



OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle

TALES OF the stormy 1983 Christmas holiday party season are still being told whenever good friends get together to wish each other a Happy New Year. Usually the stories sound like excerpts from Memoirs of Refugees.

At one hotel formal party, (which shall be nameless to protect the innocent), hosts and guests kept on fur coats and overcoats because heating facilities failed, leaving the rooms cold. The Leisure Hour Golf Club avoided all this by, fortunately, scheduling their relaxed informal dance at the Masonic Temple Ballroom a few days ahead of the arctic blasts.

SUSIE AND "Pat" Patterson had turkey in the oven for Christmas dinner for 30 when their electric power failed. Resourceful Pat built a real fire in a real woodstove in their basement recreation room and transferred the festive bird and the fixings by countless trips up and down stairs inspired to use the occasion as an old-fashioned lamp and candlelight production for the day. What overwhelmed Pat was that the electric power came back on, restoring lights, heat and every convenient appliance just when the meal was nearly ready to be served.

THE ALPHA Kappa Alpha Sorority, Zeta Sigma Omega Chapter in Portland annually celebrates their local founding. This year was their 28th anniversary; the place was a hotel near the airport. Power became unpredictable and hotel generators were marshalled to take over as the usual sources were

cut off.

BASILEUS Barbara Thompson and her devoted committee, headed by Freida McEwan, realized they might have to call the whole thing off for the place was cold, lights flickered and Visions, their dance band, needed power for some of their instruments. Calls poured in from invited guests cancelling because they were stranded at home because of the weather. Other calls poured in from guests who had extra visiting guests who would be delighted to attend because they had been shut in and wanted a chance at holiday gaiety. So it was "Generators Ahead," and the dance drew nearly 400 happy guests to congratulate the AKAs while dancing to the driving sounds of Visions.

INCIDENTALLY, the sorors, about 36 of them, were present to sing their sorority song, which turned out to be the most melodic heard from a social group in this area for a long time. Soprano voices were above average, other ranges were heard, and what's more unusual—they all knew the words.

Other committee members for the dance were Rose Marie Johnson, Carol Probasco, Elizabeth Casson-Taylor, Patricia Dobbins, Mattye Dobbins, and Tina Pitts.

THE METROPOLITAN Human Relations Commission announces that Fred M. Rosenbaum has been selected as the 1983 recipient of the Russell Peyton Human Relations award for his outstanding work in civil rights and promotion

of inter-group relations in the Portland Metropolitan area.

DR. LEE Brown, chief of police in Houston, Texas, has been invited to be the principal speaker at a January 13 luncheon to be held in honor of Mr. Rosenbaum. The Friday luncheon will be held at 12 noon at the Tuck Lung restaurant. The Commission will also honor Dr. Francis Storrs for her outstanding contribution and leadership in helping to establish the police internal investigation auditing committee. In addition, three students from Harriet Tubman Middle School will receive awards for their compositions on ways to improve interracial acceptance and understanding.

Call Roberto Reyes-Colon at 796-5136, ext. 5548, for reservations and further details if you wish to attend.

OUR SYMPATHIES go to our African brothers and sisters who must wait for news of the tragedy that has struck in Nigeria. The deposition of President Shugu Shagari in the military coup of a few days ago spelled the halt of the democratic form of government regarded as the outgrowth of Nigeria's effort to take a responsible leadership role among other budding African nations.

AFRICAN citizens and African students living in this area are left uncertain of their future at this point, although several had been assessing Nigerian life-trends and had found them disconcerting in the past several months. We await with them word from the closed borders of the

troubled country and hope with them that all is well with family and friends who dwell there.

"THE NEW YEAR has the potential to be difficult for all of you," says Taylor. "It marks both an end and a beginning, a time of reflection and of planning. Our expectations are often based upon the past and, if the previous year has been less than we had hoped for, it is often difficult to be optimistic about the future."

"Pragmatically," Taylor continued, "we need to gear up to deal with not only the current stress, but also the stress that will come throughout the rest of the year. The popular press and television are full of strategies for stress reduction and stress management. Ironically, a source of stress can be choosing among the strategies. I think the best advice in making the choice is to decide upon one that you find pleasing and effective. In other words, find an activity or outlet that allows you to be good to yourself," Taylor said.

"Philosophically, I think that we need to admit that these are trying times. It is quite easy to get mired down in the gloom and doom of a situation. In doing so, you can be guaranteed that your worst fears will be realized."

