

Sara O. Jackson, Queen Of Seattle's Black Theatre Movement



Known as the "grandmother de luxe" of Black Arts/West, Sara has performed there previously in such productions as *Young, Gifted and Black*; *Sty of the Blind Pig*; *Black Girl*; *Dream on Monkey Mountain*; and *A Son Comes Home* (her Black Arts/West debut).

However, senior theatregoers may remember a younger Sara from the days of the Federal Theatre, where she acted from its opening performance of *Noah* till its closing. There she was featured in leading roles in *Lysistrata*; *Androcles and the Lion*; and as the legendary Miss Molly in *The Natural Man*, for which her photograph and biography are enshrined in the Theatre Archives at Lincoln Center, New York City.

Sara O. Jackson brings great life and vitality to the stage. Her remarkable ability to create lovable and believable has captured the hearts of her audiences and earned the respect of her colleagues. Don't miss Sara in what could prove to be her best character yet... Mama, in Black Arts/West's production of a great theatre classic, *A Raisin in the Sun*. It opened February 9 and plays through the 29th, Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 and Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

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Mr. & Mrs. Max Lavender Celebrating Golden Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Lavender of 708 28th So. in Seattle will be celebrating their Golden Anniversary on February 19th.

Mr. Lavender was born in Seattle in 1906. He met his wife in Denver, Colorado while working for Great Northern Railway. He brought his wife to Seattle in 1928. Mr. Lavender worked for Great Northern Railway for 20 years as a chief cook. He retired from Marine Cooks and Stewards after 22 years of service. He is a member of the Masonic Order.

Mr. and Mrs. Lavender will celebrate with a family dinner at home with Mrs. Lavender's sister, Mrs. Cecil Engleman from Stockton, California and their five children, Mrs. Rosalie Williams, Elizabeth Pauley, Cecil Brewer, Mrs. Frances Turner and Willis Lavender. They have been blessed with eight grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren, all of Seattle.

IF YOU FIND MISTAKES
IN THIS PUBLICATION,
PLEASE CONSIDER
THAT THEY ARE THERE
FOR A PURPOSE. WE
PUBLISH SOMETHING
FOR EVERYONE, AND
SOME PEOPLE ARE
ALWAYS LOOKING
FOR MISTAKES !!!

A FOOL MAY BE KNOWN BY SIX THINGS: anger without cause; speech without profit; change without progress; inquiry without object; putting trust in a stranger; and mistaking foes for friends.

ARABIAN SAYING

Spotlight On Achievers At Links' Annual Dance

Where in this area would one encounter a large assembly of black achievers? A recent dinner dance of The Links, Incorporated was the place where about five hundred persons qualified to be so designated. (Facts carried photos last week). Of course there was a small non-segregated white minority present. Councilwoman Jeannette Williams could not have been concerned about white rights because she seemed to be just having fun as the invited guest of Link Vivian Caver. But come to think of it, isn't Vivian the head of the Human Rights Commission?

How do black achievers look? Impressive! Moreover the women looked elegant and the men imposing - a veritable fashion show as they weaved the aisles to pay for the items won at the silent auction. Aisle weaving was more effective in the crowded ballroom at Bellevue's Holiday Inn if the figure was slim. While Link co-chairperson Marian Sutherland's fringed black gown may not have been the most beautiful there, her svelteness allowed her to be seen to great advantage as she went about her duties for the eminently successful evening.

A major contribution of the National organization of The Links, Incorporated was one hundred thousand dollars to the Legal Defense Fund of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). A special guest of the Seattle Chapter was E. June Smith. So devoted a NAACP local leader and worker is June that during her extremely active presidency she scarcely would have found the time to spend away from the NAACP office, which was for years in the basement of her home. But there she was looking glamorous and carefree, knowing that NAACP was under the capable leadership of dynamic young Lucy Steele. Lucy, a Boeing manager, skillfully combined community work with the social scene; he was overheard promising that we would write to one of the daily newspapers upbraiding the editors for inserting an obviously outdated article about the "anticipated" retirement of NAACP national executive director Roy Wilkins.

Gracious hostess Willetta Gayton is one of the Links who can boast of being a native northwesterner. She hesitates to reveal why she has the intriguing look of subdued excitement. She hasn't heard yet if the Seattle Symphony Women's Association spring European trip is fully subscribed. If all goes as planned she can find out if a black in Sweden is more conspicuous than in Ballard, the neighboring community to the one where she served many years as school librarian.

One of the topics of travel, if George and Wanda Pope (Willetta's guests) have their way, they will return to Ghana very soon. George was quite animated as he talked of Ghanaian food. He was assuring David Shaw that it was not just that he liked highly spiced food because he found that he much preferred Ghanaian over Mexican food. Wanda studied the dances of Ghana and promised to show some film they took as soon as they obtain a sound projector. David Shaw, dean of black real estate brokers and top notch appraiser, was naturally interested in the structure of houses in Ghana and wondered what wild life he would be subjected to inside the dwellings if he seriously considered George's proposal for exchange visits with couples in Ghana.

