

Golden Memories II

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United Presbyterian Church are pleased to take
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Golden Agers of the Church and Hickory Community.**

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The members of the Fireside Club of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church are pleased to take this means of recognizing and honoring the Golden Agers of the Church and of the Hickory Community. This is the second time within recent years that similar honors have been extended to members of this venerable group of people in our Church and Community.

On October 28, 1973, those twenty-five members of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church who were then past eighty years of age were honored in the publication of the booklet: Golden Memories. This group included the following people:

William K. Bedillion	Miss Florence Miller
J. Alvan and Anna Bell	Thomas L. McCarrell
Frank Bowers	James A. McGugin
Elva White Carter	C. Hayes Pease
J. Ard and Gladys M. Cowden	Ralph B. Retzer
Carrie Jeanette Ayers Cummins	Walter S. Scott
Edna Phillips Foster	Helen E. Scouvar
Otto Irons Kraeer	Edna L. G. Shillito
Edna Giffen Magee	William R. Simpson
Alice Caldwell Marquis	Jane M. Smith
Edward Parkinson and Herminia S. Miller	Goldie Lyon Swihart

Since the date of that Recognition Service, the following of this group have been called home:

William K. Bedillion on August 6, 1974
Anna M. Bell on April 27, 1975
J. Ard Cowden on March 20, 1974
E. Parkinson Miller on April 9, 1974
Ralph B. Retzer on April 11, 1974
William R. Simpson on November 19, 1973

On the following pages will be found the names of those, now past 75 years of age, who are being recognized and honored in this present service on June 27, 1975.

No man is born into the world whose work
Is not born with him. There is always work
And tools to work withal, for those who will;
And blessed are the horny hands of toil.

James Russell Lowell

ELDEN N. AHRNS

and

IDA CULLEY AHRNS

Elden, you were born on May 15, 1894, one of four children born to Henry C. and Elizabeth Carl Ahrns of Mt. Pleasant Township. You had two brothers and one sister. Your family was one who earned their living by farming, and at an early age, you became interested in that occupation and followed it for most of your working years. You received your education in the schools of Mt. Pleasant Township. After semi-retirement from the farm, you rendered valuable service for several years as custodian of the Mt. Prospect Cemetery.

Ida, you were born at Bavington, Penna. on January 1, 1897 to Thomas M. and Martha Stevens Culley. You had two brothers, both of whom are now deceased. You received your education at the schools in the Bavington area, and your family moved into Mt. Pleasant Township, where they were farmers.

As young people in the Hickory Community, you two met and after a courtship, you were married at Hickory on May 9, 1917, the ceremony performed by the Rev. Charles Stundkard of the Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church. You went to house-keeping in the house where you are now living. To your union three children were born, and of these one son is now deceased. Your family circle is made more complete with seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. You observed the 58th Anniversary of your marriage on May 9, 1975.

For many years you were faithful members of the Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church, in which Elden served as ruling elder and trustee and where Ida was a member of the Women's Missionary Society. Now you are members and faithful attenders of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church, and members of the Fireside Club.

You have both worked hard during your active lives, and have served your God and Country well, and we deeply respect you for that. We now are pleased to extend to both of you our warmest greetings and the right hand of fellowship and we wish for both of you many more years of usefulness in our Church and Community.

The Fireside Club

EVA ANNA McCLOSKEY BEDILLION

You were born in McKeesport Penna. on June 8, 1895, one of twelve children of Eva Grace Giles McCloskey and Edward John McCloskey. With your parents, you moved to Washington, Penna. about 1904.

You joined the fellowship of the Second Christian Church in Washington when still a young girl. While a member of this Church, you were a teacher in the Sunday School and were involved in other church activities, particularly in the choir. It was while you were still a member here that you were introduced to Bill Bedillion by a Mr. Bluebaugh who told you that he was bringing a friend and neighbor to church and that he wanted you to meet him. In this way, your courtship was begun, and it resulted in your marriage to Bill on October 9, 1920, when the ceremony was performed in Wheeling, W. Va. by the Rev. Mr. Fields.

Since you love to sing, it seems that you have been singing all your life. You will remember many of the solos which you sang in church, or at weddings or funerals, and the duets which you sang with your sister, Josephine. And don't forget the mixed quartette with Josephine, Gleason Knestrick and Bert Standiford, or your duets with Betz or Doc while you were still a member of the choir at the old Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church for over 25 years. Apparently, Mrs. Richardson must have been a fine vocal teacher.

Your family consists of two daughters and two sons: Ruth, wife of Ralph Diaz, Wilma, wife of James Nunn, Glenn who is married to Ruth Ann Wallace, and Warren, married to Donna Ranegar. The family group includes, too, eleven grand-children, seven great-grandchildren and four great-grandchildren who are deceased. The Fiftieth Anniversary of your marriage was observed on October 7, 1970 with your family and friends in the Fellowship Hall of the Mt. Prospect Church.

You have always showed your love for others by doing many fine things for people, and we salute you for your good works in the Church and Community over these many years of your useful life. May you have many more years of usefulness!

The Firseide Club

EDITH DAVIDSON BRIGGS

You were born on June 1, 1894 to Hampton and Lee Caldwell Davidson. Your childhood years were spent on your Father's farm (now owned by Antonio, Piacenza) along with your four sisters and two brothers. Early school days were spent at the Fort Donaldson one-room school near your home, and you graduated from the Hopewell Township High School at Buffalo Village. After attending the Normal School in Canonsburg, you taught school for several years at the Cedar Grove School in Cross Creek Township and then at the Fort Donaldson School.

On March 4, 1920, you were united in marriage with Griffith Stewart Briggs. Your marriage was blessed with two daughters, Josephine and Beryl, and five sons, Robert, Roy, Arley, Kay and Ross. All of your children are married and live in or not far from the Hickory area.

In early life, you joined the fellowship of the Mt. Prospect Presbyterian Church and you now continue as a member of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church. Two of your sons and their families also belong to this Church. You have always had a keen interest in your home Church and in its activities, and now that you are unable to attend worship services, you keep up with the activities of the congregation through your contacts with your sons and their families.

Throughout your life, you have loved music. You are blessed in having a good alto voice and you sang in the choir of the Church in your younger days. You were a member of the Worthwhile Bible Class and the Womens' Association, attending their classes and meetings as you were able to do so. You also were an active member of the Mt. Pleasant Society of Farm Women.

Your husband was employed as a driller in the oil fields for many years, which required him to be away from home all week, returning on week-ends. Those occasions when he was at home were busy ones for you and the family. Griffith's years of retirement were short and life was saddened for you and the family when he died on August 13, 1963 after forty-four years of marriage.

