Partyline

Howze-Johnson families reunite for fabulous 4-day celebration

By Pattie Hodges
AFRO Staff Writer

The weekendfamily reunion of the Howze-Johnson families, which lasted from Friday, June 29 until Monday, July 2, was a round of joyful activities.

Family members and their guests came from South Carolina, (the roots area of the family), New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Georgia and California arrived on Friday evening and Saturday morning.

They were housed, throughout the reunion, at the Holiday Inn downtown.

There were approximately 100 persons attending, including six generations of family members emanating fromJohnny and Sarah Howze of Chester, S.C., Dolphus and Ginnie Johnson and Harry Howze and Nora Johnson.

A family j nner, which took place at the Checkerboard Lounge on Hamburg Street, began the celebration.

Family members and their guests enjoyed turkey, ham, greens, potato salad, sauerkraut and pig tails, dessert and drinks.

Disco music was furnished by the lounge.

Family members had a joyful time greeting each other and recalling old times.

The family program, beginning at 7 p.m., began with a welcome given by Gary Howze, great grandson of Johnny Howze. This was followed by a song, "The Black National Anthem," done by the family.

A prayer was offered by Mrs. Harry Howze Jr., daughter-in-law of Harry Howze Sr.

The purpose of the reunion was given by Warren Howze Jr., grandson of Johnny Howze. Warren is assistant to the director of the southeastern region of the department of Health, Education and Welfare.

A solo, "How Great Thou Art", was sung by Ms. Willia Mae Smith, granddaughter of Johnny Howze.

Presentation of the families involved was done by various family members, including: The family of the late William and Zenia Epps Johnson by Zenia Johnson, the late Maggie Johnson and Joe Price by Miss Ruthie Price, great-granddaughter of Dolphus Johnson; the late John and Marie Worthy Johnsonby Mrs. Leola Johnson Lyles, great-granddaughter of Dolphus Johnson; the late Nora Johnson and Harry Howze by Jennie Hoze Nelson, granddaughter of Johnnie and Sarah Howze and granddaughter of Dolphus and Ginnie Johnson; the family of Arsonia Johnson was presented by Susan Haney Wolfe, granddaughter of Dolphus Johnson; the family of Annis Johnson and the late Willis Simpson was done by Annis Johnson Simpson, youngest daughter of Dolphus and Ginnie Johnson.

After the Lord's Prayer and a moment of silence for the family's deceased members, the family sang "God Be With You." The closing prayer was done by Deacon Hayward Franklin, great-grandson of Dolphus Johnson.

At 10 p.m. there was a "We are Family" disco party which lasted until the wee hours.

On Sunday, July 1, the family worshipped together at the Concord Baptist Church on Liberty Heights Avenue. Clinton Howze Jr. made a presentation to the church on behalf of the family.

At 3 p.m. the family enjoyed a delicious dinner back at the Checkerboard Lounge, after which plans were made for their next reunion to be held in 1981.

Among those present at the reunion were members of the family of the late Adam Thompson of Detroit, Mich., cousins of the Johnsons, Mrs. Essie Howze Franklin of New York City, who was the oldest family member in the Howze family. (She and her husband, Earl Franklin, have two children, eight grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren).

Also present was the youngest persn in the entire clan, Zanaida Noelle, one-month-old, the granddaughter of Edward and Bernice Howze Stewart of Los Angeles, Calif.

The Howze-Johnson clan has in it some very distinguished citizens. Among them are Clinton Howze Jr., who is superintendent of school district three in New York and Warren Howze of HEW who was coordinator along with Mrs. Jennie Howze Nelson, a retired supervisor of education in the South Carolina public school system.

Other family members are teachers, nurses and members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Other Howze-Johnson reunion committee planners were: Mrs. Willie Mae Smith, who is with the public school system in New York City and Mrs. Elvin Myers, great-granddaughter of Johnny and Sarah Howze and a nurse with a local nursing home.

The local planning committee consisted of: Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Howze, Mrs. Lela Johnson West, Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Howze, Mrs. Catherine McCormick, Mrs. Marie Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Howze, Mrs. Mary Penn, Lloyd Price and Mesdames Joan and Harriott Howze.

C & P RETIREE AND GUESTS — Joe Walterhoefer, manager of 1 E. Pratt C & P Office, Mrs. Pauline Lewis, 36-year retiree of the C & P Telephone Company, Vince Gisriel, district manager for C & P and Father William McKenna of St. Francis Catholic Church at recent retirement dinner in honor of Mrs. Lewis at La Fontaine Bleu (L to R).

Summer social

At the lovely Paran Road home of Mr. and Mrs. James (Edna) Cobb, of Randallstown, Md. there was a delightful summer social, hosted by the Cobbs.

The enjoyable affair was held on June 30 from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m.

