

VAIR STREET JOURNAL

Western Pennsylvania Corvair Club

September 2002

Brentwood 4th of July Parade



One of the many marching units that entertained and delighted the onlookers at the Brentwood Community 4th of July Parade.

Munhall, PA, July 4th, 2002, 8:30 a.m.

When Earl and Diane Goehring (who had driven in from Harmony, PA) were set to leave for Brentwood, their

red '63 coupe did not respond when Earl turned the key. Battery cables and wires to the starter solenoid were checked but there was no response. Further attempts to start the car failed.

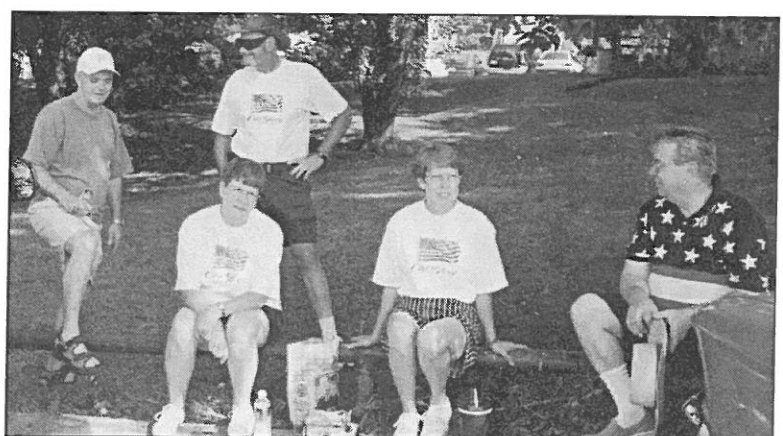
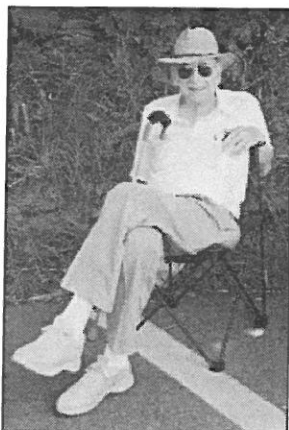
It was nearly 8:30, and knowing that the drive to Brentwood was just under 30 minutes long, Earl and Diane decided to do the parade with Sarah and I in our '64 Convertible.

Brentwood, PA, July 4th, 2002

By 9:00 a.m., the temperature of the Asphalt at the Giant Eagle parking lot was approaching 95° and rising. Oooh, it was very hot!

When we pulled into the lot at 9:00, we found, what I swear, was the last remaining parking spot. Four Corvairs were there, but none of their drivers appeared to be around. We thought that they might be cooling off in the Burger King (conveniently located next to the Giant Eagle parking lot).

It wasn't long before everyone was gathered together in a shady area in an attempt to keep as cool as possible. Don Cekus was there with his '65 red con-
continued on page 2



Looking more like a country gentleman than a guy who didn't feel well that day, Bill Brill and wife Jean, find shade from the sweltering heat.

Also trying to keep cool are (L to R) Don Cekus, Sarah Lucas (exhausted but still awake from working 11:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. the night before), Earl Goehring, Diane Goehring and Bob Hieber.

vertible and Justin Toia, his neighbor would drive Don's blue '65, 4-door. Jean and Bill Brill were set to go with their '63, 4-door and Bob Hieber would drive his '66 coupe. As the wait and the morning wore on, we were glad it wasn't raining (I think) but it sure seemed awfully hot. We visted with some of the other parade participant, checked out other cars or just talked.

There were some interesting sights in that parking lot: Next to our oasis in the shade were some ladies and little girls made up to look like cats (see photo). These cool cats belong to an organization called FosterCat. There was an old Volkswagen Beetle with outside rug upholstery, called a Rug Bug, and a car painted yellow and black was chuck full of Steeler memorabilia. A great sounding steel drum band beat out tunes while standing patiently in the sun, waiting for their opportunity to be a part of the parade.

