

HISTORY & FOLKLORE



From Illustrated Press of Liberty County, Thursday, April 4, 1963 –

Nu Rho and Ix Eta Phi chapters of Beta Sigma Phi had a covered dish supper last Saturday at the Elks Lodge in Liberty, highlighted by a “style” show with models dressed as shown above.

Standing (l-r): Jo Ann Wiggins, Billie Keller, Virgie Boatman, Bert Chaumont (with plunging neckline), Julia Langford, Nita Neyland and Myrtle Karkowski; seated: Naomi Riggs and Isla Madison. **MORE PHOTOS OF THESE STYLISH LADIES NEXT PAGE.**



Isla Madison in a beautiful combed cotton. Some of the combs are pretty big. Should be worn only around husbands who have hair.



Jo Ann Wiggins in her boat-neck dress and straw bag.



Julia Langford in a new tie silk. Her only accessory is a dainty pearl drop, worn around her neck.



Virgie Boatman with a lovely creation featuring cap sleeves – little league, that is, and an unusual nail polish – 16-penny at the nearest lumber yard.

From Texas Illustrated, November 1987 –

Peculiar Beliefs of the Monax Philosopher

Do you believe in the monax? Suppose you were traveling by yourself along a lonesome road in the country and should suddenly meet a monax, what would you do?

Maybe you never met a monax. But even if this is true you still may be a believer in him. There are lots of people who never saw a monax who still think he is more reliable than the government's weatherman. They are monax philosophers.

A monax is a ground-

hog. Monax is one of the names he goes by, or used to be called a long time ago. Ask any folk-liar – I mean, folk-lore. Ask J. Frank Dobie. He may tell you we are trying to be funny, but we are not. (That is, trying.)

We are not familiar with the genealogy of the ordinary groundhog, except that his great-great-grandfather was a monax and all of the monax or groundhog progeny descended from the same ancestor. He used to build holes in the

ground away back in Virginia and a friend of ours told us that one time when he was a boy, long before the Civil War, when he was going to school to Miss Broaddus at Port Royal or Bowling Green or somewhere in Virginia he caught two little monaxes or groundhogs and raised them and that they made fine pets.

They are like a fox – wise and when they emerge from their holes in the ground on the 2nd of February, if the sun is shining and they see their

own shadow – well, they just go back and remain “as is” for several weeks. They know the cold, bad, wet, rainy and snowy weather is not over – and it isn't. But, on the other hand, if it is, as Harry Lauder sings, “mur-r-ky over head” the little monax stays out and decides to go about his regular business, whatever it is, because he knows (don't ask me how he knows it) that the weather is going to be fine for a

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