



Jimmy A. Edwards
...Adult class teacher

Jimmy A. Edwards Retired

From Marine Corp Reserves

Jimmy A. Edwards, 46, of 5426 Hidden Forest Drive, retired from the Marine Corp Reserves completing a military career that spans 26 years.

A ceremony marking his retirement was held Saturday, May 6, at Freedom Park. Among others being honored was Clausell Crowder, a friend of Edwards.

Vanessa Ramseur Named Head

Librarian

Vanessa Work Ramseur has been named head librarian at North Branch of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

The 41-year-old Cornelius resident brings several years experience to her new job. She was Children's Librarian at the Rockingham County Public Library in Reidsville. There she had major responsibility for book selection, storytelling, and scheduling day care and class visits. She conducted workshops with children, with their parents, and their teachers.

Her "librarianship practicum" was with Durham City Schools while she was earning a master's degree in Library Science at North Carolina Central University.

Other educational background includes a B.S. in Early Childhood Education at Barber Scotia where she was on the Dean's List. She is a graduate of North Mecklenburg High School.

Mrs. Ramseur will also bring other skills to her new position. She enjoys reading and music, but most especially...she loves to meet people. And she has another reason to enjoy the library location.

Active duty covered 12 years of the military time Edwards has put in. During that period, he was trained as an engineer. Duties took him to the construction sites of water supply units, utility, grading and bridge building.

He served on foreign territories on seven occasions. In the reserves, Edwards continued his engineering. Training in the military provides a wider scope than civilian programs.

The retiree also taught engineering and demolition warfare while in service.

Since joining the reserves, Edwards has become a teacher of trades and industrial courses at Olympic High School. He also teaches an adult education class for Central Piedmont Community College in the Brooklyn section of Charlotte.

Reserve duty required two weeks each summer and one weekend each month, said Gunnery Sergeant Edwards.

The Macon, Georgia native recalls his date of entry into the Marines as January 2, 1952. He described his feelings about service in the corp.

"A man can better equip himself in life," Edwards said.

He and his wife, Louise, plan to remain in Charlotte.

CAF Meeting

Edna Gaston, Vice Chairman of the Charlotte Area Fund's Central Office announced that the monthly meeting of the board of Directors has been scheduled for Thursday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Charlotte Area Fund's Central Office, located at 213-15 Morehead Street.

Black Colleges Better To Equip Black Students

"There is no doubt in my mind that Black colleges, such as Dillard, are still better to equip Black students to become functional participants in a society dominated by racism," Dr. Geneva H. Southall, professor and chairman, Afro-American Studies Department, University of Minnesota, said at a Honors Day Convocation at Dillard University Thursday.

The New Orleans native and 1945 Dillard graduate, has the distinction of being the first of her sex to receive the Ph.D. degree in piano performance and music literature from the University of Iowa, 1966.

"Black students must be told or reminded that the current cry of 'Reverse discrimination' being loudly expounded in the Allan Bakke Case before the U.S. Supreme Court is in reality in 1978 code word for my college generation's 'Nigger stay in your place.' What is more ludicrous," she continued, "in this alleged discrimination claim is that Allan Bakke had been

refused admittance into the University of Minnesota Medical School, although he had graduated from the institution," said Dr. Southall.

Dr. Southall added, "even more disturbing is that Bakke-like mentality has been allowed to permeate the walls of academics by members of both races who seemingly have forgotten that the past preferential treatment of whites mandates preferential treatment of blacks before any logical equality can take place."

Referring to William E. DuBois's study "College Bred Negro," published in 1900, which cataloged the achievements of Black college graduates of that day and their contribution of the Black college could be seen in the work of their graduates in the Black community.

"It was the thousands of Black teachers devoted in these colleges who transformed an enslaved people into a literate population in the space of 50 years," she said,

while pointing out that the professional class developed by these colleges have provided the "only real models with which Black youth have found identification, and from whom they have received sympathetic encouragement to achieve."

"It is still from Black colleges, like Dillard, that we get 75 percent of the nation's Black Ph.D.'s, 80 percent of its Black federal judges, 85 percent of the nation's Black physicians, and 75 percent of her Black officials, businessmen and women," she said.

Dr. Southall's subject was "The Real Meaning of Academic Excellence," and in her conclusion she challenged the Dillard honorees-Students with "A" averages, on the Honor Roll, the University Scholars, inductees into National Honor societies (Alpha Chi, Alpha Kappa Mu, Beta Beta Beta, and Beta Kappa Chi), and Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, to "lead the way as part of the

Post-Martin Luther King, Jr. generation in making the late slain Civil Rights Leader's dream for America to become a reality in this the last decade of the Twentieth Century."

The honorees were presented by Dr. Daniel C. Thompson, vice president for Academic Affairs. University Scholar Dwayne Thomas, 80, responded for the honor students.

Dr. Elton C. Harrison, vice president for Administration and Planning, presented Dr.

Southall to President Samuel DuBois Cook, who bestowed upon her the "Distinguish Achievement" award.

Miss Adrienne C. Tervalon, associate dean of Students; Dr. Clifford R. Bryan, associate dean of Academic Affairs; Miss Janice Williams of Baton Rouge, La., '78, psychology major, and Dr. Herman D. Taylor, university organist, were other program participants.

The Dillard Concert Choir, S. Carver Davenport, director, sang.

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