

Martin O. Weddington Papers.

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Credjafawn Social Club An Emblem of Social Prestige

Dear Teresa:

We were very pleased to receive your letter requesting membership in the Credjafawn Social club. By vote of the club, it was received and referred to the Membership committee.

Enclosed you will find a set of eleven (11) questions to which you will need the answers at the time of initiation. The answsers may be obtained from any current member. Your initiation date is scheduled for August 14, 1996, at 6:00 p.m. sharp. Please be on time. It will take place at the home of Eddris Pridgen, 957 St. Anthony Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104.

In addition to the above, please be prepared to pay the initiation fee of \$10.00 and at least one-half of the annual dues. The dues are Thirty-five dollars per year.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to seeing you on August 14th.

Sincerely,

Janabelle Taylor, Chair

Initiation Committee

Martin Weddington Sally Weddington DeVaughnia Simmons Dorothy Mocabee

Credjafawn Social Club An Emblem of Social Prestige

- ACE OF CLUBS.
- Charter members Nilee Nyan Luckie Caroline Elizabeth Johnson Lydia Jones
 John Robert Lawrence, Jr Huron Julian Shelton, Jr Lonnie Carter
 Fern Pope Helm Evelyn Kelly Georgia McCright Ruth Gilliam
- 3. Organized on October 16, 1927, at the home of Lydia Jones
- 4. Lydia Jones

a. The name CREDJAFAWN was composed in this manner:

(C)aroline E. Johnson (R)uth Gilliam

5. John Robert Lawrence (E)velyn Kelly Ly(D)ia Jones

Huron (J)ulian Shelton, Jr Georgi(A) Lee McCright

6. Credjafawn Credit Union (F)ern Pope Helm Lonnie C(A)rter

a. June 9, 1937 John R. La(W)rence, Jr
(N)ilee Nyan Luckie

- 7. Pale Yellow and Orchid
- 8. Louise Wood Thomas
- 9. Fern Helm
- 10. Parent's Banquet
- 11. Eddris Pridgen

Credjafawn Social Club An Emblem of Social Prestige

3.	What is the date the club was organized?
4.	In whose home was the club organized?
	a. How was the club's name formed?
5.	Who is the author of the club's name?
6.	What was the C. C. U.?
e	a. What year was it organized?
7.	What are the club colors?
8.	Who wrote the lyrics to the club song?
9.	Who was the club's first and fiftieth president?
10.	What was the first big event given by the club in 1928
11.	Who is the current president of the club?

What is the motto of the club?

Name the Charter members of the club?

1.

2.

Civic concern keeps social club going

She was the founding president of the Credjafawn Social Club and is serving as president again as the club celebrates 50 years of com-munity and social concern.

"People are puzzled; they wonder how this can be," said Fern Pope Helm as she talked about old times, how the club started and what it has accomplished.

Now 70, she is one of four living charter members. The club was organized Oct. 16, 1927, by 10 young people living in St. Paul and Minneapolis. It is one of the oldest black clubs in the Twin Cities. The name Credjafawn was coined by taking one letter from the names of each of the 10 charter members.

The social part was quickly activated as the club caught on with other young blacks. The members became involved in programs of the Hallie Q. Brown Community House in St. Paul, Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House in Minneapolis, Crispus Attucks Home Association (a residence for elderly blacks in St. Paul, no longer in existence), St. Paul Urban League and Minnesota Sickle Cell Anemia Association. The club has 73 active and 13 associate members.

'Times have changed a lot since the founding days when there was nothing for young people to do on Sundays but go to church," said Mrs. Helm, a tall, angular woman with a warm smile. "Sunday nights, we would go to each oth-er's homes to play games. I sug-gested we start a club. We didn't dream that it would hang together for so long.

John Robert Lawrence, who died four years ago, hit on the idea for the name, she said. He served as president 14 different terms. He was a founding member. So were Nilee Luckie Lewis, Carolyn Elizabeth Johnson and Huron Julian Shelton. They belonged to the Bap-tist Young Peoples Union.

Mrs. Helm's busband, William, who worked for the Soo Line Railroad, was elected the second president right after he joined in 1928.
"Then we got married." said Fern,
adding that they will mark their
49th wedding anniversary Oct. 23
as the Credjafawn celebrates its

At fast, she said, the club met Sundays. Then it changed meetings to twice a month, the second and fourth Wednesdays, until six years ago. It is back now to once a

The club held charity balls, benefit dinners and sales to raise money for camperships to the Hallie Q Brown camp, to buy food for needy families, to provide flood relief and to provide assistance to Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home and other charitable and civic causes. Members put on pro-grams at the Crispus Attucks Home and participated in the toy program at Hallie Q. Brown.

"We formed our own credit union in June 1937, the only club in the state to do this," said Mrs. Helm. "It made it possible for many of us to buy homes. Those were Depression years, and money was scarce. We would deposit 25 cents a month, and it grew."



Mrs. Fern Helm

The club has taken three Caribbe-an cruises (in 1970, '72 and '76) and is planning another for 1978. The Helms went on all three. She was in charge of organizing the

After their son and daughter were grown, Mrs. Helm went to work at the Veterans Administration Hospital as a nurses' assistant. "I was 54 and lucky to get a job at that age," she said. She resigned after 11 years, but became restless staying at home.

"The Spokesman (Minneapolis weekly newspaper for the black community) advertised for a worker to fold papers one day a week," she said. "I applied and got the job. Then Mrs. Newman (wife of the publisher, the late Cecil Newman) was going to Europe and asked if I would fill in for her the business office, answering the phone.'

Just as at the Veterans Hospital, she worked hard. Then she became part-time bookkeeper. She plans to retire Oct. 5, this time for keeps,

Her husband retired from the Soo Line in 1972, the same year she left her hospital job. He works as a part-time guard at the North American Life and Casualty Insurance Co. and tends the lawn at their bungalow at 4009 5th Av. S.

She is active at Zion Baptist Church on Elwood Av. N., where she serves on the Christian education board and teaches Bible class twice weekly, and is a past grand matron of Prince Hall grand chapter of the Eastern Star.

Normally a single banquet would take care of celebrating 50 years of fraternity for a small social club. But not for the Credjafawn Club. It is planning a week of events from Oct. 9 to 16. Mrs. Beatrice Coleman and Paul Wood are the chairpersons.

The opening event will be a wor-ship and memorial service at Pilgrim Baptist Church in St. Paul, where the early club members were active in Baptist Young Peoples Union. A reception will follow at the Registry Hotel in Blooming-ton, which will be the setting for the Nostalgia Night party and the Golden Anniversary Ball.

50 years



Margaret

Governor Rudy Perpich will hold a reception for the club Oct. 13 at the executive mansion. A 50th-anniversary birthday party is planned the next night at the Honeywell Country Club in Lakeville.

Other events will be a Powwow at the Highand Park Pavilion in St. Paul, a party at the Olympia Brewery (formerly Hamm's) rathskeller and a dinner at the Venetian Inn in Little Canada.

Mrs. Helm, who has sat in on committee meetings for the anni-versary plans, said she can't be-lieve it is all taking place. She takes no credit.

"It just doesn't seem possible. We didn't originate the club with an idea of longevity."

More from Margaret Morris's world of people, Monday, Wednes-day, Friday and Saturday, only in the Tribune.

> Minneapolis Tribune Sun., Sept. 18, 1977

Certificate of the Certifies That

Atlantin D. Meddington, Sr. as president of the CREDJAFAWN SOCIAL CLUB

IS HONORED AT THE 1961
TWIN CITY COUNCIL OF CLUBS
PRESIDENTS' BALL

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

Twin City Council of Clubs

10 November 1961



50th Anniversary

Hallie Q. Brown House

Anchor Inn

Anchor Inn

Anchor Inn

Anchor Inn

Anchor Inn

Treasure Inn

Thompson's Park

Paridees Statis Colling and Big Round

The Boni House

The Don't House

We dedicate this brochure to

Things we have done

Friends we have made

Memories and fun we have shared

Places we have been

Z

In the beginning there were ten; Good friends, but none of them Kin. With yen and Ken above the norm, A new Club they set out to form. But, alas, it had no nomen; So John R. Lawrence was chosen, To find a Letter from each name; That, advoitly arranged, might bring fame. And after the sweat and tears were gone, The name Endured: 'twas Credjafawn

A Club is Born

In the beginning

CAROLYN E. JOHNSON **R**UTH GILLAM **E**VALYN KELLY LYDIA JONES HURON JULIAN SHELTON GEORGIA LEE MCCRIGHT FERN POPE LONNIE CARTER JOHN LAWRENCE NILEE LUCKIE

pQR

1927

FIFTY YEARS OF SOCIAL AND CIVIC CONCERN HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR HISTORY

Organization: October 16, 1927

Charter members: Ruth Gilliam, Elizabeth Johnson, Lydia Jones, Evelyn Kelly, John Lawrence, Nilee Luckie (Lewis), Georgia McCright, Fern Pope (Helm) and Huron Shelton.

Initiated 25 new members on November 6, 1927. Additions included Cora Belle and John Banks, William Helm

The name was devised by John Lawrence from letters from the names of charter members.

The current president of the club, Fern Pope Helm was also the first president.

Junior Credjafawn Club: Organized by Lydia Jones and John Lawrence as a feeder for the senior club. Emma Lou Coleman (Lyght) was the first president of these 25 youngsters aged from 12 to 15 years of age. Later in this group were Eula Vassar Murphy, Lola Vassar Finney, Victor Calloway, Dorothy Chambers Payne. The club was active 1931 through 1938 when all the remaining members were added to the senior club.

