

Legion Auxiliary names women of year

Three Oberlin women, Dorothy Machart, Lois Lamb, and Alice Bobbitt, have been named "Women of the Year" of the American Legion Auxiliary.

The auxiliary has honored many women since it was first organized on May 21, 1921, after World War I. First president was Pansy Banchor and charter members were Mertie Wilson, Gertie Wilson, May Wilson, Hazel Bobbitt, Ada Hanson, Mary Griggs, Adah Larrick, Bessie Beardsley, Violet Roach, Maude Benton, Maggie Hanson, Mrs. G. A. Benton, Rosa Lorig, Mrs. Guy Morrish, Mrs. Glen Gierhart, Mary Benton, Mrs. Banchor and Ila Landau.

Mrs. Machart joined the auxiliary in 1950 and has helped with its many projects over the years. Mrs. Lamb joined the Norton auxiliary in 1955, then transferred to Oberlin when she and her husband, Jack, moved to Oberlin in 1958. Mrs. Bobbitt has been a member since 1995.

Among the many projects the auxiliary has done over the years have included the "Gold Star Mothers" Tea; hospital equipment loan program; all night prom and breakfast for juniors and seniors; benefit pancake suppers for scholarships and Girls Staters; Poppy Day; baking cookies and sewing carpet rags for veterans; paying postage to send *The Oberlin Herald* overseas to servicemen during wartime; helping with Memorial Day activities, including placing crosses and wreaths on veterans' graves and assisting at the Memorial Day services; organizing the Junior Auxiliary; operating the Bingo

lunch stand each week; sponsoring Girls Staters; and donating to Special Olympics and the Veterans Gift Shop.

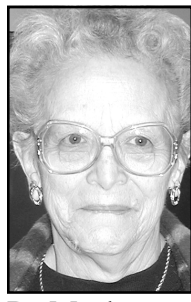
"When we started the hospital loan equipment program, it was first stored in the old high school building," said Mrs. Machart. After the building was razed to provide space for the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center, it was moved to several garages around town.

She also said that her husband, the late Harold Machart, made all of the original white crosses, which are placed on veterans' graves. He also made the first gavel for the unit. It was later replaced with a new one given by Mrs. Lamb, which she said she got by selling a case of candles.

"We have had a lot of good times over the years," said Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Machart, who have both served as president. The all-night prom parties for the high school juniors and seniors were a lot of work, but also a lot of fun. They were instigated by the late Mavis Urban, who was also instrumental in starting "Operation Home Town Paper," when the auxiliary paid the postage for *The Oberlin Herald* to be sent to servicemen, as well as numerous other worthwhile projects.

Mrs. Bobbitt has only been a member for six years, but is presently serving on the executive board. She also helps with pancake feeds, Bingo night on Monday evenings, the poppy project and sorting flags and crosses for Memorial Day, along with other auxiliary projects.

All of the women received a plaque.



D. Machart



Lois Lamb



Alice Bobbitt

Seventh grader wins Oberlin geography bee

Seventh grader Destry Jackson won the school-level National Geographic Bee on Jan. 4 at Decatur Community Junior High and will now take a written test.

Eighth graders Jake Henzel and Zane Pauls finished in second and third place.

Up to 100 of the top scorers on the written test will compete in the Kansas State Geography Bee in April. All state champions will then participate in the national bee in Washington in May.

At the school-level, junior high students answered questions concerning geography. Activities Director Randy Olson was the moderator and geography teacher Marlene Moxter was the judge.

Other junior high students competing in the semi-final round were Rhys Davies, Lance Fortin, Sarah Marcuson, Lora Marietta, Danica May, Joe Mon-

dero, David Morris and Justin Zodrow. Winner of the national geography bee will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship.

"Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek will moderate the national finals on May 23. The program will air on the new National Geographic channel, and afterward on Public Broadcasting stations.

In the meantime, anyone can brush up on geography with GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which poses five new questions a day from previous bees. Questions range from the relatively simple to a stumper such as "Name the ocean current that makes it possible for coral to form as far north as the Bermuda Islands." [answer: Gulf Stream]



Destry Jackson

Teens to explain what they do

Teens for Christ will show people what they are about with a short informational meeting at 7 p.m. Sunday at The Gateway.

