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RWC News, December 1972

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HAPPY HOLID

ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE

VOLUME II, NUMBER 1

DECEMBER, 1972



\$1,000 As a result of the Century Club Campaign, a \$1,000 Memorial Membership has been established. This special membership will purchase 100 additional volumes for the Library. Each volume will be affixed with a simple book plate in memory of whomever the donor wishes. In addition to each book plate, a framed plaque will hang in the Library. Many business concerns and corporations are in a position to contribute in this manner. What finer memorial is there than the commitment to enlarging the range of resources and learn-

ing experiences for young people?

OLD FIRE TRUCKS NEVER DIE . . . Since fall of 1969, the boiler room on the Bristol campus has housed a vintage fire truck labeled, in gold script, "Roger Williams College Fire Department". Once the property of the Town of Bristol, the truck is now owned by the College.

Back in '69, according to Bill Nott, Director of Physical Plant, the College was casting about for a portable pump to offset the low water pressure condition on campus, when a dealer in Maxim fire trucks suggested we buy a used engine -- not your everyday kind of purchase, but a feasible one at the price offered.

It is completely equipped with 600 feet of fire hose, coats, Scott packs, 500 gallons of water, and tanks for fighting chemical and electrical fires as well as grass fires. On two occasions, our Maintenance people, most of whom have had fire-fighting experience, have rushed to the Mt. Hope Bridge when grass fires threatened. The RWC truck is also available for use by the Town.

The engine has entered three Fourth of July parades, usually driven by Head Groundskeeper David Catland. Students are allowed to ride it, and it seems to have a particular appeal to onlookers. Buffi Brito, who has ridden it twice, notes that last year it was aswarm with kids by the end of the parade. Buffi says that riding the truck is "an experience. And by going into the parade, we showed the Town that we cared enough to share an interest of theirs."

Though our truck wasn't used during the October fire in Dorm II, all the Town of Bristol's were. "We had wall-to-wall fire trucks," reports Bill Nott, who, with Lew White and Steve Vosa, were first on the scene. They note with satisfaction that all the dorm's control equipment worked without a hitch.

At a November dinner meeting of the Bristol Rotary Club, Dr. Gauvey announced plans for an on-campus volunteer fire department, which will entail 20 hours of training culminating in certification by the state. (To date, at least one woman has signed up!) We've no statistics, but we're willing to bet that RWC approaches uniqueness among colleges in maintaining its own fire department. "IT POPS, IT GETS BIGGER, IT SHRINKS . . ." These are the answers some Bristol seventh-graders gave to William Mershon's question, "What happens to an airfilled balloon that's weighted and floating over water?" It was all part of Project Ocean Study, a unique program,

initiated by August Botelho of the Guiteras School, which aims to demonstrate the interrelationship of science, social studies, and art through the study of oceanography.

Mr. Mershon is one of the RWC faculty members collaborating with Guiteras School teachers in Project Ocean Study. For his October 5 lecture at the school, he donned a wet suit, lashed a knife to his right leg, clipped a compass and a depth guage to his left wrist, and slung 27 pounds of lead around his waist. These articles, he pointed out, are man's way of adapting to a marine environment -- of being, if you will, a fish. He started by asking what man had to do to get, and survive, beneath the water. How, for example, does man simulate the movement of a fish's tail? He puts on flippers. How does he see? He wears a mask (which, incidentally, can have prescription lenses ground into it). What if he can't tell which way is up? He can lie quietly, blow bubbles, and observe their direction -- or he can consult his depth guage. If the water's turbid, the compass will help him. The wet suit insulates him against cold. He breathes from a tank of oxygen strapped to his back. And he counteracts his 7 or 8 pounds of natural buoyancy with the 27 pounds of lead -- plus an equalizing vest, which he can blow up as he descends into the water. As man goes deeper, the airfilled spaces within his body get squeezed, compressed. So the tank's regulator helps him by equalizing the pressure.

"What do you use that knife for?" someone asked. Mr. Mershon named a number of things, but killing sharks wasn't among them. "I've never even seen one," he added. The bell rang. Sixty kids applauded Mr. Mershon and bustled off to their next class. And, by the way, the answer to the title question is: It shrinks. Know why?

EXPANDING COVERAGE

We note with pleasure that the College has been mentioned in two recent issues of INTERROBANG, the monthly newspaper published by the Rhode Island Department of Education and sent to education leaders, government agencies, state, civic, and edu-

cation-related groups and the news media. A September article highlighted the University Without Walls, while the October issue described an on-campus visit by children from the Regent Avenue School in Providence. Under a federally funded minigrant program, first- through fifth-graders can choose an area they are especially interested in (science, dramatics, journalism, arts and crafts, etc.) and concentrate in it for nine weeks or longer. At RWC the children were guided through the biology lab by Grayson Murphy and Charles Jungwirth. It is Mr. Jungwirth's wife who is the originator of the minigrant program.