One of your hobbies in life has been crocheting. Many friends and members of your family prize afghans that are the result of your busy crochet hook.

Nineteen grandchildren and two great/grandchildren provide a continuing interest in your family. Although your health has not been good in recent years, it is our hope that your interest in your family, your Church and your Community may continue, and we send all good wishes for the years ahead.

The Fireside Club

JOHN McWILLIAMS CALDWELL

and HELEN STEWART CALDWELL

John, you were born in Cross Creek Township, near West Middletown on November 13, 1898 to Thomas and Margaret Knox Caldwell. You grew up on your parents' farm, and there learned the duties of a farm boy. With your brother, William, and your sister, Myrtle, you attended the Willow Valley one-room school in Cross Creek Township, and then you took your High School course at Hickory. You attended Bethany College and the extension courses of the University of Pittsburgh, preparing yourself for teaching school.

While attending Hickory High School, you became acquainted with Helen Stewart, who on June 14, 1922 became your wife. Your career as a teacher was spent in the schools of Cross Creek, Jefferson and Independence Townships and in the Avella Joint Schools, retiring from the latter in 1933 after 39 years of service. For many years you coached the Girls' Basketball Teams at the Independence Township High School, and your teams were winners.

Helen, the home of James C. and Margaret Ray Stewart of Woodrow hailed your arrival on July 11, 1898. You were one of three children, since you had a brother, Alvin R. Stewart, now deceased, and a sister, now Mrs. Wilhelmina Carlisle. You attended the Bushy Rock School in Cross Creek Township and went on to Hickory High School, where you met your future husband, John.

Before your marriage, you too taught school in the Avella area, but since June 14, 1922 you have been a wife and home-maker, first in your home on Avella Heights, and later on the farm in the Hickory Community, where you now reside. Six children came to brighten your home, they being three sons: Donald, John T. ("Jack"), and Gerald, and three daughters: Marjorie Curran, Shirley Fryer and Barbara Fasnacht. Now nineteen grandchildren make your family circle more complete.

Since John's retirement from the duties of the school-room, you folks have given your full attention to the operation of your farm, and to the care and maintenance of your home, one of the finest and most attractive in the Hickory Community.

Many more years of happiness and usefulness in your Home and in the Community is the wish of your many friends in the Church and in the

Fireside Club

HAZEL B. JOLLEY CALDWELL

You were born in Hopewell Township on August 11, 1894 to Ebenezer and Nancy Bartilson Jolley. You lived on the farm where you were born until your parents retired and moved to Claysville where they both died in 1947.

After receiving your education in the public schools of Hopewell Township, you prepared for teaching and your career in that profession began in the Cross Creek Township School District, where you taught in a one-room rural school. Subsequent teaching was done in Independence Township, Hopewell Township and in the Claysville Borough Schools. You retired from the Avella School District in 1960 after a teaching career of forty-two years.

On July 17, 1943, you were married to William M. Caldwell and you came to live on the Caldwell Farm in Cross Creek Township, and that was your home until that farm was taken over by Washington County for the construction of the proposed Cross Creek Lake. You then moved to Hickory in 1966 to your present home where your husband's death occurred on January 15, 1970.

In addition to your devotion to your life work of working with growing children, you have always taken a deep interest in other things which grow, on the farm and in the garden. This interest has permitted you to maintain a youthful outlook on life, as well as contributing to your own well-being. Your love for flowers and other things of beauty has continued throughout your life.

You are a faithful member of the Grove United Presbyterian Church, where you attend regularly and where you take an active part in the affairs of the congregation. You have been a member of Cross Creek Grange No. 954 since you became a resident of Cross Creek Township. Since coming to Hickory you have been an active member of the Mt. Pleasant Society of Farm Women. You enjoy visits from your many friends, and you enjoy visiting them, too.

Best Wishes for many more years of usefulness and for a continuing of your varied interests are extended to you by

The Fireside Club

W. EVERETT CARTER

You were born on a farm in Mt. Pleasant Township on May 8, 1897 to W. Vance and Sadie Williamson Carter. Your childhood was a busy and active one for you had two brothers and seven sisters. You were educated in a one room school near Primrose. Your Father was a farmer who rented various farms before buying the farm that is now owned by the Stritzinger Family in Cross Creek Township. Life was very different then from what it is now, for most of the food which the family ate was produced on the farm, and your clothing was home-produced, too.

Necessities of life, not grown on the farm, were bought at the nearest general store. That nearest store for your family was McGugin's at Woodrow. The word "store" doesn't completely describe the business, for it was a gathering place for the people of the neighborhood to exchange news, discuss politics, both local and national, and for you, these trips to the store led to romance.

Elva White who lived nearby was a clerk in Mr. McGugin's store. It so developed that trips to the store were not always for home needs, but on many an occasion you went there for the sole purpose of seeing Elva. This mutual interest culminated in your marriage on November 24, 1915, nearly sixty years ago. On that happy day, you and Elva boarded the train for Pittsburgh and there the marriage ceremony was performed.

You then took up farming on your own, renting various farms throughout the district. A son, Eugene, and a daughter, Ethel, came on to the scene to brighten your home. After moving from farm to farm, Elva counts the moves to be around eighteen. After so many years, you gave up farming, and moved to Woodrow where you bought Elva's old home, re-modeled it and it has been your home since 1935.

Before your retirement, you had employment at the McDonald Ice Plant, on the State Highway crews, and later at the Mt. Prospect Cemetery.

Early in life, you joined the fellowship of the Cross Creek Presbyterian Church, and after locating at Woodrow, you and Elva transferred your membership to the Mt. Prospect Presbyterian Church, now the Hickory United Presbyterian Church.

All Good Wishes are sent to you on this occasion by

The Fireside Club

Since the above sketch was compiled, death has taken from our midst, our friend and neighbor, William Everett Carter. We take this means of extending to his widow and to the family our sincere condolences on this sad event. The Fireside Club

WALTER E. COOPER

and

ELSIE McCOWAN COOPER

Walter E. Cooper born July 22, 1896 and Elsie McCowan, born June 1, 1900, were united in marriage 55 years ago, on July 8, 1920. Walter served in the Marines during World War I, and as a result of that service, he holds membership in the American Legion Post at Imperial, Pa. where he is one of only three surviving members of the Post. Following the War and his marriage, he became an engineer with the Imperial Natural Gas Company, but he soon gave up that work to engage in farming. During World War II, he was a member of the draft board at Bridgeville, Pa.

