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## Scotch Plains Democratic Club Elects 4 Women

Women won four out of five offices at the recent election of Scotch Plains Democratic Club as the group took one more step to advance the cause of Edith Powers, the first woman to seek major elective office in town. Mrs. Powers of 1129 Hatfield Avenue, the mother of two Marines, is running for township committee in November. She has pledged to wage a full-time campaign, and more significantly, to be a full-time com-

mitteewoman on the five member board which has been solidly Republican for 49 consecutive years. Election of women to the majority of posts gives Mrs. Powers the day-time type of support which generally can only be had by incumbents drawing upon services of a payroll. Mrs. Thomas Mosser of 310 Cedar Grove Terrace was elected Vice - President; Mrs. George Zgola of 2246 Elizabeth

Avenue was elected Treasurer; Mrs. Robert Karan of 1963 Grand Street was elected Secretary and Mrs. Stanley Chaya of 2004 Church Avenue was named Corresponding Secretary. The post of President went to a man-Ray Waterkotte of 2264 Elizabeth Avenue, who last year collected more than 3000 votes in his drive for a committee seat. In taking office, Waterkotte

called for a relentless program of fact gathering to determine if any cases of self-dealing exist in Town. He cited as examples of such potential dealings items like land transactions with the town or its agents, officials approving their own sub-divisions and officials locating township roads to improve property values of other officials. Waterkotte demanded a stiff

conflict of interest plank to further this program. "Such legislation, already strongly advocated on state and national levels, is long overdue locally", Waterkotte said. This legislation would demand that officials immediately reveal any interest-financial or otherwise they have in any matter or transaction that requires Township approval or action. Waterkotte also rapped the town's panic planning. He said,

"Planning in Scotch Plains is generally consigned to paid-out-of-town consultants, whose advice is usually ignored. This procedure has led to four consecutive planning disasters-sewers, apartments, urban renewal and now the interesting case of the Martine Avenue Extension. "Even a golf course has required an emergency appropriation to get organized. You'd

think such a project would be planned over a period of time and budgeted for in advance in the normal way". Waterkotte's fighting words tie with the recent election of Joseph Messersmith of Elm Court Circle to the post of Democratic Municipal Chairman on his pledge to "get tough this November with the self-servers and bleeding hearts."

## Rotary Club Sees Film On Football

"Deadline to Glory" was the name of a film of the 1963 National Football League championship game between the Chicago Bears and the New York Giants, was shown to the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club at their regular Wednesday noon meeting held at Wally's Tavern-On-The-Hill, in Watchung today. The film showed the highlights of the exciting game in which the Chicago team won 14 to 10, to take the crown in the nation's top professional football loop.

President John Morel thanked Dr. Robert Scaleria for arranging for the film. Birthday chairman Edward Penry noted the anniversaries of Dr. James Sarantos, David E. Ringle, Dr. Robert Scaleria, and Richard W. Scott. Visitors were welcomed by Joseph Gravina and Dr. Theodore Cwoell. Devotions were led by Dr. William Mc Ginn and singing was under the direction of Russell W. Scott.



Mr. and Mrs. Harry Geetlein and daughter Georgyn at organ.

### MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

## 'I'm Just Wild About Harry'

By BEATRICE STULZ

Music sets the many moods of man from the days a lullaby rocks him as gently to sleep as a cradle, to his college days when songs and cheers send him over the line for a touchdown, to the days of his young manhood when "pop" songs set the beat for his play and ballads set the mood for romance, to be followed by those dark days when stirring marches send him off to war; and the day after his return when the strains of Lohengrin see him wed; folk songs set the tempo for his work and concert music is his food and drink; but through all his moods and all his days, hymns have been his musical prayers. Yes, most men's lives are filled with music, but the life of one man, Harry C. Geetlein of 2382 Longfellow Avenue, Scotch Plains has become music.

Harry was born into a musical family and he and his four older sisters were introduced to the piano at an early age. Both his mother and father were pianists and his maternal grandfather and great-grandfather were concert pianists. It is a family legend that his great-grandfather, who was also a writer and composer, sold many original compositions including one to Chopin.

Classical music filled the Geetlein home until one day, Harry came home from school, sat down at the piano and started playing popular tunes. He had a relative pitch and was able to play "by ear." Born in Hoboken, Harry sang in the choir of the Trinity Episcopal Church of that city and was studying organ under Dr. Paul Schlorff. His days were filled with piano lessons and playing "pop" songs; across the street lived a boyhood friend who was also studying and practicing -- Frank Sinatra.

Harry went on to write music and direct the musical comedies and operettas put on by the Young People's Fellowship Group of the church; he always accompanied them. After his graduation from Demarest High School, in 1924, he enrolled at Stevens Institute of Technology and studied engineering. Soon after, he became employed as a draftsman with Kuffel and Esser, Inc., working in the mechanical engineering field for the next six years.

