



# THE EMPTYNEST NEWSLETTER

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"No organism can long continue to exist in an expanding environment of its own waste products." - Scientific American

Spfd. I really don't think you want to hear why there's been no ENNL since early Dec., but I need. has had literally NO time since then, though this is her joy & recreation. The time off at Xmas with the family, & the trip to Levee's Roast were delights, but there have been dead hips, deadlines! The usual class ones, but also Inc Tax so I had fill out Ellie's Financial Aid Form, getting Round Barn typed & into the Inc. Libr. contest, cleaning the Augean Stables in order to have the Lit Program here for a business/potluck meeting last Fri; getting in my yearly promotion bid, getting going on the RWR Tamboree before I die of panic, etc etc etc

# GOODBYE, UNCLE PAT

## EMPTY SPOT IN HINSDALE NEST IS KEENLY FELT

Hinsdale, IL: Most ENNL readers will already know that Uncle Pat died of a heart attack Thursday January 27, and was buried Monday, Jan 31. No - the funeral then, but his body was cremated. Trevor Cranston Dougan was born April 5, 1904, and was the younger brother of our progenitor, Ronald Arthur. He was well up to the Monday before his death - the in the last year he'd had treatment (successful) for cancer of the prostate, and also had recently had both hip sockets replaced with teflon. He was still running his business, Dougan Central Blueprint Co, ("Dougan Does It Direct") went into hosp. on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup>, but the heart pains didn't seem too serious. So it was a shock to us all. He was a young and vibrant 78, with a raggy brow, a Trevor nose, and shaggy eyebrows like RAD's. Craig flew out for the funeral, and was a pall bearer. Jackie flew up from Spfld and was there, too. Binnie was strong throughout. The church ladies put on a lovely buffet at the base. A benefit of funerals is seeing again long lost relatives. Jerry, Jackie & Craig see fairly frequently, but it was great seeing him again, & Debbie, & 2 of the three sons: the oldest, Scott, was just beginning his term at Brown. But Daniel and Patrick (16 & 11) were there, and what neat kids! And what a splendid cousin we have in Karla! She is intelligent, compassionate, beautiful. Working in the area of child abuse, in Connecticut. Her kids (3) couldn't be there, and I didn't really talk to her husband John. But Karla is super, and I rec. that you all get to know her. They have a house in Ludlow, VT., so I'm planning to see them this summer. RAD & VWD of course were at the funeral, and it was a pleasure to me to see little Patrick sitting with a smile, at the house, while his great-uncle Ron told him stories about his grand pa, and Daniel sat & listened to VWD telling stories.

I am GLAD that I have been working on Round Barn for as many years as I have, and that Uncle Pat read most of the episodes in the Beloit Daily News, & enjoyed them; and called up RAD and told him more stories about the farm. I'm glad I visited Trevor several times & got his stories on tape - the sorry they aren't yet writ-

In Loving Memory of  
Trevor C. Dougan



Born  
APRIL 5, 1904  
Passed Away  
THURSDAY, JAN. 27th, 1983  
Services Held at  
ALL SAINTS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Western Springs, Illinois  
MONDAY, JAN. 31st, 1983  
ELEVEN A.M.

Officiating  
FATHER  
A. BAYLIES TILDEN

PRIVATE INTERMENT

ten up, so that he could have read them. He did figure in lots of the RB stories already written up. I'm glad I asked Trevor for documents, he gave 'em to me. I'm glad we gave him lovingly Roy, and he read it through & through. I'm glad that all my activity meant there was more go-between, with the families. I'm sorry I didn't get all the Wesson Dougan documents published so that he could've seen them. I'm glad Ellie went on last summer's visit, for meeting and being with her gave Uncle Pat such pleasure.

I say again to all ENNL readers what you all already know: relationships are the most important things in th's life! Tell those you love you love 'em, show those you love you love 'em, never skimp on long distance calls, go see, spend time -- the only thing we can really invest is ourselves. And the more we invest, the more we have to invest. Amen.