Elsie graduated from the Oakdale, Pa. High School and attended Grove City College, intending to become a teacher, but she served only one year in the public schools, since their marriage intervened and "married women did not teach in those days". But she did serve as President of the Parent-Teacher Association.

After marriage, the Coopers lived on a farm at Murdocksville for 5 or 6 years, then on another farm at Sturgeon and they came to their present farm in Mt. Pleasant Township in 1943. In 1924, Mr. Cooper began driving a milk truck hauling milk to the plants in Pittsburgh, and he carried on this business in connection with his farm until just a few years ago. Their farm of over 200 acres is one of the best in the area, having formerly belonged to the James Miller Family, and to Joseph W. Hervey, both of whom were good farmers and who cared well for the soil. Mr. Cooper is a good judge of land and an energetic tiller of the soil, and his farm has produced well.

Now partially retired due to their years and declining health, Walter and Elsie maintain an active interest in the Community and in their family. They were parents of two daughters: Elsie Parker who is deceased, and Mary Louise Brown, who lives nearby and who keeps a watchful eye on her parents. There are three grandchildren.

Walter is a member of Mt. Prospect Cemetery Assn. while Elsie has been a long time member of the Mt. Pleasant Society of Farm Women and they both belong to the Fireside Club whose other members extend all Good wishes to Walter and Elsie.

The Fireside Club

ALICE THELMA RUMBAUGH COWDEN

You were born on Valley Street in McDonald, Penna. on September 19, 1893, one of seven children born to William J. and Martha Edith Ayres Rumbaugh. When you were three years of age, your family moved to the Moorehead Farm, and later to the Espy Farm, both of which they operated before moving back to McDonald.

You received your education at the Cook School in Cecil Township, and at the Southside School. After school, you worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad at their Pittsburg office, as a clerk on car records.

At the age of twenty-one years, you were united in marriage with Joseph Lawrence Cowden, and your married life was spent on the Joseph A. Cowden farm until 1922, when you bought and moved to the Thompson and Scott farms, which your husband operated until his death on August 2, 1954. Lawrence also served as a road supervisor in Mt. Pleasant Township. You continue to live on the farm which has been your home for so many years.

Your family which occupies much of your time consists of four sons and five daughters, and you have twenty-seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren to complete the family roster.

You have been a long-time member of the Mt. Pleasant Farm Women's Club, and of the Mt. Pleasant, now the Hickory United Presbyterian Church. Best Wishes as a Golden Ager are extended to you on this occasion by

The Fireside Club

OLIVE DAVIDSON COWDEN

You were born not far from the Hickory Community on a farm in Hopewell Township, to Henry Lawton and Lavenia Maxwell Davidson on November 13, 1895. You were one of eight children born to that couple.

You spent your early years on the farm, attending the Hopewell Township Schools and then you came to Hickory for your High School course. To show your love and compassion for others, you decided to become a nurse. After training for many months at Washington Hospital, you took a position at the Sanitarium, now the Presbyterian Home, in Washington, as a practical nurse. You continued in this work until your marriage to Kline Cowden on October 15, 1925.

You and Kline, who was better known as "Curley", set up house-keeping in Hickory, and you raised two sons, William, now living near Eldersville, and Dale, whose home is in Mt. Pleasant Township, on Washington, R. D. 1. You also helped raise two grandchildren, and you now have seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

You and Kline were, for many years, faithful members of the Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church, and in that congregation, you were a member of the Women's Missionary Society, and you also taught the fourth and fifth graders in the Sabbath School. It was quite a job to keep those children interested but you managed very well. You belong to the Mt. Pleasant Society of Farm Women and have been active in it for much of your life.

Your many friends sorrowed with you in the sudden death on May 24, 1974 of your beloved husband, and we regret that your own health does not permit you to live alone in your own home. Best Wishes are sent to you by your friends in the Hickory Church to which you now belong and by the

Fireside Club

The Dinsmores are one of the real pioneer families of south-western Pennsylvania. The first of the name to come here was James Dinsmore who was born in Ireland in 1742 and he came to America when he was about twenty years of age. He settled on Miller's Run in what is now South Fayette Township, Allegheny County, Penna in 1772, taking up there a tract of land to which he gave the patent name of "Land of Canaan". He lived on that tract until 1795 when he sold that property and bought Huntingdon Farm in Canton Township in Washington County moving there and making that his home until his death on April 20, 1817.

John Cameron Dinsmore, a great-great-grandson of this old pioneer, was born on the old Dinsmore tract in South Fayette Township on March 27, 1897, the youngest in the family of William McClay and Elizabeth Slater Dinsmore. When he was quite small, the family moved to the former John M. Miller farm just east of Hickory in Mt. Pleasant Township, and that has been John's home since that time. During the life-time of his parents, the family were members of the Miller's Run Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) Church and John's membership remained in that congregation until 1928 when he joined the fellowship of the Mt. Prospect Presbyterian Church, now the Hickory United Presbyterian Church

John graduated from Hickory High School, and then took over the operation of the home farm, which is now being operated by his son, Glenn Dinsmore. While in High School, John became acquainted with, and also fell in love with one of his fellow students, Miss Ethel Lanier. Ethel was born on November 9, 1898 at Mt. Pleasant, West Virginia, her parents being Francis M. and Viola Archer Lanier. With her parents, Ethel was a member of the West Middletown Christian Church. She and John were married at Washington, Pa. on May 20, 1920 by the Rev. Dr. Alexander. In 1928, Ethel joined the Mt. Prospect Church with her husband.

The Dinsmores have been noted as being good farmers and sheep breeders and this tradition John C. and Ethel carried on in the operation of their farm. They owned good land and were always able to get good production from the acres which they tilled.

Into their home were born three children:

Elizabeth Viola (Betty) who is a school nurse and the wife of James Dallmyer.

Elsie Jane, who married Forrest Clarke, and who is now deceased.

William Glenn, who is married to the former Norma Wilkinson.

There are twelve grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

John and Ethel are members of the Fireside Club, of the Adult Bible Classes of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church, and Ethel belongs to the Women's Association of the Church and the Farm Women's Club of Mt. Pleasant Township.

This testimonial conveys to Ethel and John the Best Wishes of

The Fireside Club

JAMES RAYMOND HENDERSON

Raymond Henderson an almost life-long resident of the Hickory Community lived on the farm in Mt. Pleasant Township until the fall of 1971, when he and his wife, Hazel moved to Carbondale, Illinois in order to be nearer to their daughter, Marion Meno and her husband, who were then living at that place. Two years later the Hendersons moved with the Menos, to Hudson, Iowa where they are all still engaged in Raymond's life-long vocation of breeding, showing and selling Dorset Horn Sheep.