Credjafawn Credit Union:

Organized with the assistance of Alverta Coram, the group was chartered June 9, 1937, open at first to club members only, but later expanded to include families of members. In a time of economic distress, many members were able to purchase homes, cars, make home repairs and save money for education. John Lawrence was the first president and Huron Shelton the first treasurer. The Credjafawn Credit Union later merged with the Minnesota Associated Credit Unions. Business transacted was \$3,300,000.00 with a loss of only \$12.00 which the club absorbed because the borrower had not been informed of the interest owed on his loan.

THAT OLD CREDJAFAWN SPIRIT AT WORK OVER THE PAST 50 YEARS

For ourselves and our friends:

40th anniversary trip to Chicago

3 Caribbean cruises

Annual New Year's dances in the 40's

Formal and informal dances (June parties)

Picnics and pow wows (July 4)

Toboggan and skating parties

Baseball games

Our own basketball team (Vic calloway, capt.)

Annual birthday parties (Wow!)

Stag and pajama parties

Boat rides

Treasure hunts

Progressive dinners

Holiday parties

Night in Las Vegas Parties

AND THEN THERE WAS Z.A.M.!

For others:

Banquets to honor our parents

Gifts of money, food and clothing for the needy

Flood relief

Books for a high school library, Louisville, Ky. Support of Twin Cities' social, civic and fraternal

organizations charities

Contributions and/or memberships to:

NAACP (life member)

Urban League

Hallie Q. Brown Community House

Phyllis Wheatley House

Crispus Attucks Home Association

Minneapolis Heart Fund

Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home

St. Paul Association for Retarded Citizens

Minn. Sickle Cell Anemia Association

St. Paul Community Chest

Laura Jeffrey, Historian

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



President 1927 & 1977

Someone has said, "Coming together is the beginning; working together is progress; and keeping together is success." Fifty years ago, ten of us came together. We worked together, prospered and increased. We succeeded because the real essence of our club spirit is to be ever mindful of the welfare of others and to bring cheer and gladness into their hearts. We shall strive in the future to maintain unity, continue our policy of purposeful undertakings and to promote that "OI' Credjafawn Spirit."

Life is a story in volumes three:
The Past, the Present, the Yet-to-Be,
The first we've written and laid away,
The second we're reading day by day,
The third and last of volume three,
Is locked from sight. God keepeth the key.

To my Fellow Club Members: 50 years ago, half a century, I had the honor of being elected the first president of the credjafawn Social Club, October 16, 1927. By the Grace of God, I have lived to receive, with deep appreciation and gratitude, the highest honor you could bestow upon me, by electing me to serve as your president during our Golden Anniversary Celebration.

There is nothing too good to wish you, But this wish I hope may come true, That all the sunbeams you've scattered, Reflected, may shine back on you.

Sincerely,

Fern Pope Helm

CREDJAFAWN SOCIAL CLUB

OFFICERS 1977-1978

President Vice President Recording Secretary	Nilee Lewis
Assistant Recording Secretary	Laura Jeffrey
Financial Secretary	Helen Goins
Assistant Financial Secretary	William Helm
Treasurer	Ludie Thomas
Corresponding Secretary	Eula (Kitty) Murphy
Assistant Corresponding Secretary	Patricia Davison
Typist	Louise Price
Parliamentarian	Jane Lee

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Patricia Davison, Chrm. Marilee Lynn Junauld Braddock Dorothy McFarland

Martin O. Weddington Teretha Bledsoe Jane Lee William Helm

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

William Helm

Patricia Davison

Marie Matthews, Chairman Louise Thomas DeVaughnia Simmons Gertrude Greene Sally Weddington

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Auditing	Martin O Woddington
Accounting Procedures & Reporting	Teretha Bladson
Budget	Corrinne Griffin
Contact	Cecelia Stewart
Goodwill	Marilee Lynn
Initiation	Dorothy Freeman
Social	Ruby Wood
Program	Junauld Braddock

THE PILLSBURY COMPANY 608 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402

Congratulations on your

Golden Anniversary Celebration.

Sincerely,

RMEiland/ljb Enc. No. 182797



Cora Belle Banks 1927



John L. Banks 1927



Nilee Lewis 1927



William Gardner 1927



William Helm 1927



C. Elizabeth Johnson 1927



Bernice Duke 1929



Jane Lee 1929



Patricia Davison 1930



Eugene Moore 1932



Frances Moore 1932



Beatrice Coleman 1935



Laura Jeffrey 1935



Gertrude Greene 1936



Eula Murphy 1938



DeVaughnia Simmons 1938



Dorothy Payne 1938



Paul L. Wood 1938



James H. Lee 1939



Corinne Griffin 1941



Martin O. Weddington 1941



Sallie Mae Weddington 1941



Rosella Gardner 1942



Helen Goins 1945



Dr. Ransom Goins 1945



Carl H. Griffin 1946



James T. Murray 1946



Ruby Wood 1946



Lavinia Murray 1947



Janabelle Taylor 1947



Nancy Norman 1951



James Perry 1958



Olinda Perry 1958



Marilee Lynn 1960



Allie Mae Hampton 1961



Theresa Banks 1965



Nancy Mayo 1974



J. Nathaniel Smith 1973



Marjorie Willis Smith 1973



Mary Clemons 1975



Ludie M. Thomas 1975



Cecelia Stewart 1976



Mary H. Clemons 1975



Lucius A. Hendrix 1927



Georgia Lee Eason 1927

Ralph Gardner 1930 Huron J. Shelton 1927 Ruth Harris 1929 Bella Shelton 1933 Nirota Few 1934

Victor Calloway 1938
Lola Finney 1938
Louise W. Thomas 1938
Helen Lawrence 1939
Estella Luckie 1944
Junauld Braddock 1945
Josephine Wade 1945
Karl Wade 1945
Jack L. Mills 1947
Tommie Braddock 1949
Leroy F. Lazenberry 1949

James L. Taylor 1949 Raymond Bledsoe 1951 Teretha Bledsoe 1951 Dorothy McFarland 1953 John E. Murphy 1953 Zonetta Walton 1953 Harriet Hayes 1954 Dorothy Freeman 1964 Marie Matthews 1965 John H. Spriggs 1970 Marion Mitchell 1972 Louise Price 1973 Edith Greene 1975 Ernest Greene 1975 Lawrence Stewart 1976 Thelma Fields 1976

Mrs. Alverta Coram, our beloved friend and mentor, who although not a CREDJAFAWN member was the guiding and inspirational spirit behind the Credjafawn Social Club and the C. C. U. Alverta guided the formation of the C. C. U. and served on the Board of Directors as advisor.

MINNEAPOLIS SPOKESMAN ST. PAUL RECORDER "Independent Newspapers"

Established August 10, 1934 by Cecil E. Newman.



Launa Q. Newman and Oscar H. Newman Publishers

Congratulations

We wish you a Happy 50th Anniversary

CREDJAFAWN SOCIAL CLUB, INC. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Bethel, Marionne P. 9410 Burr Street Oakland, California 94605

Brown, Virginia L. 2972 Kearney Avenue Denver, Colorado 80207

Calloway, Earline C., 1941 4530 Montair Long Beach, California 90080

Harris, Albert Foster, 1935 1506 West Mitchell Road Memphis, Tennessee 38109

Hargrave, Jerry, 1974 756 Page Street San Francisco, California 94117 Honorary: Lawhorn, Miss Geraldine 7436 Vernon Avenue South

Chicago, Illinois 60621

Hendrix, Lucius A., 1927 186-09 Elmira Avenue Hollis, New York 11412

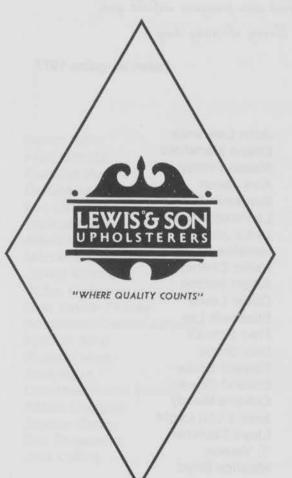
Murray, Theresa, 1933 7436 Vernon Avenue South Chicago, Illinois 60621

Payne, Dorothy, 1973 Payne, William, 1973 4226 - 8th Avenue Los Angeles, California 90008

Piper, Marcella, 1976 4460 Rosalie Avenue St. Louis, Missouri

Shelton, Bella, 1933 Shelton, Huron, 1927* 3509 Deleony Road San Marcos, California 92069

*Charter Members



Congratulations to the Credjafawn Social Club on their Golden Anniversary

ALEXANDER HYDE PARK CHAPEL
400 North Oxford St.
Bus. phone 644-0733 Res. Phone 644-8078

BEN & JEWELL ALEXANDER, Funeral Directors

GOLDEN MEMORIES A Message To All Those We Held So Dear

We remember well

Your acts of gentle kindness,

We remember well

Your smiles so warm — so dear.

We remember

How you cared for us in sickness,

And your quiet strength

Which showed we need not fear.

We remember too

Your quick sincere forgiveness,

Your tender kiss

Which meant that all was well.

We remember

Your rich laughter and your humor,

And your tales of old

That only you could tell.

The wings of golden memories

Beat so gently,

But each flutter

Brings to mind a thought held dear,

A thought so filled with peace

And sweet remembering,

That it brings you close

And keeps you ever near.

