



THE ENCLAVE NEST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1-NO.13 - MAY-JUNE '83

"Hail to thee blithe spirit --
Bird thou never wert!"

RAD GOES UNDER KNIFE

Our worthy progenitor, he
 Was finding it painful to pee.
 With consummate art
 They reamed out his part,
 And now it's all piddle-dee-dee!

May 12. When R.A.D. went off for his prostate operation, this time he did not say to VWD, "I wish it were you + not me."

R.C. Dougan, in the area for a medical convention, officiated at the heart monitoring. Said Dr. Dougan, "His heart was strong throughout. It's a routine operation except when it's your daddy." Barbara Dougan, visiting in Beloit for the 1st time in many years, was chief cook + bottle washer, + saw that Grandma got her pills. Also was a bright spirit around the place! How lucky that Craig + Barbara's visit coincided with this emergency. Barbara, herself recently under the knife, was recovering from back surgery. When she pitched into Chez Nous housework, and Grandma protested about Barbara's condition Barbara said, "This is the 1st time my back has felt good in years!"

At this hospital stay, R.A.D. was not heard to say that the water tasted like seepage from a manure pile. Or the coffee like strained through an old sock.

Philadelphia, Exclusive to ENNL: Word has just been received that Jackie and her Guthrie are expecting! Congratulations, felicitations, + let us know due date!

KNEES PLEASE
 Beloit Scotty Cook, long time helper at Chez Nous, has now had her second knee surgery. It will not be long before she can jig, jog, and dance the hula-hula.

NEW BRUNSWICK SEABIRDS TO HOST FULL NEST



P. DALVIT POACHING LOBSTER!
 anagram playing, fishing for flounder, weeds of sea weed + fiddle head ferns, and a special birthday party for VWD, with a very healthy (and heavy) cake. "Prima" Elspeth Jackson, requests that she will be unable to attend the annual gala on a count of going to school.

Early in July a number of family members will come to roost at the log cabin of Pat and her Dalvit near St. Andrew-by-the-Sea, New Brunswick. Current count makes it Fern and Vera Dougan, Mimi Dalvit, Jackie + Ms. Moffet Jackson, Paul Campagna, + Jackie + her Guthrie. There will be much scrabble +

HEARS MEADOWLARK
 May 15, Beloit. JWD heard a meadowlark in a field near Chez Nous, for which sound she would sell her soul. This is not necessary, however, as a meadowlark restores souls.

HOME FROM HOSPITAL
 Minneapolis June 14: The Ed of ENNL discovered Bill Hathaway, who's had a v. rough time of it, HOME from the hospital, + walking around! Though still w/ a tube in him through which nourishment is pumped. Hathaway has had NOTHING by mouth (exe ice chips) for a couple of months. "I am dreaming of a cold beer," reports Hathaway. He also comments, "I have come to realize how much time EATING takes up."

UPCOMING EVENTS BIRTH DAYS NOT YET NOTED

- Joshua Yde - June 21
- Daniel Schmidt - July 6
- Vera W Dougan - July 7
- Cindy Dougan - July 9
- David Dougan - July 14
- Cressida Broten - Ju. 29
- Julie Schmidt - Aug. 4
- Jennie Schmidt - Aug 18
- Richard Yde - Aug 20



Home Thoughts from Abroad

London, May 29. Exclusive to ENNL from your foreign correspondent.

Bicycling is much like playing the cello; it's done with the knees and the seat of the pants, and in both you are transported.

Rain: "... is seldom a consistent problem." -- Bicycle Touring in Europe by Karen and Gary Hawkins. On the day JDJ arrived in London, it was London's 30th consecutive day of rain. This went on to the 35th day, when there was a clear day or two. The spring of '83 is the wettest since '79, the last time JDJ was here, and both springs are the wettest in over 40 years. We saw a family cycling in wellingtons! (i.e., big English rubber boots)

Going uphill gives you time to study the wild flowers in the hedges. Campion, stitch wort, buttercup, herb-robert, blue bellies, and many others. The predominant weed in the hedges in this season is cow parsley (wired carrot or Queen Anne's lace.)

