

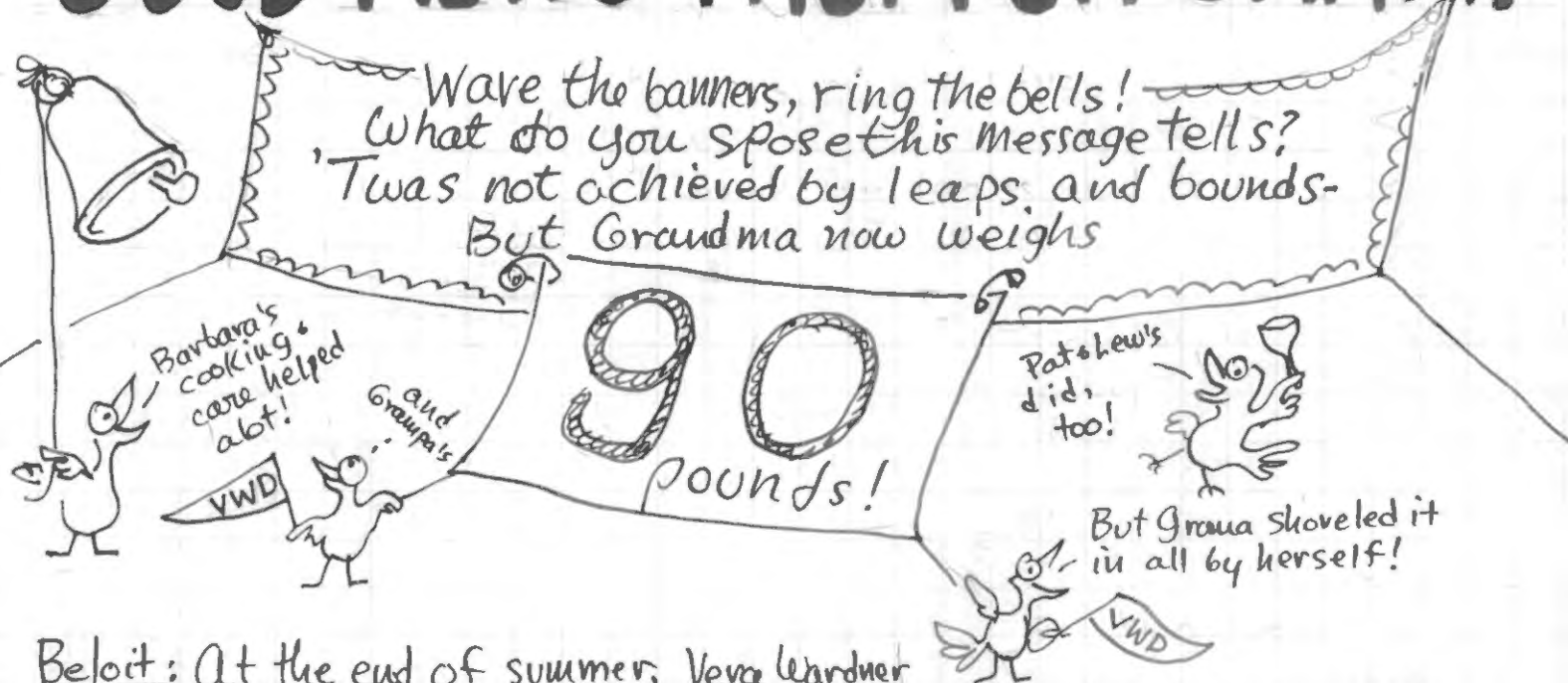
THE EMPTY NEST NEWSLETTER

VOL 2-NO 1- SEPT-EARLY OCT-'83

"If at first you fricasee, Fry, fry a hen."



GOOD NEWS FROM GR-GRAM!



Beloit: At the end of summer, Vera Wardner Dougan weighed in at 90 pounds, and is announcing it to the readers of the Empty Nest Newsletter by this original verse. Bravo, Grandma!

