

Sunday, October 3, 2006



*Ivan + Caralbe Sohnsrey 1997*

some of the best portraits of children in her books for adults as well as those for kids. *Gypsy Girl* was written in 1972 and has been re-released recently precisely because the themes of bullying, cultural difference and the out-casting of nomadic populations are of such relevance today.

## The Book Shelf

### "Gypsy Girl"

Written by  
Rumer Godden

Tizzy Laver is a twelve-year-old gypsy girl. She lives in a caravan parked in an orchard with her Gran and her big brother, Joe, one of the best boys in the town. Kizzy likes her life. But she knows, but she's not going to school where the other children probably the girls and her Tizzy, Duddell, Roper and Jack. She has one friend, Tony, and enjoys the summer holidays at the house of her aunt. Tizzy will visit the caravan and the village market. Tizzy is about 10 years old. Tizzy lives in the village and among the Jewish Romaniotes. As for Tony's mother, Tizzy's mother drive to turn all her belongings, including the caravan, if someone extremely wants to see anything belonging to the dead, though Mrs. Don doesn't mind a thing. Tizzy's

50 years

Enterprise-Record · 10/1/2006



Ivan and Caralee Sohnrey



The Sohnreys married Aug. 25, 1956 in Chico.

## Sohnrey

Ivan and Caralee Sohnrey of Chico were honored for 50 years of marriage July 23 during a party at Durham Memorial Hall. The couple's five children attended along with 250 friends and relatives. Their 14 grandchildren were also among the guests.

The couple's original wedding clothing — a charcoal gray suit and a pearl-trimmed gown — were on display.

After the party, the Sohnreys spent a week with their children and grandchildren in Fort Bragg.

The Sohnreys married Aug. 25, 1956 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Chico. He is a semi-retired rice and almond farmer. The Sohnreys travel with the Good Sams RV group and they belong to Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. Besides traveling, they play cards with friends. She is a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

Their children are Janet Fountain of Chico, Sharon and Tim Clark of Ardmore, Okla.; Lisa and Dan Kennedy of Willows, Greg and Casey Sohnrey of Durham and Donna and Darryl Weyant of Chesterfield, Mass.

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Nov. 1997

THE SOHNREY'S

Hello! Sit back and get comfortable folks, this is going to take a looonng time!

Ivan, born Jan. 19, 1930 in Chico, to Howard and Joanna Sohnrey was their 4th child and 1st son. His older sisters were Alice, Ida, Vera and Freda. Younger sister, and brother Roger arrived 7 and 12 years later. Ivan and Ida suffered from near asthma conditions and lived with their grandparents, Harry and Alice Skillin, in Centerville for a few years. Consequently, Ivan's first 4 years of school were in Centerville's 1 room schoolhouse. Ivan and the other boys ran miles during recess up and down the hill side playing "cowboys and indians". Ivan's constant companion was a black dog. It was strange----but when something was amiss or a piece of pie or cake was missing, Ivan always said that the big black dog ate it.

Ivan started 5th grade in Durham Elementary school and graduated from elementary and high school there. During the summers of his teen years he herded cattle in the mountains near Inskip. He was accompanied by his horses and occasional visits from his cousins, Harold and Bob Skillin.

Ivan, (the intellectual one of us), went to Chico State College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Sciences. The thirst for knowledge continued and he went to the University of California in Berkeley for a year but Uncle Sam called him into the Army. After serving his country (both years in Texas) he began farming with his father and never did get his <sup>engineering</sup>~~engineering~~ degree.

Caralee was born to Jesse and Pauline Horr on October 17, 1937. She was the 3rd child and 3rd daughter and her two older sisters are Jackie and Sara. Her brother, Harry, came along 4 years later.

Caralee started 1st grade in Pondosa, Siskiyou Co., a company owned lumber community, where, on the 1st day of school she proudly told her teacher she could write her own name which she promptly did on the blackboard. The only thing wrong was that she spelled KIKI backwards IKIK! Does that give you an idea of her accomplishments?

In April her parents moved to Glenburn, Shasta Co. to a ranch where Caralee finished 1st grade in a 1 room school house that her mother was the substitute teacher for. While living in Glenburn, some of her fondest memories are of riding in a horse drawn sleigh to her grandparents house for Christmas and also of riding to school on the hay sled over snow so deep that the horses and sled went right over the top of the ~~fences~~<sup>fences. She</sup> went to McArthur High School for two years and finished her last 2 years in Durham, graduating in 1955. A 1 year stint at Chico State ended with her MRS. degree on August 25, 1956.

