Douglass High School Alumni Association closes year with gala extravaganza

AFRO RECEIVES DHS coveted '82 award

The Pre - Memorial Day Extravaganza held recently by the Douglass High School Alumni witnessed over 500 former students and graduates present at a gala bullroast and dance.

The event was highlighted by the annual alumni reunion of the various classes and the presentation of the 1982 award.

The Alumni Association has since its inception presented awards to graduates in recognition of outstanding achievement.

Through the years the coveted award has been given Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, Cab Calloway, Attorney George L. Russell, Judge Benjamin Brown, Dr. Elijah Saunders, Rev. Vernon Dobson, to name a few.

The 1982 award went to the AFRO - AMERICAN Newspaper which was selected by the committee to be the only recipient for the year.

The ebony plaque engraved in silver was presented by Alumni President Hannibal Mickens Jr. to John J. Oliver Jr., the AFRO corporation vice - chairman.

The citation stated, "The Frederick Douglass High School Alumni recognizes the AFRO's outstanding journalistic contributions, its no - nonsense, straight forward approach in giving the black perspective, its direct involvement in community affairs, its keen sense in tackling and - or supporting sensitive political issues, and lastly for its large number of employees in every capacity that can claim Douglass High School as their alma mater.

"We, the members of the Alumni Association salute you and wish you continued journalistic success."

The citation is signed by Mr. Michens Jr., president and the Awards Committee.

The Alumni officers include:

President — Hanibal Mickens, Jr.

First Vice - President — Mrs. Alma J. Walker.

Second - Vice President — Ms. Serena G. Mills.

Treasurer — William Holland.

Secretary — Ms. Virginia Day.

Membership Chairperson — Ms. Lota Howard.

Curriculum Chairperson — Mrs. Louella Garner.

Political Education Chairperson - O. Patrick Scott.

Fundraising Chairperson — Ben Mason.

Special Events - Chairperson — Mrs. Twilah M. Scarborough.

Nominating Chairpersn — Dr. Jucia Hawthorne.

In response Mr. Oliver recalled the support the AFRO has received from Douglass High School over many years and asked that the friendship and support continue, "since it is those like you whose friendship and support have allowed us to go on these 90 years."

The AFRO's 90th Year citation was presented to the alumni by City Editor Editor Elizabeth M. Oliver. In response Mr. Mickens noted that the award, the first ever received, will stand in the corridors of the Gwynns Falls building when renovation is complete. The school is temporarily housed at the old Calhoun and Baker Sts. facility pending return of the refurbished building.

The present principal, Mrs. Jean Owens, praised the Alumni Association for its many contributions to the school and especially the scholarships over many years.

The Alumni Association's chief purpose is to provide scholarships to Douglass students "and to expose them to Douglass graduates as a method of motivating them toward higher educational pursuits, to support the administration's efforts to maintain high scholastic standards, and to keep Douglass High in the forefront of producing capable, black leaders."

The alumni and guests held a moment of silence for departed members including Dr. James Fenimore Cooper.

Alumni meetings are every third Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at the school, Baker and Calhoun Streets main entrance. The new meeting is scheduled for Sept. 16.



DHS ALUMNI OFFICERS, steering committee and scholarship committee includes (FROM RIGHT) Ben Mason, Moses Lake, Virginia Day, Clayton Blackwell, Alma J. Walker, Hertense Kane, Barbara Davenport, Selma Rozier, Serena Mills, Hannibal Mickens Jr., Lota Howard, Lovella Garner, Milton Brown and Howard Contee.



DHS PRINCIPAL Mrs. Jean Owens heads the faculty today and presides at the temporary Douglass Hi ocated at Calhoun and Baker pending renovation of the Gwynns Falls building.

THE 1982 Douglass High School Alumni Award, the engraved plaque, was presented to the AFRO - AMERICAN Newspapers by Hannibal Mickens Jr., president. Receiving on behalf of the AFRO and employees was John J. Oliver Jr., vice chairman of the corporation. (L to R) Selma Rozier, DHS corresponding secretary; William Holland, treasurer; Mr. Oliver, Lovella Garner, chairman; Mr. Mickens and Virginia Day, secretary.



AFRO 90TH ANNIVERSARY CITATION is received by DHS President Mickens from City Editor Elizabeth M. Oliver.

MORE GUESTS Ralph Cooke, Helen Dean, Juanita E. Savage, Graham E. Pinder, Elmira E. Harris, Juliette Corbin, Margurite Campbell, Ruby Fields, Irving Fields.



AMONG ALUMNI GUESTS were Charles McLain, Russell Lucas, Serena Mills, Sally Wing Williams, Emile Gibson, Frederick Baldwin, Valerie F. White-Fowlkes, Lucille Watts Gibson, Beatrice N. Lewis. (RIGHT PANEL) The buffet which lasted all evening included all of 20 dishes.





ELLEN HILLEN PIERCE, Eleanor Willis, Clinton Pierce, Marie Britt, Louise Pierce; Virginia Jackson, Sally Wing Williams.



