

Kelly's

Corner



By Jan Kelly

The longest day has passed. On June twenty-first the sun was up from 5:07 to 8:24—a beautiful day with a northeast wind cooling the abundant sunshine. The sun's triumph is over; each day will be shortened now. No one will be aware of it until crickets and cicadas vie for the same audio space, until sea lavender has bloomed and faded, until the very thoughts of migrations stir again. We are in our brightest season, and the longest day leads us into it. Summer is here.

Paul Kessler is back in town, back from a winter in New York and a spring in Italy. Having represented hundreds of artists through the years, this winter he managed the Arbitrage Gallery at 99 Spring Street in SoHo, New York City. He will reopen it September 12. Paul and Adrian have taken to springs in Italy, and they tell me they gained 25 pounds each this trip. Food, food, food, glorious Italian food. Paul discovered risotto this year. He's the only person I know who traveled to Italy with an empty bag to return with twelve pounds of rice as a souvenir. His nagging thought as he whirls his tennis racquet is "How will I be able to stir that risotto constantly and serve twenty people?" Paul will be starting his summer duplicate bridge club this week. The club is listed with ACBL and meets on Monday nights at 7:30 at 108 Commercial Street. Call 487-1914 for reservations and to arrange partnerships.

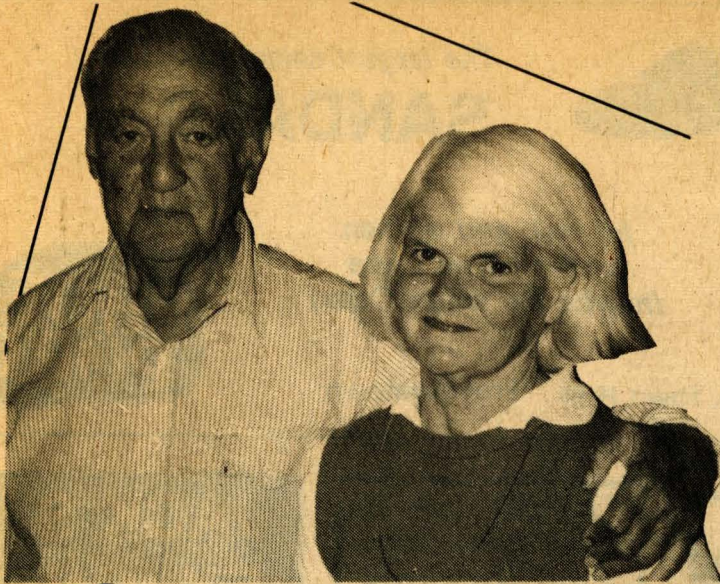
Ruth Adler of the HAPI Thrift Shop is back after being in London for two weeks. She was visiting our local musical genius, Richard Busch, who is in London studying English choral music. The combinations, the

vacations, and the interests of Provincetowners have no limits. If you have a vehicle and would like to help Ruth with her more-than-charitable rummage work, you may when you go to Orleans. The clothes in the Thrift Shop have a two-month rack life; then what has not been purchased gets bagged and shipped to the Salvation Army pickup box in Orleans. If you can help out by carting off a bag or two, she would be very grateful. Take a look around while you're there; you may find a one-of-a-kind. It has happened.

What a beautiful stretch of weather! That bout with the early June rain had me breathing through gills—then I was sure we were being tested for our melting points.

There are two new businesses in town. Al's Refrigeration and Electronics has been busy up and down Commercial Street in shops and restaurants working on commercial refrigeration and air conditioning. The business also caters to the general public. Call 487-2224 for special attention. Almost here is Diving Enterprises (a PADI facility) at the Provincetown Inn. There will be classes, scuba lessons from certified instructors, and charters on the company's 24-foot dive boat *Dimock*. They will also sell air. If you've never tried scuba diving, now might be the time. You will experience a new freedom, being able to stay under water for extended periods. Living here on the water it would make sense to add this sport/hobby to your schedule. Call 432-9035 in Harwich Port for more information.

Our new pro at the tennis club. Seth Beckenstein,
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Emilie and Sam Oppenheim—always a darling couple

has fitted in very nicely. He's friendly and humorous and is already busy with his teaching schedule. Lee Brenner is taking lessons now. Husband Jules has been an able player for years. He always looks like the smiling baritone in an opera as he wields his mischievous forehead. Nice to see Lee finally taking a break from the world of work to join us. With that woman's dedication she'll be beating us all soon.

