

CALRA FREE PRESS

Cadbury At Lewes Residents' Association

Vol 4: No 4

NOVEMBER 2010

President's Message

My term as president is coming to an end and this will be my last message to you. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who have served as officers of the Board and Chairs of the committees. It has been a real pleasure to work with and be able to rely on you; it has made my being President much easier. Thank you as well to all who have served on committees and have kept our activities and programs running smoothly.

CALRA has been in existence now for three years and I think if we look back over those years we will see that a lot has been accomplished. We have refined our organization and become more financially viable.

There is always more to do but I think we will be in very capable hands with those who have volunteered to serve in the coming years.

Your Board of Directors and Committee Chairs wish you all a very happy holiday season.

Barbara Cleaveland

CALRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President: Barbara Cleaveland
V. President: Bill Gehron
Treasurer: Diantha Pack
Ass't Treas: Ron Trupp
Secretary: Stan Goldstein
Corres. Sec: Adele Hudson
Past Pres: Bob Hein

Area Directors

Cottage Woody Seamone
Lois Nickerson
East Wing . . . Elaine Glisson
Kathy Holstrom
West Wing . . . Howard Parker
Ed Carter
Health Care . .

Monthly Board Meetings -
Second Monday
Association Meetings
Third Monday

Newsletter Editor:
Pat O'Hanlon

BUY THE SEA SHOP

Christmas is coming to the Buy The Sea Shop! We have boxed Christmas Cards very reasonably priced and or that gift of money to our favorite person, we have beautifully decorated Christmas Gift cards.

Decorate your cottage or apartment with Christmas floral arrangements made by our own Jeane Wampler. They are just the right size for our smaller spaces.

Do you need an unusual gift for that special relative or friend? Come in and see our display. Perhaps someone you know would like to have a "Cadbury" Insulated bag which we residents find so convenient. We have those for sale as well as Cadbury Coasters and other items.

In addition to Christmas items, we have a supply of AA and AAA batteries for our electronic gadgets. Other household products such as paper towels, Kleenex, toothpaste, etc. are also available.

Buy The Sea accepts your donations of salable items. If you know families who have decorative china, glass, etc. that they would like to donate to the shop, please tell them about our shop. Remember all proceeds benefit our residents by allowing us to provide programs and entertainment for our enjoyment.

DIAL-A-RIDE



To: All Independent-living
Residents

Are you in need of a ride to a doctor, pharmacy, etc., and you are not eligible for a free ride from Cadbury?

Call your Dial-A-Ride
Coordinator:

Elaine Glisson
at 703-2645





John and Joan Ellis, C31

Ken and Helen Kircher, C2

Who's Who at Cadbury !



The Parkers - Howard and Alice

Howard and Alice got to know each other in Kalamazoo in '46 during a double-date. At that time Howard had been working for Hercules Powder for six years; he got a job with them just after graduating with a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1940. During the war years he was instrumental in starting up an ordinance plant in Lawrence, Kansas - he recalls being in charge of an 80-man force when he was only 25 years old.

Meanwhile Alice had graduated from Michigan State with the inspiration of doing social work, but first spent time working in the Ann Arbor Bell Telephone company's front office and then later in their Kalamazoo office managing customer records. To some extent she had an

opportunity to apply social skills in resolving customer conflicts; typically on problems where mutual respect among those on a party line was desirable but frequently absent.

During his career with Hercules Howard and Alice found it necessary to make several moves, counting Wisconsin, Michigan, and Wilmington, DE., among the places they established households. En route, so to speak, they had three children; they now count five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren - and another two are on the way (twins).

Since moving to Lewes both Howard and Alice have been involved in local citizen activities. Early on he was a member of a group of Lewes home owners which was set up in an effort to thwart increasing building heights and then single-handedly succeeded in getting a transfer tax established in the city. These activities ultimately led to his becoming a member of the City Council and later a member of the Board of Adjustment. Alice was a member of the Lewes Planning Commission.

Alice has been deeply involved in volunteer work, starting in her junior year in college and later for many years. Most recently she was very active in the operation of the Lewes Hospice (which later was combined with another and centralized in Georgetown). She enjoyed being Chairman of the Lewes Presbyterian circle for a time and continues to be active in the group. Howard helped out doing "PR" for the group, explaining the concepts to those new to the idea.

