R.S.V.P. With Marie

By Marie P. COOKE
Reflections Editor

We hadn't been to a class reunion in a long time; it seemed like it had been a year. So when our beloved Wendell Wright called and extended a cordial invitation for us to be honorary members of the 1952 class of the Dunbar High School family, we were ecstatic. It was a party—a real one—held at one of our favorite places, Central Social Hall, over East Baltimore way.

There were over 200 reunionites and their friends at the hall, and it appeared to us that everybody knew everybody . . . kinda family-like. We enjoyed watching them intermingle with one another at the game tables, on the dance floor, in the buffet dinner line, at the raw oyster bar and at their individual tables. But most of all, we especially liked the comedy skit of which Spencer Key (Lt. Col.) and Wendell produced, directed and starred. We dubbed it the "Dunbar Brothers Comedy Hour," (much like the "Smothers Brothers . . .") The laughter had a rippling effect on the audience; it took some of us a little longer to catch on to some of the jokes, the ones that spoke directly to class members. And for those we didn't quite get, we went ahead and laughed anyway.

Class members who helped sponsor the affair were: Wendell Wright, chairman; Russell, co-chairperson; Spencer Key, program; Lillie Thornton, treasurer.

Originally there were some 128 members of the class (some 124 survive). Reports show that 50 participated in the silver anniversary.

Oh, how we love to hear from our friends from near and afar. This week a letter came from Hazel Hampton Fleming on the Pierians' closing.

The Pierians, that art-loving group of matrons, brought their program for the two years, 1975-77, to a close with a tour of Colonial Williamsburg, Va., last Saturday, and a pleasant Sunday afternoon at Watuhiyi, the summer home of the Saul Perdues of Morgan Park.

The weekend began when the Pierians, some of their spouses, and a few friends met at Mondawmin shortly after 6 a.m., on the first day and boarded a bus which quickly headed south. All drowsiness was soon dispelled by Jewel Marsan and Theda Wilson, hostesses for the morning trip.

Beginning with Happy Marys, the hostesses served aboard a southern breakfast of chicken livers, sauteed in wine, grits and fruit; washed down by steaming hot coffee (All these were cooked at homes and brought to the bus in large thermos containers).

In order that the tour of the restored Williamsburg would not become a blur, The Pierians concentrated on three appeals, namely, architecture, color and colonial furnishings. The houses along the Duke of Gloucester Street made an immediate impact with their varied designs, their massive chimneys, and hip, gambrel and steep A roofs. The colors used—buff, green, red, brown, slate, gray and tan-gold created charm and beauty one could not miss.

Some of the finest antique furniture, china, glass and silverware in America can be found in Williamsburg, a clear indication of the life-style of the affluent Virginians in the 18th century. There were also many examples of the iron work which was executed by black artisans, reminder, too, of the famed iron work of New Orleans.

Then to the Perdues

This part of the weekend event came to a close when the Pierians were joined by the Perdues who led their bus safely to the Duke of York Motel, in Yorktown. It was here that the fun side of the trip began.

Melissa Perdue, coordinator of the weekend program, planned with such superb skill that no moments were lost. A pre-Fourth of July display of fireworks, good conversation, and lovely, spacious Watuhiyi, overlooking the York River, and all that goes in "southern comfort" were graciously and abundantly provided by the Perdues.

One of the highlights of the trip came when Mrs. Glenn Tarter, president for 1975-77, and her husband, whose hobby is cabinet-making, presented each Pierian with a paperweight of the Pierian emblem, mounted in lucite.

Just before leaving Virginia, the new officers for 1977-78 were presented, amid warm applause. They are: Mrs. Lydia Mussenden, president; Mrs. Justen Marsan, vice president; Mrs. Thomas Briscoe, corresponding secretary; Ruth Welling, recording secretary; Mrs. G. Luther Washington, financial secretary; Mrs. Saul Perdue, treasurer; Mrs. Ernest Johnson, historian.

Photo by Roman Hankewyz

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY — Mr. and Mrs. Clemit Odell (Mattie Mae) Glenn celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary last weekend in festivities at their Glenwood Avenue home.

(AFRO staff photo by Norma Spencer)

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY — The Fountain Baptist Church was the site of the recent wedding anniversary celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Beddie (Elena) Seward last Saturday afternoon. Shown from left are the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. (Daisy) Franklin and Mr. and Mrs. Seward.

Columbia Capers

By Pinnie L. Ross

The celebration of Columbia's first decade continued through July 4 with village parties, lakefront activities, exhibits at the mall and a special rededication by some people who participated in the original ceremonies 10 years ago.

James Rouse, founding father of Columbia, gave the address of the dedication ceremonies at the first village, The Village of Wilde Lake. At the ceremony Charlie Russell, Columbia's first-born child, presented a plaque to honor the rededication. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Russell (Barbara).

A banner proclaiming truth, justice, freedom, love and equal peace was the backdrop for last Sunday's interfaith ceremony at Lake Kittamoundi celebration.

The highlight of the service was a brief speech given by Mr. Rouse.

"It is God's work we truly celebrate now. "Miracles have worked from the first day, and it is easy to think we did it instead of being thankful for what God has done for us," he said.

Mr. Rouse spoke from the theme of the service "Growth Through Sharing." He made comments on the powerful interfaith spirit that prevails in the new city and said he looks "forward to the ten years ahead and to seeing the power of the Kingdom of God on earth and brotherhood."

He also said he is looking forward to doing the things that residents haven't done, such as meeting the needs of the poor in Columbia. The ultimate goal of the Columbia community should be "to evoke in everyone their gifts."

The purpose of the community is to do just that "as we become open and supportive of one another, we become the people we were meant to be," Mr. Rouse said.