Their chance came, but not before the Corvair Club. It was high noon! I felt very honored to be driving the lead Corvair. We heard comments from the

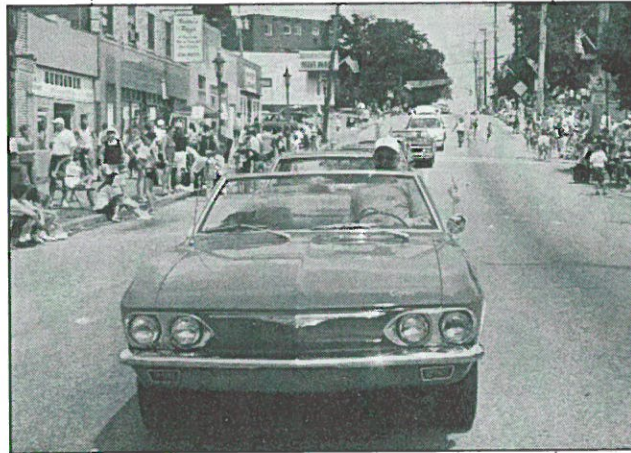


PHOTO BY CHARLES LUCAS

A smiling Don Cekus pops his head above the windshild of his red late model convertible as the Corvairs descend a grade on the streets of Brentwood.

by-standers who lined Brownsville Road—"great cars!", "how's Nader?", "isn't the engine in the back?", "how much do you want for it?" and everyone loved it when you'd beep and wave.

Ahead of the Corvairs was a group of young high school girls, riding in a con-

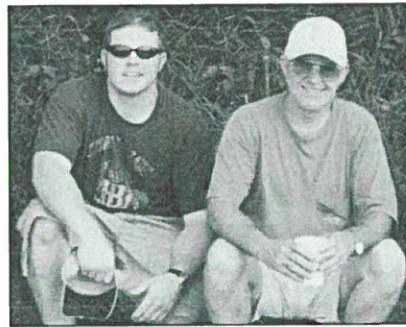


PHOTO BY BOB HIEBER

Justin Toia and Don Cekus

By this time I was cursing (not too badly though, the wives were in the car). I wanted only to get on the road and keep moving. At parade's end and the cross-roads of Brownsville and Rt. 51, I gunned the engine for the left turn onto Rt. 51. It died again but fired up when the light tuned to green. We pulled into Eat'n Park just a short distance down the road. It was so wonderful to sit down in the wonderful air conditioned atmosphere. We were starved. Earl and Diane ate real food, but Sarah and I had milkshakes.

By the way, Earl's car fired up on the first try when we got home. ☺



PHOTO BY CHARLES LUCAS

Remenant World's entry in the 4th of July Parade—The Rug Bug. I shudder to think that anyone would do this to a Covair. Oh, perish the very thought!

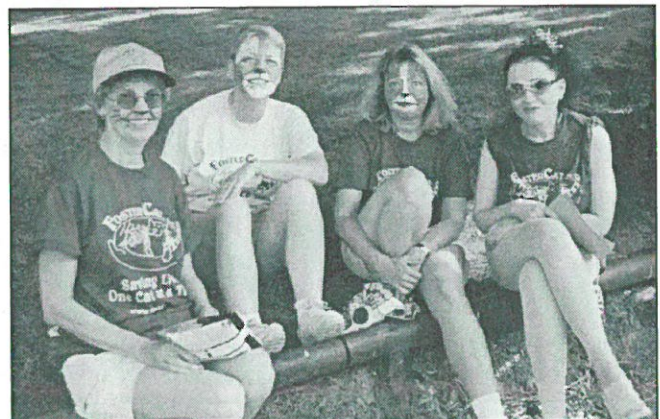


PHOTO BY CHARLES LUCAS

Four lovely ladies from FosterCats waiting their chance to join in the Brentwood 4th of July Parade

The Prez Sez



PHOTO BY DON BAKER

Heatherington

What happened? Where did it go? I refer, of course, to summer. Seems like just yesterday we were making plans for partici-

pation in the July 4th parades and now it's time to welcome autumn.

About those parades: we were able to get six cars for each parade, so we're successful at this important fundraiser for our club. The Canonsburg parade seems to get larger every year, and I find it mind-boggling to consider where all the people come from to line the streets. It was terribly hot, too, as we waited our turn. Almost last to lineup.

On August 4th, our club joined with members of the Three Rivers Model A Club for the annual trip to the Mountain Playhouse in Jennerstown. The route along backroads through Herminie, Waltz Mill and Somerset offered gorgeous Pennsylvania mountain scenery. Between the two clubs, more than 30 people attended this meet and enjoyed a delicious lunch at Green Gables Restaurant, relaxing walks along the water where we fed the ducks, and then a production of *The Fantasticks*, a delightful musical. Although a bit warm, it was a beautiful drive and everyone enjoyed the day; some already have put in their reservation for next year.

