# Jones' Background In Education And Church Go Along With His Philosophy

By Audrey C. Lodato Post Staff Writer

"I think I have enough maturity, insight, and knowledge about things to offer some advice, suggestions, and leadership," explained Cedric H. Jones Sr., about his decision to run for an at-large seat on the Mecklenburg County Commission

Jones, a Democrat, has chaired precinct 55 for nearly five years. He stated, "I've always been interested in civic affairs. I came to Charlotte in 1948 to teach at Second Ward High School and I've been active in every campaign,

Actually, there were six years (1959-1965) when Jones was principal of schools in Hendersonville and Tryon, NC, but he was politically active in those areas, too.

Jones, who teaches English part time at Central Piedmont Community College, retired from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in 1981. During his career, he taught at West Charlotte four years and at Garinger freelyes as well as at the old.

twelve, as well as at the old Carver College.

The teacher-candidate enjoys teaching because "it gives me the oppor-tunity to be with people and see them progress and develop." He has witnessed many of his students become successful adults in their chosen professions. Some, he said, attributed some, he said, attributed their success to something he said or to his persistence. "It's kind of like a flower blooming, blossoming out," he remarked.

Jones is also very active in his church. A member of First Baptist Church-West, he was the youngest in the history of his church to chair the board of deacons, a position which he held for nine years.

He presently heads the adult committee, chairs the churchwide evangelistic committee and the evangelism committee for the board of deacons, and teaches Sunday School.

On a wider scale, Jones has served as president of the Mecklenburg General Baptist Congress of Christian Education since 1969. He is first vice president of the Sunday School Congress of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc., and serves on the budget committee of the General Baptist State Convention, a body which has a membership of 1,700 churches.

Jones explained his involvement: "Church is important to me because it approves of a better way of living; it is no respector of persons. It serves as the fundamental principle upon which democracy is founded."

The County Commission candidate believes that the church can help society because a "princple of Jesus is fairness in ministering to mankind."

Jones' background and interest in education and church go along with his philosophy that "every-body should strive to do his

This attitude apparently was instilled into his children, all of whom attended the Governor's School. One daughter also attended the NC School of the Arts for violin and was the first black concert master for the youth orchestra.

Jones' advice to young people: "take advantage of every good opportunity that you possibly can, without overloading

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Cedric Jones Sr. .....County Commission candidate

yourself."

A member of the Black Political Caucus, the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club, NAACP, and SCLC, he is the only black at-large candidate seeking a seat on the Board of County Commissioners. (Walton is running for a district, not an at-large,

Jones plans to "run on my record of achievement and success in church, family, career, and community life." He added, "I don't want to be 'anti' anybody.'

The candidate is married to Clara Hawkins Jones, a music teacher at Quail Hollow Junior High School.

## York Road Alumni **To Hold Reunion**

Meetings have been set for the York Road alumni's "Grand Reunion" and if you want to get in on the planning in the beginning stages, come to the meeting at South Tryon Presbyterian Church on March 8 at 2 p.m.

The reunion which has been set for August 22-24 will be for all of those who attended York Road from 1958-1970.

A "Sock-hop" will begin the festivities and will be held at the school at 3114 Bank St. from 8-11 p.m. The cost is \$3.

That Saturday, a family picnic will be held on the school grounds and later that evening a dinner and dance from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. will be sponsored. Admission is \$25 per person, \$50 per couple.

Closing the service will be the Revs. Bob Walton and Don Stegar on Sunday from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

A \$5 deposit is due by April 30 and the balance is due by June 15. Make all checks payable to York Road General Alumni Association, P. O. Box 221043, Charlotte, NC 28233.

Please include your address, name and phone number.

Other meeting dates are set for April 2, Mary 10, June 14, July 12 and August

For more information contact Vernell Miller at 375-6963 or Rudolph Mansel at 375-3340

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