Our love and prayers go to Aunt Binnie, and to Jerry and Debbie & their 3, and Carla and John and their three. I can see WVD welcoming his "little cuss" (as he called him) into Heaven. [Did you know Uncle Pat was a runner? A Big Ten winner, while in college? And was a pilot for United Airlines for a number of years? And worked on a fishing boat in Alaska?]

# "CLAMMY CLAWS?"



when you think about writing?"

"Well... uh... yes.. I've always  
Wanted to write but I'm  
just not creative ... mumble ...  
mumble..."



## LL GLASSY EYEBALLED

because you don't do more to spark your kids in their writing?"

"... well... uh... we do write once in a while  
... we wrote last month... but... mumble..."

# 'HELP'S ON THE WAY! JACKIE JACKSON'S coming to TAYLORVILLE!'

"Whuffor?"

"To teach an SSU<sub>LIT</sub> class called **PERCEPTUAL WRITING!**  
Starts Jan. 20, at the High  
School, 6:30-10, for 16 weeks."

"Oh? Who's Jackie Jackson?"

"She's that Kookie writing professor over there at Sangamon State who  
broadcasts 'Reading + Writing + Radio' and has had a bunch of books published, and  
is now the Editor of that fastest-growing newspaper, The Empty Nest Newsletter,  
it has 25 subscribers, and not all relatives!"

"Huuu... she run a pretty good  
class?"

"With a little help from her friends! Ask Therese  
Clarke, Joan Meyer, Maha Salaymeh, Diane Johnson, Ann Lindvall, Gary Glosser,  
Marie AKers -- they (and others) have been in past JJ classes. She allus says if  
the Taylorville Tribe's there, the class can't fail. We do keep things  
squawky -- laugh alot, shed a tear or two. And write! Lordy, we  
write our feathers off. And love it!"

"What'll it cost me? I bet it ain't birdseed!"

"Have you priced bird seed, these days? \$132 for four credits -- \$136 if grad --  
and no gas or icy roads to worry about! Look on it as your night to fly --  
recreation! Like a movie and six-pack a week, with no hangover. AND fun credits!"

"I'm not enrolled at SSU."

"You can register at class the first  
night, no need to go over to Springfield at all, You can be a 'special student'  
and still get credit. Oh --  
bring \$25 advance on tuition." "I'm not a teacher -- I'm just a house squab."

"This is a class for ALL us birds! For any of us who feel a twitch of any  
kind when we hear the word 'writing'!"

"But I still don't get, why Taylorville?"

"Bird, she loves us! Says she's  
lonesome over there!"

"O.K., I'm sold! I'll call her at home (528-  
0943) or her office (786-6778) and tell  
her to save a perch for me, let's chirp it  
loud and clear:"

Jack Brown's  
perch!



any  
body  
can  
perch!

## WRITING'S

## FOR ALL US BIRDS!





"Happiness is a Jamboree at Sangamon State University!"

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TO: COLLEAGUES  
FROM: SOME ABSOLUTE IDIOT

"Yeah, unless  
you're planning it"



# - DEAR COLLEAGUES - 1200 KIDS!

(53 classes, grades 3-6)

"Fantastic response!"

"Yeah, too  
fantastic!"

## ON CAMPUS APRIL 20

for Reading and Writing and Radio Jamboree  
during hit's Verbal Arts Festival

We're scheduling ONE SSU "activity" per class,  
between 10:45 - 1:30

- Charlie Schweighauser's going to lead tours of the observatory.
- WSSR will lead tours of the radio station.
- The library will lead some tours.

## DO YOU HAVE AN ACTIVITY?

A slide show? Demonstration? Spot of interest?

## THAT YOU'D SHARE WITH ONE OR MORE GROUPS?

I NEED TO KNOW RIGHT AWAY, SO OUR COMMITTEE  
CAN SCHEDULE THESE HAPPY HORDES!

