

WHO'S WHO and doing what

By EDDYE K. KIM

Eve Lynn is the pen name of Mrs. Hobson Reynolds, wife of "The Grand" (Grand Exalted Ruler of the Independent Benevolent Order of the Elks of the World). Mrs. Reynolds, a noted newspaper woman and a published poet, graciously consented to write a guest column for the VOICE with only one qualification that it be headed as follows: (We're delighted to oblige)

EVE LYNN -- Guest Columnist Goes Mad For Vegas. . . .

This day, I pick up my golden pen and dare to dash off a column for our beloved friends' paper, the Las Vegas VOICE, a really up and moving newspaper. Everyone in this swinging town should be on the ball and help Dr. Charles West keep this well staffed, exciting paper in the limelight. Send in your stories and your ads about your business, and MOST OF ALL, read the VOICE and talk about it; AND support your own political candidates who come out for offices.

You have a marvelous mayor, Oran Gragson, who presented the key to the city to the Grand Exalted Ruler, Hobson R. Reynolds, at the airport when we arrived on Monday. The Daughters and Brothers met us at the airport and escorted us to our beautiful suite at the Sands Hotel. Daughter Myrtle Banks, local Elks Daughter Ruler presented a huge bunch of American Beauty roses to your Grand Organizer and made her glow.

No kidding, I went mad for Vegas--first of all the climate is invigorating, the people have an easy-going charm, the gambling overwhelms one, the beauty of the hotels, the glamour of the nite spots, the free and easy living, the lights that dazzle until I have to close my eyes then open them again to look at all the grandeur.

Talk about a swinging town--this Las Vegas is it. The brilliant night lights almost outshine the desert's magnificent sun. It is a glorious vast land. God's gift to mankind to build upon--to till--to plant upon--to make more beautiful every day.

We are staying at the fabulous "Sands" and this is THE hotel with the mostest on the famous Strip. Spacious, attractive--with a casino that jumps every minute AND the world renowned Copa Room. Just our marvelous luck to hit town when the Divine Sinatra was singing here--and how he reigns in Vegas--and how he swings in his favorite setting--the Sands!!

IT WAS NEARLY 15 years ago when integration was not as popular as it is today that in Philadelphia's Fellowship House, then located on Brown street (near Broad) that Marjorie Penny featured one of the most impressionable meetings to help put this better relations program on the road.

Frank Sinatra spoke that day on the program with me and it was the kind of program that got this great move toward integration begun.

Frank Sinatra is still doing an unforgettable, dynamic job as he stands superbly in front of an audience and gives of himself every moment. The musical director of his presentation is Quincey Jones, a dazzling, brilliant young sepia fellow who swings every moment. And that inimitable Count Basie whose band grows smoother with the years. Basie appears often with Sinatra and the rapport between these two classy artists makes magic for their enthralled audiences. It is obvious that their on-stage performances and off-stage hours of recreation together have cemented a real fine comradeship and sportsmanship between the two.

Of course the entire world's TV audience knows of the warm friendship that exists between Frank and Sammy Davis, Jr., and the doors that Sinatra has opened for Negro artists is adequate proof that Sinatra doesn't talk integration--He integrates.

THERE IS SOMETHING about this desert air that gets deep under your skin--and once it gets you, you are really "in". And we shall return--"The Grand", Hobson R. Reynolds and your news gal, Eve Lynn are happy to be on the scene here. It has been stimulating and refreshing. We found that our good Elks here, the Brothers in Paran Lodge #1508 led by Bro. Willie Neal, Exalted Ruler, and the Daughters headed by Dtr. Myrtle Banks of Alpha Temple needed

that touch from "The Grand" to set them aglow --And he put it on them.

Brother Julian Black, a good Elk from Chicago, referred us to Bro. Jimmy Gay here at the Sands who made all our fine (and hard to come by, I understand) reservations and planned such a beautiful itinerary for us.

It is with a new spirit of love and dedication that these Brothers and Daughters step out in a new vein to serve with more interest and love. When "The Grand" and your Grand Organizer had finished speaking at the meeting here on Wednesday night, Brother Clarence Dykes, one of the hard-working, gentle and rather quiet Brother, came up and kissed me tenderly on my cheek and squeezed my hand without a word being spoken. It was such a moving sweet gesture. Bro. Dykes was filled up to his heart and this was his way of saying "Thank you" to the Grand Exalted Ruler and me.

