

Wall Family

Celebrates

First Reunion

Descendants of the late Josephus and Delphia Wall nationwide gathered recently for a weekend to celebrate the first Wall family reunion.

Festivities got underway with a family picnic at Rock Creek Park where over 175 family members and friends dined on all the traditional picnic foods. Following the fellowship feast, the eldest down to the youngest introduced themselves. Adults exchanged stories and reminisced while the youngsters played games.

The clan gathered the following evening at the Heart of Albemarle Motel and Restaurant for the reunion banquet. Mrs. Mary Townsend Byrd of Detroit, Michigan, the original reunion planner, served as Mistress of Ceremonies. After singing their favorite hymn "Amazing Grace," a scripture reading by Atty. Melvin Wall Jr. followed. D.D. Suggs gave the invocation, Elizabeth McCorkle - the welcome address and Patricia Wall Jeffers - the response.

Melvin Wall presented the family history from the patriarch of the clan who was a prince from Africa's Gold Coast. He was called "Bigham" by his original slave owners.

Other highlights included Donna Wall and Eddie Baldwin singing the Lord's Prayer accompanied on piano by Cytenia Snuggs. The entire group joined hands forming a circle around the banquet hall and prayed the Lord's Prayer led by D.D. Suggs. A disco dance honoring the fourth and fifth generations followed the banquet.

Members of the Wall reunion worshipped together during services at United Chapel AME Zion Church in Albemarle Sunday morning. They came from California, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia and North Carolina.



DR. C. D. RIPPY Chairman, Division of Social Sciences and Program Director of the CETA Employment Training Program in Employability and Job Survival Skills at JCSU and Dr. Harold Lerner, far left, Director of Urban Studies and Project Coordinator of the recently initiated program observe Instructor Mrs. Brenda Bilal (standing, right) and students at work in one of the training modules being used for the first time in training Charlotte-Mecklenburg Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), Title II, Public Service Employees.

A \$53,341 grant procured by Dr. C.D. Rippy from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Sixty students, age 18-60 began the first 2-week session of the program developed and initiated by Dr. Rippy, Johnson C. Smith professor, with the City of Charlotte, on July 23 and concludes August 27. Students in one of the 15-member classes of the first session pictured above are: Carrie Summers, Edna Wallman, Patricia Duff, Mary Ratliff, Hortense Hodges, Ella McIlwaine, Catherine Harris, Lula Davis, and Kevin Leach. Not pictured class members are: Lois Miller, Sterling Terry, Jennifer Summers, Anne Gietzen, Carolyn Cornelius and Franchetta Peoples. (Photo by Peeler).

Wonderland Issues Diplomas To 9

By Anthony Hayes
Post Staff Writer

Diplomas were issued recently to nine graduates of the Memorial United Presbyterian Church's Wonderland Child Care Center, 2600 Beatties Ford Rd. The commentator for the evening was Ms. Jeanette Miller, who introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Madie Goodman.

Mrs. Goodman's message was centered around life's journey, as she told the attentive class to stay on the right track and urged the parents to help their children on this journey. In addition to the awarding of diplomas, the evening was highlighted by the presentation of a trophy by Ms. Elsie Woodward (president of the board of directors). The trophy was

presented to Ms. Letha Caldwell (a member of the board of directors) for her dedication and services rendered.

Ms. Rosa Foster the center's director also presented trophies to Ms. Martha Johnson, for the longest number of years rendered to the center, to Mrs. Gladys Henderson, for perfect attendance, and to Ms. Gladys Rice, who was named Teacher of the Year. Ms. Foster received a trophy for excellent services rendered to the center, and presented three trophies for Parent of the Year. The deserving parents were Ms. Vera Maxwell, Ms. Saddle Cochran, and Ms. Cheryl Rankin.

Ms. Elizabeth Smith dazzled everyone by baking a special cake that was decorated with the title of

the closing song, "When We All Go Away," and engraved with the names of all graduates and teachers. The cake was also topped off with a diploma and graduation cap.

The 1980 graduates of the Wonderland Child Care Center were Rodney Friday, Lakisha Hoover, Tamara Huntley, Tavarés Parker, Tracy Maxwell, Latessa McCarter, Damion Miller, De'Angelo Rankin, and Etonya Walker. Certificates were issued to all graduates in the specialized fields of art, music, personal relationship and classroom activities.

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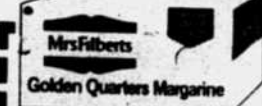
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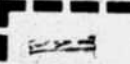
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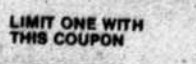
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