So with gratitude — with joy
Our hearts are singing,
No tears — no grief
Will mar your sun drenched way.
Our blessings and our love
To you go winging,
And our prayers enfold you
Every shining day.

helen m. goins 1977

Thelma Harris Walter Goins Elmer Graham Louise Maxwell Robert Pierre Michael Banham Tony Banner Reuben Hargrave Bernette Cason Shivers Byron Riffe Charlotine Moore Cornelia Moore Wanda Brown Arthur Herring John Hauser Jack Ryan **Edward Salter** Chester Carr Grace Gardner Horace (Buzzie) Brown Norma Lazenberry

John Lawrence Bessie Mansfield Maceo Finney Alva Jones Benjamin F. Henderson La Percelle Greene Lydia Jones Hellaine Halliday Helen Chaney Albert Walton Oliver Lewis Elizabeth Lee Fred Schuck Inez Bruce **Edward Bruce** Elwood Cowan Olivette Moody Emma Lou Lyght Lloyd Faulkner T. Vernon Maurice Boyd

JUNIOR CREDJAFAWNS



Byron Riffe Fred Schuck Cudellis Martin DelGracia Wright Turner Eva Lee Baxter Elizabeth Lee Adelaide Sykes Meyer Marcella Copeland James Mitchell Victor Calloway Lola Vassar Finney Rosamond Collier Johnson Andrew Neal Richard Mann Jack Ryan Dorothea Harris Mason Althea Douglas Janette Brown Don Bonaparte Jake Collins

Arthur Williams Charlotine Moore Cornelia Moore Emma Lou Lyght Bertram Shannon Marianne Peebles Albert Harris William Burns John McHie Albert McClure Willie Neal Andrew Clark Charles Salter Richard Williams Sarah Franklin Grace Franklin Bella Lee Shelton Claude Mason Dorothy Early

Grace Lacey James Virginia Hedge Brown Theresa Banks Murray Adele Graham Doty Oliver Lewis Eula (Kitty) Vassar Murphy Dorothy Chambers Payne Elmer Harris Edwin Salter David Hall Ruth Oden Benner Dorothy Early Janet Brown Louis Mason Cornelia Moore Rosella Ellis Gardner Paul Oden Margaret Slaughter **Donald Sessions** David Hall

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3M Company Congratulates The Credjafawn Social Clu
On Its Golden Anniversary:
50 Years of Contributions to the Community.



CONGRATULATIONS on FIFTY YEARS of Community Involvement



AN INDEPENDENT LEGAL NEWSPAPER

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MARY J. KYLE, Editor-Publisher

TWIN CITIES COURIER

(612) 336-9618

84 S. 6th St., Suite 501

Minneapolis, Minn. 55402

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM 1977

Sunday, October 9

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE AND MEMORIAL

Pilgrim Baptist Church

732 West Central Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota

4:00 to RECEPTION 7:00 p.m. Registry Hotel

7901 24th Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota

Monday, October 10

6:00 to **POW WOW**

11:00 p.m. Highland Park Pavilion

St. Paul, Minnesota

Tuesday, October 11

7:00 to RATHSKELLER PARTY

11:00 p.m. Olympia (Hamm's) Brewery

Payne Avenue and E. Minnehaha

St. Paul, Minnesota

Wednesday, October 12

4:00 to **GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION**

7:00 p.m. Honoring Crediafawn Members

Governor's Mansion on Summit Avenue

St. Paul, Minnesota

7:30 p.m. **DINNER WITH OUR FRIENDS**

until Venetian Inn

2814 Rice Street, Little Canada, Minnesota

Thursday, October 13

7:30 p.m. NOSTALGIA NITE

until Registry Hotel

7901 24th Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota

Friday, October 14

50TH ANNIVERSARY BIRTHDAY PARTY 6:30 p.m.

> Honeywell Country Club Lakeville, Minnesota

DANCING

9:30 p.m.

until

Saturday, October 15

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY BALL

Registry Hotel, Bloomington, Minnesota

8:00 to Closed Cocktail Party

9:00 p.m.

9:00 to 1:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 16

FAREWALL BREAKFAST 10:00 a.m.

Formal Dance

Registry Hotel, Bloomington, Minnesota

k------

50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEES

Beatrice Coleman, Gen. Chairperson Paul Wood, Co-Gen. Chairperson Corabelle Banks, Secretary to Anniversary Committee

Patricia Davison, Chrm.

DECORATIONS

Nancy Norman

Estella Luckie

Nettie Walton

RECEPTION

Ludie Thomas

Nancy Norman

Estella Luckie

Teretha Bledsoe

Junauld Braddock

Elizabeth Johnson

NOSTALGIA NITE

John Banks, Chrm.

Martin Weddington

Lawrence Stewart

William Helm, Co-Chrm.

Eula Murphy

John Murphy

Bernice Duke

Ruby Wood

TRACING

Eula Murphy

John Spriggs

Paul Wood

Jane Lee

Marion Mitchell

Leroy Lazenberry

Nilee Lewis, Chrm.

Dorothy McFarland

Jane Lee

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Teretha Bledsoe, Chrm. Marie Matthews, Co-Chrm. Ludie Thomas J. Nathaniel Smith William Helm Fern Helm

Martin Weddington Junauld Braddock

BIRTHDAY PARTY

DeVaughnia Simmons, Chrm. Teretha Bledsoe Olinda Perry Gertrude Green

Tommie Braddock Laura Jeffrey Louise Thomas Patricia Davison Corinne Griffin Ludie Thomas

Marie Matthews Jane Lee Thelma Fields

Ruby Wood Dorothy McFarland

Junauld Braddock

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY BALL

H. Ransom Goins, Chrm. Ernest Greene Cecelia Stewart Carl Griffin Frances Moore James Taylor Raymond Bledsoe Tommie Braddock

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Marilee Lynn, Chrm. Bernice Duke Nilee Lewis Mary Clemmons James B. Perry

HISTORICAL

Laura Jeffrey, Chrm. Louise Price Helen Goins

BROCHURE EDITOR

C. Elizabeth Johnson

FACILITY PROCUREMENT

Ernest Greene, Chrm. Martin Weddington Marilee Lynn William Gardner Ludie Thomas Junauld Braddock Ralph Gardner

WAYS AND MEANS

Rozella Gardner

James Murray, Chrm. Allie Mae Hampton, Co-Chrm. Martin Weddington Sallie Mae Weddington Lavinia Murray Cecelia Stewart James Lee Janabelle Taylor Paul Wood Beatrice Coleman

HOTEL **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Fern Helm, Chrm. Eula (Kitty) Murphy

PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Junauld Braddock, Chrm. Louise Price Harriet Hayes Laura Jeffrey James Murray Margery Smith

FOOD CONSULTANT

Corinne Griffin, Chrm. Dorothy Freeman

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE CREDJAFAWN SOCIAL CLUB

MR. CREDJAFAWN



Fern Helm October 1927 William Helm April 1928 Lydia Jones William Gardner Inez Douglas John R. Lawrence, Jr. Nifee N. Luckie Lewis William Helm Elizabeth Johnson Nilee N. Luckie Benjamin F. Henderson Patricia Mitchell Huron J. Shelton, Jr. Emma Lou Coleman Lyght Paul Smith Nilee N. Luckie Lewis John R. Lawrence, Jr. Virginia Doyle John R. Lawrence, Jr. John R. Lawrence, Jr. Huron J. Shelton, Jr. Earl G. Kyle Beatrice Vassar Coleman John R. Lawrence, Jr. Benjamin F. Henderson Ruth Oden Benner Theresa Herring Murray Theresa Herring Murray May 1946 Byron S. Riffe

Norma Beauford Lazenberry April 1947

October 1928 April 1929 October 1929 April 1930 December 1930 April 1931 October 1931 November 1931 April 1932 October 1932 April 1933 October 1933 May 1934 November 1934 April 1935 October 1935 April 1936 April 1937 April 1938 April 1939 April 1940 April 1941 May 1942 **April** 1943 May 1944 May 1945

John R. Lawrence, 1905 - 1971 President 14 times

John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1948 John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1949 April 1950 Janabelle Taylor Virginia Hedge Brown April 1951 Virginia Hedge Brown April 1952 John R. lawrence, Jr. April 1953 John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1954 Dorothy McFarland April 1955 Dorothy McFarland April 1956 Teretha Bledsoe April 1957 Leroy Lazenberry April 1958 John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1959 John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1960 Martin O. Weddington April 1961 Junauld N. Braddock April 1962 John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1963 John Murphy April 1964 Marilee Lynn April 1965 April 1966 Patricia Davison John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1967 John R. Lawrence, Jr. April 1968 Marie Matthews April 1969 Marie Matthews April 1970 Jane Lee April 1971 Jane Lee April 1972 DeVaughnia Simmons April 1973 DeVaughnia Simmons April 1974 Paul Wood April 1975 Paul Wood April 1976 Fern Helm April 1977

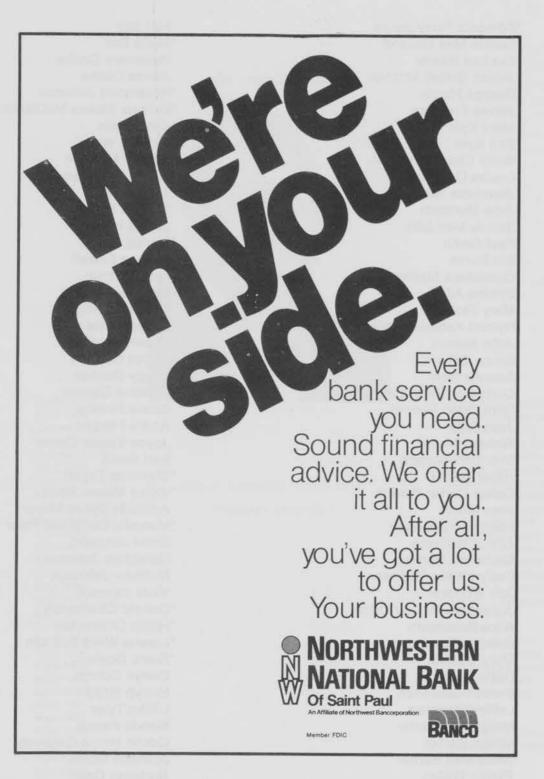
THE LOST TRIBE

*Edmonia Perry Jones *Fannie Mae Holland *Eva Lee Baxter *James (Babe) Mitchell *George Harris James Freeman Mary Kyle Earl Kyle Burie Charmichael Sr. Louise Carmichal *Jeannette Williams *Jane Merideth *Salene Merideth Paul Smith *Bill Burns *Quedelaus Martin Ermine Allen Mary Stokes Hyland Ashmore Stokes John Nelson *Bruce Gilliam Andrew Neal Cornelius (Bud) Benner Ruth Oden Benner *Jean Riffe Richard Mann Mrs. Carl Watson Hazel Merrill *Celest Carter Patrick Jean Goins *Raymond Johnson *Arthur Williams Catherine Harris Evelyn Kelly Robinson Jon Whitaker *Josephine McCoy Oden Alice Bloedoorn Joseph Bloedoorn *Mary Buford Doris Shannon Bertram Shannon LeRoy Coleman Marguerite Carter Milton Barber Willie Mae Barber **Evelyn Collins**

