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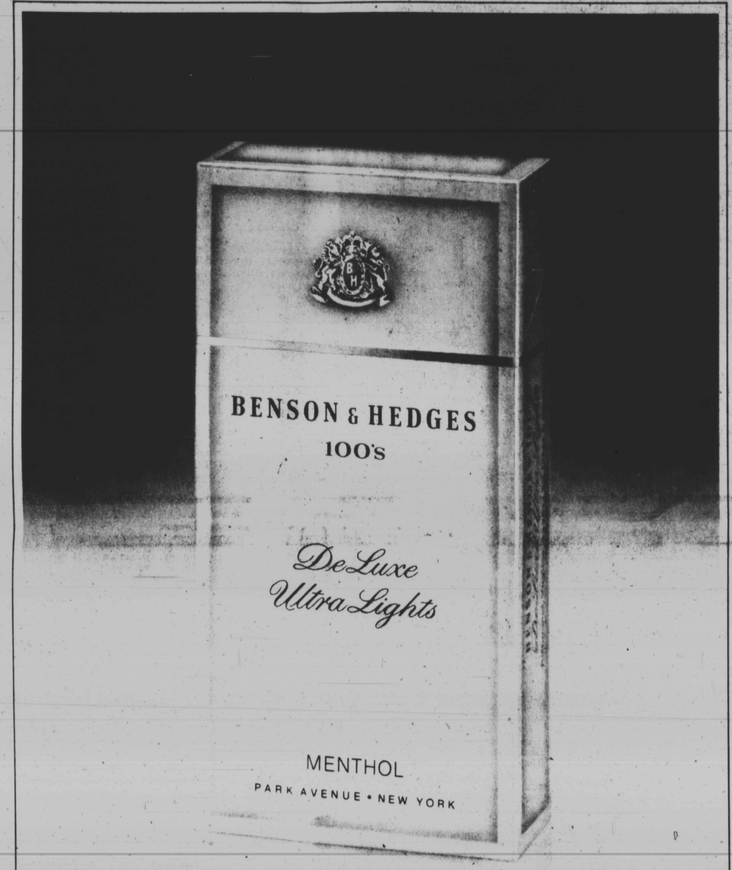

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OUR WORLD

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Meritocrats' annual picnic attracts more than 1,000

CLOWNING IT UP during the Meritocrat Picnic held Saturday, July 24 at Conrad's Ruth Villa in Benjies, MD. are William Hunt, William Day, Alonzo Rogers, Earl Knight and Randy Edwards.

AFTER A COOL DIP picnickers enjoying the scene are (L to R): Donna Mitchner, Doris Salley, Gina Robinson and Derek Doughty (center front).

By Pattie Hodges,
AFRO Women's Editor

Those marvelous Meritocrats—that effervescent group of 23 men who comprise one of Baltimore's most viable socio-civic clubs—have done it again.

On Saturday, July 24 they hosted their annual picnic at Conrad's Ruth Villa in Benjies, MD. It was their third year of hosting the picnic at this most scenic of spots, with its vast tree-shaded grounds, replete with beach, fishing areas and clubhouse.

Again, the picnic was a resounding success, with 1,161 folks in attendance.

Picnic festivities, which got underway at 12 noon and lasted until after 7 p.m., included fishing, swimming, softball, croquet, pitching horseshoes, dancing to disco music in the clubhouse and card playing.

There was a whist tournament with trophies won by Ed Dupree and Alma Bell and a pinochle tournament.

And the food—never ending and ever-delicious—hot roast beef, ham, hot dogs, sloppy Joes, corn-on-the-cob (yum! yum!), assorted delectable salads and continuous open bar with cold beer on tap as well as sodas. There was even a 5-0-50 raffle.

And the Meritocrats were constantly circulating—the perfect hosts. This group uses many of its proceeds to donate to scholarships and other worthy causes in the community including the United Negro College Fund (UNCF., the NAACP and Project Survival, as well as sponsoring a local Little League team.

Chairperson for the picnic was Claude Parker. Co-chair was Lloyd Mitcher, president emeritus of the group.

Officers include Ernest Murphy, president: David White, Vice president; John Donaldson, secretary; Harry Peaker, treasure; Rufus Hardy, sergeant-at-arms; Clarence Hawkins, parliamentarian and Cleveland Brister; business manager.

DRAWING FOR THE 50 - 50 RAFFLE which was a part of the festivities during the picnic are Kurt Schmoke, candidate for the Baltimore State's Attorney's office and Bob Pascal, who is running for governor.

MERITOCRAT WIVES taking in the scene are Maxine Mitchner and Elaine Harris.

MERITOCRAT CLEVELAND BRISTER raps with guest Clayton Tucker.