Although Labor Day and its picnics are in the past and school is

now in session, there is still plenty of touring season left. September and October are some of the most beautiful months of the year here in Western PA, and I'm hopeful that someone will want to organize a Fall Leaf Tour. This kind of drive can be among the most interesting of daytrips, offering vistas of the colorful hills surrounding Pittsburgh. That the terrible heat of summer is past is a bonus, and if it's a bit chilly in the early morning when we start out, well, our Corvairs do have heaters. All that is needed is for one of you to remember a pretty drive you once took, perhaps with your family. Let one of the officers know where to meet you to do it all over again!

Even though I'm talking about autumn and telling you all that there's plenty of time left in the season for daytrips, it's not too early to begin thinking about the Holiday dinner, scheduled for January 4 at Carmody's in Wexford. I'm actually looking for a volunteer to serve as chairman for this event. If you'd like to step in, please give me a call at 412-672-4211. It's not a lot of work, and I believe that there are many in the club who could handle it with ease. Won't you think about it?

Hope to see a good turnout at the next membership meeting at Hoss's Restaurant in Murrysville on September 24. Dinner, as usual, will be at 6:30, with the meeting beginning at 7:30.

Jim Heatherington

Jim Heatherington

*Hey, Jim,
lookie here!
Here's that Fall
Folliage Trip
you/we wanted.*

The date is October 5th, for our tour of *covered bridges* and *fall foliage*. This tour is less than 100 miles and offers spectacular vistas of countless miles of our state's spectacular scenery. We'll pass through several bridges and see others as we go. The tour ends at a moderately priced restaurant offering everything from sandwiches to steak dinners.

We will meet at Westminster Presbyterian Church parking lot at the corner of US 19 and McMillan Road. This is just south of South Hills Village and directly across from the Upper St. Clair fire house.

This tour offers the season's best scenery and the opportunity for some challenging driving. Some of the roads are not paved. We would encourage "driver" cars or "grocery getters", not the prize show vehicles. (Maybe you've got a Hummer?) Directions are clear and complete, and following the route is *mandatory*. Your cell phone and "on-star" won't be much help.

Pre-registration is mandatory and required by Sept 30. Departure times will be set once we get registrations in but are aimed at 1 PM.

Interested? Call tour coordinator, Bob Hieber at 724-457-9712.

Thanks Bob!

Minutes of the July 23, 2002 WPCC Member Meeting

Officers Present:

- *President*, Jim Heatherington
- *Vice President*, Don Cekus
- *Treasurer*, Bill Brill
- *Secretary*, Pat Greenwald

Board members present:

- Bill Artzberger
- Bob Hieber

The meeting was called to order by President **Jim Heatherington**.

The minutes of the May 28th meeting were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

There was no treasurer's report.

Jim reported on the June 15-16 tour with the 3 Rivers Antique Car Club to the Horseshoe Curve and the Johnstown Flood Museum.

John Sweet related his experiences at the National Convention.

Don and **Mary Ellen Cekus** vacationed in Florida and had a chance to visit with **Vaun** and **Charlotte Hamlin**. Don says Vaun looks great and Don passed around pictures of the Hamlin's beautiful new home.

Jim asked for a volunteer to chair this year's Holiday party.

Bob Heiber reported on the

parades. Three cars went to Crafton, five to Canonsburg, and six to Brentwood. Checks have been received from Canonsburg and Brentwood. The check from Crafton has not arrived yet.

Jim reminded members of the Corvair Days in Carlisle on September 14th and 15th. This has been a very nice affair in the past. The hotel for this event is host hotel for next year's National Convention.

Jim reported that he just returned from a four day tour to Lexington, KY with the AACA. He also urged anyone with an idea for a club event to call any officer for help with the planning.

Bill Artzberger informed members that Ed Clapper will be going to the Detroit Homecoming on August 23rd-25th. Members should call Ed if they want to go with him, 724-375-1461.

