

the painted box

by Wendy Thomson

One morning recently, a white ferret was on TV. She was interesting and amusing, I guess, but the camera failed to catch the basic ferret charm.

That night, after seeing a short bit of home movie on Andy, the ferret we used to have, I had the definite longing to hear the patter of little ferret feet around the house, once more.

Andy was much more handsome than the one on TV. His long golden hair was tipped in black. His tall, legs, and point between the eyes were all black, and his stomach a soft cream white.

Since a ferret's legs are quite short, he travelled with little shuffling steps, scooting along like a wound-up toy. In the house, he toured round and round, looking into every crevice and corner with great interest.

At hot air registers, for some strange reason, he'd flatten right out and slide across on his belly, and with electric cords, he'd find a loop to ooze through, rather than walk over.

Every now and then in this grand tour, perhaps overcome by his freedom, Andy would flip over in a few complicated somersaults then go flop, — a complete collapse with all four feet straight out to the sides.

Begin chase
The ferret on TV, supposedly called a jumping ferret because it jumped from the table to someone's arms, had nothing on Andy. Wanting to play, he'd step in front of one of us, and hop up and down in one spot, all four feet at once, then begin the chase.

And that was hilarious. Andy ran with his front feet and hopped with his hind, stopping every now and then with a dazed look or else pausing to chase himself in a few circles, giving silly little grunts all the while.

Our part in the game was to hop back at him in mock chase-and-flight. It was necessary to be quite careful because Andy, on catching us, was likely to give a good bite in all the excitement, and believe me! — he had the teeth to do it!

Real job
Although most of his time was spent in the house entertaining us, Andy's real job was to rid the barns of rats, which he did most enthusiastically.

The first time we took him to the hay barn, he went into ecstasies, hopping up and down on the piles of hay or

burrowing in it to re-appear with hay wisps dangling in front of beady eyes.

He loved burrowing. Although he had his own cage in the basement, he much preferred disappearing into one of the laundry baskets and I always had to sort through the wash quite carefully before throwing it into the machine.

Once awakened, Andy was overjoyed to have company and insisted on trying to climb up my jeans. I'll bet I was the only housewife who did the wash with a ferret clinging to one leg.

In ear
His friendliness was unsettling to most people as it took a fair bit of nerve to let this little predator carefully lick up their arms, around their neck, and start whuffling softly with his entire nose stuck in their ear.

The ferret on TV was whisked away because during her excitement, the air began smelling musky and musky. With Andy, that was the only way we could find him when he got loose in the house and hid. We'd go from room to room sniffing. More often than not, he'd be burrowed right down to the end of somebody's pillowcase.

Heaving pillow
Once I had a cold and didn't catch the smell before climbing into bed. When my pillow started heaving around, I just about had a fit! Andy was here only a few months. The hinge on his cage came loose one day and he was away and gone across the fields.

Maybe one day we'll get another ferret, but I sometimes wonder if I joy in having an animal is worth the sorrow at losing it.

So one day, if somebody comes to call and smells a definite (VERY definite) musky odor in the house they'll know I made up my mind.

1100 mile trip for pair to new home at Atikokan

In a double-ring ceremony at Trinity United church Gail Norene Douglas and Gerard Raoul Jolicoeur were married Saturday, August 18. The Rev. Gordon Turner returned from Oshawa to perform the ceremony.

The bride who was a registered nursing assistant at the Red Cross hospital at Heardmore, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Douglas, R.R. 1, Acton. The groom is with Caland Ore Company Ltd. and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Laurent Jolicoeur of Heardmore, Ontario.

George Elliott played the organ and soloist friend Donna Bell sang The Wedding Song and Hallelujah. The church was lit by candlelight and decorated with pots of white mums which were later presented to the bride's grandmother Mrs. Annie Douglas and family friend Mrs. Jane Sayers.

Lucky coin
The bride wore satin sheen peau de sole gown with long flowing train with accents of Chantilly lace. Her matching waist-length veil of Chantilly lace was topped with a Spanish headdress trimmed with lace petals and pearls. In her shoe was a lucky 1870 halfpenny which had been carried by five brides before her.

Her flowers were a trailing cascade of red roses and stephanotis.

