



Left to right are Dora R. Mason, Diane Kanipes, Felicia Washington and Dr. McCoy, Jeanne B. Holtzclaw, Margaret Joyce D. Waddell.

Local Las Amigas Host Southwestern Regionals

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Chapter of Las Amigas hosted the Southwestern Regional meeting of Las Amigas at the Holiday Inn North recently.

Three local members were elected regional officers: Dr. Joyce Waddell, corresponding secretary, Evelyn Turner, regional director for the Southwestern Region and Jeanne Holtzclaw.

Las Amigas was represented well during the

meeting. Members from Greenville, S.C., Kannapolis, Gastonia, Mooresville and Charlotte were entertained at a luncheon meeting with a Fashion Show by Freeda Fashions. All attire was hand tailored representing the finest in clothing for women.

Winner of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Chapter's Oratorical Contest presented their winning orations to the members also. The title of the speeches,

"I, Too, Am An American" became a guide for the students who focused on the struggles of black Americans in respect to freedom.

Johnsie Young, president of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Chapter presented to the group the outstanding achievements of the chapter during the past year.

Her presentation was most impressive and involved the descriptions of varying activities of the local Las Amigas Chapter.

Americans See Government As Burden, Not A Service

Special To The Post
More and more Americans see government as a burden and not a service, says Dr. Davis A. Norris, director of the Center for Urban Affairs and Community Services (CUACS) at North Carolina State University.

"Dissatisfaction with government has become a major problem in the last 10 years," he said. "Fewer people are paying taxes, voting is decreasing, funds for government service agencies are being cut back, and yet the public is demanding more and more from their schools, hospitals, police force, etc."

Norris said the problem is rooted in increasing urbanization—the transfer of social welfare responsibilities from families and small communities to government agencies. To help these agencies function efficiently and effectively, CUACS researchers, computer specialists and consultants offer a wide range of services including technical assistance, management planning and applied research. By working in community education and local government, CUACS encourages people to be more involved in government and government to be more responsive to the people's needs.

"We want the people of North Carolina to feel that they have personal access to government agencies, to feel that their views have an impact on government policies and decisions," Norris said.

To achieve this, CUACS Applied Research Group conducts an annual North Carolina Citizen Survey for the State Office of Budget and Management. In 1982 CUACS professionals interviewed fire safety, insurance coverage, use of seat belts and innovations in employment benefits.

POLICY MAKERS
Thousands of policy makers and government officials use the survey and are sometimes surprised by the results, said survey director Dr. Yvonne S. Brannon. For example, the 1982 survey "debunks the assumption that North Carolinians oppose prison alternatives" and shows that 88 percent favor restitution and community work programs for criminals of non-violent crimes.

Brannon also headed a research project called "Dirty Rotten Kids?" which was used as evidence in the Willie M. court case. CUACS researchers

found that over half of the N.C. children with behavioral problems (like Willie M.) had been abused or neglected; over one-third had experienced family violence; and one-fourth were homeless (parents or guardians were not present).

The court decided that Willie M. and similar

young adults were not being served appropriately by the state and new programs were instituted to provide this service.

"Our value is that we provide statistically valid information which decision makers can rely on to modify existing programs, design new services or cut back on less effective programs," Brannon said.

CUACS also helps agencies by introducing cost-saving technology and time-saving management systems. Typically, CUACS specialists evaluate an agency's need for computer systems, design systems suited to those needs and train employees to use the new systems.

said Dr. Lee M. Mandell, director of the CUACS Systems Development Group.

"As an independent agency, CUACS can do objective needs assessments and unbiased evaluations of available computer equipment and programs," Mandell said.



Masons of Unique Masonic Lodge No. 85 Prince Hall held their Annual Awards Night at McDonald's Cafeteria recently. Pictured left to right are Robert Bolton Jr., Warden; Andrew Newman, Worshipful Master; James Shand, District Deputy; Ella Scarborough, speaker for Miss Unique Contest; Marvin D. Cham-

bers, Special Deputy and quest speaker; Alphonso Evans, Special Deputy of Hickory, NC; Joseph Johnson Sr., Warden. Not pictured are Robert Staton, secretary; Floyd Woodard, treasurer; Eugene Marsh, chairman of Trustee Board and Lewis Jackson, assistant chaplain.



Woman's Day was recently held at St. Paul Baptist Church, 1401 Allen St., with special keynote speaker Josephine Clement, member of the Board of Education in Durham. Her theme, "Let Us Make Chariot Wheels Out of Our Difficulties and Ride On To Success," captured the audience's attention. Rev. Dr. Paul Drummond, pastor of the church,

also made this challenge to all ladies in the church. "Miss St. Paul" was later crowned during the service. Emma Nicholas, pictured above, received the crown. First runner-up was Lillie R. Davis, second runner-up, Jessie Barber. Chairman of the Captains was Carolyn Ginyard. Woman's Day Chairman was Sophease Blackmon.



Pictured above is the Gamma Xi Chapter of Alpha Pi Chi Sorority. The sorors look forward to enjoying the last three days of Sisterhood Week which began May 14.

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