Earl Bell *Merle Bell Rosemary Cooke James Cooke *Rosamond Johnson *Victoria Stokes McClerkin *John Wells *Victoria Wells *Wilfred McClain Grace Lacy James James Oliver Thelma Mann James Mann *Junius Powell *Yvonne Powell Jackie Smith Douglas Smith Delgratia Wright *Elmer Harris Robert Mitchell James Cannon *Peggy Garnier *D'Jalma Garnier Gloria Florenz Andre Florenz Joyce Vassar Carter Earl Smith *Clarence Taylor *Vivian Vassar Redd Adelaide Sykes Meyer *Marcella Copeland Piper Ennis Johnson Geraldine Johnson Matthew Johnson Viola Johnson *Donald Charleston *Helen Charleston *Lorena Wells Suthern *Frank Doyle **Evelyn Collins** Evelyn Reed Lillian Tyler Marvin Keene Odelle Harris Galloway Jeanette Goins Hortense Oden

*out of state

They will again share the "OLD CREDJAFAWN SPIRIT" on Nostalgia Night.



Old Days -- Old Ways

Hundreds to Dance for 'Sweet Charity' at Colony Club

Annual Cameo-Elite-Credjafawn Christmas Benefit Dance At White Bear Lake December 15

Hundreds of Twin Citians have purchased admission buttons for the annual Christmas benefit cabaret dance at the Colony Club, White Bear Lake, Minnesota, on Thursday, December 15.

Colony Club Is Swanky

The Cameo-Elite and Credjafawn clubs in conjunction with Ted Steichen of Steichen's Food Market have been fortunate in securing for this annual event one of the most exclusive swanky night clubs in the Northwest.

Location

The club, located 13 miles from Dale and Rondo Streets, St. Paul, is just a half hour drive on Highway 61.

For those who care to make reservations, they may be made by calling BR idgeport 3595 in Minneapolis, and DA le 5614 in St.

Paul.

Nothing Spared

Nothing has been left undone to provide an evening of unmatched pleasure and entertainment for patrons of the dance according to Geo. W. Brooks, Jr., general chairman of the affair.

The distinctive swing of the Colonly Club Cavaliers, a seven-piece band, will provide music for the occasion.

A floor show never before witnessed by Twin City audiences will be presented at 12:30 sharp.

Hours for the benefit dance are 10 p. m. to 2:30 a. m.

Admission is one C.E.C. button or 50c.

Net proceeds of this benefit will be used by the three clubs to purchase food, clothing and necessities for indigent Colored families.

Stop! Look! Listen! You will be missing one of the best affairs of the year if you don't attend the Charity Ball Dec. 15 at the Colony b.—Adv.

See you. WIL.

Per your own blankets

See you. WIL.

Prost property of the pro

C.S.C. meeting red. night rec. 28th, with Nircta rew, 731 St. Anthony Ave St. Paul. Please he present.

Listen carefully:
Ering a ten cent wift to Club resting. If you will not receive any. Ering your Creat mine Fank and any spare chance you have only 87.00 to so to reach our goal. Please help us.
Don't forget the party on Jun 1,1344, then to Fank at liel Shenburne Ave St. Paul at then to John and helen Lawrence belie, then to John and helen Lawrence then to Fana Lou Jones and the finish at then to John and the finish at the finis

Hi:

CSC meeting Wed night May 3, 1944 at 312 Kentucky Street, St.Paul, with Fannie Mae Holland. Please be there and on time. Maybe if you are real good we may have an election. Don't you think that TH would make a good President?

Now that the PAB is over and MW has his shirt, JB his socks, LLJ her blonde wig. We can settle down and think about the June Party and

the 4th of July picnic.

Don't forget to vote for ZAM. They tell me that G&C have the whole CSC working out there packing cookies and what nots. CBBis going out next week. What was LF doing over at the A&P the other night buying horse meat. See you. NNL.

Report on Paw-wow

14 lbs. of weinen @ 16 \$ ---- 2.24

12 dog. Rolle @ 10 \$ ---- 1.20

5 lbs. marchmollow ---- 86

1 far mustard ----- 10

1/2 lb. coffee ---- --- 13

2 cans cond. milk ----- --- 30

sugar ----- 5

The Credjafawn Third Annual NEW YEARS DANCE

1927-36

Iny C. Dauglas

MENU

LIME RICKEY)	
	Cups50¢
GINGER ALE)	
BEER PER BOTTLE	15¢
POP ALL FLAVORS	10¢
HOT DOGS	10¢
ALL FAVORS	10⊄
CUPS ALONE WITH ICE	
DRAFT BEER PER GLASS	10¢

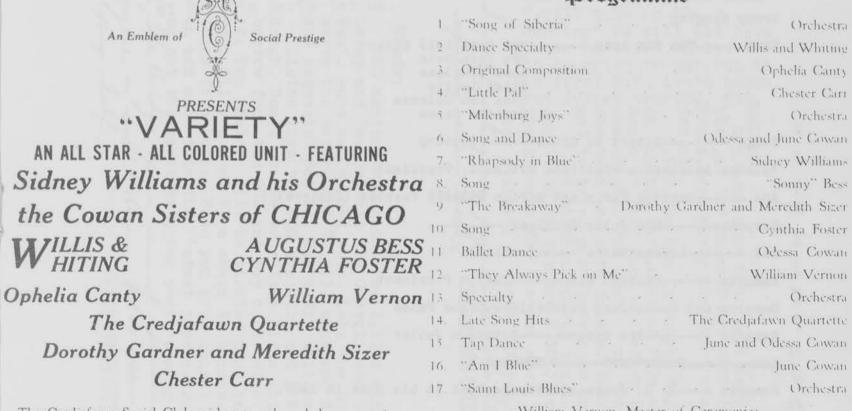
HAPPY NEW YEAR



N.A.A.C.P. Benefit

MINNEAPOLIS CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 26, 1929

Programme



The Credjafawn Social Club wishes to acknowledge courtesies extended by the Board of Education: Twin City Herald; Lake District Advocate, and the Minneapolis Star. William Vernon, Master of Ceremonies

Program Subject to Change

Program for The Parents'Affair Grace.....Rev.Harris Welcome Response.....by a father Song.....by members and guest Speech.....by Pres. at which time officers of the club will be introduced. Skit.....Lil Abner Joins The Credjafawn Club written by Laura Jeffery, Lola Vasser, and other members A report or summary of the Credit Union ... by the pres. John Lawrence jr. Remarks: Mrs. Louise Hargrave mistress of ceremony Miss B. Vasser.....to have charge of get acquainted games Dinner music to be furnished by the club members. Respectfully submitted, Nile Luckie
Bernettie Cason
Grow Belle Banks
Bella L Shetton Program for P. B. B. Blessing -----Rev. Collins 8:30 P.M. Group singing Skit -----The Six Ades ------Mrs Cora Bell Banks Mrs Fern Helm Inez Douglass Nilee Luckie Emma Lou Coleman Bernice Copes Songs -----(Junioro Welcome Address ---- Patricia Mitchell, President Act ----- Dorothy Early and Marion 948888 Peebles (Juniors) Response-----Mrs Julie Douglass -----Act ----- Lofena Wells ---- (senior) Remarks -----Richard Mann-----Junior President Dancing act -----Jane Mitchell---- Grace Paice Remarks ------ Mrs Mason------ Wother a Junior David To the Company Remarks ---- J. R. Jones -- Club organised in his home in 1927. Songs ----- Paul Oden----- (junior) Closing ---- Auld Lang Syne

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

What is the de "inition of a Man? Ask Lydia the can tell. Bring the kids the school needs, them. Carroll Aug Carroll Aug Mae Vassar-ecome early the floating 2-C. S. C. 4th 2-C. S. C. 4th Don't forg ehave no rid John Lee Ba arrange for Who knows How plent of Junget to Jr.D. of go drinks a prinks at invite your to from t Beem to have enguen CREDJAFAWN CREDIT UNION od an Tale Val lley ca had a Valley.
ds. If you
ey call
will glad you gladl what nots. Swell plans

CREDIAFAWN

CREAT

Well, Well the Major and the Mrs:

We C.S.C. meeting Wed. night Nov 17,1943

But 662 Rondo "Ivd. St. Paul with D.

Gat 662 Rondo "Ivd. St. Paul wi MMT. Lydia climbing trees Kitty T. will give a short talk on "rents" and Lela F.will talk on "Bear Hunting" We will all have fun so be there early. Who is going to put out th the fire? B.F. isn't here. Hello:

O.S.C. meeting Wed.ni

N. 1943, at 589 Carroll Av

T. Bruce, come early plent

E. C.S.C. Pow Wow Sat.r

C.S.C. Pow Wow Sat.r

Cat Kaposia Park, meet c

F. PRondo at 7:30 each mee

C. S.C. birthday par

Hello C.S.C. birthday par y party tax 1.50, oct 6,1943. were the pow wow:
ntest between JL a irinks en A tat Dal member m er 50 for-20

dinner on the 26th? Where were you folks on

the 11th? Who took CBB

(U. Santa is coming and

Dough. Now that Dobby

Recoat and left her a swell

one? Don't forget your CC

you know what that means.