Matron of honor Mrs. Debbie Meador, Oakville, wore a long A-line gown of baby blue crimplene with low ruffled neckline and long sleeves; she carried tiny white mums and blue tinted carnation.

Short course

A short course in Creative Stitchery was held Thursday and Friday of last week in Acton library. Instructor was Irene Koyama, who showed those attending 18 stitches suitable for crewel embroidery.

By the end of the two days each person attending had an article of needlecraft well underway.

Those participating were Mrs. Willa Hargrave, Mrs. Doris Cooke, Mrs. Helen Pickett, Mrs. Myrtle Lambert, Mrs. Near, Mrs. Veldhuis, Mrs. Strongtharm, Mrs. Grace Nellis, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Agnes Holmes, Mrs. Ethel Harris, Jean McLean, Jean Vaughan and Mrs. Gail Dawson.

Bridesmaids were Mrs. Laurene McEachern, Milton and Miss Brenda Colling, Campbellville and junior bridesmaid cousin Leeanne Chinery, Toronto. They were dressed alike in baby blue crimplene with mandarin necklines and short puffed sleeves. They carried nosegays of tiny white mums and blue tinted carnations. All the attendants wore white picture hats with blue ribbon and rhinestone heart pendants, gifts of the bride.

Matching dickies
Norman Douglas gave his

daughter in marriage; groomsmen were George Chinery, Toronto and the ushers Norman and William Douglas, brothers. The men in the wedding party wore blue and white broadcated jackets with black lapels, bow ties and pants. They had matching blue ruffled dickies to match the bridesmaids' dresses.

Reception and dinner were in Knox Presbyterian church. The bride's mother received guests wearing multi-flowered crepe, white mums in her hair and a corsage of

talismen baby roses. The groom's mother wore a gold and beige gown with yellow baby roses.

The bride's mother made the three-tiered wedding cake which was decorated and set up by friend David Spicer.

Dance
After dinner there was a dance at the music centre where Lloyd Hillman and his band played. The bride's uncle William Worsfold, Richmond Hill, was master of ceremonies.

Guests were present from Acton, Rockwood, Guelph, Simco, Burlington, Oakville, Port Credit, Milton, Mississauga, Toronto, Markham, Richmond Hill, Newmarket, Oshawa, Port Hope, Peterborough, Lindsay, Roxdale, Milton, Campbellville, Sheraton, London and Heardmore. Among them were the bride's grandmothers Mrs. Annie Douglas and Mrs. Alice Worsfold, Toronto.

1100 miles

Leaving, the bride wore brown and white dress with white gardenia. After a weekend at the Valhalla Inn the couple left on a 1100 mile trip to their new home, by plane for Thunder Bay and on to Atikokan where they have purchased a new mobile home.

Several special gatherings were held before the wedding. Miscellaneous showers were held by associates at Heardmore hospital; Mrs. Laurene McEachern; Mrs. Edith Hillman; Mrs. Dolly Kolody, the bride's godmother; and Mrs. Marion Chinery, an aunt. Mrs. Shelley Lindsay held a pantry shower. The bride was taken for luncheon at the Valhalla Inn by Mrs. Pam Sheldon and Mrs. Debbie Meador.



MR. AND Mrs. Gerard Jolicoeur were married in Trinity United church and are living in Atikokan. She is the former Gail Douglas of Acton. (Photo by J. Jennings)

Four delegates "inspired"

On Tuesday, Oct. 2, the Central Council District of the Canadian Cancer Society held their annual meeting at the Brampton Golf Club and four members of the local unit attended, Miss Arlene, vice-pres., Cathy McMillan, Service to Patients chairman, Gloria Costa, co-chairman of Service to Patients, and vice-chairman of the Central Council Service to Patients Committee, and Marion Patterson, chairman of Education and Publicity for the Acton Branch.

The program was geared mainly to the Education and Publicity segment of the society and was of great interest. Chairman was Eason Brown and an address was heard from Dr. W. G. Whitaker, Brampton obstetrician and

gynecologist, that inspired those present to endeavor to reach everyone in their community with some education and publicity facts, not only about control of cancer and Seven Steps To Health by prevention, but in the attitude of the friends and relatives towards a cancer patient who has successfully had her operation and is now recuperating from her illness. Dr. Whitaker stressed the positive side and the need for encouragement for those people who have come through their treatment, and participated a boost to renew their self-confidence once again, while they are on the mend.