Another celebration happened last Tuesday when HUD Secretary Patricia R. Harris addressed a celebration crowd in the mall.

After reading a letter from President Carter, Mrs. Harris said, "Columbia is the mos' exciting community of its kind. But after talking with Jim Rouse about the problems he had in developing the city, I know it has taken an enormous personal commitment and individual genius to make this a success. There aren't many Jim Rouses around, and that's probably the reason there aren't any more Columbia's. We would like to help fill that gap," Mrs. Harris said.

The celebration continued Saturday with a Columbia Tenth Birthday Gala Francais with dancing, food and cash bar held in the Columbia Mall.

Thirty one citizens from the new city of Clergy Pontoise, 18 miles northwest of Paris, France's Columbia sister city arrived last week for the celebration dance which was named in their honor.

There was a Wilde Lake, the first village parade Sunday. Special guests participating in the parade was U.S. Talented Teen of Maryland, Lavern Whitt and first runner-up Tawanda Boone. After the parade they were seated on the platform with Mr. Rouse, who introduced them.

The two young women performed at each neighborhood pool and were riding in style in a 1977 Lincoln.

There was also a two-week carnival, designed for grown-ups as well as youngsters to enjoy.

Another big attraction was the New Cities Fair which lasted for two days. A special shuttle bus was available for fair-goers. Sunday brought thousands to the fair which was held on Lake Kittamoqundi.

The traditional Howard County July 4 celebration, which began in the mid-60s, featured a better-than-ever "list of events."

The celebration was climaxed with fireworks that included multi-colored flowers, pin wheels and an American flag amidst the loud applauses which echoed through the air as the fireworks concluded the Columbia tenth celebration.

Next week's column will conclude the 3rd series of Columbia, titled "Columbia 1977."

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Ambition and love are the wings to great deeds.
Johann Walgang Von Goether

Woodlawn Highlights

. . . by Marjorie Green

"These forty years the Lord thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing." Deuteronomy 2:7

During the recent 40th anniversary celebration of Concord Baptist Church, 16 men and women who labored 40 years through trials, tribulations and joys to keep the church "together on one accord," received long overdue recognition.

The 16 members who witnessed the beginning of Concord Baptist Church are: Mary White, William White, Beulah Satterfield, Susie Chambers, Dea. Winston Highsmith, Dea. Theodore McCallum, Dea. Charles Chambers, Willie Mae Oakman, Mary Hinton, Ozella Mayo, Mahalie Highsmith, Viola Moore, Johnie Moore, Zetta McCullough, Elizabeth Taylor, and Alice Brooks.

The first recognition came when the Book Committee, chaired by Trustee Bettina Scott, included a picture of the charter members in the anniversary souvenir book.

It was the program committee, chaired by Mrs. Willie Mae Milbourne that invited them to be special guests at the closing service on Sunday, June 26. During the service, each honoree was presented a framed certificate of appreciation and a souvenir plate bearing the picture and history of the church. The plates were purchased by the souvenir committee.

Mrs. Nezzie Clark chaired this committee.

On Tuesday evening, June 28, as the Concord Family gathered at Blue Crest North to culminate the celebration activities, the group was surprised to receive flowers and special citations from Mayor William Donald Schaefer. This recognition was sponsored by the Banquet Committee co-chaired by Mrs. Marjorie Green and Mrs. Evelyn McCallum.

The anniversary week was a perfect time to give flowers while they could still be appreciated.

This columnist would like to extend thanks to all the banquet and 40th Anniversary committee members for the confidence and support they gave to make the Anniversary Fellowship Banquet a success.

Local club notes

By Michele L. McRae

Special thanks goes to all of the Concord Family and their friends along with the program participants and the general chairman. It was they who really made the difference.

Most of all, as Banquet chairperson, I want to thank God, because it is through Him that all things are possible.

Have a good day and God Bless.

Send news items for this column: c-o WOODLAWN HIGHLIGHTS, P.O. BOX 785, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

The Baltimore chapter of Carats, Inc., up-date their yearly programs under the smooth leadership of Joan Phillips, president and program chairman, Helen Whittaker with a variety of twenty to 80 karat activities.

The energetic tone for the year began with the first meeting held at the Columbia home of Ada Woodland where reports of the Detroit Conclave were received with overwhelming enthusiasm which set the tone for the years plans.

The cultural lag was bridged as the group planned to attend the opening of a famous Black Cultural Arts Center in New York.

November found the girls attending the president's provocative luncheon at her Randallstown home. Joan had made this an annual affair during her term of office. This very informal and relaxed occasion provided the warm and friendly atmosphere which prevailed between president and members.

The 80 Karat annual Round Robin set the tone for the Christmas Holiday spirit as the Carats joined by their husbands began the round with a glittering cocktail party at the home of Gordine Blount, then on to Minnie Smoots for the 4-course gourmet sit-down dinner. The evening was climaxed with a dessert delight at the home of Vera Carrington.

A T.V. Football Championship Game and dinner party was also a topic of Carat activities and was sponsored by Frances and Vernon Pennington. The spirit of warmth and friendship expressed by the members and their spouses prevailed through the New Year's Day T.V. Football party held at the home of Joan and Bob Phillips, and climaxed in the same high spirit at the Rose Bowl Football Party at the home of Vera and Joel Carrington. This series was given a 60-karat rank by all.

An unusual dimension which was ranked as 40 karats occurred in February which became the month of Everybody's Birthday Party. All birthdays were divided by seasons and each group

(Continued on Page 28

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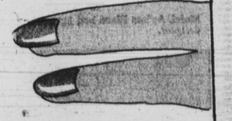

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