Their home here in Lewes was originally (1970) a small cottage on the canal side of Cedar St. in the area generally referred to as Lewes Beach. Being fond of working with his hands, through the years Howard converted that cottage into a home more than three times as large. His son Michael lives there now with his wife Gisele. Howard is especially proud of Michael's having built a 30-foot schooner from blueprints with only a power saw and power drill (like father like son).

Here in Cadbury they enjoy their double apartment and their two cats Pete and Erin (twins). Howard is on the CALRA Board of Directors representing the West Wing while Alice is an active member of the Book Club. Alice and

he have developed a scheme of responsibility-sharing: she does the financial management for the household and he does the shopping and cooking.

Dick Cleaveland

Why Be a Volunteer?

It's not for money, it's not for fame.

It's not for any personal gain.

It's just for love of fellowman.

It's just to lend a helping hand.

It's just to give a tithe of self.

That's something you can't buy with wealth!

It's not for medals won with pride.

It's not the feeling deep inside.

It's that feeling that you've been a part of helping others far and near that makes you be a volunteer.

Submitted by Editor

2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee consisting of Woody Seamone, Lois Nickerson, Elaine Glisson, Kathy Holstrom, Howard Parker, Ed Carter, Binky Tompkins, Lois Wills and Bob Hein, have been seeking candidates to serve as Officers and Directors for 2011. Amendment number four to the Bylaws was approved by the membership on December 21, 2009. The amendment changed the term of service for all Officers and Directors from one to two years with half being elected

every other year. The positions being filled for one year now will be open again next year for two year terms. Also the Nominating Committee was increased to nine by adding two members At Large.

We are pleased to nominate the following individuals who have volunteered to serve. Nominations may be made by the Membership at the December meeting.

TWO YEAR TERM

President Doug Trout
Treasurer. Diantha Pack
Secretary Kathy Holstrom
Cottage Lois Nickerson
East Wing. Elaine Glisson
West Wing. Elaine Connell

ONE YEAR TERM

Vice President. . . Ron Trupp
Assist. Treas. . . . Gil Kaufman
Corres. Sec. Adele Hudson
Health Ctr. Lionel Saltzberg
Cottage. Woody Seamone
East Wing. Lois Wills
West Wing. Howard Parker

AT LARGE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1. Binky Tompkins
2. Ed Carter

Bob Hein, Chairman



LIBRARY LINES

Your library chairman has been away for several weeks and knowing that our newsletter would be coming out shortly after I got back, I have written most of this column while away. Since the last issue of our CALRA News we have gotten a new bookcase to shelve paperbacks and therefore we have reorganized so that we have fiction hardbacks and paperbacks each now shelved continuously in alphabetical order by the

author. No gaps between.

Just a reminder- we appreciate that you pass your magazines on to the Cadbury Library. Please do not donate monthly magazines more than three months old and weeklies more than four weeks old. We just don't have room.

-Help From The Computer To Find A Book of Your Choice-

Even though our Cadbury Library does not have a card catalog or a computer library catalog you can use the Lewes Library Catalog to perhaps find a book in our library that you might want to read. Using the library computer, click on the icon for the DE Library catalog. When that comes up click on the phrase that says click here for materials. (Mid-upper left on the screen) You do not need to be a DE library card holder. Then you get to select a book by author, title, phrase or subject by selecting which category you want to use. Next type in the appropriate item, such as the author George Dawes Green. Click the select button and a list of books by this author in the whole state catalog system will appear. You now can read information about these various books. To find more information about an individual book click on the cover of the book. If you find a book that you might want to read and it is fiction go to the appropriate alphabetical fiction area in our library and perhaps you will find it.

Another idea is when you have read a book that you have liked and would like to read something along the same lines-- go to the DE Library catalog as mentioned above, type in the title of the book, and when you select this title and it comes up, click on the cover and when this screen comes up you can scroll down the page and find other suggested titles along this same line. Also, underneath the picture of the cover is the phrase find more by this author and find more on these topics-- you can click on these phrases to get more hints for items you might want to read. Hope this makes sense to you. Give it a try.

