

Gleanings

THE OFFICIAL NUMBER ONE NEBRASKA POST-POLIO NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

1987

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ITEMS NEEDED FOR OMAHA NPSA SPRING GARAGE SALE

Start saving now!

Jeanne Richardson and Katherine Taylor of the Omaha area group are planning a Spring garage sale to benefit NPSA.

So set aside that hideous vase Aunt Lucy gave you for Christmas and start cleaning your basements! These two dynamos will give Mrs. B. some tough competition--let's all help them out!

Get your boxes (crates, truckloads) ready, and we'll let you know where to take them next time.

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POLIO CONFERENCE PLANS UNDERWAY IN ST. LOUIS

Plans are rapidly moving ahead for the June 4-7 International Polio Conference in St. Louis.

Sponsored by Gazette International Networking Institute (G.I.N.I.), the get-together is expected to attract over 700 polio survivors and medical professionals from all over the world. We hope to have good representation from Nebraska--will you go?

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CUB FOODS: HANDICAPPED SHOPPING IN STYLE

In 1951 at the age of 12, Sam Osborne found himself in the hospital in Rockford, Illinois, smothered with hot packs as treatment for polio.

Thirty-five years later he came to Omaha to build and manage a Cub Food Store, an establishment with special concern for the handicapped.

One of the most helpful aids is the motorized Mart Carts available as you enter the store. With a huge basket attached to the front and easy to operate fingertip controls, the carts make shopping a pleasure for those who normally find that getting around a store is a task.

"The two carts we have are used so much we are considering getting a third one," says Osborne. "Everyone who regularly uses the cart has his own key (to start it with), and we have about 150 keys out now."

Perhaps because of his own experience with polio, Osborne has become very sensitive to the needs of the handi-

capped. The three and one-half months he spent in the hospital and the year of physical therapy to strengthen his legs may have left him with an awareness that few people have. "I was really very, very lucky," he says. "I had little or no after effects. Sometimes if I get real tired my legs bother me, but I don't really have any problems from it."

Osborne has always provided wheelchairs for his customers, so was delighted to discover the carts. "They are a real plus--they are very easy to operate," he says. They are extremely stable so they won't tip over, and move at

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MART CART

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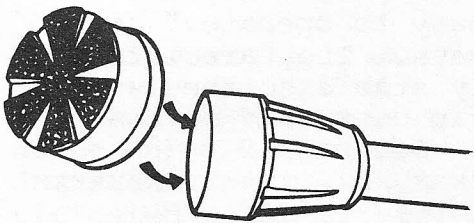
STAYING UPRIGHT ON THE ICE WITH SNOW BOOTS

Snow Boots were a labor of love. It was 1971 at Ohio State University, and Bob Evans went a-courting. Patty, the object of his affection, had had polio in 1954 at the age of four, and walked with the aid of crutches. The trouble was, she kept falling on the ice and snow. Bob, however, had an inventive mind, and he started working on a crutch tip that wouldn't slip.

"I used to kid him that the only reason he was interested in me was so that I could be a guinea pig for his inventions," laughs Patty. The two were married in 1973.

After a few false starts, Bob came up with a boot with a tough, high-traction grit surface that pops onto the crutch or cane tip, and doesn't slip on ice and snow, they say.

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SNOW BOOTS

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Then one day at church Patty and Bob were talking with some friends, Joe and Nancy Hood. The subject of the Snow Boots came up "and the light bulbs went on," says Patty. Joe decided to manufacture the boots, and for six years Hi-Trac Industries has

been distributing them throughout the country.

Snow Boots come in four different sizes and have a radial design on the bottom to vent water and slush. They are easy to use and won't slide around on the crutch tip.

Hi-Trac also manufactures Rain Guards, crutch and cane tips for maximum traction on wet surfaces.

The Snow Boots are available in Omaha from Surgical Supply of Omaha, Inc., in Lincoln from Donley Medical Supply Co., and in Hastings from Gibson Pharmacy.