Panniers: Elspeth's are perfect: the right size (too big & you're tempted to load them) easy on & easy off. One outside pocket for small stuff. Problem: not water-proof but did add plastic bag liners.

Company: Bicycling is a lonelier sport than I anticipated. You can't ride abreast & converse, because cars have to pass. I usually trail the equiv. of several blocks behind Wendy, but even when close she can't hear me on account of her helmet, & I also have trouble hearing her. So I ride alone with my thoughts, & looking, listening, smelling.

Looking: the hedges! The windy roads. The verdant fields. The tiny villages, with cottages distinctive to the part of country. The old churches & abbeys. The thatch. The little brooks. Flowers, flowers, flowers!

Listening: On a 1 lane road there's practically no traffic, and I can hear an occasional cuckoo! -- lots of crows! -- monotonous dove-calls. An occasional brook. Wind past my ears.

Smelling: Spring has to be the best time to be here! The air is fragrant with hawthorne - the hawthorne trees, & hedge-bushes, are as white as spireas. Lilac all over, even in hedges. Rather rank - smelling fields of yellow mustard. Chestnut trees. Apple blossoms. During our rainy days, heavy manure smell whenever we passed a farm.

HILLS TRIUMPH; HEAD FOR FENS!

Saffron Walden, May 30: While the cycling around the gentle hills of Dorset, J.D. Jackson thought this mode of travel a piece of cake. But when she & J.W. Hacking hit Cornwall, she had another think coming. After pushing a heavily loaded cycle up long & steep hills & then often having to walk them down the other side (too steep to ride) JDJ suggested they try a spot in England more conducive to cycling - & to a novice cyclist. Wendell agreed; they traveled back to London, & headed up into the fen country and the Norfolk Broads. Cycling is definitely easier here.

BOSTON AT GREEN KNOWE GRACIOUS IN BATH ROBE

The Editor of the ENNL, finding herself within 2 mi. of Lucy Boston's home at Hemingford Gray, cycled over there at 9 AM and approached from the river where a number of boat people, stranded because of v. high water, were filling their water jugs from her kitchen. Lucy Boston received her kindly, said the TV was doing a show soon on Green Knowe & herself, and that she was now 90 years old.



YOUTH HOSTELING IS THE WAY TO GO!

King's Lynn, June 2: Well, I missed it when I was a youth, but now that I'm 55, I've "discovered" youth hostelling! All ages can use hostels, & do -- parents & kids, young people, older people; walkers, cyclers, motorists. It costs abt \$12 to join, and you have to either buy or rent a special sheet, with which you make up your bed. Beds are in dormitories. Everything is very clean. Charges here are abt \$4.00 for overnight accommodations, (for a "senior" member) \$2.70 for dinner at night, \$1.80 for breakfast. Sometimes the meals are very good, with choice of menu; sometimes you take what you get (more usually) & overnight was OK - spaghetti - but no salad. (It wasn't worth 2.70.) Then before you leave in the AM you have to do some work: sweep, or dry dishes, or wash some windows, etc. The wardens are sometimes interesting people, and you also meet interesting travelers. And the hostels themselves! Usually in interesting places, or in interesting buildings. Saffron Walden was a 15th cent. half timbered malt warehouse. King's Lynn is a 14th cent. "Dorsetby Cottage," where clergy were trained. Perranzpeter, perched on a 300 foot cliff & was a former transatlantic cable sta. Houghton is in an old mill. Not every hostel serves meals, then you bring your own; a kitchen is provided, in all hostels, & some regularly eat their own food. For abt \$5 a fun vacation, this is the way. And after cycling, one appreciates the hostel no matter what quality it is.

TURNED FROM YOUTH HOSTEL

June 4. While the Golant hostel in Cornwall made room for JDJ & JWH, the hostel in Great Walsingham, Norfolk, did not. The prevention, of course, is to call ahead of time, which the cyclists usually

do. When turned away, it is not hard to find a bed & breakfast, JDJ & JWH found one a mile down the road, at a tiny village, Houghton-in-the-Dale, where they enjoyed hot baths, down quilts, sumptuous breakfasts, and a very pleasant hostess who has a sister named Demaris.