Raymond was born into the sheep business and literally grew up with the Dorsetts, since his Father, Joseph B. Henderson was an importer of this breed of sheep as well as of Holstein cattle. Joe Henderson made several trips to England and to the Continent to secure the finest specimens of these two breeds of farm animals, and Raymond has carried on the family tradition. For fifty years, he served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Continental Dorset Club, a national organization, and he gave up that position just recently to be succeeded by his daughter, Marion, who also had been born into the family tradition of raising Dorset sheep.

In June, 1925, Raymond was united in marriage with Hazel Marquis, and they observed their Golden Wedding anniversary in our Church Fellowship Hall on June 8, 1975. Their two daughters, Marjorie Corona and Marion Meno and granddaughter together with the two sons-in-law joined with their friends of the Hickory Community in this observance.

While living in this Community, the Hendersons were members of our Church, and Raymond served a term as elder in the Mt. Prospect Church. Hazel was a member of the Mt. Pleasant Township Society of Farm Women while both of them were members of Cross Creek Village Grange. Both were active in all movements for the welfare of the Church and Community.

All good wishes for many more years together are extended to Raymond and Hazel by their many friends in the Church and Community and by the

JEWEL C. HINERMAN

You were born in Marshall County, West Virginia on September 13, 1895 to Samuel and Nancy Masters Hinerman. Your Family included five brothers and one sister. When you were only eight years old, you lost your Mother by death. You were then living near Cameron, W. Va. One of your recollections at this time was that of your Mother-less Family gathering up all their belongings, loading them on to a wagon, driving the livestock along and walking to a farm near Potomac, W. Va. This was a long over-night trip and a kind family - strangers to your people - gave you travelers your supper and breakfast and a place to sleep. They also cared for your live-stock. In this new home neighborhood, you grew up and received your education in the local schools.

In 1915, you met Ida Pearl Edgar, and following a courtship of about one year, you married her on October 25, 1916. Your first home as a married couple was on the Waddington Farm which is now a part of Oglebay Park in West Virginia. Here you worked on the farm and cared for the riding horses. Here, your first child, your son, Melvin was born. Not long after his birth, you moved your family to the Claysville - West Alexander area where you worked out and farmed, renting a number of different farms within that district. Here, two daughters were added to your Family: Olive and Virginia. In 1933, you moved to the Jones Farm near Pleasant Grove in Donegal Township, and while living there, another son, Robert was born. While on this farm, you enlarged your dairy herd.

By the year 1940, you had decided to buy a farm of your own, and after much looking around, you selected the McCalmont Farm near Hickory. In March of that year, you moved your dairy herd, your machinery and your family to this farm, and thus you fulfilled a life-long desire of both Ida and yourself. Years of hard, but satisfying work followed, but you increased your dairy herd, improved your land and the buildings, and developed a turkey business. For several years, at Thanksgiving time and at Christmas, the Community beat a path to your farm, coming for Holiday birds which you were able to supply and of a high quality.

In 1964 all of your children were married, and you and Ida were enjoying five grandchildren, it seemed time to slow down, and you sold your herd of fine Guernsey cows. The following year, you concluded your turkey business, and your plans were to sell the farm, and to build a house for retirement. Before these plans could be carried out, Ida died in 1966, thus ending a marriage of fifty years.

However, later you did sell the farm and built your house on acreage which you reserved from the farm. Here you now make your home, occupying yourself in the care of a few beef cattle, watching over the fish in your pond, and in gardening. You now have two great-grandsons who provide enjoyment. Cooking is one of your new accomplishments, with pies and fruit cobblers your specialities.

You have served your Church well as a member and as a ruling elder, and in the Hickory United Presbyterian Church your sons and their families also hold membership. Your fellow-members in the Fireside Club wish for you many more years of usefulness in the Hickory Church and Community.

MARY WALTHER HOFFMAN

Mary W. Hoffman was born in Bethel Township, Allegheny County, Penna. on October 29, 1896. Her parents were Christian and Elizabeth Heldman Walther. She had seven brothers and three sisters, of whom only two brothers and one sister are now living.

She was baptized in the Castle Shannon Lutheran Church, and she received her education in the Bethel Township Public Schools, having to walk one mile to the one-room school which she attended. In 1909, she became a member of the Bethel Presbyterian Church, and on the organization of the West Minster Presbyterian Church in 1946, she became a charter member of that congregation. She sang in the choirs of both churches.

The Walther Family had their own quartette and they made several recordings for family memory only. Mrs. Hoffman frequently plays these recordings. Only two members of the quartette are now living.

Mary Walther was married to Grant M. Phillips, and they were the parents of two children, one of whom was Mrs. Helen Grubbs, who lives near her Mother in the Hickory Community. There are four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Mr. Phillips died on February 10, 1951.

On February 12, 1953, Mary was united in marriage with John P. Hoffman and they moved to the farm which they now own, and in that year, Mrs. Hoffman became a member of the Mt. Prospect Presbyterian Church.

The home farm which the Hoffmans occupy is one of the good farms of the Hickory Community, and it has a history of its own. In earlier times it belonged to the McElroy Family who were prominent in the Community for many years. James McElroy built the large farm house here in 1848. Later the farm was the property of Robert G. Maxwell, and it was next sold to Robert S. Wilson whose family occupied it until the Hoffmans purchased it. Best Wishes are extended to the Hoffmans on this occasion by

The Fireside Club

ELLA CLOWES HOPPER

You were born on March 10, 1894, in Knoxville, Penna. the second oldest of five children born to Ellen Parry and Stephen C. Clowes. You have one surviving sister, Mary, who lives in Deltona, Florida.

As a young woman you were employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Your love of music led to your playing for and singing in the choir of the First Methodist Church of Carnegie, Penna. At one time you took music lessons from Miss Eila Perrin who later lived in Hickory and who was known to many of us as a fine musician. As a pupil of hers, you received a fine education in music which has been your hobby and a chief interest for many years.

On October 24, 1923, you were united in marriage with Joseph Caldwell Hopper and you went to live in Bridgeville. Four children were born to you and your husband. During the time when you were raising your family, you were the Director of the choir of the Bethany Presbyterian Church for about ten years. In 1942, you and your family moved to a farm near Hills Station, and in 1956 to the farm near Bulger where you now reside with your daughter, Dorothy and your son, Joseph.

