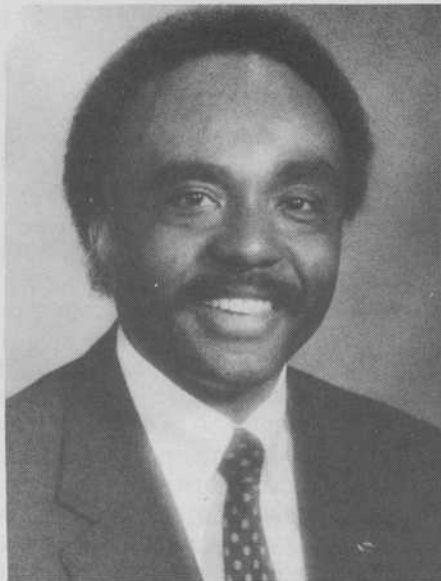


# Monitor Manuscripts

## Our Memories Our Way



Clifton L. Taulbert

*Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored* (Tulsa, Oklahoma: Council Oak Books, 1989, \$16.95) has been acclaimed by the *New York Times*, used as a theme by nationally known columnist, William Raspberry, and reviewed by nearly every major newspaper in America. This book of memories of southern life before so-called integration was eloquently penned by internationally recognized author, Clifton Lemoure Taulbert.

Taulbert was a recent talk show guest on Washington, D.C. radio station WYCB, hosted by Dr. Calvin W. Rolark, chairman of the AOIP Cooperating Newspapers, president and founder of the United Black Fund of America and publisher of the *Washington Informer*. According to Dr. Rolark, "Taulbert takes us back to our yesterday and reminds us of our strength, the resiliency of our families and our ability to live beyond our wall of segregation. From the sanctuary of the Colored church, the blues of Muddy Waters, the joy of hog killing day, to the magic of the one room schoolhouse, Taulbert's book is delighting readers across the country as well as his home state of Mississippi."

*Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored* is set in a small mid-Delta

Mississippi town called Glen Allan during the 1950s. This loving memoir depicts a world which vanished in the wake of "integration," the world of "colored town." Behind the painful and sometimes humiliating barriers of racial segregation there existed a totally Black milieu in which the people nurtured and protected each other and enjoyed life together.

The author writes, "I didn't want to forget where I came from or for my children never to know the world that gave them their father and their mother. I wanted to write a book that told about our lives inside the cotton fields, that told about our way of having church and the Sister Workers Annual Day, that told about the fish fries where we swayed to the strains of 'I worked all week long, now it's Saturday, let's have some fun,' as Muddy Waters sang away our blues."

*Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored* is captivating, invigorating and very informative for Black Americans too young to remember and White Americans who didn't know. According to reports, Taulbert is the first African American writer since 1938 to do a major work recalling the Mississippi Delta. Universities in New York, libraries in Chicago and adult learning centers in Oklahoma are part of a completely new audience being informed of this Black milieu in which people nurtured and protected each other while enjoying life together.

Representatives of the Ghandi Foundation and the United States Government recently presented autographed copies of Taulbert's book to both White and Black leaders of South Africa including copies to Nelson Mandela and his family.

Published by Council Oak Books of Tulsa, Oklahoma *Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored* is in its 4th printing and destined to be a national best seller. Taulbert has been featured on CNN, Black Entertainment Television, regional television and radio shows throughout the country. In June,

## WHAT IS HAPPENING NATIONALLY

(Continued from Page 4)

founded in 1922. Since its inception, this nonprofit collegiate sorority has grown to 350+ chapters across the U.S. and abroad.

We will hold our 43rd Boule July 15-19, 1990 in Chicago, Illinois. For more information, contact our National Headquarters at 312-873-9000.

### Top Ladies of Distinction

We are an international, community-conscious, service-oriented organization with over 4000 ladies and 100 chapters, providing cultural programs, service projects and scholarships. Top Teen chapters are involved in the AOIP through adult, peer and cross-age tutoring through all of the local chapters. Our program thrust also includes enriching the lives of senior citizens, enhancing the status of women and community beautification. For more information, contact Dorothy Chimney, national 2nd vice president, 409-632-4382.