I cherished his kiss. If this is indication of the faith and belief the Brothers and Daughters have in us, believe me we shall endeavor to lead you in the paths of righteousness with the Divine Power as our guide. This may seem a simple or small thing, but to us it was so great--so gratifying and fulfilling. I shall always remember Bro. Dykes. I shall write to him when we get back home in Philadelphia.

WE SHALL HAVE to tell the story of appreciation of our efforts all over the Jurisdiction; it was so deeply moving. Elksdom has to rise high, and it will under the consecrated leadership of Hobson R. Reynolds who loves this Order and lives it fully every day.

Dtr. Myrtle Banks and her Noble Daughters told us all about "A Night at the Mardi Gras" to be held at the Elks Home here on February 19. There will be sweet dreamy music and happy gals and boys in costume to make merry and swing--So sorry we cannot stay for the occasion.

NOW A WORD ABOUT our life-long friend, Dr. Charles "Buck" West and his dazzling spouse, Dottie, who is a real partner in his full and expressive life. He is Las Vegas' "Golden Boy" and everyone looks up to him for he has a dream and a hope for his people, and only seeks to bring forth the best for them in every possible walk of life.

Dr. West is a talented physician, a leader of men, and a gentleman who knows how to play when his long work day is over. Charles is a lover of water--he is a dedicated fisherman, and a real human being. He and his sons, Johnny and Rocci know how to pal together.

The ranch house in which the Wests live is, in truth, a dream house with large spacious rooms, a fireplace, a patio opening out on a beautiful pool and rooms for fun, for relaxation and for sleeping--it is just a home with every corner created to match a wonderful pair.

In Philadelphia where the Grand Exalted Ruler and I live, and where the Grand Lodge Offices are located, we are so close to Charlotte Strickland, Buck's attractive sister who looks like him so very much. She is brilliant, dashing, and brown with a headful of gorgeous silver locks. Her husband, Dr. Wilbur Strickland is the Grand Director of the Medical Department of the I.B.P.O.E., of W. and is doing a terrific job.

We had breakfast with Dr. Roy Walker De Hay and his "Becky" and it was a delectable meal in their lovely home--long to be remembered. . . Jimmy Gay is the Public Relations man in this Vegas--he moves like a whirlwind through the crowd and everyone looks for his guidance whether in town or on the Strip.

This is a fantastic, colorful, swinging town with every possible type of gambling to satisfy the masses and the classes who come from all over the country to try their luck at Roulette, at Keno, at Blackjack or the slot machines. It is like a world of make believe--a yearning--a hope for everyone that perhaps the next number up is his.

In the wee hours of the morning, the wheels are turning, the dice are rolling, and the cards are flipping while the one armed bandits are continuing their drive for more action. And the crowds of folk never tire of the radiance and excitement which prevails.

WE SHALL LEAVE Las Vegas, but a little bit of our hearts shall linger with you for time to come--Dottie West is a sparkle from the word go, and is the perfect wife for Dr. Charles West--A beautiful hostess, a smiling gal, she fills her role with grace. She walks like a princess, loves people, and scintillates whether she is mixing a cocktail, or receiving in the Doctor's office--Dottie can twist and laugh and give of her fine personality.

Speaker At NAACP Feb. 20 Program



The Education Committee of the local NAACP announced this week that Miss June Shagaloff will be the principal speaker at the Organization's Sunday, February 20 meeting at the Kit Carson Elementary school at 3 p.m.

A special program is scheduled commemorating Negro History Week (February 13-19). The public is urged to take advantage of the opportunity to hear this dynamic, dedicated National NAACP staff member.

Miss June Shagaloff was appointed Special Assistant for Education of the National NAACP in the fall of 1961 following ten years, from 1951 to 1961, as Field Secretary and, subsequently, Social Science Coordinator, of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

Miss Shagaloff directs the NAACP public school desegregation drive in the North and West. She has worked extensively in communities in New York State, New Jersey, The Midwest, and on the West Coast.

In the South, she has assisted public school desegregation in Atlanta, Nashville, Missouri, Delaware and Virginia.

Miss Shagaloff has prepared social science and other non-legal materials



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