Our World

Continentals host annual charity gala

MEMBERS OF THE CONTINENTALS' DANCE COMMITTEE seen during the annual Charity Gala hosted by the Continental Socities, Inc. at the Palladium, Sunday, Dec. 27 are (first row, L to R): Odessa Dyson, chairperson for the dance; Madeline Campbell, Sina Reid, co-chairperson, and Marlene Wise. (Second row, from L): Zelma Brown, Connie Butler, Doris Smith and Phyllis Thompson; (third row, L to R): Priscilla Marshall, Catherine Gross, Ann Parker and Marjorie Washington.

Photos by Bruce Smallwood

INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE EVENING are (L to R): Continental Madeline Campbell, Marjorie and Russell Dorsey, Alvin Bowman and Kathy Wyatt.

A FAMILY AFFAIR — Julia and Tee Cee Hamilton (L) and their daughter are caught by he camera as they savor the evening's sun.

ENJOYING CAMARADERIE during the festivities are (from L): Cy Green, Kim Hines and Edward and Ida Covington.

CATCHING THE ACTION are (L to R): Alvin Fitts, Jeanne Fitts, Alvin and Florence Henderson.

More than 1,000 guests filled the "castle on the hill" Dec. 27, as the Continentals held another successful gala at the Palladium.

From 6 to 11 p.m., the guests were treated to an open bar, fine food and the music of the Bobby Felder band.

The annual Black tie affair is held by the Continental Societies, Inc. to promote, foster and develop programs for disadvantaged and underprivileged youth.

Dr. Benjamin Carson, the Johns Hopkins neurosurgeon who successfully separated Siamese twins during a daring operation at the hospital, was given a special award at the gala.

Carson, a Detroit native, gave a brief speech upon the presentation of the award.

But celebration was the word, and the guests did their part to make the affair sparkle.

Vivacious ladies and sterling gentlemen danced the night away while raising money for a good cause.

The groups raised more than $10,000 for disadvantaged and underpriveleged children.

Co-chairpersons for the event were Odessa Dyson and Sina Reid. Other members include Frances Branch, Zelma Brown, Constance Butler, Madeline Campbell, Sevilla Carroll, Frenzela Credle, Magdalene Fen-

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Pattie Hodges

OUR WORLD EDITOR

PARTYLINE

Former Mayor honored

The Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society, Inc. chose the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as the fitting occasion to pay tribute to former Mayor Clarence "Du" Burns.

Burns earned his place in recorded history by working within the establishment to produce significant changes not only within the political structure but also in improving the quality of life for everyone.

He was lauded for making significant impacts on housing, slum clearance, employment, education, restoration and the modernization of the physical appearance of the East Baltimore Community.

You could hear a pin drop at the forum as comprehensive personal testimonies about his willingness to sacrifice promoting his personal image, prominence and notoriety to achieve the loftier goals of exalting others and restructuring society for the benefit of the total City.

After a gala reception, guests were held spellbound as one startling revelation after another were given by those who knew Burns well.

The demeanor and charm of A. Bernice S. Hunley, who was the program coordinator and emcee, set the tone for intimacy, dignity and worth. This tone was embraced and enhanced by Anethia B. Williams, the President of the Society, who gave eloquent, opening remarks on the purpose of the occasion.

The Very Rev. John L.M. Filipelli, S.S.J. at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, the home church of the former Mayor, gave the invocation. The

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FORMER MAYOR CLARENCE "DU" BURNS (C) is seen during the celebration hosted in his honor by the Herbert M. Frisby Society, Inc. at the Forum, Primrose Ave. Friday, Jan. 15 with (from L): Marie Henderson and Charlene Griffin, former Mayor Burns' niece.

(Photos by Bruce Smallwood)

FRIENDS OF BURNS seen at the affair are (L to R): Caroline Browne, Archer Stith, Augustine Stith and Marie Williams.

JULIA WOODLAND (L) is seen with (from L): Rita Cooper and Marguerite Campbell.

Zetas hold annual Founders' Day observance

NATIONAL AND LOCAL OFFICERS of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. who were in attendance at the Alpha Zeta Chapter's Founders' Day observance held at the Forum on Sunday, Jan. 17 are (L to R): Sorors Linda Thompson, Executive Director, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Washington, DC; Beryl T. Battle, member of the Zetas' National Executive Board, White Plains, NY; Eunice S. Thomas, Zetas' International Grand Basileus; Mary E. Fields, Director of the Zetas' Atlantic Region and basileus of Alpha Zeta Chapter, and Martha W. Williams, Zetas' Maryland State Director, Silver Spring, MD.

