

WOMAN OF THE WEEK

Taste of the Past Flavors Life in the Country

By VIVIENNE BODEAU
JM Staff Writer

A family with a live-in grandmother and no television is hard to find these days.

Add to this the fact that the family of seven has left the life of the city for a life in the country and that all seven members love and collect antiques and you have a unique family.

The Thurston Dunn family who are living near Nokesville in a 74-year-old farmhouse are such a family.

Center of the family is a slender, dark haired woman who spends her days caring for her family and her leisure time collecting antiques.

Kathyn Dunn has rendered a miracle by transforming a creaky, rambling old farmhouse into a gracious, richly elegant home.

Every one of the 11 rooms gives evidence of her handiwork and her talent for decorating.

Brought up on a large farm near Kirklint, Ind., Mrs. Dunn was accustomed to living with beautiful old furniture and their accoutrements. The Pleasants' (her maiden name) home was filled with heirloom furniture.

Her mother taught her appreciation of fine old things and of beauty, an appreciation that she has never lost but rather has expanded.

Home for a weekend from the State University of Oregon, Mrs. Dunn met her future husband at a dance. He was a six-foot, two-inch athlete who was attending college on a baseball scholarship and who also played varsity football.

Surprisingly enough, he also liked old and beautiful things. They were married a year later and Dunn entered the Marine Corps. This was something he had always planned to do.

Now a colonel in the Marines and based in Washington, D.C. (where he commutes daily) and with 21 years service behind him he is thinking a little about retirement. "But not just yet," he will quickly tell you.

During these military-oriented years the Dunses have lived many places, most of them in cities and Dunn has had three tours abroad requiring him to leave his family behind.

Four sons were born to the couple — Bless, now 20, Bill, 18, Michael, 11, and Matthew, 8. The older two are both over six feet tall and the younger two are well on their way to being just as tall.

All are athletically inclined and all like living in the country. The younger ones say there is so much more room to play.

It was about a year ago that the Dunses decided the noise and confusion of city life was too much for them. Besides,

fireplace — a fireplace that is old, yet usable.

The dining room where the family gather for dinner, with Sunday dinner at home a must for all, features red velvet chairs, red dishes on a black cloth and even a red chandelier.

A rose serving platter given to her mother as a wedding gift is a prize of Mrs. Dunn and sits on the shining serving table.

The kitchen is also in red and black and an old platform rocking chair sits by the picture window that they installed. Col. Dunn sits here and converses with his wife as she prepares the family food.

Between the dining room and kitchen, an old utility room has been turned into a powder room, also in black and red.

It is a powder room unlike most for it contains a chair and a reading table. An antique medicine cabinet hangs above the marble-topped wash basin and a walnut magazine rack adds to the decor.

Prints of hunting and romance scenes line the walls and a large picture of a woman dressed in black, with red roses trimming her gown, dominates one wall. It is a Boileu print.

A nearby den displays a big genealogy chart of the Pleasants family and an even larger portrait of the family show dog Baron Von Wood.

Upstairs there are bedrooms for the boys and a master bedroom with a sitting room study opening out of it for the senior Dunses to use.

Further back there is a bedroom with its own little kitchen and refrigerator. Here, propped up in bed on her pillows with her hair tied in gay ribbons, is grandmother Pleasants, now in her eighties and unable to walk without the aid of a walker and helpers.

An alert mind, a serene countenance and twinkling eyes bring her a constant stream of visitors from the family group and elsewhere.

Though she has not always lived with them, the boys appreciate having a grandmother to love, tease and to talk with.

It is in the master bedroom and in a guest room that two huge four poster beds stand. Drapes and bedspreads are as ancient as the beds. One spread is of lace so old it is fragile to the touch.

A little school desk that was grandmother's is in one of the boys' rooms and drums from Thailand are used as end tables in the Dunses' sitting room.

The age of the house itself shows not only in the floors but in the uneven tops of the door and the slanting ceilings.

Off the upstairs hall is a large porch filled with rocking chairs where the family can look out over the four acres.