In 1954, after the death of your husband, you did not wish to be idle, so you returned to work. First, you were with the Evangeline Residence for Girls in Pittsburgh, then at the Earl Wheeler School in the William Penn Hotel as a house-mother. From there you went to the Robert Morris Junior College as a dorm mother at the Moon Township Campus. Your work with young people has kept you younger than your years would indicate, and this has given you a youthful outlook on life.

You are fortunate now that you can spend the winter months in Clearwater in Florida. When you return to the farm for the summer months, you can spend your time with your four grandchildren and your daughter, Dorothy and your two sons, Joe and Bob. Your friends suffered with you in the death of your other daughter, Eleanor Bedillion.

When you are in residence in the summer months on the farm, you are faithful in attendance at the Hickory United Presbyterian Church. We are happy that you can enjoy the sunshine of Florida but are glad to welcome you back each year. It is our pleasure to welcome you again and to number you among our Golden Agers. Your fellow church members are proud to know you and we honor you for a full industrious and useful life, and that your years of usefulness may continue is the wish of your friends in

The Fireside Club

GEORGE A. HOOP D. D. S.
"Doc"

You arrived at the Uniontown, Penna. home of Julia Farr and Elmer Ellsworth Hoop on 12 November 1895. Other members of your Family included Valeria (now deceased), Frances (a retired school teacher), Thomas Jefferson (also a D. D. S. and now deceased), E. Paul (another D. D. S.) and Robert (an electrician.)

In the normal course of getting an education, you graduated from Uniontown High School. From there you entered the University of Pittsburgh and graduated from the Dental School there in 1918. You practiced dentistry for several years in the Hickory and Avella areas, as you helped your brothers through school. You then continued your practice at Avella until your retirement some forty-five years later.

On February 24, 1920 you were united in marriage with Margery E. Deffenbaugh. You have perpetuated the Hoop name with four sons: George A. Jr. of Washington, Pa., Willard, now deceased, Wendell living at home, and Darwin, who is maintaining the family tradition in the practice of dentistry at Washington. You also have six grandchildren. In February, 1970 you and Margery observed your Golden Wedding Anniversary and a little over three years later, on the morning of July 18, 1973, Margery suffered a fatal heart attack while getting the morning mail at the Hickory Post Office. Her passing was deeply mourned by her family and many friends.

In addition to your professional life, you have had a life-long interest in the out-of-doors world and have enjoyed hunting and fishing as diversions from the daily "grind" of the dental office.

We are proud to salute you as one of our Golden Agers and extend to you the Best Wishes of

The Fireside Club

JOSEPH BLAIR KEHN

You were born in the year 1896, one of six children of Jacob and Lucy Ickes Kehn, and the place of your birth was Pavia, Penna. You and your brothers, Luke and Lionel, and your sisters, Mary, Elizabeth and Louise attended the Griffith Elementary School and the Altoona High School.

On May 28, 1943 you married Sarah Margaret Whysong, better known to us as Sadie. She was the daughter of Isaac Edward and Mary Idella Whysong and is one of eight children in that family.

You have two children: Joseph B. Jr. and Sherlie K. Roehman, and you have six grandchildren.

You, Joe, have become well known throughout Washington County as a bee-keeper (or is it "bee-master"?) This began with you as a side-line when you were running the service station. You received the 30 year award from the Standard Oil Company given to the oldest privately-owned service station west of the Allegheny Mountains. You were also a baker at one time, but most important to all Hickory residents was your service of adding little by little the necessities of living to the usual gas, oil and air supplied at the service station. The time came when the food items were far more important than these other commodities in your business, so you closed the service station. This "side-line" of yours became the business now known as Grose's Market.

Your life has been one of continual work and progress, and that it may continue to be so is the wish of

The Fireside Club

MARY PRONKO LAURICK

Mary Pronko Laurick was born at Olyphant, Penna. on December 28, 1898, the second oldest child of Michael and Dora Pronko. She attended the grade school at Carnegie with her two brothers and three sisters until hard times made it necessary for her to leave school and help out at home.

On August 5, 1913, she married John Laurick, a naturalized citizen who had come to America at the age of eleven years. They were married in the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church of Carnegie, which Mary attended as a child. Following their marriage, they resided at Jeanette, Penna. where John was employed in the rubber factory.

Their first son, John was born at Jeanette. He and son number two, Michael live in Columbus, Ohio at the present time and are employed by the Penn Central Railroad. A third son, Paul is a self-employed blacksmith in Lexington, Kentucky. William who lives in Hickory is employed by T W A Airlines. George is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, stationed in San Diego, California. James, the youngest, is a Master Technical Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force and he is stationed in San Antonio, Texas.

John and Mary and their six sons operated the Roslyn Farms Riding Academy for 25 years. When the building of the Parkway necessitated taking their stable area and riding paths, they moved to McDonald, Pa. where they operated a dairy farm for eleven years.

When retirement time came, they built a house in Hickory where they resided for 18 years. In 1963, John and Mary celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with an Open House for friends and relatives. Mary has fifteen grandchildren, ranging in age from 3 years to 35 years, and five great-grandchildren.

Mary is a member of the Hickory Farm Women's Club, the Hickory United Presbyterian Church, the Fireside Club, the Women's Association and the Worthwhile Daughters Sunday School Class. She has been a widow for seven years, since her husband, John died on May 10, 1968.

Best Wishes are here sent to Mrs. Laurick by

The Fireside Club

ROBERT NEWKIRK LECKEY

Bob, you were born in Pittsburgh, Penna. on January 30, 1896, a son of Robert A. and Minnie P. Leckey. You moved with your parents to Bradford, Penna in your early life, and your Father died when you were about fifteen years of age.

On April 22, 1920 you were united in marriage at Bradford with Alice Tope, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Tope of Burgettstown. In April 1970 you and Alice observed the Golden Wedding anniversary of your marriage with a buffet dinner, held in Fellowship Hall of Mt. Prospect Church. You were joined in that glad occasion by your daughters, Jean Jordan and Sally Jester, and by your six grandchildren and by many friends.

After your marriage, you were employed for a time as foreman in a glass factory at Jeanette, Penna. and after moving to Hickory, you engaged in work in the oil and gas fields, managing a number of producing wells in the Hickory, Gretna and Burgettstown communities. From this work, you retired in 1973. In June, 1974 you lost your life partner by death, and in this loss you were joined in mourning by your family and your many friends in the Community.