EMPTY NEST ONE YEAR OLD THIS MONTH

Spfd. This issue marks the start of a new year for The Empty Nest Newsletter, published out of 816 N. Fifth Street, Springfield, IL 62702 by J.D. Jackson, as time permits. Last year brought 14 issues, many with Sunday supplements, to a mailing list of about 25, some of whom read every issue cover to cover. The editor plans to continue publication during 83-84. Any subscribers who know others who ought to be receiving ENNL please let the ed. know. Conversely, any who wish to be removed from the mailing list, also let her know. Each copy costs a nickle a side to Xerox, plus 20¢ to 40¢ postage making ENNL not an inexpensive operation. Costs have been sustained by the editor, with help from some subscribers. Help is welcomed, but not solicited. (Occasional issues have been run off in the middle of the night by friends with access to company Xeroxes, so not all issues have cost 5¢ a page.) The editor welcomes all news items. She would like to make this not so much a one-person affair, also to spread the offence (see next column.) To quote Ellie Jackson, "Mum, you offend everybody except yourself."

MTJ SELLS PAINTING

Champaign Megan T. Jackson, art major at the U. of Ill., sold a painting in late spring to Ms. Carol Dell. This sale marks Ms. Jackson's first major purchase. The oil painting is of a young woman lying on a bed, her arms across her face. The hands and arms show intense strength, and while there is obvious pain, thru the open windows the sky is blue and leaves green, giving the viewer a sense of joy & hope. Said owner Dell in an exclusive phone interview to the ENNL on Oct. 4, "I keep seeing new things, and that's the way it's always [cont on page 2]

"Something to OFFEND Everybody"

was the promise of the first masthead of The Empty Nest Newsletter. At the start of our second year of publication is a good time to take stock and see how well we have lived up to our first editorial promise. We know for a fact that we have offended 14% of our readers. This averages one per issue. But with 25 copies going out, and with (perhaps) multiple readership, we suspect this is not a good enough record. But have we heard from all we have offended? Please take a moment to fill out the form below so that we may do better in the future. Your response will also help us to aim direct offence, rather than the randomness of much of the first year's lobs. Thanks!

☐ Yes, I have been offended. (Mark degree on scale:)

Enraged Angered Miffed

☐ No, I have not yet been offended.

Name: _____

*Including dogs.

"ALMOST A GRANDMA" TRAVELS TO MISSISSIPPI

Jackson, Miss. Pat Dalvit has recently been the recipient of the "Almost a Grandma" sweatshirt, originally given by Barbara & Craig Dougan to J.D.J., when Cressida was on the way. It then went to Audrey Moore, who wore it till Justin Lee was born. She then passed it on to a friend, and retrieved it when she heard that Pat D. was ready for it. The Dalvits will be grandparents when Jackie Jo & Lee Guthrie produce an offspring, due in late September.

CRESSIDA WALKS!

Reno Cressida Broten has now abandoned all fours, having realized that two are much more efficient for getting where she wants to go. She actually started walking at the lake, and took 8 or 9 steps to her Auntie Megan on her last day there. However she didn't develop confidence in this mode of transportation until she returned to Reno.

BONNIE EXPECTING

Portland, Ore. Bart & Bonnie Dougan are expecting some time in 1984. Pat, as soon as you're a grandma, send the "Almost a Grandma" sweatshirt to Barbara!

TOM TIT ENGAGED

Butte Tom Schmidt, youngest son of Joan & Karl Schmidt has given (or is about to give) a ring to Tracy Thornton. Tracy is the mother of a 4 (or 5) year old son, Rory. Tom & Tracy are planning a January wedding.

AMBER BOTTLES TURN TO GOLD

Beloit. Last year, in the "Elegant Elephants" booth of the Beloit/Janesville Symphony Guild's Holiday Walk, 19 Dougan amber bottles were sold at \$7.50 each. VWD & RAD are planning to take down another case to the next fundraiser. Lest any of us are thinking of going into business, RAD warns that to keep the price up, we mustn't glut the market. (Basic economics.) Beloit Daily News ad never run, back in the 60's, written by RAD: "Integration is here to stay-- Amber bottle leads the way!"