The Dunn Home
Serenity surrounds the white frame farmhouse of the Thurston Dunn family. Sitting in the center of four acres, the house is filled with antiques. The family decided last year to forsake city life. Kevin Murphy - The Journal Messenger

SECTION B

Prince William Living

People Leisure Home

MANASSAS, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1974



It was about seven ago that the Duns decided the noise and confusion of city life was too much for them. Besides, they needed larger quarters for their vast collection of inherited and bought antiques and art objects.

City homes just cannot accommodate English Court cupboards, a Raven, Bacon and Co. 1864 piano with yellowed keys or massive velvet high-backed chairs and couches, not to mention solid walnut four poster beds with high canopies.

Even now the big old farmhouse does not accommodate everything. The overflow is housed in a large white barn. The Duns are beginning to believe they should open an antique shop in the barn to dispose of some of their valuables.

When you enter the enormous center hall of the Duns' white frame house you are immediately overawed by the height of the ceilings, and the long curving stairway (it creaks as you walk on the steps).

A majestic floor-length mirror is against one of the walls and the other walls are lined with pictures.

The large drawing room gives room to the piano where the Dunn family often sit and play as all of them can.

Two old and lovely settees flank the

of the door and the slanting entrance to the upstairs hall is a large porch filled with rocking chairs where the family can look out over the four acres of their land and onto neighboring farms.

This is where many a spring, summer and fall evening is spent by the family, just rocking, talking, enjoying.

Books, of course, are everywhere in the house, many of them old and rare. Books that now play an even more important part in the life of the Dunn family for a few months ago they agreed to do away with television in their home.

All say that without television they communicate more with each other and have more time for family projects and for reading.

Outdoors where a white fence surrounds the property, a basketball court occupies a large corner and is used constantly by the boys and their father.

Two family cats, Mamma and Annie Laurie, roam the property with Baron.

A peaceful quiet pervades and a sense of calm hangs over the house as Col. and Mrs. Dunn and their four strapping sons reenter their farm home.

They have found their way of life. (Dunn family recipes are on page 2-B.)



RIC FELD - The Journal Messenger

The Dunn Family

Bill Dunn, Mrs. Thurston Dunn and Col. Dunn relax on one of their antique sofas in the drawing room. Sons Michael and Matthew (foreground) stop their game of chess for a moment to play with

Annie Laurie, one of the family cats. The room is filled with antiques including the Raven, Bacon and Co. 1864 piano behind the couch.



Kevin Murphy - The Journal Messenger

Farmhouse Kitchen

Looking unlike most farmhouse kitchens the kitchen of the Dunn family is done in black and red and has fairly modern cabinets. The chairs are cane covered with red velvet pads.



RIC FELD - The Journal Messenger

Down But Not Out

Grandmothers are hard to find these days but Grandmother Pleasants who resides with her daughter, Mrs. Thurston Dunn, and family is confined mostly to her bed and this is where they visit her.



RIC FELD - The Journal Messenger

Reigning Over Queen Desk

A portrait of Mrs. Thurston Dunn hangs over an old Queen Anne desk in the master bedroom of the Dunn home. Made of walnut, the desk has its original brass handles and a folding top.

Dunn Family's Recipes Satisfy

When a family of seven includes five big men and boys it takes a lot of doing to keep them filled up with good food.

Mrs. Thurston Dunn says she is not a gourmet cook but knows how to satisfy their appetites. She shares the following recipes.

Small Potato Casserole
1 package frozen peas
1 1/2 cans small potatoes (or peel small potatoes)
1 1/2 cans small onions
2 cans button mushrooms
Place all in a casserole dish. Cover with white sauce and bake one half hour at 325 degrees.

White Sauce
4 T. Butter
4 T. flour
1/2 tsp. Salt
1/4 tsp. paprika
2 cups milk
3/4 cups grated cheese

Brown Rice
1 sm. bunch of scallions (cut up)
3 T. meat drippings
3 cups of rice

Proper Handling Of Game A Must

Good hunting and fresh meat bring pictures of bird dogs ranging coveys of quail, exploding underfoot, and an instant of antlers and a flash of white to mind.