Now that you have much time on your hands for reading and for the care of your home and yard, Best Wishes are sent to you for your health and happiness in the days ahead by

The Fireside Club

VERNER M. MOORE

A life-long resident of the Hickory Community, Verner Moore was born on June 14, 1900, a son of William C. and Emma L. White Moore. He and his wife live in the house in Hickory where he was born and this has always been his home. His Father was a member of the Moore Family who had been long-time residents of Mt. Pleasant Township, and his Mother was a lineal descendant of the Rev. Matthew Henderson, early Seceder minister of Canonsburg, and also of John and Mary Ann Patterson White, pioneers of the Chartiers Valley.

Verner attended the Hickory Public School, and at an early age, he was baptized in and became a member of the Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church now continuing as a member of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church.

Employed as a truck driver for many years by James M. Caldwell and Walter Carlisle, Verner also worked at Flannery Bolt Company and the Universal Cyclops mills in Bridgeville. He was a carpenter by trade in later years and as such was a member of the Journeyman's Carpenters and Joiners of America Local No. 541 from 1946 until his retirement in 1966.

He was married to Alice E. Ayres of Burgettstown and they are the parents of four sons and five daughters, with twenty-seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren completing their family circle.

Verner is interested in old papers and documents pertaining to local history and he treasures old records which are in his possession on the history of the former Mt. Pleasant Church.

Best wishes are extended to Verner on this occasion by

The Fireside Club

CASSIE KELLY MORRISON

Although you now make your home with one of your sisters in Mount Vernon, Ohio, we miss you as a kind friend and a good neighbor in the Hickory Community. We understand that you are enjoying good health and that you are able to do your usual house hold duties.

Born at Midway, Pennsylvania on March 4, 1896, you were one of six children born to your parents, Thomas and Jennie McMillin Kelly. You received your education in the Midway Schools and graduated from High School in the Class of 1914.

On October 14th, 1914, you were united in marriage with John Morrison, who operated a steam customsaw-mill for many years prior to your moving to Hickory. You were a loving and faithful wife, and two daughters were born into your family. One died in infancy, and the other is married to Col. Ray Crowther. He and Mary Edna are parents of two children and they have, also, four grandchildren, thus making you a great-grandmother. You and John observed your Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary in 1964, and John's death occurred in July, 1965.

The many years of your living in Hickory were spent in being a good neighbor and you were a faithful member of the Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church, the Women's Missionary Society and the Hickory Women's Club.

We greet you on this Anniversary occasion as one of our "Golden-Agers" and send you our warmest greetings and we wish you many more years of usefulness and good health.

The Fireside Club

VINCENT M. PAUL and EDNA ALRUTZ PAUL

The date of this Recognition Service, June 27, 1975 marks the 58th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent M. Paul, since they were married on this date in 1917. This couple have been members of the Hickory Community and of our Church here for many years. Vincent was ordained an elder in the Mt. Prospect Church on April 6, 1947 and he served in that office until 1968.

Vincent M. Paul, a son of William M. and Vinta McGugin Paul, was born in Mt. Pleasant Township on January 26, 1894. His boyhood was spent in the Hickory Community and he graduated from Hickory High School, then going on to take further training at Duff's College in Pittsburgh. He soon became interested in the field of wire communications, and for a number of years was employed by Western Union in maintaining their lines west of Pittsburgh. This work led Vince into the telephone field, and he was associated with several local telephone companies in Washington County and in north-eastern Ohio.

Edna Alrutz Paul was born on May 3, 1895 and she, too, has been a life-long resident of the Hickory Community. Mr. and Mrs. Paul are the parents of two daughters: Lorraine Anderson, a teacher in the Brecksville, Ohio Schools, and Olive Dalton, a registered nurse who lives with her family in Madison, New Jersey. There are six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Of the six grandchildren, the Pauls will tell you: "Five of them have M. A. degrees in Education, and the sixth one is working at it."

Vince and Edna are proud of the fact that they built the house in which they live and in which they raised their two daughters. Another joy and hobby is Vincent's telephone museum, which he has had the pleasure of showing to visitors from every state in the Union and from Canada and from some other foreign countries such as India, Italy, and the Netherlands. At the request of the United States government, he displayed his collection at a Washington, D.C. Convention some years ago. Having been a Western Union man, and a railroad and telephone man, his museum has provided him the opportunity of relaxing, while working with these phones of the past. He has 222 antique phones, no two alike, and dating from 1878.

In addition to his interest in his telephone collection, Vince is interested in antique automobiles, and he has done much work along the line of repairing and re-conditioning old cars in his collection. On the occasion of their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, Vince took his "bride" of fifty years to the Church in a restored Model T Ford Car.

Membership in the Tri-State Historical Steam Engine Association has been a source of great pleasure to both Edna and Vince, and they were active for many years in the Annual Steam Engine Show.

Fraternally, Vince belonged to the Order of Knights of Pythias, and he was active in the affairs of the Hickory Lodge for many years.

Edna has been his loving and faithful helpmate, even to cleaning and re-finishing some of the old telephones. Although they have had health problems in recent years, the Pauls have never lost their wonderful sense of humor. It is a pleasure to visit them and to chat with them.

Best Wishes for the future years of this venerable couple are hereby extended by their many friends in

The Fireside Club

ROBERT S. PHILLIPS

To your many friends, you are better known as "Bert". You are a son of Robert and Elizabeth Speer Phillips and you were born in a small log house on McCalmont Hill in Mt. Pleasant Township on January 20, 1899. You are one of six children born into this family, the others being Howard, Clark and David, with sisters Mary and Mabel. From the place of your birth, your family moved to what is now the John M. Caldwell farm where you lived for five years. Their next move was to Woodrow where you lived with the family on the Phillips Farm until your marriage. You attended McCarrell School and one year at the Hickory High School.

Your early years were spent, in the summer-time with the neighborhood boys swimming in the creek on the present C. M. White farm, and during your school-days you contributed your share to the teachers' dilemma, since the boys in school far out-numbered the girls.

On June 16, 1934 you were united in marriage with a former school-mate, Gertrude McGugin. This ceremony was performed at Washington, Iowa, but you did not remain long in that State. You returned to the Hickory-Woodrow area where your entire life has been spent. To your union, one son, James R. Phillips was born, and your family circle has grown to include four grand-daughters all of whom you cherish dearly.

You and Gertrude have been life-long members of the Mt. Prospect Church and now the Hickory United Presbyterian Church.

You began your life's work in the employ of the McGugin Gas Company, working under the direction of Park Miller. This Company later came to be known as Keystone Gas Company. Later, you were employed by the Gulf Refinery at Neville Island, and until your retirement, at the Eliza Metal Company at Bridgeville, Penna.

We take this opportunity to wish for you, your wife and family God's fullest blessings during all the years of your retired life.