FEARS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

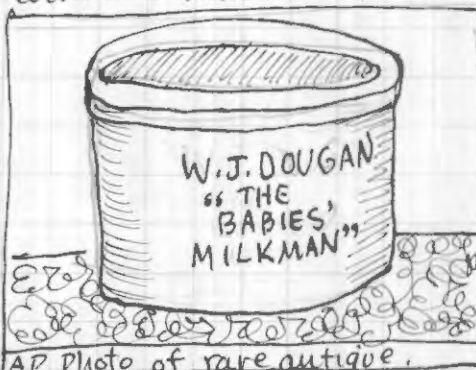
Spfd. The Ed. of the ENNH, who of recent years has been unable to retain much in her head (one reason she writes everything down) is fearful of early senility. Dr. R.C. Dougan says (& she hears Dr. Leroy Wardner has said it too) "If you're able to worry that you have it, you haven't got it."

"WARDNER WORDS" TO CONTINUE

Hartford, Conn. Cousin LeRoy Wardner, gynecologist in Hartford, Conn., will play host soon to a new Wardner, i.e., one that has not known about all of us. Jon Wardner, a med student at Cornell, while looking through old year books, spotted Dr. LeRoy, and wrote to him. Now he is fired up to pursue the Wardner genealogy, continue the newsletter, etc etc. Hurrah for new blood! You will all be interested to hear that Jon is "from Anyone who has Wardner news, historical or current, is asked to send it pronto. Great Grandma will forward. The ENNH Ed. plans to send this issue to LeRoy, with all Wardners circled.

LOIS LISTS TO LEFT

Winchester, IL. Auntie Lois Coultas says she's "pretty well for 91," but is having her troubles. She finds difficulty walking, finds she goes off sideways. Makes a problem when she is out on the sidewalk she is, still living alone, and doesn't want anyone to come stay with her. Bravo & Courage, Auntie L.!



AP Photo of rare antique.

PURCHASES VALUABLE TUB

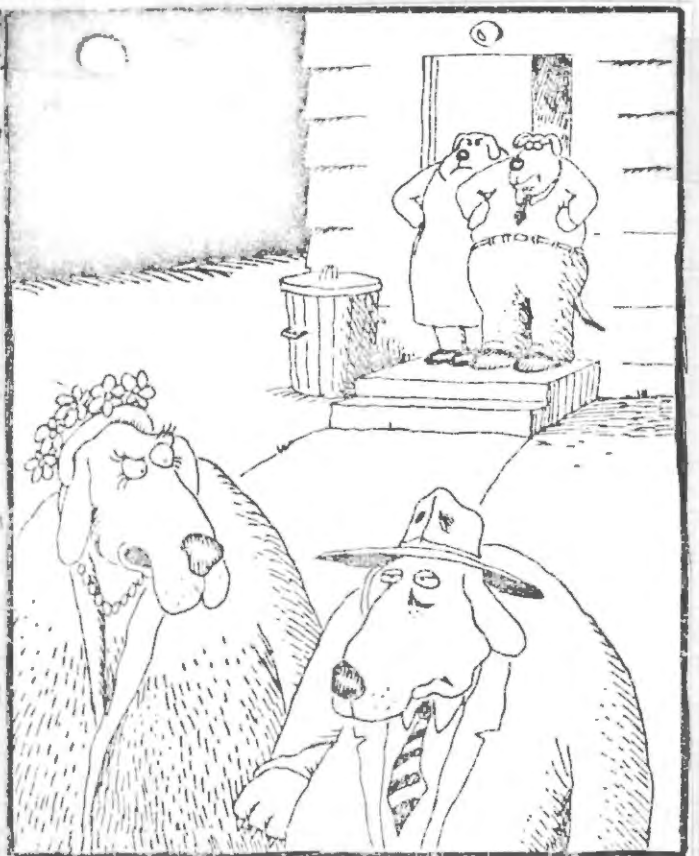
Madison Jo Dougan Schmidt went to a local auction and to her surprise found a Gr-Grampa Dougan butter tub (no doubt from the stack that disappeared from the basement of the Big House) on the block. After lively bidding, Jojo managed to buy the tub for \$24. "I didn't want any one else to have it," Confessed Schmidt. The tub is a greyish white stoneware, with blue lettering.