PEGGY HARGROVE, Delores Ford, Betty Phillips, Leon Hargrove, Debera Day, Guy Lucas, James Ford, Harry Taylor.

THE LIVING CHURCH

Senior citizens attend weekly Bible class

The Rev. Lawrence Washington, pastor of Trinity Faith Baptist Church says, "Ministers should stop preaching so many gospel messages and start teaching."

He told the AFRO, "Once you have been saved you are saved for eternity and you need to be taught. People need to know the Bible once a person has received salvation."

Fore more than one year, Rev. Washington has been teaching a Bible class to senior citizens. From 12:00 to 2 p.m. every Saturday, he can been seen at a weekly Bible class at the Bel Park Towers in the 2800 block of Belvedere Avenue.

"I was inspired by the spirit to teach this class to senior citizens. There are so many senior citizens who can't read or write and really don't understand the Bible," said Rev. Washington.

The minister says he has provided his class with Bibles and is also teaching some of his students how to read. On Thursdays, from 7 to 8: 30 p.m. he spends time with residents of the Wyman House on Howard and 29th Street.

As a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference, the 48-year-old minister said he would like to see more ministers get involved. We need more teaching in our churches and less screaming and shouting. There is more to being a minister then just preaching on Sunday," said Rev. Washington.

Rev. Washington says there are some mebers of his class who are not able to attend church because of their health and are often forgotten about. As a minister who is active in his community, he feels this is paret of his mission work and is now planning to have Bible classes in several other senior citizen homes.



PROMOTING THE GOSPEL — The Rev. Lawrence Washington says he decided to teach a senior citizen Bible class because ministers should stop preaching and start teaching the Bible. He is now making plans to teach a class to married couples who are having problems in their homes.



BIBLE STUDY — The Rev. Lawrence Washington, pastor of Trinity Faith Baptist Church has been teaching a Bible class to senior citizens at local senior citizen homes. He is now teaching the book of Revelation at the Bel Park Tower home on Belvedere Avenue.

30,000 to attend Jehovah's Witness convention

John Richards Jr., a spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses, said 14,000 delegates representing Baltimore city and Maryland will attend one of the 104 conventions scheduled in 68 cities in the United States during the summer of 1982.

Richards said approximately one million persons are expected nation wide at the Kingdom Truth conventions.

"The outlook is dismal in the world today," Richards said. " Many people question whether mankind can survive in view of the complex problems threatening us."

Richards said a tremendous world change is imminent. He stressed that only divine intervention can provide a solution to the crises facing mankind and the increasing peril of nuclear war.

"Many people fail to see that God's kingdom is a real government, Richards stated. "But the well known Lord's prayer makes it clear that our hope and faith should be anchored in God's kingdom. That is why we pray for it to come.

Under the government God's will is to be don on earth just as it is in heaven," he said.

Richards said many representatives of Baltimore City and Maryland will be attending the convention at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, June 10- 13. He said that 30,000 persons are expected at the Washington assembly.

How to get church news in the AFRO

For coverage of any church events, mail your announcements to Ms. Pam Widgeon, religious editor, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201 or call 728-2300 Monday through Friday afternoon.

There is no charge for news or photographic coverage. Publication of any church news is contingent upon factors of time and news space available and organizations from all religious denominations, as space permits.

Send me a copy of your church bulletin and newspaper.

Falwell less rigid on creationism stance

The Rev. Jerry Falwell has toned down his opinions on the teaching of creationism at Liberty Baptist College.

A committee of the state board of education last month recommended against certifying biology teachers from the college after hearing that Falwell said in a sermon in April that his students would teach the Biblical theory of creation. LBC graduates would also "be teaching evolution, but teaching why it's invalid and why it's foolish," Falwell said in the sermon.

After returning from a preaching tour of Australia, Rev. Falwell said, "If I left the impression that we weren't going to teach both sides fairly, then I overstated the position of our school."

Falwell said his teachers won't use the classroom as a Sunday School, and he hopes the board of education won't punish them for believing in the Bible.

The board will meet later this month to decide the issue. If the biology program at the college is certified, Liberty Baptist Biology graduates will be eligible to teach in 31 states, including Virginia.

Falwell said it is a question of academic freedom. "I don't think that anybody will be damaged when both concepts are taught," he said, adding that he believed if students were exposed to both theories, most would chose creationism over evolution.

Seminary awards degree

The Richmond Virginia Seminary presented eight degrees and seven honorary degrees during commencement exercises Monday, May 24 in Cedar Street Memorial Baptist Church in Richmond, Va.

Receiving the bachelor of theology degree were : Mary P. Sonner of Petersburg; Wesley J. Pittman of Orange; Joseph C. Seay of Richmond; Elmore E. Warren of Richmond; James S. White Jr., of Richmond and Phillip H. Williams of Richmond.

Presented the mast of Biblical studies were Gerald A. Granderson of Petersburgh (B.S. Virginia State University) and Hildreth G. McGhee Jr. of Martinsville (B.S. Virginia Seminary and College).