The College is also receiving regular bi-monthly coverage in the <u>Bristol Phoenix's</u> new "College and the Community" column, which we share with Barrington College. The column was launched on November 16 with a write-up on Project Ocean Study. The November 30 issue featured our three senior theatre majors who are interning at Trinity Square. We believe the column has much potential for generating good will in the surrounding communities -- with this in mind, we solicit your help in making it viable.

FOCUS ON FACULTY On November 11, Anthony Mele of the Music Department presented a concert of piano music in the College Library. Some 200 town and gowners heard Mr. Mele play sonatas by Haydn, Prokofiev, and Bee-

thoven. The previous week, Mr. Mele performed the same program at Curry College in Milton, Massachusetts.

Dr. Barbara Uehling, with Benton J. Underwood of Northwestern University, has published a paper in a recent issue of the Journal of Experimental Psychology. The study is entitled, "Transfer as a Function of Stimulus, Response, and Simultaneous Stimulus and Response Similarity".

At the 47th annual meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists, held November 6-10 in Miami, George A. Ficorilli of the Biology Department presented a paper entitled, "Partial Immunity Against <u>Hymenolepis nana</u> Induced in Mice by Injection of Egg Protein Fractions". About 1200 people attended the meeting.

Geoffrey Clark, Creative Writing instructor, has signed a contract with Baron Publishing Company, New York City, for publication of his first novel, <u>Clumsy Partners</u>. Set in northern Michigan, the novel chronicles the courtship, marriage, and disintegration of a young couple. Publication is scheduled for late summer of 1973. Mr. Clark's second novel is already being read by Baron Publishing.

MEDITERRANEAN TREASURES AND PLEASURES Number of the College's most popular courses), went with her husband on an air/sea tour of the Mediterranean. She did what any art teacher would do: sketched, photographed, and generally reveled in the cultural treasures of Greece, Turkey, and Italy.

Near Izmir, in Turkey, the Spencers savored the ancient city of Ephesus, now being restored by Greek and Turkish archaeologists. Mrs. Spencer comments that the city's transition from Greek to Roman rule is quite evident in its art. Crete she found very exciting, particularly the palace of Knossos, which nestles against a hill covered with olive trees, bougainvillea, and other semi-tropical flora. Knossos and Olympia, with its sculpture by Praxitiles, were "most photographed" on her list.

On Malta, the Spencers marveled at the Cathedral of St. John's, a showcase for the famed Knight of Malta, who vied with each other in making elaborate gifts to the church. Other stops on the itinerary included Corfu, Taormina, Pompeii, and, finally, Villefranche on the French Riviera.

No culture shock for Mrs. Spencer. "Time seems to collapse," she says. "You feel close to people. And everybody was very kind." She recalls vividly the barber who sat her down outside his tiny shop in the Izmir bazaar, served her Turkish coffee in a glass, held craning onlookers at bay (she was sketching a flower vendor), and shooed away the flies. Although she wanted to keep the sketch, she couldn't resist giving it to her host.

To Mrs. Spencer, the museums were as exciting as seeing antiquities in their original setting -- for example, the recently unearthed statues of Apollo and Athena in the National Museum in Athens. These rare, bronze figures were found near the port of Piraeus during the course of a land reclamation project. The reclaimers turned up bits of charred wood and a coin bearing the head of the Roman emperor Sulla. Putting the pieces together, archaeologists speculate that the site was once a seaport with a warehouse, that Sulla had come to carry off the statuary, found the warehouse burned, and for some reason departed minus Athena and Apollo.

In the Athens Museum Mrs. Spencer was delighted to find that the little "Jockey" has, at last, a horse to ride. For years this lively bronze figure hung in mid-air, going nowhere. His horse is a relatively new find, not yet pictured in the art books. Both figures are life-size, and, though the horse looks awfully big compared to the jock-ey, experts agree that they're the creation of the same hand.

Besides filling a sketchbook, Mrs. Spencer took about 200 slides, which have augmented the Art Department's collection. She's having fun showing them to her classes. "It's marvelous," she says, "to have a captive audience." Given Mrs. Spencer's enthusiasm, they are charmed captives.

FLASH! GILBANE CORP. BLOWS UP RWC CAMPUS!

. . . but only in two dimensions, and only to create a handsome color photo that hangs on the wall of their Sales Department Office in Providence. According to Gilbane personnel, most people coming in from the outside recognize our campus and are impressed by the blow-up. Gilbane Corp. was, of course, principal builder of the Bristol campus.

HEARD FROM THE HUSTINGS: Adventures of Scott and Chip This fall, <u>The Quill</u> carried a series of articles by Scott Racusin and Chip Howe, recounting their adventures "on the road" as part of the McGovern press entourage. The syndicated column (carried by three

other college newspapers as well) was phase 1 of an independent study conceived by the two students in front of the TV set one very early summer morning, when Charles Kuralt's "On the Road" came on. The idea of broadcast journalism appealed to them, and they began discussing a four-credit independent study in public relations with, as a possibility for their final exam, a study of a Providence political figure. A friend suggested covering a Providence political campaign as volunteers for WBRU. More discussion - and then the decision: GO BIG TIME. GO MC GOVERN. Go for 16 credits instead of 4! Would anybody buy the idea?