Has Big Tongue

Beloit. Grama (v.w.d.), every so often dredges something up out of her prodigious memory that none of us has hear before. One of the latest: In third grade little Vera was sent to the principal's office. She was v. scared. Said the principal, "Vera, what did you do?" Responded Vera, "I talked." Principal: "How could such a little girl have such a big tongue?" (And R.A.D. will say we all inherited it: You are familiar with his remarks about when Wardners get on the long-distance telephone!)

THE JOY of GENEALOG. RESEARCH

Beloit. VWD has found a letter where Morton Smith Wardner came back from a trip west with a lady friend, and that was the end of him with the Summervilles. (This item not to go in Words, LeRoy!)



"One of the nicest evenings I've ever spent at the Wilson's... and then you had to go and do that on the rug!"

Bits 'O News(Old+New) MAKES HANGING

Spfld. The ENNL Ed. has finally got around to reading Young'un by Herbert Best, a gift from Skip Broten several years ago. Says Jackson with enthusiasm, "It's a great book!"

Hinesburg Pond. There was a festive gathering at Rockham college this August to celebrate Don & Demi McGuire's 25th wedding anniversary. Among those present were Fred and Excell Kullburg, parents of Don McGuire. A reception for many was followed by a sit-down dinner for 14 or so, complete w/ many toasts. Bravo D & D, & here's to many more!

Spfld. Nancy Ranyard & Nancy Hunt will travel to Mpls. on Oct. 1 & visit Damaris Jackson & Suzi Mudge. They will carry back the hand made boots Ms Mudge left in Vermont **Hinesburg Pond.** Among welcome guests at Mole End this past summer were Gib & Judy Hocking, E. Laursing, Mich.

Spfld. JDT, dangled by the 20 Barnum & Bailey elephants, has visited their tent at 9th & Adams 4 times in 2 days. The most haunting was at 8PM when they all came walking up the street in the dark, holding tails & each in its sequined & sparkling & tassled robe. Pure magic, but sort of sad magic. Camels & comedians too.

Minneapolis and Hinesburg Pond Damaris Jackson, quiet maker of the artistic variety, was commissioned by the Walsh daughters to make a wall hanging for Chad & Eva's 45th wedding anniversary. Jackson had previously made a quilt illustrating one of Chad's love poems.

Now, by the way, is the time to order hot pads, hangings, quilts, etc. from Ms. Jackson for Christmas giving. Write to her at 3608 Clinton Ave S., Mpls. MN 55409, or call 612-823-6790. This is an unsolicited ad!

NOW EMPLOYED

Spfld. Ellie Jackson has succeeded in finding 2 part time jobs for her work term at home. She is a sales clerk in Scully & Scully, a new posh shop in new downtown Mall, Vinegar Hill. She is also a lifeguard & swim open instructor at the YWCA. Bolly for Ellie!

SAVES LIT PROGRAM **Spfld.** JDT's dean has informed her that her heavy enrollments have saved the lit program this fall.

MONEY COMES THRU **Spfld.** The state budget has allowed SSU promotions to be accompanied by raises!



Ms. Muffet leaping for jump food.