We met the first time in Chico's Trinity Methodist Church at Ivan's sister's wedding in April 1955; the second time we met was at the same church for Sara and Bob Skillin's wedding in February of 1956. Our 1st date was the following day with a plane trip over the Marysville-Yuba City flood. This was Caralee's 1st flying experience and a new love was born. Ivan was flying on the GI bill to get his single engine pilots license and we enjoyed flying for several more years until family size and expenses brought this enjoyable pastime to a halt. We were married in the Trinity Methodist Church in August of 1956. We think it is a good place for a marriage to begin. So far we've been married 41 years! By the way, Ivan got his 1st traffic ticket the night we were married. Everyone chasing us peeled off left and right when a

City Policeman pulled up behind us and Ivan was the one who got the ticket. He had to post bail before we could leave on our honeymoon!

Ivan farmed first with his father and then we formed a partnership with his brother and wife, Roger and Sylvia, which lasted until we wanted to farm with our son Greg and his wife, Casey, which we are still doing today. We have raised cattle, milo corn, walnuts, beans, catfish, rice, prunes, almonds, CHILDREN & a little H\_\_\_\_\_!

We lived in Chico on the corner of Flume and Humboldt Sts. for 7 years; <sup>h</sup> that's the home our 1st four children came home to.. Just like <sup>both of</sup> our parents, we had 3 daughters before our son was born which is quite a coincidence. We then moved to Durham to a house on Serviss St. and we still live in the same house today. Our last daughter was born 7 years after moving to Durham. We have four daughters, Janet, Sharon, Lisa and Donna, and 1 son, Greg, and they have been the JOY of our lives. They have blessed us with 14---yes that's right, folks----14grandchildren!

Caralee has always been able to be a homemaker and MOM, a girl and boy scout leader, 4-H leader, room mother (my favorite job) and PTA chairperson. We have both been involved in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, Grange, California Farm Bureau and have square danced for 30 years most of which was with the Durham Checkerboard Squares. Ivan has served on the Durham Park and Recreation Board, Durham Irrigation Board, North State Hulling Board and Sunsweet Butte Local Board. He was also a charter member of the Durham Exchange Club. *We joined Durham Good Sams March 1991.*

Our special trips have been many and varied; they started with camping in a tent and staying at Ivan's parent's summer place at Lake Almanor. We purchased a 13 foot trailer in 1966 and we were on our way! This little gem had no electric brakes and one time

we were up on a mountain and got in such a tight place that we had to unhook and turn the 'gem' around by hand and rehook to get back down the mountain. We took it to the ocean fishing , to the mountains and back and forth and we loved it! When we outgrew it we bought a 22 foot Ideal trailer which we used for many years and drove hundreds of miles all over the North Western States and into Canada. This trailer was self-contained and Caralee thought she'd died and gone to Heaven. Camping was new to her when she married Ivan and she has never gotten used to the idea of ~~mate~~ and her living so close together!

- We are now in our 3rd 5th wheel and it has a slide-out and is 30 feet long. We think we have reached our max and plan that if we ever get another it just might be a little bit like our first little 'gem'.

Some day we hope to retire and travel at our leisure around the United States; we haven't been East of Minnesota yet. Although we have been across the Atlantic to England and almost as far North as Scotland and since we were so close we spent a weekend in Paris. This was a GREAT vacation and since we were traveling with our daughter's in-laws who had an invitation to stay in the private home of a bachelor minister friend who showed us all around, it was so much more special. We had beer in the oldest pub in England that was built in 1187 and backed up to the castle where Robin Hood lived in Nottingham, which also was the home town of the minister. We've been to Hawaii, Alaska, and Mexico and a trip to Baja that was a Good Sam planned tour. We traveled with our Chapter members the Melines and Leaches to Baja and despite the wind and pothole filled roads ~~and~~ <sup>had</sup> a marvelous time. Plenty of FUN!

We took our 1st cruise this summer with some of Ivan's classmates from high school to Alaska and next January 1998 we will fly to Australia and New Zealand for a cruise between the two countries. This time we will be traveling with some more of the club members, the Leaches, Martinezs and the Melines, and Delores Martinez's sister and aunt are also going. We are looking forward to this trip with great anticipation and want to say that to be able to travel with friends and family is truly a satisfying way to travel.

Oh My Goodness! I have to say Goodbye. We have an exciting trip to get ready for; we're heading out to the green pastures of Orland, California, USA!