Jim welcomed guests **Donna Mae Mims** and former member **Dave Kerr**. Dave has a '68 parts car available. It is a 2 door coupe with good glass, tires and bumpers, a 4-speed, 95 hp engine, and an extra manual transmission. Dave will keep no longer than 2 more months. He can be reached by pager at 1-888-992-5756 or his N. C. phone is

919-847-4405. The car is located in Murrysville.

Bill Artzberger reminded members of the Idlewild Old Fashioned Days with the old cars parade.

Jim reported that the August 4th trip to Jennerstown is full.

Les talked about the two upcoming events; the U.S. Road Rally Challenge and car show at Oglebay to benefit the Good Zoo. The rally on October 18-20 has three events at a cost of \$250 for all three or \$90 for one event. The headquarters is the Spring Hill Suites in Monroeville. Volunteers are welcomed to work the check points. The car show at Oglebay is Aug 23-25, with judging on Sunday. The fee is \$5.00 to show a car with many classes and many, very nice awards. Last year there were 300 cars in the show.

Don Baker reported on this year's Vintage Grand Prix.

The next meeting will be September 24th at Hoss's in Murrysville.

Respectfully submitted,



Pat Greenwald, secretary

Second Annual Cruise at Independence Court

Independence Court is an assisted living facility, located in Mt. Lebanon at 537 Washington Road. The date of the cruise is Saturday September 14, 2002, and the hours are 11:00 AM- 2:30 PM

To be a bit more specific Independence court is located just North of the intersection of

Washington Rd. (route 19) and Conner/Gilkeson Rd., (behind Coldwell Banker).

It will be a great sharing of a trip down memory lane with the "young at heart". There will be a DJ, lots of food and home made baked goods. The lunch is free. Not only will you leave well fed but you'll feel good

knowing that you helped make an enjoyable day for a lot of folks who can't get out much anymore. Mark your calendar and join in the celebration. You'll be glad you did.

Any questions, please contact Dale Smith at 412/561-5050 or e-mail dsmith1961@juno.com.

Crafton Parade 2002 and 2003

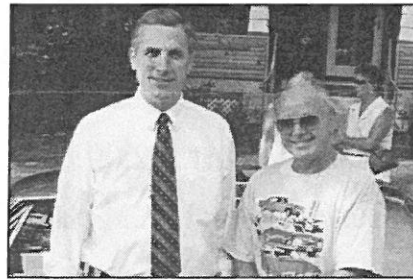
Our first parade for 2003 is scheduled. Mark your 2003 calendar. The Crafton Days Parade is set for Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. on June 30, 2003.

Bob Hieber says, "How's that for advanced notice?"

Bob sent along the two pictures shown here. That lower photo had a note on the back of the print, which read: "who is that famous person next to Tim Murphy"? That famous person is pictured four times in this journal (I must be crazy). But what I really want to know is, who is Tim Murphy*?



Waiting for the parade to start, Bob Hieber stands by his red, '66 coupe and a fuzzy friend who got decked.



Tim Murphy and ?

PHOTO BY BOB HIEBER

PHOTO BY BOB HIEBER

here and able to relate to people and goings-on, from up North, surprises me to no end. Concerning the car, the most common thing I hear is, "A 4-door?, I didn't know they made that". In the clubs here, there are several 4 doors, but at the shows, I've been the only person to enter with one.

When we left Pittsburgh, my wife's odometer registered 37,000 miles and this past week, it turned over 50,000 miles. It's not uncommon to go somewhere and put on 100 miles. The Olds will get it's third oil change this week, thanks to Ams-Oil.

Don Cekus said he'd take some pictures of our house to the meeting if you're curious. It's nice to not to have to be at work, although, I think I do my share down here. Charlotte also keeps busy and the pictures will show some of that. I'm the "watch-dog" for neighbors who are not here all the time. Something that we wanted but not for sale, are good neighbors, and I can say, we are lucky.

Although we've moved, Luke said we could still belong to W.P.C.C. All kidding aside, maybe things aren't as you'd like, you can be proud of the club and it's leadership, events and all the other things that make for success. We Joined two clubs down here so I do have a good comparison. Keep up the good work!