ACCOMPLISHES TRICK

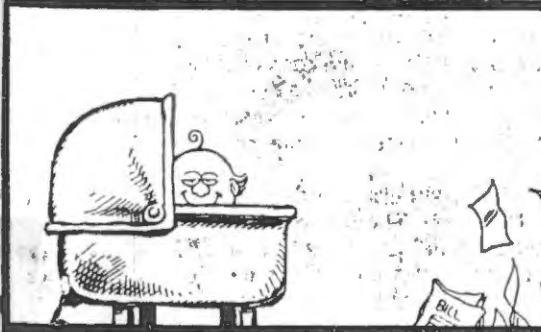
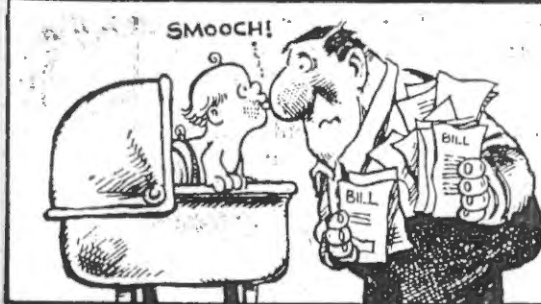
Hinesburg Pond. Through diligent effort throughout the summer, Ms. Mary Muffet has learned to jump through a hoop. She is able to attain remarkable heights, and shows enviable form. She generously performs on all occasions in return for jump treats. When told that Ms. Muffet could jump through a hoop, R.A. Dougan responded, "All of her?"

Hinesburg Pond. Erin Hamblin age 4 has learned to swim this summer.

Reno While Skip Broten was visiting at the lake, his beloved and beautiful collie dog, Maybe, died. At first he thought it might be poisoning, as neighborhood dogs had recently been poisoned, but an autopsy revealed it was probably old age. Two mourn with Skip, Gill & Cressida in their loss. The Broten-Jacksons have not gotten another dog. However they have become the owners of a small black kitten, Presto. Cressida & Presto are buddies.



LOOK AT THESE BILLS, YOUNG LADY— STUDIES SHOW IT COSTS \$134,000 TO RAISE A CHILD NOWADAYS.....\$36,000 FOR FOOD! \$12,000 FOR CLOTHING! \$6,000 FOR MEDICAL! ETC. ETC. ETC.!!! WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?



I GUESS SOMETIMES YOU JUST HAVE TO PUT THESE THINGS INTO PERSPECTIVE....

BIRTH DAYS

Oct. 9:
Skip Broten
Oct. 17:
Betsy Schmidt
Oct 20:
Stephanie McPhillips
Oct 26:
Jeremy Schmidt
Nov 6:
Ellie Jackson
Nov. 9:
Rita Bresnahan
Oct 9:
Skip & Gill's wedding anniversary

Sofd. It's too bad (understatement) the highways aren't safe for women, but then they're not safe for anybody. One of my teacher friends this summer had a son murdered when he pulled over to catch a nap at a rest stop near Joliet. This hazard isn't mentioned below, but NEVER rest in a rest stop -- or even stop at one esp at night -- unless there are a good no. of cars! ... I send all these because I was stranded on the highway at night in Vermont, & IT WAS SCARY. You are truly a sitting duck. Also not told here: If a car bumps you, DON'T get out to assess damage, exchange ins. co's, etc. Keep driving to a lighted, populated area. I keep reading abt rapes & violence that start with a car side-swiping or ramming, on a dark street or road.

Detective offers key to safety for women who drive alone

by Judy Klemesrud
N.Y. Times News Service

NEW YORK — Lucille Burrascano was driving to her summer house in Montauk, N.Y., around 2 a.m. one summer night when a man in a car pulled up alongside her. He sounded his horn and motioned for her to pull over.

Miss Burrascano, then a secretary for a Manhattan insurance company, accelerated her car, and the man pursued her. Several times he tried to force her car off the road. Miss Burrascano floored the gas pedal, and at one point accelerated her car to 100 miles an hour.

"In no way did I think that guy was asking for the time of day or a cup of coffee," she said recently.

The drama ended safely when Miss Burrascano sped into the traffic circle at Riverhead, N.Y., and her pursuer gave up the chase.

Today, Miss Burrascano is a detective with the crime-prevention section of the New York City Police Department. A frequent lecturer on personal safety in automobiles, she is one of a growing number of experts being sought out these days for the advice they can give women who drive alone.

"One of the most important things is proper maintenance of your car, to avoid routine breakdowns and so you won't have to worry about the engine conking out if you're in a chase," Detective Burrascano said.

She also advised women who drive alone to do the following:

- Lock all car doors and roll up the windows.

Tips for driving alone

▲ from page 17

- Check the back seat before entering the car.

