Seniors enjoy each other and the Urban Services Programs

Mrs. Alice McGee registers Oliver SAGA Center participants for the Eating Together Program.

The woodworking shop at Oliver SAGA Center. Norman Sheldon, above is a regular participant at the Center.

SAGA is a component of the Urban Services Agency.

Urban Services provides senior citizens a large selection of programs under the SAGA umbrella. The Security and Action for Golden Agers Program is the prime antidote to sitting in a room for close to a thousand senior city residents who interact with each other in one of four locations: 1400 E. Federal St., 2700 Rayner Ave., Guilford and Lanvale Streets, and 1114 N. Mount St. All the centers are open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

SAGA centers concentrate on health, information, counseling, nutrition, education, recreation and cultural activities. Ulysta Evans, director of SAGA, says: "We are a desired alternative to long-term care institutions. Our centers serve as a place where the elderly can go and receive several services at one location. Thus, we help increase the senior citizens' opportunity to remain self-sufficient." Members ages range from 55 to 92.

Mrs. Alice McGee, 74, who lives across from the Federal Street SAGA center, a renovated school, looks forward to attending and participating in SAGA activities. "If I am not able to get there," she says, "I'm really upset. I'm at the center three days a week."

Rufus Jones, 70, is exuberant when he talks about Urban Services SAGA centers. "It's important to have a place to go and have some thing to do." With pride, he points to his gold-plated volunteer pin on his shirt lapel. In addition to volunteer, he says "I prefer working in the SAGA woodworking shop; but, I also enjoy board games and pool. The only thing I don't belong to is the Women's Club," he jests.

The on-site staff provides SAGA members with specific information and referrals and offers help with problems involving food stamps, housing, utility bills and emergencies. After settling personal affairs, seniors join some of the activities that occur daily. The calendar is filled with fashion shows, bus trips to historical sites, shopping trips, picnics, socials, dances, bowling and special events.

Equally important, SAGA provides an atmosphere conducive to making lasting friendships, an antidote to earlier loneliness. In addition, SAGA members participate in the Eating Together in Baltimore Program which provides a nutritious noontime meal daily.

Besides having a good time, seniors also have a thirst for knowledge. Health and nutrition classes, tied to consumer workshops, are taught by college instructors. Among the basic education classes offered are arts and crafts, music and sewing. For more information on SAGA programs, call 396-1668.

Obituaries

Raymond A. Watkins

Last rites were held for Raymond Alfonza Watkins on Sunday, Nov. 4. Burial was at the Maryland's Veterans Cemetery in Owings Mills. Mr. Watkins, born in 1911, was the first son born to the late Samuel and Rita Watkins.

He was educated in the public schools in East Baltimore. He joined the United States Army in 1941 and remained until his discharge as a sergeant in 1956. Mr. Watkins was married to the late Ethel Winchester in 1956. She died in 1977.

Among his survivors are: two daughters, Mrs. Thomasina V. Williams and Mrs. Juanita Green; two sons, Rev. Howard Green and Ernest Watkins; one sister, Delores Watkins; four brothers, Samuel, Wilbur Rudolph and Vernon Watkins; four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and other relatives and friends.

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SEE DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE OSTER KITCHEN CENTER, BLENDER AND CAN OPENER. Friday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Towson, Westview, Southdale. Saturday, Nov. 17, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Towson, Westview, Southdale, White Marsh, Harundale, Security Square.
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HUTZLER'S

OUR WORLD

J.U.G.S. hosts annual Charity Ball

AFRO Photos by Bruce Smallwood

IN A JOVIAL MOOD during the annual Charity Ball hosted by the Baltimore Chapter J.U.G.S. (Justice, Unity, Generosity, Service) at the Forum, Primrose Ave. Friday, Nov. 16 are Beverly Goode and Greg Tyler, Esq.

By Pattie Hodges
AFRO Women's Editor

The Baltimore Chapter of J.U.G.S., (which means Justice, Unity, Generosity and Service) hosted its annual Charity Ball Friday, Nov. 16 at the Forum, Primrose Ave. This year the club was celebrating its 16th year in the Baltimore area.