Peg Smith, one of the sponsors, said that the teens will do a short program including some of their songs. A few kids will share a paragraph about what the group means to them, Pastor Eric Scott will speak and then there will be an appetizer buffet.

The group meets Sunday evenings in a building in between the American Legion and Ultimate Fertilizer on Rodehaver Avenue. The room is filled with chairs and couches, video games, a large television and other activities that interest teens. At a meeting, they start out with a game, said Ms. Smith, and then move on to prayer time.

The person who is leading the meeting asks those who have someone or something to pray about to come to the front, she said, and they have a chance to share. Then it is time for worship, which is done through song. The teens get into their songs clapping their

hands, singing and even acting out some of the lyrics.

"It is a real positive peer group," said Ms. Smith, "and gives them the strength to stand up for their values and be leaders."

The group has about 40 teens, she said, but anyone can join. The group is non-denominational and meets every Sunday night from 6 to 8 p.m. The group encourages the teens to be active in the church or religion of their choice.

The drug-alcohol free environment provides a space for teens to have some fun and even give back to the area. In the past, members have sponsored "fifth quarters" after home sports games, opening up their building so teens have a place to hang out together. The group recently helped Joe Stanley, owner of Stanley Hardware, move food from his store's food drive to the food bank and have also served food for Cinco de Mayo. They plan to run the concession stand for the Seeds of Hope Telethon on Feb. 3 as well.

Club News

Spring Creek Castings toured

Monday Evening Club toured the Spring Creek Castings operation when they met on Jan. 8. Located at 211 S. Penn, it features a gift shop with paintings of local artist Anna Seeber Shaw and pottery by Catherine Shields of Sutherland, Neb., as well as items produced on site.

Owner Carol Barrett conducted a tour for 16 members and a guest, Jody Wittman. She demonstrated the casting process and showed designs made by area artists which were produced on site. She also explained the production and shipping process.

Members then met at the Diane Frickey home for a business meeting and refreshments with Karen Ben-

nett as assistant hostess. Karen Metcalf presided in the absence of Arian Arnold, and members rejoiced over a good medical report from Mrs. Arnold's husband, Steve, who had received a kidney transplant in Denver.

Officers elected for the 2001-2002 club year are: Judy Shirley, president; Karol Styles, vice president; Bonnie Steele and Judy Ladehoff, secretaries, and Laurie Wasson, treasurer.

The Feb. 12 meeting will be at the home of Sharon Addleman with Kay Moon as co-hostess. The program will be presented by the high school speech students.

Members visit school library

"Women Beware" was the devotional topic given by Shanna Richards, hostess and librarian, when 15 Pi Alpha Club members met at the Oberlin Elementary School library on Jan. 8. Co-hostesses were Pat Wright and Helen Gee and roll call was the memory of a favorite nursery rhyme.

Officers elected for the ensuing two years were: Rosella Meitl, president; Pat Wright, vice president; Mrs. Richards, secretary, and Elaine Bryan, treasurer. Mrs. Meitl won the hostess gift.

Mrs. Richards showed the newest children's books in the library which depicted a wide variety of topics and formats. She concluded with a dramatic reading, "Hoo-way for Wodney Wat," from the book.

Members will bring a brown bag lunch and meet at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 22 at the Good Samaritan Center. They will entertain for the January birthdays of Merle Bishop, Marilyn St. Clair, Dena Gillespie, Florence Jones and Agnes Chambers. A business meeting will follow in the basement.

Widows and Friends meet

Widows and Friends welcomed the New Year with breakfast at Janey's Frontier Restaurant on Jan. 10. Doris Sloan shared New Year's thoughts.

Those attending were: Esther Carlson, Alice Bobbitt, Lois Carlson, Doris Fringer, Eileene Grose, Mildred Holmdahl, Dorothy Jackson, Eula Juenemann, Ruth Laidig, Millie Lippelmann, Dorothy Machart, Joann Neidenthal, Evelyn Olson, Alice Shirley, Doris Sloan, Veanna Orr, Louise Pollnow, Nor-

ma Richards, Bertha Schwisow, Elva Shaughnessy, Lora Zwickle, Vada Shaw, Nadean Stoney, Virginia Sprating and Ruby Wennihan.