- Sound the horn in potentially dangerous situations.

- Carry a tire iron under the front seat for protection.

- Never pick up hitchhikers.

- Keep the phone numbers of 24-hour tow and repair services in the car.

- Never stop if someone tries to flag you down in what appears to be an emergency. "Drive on to the nearest telephone and call the police," Detective Burrascano said. "Never jeopardize yourself by stopping."

Patrolman Gary Adams of the Crime Prevention Office of the Morris Township (N.J.) Police Department, said that if a woman's car becomes disabled, she should lock herself in it and turn on the four-way flasher until the police arrive.

Several safety experts recommended, with reservations, the use of citizens' band radios to call for help in case a car breaks down on the road. "Anybody can have a C.B. radio," cautioned Sgt. Raymond G. Dutcher of the traffic section of New York State Police headquarters in Albany. "You never know who might answer your call for help."

Detective Burrascano advised that a woman who uses a citizens' band radio to call for help should get out of her car only for a uniformed police officer. If anyone else answers her call, the detective said, the woman should stay inside her locked car and ask the person to notify the police.

Bob Lavner, a spokesman for the Automobile Club of New York, said he thought female drivers were the most vulnerable whenever they

were entering or leaving their cars. He advises them always to park in a central, well-lit place, ideally a garage or parking area with attendants on the premises.

"Don't be a key-groper," he warned. "Those few minutes of searching for your keys can be risky ones. Always have your keys out in advance."

In case of a flat tire, Sergeant Dutcher recommends that a woman drive on it at a slow speed to the nearest service station or public place, "even though she might ruin the tire."

Several experts said that women who are walking to their cars should change their course of direction and walk toward a public area if they notice someone acting suspiciously near their car.

For safety reasons, most of the experts were reluctant to recommend that women use

weapons to protect themselves in an abduction attempt. But they did say that some everyday items that could be used as weapons included flashlights, rat-tailed combs, pens, keys and screwdrivers.

Susan Murdock, a karate expert who gives lessons in Manhattan, stressed that women should always check the back seats of their cars even if their doors are locked, because it is easy for would-be assailants to jimmy the locks.

She told of a woman in Boston who recently drove her car into a gas station and was puzzled when the attendant asked her to come into the station to sign the credit card slip. Inside, the attendant told her a man was hiding in the back seat of her car. The intruder fled as the two were talking.

DEAR ABBY: A woman signed "Sitting Duck" asked what to do should her car break down while she's alone late at night in the middle of nowhere. You told her if she had a CB radio she could call for help and thereby be a "lucky duck."

Abby, if this stranded lady called for help on her "CB" giving her exact location, she would be advertising to the world that she was alone and helpless!

Instead of the polite officer, highway patrol person or good samaritan she hopes will come to her aid, a "bad guy" could pick up her damsel-in-distress signal and do her harm before help arrived. Then she'd be a "dead duck." — CAUTIOUS IN COLORADO

DEAR CAUTIOUS: Thanks for the warning. Many others wrote to say the same. Read on for another helpful item on the subject:

DEAR ABBY: Thanks for that column telling women what to do if they have car trouble while they're alone at night. You said, "Turn your emergency blinkers on, or lift the hood, to let passers-by know you have car trouble, then sit in your car with your windows rolled up and wait for help."

Abby, I wouldn't recommend getting out of the car even to lift the hood. I bought an inexpensive reflective banner with large red letters bearing the message: "Please Call Police." It should be placed on the inside of the back car window so the driver does not have to get out of the car. It also discourages would-be robbers or rapists from attacking because they might assume the police are already on their way!

The 3-foot reusable plastic banner folds up to glove-compartment size. To obtain one, call your local rape crisis center or hotline and ask if the organization has the banners for sale. If it does not, you can obtain a banner by sending a \$4 tax-deductible donation to: The Los Angeles Rape and Battering Hotline, 543 North Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90036.

Please enclose a long, stamped (37 cents), self-addressed envelope with your \$4 check or money order. All proceeds benefit the organization's 24-hour rape crisis and battering hotline. —GLAD I HAVE ONE