

NEARLY FOUR YEARS AGO, The Dukes of Dixieland were flown in to Washington, D.C. for the purpose of playing at the annual Mardi Gras Ball. Lyndon B. Johnson, then Vice President, and his Ladybird were the guests of honor and one of their daughter-birds was the Mardi Gras Ball Queen.

Your bearded buddy was there for the Assunto family, with whom we have been associated in various nefarious interests since 1949. something of a record for longevity in the entertainment industry.

We met first in their native New Orleans during late 1948. Frank, leader, trumpet and vocalist, moved here in 1956 as did his brothertrombonist, Fred, and their dad, known in the trade as Papa Jac. Dad doubles trombone and

Mom and Dad have their home on Beverly Way around the corner from Hank Henry while Frank and Fred and their families are over in the McNeil tract. Frank and Joan have four youngsters while Freddie and Betty, once the Duchess and now retired, have two and eight-ninths children. There are two other Assunto children, daughters, living in California.

The Johnsons and the Assuntos have been exchanging Christmas cards ever since their meeting at the Mardi Gras Ball. Recently, old JPD had a call from the White House asking if the Dukes were available to accompany Ladybird on her whistle stop tour through the South. We couldn't make it but we did the next best thing and made a special tape recording which will be used throughout the tour.

THE DUKES OPENED HERE in Vegas last Monday at the Showboat for four weeks and are normally off on Sunday nights. However, thanks to the cooperation of the Musicians Union and the Showboat management, the Dukes changed their day off for the first week only in order to fly to New Orleans tomorrow morning (Oct. 9) to escort the First Lady to the Municipal Audi-torium where they will participate with the President and Mrs. Johnson in a gigantic rally.

Early Saturday they fly to St. Louis for a Young Democrats Barbecue then continue on to Las Vegas in time for their first Showboat show at 9:30 Saturday night! Sunday, the 11th, they fly to Denver for a special concert, co-starring with Peter, Paul and Mary; again returning in time for their first Sunday night set at the Showboat.

The following weekend they are scheduled to cover Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle within a forty-eight hour span. On Oct. 25, they rejoin the Johnsons in Phoenix for the afternoon and we hope to bring everyone

Fraternity Gets Charter



KAPPA CHARTER PRESENTED-Kermit R. Booker (left), Polemarch of new Las Vegas alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, receives chapter charter from Robert F. Green (right), Los Angeles, Western Provincial Polemarch, as Joe Haynes, Keeper of Records and Exchequer of local chapter, looks on. Other officers of local branch of national Negro Greekletter society who participated in ceremony included Herbert Freeman, Herschel Williams, William H. Smith, Jr., and David Hoggard, Jr.

back to Vegas for a big bash at the Convention

Center that evening.

Needless to add, we are all working Democrats. If you have a chance, drop by the Show-boat and see the Dukes (and your bearded buddy) during these next few weeks. We will be glad you did (and you will, too.) More anon . .

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