



PORTLAND OBSERVER

world of women



AKA holds regional conference

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will hold its 43rd Far Western Regional Conference March 31 - April 1 here in the City of Roses at the Sheraton Hotel. Zeta Sigma Omega is the hostess chapter.

Members of the hostess chapter gathered at the home of Mrs. Geraldine McConnell, 3643 N. Winchell, on Sunday, February 18, 1972, for dessert and planning for the conference. More than 150 delegates are expected to be present at the conference. Delegates will be from the following states: Arizona, California, Washington, Nevada and Oregon. Mrs. Geraldine McConnell and Mrs. Jewel Johns are Co-Chairmen of the conference and Mrs. Patricia White is Basileus. Mrs. Winifred C. Rhoades of Los Angeles, California is Regional Director. The members of the hostess chapter are: Mrs. Patricia White, Basileus; Mrs. Darrell Johnson, Anti-Basileus; Mrs. Geraldine McConnell, Grammateus; Mrs. Mamie Bowles, Anti-Grammateus; Mrs. Patricia Dobbin, Tamiouchos; Mrs. Mary Henderson, Ivy Leaf Report; Mrs. Jewel Johns, Parliamentarian.



Patricia White, Basileus; Jewel Johns, Co-Chairman of the Regional Convention; Patricia Dobbins, Tamiouchos; and AKA members Ruth Spencer and Maurice Smith discuss convention plans.

Mrs. Emma Chiles
Mrs. Brenda Greene
Mrs. Geri Hammond
Mrs. Marian Jacobs
Mrs. Martha Jordan
Mrs. Bernice McRae
Mrs. Bobbie Nunn
Mrs. Susie Patterson
Mrs. Maurice Smith
Mrs. Ruth Spencer

Mrs. Roberta Vann
Pledges:
Mrs. Edna Baskett
Mrs. Zana Berry
Mrs. Marjorie Holmes
Miss Florice Walker

The conference will climax with a formal dance at the Sheraton Hotel, April 1, 1972.

Grandmother trains at POIC

Mrs. Erma Watson has successfully passed her G.E.D. exam, and as the mother of three children, grandmother of one and housewife, too, that's an accomplishment!

Mrs. Watson left high school over twenty years ago, but managed to finish her education in just two months at Portland's Opportunity Industrial Center. Now that she is a high school graduate, she is taking psychology and clerical courses, hoping to soon be a social worker with Multnomah County. She wants to work with "underprivileged people, children, older people or just anyone who needs help."

Mrs. Watson is not just a student, however. She is president of the Student Council at OIC. Her two biggest concerns are arranging extra-curricular activities for students and letting other people know that OIC is here. A neighbor

told Mrs. Watson about the school and she feels there isn't enough publicity about all that OIC has to offer.

Portland's OIC has been open since October of 1968 and has 268 graduates. After preparing for and passing the G.E.D. exam, a student prepares for a specific job, as Mrs. Watson is doing now. Rev. Boyd, director of the federally funded program said the employment quota is 50 percent this year and so far 90 of 150 placements have been made, or 60 percent. He added that not just any job would do, but "a meaningful job for the individual" is what they try to find.

Everything is provided free for the student, including not only teachers and class materials, but pens, paper, books and any other necessary supplies.

"This is a very good school."

The staff is very cooperative and trying hard to help. However, Mrs. Watson continued, "There's a lot of things that can be done and there's a lot of help needed here."

Mrs. Watson wants to see more courses and a larger variety of courses. That demands increasing the present staff of thirty; more materials, such as desks, good typewriters, sewing machines, paint and building materials.

Rev. Boyd added, "The Bible says 'money answers all things.'" But included that volunteers with teaching skills would be welcome, too. He feels too many retired teachers "rust out" when they could be serving the community and making their own lives more meaningful.

Congratulations are due to Mrs. Watson in her efforts to help the school which has helped her.

PNB recruiter interviews high school students

Benita Johnson, 2050 N.E. Couch, an employment interviewer for Pacific Northwest Bell in Portland is one of three Oregon employees who are "telling" the company's shareowners what's going on in the business these days. A 1964 graduate of Jefferson High School, Mrs. Johnson is quoted in the company's 1971 annual report on how her job relates to the company's overall operations, its employees and customers. The report was released this week.

Mrs. Johnson said . . . "The thing that I like most about my job as high school recruiter is keeping in touch with the young people. It helps to keep me thinking young. It's also exciting to see the changes that are taking place in the schools now -- and in the young people themselves. These kids are sharp, they really are. I think they are more mature than when I went to high school. And they are honest, so you really have to be honest with them in return."

