

# Are All Those Meetings Out of Order?

The Constitution may be the greatest American masterpiece but there are still times when I question that part of the first amendment which assures "the right of the people peaceably to assemble."



Once, just once, when someone tells me of an upcoming meeting at which someone thinks I ought to be wrinkling my trousers, I'd love to say, "Sorry but that's against the law."

Recently I was invited to a meeting to explore the merits of scheduling a meeting on some subject or other. In fact this syndrome has gotten so bad that for many the meeting has become the thing.

About the only value I can see in most meetings is that they give the man of the house the opportunity to get out of his castle for the night (sorry, guys). It also gives a lot of us the chance to mouth those glorious lines, "See me. See how I am busy. See me go to my meetings."

Now I tried to imagine how the queen of the house would get through regal chores if each and every action had to be pre-studied in a group setting.

Cleaning the kitchen. The children really should participate. Specific jobs should be assigned. Must call a 4 p.m. meeting to get their ideas. Better make that 5, Sissy has a 4 o'clock Brownie meeting. But then 5 is bad — that's when hubby and I meet to discuss tomorrow's meals.

Or — should we have a birthday party for little Gus? This calls for a full-fledged, Class A family meeting — with the possible exception of Little Gus, who after all doesn't know how to talk yet. Well, he should be there anyway to get an idea of how things get done.

Or — the pre-grocery shopping meeting wherein each member of the family makes suggestions on what goods will be needed. When all suggestions are in, an ad hoc committee should be formed to meet with the budget committee.

A friend of mine has a setup something like this at home. He recently asked his son,

age 11 if they could have a private talk some day within the week.

"Let me check, Dad," came Chester's reply as he whipped out his pocket calendar. "Loaded with meetings this week. Special meeting on garbage disposal tonight — Harry's tired of carrying it out. Asked a conference.

"Let's see. Tomorrow night's out. No meeting then but the Let's Keep the Latrine Parlor Clean (LKLPC) committee is meeting the next day and I have to prepare for it tomorrow. Nothing like doing your homework, right Dad?"

"By the way," my friend asked, "what about your homework? The school kind, I mean."

"No sweat. Squeeze it in every day, right after SUPPEH." "You mean supper."

"No, Dad, Students United to Preserve Proper Eating Habits. But anyway, old man, looks like my schedule is really popping this week. Give me a try next Monday. Maybe lunch. You got something really hot and we'll set up something for later."



FRED ROCKOW

## Rockow Named Chairman for Swim-A-Thon

Fred Rockow has been named chairman of the second annual "Lengths for Lives" swim-a-thon to be held for the benefit of the American Cancer Society, Monroe County Unit.

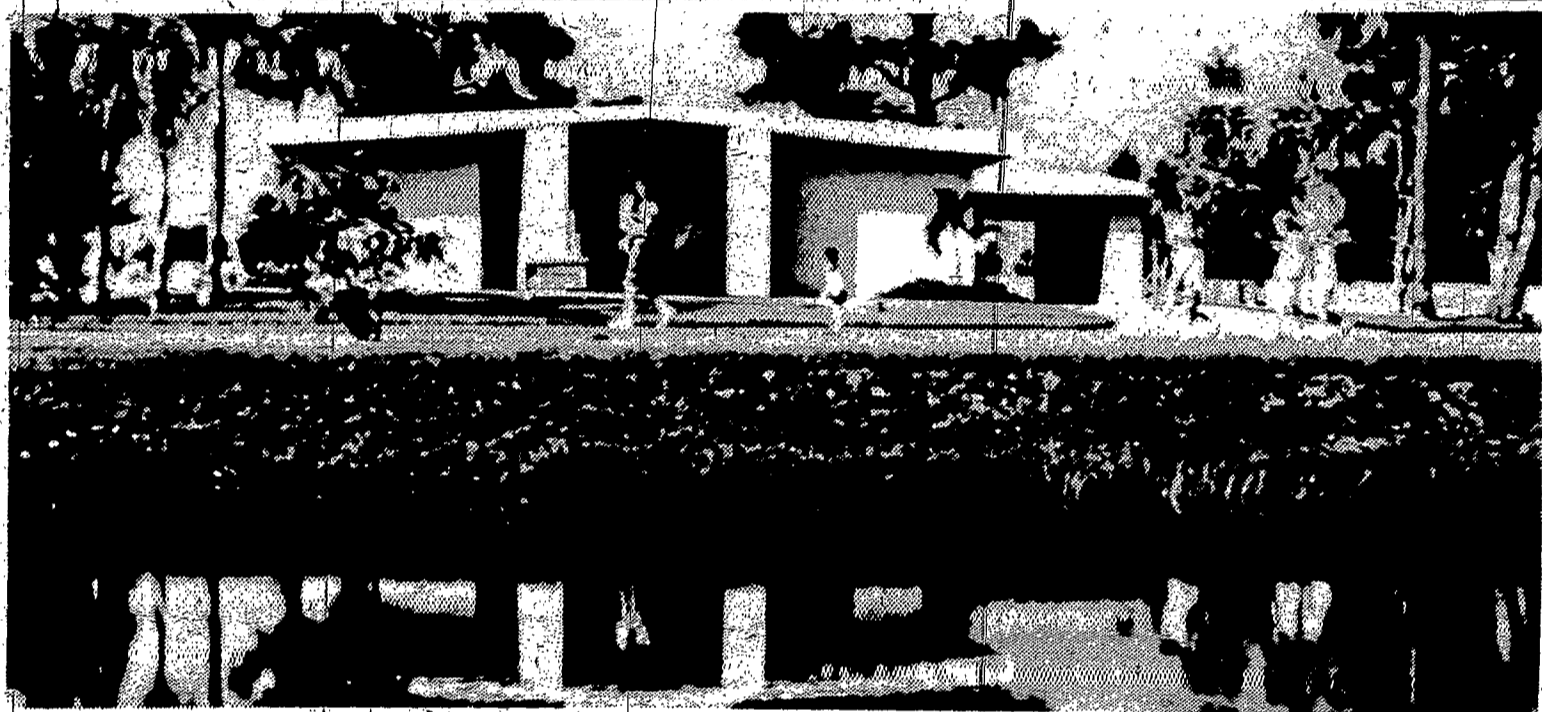
"We are happy to receive the sanction of the Niagara Association of the AAU," said Rockow. "With this additional support this year, we anticipate almost 100% cooperation from all facilities within the county."

The event, scheduled for Monday, March 5 through Saturday, March 10, will be held at city and county indoor pools. Swimmers of all ages are eligible to enter the week-long event during designated hours at each location. Those entering obtain sponsors to pay them for swimming pool lengths. The maximum number of lengths is 40. Sponsor forms are available at participating pools. Every contestant will receive an attractive "Lengths for Lives" swim-to-win emblem.

Rockow, Pittsford-Sutherland swim coach and physical education teacher, served in the 1972 Swim-A-Thon and is a member of several local and state swim groups. He also acts as consultant to various swim clubs and private pool groups.

It is hoped that participants will be able to exceed the \$39,000 raised in last year's "Lengths for Lives."

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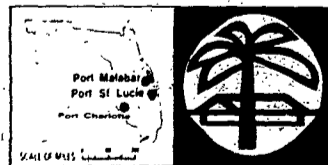
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