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NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 1993

WE REALLY HAD A SWELL TIME AT OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS-NEW YEARS PARTY AT THE FRATERNITY HOUSE. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING WAS THE PRESENTATION OF A BEAUTIFUL PLAQUE TO OUR PAST PRESIDENT, TERRELL A. ALLEN FOR HIS MANY, MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CHAPTER # 90 AND GIFT OF A LOVELY PLANT TO HIS LOVELY WIFE GENE. THE EVENING WAS FULL OF GOOD MUSIC PROVIDED BY JACK TOWERS. WE HAD PLENTY OF FOOD, FUN, FRIVOLITY, FRATERNITY, FELLOWSHIP AND FELICITATIONS. THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED AND SPECIAL KUDOS TO HELEN FRAZIER AND MARION SHELL FOR THEIR EFFORTS.

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ONE OF THE ENCLOSURES YOU WILL FIND- A QUESTIONNAIRE PROVIDED US BY OUR SECRETARY ANGELA GRIMMER. WE ARE ASKING YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN ANSWERING IT AND TURNING IT IN. BRING THEM TO THE MEETING OR SEND TO HER AT 213 8TH STREET S.E. WASH., D.C. 20003. ADD WHATEVER YOU DEEM IMPORTANT TO HELP US IMPROVE THE ORGANIZATION.

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ANOTHER ENCLOSURE - AN APPLICATION FOR RESERVATIONS TO THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DUKE ELLINGTON CONFERENCE. REGISTER EARLY TO ASSURE A PLACE FOR YOURSELVES. EARLY REGISTRATION SAVES A FEW PENNIES ALSO.

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OUR NEXT MEETING HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GOOD ATTENDANCE. AS YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD, IT WILL BE AN ALL VIDEO PROGRAM CULLED FROM THE VAULTS OF YOURS TRULY AND OUR EXCELLENT HOST DR. CHARLES N. BLAND A LOCAL PEDIATRICIAN AND GOOD FRIEND OF MINE AND TERREL'S. HE AND HIS GRACIOUS WIFE ERLINA HAVE GRATEFULLY OPEN'DTHEIR BEAUTIFUL HOME TO US FOR THE OCCASION. HE IS AN ARDENT JAZZ FAN AND AN AVID JAZZ COLLECTOR. THE PROGRAM WILL BE TAKEN FROM VIDEO DISCS WHICH HAVE A SUPERIOR FIDELITY TO VIDEO TAPES. THE ADDRESS AGAIN IS 1711 KALMIA ROAD N.W. REMEMBER 8:30. THERE WILL BE ABOUT 2½ HOURS OF MUSIC SO BE ON TIME TO HEAR AND SEE IT ALL.

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AT OUR MARCH MEETING WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER MEMBER-PRESENTATION WHICH WAS STARTED LAST YEAR. EACH MEMBER IS REQUESTED TO PLAY HIS OR HER FAVORITE ELLINGTON FROM COMPACT DISC, (CD) WITH A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PRESENTATION IN ALL NOT TO EXCEED SIX MINUTES, JACK TOWERS WILL PLAY YOUR SELECTIONS. ALSO - A SHORT MEETING WE WILL DISCUSS THE NEW CONSTITUTION AS WRITTEN BY OUR VICE-PREXY DR. THEODORE "TED" HUDSON. HE HAS SPENT A LOT OF HIS VALUABLE TIME IN THIS EFFORT AND WE HOPE TO HAVE YOUR INPUT IN ITS FORMATION AND FINAL ACCEPTANCE. BE SURE TO GET A COPY AT THE MEETING AT THE BLAND'S SO YOU WILL BE KNOW-

LEDGABLE ABOUT ITS CONTENTS.

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WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER FOR THE APRIL MEETING AS OUR PRESENTER. WE ARE HOPING TO ENTICE SOME NEW TALENT. OF COURSE WE CAN ALWAYS FALL BACK ON JACK TOWERS FOR A MOST INTERESTING AND ENJOYABLE EVENING BUT HE WOULD GLADLY HEAR FROM SOMEONE ELSE. HOW ABOUT IT? OUR MAY MEETING IS TO BE COVERED BY OUR NEW MEMBER FROM SCANDINAVIA. HE IS MR. WALTER VAN LEHR. HE IS STUDYING ELLINGTONIA AT THE SMITHSONIAN AS A GRADUATE FELLOW FROM DENMARK. I AM SURE WE ARE IN STORE FOR SOME NEW ELLINGTON REVELATIONS FROM THE VAST STORE OF ELLINGTONIA AT HIS DISPOSAL. WE WANT A GOOD (MEANING LARGE) AUDIENCE FOR OUR VISITOR-MEMBER.

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WE LOST ANOTHER JAZZ GIANT IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS, THE GREAT JOHN BIRKS "DIZZY GILLESPIE. DIZZY HAS RECORDED MANY TIMES WITH THE DUKE AND THEIR MUTUAL ADMIRATION FOR EACH OTHER WAS LEGENDARY. ONE OF MY C.D. PRESENTATIONS IS PREEMPTED/DIZZY PLAYING WITH THE DUKE AS A SPECIAL GUEST WITH ELLA FITZGERALD 11/4/64 IN NYC. THE WORLD WILL MISS HIM.

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AS YOU MAY KNOW, OUR DUES ARE NOW \$35.00 FOR A SINGLE, AND \$50.00 FOR A COUPLE. THIS BARGAIN WAS MEANT TO ATTRACT MARRIED MEMBERS. WE ARE QUITE SERIOUS ABOUT ATTRACTING NEW MEMBERS AS WELL AS REQUIRING OLD MEMBERS TO REMAIN FINANCIAL. YOU KNOW WHETHER YOU ARE FINANCIAL, THE PREXY KNOWS, THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER KNOW. IN CASE YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW, A RED STAR WILL APPEAR AFTER YOUR NAME ON THE ADDRESS LABEL AFTER YOUR NAME IF YOU ARE NOT. WE WILL NOT BE SENDING YOU A NEWSLETTER AFTER APRIL IF WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM YOU.

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IT IS NOT ALTOGETHER TOO EARLY TO BE CONSIDERING OUR ANNUAL JAUNT TO THE SUMMER HOME OF THE SHELLS. THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS HAS NOT HAD MANY OF US DUE TO A COUPLE OF THINGS: ONE IS THAT WE WAITED TOO LATE FOR THE PLANNING, AND THE SECOND I THINK IS THAT WE HAVE PLANNED IT ON A HOLIDAY WEEK-END. LET'S THINK ABOUT A NON-HOLIDAY WEEKEND AND GET STARTED EARLIER THAN USUAL. REMEMBER WE HAD GOOD TIMES LOLLING, EATING, SWIMMING, WATER-SKIING, LIST'NING TO GOOD MUSIC, AND A FEW MADE A WEEKEND OF IT BY STAYING OVERNIGHT AT A LOCAL MOTEL.

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WHAT ABOUT HAVING AN OFFICIAL JOURNAL OR NEWSLETTER. WITH ALL OF OUR TALENT, IT MAY NOT BE A BAD IDEA. THE NEW YORK CHAPTER HAS A VIABLE ONE. !!!! SEE YOU AT 1711 KALMIA ROAD N.W. ON THE FIRST SATURDAY IN FEBRUARY.