Through his musical endeavors on behalf of Trinity Episcopal Church, Harry was offered various club dates by orchestra leaders who needed a fill-in piano player. One such offer came in 1929, when Harry was asked to join the group entertaining at the Four Trees in Greenwich Village. This turned to be a long engagement, but one he played under a different professional name.

The year 1929 also found him hard at work at his desk but nights and week-ends found him hard at play at the piano for the Manhattaners, a 12-piece orchestra was formed soon after. Billed as Harry Geetlein and the Manhattaners, the group became flexible to meet the budget of the people hiring them and on occasion numbered anywhere from five to twelve members. Local club dates, New York dates, and New Jersey and New York Country Club engagements filled their calendar and the group which stressed entertainment as well as music, used several vocalists. "One day," recalled Harry, "I borrowed Frank's public address system but never thought to ask him to sing with the band." Soon after, Sinatra who was also working club dates went on a local radio show and was discovered by Tommy Dorsey and started on his way to stardom. Somehow, that one lucky break never did come for the Manhattaners although they entertained a lot of people in their time.

You might say that Harry booked one vocalist the hard way, for he married her first. Harry met Evelyn Diaz at a sorority dance and three months later they were married. She modeled under the professional name of Miss Evelyn Dee which she later used as a songstress.

The newlyweds took up residence in a North Bergen Apartment

and Harry continued his day, night, and week-end schedule divided between Bell Laboratories and the Manhattaners. One Saturday night, his new bride accompanied him to a club date and when they played "You Made Me Love You", Harry said, "Why don't you take it?" She did so well with the number they followed it up by playing "I'm Just Wild About Harry," and that's how she joined the band.

"When I married Harry, I knew it was either sink or swim, and I guess I'm just an old-fashioned girl deep down, for I felt you had to share your husband's hobbies as well as his business," Evelyn Geetlein said. "When I became a singer for the group this was one way of sharing and I had loved the theatre and all kinds of music."

Once Harry discovered she could carry the beat, he made special arrangements for her and the Miss who had modeled for such famous accounts as Beimar Hats became the Mrs. who was a vocalist.

When Bell Laboratories moved to Murray Hill, New Jersey in 1942, the Geetleins moved to nearby Scotch Plains. The Manhattaners played the USO circuit during the war and Evelyn organized the neighbors into the Chestnut Frams Service Club. The year their first daughter, Marilyn was born, Evelyn retired from show business (so she thought) to become a full-time mother and member of the community.

Harry was asked to be Director of the Fanwood Recreation Show in 1953. Evelyn served as stage manager and did a specialty number, and the Manhattaners played a guest spot. That year's successful production led to two things; first he was asked to do a repeat performance the following year, and secondly he received a phone call asking him to serve as choir director for the Scotch Plains Baptist Church.

"At first Harry asked if they had the wrong man, and later told them he would try to get someone for the church," recalled Evelyn. "When he couldn't find anyone, I told him, 'Harry you're not supposed to get anyone, it's God's way -- you are supposed to do it,' and he did."

When he accepted the position, she reported, "We looked at each other and said, 'We're finished with club work.'" Soon the Geetleins found themselves pulled by faith into church work; she became a Sunday School teacher and he attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton. Later, in his dedication to sacred music, he also attended Salem College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and Union Theological School of Sacred Music in New York.

The Scotch Plains Community Choir was originated by Harry, in 1954, and each year since they have presented Handel's "Messiah" at Christmastime. He became a charter member and served on the board of the Scotch Plains Symphony Orchestra. Through the years, he went on to become choir director for the United Presbyterian Church of Garwood and the New Dover Methodist Church of Edison.

Active on the community level, his wife reports her proudest moment came after she successfully arranged a fund raising Smorgasbord for the combined Junior and High School PTA, in October 1956. Harry made her a king-sized organization chart to show the duties etc., of her 200 member committee. The High School was brand new and the proceeds from the affair would supply the needs of the PTA budget and allow a donation towards the SPFHS organ.

In January 1958, she served as chairman of Clubs United for

## Scotch Plains National Celebrates Opening

Over four hundred persons opened commercial, checking, and savings accounts on Saturday when the First National Bank of Scotch Plains opened for business in a trailer at the bank's site at 334-336 Park Avenue. Despite the light rain-fall, over one thousand persons turned up for the opening day ceremonies and witnessed the ribbon cutting by Charles West of the New York office of the U S Comptroller of Currency.

Frank M. Pitt, chairman of the bank's board of directors, presided at the opening day ceremonies which were conducted in a large tent rented for the occasion. Miss New Jersey, Janet Adams greeted the visitors, the Reverend Sterling Glover of St. John the Baptist Church offered a prayer.

Visiting dignitaries and officials present included; Senator Nelson Stamler, Treasurer John Kervick, Assemblywoman Mildred Hughes, Miss Elizabeth Arthur for Representative Florence Dwyer, Mayor Edward H. Peterson of Scotch Plains and E. Sidney Hulsizer of Fanwood, Committeeman Mauro Checchio and Councilman Theodore Truemp, Ralph Young, and Frank W. Stopinski.