"Remember, these kids are our potential students, and RIGHT NOW they have big brothers,  
big sisters, parents, teachers, and school bus drivers!"

YES, I can take \_\_\_\_\_ group(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ kids  
at: (list time slots starting no earlier than 10:45 and ending no later than 1:30)

\_\_\_\_\_ For: (Activity) \_\_\_\_\_

NO, but lotsa luck!

Send to Jackie Jackson, Brookens 389

Your name

"and thanks!"



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# JAMBOREE!

53 classes  
are  
coming!

Wowzie!  
That's 1200 Kids!

To: Teachers From: Jamboree Committee, Feb. 24, '83

## FIRST OFFICIAL UPDATE ON READING AND WRITING AND RADIO JAMBOREE

To be held Wednesday, April 20, 10 A.M.-2 P.M. on SSU campus

### General Schedule of Events:

- 10:00 a.m. Arrival time. Set up banner.\* Receive SSU guide and location of group (your "camp site"). Meet pen pals or jamboree pals.\*\*
- 10:15-10:20 Meet at Jamboree Plaza: See map.\*
- 10:25 Greetings from President Lacy, Frank Matzler (Board of Regents), Jackie Jackson, Brad Swanson, etc.
- 10:45-1:30 Participation in individual class readings and listening to others; campus tours; scheduled events; language arts displays; fun with pen pals; prearranged teacher activities; etc.\*
- 11:30-1:00 Take time out during activity schedule to have picnic lunch with pen pals or jamboree pals.
- 1:30-1:45 Closing events. Jamboree balloon sendoff; closing remarks from Vice President Cullom Davis and Dean of Arts and Sciences Dennis Camp. Vachel Lindsay's "Potato Dance," led by Marian Levin. Songs, cheers, etc.
- 2:00 p.m. Departure from campus.\*\*\*

\* Details on banners and set up procedures, along with maps, schedules of activities for each individual class, suggestions for teacher ideas to use during any waiting or free periods, how to prepare your helium balloon tag, parking procedures, and alternate rain plans will come in next mailing.

\*\* If your pen pal class isn't coming, we'll match you with a special "jamboree pal class."

\*\*\* Those who need to leave before this time will have to do so in accordance with their school district's instructions.

THERE'LL BE A NURSE, FIRST AID TENT, LOST & FOUND. SSU INSURANCE COVERS all visitors.

→ While awaiting the next, more detailed letter of instructions, teachers may start making plans and preparations for the following:

- A. Plan a bright Class Banner and engineer set up procedures. You'll need something durable to make the banner out of and something eye-catching for a design. Concoct a pole and some sort of standard or holder, i.e. a bucket of sand or pea gravel.
- B. The children need name tags or badges, preferably all of the same color and with the school's name large and readable from a distance. A good substitute would be the school's T-shirt or sweatshirt, if you have them. Or design a class RWR T-shirt! (Crayoning ironed on - Mary Jane Brown [Virginia]'s class made "RWR Mon er Tshirts!")
- C. All bring their own sack lunches and drinks.
- D. Each class bring 4 trash bags and have pre-assigned "Litter Bearers," especially for the lunch period.
- E. Think about a display of writing or some language arts related idea to share\*, that you can bring along or send ahead. This will be displayed, but be labeled by you ahead of time, and picked up as you leave. There will be tables for displays and walls for posters.
- F. Be thinking toward a 3-minute time slot of individual reading or group presentation of indiv. writing, choral recitation, poetry, skit, or whatever creatively clever idea you can contrive.\*
- G. Begin building enthusiasm NOW for the first R-W-R Jamboree!!!

\*More details and instructions on these in next letter. Be looking for it, and update, during week of March 21.

If we've overlooked any complication or problem you may have, feel free to contact Jackie Jackson at 786-6778 (office) or 528-0943 (home).

Really curls your claws, don't it!

Lotsa work & planning, but it's worth it!