water works got fixed right suddenly.

Profilers - Marian & Clyde Lyman

As so often happens, I came out with the wrong number of pages but on getting my mail, here was the We Care letter - just in time again, to fill that extra page.

"Rest is a good thing, but boredom is its brother."---Voltaire, French writer 1694-1788

"Yesterday is experience. Tomorrow is hope. Today is getting from one to the other as best we can."