Good luck,

Mildred Weidmann

LEWES as a PORT TOWN

Part Two

This is a continuation of a piece that appeared in the last issue of the *CALRA Free Press* describing Lewes's historic relationship with the water. It picks up from the development of the Lewes Harbor and activities associated with it to inland water interests.

Also associated with water-oriented Lewes is the Lewes-Rehoboth Canal which today serves as a feeder route to the Inter-Coastal Waterway.

In the early 1800's the country entered into a major effort of canal building which in this same era saw the completion in 1829 of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. This heightened interest in turning the waters of Lewes Creek into a canal which would connect it to Rehoboth Bay and Indian River. For almost 100 years it was an on-again off-again project. Finally Congress in 1910 proposed that the construction be undertaken because as it observed: "The Lewes Canal will open up to the Delaware Bay through a large region of considerable resources, which can not now be properly utilized. The roads are too sandy for heavy hauling while traffic by water will be cheap and easy. The possibilities of development in this section are thought to be such as to justify assistance by the Government at the earliest practicable time".

The current plaque at the drawbridge in downtown Lewes contains this brief historical notation (courtesy of the Delmarva Chapter 56, International Right-of-Way Association) about the development of the canal: "The Lewes-Rehoboth Canal connecting Rehoboth Bay and Delaware Bay was authorized by the U.S. River and Harbor Act of 1912. Initially, the canal was envisioned as a means of access to the sea for farmers and saw mills along the Indian River and Bay. Consent to acquire the land for construction was granted to the U.S. Government by the Delaware State Legislature in 1913. Construction by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was completed in 1927. Today, this feeder route to the Inter-Coastal Waterway is used by commercial and pleasure boats and provides access for pilot boats to guide ocean-going vessels up the Delaware Bay to the

major ports of Wilmington and Philadelphia.” Philadelphia, it should be noted is the second largest Port on the East Coast after New York.

In Lewes, in addition to the drawbridge over the canal, there is just down stream a railroad bridge. It is part of the Delaware Coastline Railroad and is worth some attention as it is probably among the very last rotating bridges that are hand cranked to be opened and closed to permit rail-cars to cross it. It requires at least two people to operate the seven foot hand crank which must be turned 27 times to line up the ridge with the rails at either end making a 180 degree swing. It must then be cranked seven more times to lower the rails into the track grooves. Fortunately, this procedure takes place only about two or three times a month, much to the relief of boaters as the operation is rather time consuming. It is all for a good cause, however, as the train carries empty container cars into a chemical plant at the end of the line just outside Cape Henlopen Park to return with ones filled with liquid extracted from seawater from the bay which is used in good-for-your-stomach Maalox.

While the canal does remain a busy waterway, particularly in the summer months, it never fulfilled its original objectives since railroads were built throughout the Delmarva Peninsula and took over the task of carrying farmers and loggers products to outside markets. Yet for Lewes the canal remains an important element in its role as a port town. The north end, which encompasses Lewes proper, and exits into the ocean and Delaware Bay through Roosevelt Inlet, opened in 1937, is now where most of the boating activity takes place. Interesting, it is the very same area first described by Henry Hudson just over 400 years ago as that ideal spot for a “whaling station”.

Bill Gehron

COMPUTER NEWS

One of the latest bits of computer news is the availability of electronic books from public libraries. Any Sussex county resident with a Lewes library card has access to their web site and may read books on his or her computer at their e-

net location on the library web site. Books may be read on-line on your laptop or desktop computer or may be downloaded to be read with Adobe Digital Editions (free) for off line reading. Our Lewes Library has 423 available e-books at the moment and many libraries are adding to this list. The list includes business books as well as novels. Many other free e-books are also available from the internet.

Please call Woody Seamone at 744-4724 if you care to see a demonstration.

Woody Seamone

POINTS OF INTEREST

Social Security

This year the Government will pay out more in benefits than it will take in from payroll taxes. The estimated \$41 billion deficit is mostly the result of high unemployment, which has reduced payroll tax collections. In case you missed the announcement, your social security payment **WILL NOT** be increased in 2011.

Bank Deposits

Thanks to the financial reform law, federal deposit insurance is permanently set at \$250,000 per account per depositor per bank. It had been scheduled to drop back down to \$100,000 in 2013.

