

By Bob Johnson

# What's happening!

We've come upon that time of every year when our hearts seem lighter and our smiles much brighter. Yes, it is the time when our souls are cleansed by the magic ingredients found in the spirit of Christmas.

Many things happen while we are under the spell of such a joyous spirit. We give with very little effort, and we celebrate to give vent to the glorious feelings.

**SURPRISE DINNER...MINNIE PURDUE** was very elated last Saturday night, to say the least, when her son Freddie and his lovely lady Alfreda Broome, surprised her with a birthday dinner party.



Bob Johnson

Carrie Broome's roomy home in Pineville was used for this festive event. The dinner party lasted from 8:30 p.m. til around 12:30 a.m., with 3 birthday cakes, plenty of chicken, beef, rice, potato salad, green beans, corn and other mouth watering morsels served, also with a vast assortment of beverages to wash it down.

The guest list included Mary Culp, George Washington, Osie Culp, Emma Washington, Monroe Culp, Edna Washington, Roosevelt Broome, Andre Culp, Rosetta Washington, Monroe Washington, D'Armon Culp, Betty Cureton, Deltwan Broome, Jewel Culp, Antoine Washington, Darius Culp, and Darryl Culp.

**TOURNAMENT TIME...**The Charlotte Chapter of the Johnson C. Smith University's Alumni Association will sponsor their annual Tip-Off Tournament Dec. 16 & 17 at Charlotte's Park Center, beginning at 7 p.m.

This year's tournament (the 8th) promises to be the biggest and best yet, and as an added attraction door prizes will be given away to the person holding the program with the lucky number.

**JOE ALSTON**, one of Smith's former basketball coaches, will be the honorary chairman of this year's tournament. Joe, a dapper young businessman, came up

with the idea to have a tournament of this nature in the late 1960's. In 1970 Smith's first tip-off tournament was held, and it caught on like fire in a haystack.

**BIRTHDAY FUN...**Being a mother is hard sometimes, I'm sure. But things can happen to make it all worthwhile.

Such a thing happened to **SARAH BOYD** last Monday night, when her youngest daughter surprised her with a super birthday function. **RENEE BOYD** spearheaded a family gathering that took place in their dwelling on Merrill Place.

Included in the fun were contests featuring the latest dances, baton twirling, and a variety of games.

Included among the family well-wishers were Dusty Boyd, Willie Mae Williams, Karen Williams, Rhonda Williams, Doris Massey, Bill Massey, Mary Rivens, Troy Rivens and Erika Rivens.

Included among the delicious victuals was a large beautifully decorated cake, with the inscriptions "Happy Birthday Mom."

So, for the worry and concern that mothers go through for the sake of their children and for the seemingly thankless chores they perform, it's times like last Monday night that reassure them of their family's love and devotion.

**SOCIAL CLUB JAM...**For 25 years the ladies of the **CORNETTE SOCIAL CLUB** have been making their niche in the Charlotte community on the social and civic level.

Last Saturday night, as in the past, they gathered for their annual Christmas function to more or less honor the times they've had together, and begin their Christmas holidays.

The upstairs ballroom of the Excelsior Club was used for this dynamic club's 25th celebration. The holiday party was replete with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, sparkling beverages and titillating conversation.

Some of the invitees were Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Eicem, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shirley, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ross, Lucy Younge and Buddy Patterson.

The ladies held accountable for the fun everyone had were Frances Patterson, Ruth Robinson, Delores Ashford, Mattie Smith, Dorothy Feaster, Eddie Ann Scott, Thelma Ardrey, Mildred Appling and Jannie M. Ross.

Some underprivileged family will have a much better Christmas because of the ladies of the Cornette Social Club. They will share with that family food and gifts that will help brighten an otherwise dismal Christmas.



NAVY CHAPLAIN THOMAS D. PARHAM  
—Successful Navy Captain

## Massey - "We don't Make Promises, We Make Guarantees"

By Jeri Harvey  
Post Staff Writer

"We don't make promises, we make guarantees" is a pretty strong statement but Yeoman Chief Anthony (Tony) Massey says it vehemently and with no reservations. A 13 year veteran of the United States Navy, Chief Massey stopped in Charlotte recently to talk about the Navy and to try to dispel some of the myths that circulate about that branch of the service, especially in regards to its treatment of blacks.

"There's a myth that the Navy's programs aren't geared to minorities, but that's not true," Chief Massey asserted. "There may have been a time when blacks had less than desirable roles in the Navy, but the black male or female entering now can rest assured that he or she will receive equal and fair treatment."

"Another myth is that sailors sometimes spend as long as 6 months at sea. That's untrue. The longest stay aboard ship is likely to be more than two weeks," he said.