A Voteless People Is A Hopeless People

AKAs host reception for 'Outstanding Young Women'

AKA'S OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN pictured during a recent reception hosted for them by the Epsilon Omega Chapter at the Helen Fuld School of Nursing auditorium are (front row, l to r): Janet Carter, Debra L. Griffin, Marie O. Rea, Robin T. Smith, Sharon Winslow, Pia Pinkney, Cheryl D. Adams, Diana J. Toomer, Donna J. Toomer and Jacqueline Collins; (back row, l to r): Lauren R. Lyde, Jill Carter, Judith Fitzgerald, Andrena M. Bundy, Valerie C. Brice, Talmira L. Hill, Nancy V. Brown, Maya A. Boston, Melanie Burke, Deidre L. Wilson and Catherine Marie Howard. Honorees not pictured are Ruth C. Byrd, Valerie A. Cooper, Deborah I. Greene, Shelly W. Gross, Vonza E. Nicholson, Anita L. Owens and Renata G. Sheffey.

Recently the Epsilon Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority hosted a reception for the young women they have selected for their 'Outstanding Young Women's Salute to be held in November, 1982.

The affair was held in the Helen Fuld Nursing School Auditorium at Provident Hospital.

Highlights of the program included greetings by Soror Gilda Garrett, chapter basileus, the Occasion by Soror Norma W. Bracy, chairperson, Salute Committee and introduction of the honorees and their parents by Soror Bracy and Soror Doris Shaw, co-chair of the Salute Committee.

Honorees also received information concerning reservations, time and place for the Salute and other pertinent information.

There was a brief question and answer period prior to the introduction of the Salute Committee members and the officers of Epsilon Omega chapter.

Refreshments (cake, punch, tea and sandwiches) were served afterward.

Partyline

DIO worker retires after 42 years of Federal service

By Pattie Hodges,
AFRO Women's Editor

A retirement party was hosted for Lish C. Sims, Division of International Operations (DIO) SSA, who retired recently.

Sims, who had logged 42 years with the U.S. Governement (35 of them with SSA) was honored at a sit-down dinner held at the Forum, Primrose Ave. Friday, July 30, where the festivities began at 5.30 p.m. with 150 people attending.

Ms. Lorraine Burton, of SSA, served as toastmistress. The invocation was given by the Rev. Henry Turner, pastor, First Corinthian Baptist Church.

Bestowing remarks of praise on the honoree were Miss Maggie Wiggins, deputy director, DIO Ted Girdner, former DIO director; Judge Leonard J. Harmats, former Judge. Northwestern D.; D. James Laske, also former DIO director; Charles Osborne, former supervisor, DIO and Dr. Lucius Leeper, recently retired physician for SSA.

Music was provided for dinner by Miss Marjorie Slade and later for disco by James McMillan.

The honoree received an electric razor as well as other monetary gifts.

Members of the Prince Hall Affiliation Masonic family were on hand to celebrate with him. So was his wife Mrs. Mary Sims, who works for Health Care and Financing Administration.

Of his celebration, Sims said: "If every tree in the forest had tongues, they could not express how I feel about my retirement celebration.

Prior to his 35-year stint at SSA, Sims had worked at the Curtis Bay Ordinance Dept.

Chairing the committee for his celebration was Jan Tribble, who was assisted by Evelon Jordan and Eunice Rosensweig.

Chapman ABWA 'Boss of the year

Robert B. Chapman, III, Vice President for Planning and Development Coppin State College has been named the "1982 Boss of the Year" by Freedom Chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA).

The award was presented by Mrs. Linda Terry, Boss Night Chairperson, recently at the Chapter's fourth Annual Boss Night Meeting and Anniversary.

Ms. Florine Robinson, Administrative Assistant, Coppin State College nominated Mr. Chapman for this honor.

Chapman is a native Baltimorean and attended Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and the Johns Hopkins University Engineering School where he graduated in three years with honors earning a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering.

Additionally, Chapman attended the Maryland Institute of Art where he was offered a four year scholarship.

He further completed night courses in Aerodynamics at Johns Hopkins with honors.

Upon completing college, Mr. Chapman joined the John E. Greiner Company where he was instrumental in designing the west span of the Susquehanna Highway Bridge at Havre de Grace.

Chapman served his country in the U.S. Army Air Corps where he excelled at a rapid pace. He moved quickly from 1st Lieutenant on up through the ranks to Lieutenant Colonel. In 1950, Mr. Chapman became the Co-founder, Chief of Contracts and Specifications and Chief Sales Engineer of the AAI Corporation.

He went on to become the Assistant General Manager, Member, Board of Directors, Executive Vice President and finally, president, Chief Executive Officer of AAI.

(Continued on Page 14)

AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz

GETTING A BIG HUG from his wife, Mary, is Lish Sims, who was honored Friday, July 30 at The Forum on his retirement from the government after 42 years of service, 35 of which were spent in the Division of International Operations.