Credit Cards

Preapproved credit-card offers disappeared during the credit crunch, but they are starting to return. If you would rather not receive them, visit **OptOutPrescreen.com** or call 888-5657-8688 to have your name and information removed from the lists that are used for Preapproved and prescreened offers of credit or insurance.

Medicare

Some of you may not like one aspect of the new health care law. The Part B supplemental premium brackets will not be adjusted for inflation until 2020. So this surcharge will bite more and more seniors as the years pass. For 2011, Part B premiums for single filers with modified adjusted gross incomes (AGI) in 2009, over \$85,000 and couples with AGIs above \$170,000 will range from 140% to 320% of basic premiums. Modified AGI is AGI plus tax free

interest, EE bond interest that is used for education, and excluded foreign earned income. The top premium (320%) kicks in above \$214,000 for singles and \$428,000 for couples.

Bob Hein

DID YOU KNOW?

- Coffee was first known in Europe as Arabian Wine.
- The first Parisian café opened in 1689 to serve coffee.
- In the year 1763, there were over 200 coffee shops in Venice.
- The heavy tea tax imposed on the colonies in 1773, which caused the "Boston Tea Party," resulted in America switching from tea to coffee. Drinking coffee was an expression of freedom.
- The founding fathers of the U.S., during the revolution, formed their national strategies in coffeehouses.
- The Civil War in the United States elevated the popularity of coffee to new heights. Soldiers went to war with coffee beans as a primary ration.
- Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups - alcohol, caffeine, sugar and fat.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

Rise up Delaware citizens and demand your right to see the stars! They are up there; you just can't see them. Telescopes that have been given to Cadbury sit around gathering dust because there is nothing visible in the sky. The reason is streetlights without shields or with shields not properly aligned shining up into the sky rather than down onto the ground.

When I moved to Cadbury there were no street lights visible from the east wing apartments as we looked out across Gills Neck Road, farm fields and woods. Then a row of street lights 888-appeared in the woods because Hawkseye was to build more houses, which it did, 15 or so. When

the construction equipment left and the Cadbury parking lot was paved the lights came to us, too, within 100 feet of our bedroom to shine into our eyes at night. I can read a newspaper with its light. This technique when used in torture is called sleep deprivation. Previously, I had experienced this only when staying in motels.

The village of Alfred, NY, has an observatory with ten telescopes each housed in its own building. Shields on all streetlights in town are arranged to shine down, not into the skies or into someone's bedroom window but down into the street. In the summer, the observatory is open to the public on every clear Friday evening. If you visit (children in tow), someone will take you on a tour of that night's events going on by taking you from one telescope to the next, each of which has been set up to see a particular sight (all free).

A few years ago when Mars was as close to Earth as it has been in the last few hundred years, everyone in town wanted to see it. The line of people waiting for their own minute or two with a telescope came out the door, around the yard, down the drive and down the street. Hundreds of area residents stood talking quietly in the middle of the night while waiting. What a wonderful gathering.

Our farm, in the middle of farmland and state forest, had no streetlights, of course. (The outdoor barn and shop lights were lit only by movement.) It was an excellent place to view the Milky Way, Orion, the Big Dipper, the Little Dipper, the planets and shooting stars. When a meteorite shower was predicted, people would come to our house with blankets and sleeping bags and throw them down on the lawn. Everyone would call out, "There!" "Wow, over there!"

I would favor a law to require all street lights to be shielded so that we can take back the night sky—and a good night's sleep.

Dean Hoover

ALASKA

Picture mountain slopes of wet deep-green Christmas trees without end. Shores lined with glistening soft-colored stones. In spite of (or because of) the rainy days, defiant red fireweed stood out prominently in the foggy weather, enveloping the meadows. Contrast them with blue

lupine & forget-me-nots, also blue of course. Ubiquitous cottonwood trees & cabbages the size of a globe of the world or as big as volleyballs gone wild. O yes, *picture* that. But even though it has nice red berries don't *touch* some other plants.

Devil's Club, a defensive giant with huge prickly leaves, grows 6 to 8 feet tall this time of the year. It's sharp thorns also protect it. And do not touch the Pootschi (push-key). I thought it was Queen Anne's Lace but it's much bigger, Alaska style. Also called Cow Parsnip, it grows as tall as Devil's Club. Skin contact can cause severely painful blisters. Inhaling its smoke when burning the stalks can also cause internal blisters.