Still on the subject of far away places, when Link Peggy Johnson is writing out a receipt for purchases by silent auction it is hardly the time to ask her about her son, Gregory, who is with the State Department's diplomatic corps in Somalia. Her glow of pride was modest while the tendency to relate the details of Gregory's climbing process could not even be detected. Among Links and their guests there were enough celebrity offspring to devote a whole edition of any publication interested in spotlighting achievers.

Africa provides yet another glimpse into the background of Link guests. As Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, John Malloy was military advisor to Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia. The effectiveness of his work might be judged by the ensuing overthrow of the government by the military. Oversimplification by the uninformed will protect John from having that statement cause him any concern. Anyway John is now retired from the Army and is associate director of the Civil Service Commission's leadership training program. Glenda has to be a nominee for one of the best possible teachers and mothers. She has the ability to generate a strong desire to learn and to achieve. Sons Steven and Brian won prizes for the widest variety and the most books read. The boys also have the incentive to continue the study of languages they picked up in their extensive travels. The Malloys were at the table of Link Bernice Holsclaw and husband Jack, also a retired military officer.

Link Jean Farris was the object of kidding tinged with curiosity when she won the bid for some baby items. Her fashionably draped chiffon gown could have concealed the outcome of some of the activity going on within the confines of the high iron fenced French chateau that she and Judge Jerome Farris occupy. Their decorator has a taped recording on a recent designer tour which told how Jerry had gifted Jean with a grand piano which became a focal point in his design scheme. There's a temptation to suggest that Link spouses do things in a grand manner.

Link Melvina Squires couldn't be more proud of one of her guests if she were her own daughter. In turn Millie Bown Russell couldn't be more proud of her husband, Ed, who is receiving his Master's degree in Urban Planning this June. Like many wives Millie feels that her PHT (Putting Husband Through) degree is earned and not honorary. Maybe Links will sponsor a bill to reward adequately the sacrifice, the dedication and the many other necessary attributes which Millie can enumerate in detail right now. However, after a slight breather Millie proposes to enroll for an advanced degree herself while maintaining her present position as Director of Pre-professional Programs for Minorities in Health Sciences at the University of Washington. Millie also teaches in the Health Sciences department there.

Free lance writer, Kay Shaw, stopped by Link Mary Henry's table expecting to elicit some comment about her Pauline Trigere chiffon creation. Her appearance only served to remind Mary that she had intended to write to Kay thanking her for her responsibility for the enchanting evening with Maya Angelou. Mary didn't cite as excuses her trip to mainland China or her busy schedule as wife of prominent physician, John Henry, or her daily activities as school librarian and mother of an active family. The two settled for exchanging compliments about the respective stimulating experiences.

The Link's program reads that the National organization began in 1946 for intercultural, civic and social purposes. The name LINKS grew out of a group of friends "linking" themselves together into a formal organization.

Seattle will host the National Assembly of Links in July, 1976. What a happy prospect for Seattle to have another national convention of black women. Remembering the entertainment, edification and money that came to Seattle with the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority last summer, it is little wonder that the Links National Assembly is expected to delight the local population. Many of the same very capable women are involved in planning this important event. Black achievers will be given greater exposure.

The roster of the Seattle Chapter of The Links, Incorporated is:

Mrs. Cecil Browder	Mrs. Orle Greene	Dr. Blanche Lavizzo
Mrs. Carl Brown	Mrs. Harold Hall	Mrs. Christine Meade
Mrs. Toby Burton	Mrs. John Henry	Mrs. James Motin
Mrs. Harrison Caldwell	Mrs. Jack Holsclaw	Mrs. Jerome Page
Mrs. John Cannon	Mrs. Charles Johnson	Mrs. David Perkins
Ms. Vivian Caver	Mrs. Orville Johnson	Mrs. Lonnie Shields
Dr. Patricia Chatard	Mrs. Gwela Johnson	Mrs. Bernard Squires
Mrs. Jerome Farris	Mrs. Darwin Jones	Mrs. Charles Stokes
Mrs. John Finley	Mrs. Lylla Joyner	Mrs. Earl Sutherland
Mrs. John Gayton	Mrs. Samuel Kelly	Ms. Bobbie Whitehead
Mrs. Willetta Gayton	Mrs. William Lacy	
Mrs. Russel Gideon		

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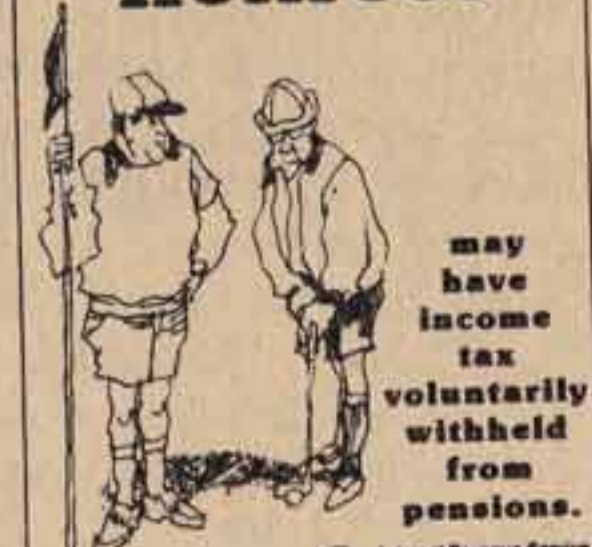
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