The Jan. 24 meeting will be a trip to a quilt show at the Dane Hanson Museum in Logan. Plans are to meet at the United Methodist Church parking at 10:30 a.m. and travel to Norton for lunch before going to Logan. Arrangements for rides or furnishing a car may be made by calling Mrs. Sloan at 475-2445 or Eileene Grose at 475-3660 by Jan. 23.

Guild elects new officers

St. John's Lutheran Women's Missionary League met on Jan. 10 and elected Shirley Shields as president for the coming year. Other officers are: Kelly Shields, vice president; Patty Eckels, secretary, and Dorothy Moore, treasurer.

Karen Waterman presented the program "Sabbath Rest is a Gift From God."

The next meeting will be a congregational dinner on Feb. 18 to honor those over 80 in the church.

Club gives memorial book

Alpha Kappa Club met on Jan. 4 at the home of Mary Francis with eight members present.

A book was given to the Oberlin City Library in memory of Pearl Barton. The club was organized 60 years ago and members have been

involved in many projects over the years.

The next meeting will be held at Janey's Frontier Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 8. A meeting will follow at the home of Fern Jording.

Christmas tree takes first place

Joy Votapka reported that the Zeta Nu Club Christmas tree received first place at Decatur County Museum this year when 13 members of the club met on Jan. 11 with Opal Bryan. Marian Fraker was co-hostess.

Several thank you notes were read, as well as a letter from the Department of Veterans thanking the club for their contribution.

New officers submitted by the nominating committee include: Opal Bryan, president; Norine Schweitzberger, vice president; Mary Waldo, secretary, and Kay Marcuson, treasurer.

The next meeting will include a Valentine exchange at the home of Erlene Schroer on Feb. 8. June Harold will be co-hostess.

Brownies plan family night

By JORDAN DREHER
There were 15 girls present for the Jan. 9 Brownie meeting.

We planned our Family Night to be held Jan. 26. Jori brought beverages and Tena brought snacks.

LaLeche League to meet

LaLeche League of Northwest Kansas will hold an informal series of meetings from 2-4 p.m. at the home of Sharon Shirley, 1820 West 5th St., in Colby on the third Sunday of the month.

Mothers and their nursing babies, fathers, expectant mothers and any women wishing to learn more about

breastfeeding are welcome to attend.

The schedule follows: Jan. 21: Advantages of Breastfeeding; Feb. 18: How To's and the Early Weeks; March 18, Avoiding Difficulties, and April 22, Nutrition and Weaning.

For details or breastfeeding assistance, call (785) 462-7188.



MAIAH CASTLE, daughter of Devan and Sarah Castle of Oberlin, was the first baby of the new year, born at the Gove County Medical Center in Quinter. She arrived on Jan. 2 and has a sister, Rebekah, who is 14 months old.

Quinter's first baby belongs to Oberlin couple

Maiah Castle arrived on Jan. 2, 2001, at the Gove County Medical Center in Quinter as the first baby of the new year. Her parents are Devan and Sarah Castle of Oberlin. She has a 14-month-old sister, Rebekah.

Her father is an environmental scientist with MILCO at McCook and her mother is a licensed practical nurse at the hospital in Quinter.

Grandparents are Bob and Deanna Castle, Oberlin; Linda Teeter, and Larry Teeter, Grinnell. Great-grandparents are Doris Fringer, and John Shirley, Oberlin; Virginia Sanders, Quinter, and Doris Teeter, Grinnell.

As the first baby of the year, she received many gifts from Gove County businesses.

Jazz quartet coming to Gateway

The Doug Talley Quartet will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27, at Morgan Theater at The Gateway, sponsored by the Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission.

Included in the quartet will be Doug Talley, saxophone; Wayne Hawkins, piano; Keith Kavanaugh, drums, and Tim Brewer, brass, who will provide great jazz from Kansas City. The program is also partially funded by the Kansas Arts Commission.

Admission is by season ticket or \$8 for adults and \$4 for students at the door. For details contact Idella Frickey, 475-2473 or Ella Betts, 475-3557.



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