Nearly 300 guests and members turned out to dance to the finger-poppin' tunes of the Bill Cummings Band, enjoy an open bar and a sit-down dinner.

Ladies were "Togged to the teeth" in lovely ball gowns, men handsome in their tuxedos.

Special entertainment was provided by the Charitable Dancers, young ladies, many of whom are daughters of the members of the chapter. Decked out in orchid and white (the club's colors) they did several dances, much to the delight of the members and guests. They are under the direction of Juanita Smith, member and their chairperson.

The theme of this year's ball was We are Family.' Topping off a marvelous evening, which began at 10 p.m. and lasted until 2 a.m., was a super breakfast, which lasted from 2:30 until 5 a.m. Chairperson for this year's ball was Rosemary Atkinson.

The thrust of J.U.G.S. has always been the "good and welfare" of children, and to help the children of Baltimore, the organization has contributed to Provident Hospital, the John F. Kennedy Institute for Handicapped Children, St. Marks United Methodist Church's Early Childhood Learning Center, the United Negro College Fund, Baltimore Fuel Fund and Baltimore Blue-Chip In Program.

Baltimore Chapter officers are Bernice Hardy, president; Patricia Hall, vice president; Carolyn Glascoe, recording secretary; Eleanor Wynn, corresponding secretary; Carleen Wilkes, financial secretary; Helen Boyette, treasurer and Shirley Gregg, parliamentarian. The Baltimore club was founded by member Mattie Slowe in 1968.

Other members are Bridgette Dean, Betty Dorsey, Jean Saunders and Frances Stith.

THE CHARITABLE DANCERS, who provided entertainment by performing several dances during the evening are Tobi Atkinson, Kim Terrell, Danyelle Dorsey, Amie Green, Tarsha Evans, Barbara Holmes and Dorothy Pinder.

WATCHING THE ACTION are (from left): Robert Finney, Sara Smalley and John F. McPhail.

ENGAGED IN PARTY PATTER are (L to R): Edith Ricks-Brown, Phyllis Lloyd and Charlene Griffin.

CAUGHT BY THE CAMERA during the festivities are (L to R): Agnes Underwood, Norman Brailey, Cynthia Underwood, Denise Parrott and Lydia Wilson.

OTHERS ON THE SCENE are (from left): John Sparks, Geneva Sparks, Marion Finney and Virginia Scott.

Pattie Hodges
OUR WORLD EDITOR

PARTYLINE

ELIZABETH COLBERT RETIRES IN STYLE

"The loyalty, enthusiasm and love of these girls was just beautiful," declared Mrs. Elizabeth Colbert of her retirement celebration committee. The family and friends of Betty Colbert gathered together at Martin's Eudowood, Towson recently to honor and celebrate her retirement from the Baltimore Gas & Electric Company.

After 30 years of service as Assistant Supervisor of the Accessory Counter at Baltimore Gas & Electric, Mrs. Colbert was honored at a program which included reflections, tributes and presentations.

The entire evening was orchestrated by Mrs. Elanders Beasley, Chairperson, and Mrs. Mildred Jones, Co-Chairperson, plus a committee from the Ray of Hope Baptist Church. "All the girls who worked in the church organized the event," explained Mrs. Colbert. "These girls were just beautiful. Their love and devotion as they worked on the program was thrilling. They worked together in such a Christ-like spirit!"

Amazed to see a limousine booked by Mrs. Beasley from Baltimore Specialty Tours pull up at her door when the evening began, Mrs. Colbert said "That was quite surprising because I knew nothing about it." She arrived at Eudowood Plaza in a white blouson with a laced diamond shape collar over a pleated skirt, pale blue heels and stockings, and a white and blue pearl necklace with pearl earrings. The white orchid Mrs. Colbert wore on her lapel proved to be only one of the many flowers she would have that night.

