



Floral arrangements are being presented to staff workers at Aery's Rest Home by members of the Mecklenburg Chapter of Las Amigas, Inc. From left to right are: Dora Mason, Barbara Atwater, Ann

Anderson, Jacquelyn Cox, Joyce Matthews, Margo Jones, and Kate Brewer, members of the organization. (photo by Peeler)

Las Amigas Making Marks In Community Involvements

By Margo Jones
Special To The Post

In the fall of 1979, the political campaign began its race, so did the Mecklenburg Chapter of Las Amigas, Inc. The race for Las Amigas, a civic and social organization, began with its involvement in the mayoral political campaign. The members, individually, purchased Gantt shirts in support of the candidate, Harvey Gantt. We sure were proud.

Time moved on and so did we. Aery's Rest Home, located at 1003 McArthur Ave., captured our at-

tention. Our organization adopted this facility as a two-year project. Our first major concern was to redecorate the dining area. We ran here. We ran there. We painted the walls, made and hung drapes, hung flower baskets, and made tableclothes, and centerpieces for the tables. The dining area now has a new look, one of which we feel most proud. We will continue and complete this project in the fall.

In November came Thanksgiving - and with it, many blessings, especially for the 44 patients at Aery's

Rest Home. The members of Las Amigas prepared and delivered individual fruit baskets and shared in an Inspiration Service with the patients.

Las Amigas also arranged and sponsored a Christmas Fair. This successful event was held at the Amay James Recreation Center, December 15. Recipients from the community were able to come and select free items for their children's Christmas. We hope to provide these services next year.

Our organization stays abreast of civic and community concerns and tragedies; therefore, we immediately responded to a woman in such a need (fire tragedy) with a monetary donation from our Emergency Fund - just before Christmas.

Next week: Present activities of Las Amigas, Inc. and future plans.

Pace INC Program Can Help You

RALEIGH - Need more help this summer? Operate a public or non-profit agency? Have only limited funds for hiring? Interested in helping youngsters pay for their college education this fall?

If your answer to all these questions is yes, chances are the PACE I.N.C. program can help you and at the same time help a college student.

The Plan Assuring College Education in North Carolina is administered

by the Division of Social Services of the N.C. Department of Human Resources. The purpose of the program is to provide summer employment for students who have the scholastic aptitude but lack the financial means to begin or continue their higher education.

This summer will mark the 16th year the program has been in existence. Over 23,600 students have worked all over the state in a variety of jobs since the program began in 1965.

Agencies interested in hiring PACE students for the summer should contact PACE Program, Division of Social Services, N.C. Department of Human Resources, 325 North Salis-

bury Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. The telephone number is 919-733-4650.

One In Five Women Feel Wife Beating Justified

Special To The Post

CHAPEL HILL - One out of five women in North Carolina feels that a man is justified in beating his wife under some circumstances, according to a recent survey conducted by the Institute in Research in Social Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The less educated the woman, the more likely she is to believe wife-beating is justified, said Karen M. Gentemann, a research associate at the institute who is analyzing the data.

Women over 40 and non-whites also are somewhat more likely to feel beatings by men are justified than younger women and whites, Gentemann said, but education remains the primary predictor of attitudes toward the justification of wife beating.

Also, more than 20 percent of those questioned said they believe the woman causes the beatings she receives.

The research showed that women tend to rationalize the behavior of men who beat women by blaming outside causes for their actions. Gentemann said she expected to find a stereotype image of the wife-beater as a boozier out of work.

But the study showed women perceive the amount of family violence a man grew up with to influence his beating behavior more than drunkenness or unemployment.

Women were asked the following questions: Do you think:

-a man who beats a woman is usually drunk when he beats her?

-often times a man beats his wife because there isn't money at home?

-often times a man beats his wife because he can't work?

-a man who beats a

woman was himself probably beaten as a child?

Gentemann found that 67 percent agree that a wife-beater was probably beaten as a child; 51 percent believe lack of money could be a cause; 47 percent see unemployment as a possible contributing factor; and 26 percent associate the behavior with drunkenness or alcoholism.

Because so many people

believe men are justified in beating women, or empathize with the man's reasons, women are less likely to report the beatings or seek legal action against the man, Gentemann said. A potential victim also may be less likely to seek medical aid because she may be ashamed to admit that her marriage is not working.

Women were asked two

sets of questions to find out their attitudes toward wife-beating. The first questions were: Do you think it is okay if once in a while:

-a man swears at his wife?

-a man slaps his wife on the face?

-a man punches his wife with his fists?

-a man kicks his wife?

Using these questions less than 1 percent ap-

proved of kicking, 1 percent approved of punching and 3 percent approved of slapping. Forty percent of the women approved of men swearing at their wives.

Gentemann is extending her analysis of the data now, looking at the correlation between sex role attitudes and justification for wife beating.

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