The bank, chartered after organization by predominately local businessmen, will conduct business in the trailer until construction of the modified Colonial building which is expected to commence in late

## Hochreiter Retires From Telephone Co.

Helen W. Hochreiter of 1729 Front St., Scotch Plains, has retired from the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. after 36 years service, it was announced today.

She started her career as a student operator in the company's traffic department in Jersey City in 1928. In 1930 she was transferred to the plant department where she has held various positions as a repair clerk, wire chief's recorder, repair service attendant and records clerk.

In 1960 she was transferred to her present post as unit supervising clerk in the Elizabeth test bureau. Her plans for the future include moving to Florida and painting.

## George McKoy Completes Course

Airman Third Class George W. McKoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. McKoy, 1997 Prospect Ave., Scotch Plains, has graduated from the technical training course for new members of the Air Force Medical Service at Greenville AFB, Miss.

Airman McKoy is a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

July, with completion scheduled for late fall. Following the opening day ceremonies, the officials and bank representatives adjourned to the Stage House Inn for a luncheon in honor of the day.

## Pinebox Derby Held By Cubs

Cub Packs Four and Thirty-Four of Scotch Plains held their annual family picnic at Sky Top Picnic Area. In conjunction with the outing, the boys had their annual Pinebox Derby.

Prizes were awarded in the following categories; Den First Place winners; Den 1, John Van Vliet; Den 2, Wayne Hampton; Den 3, Scott Murray; Den 4, Tom Hoerrner; Den 5, Keith Marshall; Den 6, Jim Ward; Den 8, Peter Merrill; Den 9, Gary Smolen; Den 10, Robert

Best appearance awards; First place, Gary Smolen; and Second place, Don Sutherland. Awards in the speed competition; First place, Gary Smolen; and Second place, David Granieri.

Activities were planned for the day. Free ice cream and pony rides were also given each cub.

## Republican Official Foresees Victory

The Field Director for the New Jersey Republican State Committee Daniel Johnson, told the June meeting of the Scotch

Tickets Available For A.A.U. Track Events June 27-28

With only 16 days remaining before the starting gun at the New Jersey Jaycee National A.A.U. Track & Field Championships, there are still some good seats available, according to Local Chairman, George W. Hoffman of Scotch Plains.

Anyone interested in tickets should contact Hoffman immediately as it now looks like there will be a sellout for both days of the weekend track finals June 27-28 at Rutgers University Stadium, New Brunswick. All ticket inquiries should be made to Hoffman.

Tickets are priced at \$5.00 for reserved seats and \$3.00 for unreserved (per day). Net proceeds from ticket sales go to establish a Jaycee Scholarship Fund at Rutgers. Proceeds from all other sources are slated for the U. S. Olympic Fund.

## Community Fund Budget Committee To Hold Meeting

The budget committee of the Scotch Plains Community Fund will hold its annual meeting on June 30, 1963, it was announced today by committee chairman, Arnold Kaufman, 2269 Stocker Lane, Scotch Plains. The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. at the South Side Firehouse, Raritan Road, Scotch Plains.

Budget requests for the 1965 fiscal year will be presented by all agencies who have previously participated in the fund. In addition, Mr. Kaufman is interested in being contacted by any other agencies who wish to participate in the fund and who perform charitable services in the Scotch Plains area.

Plains Republican Committee that November 1964 will see a Republican victory in New Jersey...if the Republicans of New Jersey do not let minor difference divide them. Do not think Lyndon Johnson, will be unbeatable because the polls give him such a lead. Mr. Johnson informed the Republican group.

Johnson reminded them the polls had called everyone of the primaries this year wrong. He said L.B.J. can and will be beaten by a united party that works. As committeemen and women that work must primarily come from them he stated. But Mr. Johnson went on to tell the committee that to do their job properly they must recruit help. He said survey have shown there are at least 14 potential Republican workers in every voting district.

Following Mr. Johnson's talk an informative and entertaining movie on how to campaign in a neighborhood was shown, "Knock On Any Door". Earlier Campaign Chairman Frank Betz told the group one prime source to help to the committee members are their Republican Board of Election Workers, but that these, or any others that they recruit to help them must be kept fully informed if they are to be effective.

The meeting held at the Southside Firehouse, was presided over by Municipal Republican Chairman Elmer C. Dellmire.

## Winters Named To Dean's List

Robert A. Winters, 1670 Cooper Road, Scotch Plains, is one of 132 names on the Senior Dean's List of the Rutgers College of Arts and Sciences, according to Dr. Harry C. Owen, dean of the college.

To be eligible for the special senior list, a student must maintain Dean's list standards for his entire junior year and the first semester of his senior year. Students on the list must not have received more than one grade of "3" in any one term and grades of "2" or better in all other courses.

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