Sam and Emilie Oppenheim are back in town. That surely means it's early summer. You can see them each morning, hand in hand on their way to the Cottage Restaurant for breakfast, Sam in his white Campobello hat, Emilie with her striking hair. Both are good artists and work daily except when you see Sam trot out with his 7-foot fishing pole in search of what's running. Sam particularly likes to catch bluefish. If you want to see an example of his work, he did the fine portrait of Bill Silva at the Seamen's Savings Bank. Both Sam and Emilie show their works in their home at 402 Commercial Street. They get the darling couple award every day, but especially this week.

Finally, finally, a sushi bar in Provincetown! Years ago on a trip to Japan I became addicted, and I still am. Sashimi, sushi, and sake—the tastes that recall the sights and sounds and smells of Japan so effortlessly. The effort is on the part of Poor Richard's Buttery. Charles has added another group to his clientele, the lovers of delicate oriental food. Nancy, whom I call Nancy Nori, rolls the sushi out "as easy as apple pie crust." These tidbits offer perfect combinations of tastes for the lighter eating habits of today. The shaved ginger brings out all the subtle fish tastes, and the wasabi, green Japanese horseradish, explodes the taste to ecstasy. If you've never tried sushi or sashimi, please go and expose yourself to new tastes. I envy you. I can remember clearly my first; I would like the experience again.

Josephine Del Deo enjoyed a triumphant book-signing party for her *Compass Grass Anthology* at Napi's gallery. Oh, the lonely writing—good to do, but time and solitude are involved. As Josephine noted,

"Twenty years and five hours." Typing the manuscript, the publisher, the printing—all the steps are exciting and worthy of emotion, but work—balanced, realistic work. Then someone suggests a book-signing party—more work, more organization, more balance. Once the first champagne cork is popped and the pen is wielded for the first dedication, the fantasy is on. What fun with a personal touch, a scrawl of the signature and a smile, friends who are admirers, admirers who will be friends, bubbles everywhere, in conversations, in glasses, in heads. All the work of it seems so light for a few merry hours. A beautiful and supportive family. Everybody in the room wishes the author well and then blesses each other in their endeavors. The energy is all joy for the final creation of an art form. The struggle is out of it for a few moments. Tomorrow and the work of it will come, but friends and champagne will delay it. The book has been restocked several times at Elloyd and Joel's Provincetown Bookshop. Those of us who have read it are buying it as gifts, and now, with so much practice, Josephine doesn't mind an apt dedication at all.

The Provincetown Historical Society's monthly meeting was two hours of sealing off old plans and birthing new ones. The West End walking tour is almost ready to go. President Emeritus Claude Jensen is proud of this finished product and is adding it to the East End and Provincetown Center tours. These brochures are available at the Seashore Visitors' Center, the Heritage Museum, the Provincetown Bookshop, and other counters. They cost twenty-five cents each and are an interesting addition to your library. You can guide summer company through the streets giving bits of local information. You'll be surprised at just how much has happened in this small town. Society President George Bryant is working to organize two summer lectures. One will feature Admiral Donald B. MacMillan's only film, *Green Season, White Ice*. This early tour of the Arctic is a classic and, indeed, it is very difficult to get a chance to view. You certainly won't want to miss it. It's tentatively scheduled for late July. Georgia Ferguson of Barnstable is well-known for her slides of Cape towns. She has a show on Provincetown which will be another "don't miss" lecture. Georgia is the daughter of Carrie D. Knowles Cook, who is 107 years old. Carrie is of a whaling family and grew up in Provincetown. She lived where Dorothy's Gift Shop is now. Still sharp and very capable, when George questioned Carrie on the whaling industry in Provincetown, she said, "I was not interested in whales when I was a girl, so I don't know much about it now." Watch for notices of both lectures.

House plaques for Susan Glaspell, Vannevar Bush, Hans Hoffman, and John Dos Passos have been designed and should soon be ready for mounting.

The Historical Association celebrated its tenth anniversary. As an anniversary gift it accepted a \$1000 check from the estate of Osma Todd, mother of Josephine Del Deo. Osma will never stop doing us good.