"Biddie's Florist presented me with a bouquet of red carnations," explained Mrs. Colbert, "for the Christian service I've given as a Sunday school teacher over the years and for teaching the Biddle children." One dozen red roses were also given to Mrs. Colbert by "my sweetheart as I like to call him," she said mysteriously.

Brandy Nicole Beasley, also provided one of the evening's highlights "She recited a poem which was written especially for me by Mrs. Wynola Robinson," smiled Mrs. Colbert. "Brandy recited the poem with such beauty and it was a lovely poem!"

Rozina Bagley, Chairperson Elanders Beasley, Doris Gorden, Florence Hargrove, Melvina Johns, Co-Chairperson Mildred Jones, Loretta Lewis, Lucille Pannell, Antoinette Parker, Connie Pitts, Wynola Robinson, Sarah Smith, and Denise Stanley comprised the retirement celebration committee.

"I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to them for caring and sharing together the coordination of this event," declared Mrs. Colbert. "Also, I give Elanders Beasley much credit for her efficient and effective leadership during the organization of the retirement dinner. She is one of the sweetest girls I know, and I wish to extend my best wishes to her and all the committee members. I just felt like I was on cloud nine!"

Not one to sit still for long, Mrs. Colbert will continue with her Christian service in the community during her retirement, "I will do volunteer work two days a week with children at either the John F. Kennedy Children's Hospital or the Johns Hopkins Children's Center." Many of us look forward to seeing Mrs. Colbert in and around the community in the coming years.

Mrs. Dorothy L. Richardson presided over a program which included musical selections by Garfield Webb, Ms. Delean Johnson, Mrs. Ruby McLendon and Mrs. Sonja Mays; greetings and occasion by Ms. Atoinette Parker; invocation and grace by Rev. Franklin Peterson, Jr.; reflections and personals by Mrs. Carrie McCormick and Ms. Rozina Bagley, the Ray of Hope Baptist Church; tributes by the Rev. C. M. Franklin, Sr., Ms. Annie M. Yarborough, Ms. Daisy Gillard, Mr. Leon Robinson, Ms. Katherine Colburn, and Miss Brandy Nicole Beasley; "A Tribute in Verse" by Mrs. Ethel Barnes and Doris Gordon; presentations by Ms. Rose Harvey, Master Aaron Thompson, and Ms. Denise Stanley. Mrs. Elanders Beasley, and Mrs. Mildred Jones spoke, and Mrs. Elizabeth Colbert gave a response.

Hot roast sirloin of beef, Meatballs, Baked ziti parmesan, Maryland fried chicken, Pepper steak and Rice pilaf were served as a buffet dinner.

Charlotte Bonner designed the banner, Colleen Miller drew the invitation, James Riley, Sr. was musician, Richard Snader acted as photographer and Velda Yelity designed the retirement dinner announcements.

Evelyn Banks, Linda Brown - Ailor, Janice Duncan, Yvonne Gardner, Joyce Gillard, Paula Gillard, Loretta Johnson, Sonja Mays, Janet Miguel, Charlotte Price, Beverly Smith, and Mary Wallace all served as hostesses at the retirement celebration.

CHARM CITY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION DONATES TO PROVIDENT

The Charm City Women's Association recently made a formal presentation of toys and books to Howard Jesame, president of Provident Hospital and the doctors and nursing staff of the Provident Hospital Pediatric Ward. This donation to the Provident Hospital Tot Playroom was made at this time to help make the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays more joyous for babies and tots who have to hospitalized during the holiday season.

The Charm City Women's Association is an organization of black professional women who have joined together to promote civic, cultural, and educational activities within Baltimore communities.

In keeping with the foci of the organization the Charm City Women's Association has assumed responsibility for working continuously with the staff and Board of Directors of Provident Hospital to improve and enhance their services to youngsters ages one day through sixteen years who have to be hospitalized.

The donating of toys and books to the hospital's Tot Playroom is just one of a series of planned activities the Charm City Women's Association will spearhead.

Other activities include the financing of the renovation of the Tot Playroom to make it more comfortable for mobile

Continued on page 15

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