Hicks is married who will

CREDJAFAWN CREDIT

I night Dec 1,1943 with man 716 Carroll Ave St.

cood eats. Lola the Lug will and VC will sing and dance.

LJ. Maybe ZAM will be ther CCU has gobs and gobs of way cash. Nice Isn't li be tickled pink to help is a share to borrow. Just Have you your share? Come he stest ymas ever. Come s bring your seweing of thicy plack eye? See your

oleman v good and v

Ffor the holidays. Save

Lyour pennies for the 29th

of Dec big party for us.

Leroy and Bea Colems Faul. Come early good serve the drinks and serve the drinks and serve the drinks and serve the lugs the Listen lugs the candough. Don't charge borrow from the CCU bo

13

REFLECTIONS

When the Credjafawn Social Club was new, only a few blacks in the Twin Cities had much money or good jobs or cars or homes. There were only about 1,000 blacks in the Twin Cities. Most of the jobs were menial ones or did not reflect any degree of education. Young people who received college degrees for the most part left the area to get meaningful employment as social workers, teachers, librarians and in other professional fields. People such as Roy Wilkins, Catherine Lealtad, Mary Hamilton, Rachel Gooden Calloway, left to make their mark in the world. Other famous people who touched base and went on to National or International fame were Whitney Young, Clarence Mitchell and Gordon Parks.

But now the scene has changed. Blacks in the Twin Cities now have positions of honor, work in all fields of endeavor and are respected businessmen and home owners. Blacks occupy positions as:

judges police officers bus drivers nurses school administrators engineers attorneys sales executives president of the Board of Regents (U of M) college professors telephone company operators and supervisers executive positions in industry franchisers librarians newspaper, radio and television personalities chiropractors podiatrists state legislators plus many others.

deputy chief of police
firemen
bailiff
school teachers
school board president
social workers
physicians and surgeons
technicians
member of board of directors (Carleton College)
deans of colleges

bank presidents and vice presidents caterers musicians personnel workers scientists veterinarians executive and private secretaries You might say we "got ovah."

Happy 50th Anniversary
Congratulations on your efforts
in behalf of the community!

Western State Bank

Congratulations Credjafawn Club on your 50th Anniversary

LATUFF BROS. AUTOBODY INC. 868 University Ave.

the state of the s

MULTIFOODS

CONGRATULATIONS to the CREDJAFAWN SOCIAL CLUB for 50 years of Community and Social Concern

Nearly 8,000 people around the world work for this Minneapolis-based company. Sales last year surpassed \$847 million. Our products include:

Supersweet Feeds T. Butcherblock
Mister Donut Robin Hood Flour
Kretschmer Wheat Germ
Reuben Meats
Kaukauna Klub Cheese

In order to keep growing, we need good people in a variety of interesting and rewarding career areas. If you think you've got something that will let us grow together, call or write...

Mr. Lou Moore,
Manager, Corporate EEO
340-3750 55402
Multifoods Building, Mpls.

An equal opportunity employer.



DO YOU REMEMBER?

how we congregated at Majestic Drugs on Dale and Rondo?

the parties at Sterling Club given by the fraternities when the chaperones went downstairs and the lights went out?

the after house spot on Lyndale and 6th ave. north where the elite of the Twin Cities continued to party after the big social affairs?

that certain party-goer who hit a cow on his way home from an affair at Stumble Inn? when a Hudson or an Essex was the way to ride?

the fantastic coverage of our social affairs which gave the guest list, described invitations, decorations, and lovely gowns in Estyr Bradley Peake's inimitable style?

when the girls' basketball games between Hallie Q. Brown and Phyllis Wheatley always ended in a fight? when Annabelle reigned supreme as queen of Rummy's Sweet shoppe?

the cord roadster with the whole car including the rumble seat filled with girls?

Walker Williams' place and his advice to bulls with short horns?

Kathryn, the songbird at Jim Williams' place, the fried chicken and the hot mustard?

dances at Welcome Hall where Gordon Parks or Mym Carter played?

when St. James was down on Jay Street and Pilgrim was down on Cedar Streets?

Bell's Cafe, Archie Cook's Chatsworth Inn, Than's Place and Nettie Saunders

Green's place on Como and Western, Cassius' bar, Goodman's and Sperling's barbecue, Roadbuddies, Apex, Mickey House, Fosters' Colony Club?

boat rides on the Donna May?

that certain barber who always had 25¢ on a pint?

the sunday forums at Hallie — and Humbert Humphrey as the Credjafawns' guest speaker?

when the young Vagabonds defeated the previously unbeaten Diplomats at basketball and were threatened by certain members of the older club?

those clubs of yesteryear — Elite, Adelphai, DYWYK, Majestic, Socialettes, Twin City Maids and Matrons, XY's supper Club?

five dollars represented a fabulous evening out?

we locked the doors and put the key in the mail box?

when the fellows missed the last street car and had to walk to St. Paul or Minneapolis?

when there were luxury trains going everywhere?

The Cameos annual midnight to dawn party at Bridges Chicken Shack? You'd stumble inn and fall out.

all those places - legal and illegal - where we loved to go?

the women's pajama parties and the men's stag parties and why the stags stopped.

the Credjafawn Revues with Billy Griffin and Virginia Hedge Brown

Little Miss Smith and "Baby Don."

the hollow skating rink.

when 38th and 4th in Minneapolis and Rondo and Dale in St. Paul were where the action was at

bath-tub gin — "the Gardners" and club birthday parties there.

Crispus Attucks and Mrs. Cason.

when the curfew rang at 9:00 and woe be unto you if you were not at home.

when the stork brought the babies.

Oatmeal Hill and Cornmeal Valley

when "F" stood for FUN

Villa Wilson — Josie Williams — Mrs. Boyd and her apple trees

when the word "darn" was a dirty word.

when you couldn't buy an "All Day Sucker" because it cost 10¢, and you could buy a big bag of candy for a nickel if you had it

when you couldn't remember the "olden days"

the union picnic — the new clothes — Minnehaha Falls and the caves

when you walked because your parents made you and not because your doctor said you had to.

THAT MEMORIES ARE SUCH STUFF THAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF.

Bethel	Care	Center.	Inc

420 Marshall Avenue St. Paul, Minnesota Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary

OLDIES AND GOODIES Our Fifty Year Members

John Banks, Social Committee Chairman, many times has implemented many novel ideas over the years. John has also maintained a complete photographic record of the club's affairs which will be in evidence at our Nostalgia Party Night! At the drop of a hat he will show other films.

"Bill" William Helm whose talent, expertise and generosity in unique printing has been voluntarily given for the benefit of the club. Throughout the years he has designed and printed most of the club's invitations, programs and souvenirs. We have enjoyed his talking film stories of Credjafawn trips. We know you will be taken back to the "Olden Days" as you enjoy his latest endeavor — The Cover for the Golden Anniversary Brochure.

Huron Shelton, our financial genius who set up the bookkeeping system for both the Credjafawn Social Club and the Credit Union. Huron also served for many years as our Financial Secretary and the Treasurer for the Credit Union as well as keeping members informed on the Credit Union activities.

Nilee Lewis, as secretary, with her mistique of adding extras. You'd never know what news would be on her notices of club meetings. She toiled with the hot dogs at many of the New Year's Eve dances. Nilee still works on different committees to help keep the ball rolling.

Cora Belle Banks perrenial secretary at all times and all places. No matter how hard it was to keep her head up, and eyes open, Coby would gather in the sheckels.

Fern Helm who presided over the first year of the innocent group of young people is still wielding the gavel over the ---? people.

Georgia Eason who disappeared from St. Paul scene - lost and found. Welcome back to the fold.

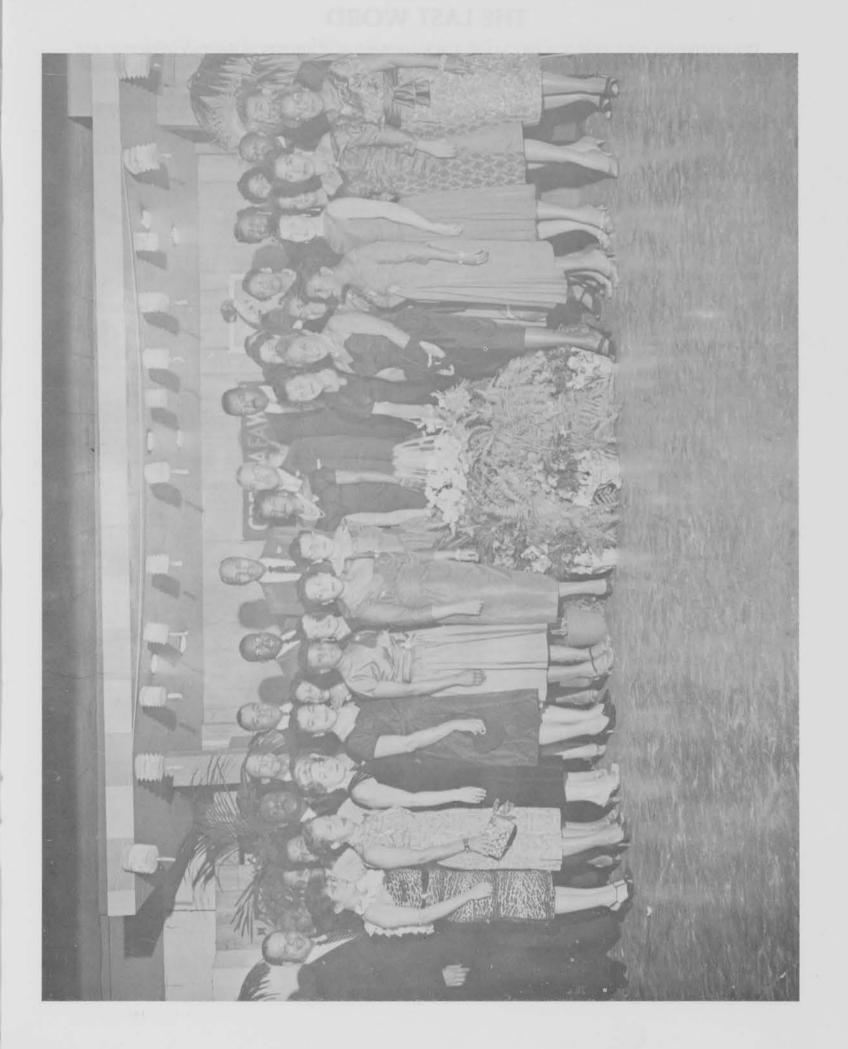
Ruth Gilliam Waddy — It was rumoured she offered her body to the U of M's Anatomy Department and was rejected.

