Eta Eta Lambda of Alpha Phi Alpha

Fraternity honors 3 Anne Arundel Co. residents

GUEST SPEAKER — Thomas Hunt was keynote speaker at a recent dinner held by Alpha Phi Alpha in Annapolis.

AWARD CEREMONY — Toastmaster James Ballard (L) presents an award to Francis Noel at a recent ceremony held by the Eta Eta Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha (photo above). In photo at left, Carroll H. Hynson receives an award from John Colbert.

By Eloise Richrds on

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Members of Eta Eta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity honored three distinguished citizens at its annual Awards Dinner on Saturday evening, May 5.

Dr. Faye Watson Allen was presented an award "for outstanding performance in the practice of medicine." Dr. Allen, who has practiced Medicine in Annapolis for 27 years, has been a member of the Anne Arundel General Hospital Staff for 25 years, and has served with the Anne Arundel Health Department as a part - time clinician.

Francis Noel was named Eta Eta Man of the Year. He served as an educator with the Anne Arundel Board of Education for 37 years, functioning 31 years as a teaching and supervising principal in the elementary schools, and six years on the superintendent's staff as a consultant on community affairs.

He was presented an award "for valuable service to his chapter and in the field of education.

Carroll Hynson, who pioneered as one of the first licensed realtors of Annapolis, originated several community developments including the imposing Capital Hill Manor in Spa Road, and was instrumental in getting the salesmanship for approximately 75 percent of property at Arundel - on - the Bay. He was given an award" for outstanding work in the field of Real Estate."

The overall theme for the program of the evening was "Human Rights." The keynote speaker was Thomas Hunt, director of District VI of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. During his speech he stressed the fraternity's concern for the advancement of all mankind.

"Alpha Phi Alpha must return to our laboratories of commitment for as we look at our nation, we find disorder, unemployment, poverty and despair all threatening the well-being of our nation," he said.

William A. Hayes, president of the chapter, was presented a special Certificate of Merit by Dr. Aris T. Allen from the Maryland Senate "for meritours service to the community and the State of Maryland."

Dr. James Ballard was toastmaster. Ms. Linda P. Hutchins, one of the leading soloists of the st. John AME Church in Baltimore, rendered musical numbers.

Other members of Eta Eta Lambda are: Brothers Rufus Abernathy, Alfred Blackstone, Gordon Branham, Robert M. Brooks, Samuel Callahan, Robert Chapaman, Preston Gazeway, Cahries Gibbs, Robert Haywood, Isaac Johnson, Theodore Johnson, William Keyes, Lawrence Knight, Jerry Luck, Lornell Parks, George Mck. Phillips, Andrew Richdson, Primus Richardson, George Snowden, Charles Stewart, Johnnie Stubbs, Harrell Spruill and Arend Tjomas.

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Malcolm X birthday: a time to think about self determination

By Charles A. Dugger

Malcolm X's birthday is May 19 and this date affords us an opportunity to reflect on out past and look to our future.

The Nguzo Saba are the seven principles of black unity. These principles are expressed in the East African language, Kiswahili. The Nguzo Saba are Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self Determination), Ujima (Working Together and Being Responsible), Ujamaa (Sharing with Each Other), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith).

These seven principles of black unity are celebrated and discussed at Kwanzaa, a black alternative to Christmas, begun in 1966. These seven principles are also being implemented and practiced every day of the year by increasing numbers of blacks.

In 1965, a year before the Nguzo Saba had begun being observed, Malcolm X was killed in New York City.

Malcolm X was a black man in the United States who advocated black unity and black nationalism. He was a strong and provocative leader for black Americans. He raised the political consciousness of many black people with his dynamic speeches and revelations of American and Western imperialism.

This black man strongly emphasized the importance of self - determination among black people. Self - determination means that we must think for ourselves, define for ourselves, speak for ourselves, and do for ourselves, instead of having others think, define, speak, and do for us.

Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska on May 19, 1925. His father was a Christian minister and a follower of Marcus Garvey, the Pan - African leader from Jamaica.

Malcolm's father worked hard trying to organize the black people in his community. Some white people did not like Rev. Little for organizing the blacks and threatened to kill him and his family. The white supremacist group, the Ku Klux Klan openly threatened Rev. Little and his family. When Malcolm was still a little boy, his father was found decapitated on the street.

The loss of her beloved husband and the pressures of raising her large family amidst racist prejudice and injustice became too great for Malcolm's mother. She was committed to a mental institution.

Malcolm and his brothers and sisters were split up and sent to live at different places. Malcolm was a good student but became disenchanted with school after a white teacher told him that black people should be custodians and not have higher aspirations.

