

# OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES  
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle



**C**EREMONIES FOR the charter installation of the Vancouver, Washington provisional chapter into the national organization of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., were conducted on Sunday, August 19th, at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in Portland. The event drew to the city the national president, Ramona Arnold of Los Angeles, and the director for the far west region, Barbara Duell-Clark, of Seattle.

Fifteen women of Vancouver, representing their families, pledged their commitment to the aims and objectives of Jack and Jill in a candlelight ceremony held in the auditorium with their families and friends sharing in the occasion. Central persons of the 26-year old Portland Chapter of Jack and Jill in guiding the formation of the new chapter included Cora Smith, chair of the New Chapter Committee, Elaine Jamison, out-going president of the Portland Chapter and Patricia Walker, president-elect of the Portland Chapter.

The objectives of the parent-organization are: "To create a medium of contact for children which will stimulate growth and development," and "to provide for children a constructive, educational, cultural, civic, recreational and social program." These were outlined by Ramona Arnold. "We are pleased," Arnold said, "to see that the Northwest is growing in membership. We now have 174 chapters in the nation. The community will benefit as we want the young people to give of themselves in community service. Our theme for 1984 is 'Focus on the Family: New Directions in Unity, Service and Survival.' Our logo is 'PEP', for parenting, education and potential involvement." The new chapter, Arnold said, has been involved in



Attending the installation ceremonies for the Vancouver Jack and Jill Chapter were (l-r) Jean Andrews, president Vancouver Chapter; Barbara Duell-Clark, regional director far West; Ramona Arnold, National president of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.; Elaine Jamison, past president Portland Chapter; and, Patricia Walker, current president Portland Chapter. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)



Hostesses for reception Sunday at the Interstate Firehouse were (l-r) Bobbie Nunn, Myrtle Carr, Ida McClendon, Addie Jean Haynes, Roberta Vann and Bernadette Plummer. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

orienting their membership in these goals for nearly 24 months.

Duell-Clark, heading the 20 chapters of the far west located in Oregon, Washington, California and Arizona, pointed out that the greater number of chapters exist in California, with one city, Los Angeles, supporting seven chapters. Her own Seattle Chapter has 40 members, she said.

Herb Cawthorne, director of the Office of Special Services at Portland State University, spoke informally to the many young people present, giving them insight into the historic necessity for family-oriented organizations to help them choose their goals in life.

Yvette Criss, daughter of new-member Velma Johnson of Vancouver, received an arm bouquet of

roses in recognition of her recent graduation from high school. Yvette plans to attend the University of Washington.

Charter officers of the new chapter are: Jean Andrews, president, Jean Massey, 1st vice-president, Jan Mines, secretary, Eva Jackson, treasurer and Collette Harnage, historian-editor.

A reception followed the ceremonies; a courtesy extended by the Jack and Jill Associates (members retired from active participation) of the Portland Chapter.

**S**HOPPING for practical clothes that can give you a lift of spirit, but wear like iron and wash like a hankie?

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drafting board to labeling and to the dress hanger. BJ labeled dresses are now in Fred Meyer stores.

The buyer for the huge Fred Meyer chain empire bought a few of BJ's budget line items to place on trial-sale in six of the chain's leader stores—Interstate, Beaverton, Tigard, Medford and Coos Bay in Oregon, and up in Anchorage, Alaska.

The Ms. BJ of the label is Betty Jo Williams Thompson, the young woman who lives almost next door to you. She's the one who makes and markets the Mahji paper doll and her paper wardrobe. She is also the one who is working to earn her PhD. in education at Portland State University. With her own studio of fashion design in Southeast Portland, she can let her talent and imagination soar to the heights.

"The fun has only just begun," says Ms. BJ. "The dream is of many chains of stores selling my designs across the country. I want my label known in the entire world—and why not? Pucci, Givenchy, Cartier, Bill Blass and Calvin Klein all dreamed, and my dreams are not different from theirs. My label can be known around the world—for I have begun designs for clothes to be worn in outer space—you may be traveling there someday and I'll be ready to outfit you.

"I want my label on everything from 'A' to 'Z'—airplanes to zippers. I am designing shoes, I am designing jewelry and even thinking of designs for a helicopter. I do not limit myself.

"It may sound highly imaginative now, but realization is not far off. I have established buying offices in the East as well as the West Coast and shall be visiting them soon. The visit will not be by magic carpet—it will be by United Airlines."

Meanwhile, the Fred Meyer buyer has solid plans to place an additional order for a wider selection of BJ's styles.

At Interstate and the other Fred Meyer stores, BJ dresses are in washable career-oriented styles made up in polyester-linen fabrics. Four different styles are shown: a short-sleeved coat dress, a long-sleeved coat dress, a georgette with a Peter Pan collar, and a georgette scoop neck with short sleeves. BJ makes these in misses sizes from size 6 to size 16.

All of the garments have excellent detailing as BJ takes no short cuts. Colors are updated and forward, the Fred Meyer buyer noted. The buyer told this writer that the Ms. BJ label marks the first time that Fred Meyer has dealt with a dress design house on the local scene.

Ms. BJ's own business organization includes Cornelia Montgomery, a long-time friend. Montgomery is BJ's sample maker and her "right-hand" assistant through every operation of the garment-making process.



Ms. B. J. and Cornelia Montgomery check the labeling of garments for the Fred Meyer market.

## Models sought for fashion show

Rose City Connection will be holding auditions for models interested in participating in their fall benefit fashion show. The auditions will be held at the Matt Dishman Community Center on Wednesday, August 29, 1984, from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, September 8, 1984, from 2-4 p.m.

Eight female and four male models are needed. The fashion

show is a benefit fundraiser for the Black Colleges Committee and the Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund, therefore, models will be participating on a voluntary basis.

Interested persons, male and female and age 18 and over, who have had some previous experience in modeling are invited to audition.

For more information, call 285-2065.

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