Now that we are in the midst of hunting season it's time to be reminded that bacteria abounds in nature.

Be double sure that you incorporate proper handling and preparation of wild birds and game to prevent an unpleasant case of food poisoning for your family.

When handling follow the precautions listed below. Once you have bagged your quarry, check it over for obvious signs of disease or wounds.

Follow the classification that federal, state and poultry inspectors use — 4. To roast, dress, dress and eat. They do not allow animals with any

Soy sauce added to taste. Lightly cook scallions in drippings. Add the rice (a good way to use up leftover rice) and soy sauce. Stir gently until heated through and the rice turns a light brown.

This is delicious says Mrs. Dunn, served with a pork roast and apple sauce.

It is a favorite Sunday meal of the Dunn family. She cooks the rice ahead and then lets the roast cook while the family attends church.

Peach Cobbler
Mix together
1 1/2 cup biscuit mix
1 tsp. baking powder
3/4 cup sugar
3/4 cup milk
1 tsp. mace
1 tsp. vanilla
Cook together.
1 can peaches (large size)
1 cup sugar
Fold peaches into batter and pour into a greased baking dish. Dot with one teaspoon of butter and bake for about 30 minutes at 350 degrees. Stir gently about halfway through the baking time.

White Sauce
4 T. Butter
4 T. flour
1/2 tsp. Salt
1/4 tsp. paprika
2 cups milk
3/4 cups grated cheese

Brown Rice
1 sm. bunch of scallions (cut up)
3 T. meat drippings
3 cups of rice

Once you have your catch clean, chill it as fast as possible. Remember, chilling the meat stops the growth of bacteria. For example, if you have bagged a deer prop the body cavity open after cutting. This will speed cooling. Then get it home quickly and refrigerate or freeze it.

Once your meat is home, follow the basic principles necessary to prevent the growth of bacteria. Cook the meat well and do not use the same platters or utensils for raw and cooked meat without washing in between.

Keep your cooked meat away from the danger zone of 40 degrees F to 140 degrees F. If it's cold, keep it cold and the same rule applies if it's hot — keep it hot. If you do not plan to eat the meat immediately, freeze it!

Don't tell me to go to other places because I can never enjoy myself at someone's home, etc. I just found to meet her people and have some fun. He thinks I want to

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Warning Sign

Members of Woodbridge Cadette Troop 932 proudly display the banner that decorated the side of their bus on a trip to Savannah, Ga. and Disneyworld, Fla. Thirty-four Girl Scouts, four leaders, and the Rev. Edwin Kelly made the trip, returning to Woodbridge Dec. 31.

SUSIE MAC

Bars Are No Solution

By SUSIE MCDUGAL

Dear Susie Mac:
I am a divorced mother of one child, and I'm still young at heart at age 21. My problem is that I've lived with my boyfriend for 2 1/2 years. I really love him dearly with all my heart.

He went away two months ago to prison. I find myself definitely very lonely. I asked his permission to have one night a week to go to a night club. Right away he thought I wanted to go out with other men, and now he says he assumes our relationship is ended.

Everything in our apartment belongs to him, and I have nowhere to go if our relationship ends. What burns me the most is that when we first started to date, he lived with me, and then we sold all my furniture to get what we have today.

Anyway, the main thing is that I do love this guy dearly, or else I wouldn't have asked his permission — I would have just sneaked out. Why can't he understand that I need some time out?

Don't tell me to go to other places because I can never enjoy myself at someone's home, etc. I just found to meet her people and have some fun. He thinks I want to

freedom. Needs Freedom

Dear Needs:
Sorry, but it won't wash. If what you're looking for in the way of freedom can only be found in bars and night clubs, then I'd say your boyfriend is right.

Find something else to do. Go back to school or get a job (preferably daytime). There are great ways to meet new people, besides earning babysitting money.

Dear Susie Mac:
My mother criticizes my boy friend every chance she gets. She always tells me that he never buys me anything. The truth is that I never ask him for anything, and I don't want presents from him.

He sometimes buys me little things for no occasion.