John & Ruth visited Homer, Alaska, August 2010, where our daughter Nancy & her husband are raising & home-schooling their five children. Paul loves to fish and he answers the call of the wild at the drop of a hat. Off we would go to the fishing hole or to the coastline & once on a friend's boat. Halibut, King Salmon, Red Salmon, Silver Salmon, Rainbow Trout – all humongous!

The onion domes of Russian influence are sentinels in the towns we visited. "Old Believers," whose women are dressed in flowing skirts of beauteous material and the men in Cossack-like suits, visit the stores but live unto themselves. We, however, attended English-speaking Orthodox Churches with our children the three Sundays we were there.

Of all the varieties of birds, Bald Eagles are my favorite. A fledgling with its new feathers stands on the brink of their family's altitudinous twiggy nest. Is it gathering the courage to fly or is it left there in charge of guarding the house? Later the courting dance of a pair of Sand-hill Cranes held our entire family entranced for long minutes as they squawked, jumped and fluttered about teasingly on the lawn.

But a disagreement arose between our Alaska-loving grandchildren & us when we watched in awe a grazing moose mama & her two young ones. I said, "They're ugly!" "No they're not, they're cute, Gramma!" In the middle of a short night (which lasted from 11:30 pm to about 4:30 am) Nancy heard a noise and then saw a large brown bear prowling around the house. Next day we discovered that the upright freezer

on the porch had been opened and Paul's freshly filleted Halibut and King Salmon were missing. That Grizzly bear had just simply helped him or herself! The family dog had been asleep indoors, but later the retriever in him located the carcass of the fish in the woods & brought it (head & skeleton) home onto the lawn for us to see.

The Homer Spit, a narrow natural strip of land, reaches three miles into Kachemak Bay making a handy place for fishing bait & licenses, motor homes, cute little shops, seafood restaurants, a memorial to fishers lost at sea and a nice hotel/conference facility. Across the bay lie beautiful mountains with their ever-calving glaciers. The day we flew out we could see them much better closer and from above with their streams and waterfalls. We counted at least seven of them, all along that far edge of the bay.

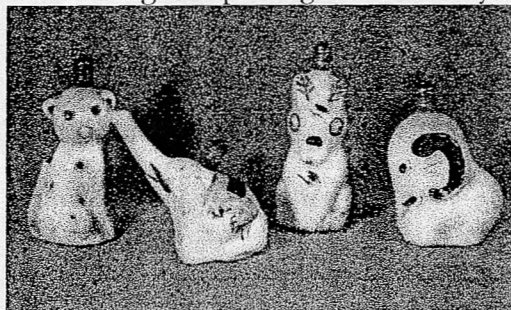
In the bay we could see very cute furry Sea Otters swimming on their backs and eating away. Way out there in the mist was Mount Augustine, the volcano that rises up out of the ocean spewing its plume into the sky. The rainy sky was filled with always-different cloud formations that topped or enveloped the mountain ranges in the distance... just beautiful!

I believe it is true: Alaska never leaves your memory. As Alaskan Sarah Palin would say, "You betcha!"

John and Ruth Folta

CHRISTMAS GLOW

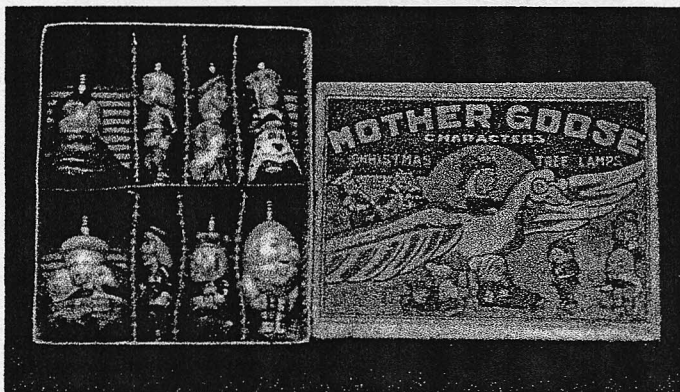
With all of the sparkling miniature lights for both indoor and outdoor Christmas trees these days, it is easy to forget the older but fancier types of electric lamps available from the 30s through the 50s. Those larger and more brightly colored bulbs brought a special glow to holiday