"Then there's the one about recruiters getting paid \$25 a head for each recruit they sign up. That's ridiculous," Massey smiled. "We are very selective and use the utmost integrity in our recruiting methods. We have a 'whole person concept' and the young men we're seeking are not just numbers to us."

He further stated that recruiters are willing to talk to prospective enlistees in the presence of their parents, lawyer, or counselor as added insurance that there is no misunderstanding of the guarantees made.

Continuing, he said, "There are opportunities in the Navy which can catapult any young man or woman into the mainstream of Navy life and these same skills are marketable in civilian life. The Navy trains in depth to assure a smooth transition back into the community."

Stressing that a young person joining the Navy can be assured of receiving the training he bargained for, Massey said, "We make no promises we don't keep. There are no surprises. Extensive testing to assure that the applicant qualifies for the desired training and careful investigation to be sure space in that particular area is available, leave no room, nor need for, changes after the individual has signed up," he explained.

For the individual nearing high school completion, the Navy offers a Delayed Entry Program (DEP). He or she may take the Aptitude Battery Tests, which measures aptitudes in certain areas, the test results will be explained by a recruiter. The score determines the area the individual qualifies for.

There will then be a physical by an armed forces doctor and

upon receiving a clean bill of health he or she is eligible to join the Navy, but will not be required to report for active duty until after graduation, at a time agreed upon at the time of enlistment.

For those wishing to further their academic careers but lacking the financial resources, the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps offers four year scholarships to participating schools. The scholarships pay full tuition, room and board and \$100 per month. Competition is extremely stiff and the awards are partly based on SAT scores.

Upon graduation, the scholarship beneficiary is required to serve four years active duty as repayment. The combination of a degree plus four years on-the-job training equals a worker with above average qualifications in the civilian job market place.

Another alternative is the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. This highly prestigious school is also very competitive and requires an extremely strong background in math and science. Successful graduation guarantees officer status and a mid-management level position of authority and responsibility, good pay and continued training. Repayment is in the form of five years active duty.

The individual desiring it can continue his education while on active duty. The Navy will give tuition assistance up to 75 percent the total cost at an accredited school, while the student pays 25 percent himself and buys his own books.

There is on-the-job training for the less academically oriented person. The Navy has needs for workers in a variety of categories and these individuals can be assured of fair treatment and chance for advancement also. They will receive all the benefits and opportunities for training for which they qualify.

Starting pay for all enlistees at the bottom level is \$100 per week plus room and board.

Retirement benefits for those who decide to make the Navy a career include retainer pay based on earnings while serving, medical and PX privileges. It is possible for the individual joining at an early age to retire with an above average job qualification and enough "vim and vigor" to pursue a whole new career.

Massey, who was born in Wadesboro but grew up in New York, joined the Navy directly after graduation from High School because, as he said, "I was looking for something to do and I was adventurous and fascinated by the uniforms, so I talked to a recruiter."

Starting at the bottom of the ladder, by applying himself "effectively and taking advantage of the training and

opportunities the Navy offered," Massey is now a Navy Recruiting-Career Counsel Educational Services Advisor and a very contented man, by his own admission.

His job involves a great deal of travel, speaking before high school students, church groups, radio and TV appearances: "making available knowledge of the opportunities available for members of the civilian community - especially blacks."

Chief Massey was accompanied by two recruiters recently assigned to Charlotte - Bob Williams, a native of San Francisco and Ed Auten, whose home is just up the road in Belmont. Both echoed Chief Massey's comments and would like interested individuals to stop by to see him in the Executive Building, 623 E. Trade St., Suite 209 or call 333-7376 or 333-5881 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. They also make appointments outside office hours, provide transportation to their offices and make house calls.

## Charlotte Area Likely To Become "Nuclear Target" Area

The U.S. Department of Defense has declared Charlotte and vicinity a "probably nuclear target" area, according to Mecklenburg County's Civil Preparedness Coordinator Ken Williams.

A Nuclear Civil Protection Planning Team from the N.C. State Division of Civil Preparedness in Raleigh will be working in Mecklenburg County during the next month "in response to the designation," Williams said.

The state planners will be visiting County and City officials,

chiefs of emergency services, and other agencies to discuss with them the concept of crisis relocation of the population from the high-risk target area to relatively safe "host" areas nearby.

The Charlotte area was designated a potential target for enemy nuclear attack because of the extensive industrial complexes that would make major contributions to the war effort as well as providing for the necessities of life, and associated population concentration.

Williams estimates that there are more than 300,000 residents living in the potential target area. The relocation plans would provide for the movement of a portion of the population in the target area into safer parts of the County. The remaining portion of the population would be relocated into Gaston and Cabarrus Counties. State planners are also considering Union and Stanly Counties as "host" areas, Williams said.

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