ZETA AWARDEES (from L) are: Sorors Isoline Crowner, Zeta lady of 50 plus years, Longevity award; Beatrice A. Mayo, Founders' Day Humanitarian Award, and Elizabeth C. Demby, Meritorious Service Award.

OTHER SORORS who received awards are (L to R): Emma D. Dudley, Founders' Day Humanitarian Award; Elizabeth Fran Johnson, Meritorious Service Award; Anne Holt, Longevity Award for 40 years plus; Brenda McKinley and Sherl Woodland, Meritorious Service Awards.

More than 450 people joined Alpha Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. at its 68th Founders' Day Observance at the Forum on January 17.

Enjoying the festivities also were national and regional officers of the sorority, representatives of local undergraduate chapters, the Archonettes Youth Group, The Greater Baltimore Amicae Auxiliary and their Sigma brothers, who also served as escorts for the dais guests.

In attendance was Soror Myrtle Tyler Faithful, one of the two living founders, who is a member of Alpha Zeta Chapter. Tributes to Soror Faithful were made by Ms. Doris Johnson, Executive Assistant to Governor William Donald Schaefer; Martha W. Williams, Maryland State Director of the Sorority; Sylvia Gundy, newly-elected president, Baltimore Chapter, National Pan Hellenic Council; Marvin Cheatham, National Director for Social Action, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; Patricia Fairley, president of the Zeta Amicae of Greater Baltimore, and office of the mayor.

Soror Mary E. Fields, Director of the Atlantic Region and Basileus of Alpha Zeta Chapter, presented tributes and gifts on behalf of the chapter.

The chapter honored sorors for service, longevity, and humanitarian efforts. The Founders' Day Humanitarian Award was presented to Sorors Emma Duvall Dudley and Beatrice A. Mayo.

The purpose of this award is to recognize sorors who are fulfilling a dual commitment of service through contributions to human needs and concerns in the community as well as through committed service to chapter projects.

Receiving the Meritorious Service Awards, given to sorors who abound with energy, and through the quality of their lives and their service to Zeta exemplify the ideals of the founders, were Sorors Elizabeth C. Demby, Brenda McKinley, Elizabeth Fran Johnson and Sherl Woodland.

Longevity Award Certificates of Recognition, given to Zetas who have served the Sorority 40 years and 50 years as of December 1987, were Sorors Virginia B. Coleman, Anne Holt (40 years) and Elizabeth Fran Johnson and Isoline Crowner, who received the Gold Award for 50 years of service.

Soror Eunice S. Thomas, International Grand Basileus of Zeta Phi Beta, was the guest speaker. She began her speech with the famous quotation from Charles Dickens, "It was the worst of times, it was the best of times..." and traced those times for black Americans through the years.

She said that during the 1920's, Greek letter organizations were established by blacks who were sweltering under the heat of segregation and who had a common bond. She said that blacks moved forward through those years but now the 1980's are a more crucial period.

Soror Thomas likened the 1980's to a season of despair in employment where the unemployment rate for black youth is 50 percent. Whereas this age group had been hired for semi-skilled jobs requiring muscle, they have now been replaced by new technology.

She urged black leaders as well as individuals to translate this message to our young people — that work is honorable — no matter what kind — and that we should perform it with excellence and dignity.

She also warned that this a season of darkness for black colleges and we need to double our efforts to support these institutions with as much financial aid as we can.

She also urged that black Americans network with one another, with the emphasis on what we can do for ourselves.

Soror Thomas is a Presidential appointee to the U.S. Department of Labor, where she is Special Assistant to the Secretary of Labor and Director for Academic and Intergovernmental Liaison for Workforce 2000.

Rendering the inspirational musical selections was Ms. Margaret Lindsay Johnson, accompanied by Soror Audrey McCallum. Incidental luncheon music was provided by Sorors Emma Roberts and Mildred Williams.

This Founders' Day Observance served as a kick-off for the 68th anniversary Boule celebration of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. that will be hosted by Alpha Zeta Chapter in Baltimore from July 10 - 14, 1988.

