



Members of the Winston-Salem Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi sang the Kappa Hymn as tears came to Wheeler's eyes. Roland Watts, Ben Ruffin, Michael Asbury (president), Arthur Payne and Nate Hewitt were among them.

HOLIDAY

from page C1

casing youth talent in variety shows for more than 20 years at Atkins High School.

Wheeler was also very active in his church, United Metropolitan (formerly First Institutional) Baptist Church. At his church he has been the director of the senior choir, the male chorus, and the church orchestra. He was also the music/choir director at St. Paul United Methodist Church and at Mt. Zion Baptist Church for 28 years. The brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi are thankful for the example Wheeler sets for African-American men.

THE ALUMNI CHAPTER

has upheld the tradition of visiting the sick for many years because it is a way to express how thankful they are for their brothers and the blessing to be able to serve others.

"It is the real test of brotherhood when a brother becomes inactive. We do not forget," Ruffin said. The chapter also visited a brother in Greensboro who is an Alzheimer's patient.

The president of the Thanksgiving Basket Committee was Jerry Lanier, one of the new members. Last year Arthur Payne was the chairman, but the chapter members believe that it is important to include new members and get them involved.

Harden Richards, a new member, said, "It is so rewarding to be fortunate enough to serve others through giving. I would rather be on the giving end any day," he said.

The president of the chapter is Michael Asbury.

The members of the chapter who participated were Michael Asbury, president; Jerry Lanier, chairman of the basket committee; Ben Ruffin; Walter Black; Nate Hewitt; Arthur Payne; Roland Watts; David West; Fred Acree; Mike Suggs; and Harden Richards.

Brothers help celebrate Marion Clenzo Murray's Thanksgiving birthday

Another holiday tradition included the celebration of the 90th birthday of Marion Clenzo Murray Sr. on Friday, Nov. 28. During the Thanksgiving feast, the family put the finishing touches on plans for Saturday's birthday festivities in honor of M.C. Murray. The conversation that followed from the dinner plans lasted for two days as the Murray clan swapped memories of growing up. Saturday evening's affair included extended family who also participated in recalling special memories.

He was joined by several family members who traveled to the occasion, including the Rev. Peyton Cook, of Milliceville, Ga.; Wyvonia Ward of Virginia Beach, Va.; Dr. Loretta Braxton, retired professor from Virginia State University; Dr. Harold Braxton, of Petersburg, Va.; Charles Salley, computer analyst of Chesterfield, Va.; Dr. Lisa Cook, faculty member of Harvard University; Melanie Cook, deputy analyst for the Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C.; and Pamela Cook, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Chicago.

Family members of Winston-Salem included Jo Ann Patton, M.C. Murray Jr., Tanya Johnson, Charissia Salley, Tiffany Patton, Jeffrey Patton, Joseph Salley and Melanie Salley.

Church members also participated. Fellow church members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and the pastor, Dr. Serenus Churn, spoke of his being "an active and passive role model."

By establishing Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops in the early 1940s, Murray showed his interest in building character among the youth of the community. In addition, he served as Sunday School Union and Baptist Training Union chairman for many years. Because

he follows Christian principles and participates in all aspects of the church, Murray was hailed as the "Mt. Zion church rat."

Members of the Dublin Drive and Court Neighborhood Association reflected on the dependable neighborliness and companionship he has demonstrated during his 25 years of residence in this community. He was recognized for protecting the integrity of their community. While serving as deputy registrar of voters, Democratic Party precinct leader, and in other positions of service to Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, M.C. Murray has made many friends.

Self-respect was one of the major themes that Murray promoted, according to his friends and neighbors. "He was a compassionate father figure to more than his blood relatives," said one neighbor.

A NATIVE OF GASTONIA, N.C., Murray has made Winston-Salem his place of residence for many years.

Family members also attested to the important role Murray played in his home. Having worked for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company for 41 years, Murray maintained his commitment to his family and numerous community activities. His grandchildren remember when he taught them to catch lightning bugs, ride bicycles, and play "In and Out the Window."

They admired his sense of humor. His sister Ella Murray Whitworth, 92, remembers protecting her brother from bullies in the community. His younger cousin Leon Fulp described him as a "vivacious teenager."

The final solo of the evening was "Let the Work I've Done Speak for Me," a very fitting ending to M.C. Murray's birthday celebration. Carlotta Fleming rendered a soulful a cappella version of this anthem, which was a dedication to a full life that still flourishes.

Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter enjoy homecoming in Durham

King Solomon Grand Council Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Masons Inc. and St. Mary's Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star held its annual Homecoming in Durham this weekend. The event was hosted by Marshall Lodge 266 of Durham, where S.P. Robert Dunston is the worshipful master.

The weekend began with a hospitality room for the brethren and sisters Friday night with home-cooked food and plenty of desserts. Boone's Grand Consistory met the same night with Ill. Fate Martin Sr., 33°, grand commander-in-chief, presiding.

Elections were also held at this meeting for the new officers for the 1998 Masonic year. The officers elected are as follows: Commander-in-Chief Ill. Fate Martin Sr., 1st Lt. Commander S.P. Cedric Thomas, 2nd Lt. Commander S.P. Raymond Johnson Jr., Grand Master and Minister of State S.P. James Benjamin, Grand Prior S.P. the Rev. Mack McConnel, Grand Chancellor Ill. William Heyer, 33°, Grand Secretary and Keeper of the Seals S.P. Wilbur Latta, Grand Treasurer S.P. Virese Newkirk, Grand Hospitaler Ill. Waiter Gray,

33°, Grand Master of Ceremonies Ill. Leon Lea, 33°, Grand Captain of the Guard S.P. Arthur Young, Grand Standard Bearer Ill. Willard Freedland, 33°, Grand Architect and Engineer Ill. Arthur Hunt, 33°, 1st Grand Sentinel Ill. Robert Love, 33°, and 2nd Grand Sentinel S.P. James Gant.

St. Mary's Grand Chapter also held their Trustee Board meeting during this weekend with Grand Matron Sister Pauline Horton presiding. The Patron's Council also held its annual communication for all the patrons statewide with the state Grand Patron Ill. Millard Lee overseeing the communication.

The day of meetings began with a joint session between the brethren and sisters with the master of ceremonies Ill. Willard Freedland, 33°. A welcome to the city was done by Worshipful Master Robert Dunston and Worthy Matron Sister Leola Gattis of Durham. The Grand Deputy and Grand Matron of the state also gave their annual address during the joint session.

The Lt. Sovereign Grand Commander of the National Supreme Council Ill. Robert W. Chambers, 33°, gave remarks to the craft before the closing of the joint session. The session came to a

close with the annual auction of gifts by the Order of Eastern Star.

The afternoon session began with both bodies meeting in their respective places and came to a close with the yearly calendar meeting between all worshipful masters, worthy matrons, district deputies, district potentates, grand noble commandresses, noble commandresses and others to plan the calendar of events for 1998. The National Supreme Grand Matron Sister Mattie Roberson and her husband, Ill. Ray Roberson, 33°, a member of the National Supreme Council, both of New York, received a warm welcome to the session.

The evening was closed with a meeting of Williston Grand Shrine of North America, with Grand Potentate Noble Virese Newkirk presiding.

The weekend was topped off by the annual chapter meeting of the Grand Chapter and Council.

A spokesperson for the organization said, "All of the members of King Solomon Grand Council and St. Mary's Grand Chapter enjoyed a warm heartfelt welcome to the city of Durham and look forward to returning again."

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