

# Family Flies for Fun

By BEVERLY MOTLEY, Women's Staff Writer

A family project at the Ralph Bellenot home can mean hiking, camping, fishing, building and operating a ham radio, sailing and, the latest project, restoring and flying the family's 1946 Ercoupe.

When Ralph says to his wife Esther "Let's drop in on the folks," he means just that.

Because that's her signal to pack a light bag, make the five-minute drive from their Sylmar home to San Fernando Airport to board the Ercoupe and fly to Yuma where they land on the road in front of Dad Bellenot's home.

"But that's only when it's my turn," commented Esther. "We use the rotation system for the one passenger seat in the two-place airplane."

### Fly First, Drive Later

In line for the coveted position are Steven 19, Marie 16, Barbara 14, and Russell 11. All are expert navigators as is Esther who attended ground school at Granada Hills High School and is taking lessons for her private license.

Steven handles the controls very well, according to Dad. and he hopes to enroll in a special flying program at Harvey Mudd College where he is a science major.

"Marie is more interested in driving than flying at the moment," said Esther. She is a student at Sylmar High School. With the change in the driver's license law, Barbara will probably be flying before she can drive. Although she knows how to handle the airplane now, she can solo at 16 and will have to wait until she is 18 for her driver's license. She attends Olive Vista Junior High School.

### Rotation System Is New

"Russell has to sit on a pillow to reach the controls," said Ralph. "But he never turns down an opportunity to go along." A student at Hubbard St. School, Russell also likes to spend time in the Link Trainer, a mockup of a real airplane.

The rotation system is relatively new with the Bellenots.

"We used to take the one who yelled the loudest to go along," said Ralph. "But the noise was pretty bad, so we set up the new system. Then when we want to take the whole family, we rent a six-passenger plane."

But owning an airplane isn't all flying and fun. When the Bellenots acquired their Ercoupe two years ago it was in pretty terrible condition. So it was parked in the garage for an overhaul which today is complete except for the upholstery which Esther is doing herself.

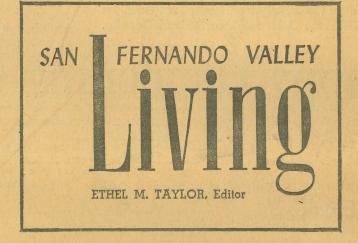
As chief engineer with the Buckley Corp.,

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ABOVE: Flying is family affair with Ralph Bellenots who prepare for takeoff with assistance of Marie, Russell and Barbara, from left. Children take turns riding in only passenger seat of 1946 Ercoupe.



RIGHT: Navigation is an important part of fly-





# Bon Voyage for Mothers of Twins



SHIP AHOY and anchors aweigh. It's time for Twins and Triplets Mothers Club seafaring party aboard the SS Princess Louise at Ports O'Call Vil-

lage. Getting in mood for gala are, from left, Mmes. William Wylie, Robert Jacobson and Richard Freeborg. Event will take place Aug. 5. The News photo

A seafaring adventure is in store for members of Twins and Triplets Mothers Club and their husbands when they travel by chartered bus to Ports O'Call Village, Saturday, Aug. 5, for dinner and a cruise aboard the SS Princess Louise.

Leaving Encino at 7 p.m., they will have time for dinner and shopping in the village's novel restaurants and stores before boarding the Princess, a paddle-wheel ship, at 11 p.m. for a harbor cruise, dancing and cocktails.

### They Will Attend

Mmes. Robert Jacobson and William Wylie are in charge of arrangements.

Planning to attend are Messrs. and Mmes. Donald Art, Robert Berglund, John Bozeman, Marc Constantine, George Cooley, Robert Edgar, Albert Feldman, Richard Freeborg, Jerry Hoxsie, Robert Jacobson, Walter Kuzmin and William Lally.