The honorary doctor of divinity degrees went to Rev. Matthew R. Johnson of Richmond; Rev. Thomas A. Lacy of Dinwiddie; Rev. Darrell Rollins of St. James Baptist Church in Goochland and Rev. Ollie Wells of Union Baptist Church in New York City.

Awarded the honorary doctor of laws were: John Jackson Koger of Washington, D C and Hawthorne I. Tucker of Suffolk.

Rev. Charles Hart, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Norfolk was presented the honorary doctorate of humane letters. The Rev. Hart served as commencement speaker for the service. Dr. Benjamin W. Robertson is president of the seminary and pastor of Cedar Street Memo Memorial Baptist Church of God.



13 SALUTES — The Rev. Lawyer Swinson, pastor of New Metropolitan Baptist Church on McCulloh Street recently received the WJZ-TV 13 salute. He is shown with his wife, Mrs. Louvina W. Swinson.

Metro church briefs

The Women's Guild of Trinity Baptist Church, 1901 Druid Hill Ave., will celebrate their 52nd annual Women's Day on Sunday, June 6. Mrs. Roberta Williams, president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Progressive Baptist Convention will be the 8:30 a.m. speaker and the Rev. Hollie Reeves will be the 11 a.m. speaker.

St. James Episcopal Church Lafayette and Arlington Ave., will sponsor its annual festival June 5, 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. in Lafayette Square. The Rev. Donald O. Wilson is pastor.

Faith Baptist Church, 833 Boud St., will have special services on June 4, 6:30 p.m. for members of the church who have been active for 50 years. The Rev. Walter E. Paige is pastor.

The women of Macedonia Baptist Church, Fremont and Lafayette Avenue will celebrate their 78th annual Women's Day on June 6. Their theme is "A Call For Christian Dedication."

Mrs. Betty Johnson, president of Church Women United of Maryland will be the speaker. Mrs. Gwendolyn Douglass is chairperson; Mrs. Ruby Lee is co-chairperson and the Rev. W. L. Clayton is pastor.

The senior citizens of Centennial United Methodist Church, 1029 Monument St., are sponsoring a dinner show on June 19, 6 p.m. at the church. The Rev. Harold E. Palmer Jr., is pastor.

The senior choir of Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3200 Walbrook Ave., will sponsor a concert on June 13, 5 p.m. Frank Brown is organist, Mrs. Gloria Jones is president and the Rev. Robert A. Read is moderator.

The Baha'i Faith will have a meeting on Sunday, June 6, 12:00 at the Baha'i Center, 5301 Gwynns Oak Ave. The topic for Sunday is The Economy From the Baha'i View.

A birthday salute to the Rev. Dr. O. St. Clair Franklin will be held on Sunday, June 6, 11 a.m. Dr. Susan Morrison will be the speaker. Dennis Weems is chairman; Lilyan Nottingham, co-chairman; Walter Tilghman, co-chairman and Dorothy Lambson is secretary.

Grace United Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir will be closing the 1981-82 season with the presentation of Charles Gounod 's Messe Solennelle. The church is located at Greenspring Avenue and Bannister Road. The Rev. William T. Peters Jr., is the pastor.

The Floral Club of Providence Baptist Church will sponsor a flea market on June 5, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Pennsylvania and Lafayette Avenue. The Rev. Marcus G. Wood is pastor.

A recital will be held at Christian Community Church of God, 2701 Baltimore St., on June 21, 8 p.m.

The Junior Missionaries of City Temple of Baltimore Baptist Church, Eutaw and Dolphin Street will have revival services June 8-11, 7:30 p.m. Their theme is Rejuvenated and Recycled for Christ.

Revival speakers are the Rev. Randolph Taylor Michael Rice, Quay Rich. The Rev. William W. Payne is pastor.

The United Methodist Men of St. Luke United Methodist Church, Gilmore Street and Riggs Ave., will be celebrating their anniversary on June 6, 3 p.m. at the church. Evangelist Emma Creamer and the Creamer Singers will be special guest. Charles Kelly is president and the Rev. James H. Smith is pastor.

The Johnson and Watts Nurses Units will observe their 36th anniversary on June 27 at Macedonia Baptist Church, Lafayette and Fremont Avenue, 3:30 p.m. The REv. John R. Bryant, pastor of Bethel AME Church will be the guest speaker. The REv. W. L. Clayton is pastor of Macedonia



PRESIDENT EMERITUS — Mrs. Rendella W. Lucas, president emeritus of the National Association of Ministers' Wives will be the guest speaker at a ministers' wives recognition dinner on Saturday, June 12, 6 p.m. at New Shiloh Baptist Church, Fremont Avenue and Lanvale Street. Certificates will be presented to women who have completed the ministers' wives seminar. The Rev. Dr. Eddie R. Wilson is director of the Maryland Baptist School of Religion, where the classes were held. The dinner is being sponsored by the Carter Foundation.



AFRO Photos by Roman Hankewycz

SATURDAY BIBLE CLASS — Mrs. Janie Blackmore and Mrs. Magnolia Latimer are two of the 100 senior citizens who look forward to attending a Bible class taught by the Rev. Lawrence Washington. Classes are held every Saturday from 12:00 to 2 p.m