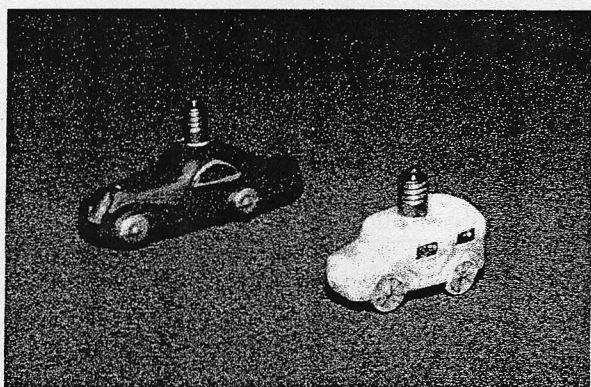
lighting.

Of special interest to many of us as children were the more unusual lights that were characters like Santas, cartoon or comic strip characters, birds, flowers, vehicles and such. These were known as "figural" light bulbs. They originated in Austria and Germany in the 1920s but later were massed produced in Japan.

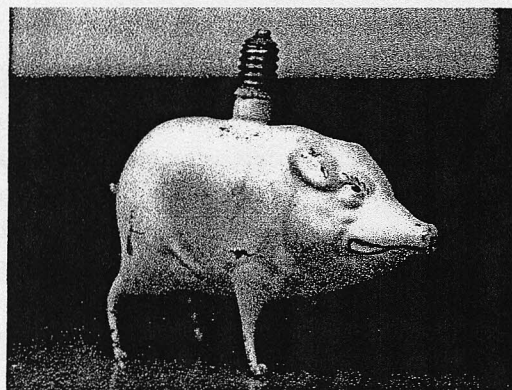
A couple of examples are shown in the enclosed pictures, one of a Mother Goose set, and the other of a set of characters from the newspaper comics.



The Mother Goose set includes characters like the King and Queen of Hearts, Humpty Dumpty, and Three Men in a Tub. The comics set included Little Orphan Annie and her dog Sandy, Dick Tracy, Andy Gump, and others that you may recognize. Such lamps are highly desired by collectors today, especially as shown in these photos with their original boxes.



These figural lights are true light bulbs, not plastic covers on miniatures as so many are today, and were made in an incredible range of shapes. A few other examples are shown in the pictures below. Yes, even a pig!



Of course, one of the best ways to get into the spirit of the holidays is with a tree lit with candles, even if they are artificial ones.



The tree illustrated above is from Ruth & Gil Kaufman's household in the 1960s, and the figural lights pictured above were from our family collection.

Gil Kaufman

Cadbury is For The Birds

As our last newsletter went to press, Elaine Connell had bluebirds sitting 3 eggs. Elaine reported that 2 of the eggs hatched with both birds fledgling. The other failed to hatch. Bluebirds are eyeing our empty birdhouses with plans to raise a family in the Spring. On Sept. 24th six bluebirds were trying out the two Bazzoli nesting boxes. Oct. 29th a pair were back trying the box nearest their cottage. Of course, the house sparrows are trying out the same boxes. So a battle is shaping for the Spring. Bluebirds houses should be cleaned out by now and some birders suggest sealing the entrance with a rag or duck tape to keep house sparrows out. Unplug the hole when you see the bluebirds arrive. If the sparrows take over, evict them by removing their nesting material until they go elsewhere.

In late September the retention basin went from bone dry to half full of water. The next day five mallards were swimming in the pond. On the following day 19 were swimming in the pond and turning their bottoms skyward as they probed for food on the ponds' bottom. Later they rested on the bank basking in the sun. After the rest, it was back into the pond for swimming, frolicking and chasing each other. The mallard is the most common duck in the world. You can recognize the male by its glossy green head and yellow bill; chestnut breast; wing patch of blue, bordered with 2 white stripes. The female is on the plain side with a sandy brown color; bill mottled with orange and has a wing patch of blue bordered with 2 white stripes. Jim Sylvanus has seen up to ten mallards resting on the rocks behind the dining room. About this time Bea and Ken Robertson saw a large egret in the East Wing pond on several occasions and then it disappeared before it could be identified.