"To commit yourself to work on some aspect of a social issue, a political cause or personal concern to effect change in a positive direction, will give you hope and often good results," Taylor concluded.

Director-Supervisor of Conquest, Clyde Ferguson, will tell more about that agency next week.

Washington Hot Line

by Congressman Ron Wyden



There can be no doubt that one of the most important goals for our nation should be opening the doors of higher education to all those who want to attend.

Through a system of state universities and federally guaranteed student loans, the nation has been pursuing that goal. But a recent Administration decision threatens to put a crimp in the Guaranteed Student Loan program that has been very successfully administered by the states.

The Department of Education has blocked a number of states from arranging financing for millions of dollars in low-interest student loans. The department has done this by refusing permission to some states to float tax-exempt bonds, which allow the states to finance the loans.

In its defense, the Department of Education says it is trying to prevent an extraordinary loss of revenue to the federal treasury by the tax free bonds.

But, this is a penny wise and pound foolish explanation. I can't help but believe that the cost of closing out great numbers of our citi-

zens from higher education would be greater than the little the Treasury would lose from in tax revenues from the tax-exempt bonds.

It is also a policy that flies in the face of the Administration's avowed policy of letting states run their own programs. The states have done very well administering Guaranteed Student Loans. Yet now, the Federal government is hampering the ability of the states to run that program. One Republican Senator called it the "height of hypocrisy."

Finally, at a time when we are trying to upgrade the nation's schools, it makes no sense to be closing out the opportunity for disadvantaged persons to attend college. We simply cannot afford to make college the province of the rich if we are going to try and improve our education system as a whole.

We must not shy away from the nation's commitment to help fund higher education for those who want it but have trouble affording it. I will work to see that the Administration's ill-advised policy does not divert us from that goal.

Peace activist runs for mayor

Jeffrey Liddicoat, who co-founded New Clear Vision of Oregon, a peace and social justice lobby which has over 4,000 members in Portland, has officially filed in the mayoral primary. Liddicoat, who had announced his intention to run on Nov. 16th, has organized a campaign committee called Citizens for Progressive Local Government. The committee, which has been in operation for over two months, has set up a door-to-door canvass, which is projected to reach nearly 2,000 voters per week, with a full-time paid staff of between seven and ten people.

In addition, Citizens for Progressive Local Government (C.P.L.G.) has begun weekly volunteer canvasses on Saturdays and Sundays. Campaign treasurer Laura Powell commented, "It's the same type of voter contact that Jeff set up with New Clear Vision. We expect to raise about \$75,000 between now and the election, through canvassing. Plus we will be having benefits to raise extra money and public rallies to generate publicity. This will be an exciting campaign."

Liddicoat, commenting on the candidacy of Bud Clark, said, "Mr.

Clark thinks Ivancie has done a good job. I do not agree. The type of growth Ivancie is for is good for people in the City Club and the U.S. Bank Tower—and it might be good for Bud Clark—but, it is not good for the average worker."

Liddicoat has also vowed to make Portland a nuclear weapons free zone, which would ban local production of nuclear weapons parts by companies like Precision Castparts. Liddicoat, who participated in an illegal border crossing into Canada on the same day as the arrests at Precision Castparts, said, "This is a local issue that's taking hold in every city and province around the world. It is our right and our duty to stop the immoral production of bombs pointed at innocent civilians. Ivancie was the only Council member to vote against the Freeze resolution."

Other specifics of Liddicoat's platform include redistribution of tax resources to help schools and public services in poor neighborhoods, City funding of programs for Portland's homeless, and an energy review committee to look into local ownership of electrical generation.



"Meeting the challenge of change" was the theme of Seventh Annual Conference of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL), held last month in Memphis, Tennessee. At the Opening Plenary Breakfast William A. Webb, Commissioner of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, was honored for his long-standing dedication to promoting the goals of Black legislators nationwide. Attending the ceremony were (left to right): Tennessee State Senator John Ford, Conference Chairman; Commissioner Webb; Clarence M. Mitchell III, Maryland State Senator and NBCSL President; Tennessee State Representative Clarence Robinson, who is also Chairman of the Black Caucus of the Tennessee General Assembly; and Allene Roberts.

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For additional information, or an application form, call Lois McAlister at Oregon Episcopal School.

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