We've had -
Such fun
writing pen pals!



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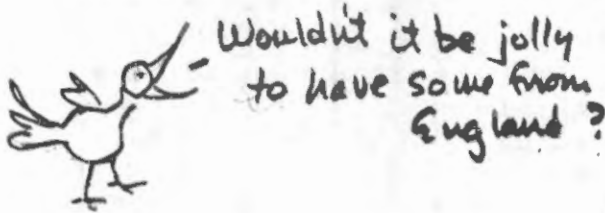
Spring, 1983

Dear Teachers and Students in England:

I come from Springfield, Illinois, Abraham Lincoln country. I teach at Sangamon State University. Part of my teaching is a radio show for area schoolchildren in creative writing. It's called "Reading and Writing and Radio." We have 85 classrooms listening regularly.

This year I began a pen pal exchange. Sixty-six classrooms in different Illinois communities exchanged pen pals, writing back and forth all year. In the spring we had a jamboree and all the pen pals met each other.

Some of these 66 classrooms know I'm coming to England, and have asked if I'd find them an English classroom to write to. I said I'd try. I have classrooms from 3rd to 7th grade, ages 8-12. Would your class enjoy having some Illinois pen pals? If so, send me your name, school, class size and the age level of your students, and I'll put you in touch.



Sincerely,

Jacqueline Jackson

Jacqueline Jackson
Professor of Literature

READING AND WRITING AND RADIO - WSSR 92 FM

"This program doesn't pretend to teach creative writing. I'm not sure this subject or creativity of any sort can be *taught*. My hope is that I will stimulate students to look to their own feelings and experiences for writing ideas and encourage them to use writing as a means of gaining perspective on their own concerns. And that they might discover the job of writing as a rewarding and meaningful activity! The quality of writing we've been receiving shows that this hope isn't unfounded."

- Jacqueline Jackson

READING AND WRITING AND RADIO is a program for elementary and middle-school classrooms, to encourage children to write creatively.

Broadcast weekly during the school year over WSSR-FM, the 20-minute program presents topics that any student, second-grader or ninth-grader, has something to say about: "The Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad, No Good Day," "How Did Noodle Die?," "I Forgot," "O Frabjous Day!," "When She Was Bad She Was Horrid," "How Do You Know They Care?"

Every fourth program is READING YOUR WRITING, where for a full half hour the responses of students to the earlier subjects are read over the air. All classrooms submitting work are represented, often several times, throughout the year.

In a recent semester almost 8000 individual compositions were sent to WSSR (and read by us!) from more than 80 schools in 20 communities. More than a hundred classrooms are actively participating. Leading the list is Illiopolis, with 10 elementary and middle-school classrooms. On the day designated "Stuffed Animal Day," inspired by the program, "There's Always Pooh and Me," the Illiopolis school bus drivers made a new rule: "Never again!" Too many huge ones had to occupy seats of their own!

READING AND WRITING AND RADIO is directed by Jacqueline Jackson, associate professor of literature at Sangamon State University. She is the author of 10 internationally known children's books, one a book for all ages on writing, *Turn Not Pale Beloved Snail*. She contributes half the programs yearly to the University of Wisconsin's WHA School of the Air broadcasts, THE AUTHOR IS YOU, now in its ninth year, and regularly teaches a credit course at Sangamon State University called "Reading and Writing and Radio for Teachers."

READING AND WRITING AND RADIO is produced as a service to the schools of the Springfield area through the public affairs unit of SSU. For your free manual of the broadcasts and further details on how to tune in and participate, write: Jacqueline Jackson, Brookens Library 369 Sangamon State University, Springfield, Illinois 62708. USA.

HEARS CUCKOO APPRECIATES PENDLETON
England. JDJ frequently heard a cuckoo in the distance while cycling, a sound she would sell her soul for. But as in the case of the meadowlark, this is not necessary.

