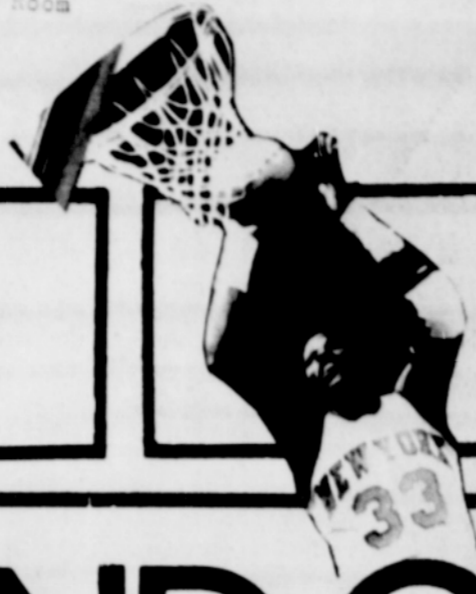




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Two Sections

Quakers pioneer human rights efforts

by Jerry Garner

Since 1917, the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) has been carrying out programs for peace, justice and nonviolent social change as an expression of the Quaker belief in the dignity and promise of every person.

In the Pacific Northwest region, AFSC has been at work since 1942 in Washington, when Seattle Friends established the regional office to assist Japanese Americans in their World War II internment, and since 1947 in Oregon, when Portland Friends organized relief for European war victims and established what is now the Portland Area Office.

AFSC Portland Chapter has been active in the fight against apartheid in South Africa. AFSC works closely with Portlanders Organized for South African Freedom (POSAF), organizing boycotts of athletes and entertainers who perform in South Africa. POSAF has also held picket demonstrations against companies which do business with South Africa throughout Portland and Seattle.

The Religious Society of Friends (the Quakers) was founded about 300 years ago by an Englishman, George Fox. Quaker relations with Blacks date back to slavery. The Quakers became the foremost opponents of slavery and the slave trade in colonial America and exerted greater influence in the early antislavery movement than any other segment of the colonial population.

The Society of Friends was not united against the evil of slavery. Some Quakers were engaged in importing and selling Blacks and many used slaves on their farms and in their shops. In 1671, Fox visited Barbados; he was shocked by the slave system in general, and by the spectacle of members of the Society engaging in slavery. He urged his followers to preach to their slaves and advocating compensation for them. For this Fox was accused of fomenting rebellion among the slaves and of inciting them to insurrection.

Still, some members of the Friends Society were engaged in antislavery crusades in the early colonial period. On Feb. 10, 1688 in the German community in Germantown, PA, a few miles outside of Philadelphia, there was a vigorous protest against slavery and the slave trade. This was the first protest against slavery by an American congregation.

By the end of the Revolutionary War, virtually all members of the Quakers societies north of Virginia had freed their slaves and agreed to give their former slaves a just compensation for their years of "involuntary servitude." Through the years AFSC has been deeply involved in such issues as disarmament, Central America, Native American tribal rights and natural resource management. There are about 202,000 Quakers around the world. The majority (116,000) are in the United States.

In 1947 the AFSC, with the British Friends Service Council, received the Nobel Peace Prize for its "silent help from the nameless to the nameless."



Executive Director of National Association of Minority Contractors praises the work of John Brown (left) and Tom Martin (center), president and executive vice president of NAMC-Oregon chapter following the Presentation of the chapter's official charter. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Portland NAMC Chapter awarded charter

by Jerry Garner

The Portland chapter of the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) was awarded its charter last Thursday. The charter was presented to John H. Brown, president of the Portland Chapter of NAMC, by Ralph C. Thomas, III, Executive Director of NAMC national office.

NAMC was established in 1969 as a non-profit minority business trade association to address the needs and concerns of minority contractors nationwide. NAMC headquarters is in Washington, DC; its membership base covers 40 states, the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands.

NAMC's membership includes general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, local minority contractors associations, funded technical assistance organizations, state and local government agencies, attorneys, and accountants.

The organization also serves as a voice and liaison for minority construction contractors with lawmakers in Washington, DC. NAMC staff works with policymakers, legislators, majority associations, major corporations and

Anti-Klan network expands

Rev. C. T. Vivian, Chairman of the National Anti-Klan Network and former aide to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., announced a major expansion in the work of the five-year-old anti-hate group.

The Network has changed its name to the Center for Democratic Renewal. While retaining its original purpose of countering the Ku Klux Klan, the Center for Democratic Renewal (CDR) has expanded its mission. Since its founding in 1979, the organization has become the principal clear-

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Resource Team to aid Union-Vancouver-Williams Business Development Project

The Union-Vancouver-Williams Ave. Business Development Project (UVW BDP) will host a group of five professionals to serve as a Resource Team in developing action plans to revitalize the North/Northeast Portland commercial district.

The UVW business district was awarded special designation as an Urban Center Program revitalization area by the Oregon Downtown Development Association (ODDA) in 1985. This designation entitles the UVW BDP to technical assistance and expertise from ODDA. The Resource Team is a portion of this assistance.

It will be composed of Brian Scott, executive director of ODDA; Stanley Lowe, of Pittsburgh, Sharon Blevins, Main Street Corridor Development Corporation of Kansas City; Randy Hester, a community designer and landscape architect from the San Francisco area; and Wes Hester, a member of the Berkeley City Council in Berkeley, CA.

The team will conduct meetings with the UVW board and manager as well as participate in both a walking and driving tour of the area. Interviews with community residents, merchants and elected officials will assist the resource team in understanding the needs of the area, and what actions need to be taken to satisfy those needs. The final product is expected to be a 20-30 page document with the team's recommendations. The UVW BDP board will then assign responsibilities for the action steps the resource team recommends.

As part of the process, there will be a reception for the community hosted by the UVW on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at the Ramada Inn, 10 N.E. Weidler, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. The resource team's recommendations will be presented to the public on Thursday, Feb. 6 at the above listed location from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. All community members are encouraged to attend the above functions.

The UVW BDP was formed in August of local community members and business people who are committed to working to revitalize the North/Northeast Portland area.

Their stated mission is to "revitalize, restore and regenerate the economic well-being and quality of life for the people in the area." The BDP receives funding from three major sources in order to accomplish its mission. These include \$12,000 from the ODDA, \$31,000 from the Portland Development Commission, and the group itself will raise \$17,000 in contributions from local sources.

Prior to developing its goals and objectives, the group held a neighborhood meeting in which issues were identified that need to be resolved in order to make the North/Northeast area more "marketable" to businesses and individuals. Attendees pointed out the many positive aspects of the area that need to be built upon.

Business and individual memberships are available for all who wish to join in helping revitalize this unique section of Portland. For more information, please contact McKinley Williams, UVW BDP manager, at 282-6708.



Protesters and theater-goers crowd under the marquee of the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall where Johnny Mathis was performing. Mathis' concern was being picketed because he refused to recognize the United Nations cultural boycott of South Africa. In 1982 Mathis per-

formed at Sun City, a multi-million-dollar gambling resort located in Bophothatswana, one of the 10 so-called tribal "homelands" the South African government has established as part of its segregationist policy of apartheid.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)