IN AND AROUND MANASSAS Academy Visited

By ELVERE COX 368-2729

Mr. and Mrs. James Cupp have returned to their home in Studley after a week's visit with their son in law and daughter — Mr. and Mrs. Lothar DeTemple at the Air

and sometimes things for big occasions, which my mother says aren't worth anything.

I don't think a young man should buy expensive gifts for a girl, and I'm grateful for what I get. But my mother says how else am I going to know how he feels. How can I stop her from thinking my boy friend should act like a millionaire?

Worried

Dear Worried:
Considering that most of us are suffering an acute lack of money these days, it would be remarkable for a young man to be able to scrounge up more than a Saturday night movie and dinner.

Explain to your mom that you enjoy your boy friend's company, not his ability to give you expensive gifts, and that you are not for sale.

EAST OF ROUTE 1

Marumsco Acres Chooses Officers

By ANN MIGACZ
The Marumsco Acres Civic Association met Dec. 30 to vote on a new slate of officers.

The new president is Grace DuPont, vice president is Alden Wagoner and the combined secretary-treasurer office is held by Helen Fecura. Their terms of office began Jan. 1.

A Washington Gas Light Company representative was to have spoken on the energy crisis at the Woodbridge Jaycee Wives' Jan. 2 meeting, but due to inclement weather the meeting was cancelled. The speaker will be at the Feb. 6 meeting and the public is invited.

This may be a good opportunity to learn some hints about saving time, energy and money. The Jaycee Wives will meet at the Cokesbury Methodist Church on Blackburn Road in Woodbridge.

Because of bad weather at the regularly scheduled meeting time the Featherstone Civic Association had to cancel their executive board meeting in December.

President Nancy Grindle will schedule another meeting for sometime this month.

The Woodbridge Jaycees are busy planning their DSA Bosses Night for Jan. 26. DSA means Distinguished Service Awards and the public is asked to send in recommendations for individuals who are qualified to be voted on.

Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer, Outstanding Young Fireman and/or Rescue Worker, Outstanding Young Educator, and Outstanding Young Man in the Community are the awards given.

The schools are being contacted about persons eligible for the educator award but anyone can send in a recommendation.

The Marumsco Acres Garden Club was responsible for the display of luminaria candles on Longview Drive during the holidays.

Births

POTOMAC HOSPITAL
December 28, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lee South of Woodbridge, a girl.
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. VanBeter of Woodbridge, a girl.

FAIRFAX HOSPITAL
December 11, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Koon, Manassas, girl.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. White, Centerville, girl.

December 10, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Lee B. Easley, Woodbridge, girl.
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Neville, Woodbridge, boy.
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Sutherland, Gainesville, boy.

December 17, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Jakob, Woodbridge, boy.
December 18, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Halstein, Woodbridge, boy.
Mr. and Mrs. James C. Madison, Centerville, boy.

December 18, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Gilbarte, Woodbridge, girl.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Searka, Woodbridge, girl.

December 20, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Brown, Woodbridge, boy.
December 21, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Decca W. Mendell, Manassas, boy.

December 21, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur N. Sherman, Woodbridge, boy.
December 22, 1973
Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Riley, Woodbridge, girl.

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2 for 5

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Don't tell me to go to other places because I can never enjoy myself at games or Bingo, etc. I feel I need to meet new people and have some fun. He thinks I want to find someone new, but all I really want is a little

freedom.

Needs Freedom

Dear Needs:
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They were accompanied by their son, Steve, who was home from the College of William and Mary in Hampton.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hart had as guests at their home on Longstreet Drive for the holidays, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy O. Townsend of King William and Mr. Hart's mother, Mrs. V. Stanley Hart from Urbana.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Young and their young sons, John Julian and Benjamin have come from their home, Penn's Buck, England, for a visit with Mrs. Young's mother, Mrs. John Galleher and sister, Miss Susan Galleher in their home on Sudley Road.

Mr. Allison A. Hooff was the guest of her son-in-law and daughter, Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Howard Cooksey at Fort Belvoir during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Shepherd entertained a group of friends and relatives at a holiday party on Dec. 26 in their home in Robel.

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