

CARLSBAD MAGAZINE

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Vella Nutt is a woman you will enjoy meeting. She is a terrific lady with the energy of a re-charged dynamo. (Although she says that she is slowing down). Vella was born in Hiawatha, Brown County, Kansas on November 10, 1894. She will have lived 95 years next month. This is a lady who will inspire anyone to reach that pinnacle.

She left Kansas on her 11th birthday to live with her grandparents in Orange County. Her doctor believed that the warmer climate would alleviate some health problems that she suffered. Her parents soon followed after selling their farms in Kansas to become ranchers in the San Joaquin Valley, Lindsay to be exact.

She entered the University of California at Berkeley in 1914. She was an athlete throughout her high school and college days. Perhaps that is the reason for her good health and vitality. She won the big "C" in basketball and tennis at Cal. This honor entitles her to good seats at the games, especially the Cal-Stanford which she hasn't missed for several years. Hopefully, she will have enough energy to attend the next one in November.

Her husband graduated from the University of Utah earning a degree in electrical engineering. He played the violin in

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the Salt Lake City Symphony Orchestra. A few offspring inherited a talent for music. He migrated to California and settled in Lindsay where he met his sweetheart and they were married. They moved to Los Angeles a few years later where he joined the Hartford Insurance Steamboiler Branch. The Carlsbad Hotel was one of the customers so Mrs. Nutt recalls travelling with him on business trips, staying at the Hotel, lunching at the Twin Inns, dining and dancing at the Hotel.

They lived in Pasadena for 45 years, raised three daughters and worked at helping others. Many organizations benefited from her philosophy of giving of herself. She is Past Matron of the Eastern Star, work with the Cancer Society, Red Cross and many other organizations. During World War II Vella became tired of the social life surrounding the Red Cross benefits and such, and decided to work for the war effort. One of her neighbors was the manager of a very secret shop that manufactured walkie-talkies. Her experience in the electrical business qualified her for this position. At one time the employees had to stay at the shop for two days to work on a project. It turned out to be the electrical cable that dropped the bomb on Hiroshima.

After retirement, they moved to Dana Point. They enjoyed many years of travelling throughout the Northwest and

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Canada. Both were avid fishermen. Again Vella became active in civic affairs. She served as president of the Women's Club in Orange County, League of Women Voters and served as Chairman of Indian Affairs, travelling to Pala Mission to work with Indians living there.

When she became widowed, she drove to Carlsbad frequently to visit friends who made Carlsbad by the Sea their home. She soon decided to join them here. She has lived here for nearly 12 years. Again, she became active in the life of her new community. She served on the Residents' Council, helped organize the Council. Currently, she serves as Chairman of the Bazaar Committ which committee is composed of residents who enjoy making use of their skills in crafts and sewing. This keeps minds and hands busy.

The Bazaar is held at Carlsbad by the Sea on the last Friday and Saturday of October each year. This is a good time for Christmas shopping for original, hand-made articles. We invite your attendance. Mrs. Nutt organized this event like a C.E.O. runs his company. Very well!!

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Orpha Froblom,
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