They can also be ordered from Miles Kimball, 41 West 8th Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901. Be sure to mention page 136.

Specify:
A-362 (2") or A-365 (1 3/4"), \$14.79 pair crutch tips + \$3.45 shipping; A-363, \$9.79 one cane tip + \$2.45 shipping; A-364, \$20.79 a set, quad tip + \$3.45 shipping.

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GLEANINGS PIECES SOUGHT

We would like to hear from you! Send us your thoughts (no more than half a page, typewritten) for publication in GLEANINGS. Tell us about your post-polio experiences, how you deal with post-polio problems. Poetry, humorous articles--whatever!

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CUB--from pg. 1, col. 3

about one mile an hour, so there's little danger of anyone's getting hurt.

"If people need help going to their cars, we'll help them," says Osborne, though the carts can be driven directly out into the parking lot. And speaking of parking, Osborne has provided ten handicapped stalls, and the end ones will soon be relocated to be even closer to the front door.

"People who say they need to use a cart can use it, no matter what their handicap is," says Osborne. People in wheelchairs, those with heart conditions or walking problems, those with temporary disabilities--the carts are there for whoever needs them.

And Cubs is there--in the Miracle Hills Shopping Center at 114th and Dodge in Omaha.

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SALES DOWN TO THE WIRE

We have only 20 HAPPENINGS coupon books left to sell. Help us out! They make terrific wedding, birthday, and anniversary gifts. Over 400 two-fers at Omaha's finest eateries and entertainment centers--only \$17.50!

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What dreadful weather... it keeps one in a continual state of inelegance.

Jane Austen

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DR. WILLIAM BERTON: MAN OF SCIENCE

POLIO CLINIC UPDATE

(This is the second in a series of sketches introducing the members of our Board of Directors.)

Having retired in June, Dr. William Berton is now Professor Emeritus in Pathology and Microbiology at the University Medical Center, a distinction which carries with it a number of amenities, "the greatest of which is a parking place," Berton jokes.

A native of Fresno, California, Berton got his medical training in Boston and did his residency in pathology at Duke University. He was a full-tenured professor at the University of Tennessee where he taught and did research for 12 years before coming to the University of Nebraska in 1969. Then for 17 years he was a tenured professor in the teaching program for the Department of Pathology.

It was in 1949 while he was in rotating internship that Dr. Berton got polio. "I was minimally affected," he says. "I was on crutches for six months, but that was just routine."

Dr. Berton's main interest in polio now relates to the fields of pathology and microbiology, he says, and he sees a lot of potential in organizations like NPSA. "This is a thing that needs to be studied through a group like ours," he says. "Ex-polio persons are a pool that has much to offer in the study of viral diseases affecting motor neuron disorders. I am intensely interested in the study of the polio situation--there are so many other tie-ins."

A retired Navy Commander, Berton lives in Omaha with his wife, Patricia. Both are devoted members of Dundee Presbyterian Church, where each has served as Elder.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS NEEDED

If you are planning a move, be sure to send us your address change. The post office will not forward GLEANINGS to you. Help save us the expense of mailing a newsletter that you will never receive.

Dr. Erich Streib reports that things are moving steadily toward establishing the polio clinic at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Perhaps by next month we will have some definite results to discuss. Keep watching!

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NEW RADIO SHACK CATALOG

SELECTED PRODUCTS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS is Radio Shack's new free catalog designed for the handicapped. It features items such as phone flashers for the hard of hearing, talking clocks and watches, and intercom room monitors--all available at Radio Shacks nationwide.

Get your copy at your local Radio Shack or write Radio Shack, Circulation Department, 300 One Tandy Center, Fort Worth, TX 76102.

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POLIO--from pg. 1, col 1 For your schedule of events and registration form, write G.I.N.I., 4502 Maryland Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63108. (314) 361-0475.

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