"When I tell them about the company, I try to be pretty objective about it. In the area of minority employment, for example, I don't tell them that PNB is a company without any problems. I try to tell them exactly where we stand and what we're doing -- not only in recruiting minority people, but in working within the company to improve the promotional prospects for women and seeing that they get into jobs that were closed to them until the past few years."

"The kids are interested in the minority trainee program we operate in conjunction with the National Alliance of Businessmen, and I tell them about our success as well as our problems."

"In a company as large as ours, you're going to find some people who have prejudices



BENITA JOHNSON

and biases. And, as a result, we've had some problems and there have been injustices. I'm realistic enough to know that we can't fix everything overnight, but I can honestly say that we're sure working to change the situation. I guess we're fortunate that higher management feels so strongly about it."

"I know from my experience when I first started working, that the company is really concerned about its people. I was going to school and working part time and the company just bent over backwards to arrange my hours around school. And everyone seemed really interested in what I was doing. When you think of a large corporation, you don't think of them going to that much trouble for one employee."

Mrs. Johnson started work for PNB in her senior year at Jefferson as a student oper-

ator in the company's Directory Assistance department.

She was promoted to the rank of management in the company when she became an employment interviewer in 1970.

ABWA announces meeting

Mrs. Geri Ward, President of the Oregon Green Chapter of the American Business Woman's Association (ABWA), announces the March dinner meeting will be held at the Portland Motor Hotel, Columbia Room on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Howard Rankin, Attorney at Law, will speak on the "Trials of Christ" based on our modern day law.

Vocational speaker for the evening will be Ms. Andrea R. Sharp who is head of the Evaluation Department of the Portland Model Cities Agency.



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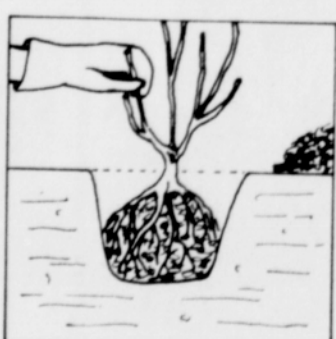
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How To Plant Roses

Planting roses properly requires neither skill nor experience. Simply follow the easy procedure outlined below. Essentials for success with roses are: good healthy plants, well prepared beds with good drainage and a minimum of at least a half a day of sunshine in the areas in which the roses are planted.



1. Well prepared, deeply spaded bed in well-drained area. Dig each hole 15" to 18" wide and as deep. Add a quart of peat moss or compost and mix well with the soil. Form blunt cone of the mixture in planting hole.



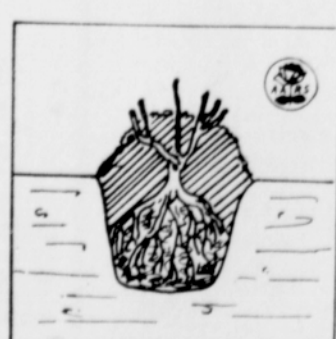
2. Prune all rose canes to 12" and remove any broken or injured roots. Position rose on soil cone so that bud union (swelling at base of stem) is just above the ground level after the ground settles in mild climates and about 1" below the surface in climates where winter temperature falls below freezing. Spread roots out in a natural manner down slope of mound.



3. Work in soil around roots to eliminate any air pockets. Firm soil about roots and add more soil until hole is three-fourths full, then firm with foot or tamper, using care not to injure roots.



4. Fill remainder of hole with water and allow it all to soak in, then refill. After water drains, see that bud union remains at proper level and fill remainder of hole with soil and tamp. Head canes back to about eight inches, making cuts one-fourth inch above an outside bud.



5. Mound soil around and over plant to height of eight to ten inches. This protects the rose canes from drying out. When buds break, gradually remove mound of soil -- probably within a week or ten days. Loosen name tag so that it does not constrict cane. When vigorous growth starts, apply plant food according to manufacturer's specifications.

NROTC seeks women

If you're a girl about to graduate from high school and want to go to college but can't afford it, see your local Navy Recruiter about the NROTC Scholarship for women. It will pay for tuition, fees and books plus a monthly allowance of \$100 for 4 years.

That's part of the answer to Cindy L.'s question -- "What's this about Navy Scholarships for women?" The rest is this: the Navy cannot legally allow women into the Naval Academy yet, however in keeping with the times -- we are leading the way in equal opportunity for women. The Navy has decided that scholarships should be available to women as well as men.

The NROTC program will require women to attend the same Naval orientation and technical classes as their male counterparts as well as complete their courses in their major. Upon graduation they will be commissioned as Ensigns in the Navy right along with the men.

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