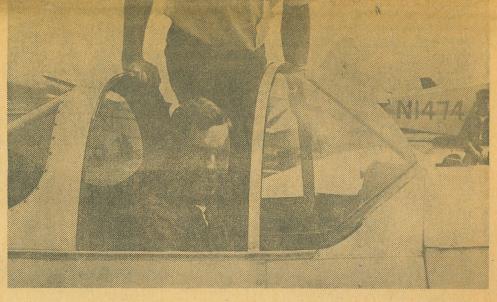
More are Messrs. and Mmes. Robert Mandeson, Donald McCleerey, William McNamara, Richard Mooneyham, Ted Musial, Jack Parton, Jerry Porter, Jim Pharr, Jack Schienbein, Dave Thompson and Lee Underwood.

### Speaker Scheduled

Also planning to attend are Messrs. and Mmes. John Vanderwier, Joel Vonderscher, Mel Wallace, Dean Whitten and Pete Wylie.

Members will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. at the D & K Rathskeller, 16140 Ventura Blvd., Encino, to hear David Mercer, YMCA secretary, speak on programs available through the Y. He will be introduced by Mrs. Dom Sanchez.

Mrs. Vonderscher, pres-Continued on Next Page



TINY cockpit of Ercoupe is full to capacity when Steven Bellenot, seated, flies with his dad. Steven's flying time is limited now that he is science major at Harvey Mudd College.



SINCE there are no automatic facilities for washing airplanes, Barbara, Russell and Marie, from left, pitch in to keep it clean. All responsibilities of owning Ercoupe are shared by entire family.

Happiness for All

Happiness for Lawrence Welk, favorite of the senior citizens, is being asked by teenage girls to autograph their arms.

So it was a happy happen-

# Flying Is Family Fun

Cont. from Preceding Page which owns five radio sta- trip and then drove home tions including KGIL in the Valley, Ralph has incorporated flying with his business. As "Son of Skywatch," the Ercoupe flew 175 hours last year as supplement to KGIL's regular skywatch. There are six licensed pilots at the station.

"Now we are looking for an aerobatic biplane to become 'Grandfather of Skywatch'," said Ralph.

The Ercoupe is in demand at air shows because of its unusual appearance. Considered an open cockpit airplane, there is a plastic cover that can be pulled over the head for more timid passengers.

# Ballet Luau Set Sunday

Patrons and friends of the Classical Ballet Foundation will gather Sunday for a luau at the Encino home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Indovina. Proceeeds will help finance the fall performance. The ballet will be seen this time with a full symphony under the baton of the internationally known Dr. Leo

## Beta Beta Maps Surprise Plans For Breakfast

A "come as you are" breakfast is being planned by Beta Beta chapter of Beta Sigma Phi for a summer Sunday morning.

members will be invited at man, to introduce Mrs. the last moment by tele- Joseph Zgrablich, newly ac-

Heading the social, which is a get-acquainted event, is Mrs. Terry Wilson, who will be assisted by Mrs. Charles Mrs. Eddie Long. Mrs.

are raising for their clinic for emotionally disturbed children on the grounds of the new Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Karl (Debbie Reynolds) loaded a Greyhound bus with Thalians and other show biz friends gave them a champagne flight to the center.

It was a long ride home for Helen and Ed Begley of Van Nuys who drove to Beverly Hills to make the bus

They were among those who stayed on to greet Donald O'Connor at the aftershow party in the theater rehearsal hall.

So did Agnes Moorhead, the Dick Browns (Eva Gabor), Morton Hellers (Lita Warner), other guests of the Karls

Sis and Jim Gold of North Hollywood came early with their three children Jami, Jill and Jeff and Jeff's pal Michael Olivares to eat popcorn and sit in the bright red seats.

Sis, corresponding secretary for the Thalians, stayed on for the party, but Jim left to take the children

More In Crowd

More in the Thalians' crowd were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chambers and Dr. Alexander Runciman of Sherman Oaks, Dr. and Mrs. Irwin Lehrhoff, James Lister of Studio City and Charla and Malcolm Black, all Valley dwellers.

Liam Sullivan of Van Nuys, Thalians' first vice president, missed seeing his president's show and also the party. He's making a picture in Utah.