Lucius Hendrix, Our Roving Goodwill Ambassador who we can only catch up with in Jamaica, San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Montego Bay etc. is finally reporting back to home base.

C. Elizabeth Johnson Betty has edited many school newspapers and annuals during her years as a School Librarian. She is a charter member of the club, then an Associate Member and has recently returned to her "old stomping ground" and is now once again an Active Member. We are reminded of the late President Harry S. Truman who, among other things, used to say "The Buck Stops Here." So be it with C. Elizabeth Johnson. We "pass the buck" to her for any mistakes and omissions in editing. However, we will cheerfully accept praise our due.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the Credjafawn Social Club on their Golden Anniversary

The Brooks Funeral Home



THE LAST WORD

This brochure is intended to provide you with a permanent record of this 50th anniversary celebration and the doings of the Credjafawn Social Club up to this point. We got our material from official club records, memories of members, newspaper articles, and pictures hoping that it will entertain as well as inform.

A great many people contributed to this effort — the Club members, the Ways and Means committee and sponsors from Businesses made it possible.

Courtesy acknowledgements are due the following:

John Mitchell
Abraham Weaver
Amos Martin
James Verstraete
Carol Batsell
Twin Cities Courier
Title Insurance Co. of Minn.
Registry Hotel

Edward Stumpf George Keenan Louis Moore Governor Rudy Perpich Mayor George Latimer

Myron Mayfield

Mayor Charles Stenvig
St. Paul Recorder
Minneapolis Spokesman
Annabelle Rideaux
Cameo Social Club
Seegers Dale Street Greenhouse
Olympia Brewing Co.
Jacob Schmidt Brewing Co.
North American Life & Casualty Insurance Co.
Thunderbird Motel
Carl Eller
Robert McElroy
Victor Tedesco

Chamber of Commerce

Special thanks to our own internationally known Baritone James (Big Jim) Murray, for, as Z-A-M would say "we know what."

Beatrice Coleman, general chairperson Paul Wood. co-chairperson Credjafawn 50th Anniversary Committee

Our final word is ENJOY.

Congratulations on
Your Golden Anniversary
In Memory of our Father Ted Steichen, Sr.
Associated Wholesalers
643 University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104

Congratulations on your Golden Anniversary
John's Standard Service Station
740 University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104

"Hail Credjafawns"

By Louise Wood Thomas

O Credjafawns, Dear Credjafawns,

We will always sing Thy praise.

The Emblem of Social Prestige;

We Honor Thy fair name.

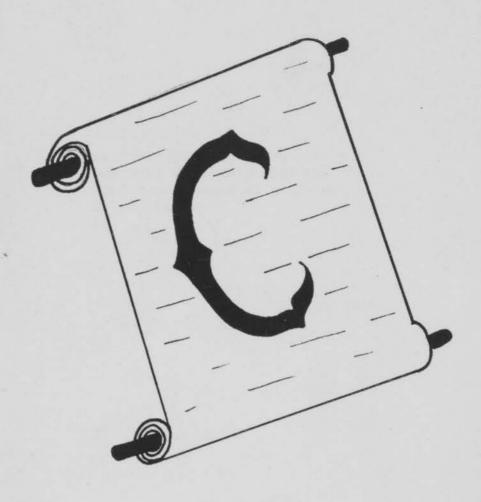
How our hearts are filled with gladness,

As we give Thee our acclaim.

Hail, All Hail! to Thee, Dear Credjafawns,

ACE OF CLUBS!

Club Colors: Pale Yellow and Orchid



Memories gathered by me, for me, and then they are shared and they become memories gathered by us, for us.

Dorothy Payne

ALL MEMBERS LISTED

CREDJAFAWN SOCIAL CLUB ROSTER

Dismon freders

Entry			
Date	Members	Address	Phone #
1927 1927	Cora Belle Banks John L. Banks	1197 Dayton Ave. St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-2566
1965	Theresa Banks	3825-4th Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN. 55409	822-1789
1951	Raymond Bledsoe Teretha Bledsoe	2710 No. Dale Street Roseville, MN. 55113	483-2395
1945 1949	Junauld Braddock Tommie Braddock	2212 Haddington Road Roseville, MN. 55113	631-2032
1975	Mary Clemons	956 Marshall Avenue	644-5276
1930	Patricia Davison	3745-4th Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN. 55409	825-9770
1929	Bernice Duke	1459 Sherburne Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-3935
1934	Nirota Few	841 Carroll Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	222-2983
1938	Lola Finney	813 W. Central Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	226-2361
1976	Dorothy Freeman	830 Carroll Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	226-7912
1942 1927	Rosella Gardner William Gardner	2480 Hazelwood Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55109	777-3604
1945 1945	Helen M. Goins H. Ransom Goins	221 W. Arlington Ave. St. Paul, MN. 55117	489-3535
1975 1975	Edith Greene Ernest Greene	403 W. Arlington Ave. St. Paul, MN. 55117	488-6359

Entry Date	Members	A 2 2	
Dave	Hembers	Address	Phone #
1936	Gertrude Greene	984 Iglehart Avenue	645-6514
1941	Corrine Griffin	796 Concordia Avenue	226-1820
1954	Harriet Hayes	1247 St. Anthony Ave. #2414 St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-0708
	Ruth Harris	3937 Portland Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN. 55407	825-1743
*1927 1927	Fern P. Helm William Helm	4009-5th Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN. 55409	824-8624
1935	Laura Jeffrey	955 Thomas Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	647-0391
*1927	C. Elizabeth Johnson	565 No. Aldine Street St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-8898
1939	Helen Lawrence	947 Iglehart Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-6956
1929	Jane Lee	963 Carroll Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-4347
*1927	Nilee L. Lewis	418 Charles Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55103	225-0736
1944	Estella Luckie	1191 Sherburne Avenue	646-6484
1960	Mary Lee Lynn	964 Iglehart Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-9916
1973	Nancy Mayo	4052 Oakland Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN. 55409	825-0262

Entry Date	Members	Address	Phone #
1953	Dorothy McFarland	996 Iglehart Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-4829
1947	Jack L. Mills	1345 N. Farrington St. G2 St. Paul, MN. 55117	488-5271
1972	Marian Mitchell	215 Oak Grove Apt.#507 Minneapolis, MN. 55403	874-1966
1932 1931	Eugene Moore Frances Moore	970 Marshall Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	646-4317
1946 1947	James T. Murray Lavinia S. Murray	941 Dayton Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	644-9032
1933	Theresa Murray	750 N. Milton, Apt. 110 St. Paul, MN. 55104	5 489 - 4533
1951	Nancy Norman	658 Dayton Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	225-1005
1973	Dorothy Payne	552 Marshall Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55102	291-7277
1978	Ruth Payne	2033 N. Hamline Avenue Roseville, MN. 55113	646-8106
1958 1958	James B. Perry Olinda Perry	175 Valleyside Drive St. Paul, MN. 55119	738-1156
2973	Louise H. Price	1014 Fuller Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-6942
1938	De Vaughnia Simmons	622 Concordia Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	226-6531
1970 1980	John H. Spriggs Pauline Spriggs	1154 Edmund Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-3032
1973	Marjorie W. Smith	767 N. Victoria St.#204 St. Paul, MN. 55104	489-9527

Entry Date	Members	Address	Phone #
1976		784 Laurel Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	226-4800
1949	James L. Taylor	1193 Dayton Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	646-6452
1947	H. Janabelle Taylor	1354 Thomas Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	644-7346
1938	Louise W. Thomas	1061 Fuller Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-8373
1975	Ludie M. Thomas	5353 Matterhorn Circle Fridley, MN. 55421	571-7967
1978 (1941)	Delgracia Turner	788 Concordia Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	222-2049
1953	Zonettie Walton	4000 Oakland Avenue Minneapolis, MN. 55407	827-6524
1941 1941	Martin O. Wed- dington Sallie M. Wed- dington	714 W. Central Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	225-6438
1938 1946	Paul L. Wood Ruby Wood	948 Iglehart Avenue St. Paul, MN. 55104	645-7426
NOTE:		ers (49 Units) tiate Members sed Members from 1979	

July 1981

I felt sincerely honored and privileged when asked by Lawrence Stewart and Paul Woods, Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Credjafawn Social Committee, to reminisce at the 54th Birthday Celebration about an inspiration that developed and built into the classiest, most sophisticated, outstanding institution geared toward an accelerated growth-oriented club in the Twin Cities.