There was a scrumptuous buffet dinner of roast turkey, barbequed chicken, meat balls, macaroni salad, tossed salad, sauerkraut and pork, homemade cake, assorted cheeses, dips and munchies and cocktails.

The Cobb's club basement was decorated in gold and candlelight added to the festive atmosphere.

There were various kinds of music for both listening and dancing.

Enjoying this lively summer bash were guests from many areas of the city. They were: Dr. Betty Jennings and her hubby, Linwood; Cal and Jean Sandifer, Larry and Annette Jackson, Salvatore and Marion Raymond, Leroy and Almetia Jefferson, Dorothy Gonzalez, Spike and Ruby McGill, Mazie D. Woodworth, Rea Hellman and Vincent Montode.

Retires after 36 years

C and P employee honored at dinner

Pauline Lewis retired June 22, 1979 from the C & P Telephone Company with 36 years of service.

Mrs. Lewis began employment in October 1942 as a member of the house service staff. Two months later she became an elevator operator in C & P's headquarters at 320 St. Paul Place.

In 1965 she transferred to the reproduction department assuming the role of a clerk in the mailroom and later as a reproduction clerk.

During her 36 years of employment she raised one son, Dennis Britton, and three daughters, Miss Regina Britton, Mrs. Catherine Wesson and Mrs. Francine Hopkins.

Mrs. Lewis has seven grandchildren, Angela and Mary Hopkins, Patrick and Patricia Britton, Adrienne Britton, Direk Powell and Corey Britton, and one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Carolyn Britton.

Mrs. Lewis is one of 18 children of the late Henry and Nellie Mello of East Baltimore. She and her sisters and brothers, Mrs. Mary Coleman, Mrs. Christine Soares, Mrs. Geneva Himan, Mrs. Marian Forde, Mrs. Corine Stokes, Mrs. Gertrude Lewis, Antonio Mello, Dennis Mello, Joseph Mello and Henry Mello were raised in a family who believed in love, dedication and loyvalty and this she projected during her 36 years of employment with C & P.

The celebration began Sunday, June 17 with a mass for her intentions at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church which she and her family are life long members.

On Thursday, June 21, a retirement dinner was held in her honor at the La Fontaine Bleu where 170 family members and friends gathered to wish her best wishes. Friends from Washington, D.C. and Providence, R.I. were among her guests at the dinner.

Mrs. Lewis was presented a Pioneer Life Membership from the C & P Telephone Company by Joseph Davett, president of Metro East Council. Other guest speakers were Vince Gisriel and Hermann Anschultz, managers at C & P and Mrs. Anne Stancil, supervisor.

Mrs. Nina Harper, niece, was the mistress of ceremony. The Rev. William McKenna, S.S.J. and the Rev. Donald Fest, S.S.J. from St. Francis Xavier Church were also special guests.

Hostesses were: Alfreda Venable, Carlita Kearney, Andrea Forde, Brenda Blackwell, Corine Stokes, Cynthia Lewis, Linda Johnson and Trina Mello.

The celebration continued throughout the weekend with luncheons and cocktail parties in honor of Mrs. Pauline Lewis. She is the widow of William Lewis.

Crab feast

On Friday, June 29, at the fabulous Millersville, Md. home of Warren and Bettye Sears, there was an out-of-sight crab feast.

This lively fun fest was hosted by Warren Sears, principal of Thomas G. Hayes School 102, Mrs. Sears and Joseph Jones, assistant principal of School 102.

The festivities lasted from 3 p.m. until around midnight and was attended by the faculty and staff of School 102 and their friends.

Party fare consisted of lots of delicious steamed crabs, turkey salad, macaroni salad, assorted dips, cheeses, raw vegetables and munchies.

Especially attractive and delectable was the scalloped watermelon fruit bowl, which contained all kinds of fresh fruit.

There were also many types of cocktails, beer and wine.

Disco music was done by pre-prepared tapes, to which guests had fun doing the latest steps.

Games were high on the list of enjoyable activities, especially horseshoes and volleyball.

Everyone had a lovely time.

Special Olympics

State University of New York at Brockport will be the site of the International Special Olympics, where four Baltimore city youngsters will compete with over 3,000 students representing 26 nations in a variety of athlete contests.

The Baltimore youngsters in the event, set for Aug. 8-13, are Samuel Sloan, school 451, Cynthia Garlando, School 177, Kevin Black, School 98, and Bonnie Beatty, School School 307.

Program officials report the four youngsttes won two gold medals each at the Maryland finals, held in June at Towson State University, and that they were among 900 student athletes in the state event.

Robin Polansky will serve as chaperone for the four youngsters

For more women engineers

In an effort to attract more women to careers in engineering, George Washington University's School of Engineering and Applied Science recently added St. Joseph's College for Women in West Hartford, Connecticut to its dual degree program.

In the dual degree program, undergraduates attend three years at a liberal arts college and two years at GW in one of four professional engineering areas — civil, mechanical, electrical or operations research.

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