Vaun & Charlotte

News from the State of Florida

July 15, 2002

Don and Mary Ellen Cekus gave us some pleasure with a visit here. Time flies and we didn't get many bases covered but what we did do proved to be a plus. At this point of their journey, their new car was working well and had produced over 30 miles per gallon of gas on the trip down. I'm sure they will tell you more at the next meeting, but I'll say that they had a delightful place to stay close to Clearwater, the bay on one side and the gulf on the other. Although I've been in Florida many times, I never stopped at Tarpon Springs. We made a visit there and now I understand and have more respect for the natural sponge. Don can tell you at the meeting if you want details.

Charlotte and I could attend a car cruise every night if we wanted to, but so

far Saturday afternoon and evening have been enough. At "Old Town" in Kissimmee at their 12th anniversary cruises, there were over 1,000 vehicles. Bill Atrzberger has been there and can give you details if you wish. We've been to Dade City, Zephyr Hills, Plant City, Lakeland, and lastly on the 13th, Bradenton. The 50/50 drawing was for half of the \$500.00 pot. A nice gentleman who is deaf owns a '65 (I think) Ford Falcon coupe, all original. This was the third show where we've met. Half the 50/50 was given to him to help with his car problems. His car was struck by 'lightening, twice, and insurance, I'm told will not cover the problem as it's an act of God. The Bradenton show was a special one; the participants voted on the cars, ten choices along with best paint, best interior and best engine. They had many prizes, up to \$100.00 along with trophies which read "Show Favorite". I captured one for my favorite 4-door. Conversations are the reason I go, as you know I love to talk. To be down

Mike Ames

Mike Ames, one of our newer members, has received a promotion from his employer and is moving to Fayetteville N.C., effective September 1, 2002. We all wish him well in his new position and hope he keeps in touch with his old Corvair friends in Pittsburgh.

*Tim Murphy is "State Senator Tim Murphy".

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CORVAIR CLUB
HERSHEY BUS TRIP



- Departs from the Allegheny County Airport at 2:00 A.M. Saturday, October 12, 2002.
- Arrives at Hershey, PA at approximately 6:30 A.M. Saturday Morning
- Departs from Hershey at 5:00 P.M. Saturday Evening
- Returns to Allegheny County Airport at approximately 11:30 P.M.
- The bus seating is limited to 48 persons and is rest room equipped
- Cost \$30.00 per person
- The bus will stop for Breakfast and Dinner (not included in price)

Don't be left out!!! Send your reservation now!!!

Make checks payable: W.P.C.C. and mail them to:
 493 Sleepy Hollow Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15228

For more information, call Dick Breier
 Day Time (412) 471-6984 • Evening (412) 563-4591

Don't drive and cuss, *Get on the bus!* See you there!

Detach here and send with payment

HERSHEY BUS TRIP RESERVATION FORM

Name _____ No. of Reservations _____

Address _____

Phone(_____) _____ Paid Check No. _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Idlewild Park Old Fashioned Days

We're probably a little prejudiced but we think Idlewild Park is a great place for family fun, and this year was no exception.

We had decided early on in the summer that Tuesday, July 23rd, would be our day at Idlewild. Our Daughter, Ellen, along with her three youngsters, Luke (3 yrs, 4 mos),

families had discount coupons. The Corvair was car number 4, right next to another Corvair who's owner couldn't be sold on club membership, I'm sorry to report. We registered, got our wrist bands and began to enjoy the park.

After lunch we decided to watch the Moscow Circus acrobats who

an hour and a half. There would be no Soak Zone and swimming—it had cooled off too much for that.

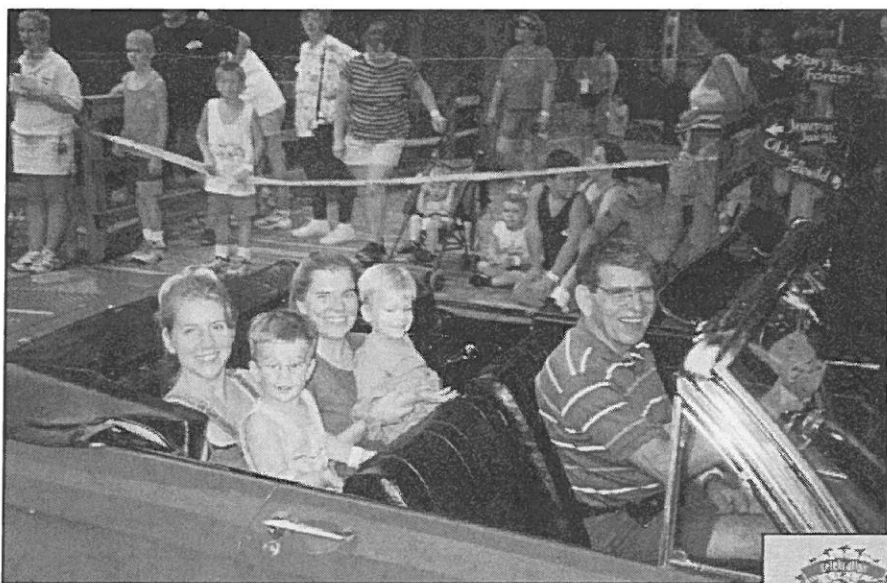
First stop after the rain was the merry-go-round. The kids enjoyed that ride so much, especially Adam, who probably rode 10 times (with Sarah). The children enjoyed riding till dinner time and then again until the parade, which started at 7:00.