The Cred jafawn Club has triumphed through eleven (11) Presidential Administrations, three (3) Wars, the Great Depression, several recessions, nonetheless, have never cancelled a meeting or Birthday Celebration since its inception on a beautiful star-studded sky evening in October, 1927.

Primed by my quest for legend and lore about the Credjafawns of yesteryear and the present, the pump drips with nostalgia. The well of memory runs deep. Memories have been awakened as if the events had only just taken place. A reservoir of memories - good and happy ones.

We cannot lock the door on memories and throw away the key. Memories sometimes play an insatiable demand upon the heart and brain creating memories long thought buried.

We all wish some to become blurred and amorphous like mist to ease and vanish away. Yet, no matter how sorrowful and painful, they come back to grip our emotions with love and feelings of thankfulness and gratitude. Warmth and depth you never forget. Our dearly beloved Junior and Senior members, now resting in the tender mercy of our Saviour, live indelibly in our minds and hearts; John Lawrence, Lydia Jones, Jimmy Lee, Ralph and Grace Gardner, Percy Greene, Bella Lee Shelton, Carl Griffin, Maceo Finney, Helen Powell Chaney, Josephine Vassar Wade, Walter Goins, Johnny Hauser, Reuben Hargrave, Elmer Graham, Albert Walton, Emma Lou Coleman Lyght, B.F. Henderson, Bussie Brown, et al.

Our lives are so vital that we have to shed a tear, turn a page, and cherish these precious heart rendering moments with fondness and love, the heart remembers. Forgotten memories, nostalgic and poignant, rushed back with force and vivid clarity.

I spun the fortune wheel and it slowly spelled out, Dedication, Motivation, Respect, Memories, and Love, emblematic of a social club that existence spans over half a century.

DEDICATION

To live for the moment is sometimes the prevailing passion. To live for ourselves not for our predecessors or posterity. We fast lose the sense of historical continuity, the belonging to a succession of generations originating in the past and stretching into the future. This, fortunately, for all of us, was not the commitment of the Senior Club Members. Living for the moment is not enough. The past should matter, too, if we can learn from it. The future beckons: What it will become, we make it.

The above was a challenge, but the seniors met it headon. It was dedication, enthusiasm and love that motivated the senior members to structure and cultivate the Junior Credjafawn Club.

John Lawrence and Lydia Jones, charter members of the Senior Club organized the Junior Club in 1931. The club's track record was so impressive that immediately an outstanding waiting list was established of youngsters eager to join. It was like opening a Christmas filled stocking, a token of remembrances to carry my mind back, because the Junior Credjafawn Club was a Teen-agers paradise. Social events, baseball games, pow-wows, sleigh rides, picnics at Minnehaha Falls, Battle Creek, Como and Phalen Parks, Hollow Skating Rink, snow ball romps, etc. A memorable dancing, dress-up party, at the Sterling Club for the Juniors and their friends before we were integrated into the Senior Club in 1938, at the Hallie Q. Brown Community House, domiciled on Aurora Avenue.

Emma Lou Coleman (Lyght) was the first President of the Junior Club. All three mentioned above were elected President of the Senior Club. Until their demise or are now traveling on "An Awfully Big Adventure" remained dedicated, faithful, loyal, integral active participants of the Senior Club.

John Banks brought his beloved little sister, Theresa,

into the Junior Club at a time when she, as others in their growing, formative years.

The seniors gave of their time and labor unselfishly, all voluntarily out of love. It was only unusual people that could have realized our needs, desires and emphathized with our failings. They, themselves, were young adults, all positive thinkers and achievers.

These caring young adults of 1927 and '30s, enhanced the image of the Credjafawns by voluntarily doing what they did best, living beautiful and productive lives. The senior club focused attention on a group of highly intelligent young people, who put their talents together to further themselves and others to demand all of life's riches and rewards. It was this distinctive characteristic that made this club unique. It is a dynamic, active club that continues to grow through the keen interest of its strong membership. The members are complimentary to each other. The members learned the secret of life early, how to endure. How successful could this glorious adventure that was embarked upon with the Juniors and Seniors having so many diverse thoughts, outlooks and opinions, only time would tell, but the keynote that did spell success was absolute togetherness.

I read somewhere about a Ginger Group. We all know ginger is hot. The Seniors were like the Ginger Group, alive, vital and confident. They gingered things up.

They threw out a lot of heat. They not only kept the Juniors on their toes, they kept the Twin Cities heated up with their: New Year's Dances, Formal Parties, Picnics, Pow-wows, Parties for young children of Credjafawn members, Crispus Attucks Home, Hallie Qu. Brown Community House, Parents' Banquets, Baskets for the Needy, active in every community and civic activity in the Twin Cities. National Organizations: Life Memborship NAACP; Urban League: Heart Fund; Cancer Home:

St. Paul Community Chest; et cetera.

Nothing of any notable worthwhile endeavor was left out of the club's itinerary.

MOTIVATION

Motivation is that which induces or determines choices. The Seniors had an inner urge to incite action such as an idea. It was their hope, desire or force which they started an action in an attempt to produce special results. Out of action grew the Junior Credjafawn Club. The Seniors had the understanding to reach out and show that they were generous, tender loving individuals. They were full of excitement, each a special human dynamo. They had faith not only in themselves and the club, but in the Twin Cities' young people. Because the Junior members knew that the seniors had succeeded, they felt that it was inevitable also for the juniors. It was a total commitment. They were there and waiting for us. Things are not too hard to start, keeping them going is, and to succeed is the goal. The seniors knew how to motivate without directly managing. It is the biggest compliment that anyone can get. It says, "I believe in you, you're my future, my hope, my dream. I am going to give you the support to do your best, and I'll back you all the way".

They encouraged input without treating anyone with a heavy hand. One more quality that the seniors had, and it is vital to any success, it was a desire to succeed and see it through.

The seniors invested time and energy in the younger people. Each one of the seniors had a dedicated degree of religious orientation. Different religious denominations, but all were highly religious which contributed to a life style of more forgiving, less petty, patient and positive sincere Christian thinking of charity or love.

My image and the senior that motivated me was Nilee Luckie. I was determined during high school days that some day I, too, would be able to work for Mike Holm, then Secretary of State. When I did succeed, Nilee

was the first person to greet me and make me feel welcome. Nilee was a sterling example throughout the State of Minnesota and the Northwest, not only for blacks, but for whites as well. Nilee was dearly loved and respected by Governors, State Senators, elected officials, administrators, office and other State employees.

The seniors motivated by example. They were the heavyweights of their time, qualified and with all their credentials.

Huron taught the juniors how to correctly handle the books and finances. We all acknowledged Huron's business expertise, consulted his opinion and sought his advice, which he gave freely.

The seniors informed us to set our goals and objectives high as vacant minds guide vacant lives. We were encouraged to become involved, that it was essential to be in touch so as to know what was going on around us, to be informed, to meet the world as a challenge. To use our minds to avoid stagnation, not to become disinterested in this complex universe. Strong values shape higher tendencies in young and tender lives, and this was the drum beat that the seniors marched to.

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RESPECT

The entire Junior Members had awesome respect for Senior Members and the Club. I was reminded the night of my initiation by my mother to wash my shoe laces and polish my shoes. I cannot recall the time that I stopped calling Huron, Mr. Shelton, but I do remember that I was a Senior Club Member when I did.

The Seniors, were young adults dealing with somewhat younger boys and girls. The difference in age span between the Juniors and Seniors was relatively quite minimal.

The Seniors were young college students, undergraduates-graduates, in their very early 20's, and most of all dedicated Christian-thinking idealists, carving our careers. Youngsters, really themselves, attempting courtships and seeking tender loving mates that many have celebrated half a century plus: Bill and Fern Helm; John and Cora Belle Banks. Others totaling well into the 40's: Bernice and Clarence Duke; Pattie and Bert Davison; Lavina and James Murray; Frances and Gene Moore; Dorothy and Billy Payne; Sally and Martin Weddington; Ruby and Paul Woods; Junauld and Tommy Braddock; Rozella and Bill Gardner, and others who have devoted almost a lifetime to wives, husbands and children.

Boys and girls joined the Junior Cred jafawn Club some because of their friends, but mainly because of parental pressure. Parents soon recognized that Twin Cities' top beautiful young persons belonged to the Senior Cred jafawn Club; i.e., Susie Luckie's daughter Nilee; Rosie Lawrence's son John; Mrs. Ford's daughter, Fern; Carrie Johnson's daughter Betty; John Banks, a bright upstanding young man; J.R. Jones' daughter Lydia; Mrs. Mitchell's pretty and talented daughters Pattie and Jane; Mr. & Mrs. Shelton's son Huron; Catherine Cope's daughter Bernice; and the Gardner's on Jay St. son Bill, who could lay claim to being one of the handsomest young men in the Twin Cities; and also residing in a home inhabited by beautiful and lovely sisters.

There were others not mentioned as of the same caliber as the above. Respect and admiration were bountiful and flourished throughout the Twin Cities for these young junior members.

Without hesitation, I would say that every Junior Member excitedly anticipated the time when they, too, would be accepted into the Senior Club.

Being a Junior Member of the Credjafawns was a broadening learning experience.

We were infused with the elated emotion that we were proud to be Junior Credjafawns.

MEMORIES

Memories came flooding back with a vitality and clearness as if it were yesterday. Beyond the horizon are the dreams: Beyond the dreams the reality. Memories don't come in neat packages. They leap back and forth, dart around tugging at your heart strings, and striking wonderful harmonious chords made up of treasured moments of the past.