In a feverish two hours, Scott and Chip drew up a 3-page proposal which was enthusiastically approved by Dr. Gauvey. Four faculty advisors endorsed the plan, and it went through the Curriculum Committee in one day. The College waived the boys' tuition.

So they went on the road, traveling by plane between cities and by bus within. Their adventures were capped by a front-page article in the November 6 <u>Providence Evening</u> <u>Bulletin</u>, which drew attention to the pioneering nature of their study. Chip and Scott are to be commended. Despite some disillusionment with politics, they were largely pleased by what they term "a very worthwhile human experience".

SPEAKERS BUREAU
GEARS UPWe're pleased to announce the formation of a Speakers Bureau
through which we can provide speakers on a variety of subjects to
organizations throughout the state. Arrangements may be made by
calling Mrs. Sanderson, Public Information Office, 255-2251.

PAST PRESENT YET TO COME In late August, the E.R.I. Extension Service, in cooperation with the College and the University of Rhode Island, sponsored a Lawn Clinic on the Bristol campus. URI specialists were on hand to identify weeds and insects for the public, and to recommend control measures. Step-by-step demonstrations were given on how to grow greener and grassier lawns. As the first outdoor educational program of its kind in the state, the Lawn Clinic gave the public an unusual opportunity to obtain information on turf management.

RWC alumnus Wendell Pols was named Library Associate for the Providence campus library. Mr. Pols is enrolled at URI in the Graduate Library School; in the past he has been employed by the Providence Public Library.

On October 5, Daniel Cretella was installed as president of the Cranston Kiwanis. Mr. Cretella has been a member of the Engineering Division faculty for three years. He is a Ph.D. candidate at URI.

In November, about 35 RWC engineering students toured the Connecticut Yankee nuclear generating station at Haddam, Connecticut. The trip, arranged by Dr. Alexander Patton and Mr. Khalid Al-Hamdouni of the Engineering faculty and Mr. R. Van Houten of Connecticut Yankee, was intended to emphasize the importance of nuclear power in relation to present and future demands. The students received explanations and demonstrations in nuclear physics, energy balances, and the complex design problems encountered in plant construction. They were also made aware of the important balance that can be achieved between power generation and the environment.

Five RWC students participated in the Chanukah Torch Run on December 3 sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. The Run, held as a memorial to the Israeli athletes killed at last summer's Olympic games, covered a 10-mile distance from the State Airport to the site of the new Jewish Community Center, where the torch was used to light a 12-foot tall Menorah to signify the beginning of Chanukah.

A workshop to investigate the feasibility of an undergraduate program in Urban and Environmental Planning at RWC was held on campus December 6. Dean Uehling served as moderator for two panels, one consisting of outside experts in planning, the other of Roger Williams faculty. Guest speaker at dinner was Professor Roland B. Greeley, a graduate of the Harvard City Planning School with long experience in the field. One conclusion emanating from the workshop session was that potential city planners need a solid grounding in city government. Further developments in this most important area remain to be seen.

Monday, December 11 through Friday, December 15, the Art Club held a sale of pottery, sculpture, paintings, drawings, prints, candles, Christmas decorations, home made breads, and Christmas cards made by the children of the Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital.

In conjunction with the Bristol School Department, RWC presented a lecture by Dr. John Downing, of the University of Victoria, Canada, on December 12. Dr. Downing has contributed extensively to research

and programs for helping young children develop language skills.

On December 13, the Special Events Committee presented an evening of jazz at the Bristol High School featuring the Duke Belaire 16piece jazz group. The event was open to the public at no charge.

> Bruce Eastman and James Hannon, Marine Biology majors, were invited aboard the "Trident", URI oceanographic research vessel, as part of the scientific party to do research work in the western Sargasso Sea. They met the vessel in Miami and returned to Rhode Island before Christmas.

> "Our Christmas present to the children of Bristol" . . . That's how Theatre Department head William Grandgeorge describes the special performances of A. A. Milne's <u>Toad of Toad Hall</u> presented on campus for 2,306 children in the Bristol school system, December 18-21. Some 30 characters in the famous menagerie played three performances a day to first- through seventh-graders.

Beginning January 4, an architectural and civil engineering exhibit will be set up in the lobby of the Administration Building.

January 16 is the date of the Annual Meeting of the Corporation and Trustees of the College. More information will follow!

Letters to the Editor, suggestions for new and dazzling formats, original artwork, and above all -- NEWS -- we solicit all these to help make our All-College Newsletter a living medium of communication with the Roger Williams community. Just direct a note or phone call to the Public Information Office, Bristol campus, telephone 255-2253. Our next issue is scheduled for March -- so let us know as soon as possible what you would like to see included.

In the meantime, HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all of you!

ROGER WILLIAMS COLLEGE

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