Soon after, Malcolm lost all of his interest in school. He moved to Boston, Massachusetts to live with his sister, and he also began to travel to New York City.

As time progressed, Malcolm Little became a delinquent. Attracted by money and the "fast" life, he straightened his hair, sold drugs, and pimped women. He also burglarized people's houses. Convicted of burglary, he was sent to prison where he served seven years.

While he was in prison, Malcolm's life changed. He began to read countless books. He even read the dictionary from cover to cover to increase his vocabulary and improve his spelling ability.

In prison, one of his brothers wrote him about a new black spiritual leader named Elijah Muhammad. Elijah Muhammad was a proud black man who had organized a religious group — The black Muslims. (The Black Muslims were also known as the Nation of Islam. Today, they are known as the World Community of Islam of the West, under the spiritual leadership of Wallace D. Muhammad, a son of the founder.)

Malcolm became very interested in the Black Muslims and joined the religious group. He began to realize a new pride and respect for himself and all black people. He commenced talking to his fellow inmates about black love, pride, unity, respect for self and self - determination.

He changed his name from Malcolm Little to Malcolm X. He dropped his family name as all Black Muslims did because Black Muslims believed the true names of black people were unknown.

The Black Muslims said that our family names were really the names of our slave masters, should be eliminated, and replaced with an X, for our unknown family lineage.

Upon his release from prison Malcolm X went to the Black Muslims' headquarters in Chicago, Illinois and visited his spiritual leader, Elijah Muhammad. Malcolm X studied and became a Black Muslim minister.

He was placed in charge of the Black Muslim mosque in Harlem, New York City, Mosque No. 7. He helped to organize the Black Muslim newspaper, Muhammad Speaks. (Muhammad Speaks now has the name Bilalian News.

Malcolm X became the chief spokesman for the Black Muslims. He spoke in black communities and on college campuses about the imperative need for black unity and self - determination. He stressed the Black Muslim philosophy of black people "doing" for themselves instead of waiting and hoping for others "to do" for us.

When U.S. President John F. Kennedy was killed on November 22, 1963, Malcolm X was interviewed by a journalist for his opinion of the president's murder. Malcolm X said, "It was a case of the chickens coming home to roost."

For his remarks about the presidential assassination, he was suspended from the Black Muslims by Elijah Muhammad. Malcolm X never rejoined the Black Muslims. He continued to speak out about the violent and unpredictable nature of white people.

He spoke out against white exploitation and oppression of blacks and other oppressed people throughout the world.

The wnite media portrayed Malcolm X very negatively. Some black Americans were uncomfortable with Malcolm X whose military and truth frightened them. These black Americans preferred the non - violent tactics of his contemporary, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unfortunately, too many blacks were indifferent altogether.

Malcolm X continued to study and practice Islam. He became an Orthodox Muslim. After he made his "hajj" or pilgrimage to Mecca, the Muslim's holy city, he changed his name for the last time to El - Hajj Malik Shabazz.

El - Hajj Malik Shabazz tirelessly worked to unify black people. He expressed how potent and serious over 25 million black people would be as a united political and economic force in the U.S. He visited several African countries, helping to establish a greater Pan - African awareness for black people. He established the Organization of Afro - American Unity, the O.A.A.U.

With the help of Alex Haley, the now famous author of Roots, he wrote The Autobiography of Malcolm X.

El - Hajj Malik Shabazz's life and the lives of his wife, Betty, and their children were threatened a number of times. Shortly before his death, his home was bombed, and his family and he barely escaped death.

He and the O.A.A.U. wrote a petition that they intended to present in the United Nations demanding an end to the violation of the human rights of black people in the U.S. His death prevented the petition from being delivered.

El - Hajj Malik Shabazz was murdered the last Sunday in February in 1966 while speaking to a gathering of black people in the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem, New York City.

He was shot approximately 17 times. His widow, Betty, and four children survive him. In death, he has become more revered and respected than in life as more black people recognize the truth of his words.

El - Hajj Malik Shabazz had often been misunderstood by black people because they didn't take the time to really listen to his words or read what he had to say. They frequently let the white media interpret for them.

Several of his speeches were recorded on record albums. The albums include "Message to the Grass Roots," "By Any Means Necessary," and "Ballots or Bullets."

Stressing the importance of education, Malcolm X said, "Tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Revealing the never - ending deception and trickery of Western man, he said, "The white man has perfected the art of image - making to such an extent that he can make the oppressed look like the oppressor. He can make the criminal look like the victim and the victim look like the criminal."

Emphasiting self - determination, Malcom X said, "If we don't think for ourselves and if we don't see for ourselves we will end up halting our friends and loving our enemies."

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