My mind goes back to probably the most rewarding fulfilling experiences of my life: The Junior Cred jafawn days. Those were golden years. How we laughed and played. It brings back memories that had been delightfully tender. Sometimes you can almost imagine you can hear echoes of more carefree days. I allowed memories to flow back of junior members, of holidays, walks to meetings, long endless talks about life and the world. Sharing humor, and I think back of the fun just to be together. Our lives were like an enormous party, a spontaneous coming together. We were uninhibited, it was a lively and exciting time. Time was like a gift, something to be remembered and cherished. Treasured memories from happy days, school girl and boy days, where our biggest decisions were what movies to see, what clothes to wear, where would our next Junior Club meeting be held, and what Senior Club member would we have to impress, so that we could be the next one on the list to be accepted into the Senior Club.

Time has reduced to a beautiful memory that comes back to haunt at odd times. Memories are intrusive misty recollections that evoke loving bearable moments of the past. Could it have been imagination, but did it ever rain? Did it ever rain! I only seem to remember weeks of sunshine.

Memories sift through the heart and mind as snowy clouds drift and part in the ever changing sky. Memories, magical ones, cheer and recompense one through the years. Memories fade in the far corners of the

heart to be remembered, to sigh, to caress, dream over again and again, especially so in the quiet moments to pull on the heart.

I often have a desire to reach back into the past and make it part of the present. The following bring to mind visions of delightful fun-filled memories of cherished friendships: Fred Schuck, Oliver Lewis, Byron Riffe, Victor Calloway, Eva Lee, Charlottine Moore, Cornelia (Sis) Moore, Puddie Lee, Rosamond Collier, Bert Shannon, Arthur Williams, Dorothea Harris, Catherine Harris, Adelaide Sykes, Kittie Vassar, Al Harris, Emma Lou Coleman, Dell Graham, Theresa Banks, Delgracia Wright, Virginia Hedge, Babe Mitchell, Marcella Copeland, Norma Stokes, Rozella Ellis, Claude Mason, Andy Neal, Ruth Oden, Bella Lee, Althea Douglas, Paul Oden, and Lola Vassar.

We all have a yearning to call back yesterday.

Those mentioned and others, some gone on, but have left behind in the footmarks of time, children and grandchildren, who have gained high intellectual status as: Doctors, lawyers, computer and programmer analysts, teachers, educators, consultants, officials in law and order departments, some in every facet of top government echelon, political science, librarians, nurses, city and state officials of high caliber, successful businessmen and women, and brilliant executive administrators. Involved citizens that any society, black or otherwise, can undoubtedly be proud.

REFLECTIONS

John Lawrence: Mr. Cred jafawn, as he was fondly called by all his peers and associates of the Cred jafawn Club. John was elected President of the club fourteen (14) times, and, if he were still among us, would with no uncertainty hold this distinguished office many, many more times. He was also elected or appointed to other offices and committees, both in the club and the Credit Union.

John was one of the ten charter members of the Credjafawn Club; organizer of the Junior Credjafawn Club; Board Member of the CCU; Director and avid supporter of the Co-op Store, #3, on Rondo and St. Albans Street.

Memory of John comes back faster and hits more devastating than a tidal wave. He was a man who walked with his eyes uncovered and ears open. I loved and respected John all his life, and was deeply grieved when I learned of his passing. He was a beautiful magnanimous individual. Capable of mesmerizing anyone who happened to be in his cordial presence.

Fond memories of sitting behind his mother's coal stove with my sister, Ceil, and being allowed to look at his beautifully kept books, but only after we had washed our hands. John was then a student at the University of Minnesota. He was a brilliant and articulate spokes—man.

The night of my initiation into the Junior Credjafawn Club, John informed the Junior Credjafawns that since I had on the club's colors (purple and yellow) that I was to be spared some of the fun antics. John nurtured and encouraged the Juniors in all phases of becoming good and faithful Credjafawns, he also was a tremendous help to me in the affairs of the Credit Union when later I was Secretary under Huron.

John was a decided influencing factor in engineering,

shaping and guiding the Credjafawns through a criterion of high dedicated standards all for the betterment and advancement of the Junior and Senior Clubs, and the Credit Union. His keen and witty mind will be a remembrence of John, the club will not easily forget, and many of us sill not want to.

John achieved the highest acclaim the Credjafawns have ever given to any member, and it was rightly deserved. The Senior and Junior Credjafawn members, community churches, fraternity, Masonic and Eastern Star Organizations respected John. Admiration grew deeper and stronger as they became more closely associated with this cordial and peaceful man, and understood the compassion and love he had for all his fellow men.

John had a cynamatic strong impressive character, but it was his forceful charismatic inner man's soul that made his presence alive and contributed to feed his powers of fascination and evoked his magnatism.

John, in himself, was an institution, loved life and all aspects of its involvement. Being associated with John was one of the joys of the many that John's life touched. His mind revolved around a wealth of literary, artistic and humorous stories which he loved to enthrall his ever captivated audience. His vivid personality was intermingled with gentleness, tenderness, and above all he valued friends.

John gave the Juniors a pep talk, and informed the club that no matter what office we were nominated to from President down to being asked to serve on a committee, was an honor. He told us to never forget this, and to also apply this policy to other aspects of our lives. I like to think that I, as others, have not always applied this, but with John's dynamic personality, to some of us, he created a lasting impression. He was a splendid teammate and enjoyed excellent rapport with all the boys and girls of the Junior Club.

I met John when I was visiting in St. Paul after being out of the city for some years, and was not then a Cred-

jafawn. John insisted that I write to the club from Los Angeles and ask to be reinstated, which I did. I had always been a Credjafawn in my heart, and no matter where you reside you cannot deny the dictates of your heart.

John was a giant of a man, not only in statute, but entrenched in the enrichment of every facet that his life touched. The Credjafawn Club and the Credjafawn Union were profoundly proud of this superb man, his deeds were many.

John served faithfully in his church until his demise; Chairman of the Trustee Board; Chairman of the Auditing Committee; and President of the BYPU of Pilgrim Baptist Church for many years.

John was an Active 33rd Degree Mason; Sovereign Grand Inspector General of United Supreme Council; Past Illustrious Potentate Fezzan Temple #26; Past Master Perfect Ashlar Lodge; Past Grand Master of Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction; Past Grand Patron, Prince Hall Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, Minnesota and its Jurisdiction, and Past Patron St. Paul Chapter #1, et cetera. John was Organizer of the Twin City Assembly of the Golden Circle.

John was a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for many, many years. He bought extensive honors to any organization fortunate enough to number John's name among its roster.

John's accomplishments are evidenced in the accolades, trophies and awards accorded him by clubs, organizations and churches throughout his dedicated involved life.

We, who loved John, will always cherish and look back with fondness of a man whose dream was of total harmony. He tried to understand other views and ideas and was cognizant of them, even though he was diametrically opposed. He was always the diplomat, suave and sure

of himself. A romantic and an idealist, prudent, expedient, demanding and ambitious. All Junior and Senior members had absolute faith that this stalwart figure was always available and did not lightly dismiss the suggestions and recommendations of others. No one could be more fun, no one more appealing.

John's personality was made up of a creative man, impulses of bravado, gentleness and vulnerability, intermingled with his vivid fascinating magnetic presence. John wanted to get things done, often impatient and combative. He felt simply and cared deeply, had very intense emotions. John was also a perfectionist.

One can be caught up in the vortex of remembrances, and so strongly feel his magnetism in the spell of the past, and dream on and on, because first and lastly, John was a Humanitarian and a Gentleman.

LOVE

Love is the last ingredient that I put into the pot with Dedication, Motivation, Respect, and Memories. OH! what a glorious mixture. A labor of love. I left love for last because really at heart I am an incurable romantic, but then, too, the Seniors also believe in hope, faith and love, so they, too, are a romantic.

Love has a purpose, it is a total sharing thing. Love is the thing that makes you feel that "NOW" now is the best time of the year.

We definitely had a love song going with the Seniors. The Juniors knew the Senior Club members as knowledge-able, sophisticated live wires. They set the tone as we followed diligently. We were not told, conjoled, taught or preached, only encouraged and indulged to bring our iedeas to the forefront to be explored.

The two clubs were inextricably interwoven with an i-mage of love, caring and sharing. "LOVE" love is the highest degree of tolerance one person may have for another. True love never changes.

Humans need love the way they need oxygen. A prescription for happiness should be love. Most of us long to be liked or loved, and to each individual this means something different, security, companionship instead of loneliness, understanding, a hand to hold in sunshine or sorrow.

Love is like elastic. Divide it and it multiplies. The more you stretch love the further it goes. I compare the club and members to ivy: You Cling!

REFLECTION

I SIT IN THE LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN AND I WISH THE HOURS JUST PASSED WERE UNDONE. THAT ACTIONS AND THOUGHTS OF THE WANING DAY WERE COMPLETELY ERASED TO FADE AWAY..

IF I COULD RELIVE THIS TIME ONCE MORE SO THAT WHAT HAD BEEN WRONG COULD BE DONE O'ER, IMPATIENT WORDS WOULD BE LEFT BEHIND, FOR GOD, YOU KNOW HOW I WANT TO BE KIND.

I DON'T WANT TO LASH OUT IN ANGER AND SCORN,

I WANT DAY'S END AS UNMARRED AS THE MORN.

I WANT NO REGRETS TO BURDEN MY NIGHT,

I WANT TO BE PERFECT, OH LORD, IN THY SIGHT.

SO THIS IS MY VOW, DEAR GOD, TODAY TOMORROW, I WILL REMEMBER THY WAY.
NO HARSH WORD WILL BE SPOKEN BY ME,
I WILL BLESS ALL I THINK OF - ALL THAT I SEE.

I WILL PASS ON THY LOVE WHICH IS ALWAYS MINE.
IN GIVING FREELY, I'LL HAVE MORE OF THINE.
AND THEN IN THE LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN
I WILL FEEL THE PEACE OF THE DAY NOW DONE.

helen m goins