Earlier in the day when it had looked like rain, I rushed back to the Corvair to put the top up, which was down for audience viewing (of course). Twenty minutes before the parade began, I went to the parking lot to dry the Corvair and drop the top. Imagine my surprise when I saw only 14 classic cars in the parking lot. Last year, (also a Tuesday, but with no rain) I believe I was car number 34 out of, perhaps 50 cars.

Despite the low number of cars the parade went on as if there were fifty cars. Each driver received a

dash plaque like the one illustrated.

A ride on the little Idlewild train followed the parade, and then it was time to head home. There were five very tired little boys headed back to Pittsburgh, and maybe three tired adults too. As for Sarah and me, we drove off toward the setting sun with the top down. It was great to be in the Corvair and great to have spent the day at Idlewild. ☺



Our daughters, from left to right, Ellen Lawall with son Luke, and Elaine Evans with son Alexander. The one behind the wheel is me, and Sarah along with Greg were watching the other three kids

Adam (1 yr, 9mos) and John (8 mos), would be in town that week, from the Philadelphia area. Husband Jack, was back home working. Daughter Elaine, with husband, Greg (both are teachers in the Catholic schools here in the Pittsburgh area), and sons Alexander (3 yrs, 6 mos) and Zachery (3 mos) were of course, free that day.

Sarah and I pulled into the park at 10:45 a.m. in our red '64 convertible, a nose ahead of Ellen's van. We were in for free; the girls and their

were performing three times daily under the big top. They were absolutely wonderful—very nimble and very, very funny.

But then came the lightning, thunder and rains. The Moscow Circus ended just that quick. After the terrible tragedy at Kennywood earlier this summer, Idlewild would not allow a performance to continue under a tent, in adverse conditions.

We waited out the storm and the rain that lasted perhaps, an hour to



VAIR STREET JOURNAL

Western Pennsylvania Corvair Club

September 2002



Remember 09-11-01

September 24, 2002

Next Meeting

Hoss's Restaurant • Route 22 • Murrysville
 Dinner at 6:30 p.m. • Meeting at 7:30 p.m.



158
 Western Pennsylvania Corvair Club
 236 W. Marigold Street
 Munhall, PA 15120

Charles Lucas
 236 W. Marigold Street
 Munhall, PA 15120

Sept. Tour Around Pennsylvania

The Tour Around Pennsylvania is a Thursday thru Sunday event, running from September 19 to September 22. It is open to 40 cars, any make, any model, any year. Motels and the banquet have been prearranged. Highlights include: On the East end of the state, drive a lap around the Watkins Glen track in your car, and here in the West, you'll visit the New Beaver Run Auto Sports Complex with its 1.6 mile track. The complex boasts a six acre, asphalt paved autocross track and an in-operation go-cart track. For details and sign-up, call Bill Artzberber at 412-364-6842.

In this Issue

- Brentwood 4th of July Parade by Charles Lucas 1-2
- The Prez Sez by Jim Heatherington 3
- Fall Foliage Tour by Bob Hieber 3
- July 23 Meeting Minutes by Pat Greenwald 4
- Second Annual Cruise at Independence Court 4
- Crafton Parade 2002 and 2003 by Bob Hieber 5
- News from the State of Florida by Vann Hamlin 5
- Hershey Bus Trip by Dick Breier 6
- Idlewild Park Old Fashioned Days by Charles Lucas 7