HOT PADS DELIGHT
England. JDJ took along 8 hot pads purchased from DL Jackson, and gave them as gifts when staying with friends & relatives. The hot pads were received with delight by all.

CYCLING GLOVES USEFUL
 JDJ recommends the fingerless leather padded palms & net back cycling gloves. They make a good grip, & the padding eases strain.

APPRECIATES BINOCULARS
Exeter Cathedral, Ely Cathedral etc. JDJ came to appreciate the five light weight binoculars that Demi Jackson & Suzi Mudge gave her for her recent birthday. The binocs were fine for spotting birds in the bush, but were spectacular for looking at cathedral ceilings, bosses, etc.

WHY OUR HEARTS ARE HUNGRY FOR MEADOWLARKS

Not Ed's imagination that she rarely hears one anymore

★
 A sobering report from the Illinois Natural History Survey: The total population loss among such grassland species of birds as meadowlarks and bobolinks since the late 1950s is described as "catastrophic." Twenty-five years ago, censuses showed that such birds were nearly as populous in northern and central Illinois countryside as they had been at the turn of the century. But farming practices changed after 1960, with the result that (quoting the Survey) "managed grasslands that had supported populations of prairie birds dropped precipitously in acreage—as much as 50 percent per decade."

Recent surveys also showed a decline in the density of those bird populations which inhabit surviving grasslands. The combined effects of disappearing habitat and declining density have caused population losses ranging from eighty-four percent to ninety-eight percent. Says the Survey, "When we consider that such great changes occurred in about twenty years—only a brief moment in the history of a wild population—the figures are alarming."
 —J.K. Jr.

★

Londou A tan Pendleton sweater, gracious gift to Vera W. Dugan from Craig. Barbara Dugan, was liberated for a trip to England by JDJ. It proved to be exactly the right garment for British weather & cycling.

UNNECESSARY PURCHASE
Cornwall A pair of cycling shoes purchased in Spfld. at the urging of a bike shop salesman proved to be fine for cycling but no good for walking. JDJ discovered. She was glad she brought her old jogging shoes as they are good for both activities. The shoes are not a complete waste, however, as they also fit J. Ellie Jackson, who plans to put them to good use.

APPRECIATES BICYCLE
Norfolk Last summer JDJ purchased a bicycle selected & out-fitted by Damaris Jackson and Suzi Mudge, who worked in a bike shop. Just as you don't know what it's really like to have a child until you have one, so you don't know what it's really like to have a bike until you live with it intimately. JDJ has come to appreciate thru experience the fine quality of the bike Demi & Suzi fixed for her.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Subscribers to the ENNL are requested to send all news, complaints, corrections, and any other matters to the summer address of the ENNL: Jacqueline Jackson, Rt 1 Box 534, Lake Froggus, Hinesburg, Vermont 05461.

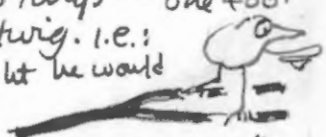
OVERHEARD

R.A.D., about Ms. Muffet (Fleur de Lis): "Cover is a lap dog, and Fleur is a lap dog and a half."
 Megan Jackson: "They cut your tuition off at the shoulder, but your financial aid at the knees."

SEES ANOTHER ODD SIGHT
 Bebit R.A.D. recently saw a sight he has never seen before. A sparrow, instead of sitting on one twig only, straddled two twigs -- one foot on each twig. i.e.:

He thought he would never see such a sight again, but shortly after the bird flew off, he again saw a straddling sparrow. "I think it was the same bird," says R.A.D.

ERRATUM from last issue. V.W.D.'s song should read: "Mary had a little lamb, she put it on a shelf. And every time it wagged its tail, it spanked its little self." (V.W.D. has a 6th grade pep song to show, next issue.)



(Reconstructed from joke from a newspaper, sent by Dr. R. Craig Dugan, & lost by the ENNL Ed.)

Look, dear, the Slugs are back!