More than 2500 delegates and members are expected to attend the Boule which will be headquartered at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Program activities include a public banquet, a Night of the Performing Arts, an Awards Luncheon, and the Presidential Ball. Workshops will focus on Drug abuse, illiteracy, eradication, economic development and health outreach and human services programs.

The 1988 Founders' Day Committee included: E. Fran Johnson, Chairperson; Sandra Ellen East, Co-Chairperson, Bernice S. White, Co-Chairperson; Merlene Adair, Vivian Bailey, Catherine Beard, Dana Brown, Sallye Carter, Isoline Crowner, Elizabeth Demby, Emma Dudley, Marian Graham, Louise Lassiter, Joan Lockman, Reva Lewis, Angie McClain, Brenda McKinley, Anne Moreland, Anita Myers, Lilyan Nottingham, Edna Randolph, Emma Roberts; and Zeta Amicae Judy Anderson, Marian Jackson, Margaret Wadell and Peggy Washington.

—More Partyline

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stage was set for a man who had risen from an humble prologue to a noble denouement.

The audience represented the Who's Who of Baltimore. They had come out on a symbolic day to pay tribute to a man who had a dream and fulfilled it. More importantly they had to pay tribute to a man who made a difference.

Personal testimonies came from Mrs. Hilda Ford, who represented the Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Governor of Maryland; Ruth Rosedom, wife of George Rosedom, who was the firs Assistant States Attorney; Carlene M. Griffin, the niece of the honoree; and Marie Henderson, former campaign manager for Burns.

Hilda Ford shocked the audience when she related that Burns was responsible for her coming to Baltimore. Carlene Griffin told how Burns was a pillar of strength for his entire family; Griffin related intimate stories of how the former Mayor exemplified a heart full of warmth and compassion and always did whatever he could, whenever he could to help whomever he could.

Ruth Rosedom elaborated on how he had redirected his energies to build schools, learning centers and promoted scholarships, and how he had compassion for the elderly and actually brought about changes to promote their well being.

Marie Henderson described him as a devoted family man, ardent church goer, compassionate counsellor and every man's friend. She expounded on Burns' arduous, humble journey from 421 Caroline St. to 100 Holliday St., as a journey from the days of poverty and humiliation to the top of the mountain of power and prestige.

The founder of the Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society, Inc., Delegate Lena K. Lee, gave the depth and breadth of the occasion by characterizing Clarence "Du" Burns as a man who not only made history, but shaped it.

She talked about how this plain man of the people had been a moving force in the growth of Baltimore from a small town to a large metropolis. She gave personal glimpses on how Burns had become politically astute, attaining greatness and gaining the respect and admiration of all of the people.

Delegate Lee went on to explain how the event tied in with the purposes and missions of the Herbert M. Frisby Society, Inc. "Time has shown that if we trust our history to the care of others, our history will be rendered null and void," she said.

"The Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society, Inc., therefore, resolves to correct the record and insure Black men and women of a place in the annals of history via its archives, books and traditions.

"Black men and women must be given their places in the history of this great nation, creating a 'sense of history' will develop a sophistication and solidify thoughts, feelings an opinions," said Lee.

Delegate Lee also cited Burns as a man who had earned his place in history. Burns was the first Black President of the City Council and the first Black Mayor of Baltimore City.

The paramount expression of praise came from Judge Milton Allen. He described Burns as a prophetic person who had predicted the fate of such notables as Judge Harry Cole, Judge Watts, Master Emerson Brown, George Rosedom and other blacks including himself when they were young, poor and struggling. He credited Burns for moving to elevate Black lawyers to judgeships and for helping many blacks gain status, power and prestige.

As if the audience was not already engrossed with the breadth, depth and height of Burns, Sylvia Hardison related how Burns had helped her personally, and then she rendered two stirring tributes through the medium of song, "Believe in Yourself" and "Ordinary People." Burns is a living example of what ordinary people can do if they believe in themselves right from the start and believe in the magic that's placed in their hearts.

Special tributes, citations and presentations were made by Judge Milton Allen, Mrs. Catherine McConnell, Nikki Randolph, Delegate Lena K. Lee,

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PLANNERS: Members of the Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society's Committee who planned and coordinated the tribute to former mayor Clarence "Du" Burns are (from L): (seated, from L): Catherine McConnell, Evelyn Burrell, A. Bernice Hunley and Mildred Williams; (standing, L to R): Bill Burrell, Anethia Williams and Marguerite Wilkins.

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