The sharp-shinned hawk is a small hawk (10-14 inches long) has hunted the grounds of Cadbury since day one. It shows up at bird feeders, not for seed, but the small birds that they prey on for food. They can be seen on cottage roofs watching birds or on fences where they watch for rodents and insects. They are often seen on the fence on Cadbury Circle West. Recently grounds keeper, Gene Frederick,

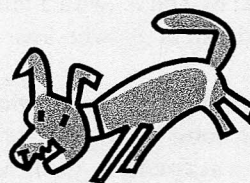
was working on Cadbury Circle West when he spotted a hawk and watched it grab a sparrow in mid-air.

The Bazzoli Cottage has a sunroom with herb garden adjacent to the glass. Occasionally a small bird would flit among the herbs and disappear in the 4 foot high rosemary bush. As this letter was being written, the bird appeared between the sage and thyme just 3 feet from Frances who was on watch. The bird had a bright yellow strip on the top of its' head with a black band on either side. The breast and belly is whitish, the back brown with some white and black in the wings. We had no knowledge of this bird. Consulting the bird book, Frances identified the bird as a female Golden-crowned Kinglet. It is 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 inches long and lives in coniferous (evergreen) woods. Nests 30 to 60 feet above the ground and feeds on insects. And that is what it was doing in the herb garden.

Cadbury will host The Sussex Bird Club meeting on Sunday, November 14th at 2:30 PM in the auditorium. The guest speaker will be Forrest Rowland who staffs the Hawk Watch at Cape Henlopen where a record number of hawks have been recorded this year. He will speak on: The Culture, Birds and Birding in the Sultanate of Oman. All Cadbury Residents are invited to attend.

Frances & Jim Bazzoli

Dog Owners !



DON'T FORGET TO --

**STOOP TO SCOOP
THE POOP !**

CRABBY OLD MAN

When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in North Platte, Neb., it was believed that he had nothing left of any value.

Later, when the nurses were going through his meager possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital.

One nurse took her copy to Missouri. The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the St. Louis Association for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple, but eloquent, poem.

Crabby Old Man

What do you see nurses? What do you see?
What are you thinking . . . when you're looking at me?
A crabby old man . . . not very wise,
Uncertain of habit . . . with faraway eyes?

Who dribbles his food . . . and makes no reply.
When you say in a loud voice . . . 'I do wish you'd try!'
Who seems not to notice . . . the things that you do.
And forever is losing . . . sock or shoe?

Who, resisting or not . . . lets you do as you will.
With bathing and feeding the long day to fill?
Is that what you're thinking? . . . Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes, nurse. . . you're not looking at me

I'll tell you who I am . . . as I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding, . . . as I eat at your will.
I'm a small child of Ten . . . with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters . . . who love one another.

A young boy of Sixteen . . . with wings on his feet
Dreaming that soon now . . . a lover he'll meet. . .
A groom soon at twenty . . . my heart gives a leap
Remembering the vows . . . that I promised to keep.

At Twenty-five, now . . . I have young of my own
Who need me to guide . . . and a secure happy home.
A man of Thirty . . . my young now grown fast,
Bound to each other . . . with ties that should last.

At Forty, my young sons . . . have grown and are gone,
But my woman's beside me . . . to see I don't mourn.

At Fifty, once more, babies play 'round my knees,
Again we know children . . . My loved one and me.

Dark days are upon me. . . My wife is now dead.
I look at the future . . . shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing. . . young of their own.
And I think of the years and the love that I've known.

I'm now an old man . . . and nature is cruel.
Tis jest to make old age . . . look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles. . . Grace and vigor, depart.
There is now a stone . . . where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass. . . a young guy still dwells,
And now and again . . . My battered heart swells.
I remember the joys . . . I remember the pain.
And I'm loving and living . . . life over again.

I think of the years, all too few . . . gone too fast.
And accept the stark fact . . . that nothing can last.
So open your eyes, people . . . open and see
Not a crabby old man. . . look closer . . . see ME!

Submitted by Bill Peterson

IN MEMORIAM

Teresa Criscio

Bob Gale

Penn Guenveur

Timothy King

Jeanie McMillan

Muzzie Mottershead

Margaret Rachor

Elise Samans