POETRY CORNER

2 WINNER in ENNL'S FIRST LIMERICK CONTEST, For this Month. Send all entries to Limerick Ed., ENNL (Ones on Ellie Jackson specially requested.)

A couple named Baylors Schmidt Felt freelancing really was it. They found no enjoyment In steady employment; They'd much rather up and go git.

Arizona: Coming soon to the ENNL: a series of articles by Jeremy Schmidt as he travels through Russia, + points East. The ENNL is proud to have such international contributors.

BRIEFS

Champaign M.T. Jackson was rocked in her bed by an earth quake on May 14.

Beaver Creek Rebecca Duck was passed on, but Dr. + Mrs. RC Dorgan are replenishing their fowl yard. So far there is ailer under the Drake, and Cluck Gable. (Rooster.)

Champaign The Gerald Veaches took a claque of 13 people to cheer for Timothy Veach in Godspell, U. of I. Summer rep. The cast was undifferentiated & exc. for a female Jesus. Tim was a clown, danced a lot, + sang solo, "All Good Gifts." Among the claque were Megan, Ellie and Jackie Jackson. The performance was superb, Tim too, + the female Jesus gave one a strong sense that the Christian message transcends sex. Interestingly, Jesus joined the women in the prosti-tutes song, "Turn Back, O Man!" Haha!

Quotes from John Hillaby, formerly of the Observer + New York Times, in a book called Journey Through Europe (he walked.):

[On a beach:] "... jelly fish that glistened + transparently, like droppings from a herd of ghost cows." ... "Life must be lived forward but understood backward." ... "Keeping to the coast, towards Ketutjk, where the blue haze of hya ciutlus clings to the peaty earth like cigarette smoke." ... " ... Soon I discovered that the further I travelled in the hot seat of journalism, the less I began to see in depth. A gyrovagos. The trips were too brief for either pleasure or comprehension. News, somebody has pointed out, is literature in a hurry ... It aspires to history only insofar as it seeks to be accurate. I wanted to slow down the process of ab-scription. ... "

ED. a BASKET CASE

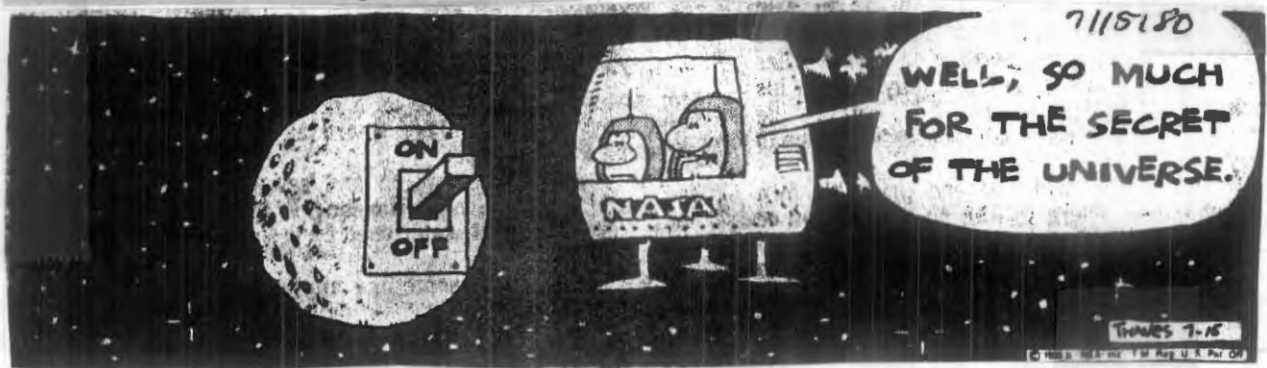
Sptd. The ENNL Ed. was incapacitated for 2 days recently over the loss of Mighty Mouse, who jumped out of Ellie's arms after a visit to the Vet, +



STOP PRESS! FOUND in files 10 minutes before press time



Vanished into the bush. JBJ spent lots of time combing the neigh hood, + sleepless nights. After 2 days, M.M. sauntered home. There was joy + relief in Mudville.



and here.