There was a most interesting presentation on industrial education and a

demonstration of the service provided by the Canadian Cancer Society in visiting various plants and industries in the area, and showing them an educational film of about 5 minutes in length, being available for private counselling and even for referral to a doctor in some cases, where the need is known. These mobile units are staffed by registered nurses who visit the industries every three years, or so.

After a delicious buffet dinner, they had a seminar on public speaking at service clubs, etc., and a most inspiring talk was given by Ontario's Miss Hope, Gillian Hoover, a graduate of the Credit Valley School of Nursing who is now nursing at the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto.

There followed a clever "One Minute Talk By Delegates", who were given sealed envelopes, and when called upon, opened their envelopes and had to give a talk on whatever subject was divulged from within the envelope. They were only allowed one minute. There was an evaluation on this "talk", all of which served to give pointers on impromptu public speaking.

Toys for all in fair contest

The lady directors of Acton Agricultural Society met at the new home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Archibald, in Guelph on Thursday evening, Oct. 4, and an address was heard from Dr. W. G. Whitaker, Brampton obstetrician and

the doll buggies, tricycles and bicycles in the parade and stated that all entries received prizes donated by Eric Haynes, general manager of Lesney Products of Canada, well known manufacturers of Matchbox toys.

The next meeting will be Nov. 8 at the home of Mrs. M. Madill.

Lunch was served by the hostess and committee, and everyone enjoyed a social half-hour.

Mrs. C. Aitken was courtesy convener.

Toys Mrs. K. Alger reported on

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Free Press Personals

Mrs. Helen Waterhouse, Mrs. Ruby Waterhouse and Mrs. Helena Cunningham spent an enjoyable two week trip to Florida where they visited Disney World, Cypress Gardens, Silver Springs and many other interesting places.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Weier Sr. have moved from Toronto and are living in the Diplomat Apartments, Church St. He has retired after working for over 50 years for Abel Photo Finishing.

Dr. Marshall McLuhan of St. Michael's College, world renowned communications expert, and Dr. Jack Sword, special assistant to the president of Toronto University, classmates of Dr. Omron, were visiting Dr. and Mrs. Omron with their wives on Sunday.

Home for Thanksgiving weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Landsborough were Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Park, Cathy Steven, Kenny and Patti-Jo of Petrolia and Miss Joanne Landsborough of Gravenhurst.

David Watson, Church St. E. has been named a Fellow of the Institute of Canadian Bankers, the educational arm of the Canadian Bankers

Association, following completion of a banking course at York University. David, who was at the Toronto-Dominion bank in Georgetown, is now attending York university full time.

Halton County Council will be well represented at the national good roads convention in Halifax this week Oct. 7 to Oct. 13. Members of the roads committee Warden Anne MacArthur, Acton, Reeve Pat McKenzie, Georgetown Deputy Reeve Ernie Sykes, Esqueness Heeve Tom Hill and Burlington Reeve Les Preston are attending. Preston will be defeated at the polls Oct. 1 and ends his term Jan. 1.

Esqueness Deputy Reeve Len Cox and Nassagaweya Deputy Reeve Jim Watson are not members of the road committee but both accompanied members of the committee on the convention trip.

Wins \$500

Mike Rogers, 380 Forfar St. Fergus was the lucky winner of \$500 in the Acton Minor Baseball Association monthly draw for October. Seller of the lucky ticket was Sandy McEachern, R.R. 1, Acton.

Laurie Pierce heads 4-H club

by Marie Parker
The first Dublin Seniors 4-H meeting was held at Mrs. Pat Kirton's on Monday, Oct. 1. They decided to chose the name for the club at the next meeting.

Officers were elected as follows: president Laurie Pierce, vice-president Heather McEachern, treasurer Penny Kirton, phoning Kathy Barber, press reporter Marie Parker.

Projects
As the night went on Mrs. Kirton discussed the things they can make.

Mrs. Lasby read about Color Co-Ordination. Refreshments were served.

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