They're not Thalians but Mr. and Mrs. James Boudreau of North Hollywood turned up at the Donald O'Connor and the Association opening (they close tomorrow night) and ate hot

Cont. from Preceding Page Time and place is known ident, will call on Mrs. Ray only by the hostess and Laakso, membership chaircepted member.

A board of directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 17, at the home of Wylie will be cohostess.



FIRST NIGHTERS Mr. and Mrs. Ed Begley, Van Nuys, arrive by bus to attend Donald O'Connor opening at Greek Theatre. They were guests of Debbie Reynolds and Harry Karl.



THALIANS Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chambers, Sherman Oaks, get eye-full at after-show reception in Greek Theatre rehearsal hall.

Hamilton, Carolyn A. Durfee, George Coppedge, Slocum, Charles B. Lay and Harry Bradshaw.

MR. AND MRS. C. S. NEWBERRY: Cut Cake Together

# Sherman Oaks Club Members, Families Plan Vacation Trips

for members of the Sher- be visited by the Earl man Oaks Woman's Club and their families.

Mrs. Hugo Pensanti and her family will fly south of lars and their children are the border for a month of looking forward to week sightseeing and relaxation in Mexico.

Expo 67 and other parts of eastern Canada are the destination of the Robert Pousts and the Homer Thomases. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas returned from an extensive tour of the Hawaiian Islands.

Also vacationing in Canada will be the Hubert Finns who will be visiting British Columbia and the Bernard Gunions who will spend two months touring the northwestern states with Lake Louise and Banff included in their itinerary.

# Swim Party Slated by DAR Group

Annual picnic and swim party of the Fernanda Maria Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will be held Monday, Aug. 7, at 12 noon at the home of Mrs. Patrick H. Ferguson, 5510 Sunnyslope Ave., Van Nuys.

Prospective members are being invited.

A short meeting will be held to discuss fall plans and Mrs. Eugene C. Edwards will be presented with the gavel and regent's pin by Mrs. Glenn L. De-Bray, past regent. Mrs. Edwards was in Hawaii when officers were installed.

### GLEASON ON CLOTHES

Jackie Gleason, who believes in the most colorful of clothes says, "I'm the only living man who knows how to dress."

Local vacation spots will of fishing, boating and hik-Dorans and the Charles McClintocks. The Jack Tilends they will be spending with friends water skiing and camping.

Mrs. Walton C. Rehwold is packed and ready to go to Mammoth Lake for a month

ing. The Louis Efros family is on vacation at Balboa and nearby Laguna Beach will be the vacation spot of the Fred Warners and the Jack

Two families who are driving to San Diego for a few weeks of sailing and swimming are the Charles Withers and Robbins Rit-



## RACER RETURNS

Compass and charts were among necessary equipment to bring Lois Miles of Woodland Hills in ninth out of field of 76 airplanes in Powder Puff Derby. Seven of top 10 pilots are California women. Lois was one of few pilots flying solo.

and a school at the orphanage, and to supply food, clothing, medicine and school supplies for the chil-

### People Need Help

Among the basic objectives of I.O.I. are freedom and a better way of life for the South Vietnamese people as well as the underprivileged of the world.

"There can be no stability in Vietnam until the people enjoy a measure of prosperity, health and the knowledge and strength to care for themselves," said Mrs. Richard Schmidt, president.

Reservations for the dinner are being taken evenings by Mrs. Jackie Squires at 343-7552.

# WOMAN FETED WITH PARTY ON BIRTHDAY

A family gathering to celebrate the 94th birthday of Mabel Bouton was held at the home of her son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. Edwin D. Hamlin of Northridge.

Born in Picton, Ontario, Canada, in 1873, Mrs. Bouton attended school there and came to the United States when she was 18 settling in Rochester, N.Y. She came to California in 1918 and resides in Glendale.

Attending the party were her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harold N. Landon of Glendale, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other guests.

# Emblem Club 30 Thrift Sale Set

A thrift sale will be held tomorrow by Canoga Park Emblem Club 360 in the garage at 7955 DeSoto Ave. Hours of sale are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Proceeds from this project will be used for the group's philanthropic activities according to Mrs. Gene France, president.