The Fireside Club

SAMUEL HUPP RANKIN

The Rankin Family, early settlers here and whose members were once so numerous in the Hickory Community is now represented locally only by the family of the subject of this sketch. Samuel Hupp Rankin was born in Wichita, Kansas where his parents were residing at the time of his birth on April 8, 1894. When he was still a boy, the family returned to Washington County, and Hupp, as he is known to his many friends, has lived here ever since.

His parents were James Vance and Lucy Lee Rankin. His grandparents, James and Martha Stevenson Rankin lived on the farm now owned by Edwin Cowden, and James Rankin operated the Rankin Mill on that farm for many years. Lucy Lee was of the Cross Creek Township family of Lee's.

Hupp engaged in farming with his father for some years after returning from Kansas, but in the 1920's he took up the trade of stone mason and brick laying, working for a time with contractor, Louie Phillips, but later working independently. He erected his present brick home, and also, during his career in this work, he worked on a number of other homes in the Hickory Community.

On April 1, 1940, Hupp was united in marriage with Mary Frye and they are the parents of three children: Samuel, a Navy career man, now stationed at Jacksonville, Florida; Lucy Lee Oiler, now living at Hackettstown, New Jersey, and James of Washington, Penna.

Now retired from the active duties of his life vocation, Hupp keeps busy maintaining his home and caring for his yard and a large garden.

Best Wishes to Hupp and Mary are sent their way by

The Fireside Club

MARGARET STUNKARD RETZER

You were born in New Castle, Penna. on July 19, 1898 to the Rev. Charles and Mary E. Fisher Stunkard. Your early days were spent at Murrysville, Penna. where your Father was the first minister of the United Presbyterian Church there. The next move of your Family was to Pittsburgh where your Father ministered to the Twelfth Allegheny Church for three years. Finally, when you were thirteen your Father moved to the Mt. Pleasant Church of Hickory where he was to remain for more than twenty years. When the family made their next move, you remained in Hickory and it has been your home ever since. During a serious illness of your Mother, you became a second mother to your eight younger brothers and sisters. This "motherly" trait has been characteristic of your life and many besides your own family have benefitted from your help.

Your school days were spent in a building at Hickory which later was to become your home. After graduating from High School in June 1914, you took a teaching course at the University of Pittsburgh and began teaching at the age of eighteen years. Your students included a brother, and they were only a couple of years younger than you were at the time. You were one of the first teachers in the present school building in Hickory. You taught at the Cockins One-room School in Mt. Pleasant Township during the term 1915-16, and the following year this school was closed. In 1948-49, you taught first and second grades in the South-view School.

On November 15, 1916 you were united in marriage with Ralph B. Retzer the ceremony being performed in your own home with your Father officiating. Fifty years later you celebrated your Golden Wedding anniversary with your four daughters, eight grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and a host of friends assisting in the celebration. Your marriage was to last for fifty-seven years until Ralph's death on April 11, 1974.

Since childhood you were a member of the Mt. Pleasant United Presbyterian Church, having been active as a Sunday School teacher and superintendent, and an organizer and first president of the Women's Association. Your activities in the Church have not diminished since the merger of the two churches, and it was your great honor to become one of the first two women elders of the present Church -- ordained in January, 1969.

You have been active, not only in your Church, but in the Community as well which has been made richer for your efforts. You joined the Women's Club of Hickory in 1918 and served as its president in 1945, and you helped to start a Youth Center. As one of the older members of the Canonsburg Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which you joined in 1927, you served that organization as its regent from 1944 to 1947. This gave you an opportunity to spend some time in Washington, D. C., New York City and Philadelphia.

We salute you now as one whose many kind deeds and long service in the Church and Community have been and are an inspiration to others.

Your host of friends in the Church now wish you well, and that wish, too comes from the members of

The Fireside Club

JAMES CLIFFORD ("Pat") RAY

and MARY ESTHER PAUL RAY

"Pat", you were born 1 July, 1897 to John and Maria Henderson Ray, in Mt. Pleasant Township, not far from where you now live. You and your sister, Jennie Marie Holmes were the only children in this family. You attended the Bushy Rock School in Cross Creek Township, and then turned your attention to the business of running a farm.

There was a pretty nice girl down the road a piece, whose name was Mary Esther Paul, and you convinced her that her name should be Ray, so you were married on the 30th day of March, 1922 and settled down to running the farm where you still live. For many years you had a good herd of Holstein cows, running a small dairy (small that is by today's standards). Upon your retirement from the dairy several years ago, you sold the dairy herd, but felt that you had to keep your hand in farming, so you are still running the farm, but with a select herd of Black Angus beef cattle.

Mary Esther, you were born on 27 May, 1898 in the Mount Pleasant Township home of William and Vinta McGugin Paul. At the early age of two or three you moved with your family into the house where you are now living. You were one of a family of six children, including your sister, Ruth, yourself and your four brothers: Vincent, William McGugin, now deceased, Brady, also deceased, and W. McElroy Paul. You attended the Hickory Vocational High School, graduating there in 1919.

You and "Pat" have one daughter, Martha Braddock, and there are also three grandchildren, Karen, Susan and John. In January, 1975 Karen presented you with your first great - granddaughter, Mary Katherine O'Leary. In 1972, you observed the Fiftieth Anniversary of your marriage.

Best Wishes for your future years are hereby extended by

The Fireside Club

MARY BRADY STEWART

Mary Brady Stewart was born in the home of her parents, William and Rebecca Wheeler Brady on Bethany Pike, near Wellsburg, West Virginia on February 25, 1897. She was one of three children born into this home, the others being her twin brother, George Brady, and another brother, Guy Brady. Her brothers are both now deceased.

When Mary was four years old, the family moved into the neighborhood of the Tent United Presbyterian Church, also in Brooke County, and there she attended the Tent School for the first six grades, then going to the Colliers School for the rest of her education. At the Colliers School, she attended a Normal School course, intending to teach, but illness in her family prevented regular teaching duties. However, she did substitute teaching for a time, this being done at the nearby Goodwill School.

On September 28, 1921 she was united in marriage with Paul G. Stewart of Eldersville, and they went to house-keeping in that town, and there they spent the most of their married life. Paul was employed in the oil and gas industry for many years, and for 39 years his work was with the Peoples Natural Gas Company from which he retired in August 1963.

Paul and Mary were the parents of four children: Sons, Robert of Orlando, Fla. James of Hinckley, Ohio, Jay of Cleveland, Ohio and Daughter, Elma Cunningham of Warrendale, Penna. Seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren completed their family circle.