### United Black Fund of America

This is a nonprofit grant-making institution, giving general, programmatic and emergency funding to community-based organizations. This organization presently supports about 66 member agencies and yearly assists 100 non-member agencies on an emergency basis. It is focused on the idea that the monumental effort of assisting those less fortunate or less informed is made easier when groups, businesses and individuals work together to maintain valuable community service programs. For more information, contact 202-783-9300.

### Youth Organizations USA (YOUUSA)

A comprehensive Black College Guide is being compiled to assist African-American high school and college students with pertinent data, including financial aid information. Organizations who provide scholarships, grants or loan assistance to eligible students are encouraged to submit a brief synopsis of their offerings to Youth Organizations USA (YOUUSA), 19 Humphrey Street, Englewood, N.J. 07631. Additionally, YOUUSA maintains a complete library of Black college catalogs at their Englewood location. For information, call (201) 894-1866.

### Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

Current Zeta projects include Project Hunger, relief for Ethiopian and other famine victims; Stork's Nest, services, including transportation, clothing and legal consultation for mothers-to-be at area clinics; National Education Foundation, annual scholarships for students and support for the United Negro College Fund and Media Watch, the monitoring of bias in news reporting on issues affecting minorities. We are also deeply committed to the national Assault On Illiteracy Program (AOIP). Information contact: 202-387-3103.

Clifton Taulbert will be one of the featured speakers at the American Bookseller Association convention in Las Vegas along with Angela Lansbury and Donald Trump. The cover of *Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored*, which was designed by Karen Slankard, has been chosen by the American Library Association for one of its national literacy posters.

Clifton Taulbert is the president of Freemount Corporation, a marketing

The following national community-building organizations are entitled to listings. However, we are awaiting information from them.

Academy of Human Rights and Peace  
A.E.A.O.N. Mystic Shrine (Shriners)  
American Health & Beauty Aids Institute  
American League of Financial Institutions  
American Women's Clergy  
Association for the Study of Afro-American Life & History  
Association of Black Sociologists  
Association of Corporate Professionals  
Auxiliary to the National Medical Association  
Booker T. Washington Foundation  
Chi Eta Phi Sorority  
Congress of National Black Churches  
Council of Construction Professionals  
Council of National Alumni Associations  
Delta Research and Education Foundation  
Drifters  
Eta Phi Beta Sorority  
Federation of Masons of the World  
Gamma Phi Delta Sorority  
Gospel Music Workshop of America  
I.B.P.O. Elks of the World  
Iota Phi Lambda Sorority  
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity  
Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority  
National Association for the Southern Poor  
National Association of Black Airline Employees  
National Assn. of Black Reading & Language Educators  
National Association of Black Social Workers  
National Association of Market Developers (NAMD)  
National Association of Negro Musicians  
National Baptist Convention U.S.A.  
National Black Caucus of State Legislators  
National Black Chamber of Commerce  
National Black Leadership Roundtable  
National Black MBA Association  
National Black Nurses Association, Inc.  
National Black Police Association  
National Black Republican Council  
National Business League  
National Committee of Black Churchmen  
National Council for Black Family and Child Development  
National Council for Black Studies  
National Dental Association  
National Naval Officers Association  
National Student Business League  
National United Affiliated Beverage Association  
OIC Centers of America  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Operation PUSH  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference  
United Black Church Appeal  
Women's Missionary Society/AME Church

and consulting firm, as well as a partner in Fine Airport Parking, Inc., a multi-million dollar company. He served in the 89th Presidential Wing of the U.S. Air Force in Washington, D.C. He received a B.A. in sociology and history from Oral Roberts University. He is also a graduate of the Southern Methodist University Graduate School of Banking. He is active in both civic and business organizations.