In early life, Mary became a member of the Colliers Christian Church, and in 1937, she joined the Eldersville Methodist Church, where her membership is still held. She and Paul, too, were members of Jefferson Grange 314 at Eldersville. A member of the Order of Eastern Star No. 215 of Burgettstown, Mary served as Worthy Matron in 1941-42.

The Stewarts moved to the Hickory Community in 1971, living here in retirement until Paul's death which occurred, after several weeks illness on February 18, 1975.

Since moving to Hickory, Mary has become an active member of the Mt. Pleasant Society of Farm Women, and she is a member, also, of the Fort Vance Historical Society. Although suffering from impaired eyesight, Mary keeps busy looking after her flowers, and pursuing a long-time hobby of her work of crocheting and knitting. Her nimble fingers have produced many fine pieces of this intricate work.

Best Wishes for the years ahead are hereby given by your friends in

The Fireside Club

MARY DOWNIE WHITE

What a surprise you were when you arrived in Beaver Falls, Penna. on November 8, 1895, not as one child, but as part of a pair. You and your twin brother, John Lincoln, startled your parents, Mattie Vale and Robert Magee Downie, as well as the whole College Hill neighborhood. Your older brothers and sisters were all dis-believing, too -- Vale, now deceased, Anna Jane, also deceased, Regina, a retired M. D., and Rex, a retired draughtsman.

You soon educated the entire family to the fact that the female of the species was NOT THE WEAKER SEX!! and that you could keep up with any of your brothers when it came to baseball, basket-ball and cars. (All of these activities were done wearing your brothers' knickers, much to the chagrin of the "ladies" of the neighborhood, and totally un-heeded by your parents.)

You attended College Hill Grade School and then enrolled in the Geneva Prep. School. From this to Geneva College from which institution you graduated in 1919, following in the foot steps of your Father and of your older brothers and sister. At the age of twelve years, you had lost your Mother in an accident, and in 1918, your twin brother was lost when his ship went down at sea.

Entering the teaching profession, you eventually turned up at the Hickory Vocational High School in 1920, and you taught in that school until 1923. During your early years in Hickory, you formed a Girl Scout Troop, among the first to be organized in western Pennsylvania. You have maintained your interest in scouting and received the Girl Scout Thanks Badge several years ago. Other honors have come to you in recognition of your work in Scouting.

Also, during your teaching in Hickory, you became acquainted with a "local yokel", J. Thompson ("Tom") White, a son of John P. and Zan McCalmont White. You were married to Tom on April 19, 1924 and settled on the farm where you still live. Your family consists of three daughters - Martha Beard, Ruth White and Mary Vale Torrance. All three of these girls followed in your foot-steps, as they attended and graduated from Geneva College, and then entered the teaching profession, as well as continuing your interest and participation in the Girl Scouts.

In the Church and Community, you have been active in the Hickory Women's Club, and with Tom, you became a charter member of the Fireside Club when it was organized in 1938. You were active in the former Mt. Prospect Presbyterian Church, in the Worthwhile Daughters Bible Class, and in the Women's Association, and you continue as a member of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church.

Tom died in April, 1963 and you and your daughter, Ruth have stayed on the home farm, continuing your residence there. You have five living grand-children and two are deceased.

For all of your varied interests in life, and for the fine contributions which you have made to the entire Hickory Community during your years among us, we salute you and extend the Best Wishes of your many friends in

The Fireside Club

ALVIN DINSMORE WHITE

and LAURA AMELIA COOPER WHITE

On November 10, 1894, a small shoot appeared on the family tree of William Graham and Elizabeth Lyle White. This shoot was named Alvin Dinsmore which was the second one on this branch, the first one being a sister, Mary Gertrude, now Mrs. Edward Welch. A third shoot appeared later, another sister named Janet, and she is now Mrs. Janet Phillips. Planted originally in Smith Township, then transplanted to Cross Creek Township, this branch has since run rampant into Mt. Pleasant Township, and from there, only the family knows!

"A. D.", after your early schooling in the Smith Township and Cross Creek Township Schools, you entered Muskingum College. After two and one-half years there, you went into the teaching profession, one in which you performed well and long. While teaching, you attended the University of Pittsburg, finally graduating from there in 1924. You served as teacher and later as supervisor in the Cross Creek, Jefferson and Hopewell Township Schools, and later as Elementary Supervisor in the Avella Joint Schools, retiring in 1959 after forty years of service.

Climbing trees seems to be a hobby with you, especially "family trees". You have worked extensively in the area of genealogy, not only for your own Lyle Clan, but for many others as well. You have received requests from many parts of the country for information on old families in this area. You are also one of the leading historians of this area of Washington County. You have compiled and published a number of books, among them being: The Lyles of Washington County, Penna., The History of the Cross Creek Presbyterian Church, The History of the Cross Creek Graveyard and Cemetery (a re-issue), and the History of the Mount Prospect Graveyard and Cemetery. You have written and had published a number of articles of historic interest in the newspapers of Washington County.

While at Muskingum College, you met a girl by the name of Laura Cooper, a daughter of J. Albert and Annie Swartz Cooper, and from all places, the neighboring town of Hickory. You persuaded her to join you, out on your limb, and you were married on 7 June, 1919. Ten new shoots eventually appeared on your limb, and they were called: A.D., Jr (Jim), Betty, Albert, Mary, Jack, Bob, Marjorie, Peggy, Dick and Willard. The branch has grown some more with 24 shoots of grandchildren, and 4 smaller shoots of great-grandchildren.

Laura, you started out, prepared to teach, and teach you did, for a time in the schools of Mt. Pleasant Township, but more especially in your own private school as a house-wife and a very busy mother. You still found time to be active in the Mt. Pleasant Society of Farm Women, as well as in many church activities. You are still active in the Worthwhile Daughters Sunday School Class, the Women's Association and the Fireside Club, and you and A. D. are charter members of the Fireside Club, as well as long time members of Cross Creek Grange.

You, Laura, were born in Pittsburgh on 13 June 1894, sharing your parents with your sister, Blanche and with two brothers, Marshall and Albert, both now deceased. You attended school in Avalon, and after moving to Hickory you graduated from the Mt. Pleasant Township High School, then attending Muskingum College and graduating in 1915. In 1969, you and A.D. observed the Golden Wedding Anniversary of your marriage, with your whole branch in attendance. You now enjoy traveling and find that the easiest way to keep track of your numerous family, and you find it easier to visit your family than to collect them all in one place for a Family Reunion!

Best Wishes for the future growth of your branch come from

The Fireside Club