

Organization for Black Struggle

NEWSLETTER

"BLACK PEOPLE ON THE MOVE!"

DECEMBER 1981

OBS is a Black grassroots mass organization that was formed in Jan. 1980. It was formed because Black folks here in St. Louis stood up and said WE FIRED UP AND AINT TAKIN NO MORE. OBS is Black people on the move. Within the ranks of OBS are workers (employed and unemployed), students, activists (old and new) and everyday Black folks who are committed to FREEDOM, JUSTICE & EQUALITY for Afro Americans.

OBS stands in militant and active opposition to all forms of racist oppression and exploitation of the Black community. We believe that Black people must have SELF DETERMINATION, SELF RESPECT & SELF DEFENSE to be truly free. We believe that direct and militant action, using whatever means necessary is the road we must take against our racist enemies and for our freedom. We also believe that the unity of Black people is key to victory in the 80s. A broad based Black united front is necessary to make Black unity concrete and real. Such a front will provide our people with the kind of weapon and vehicle we need to wage struggle at the highest level--and WIN.

Freedom Session

Monthly Freedom Session will be held Sunday, December 13 at 3 pm at 1401 Rowan. This one promises to inspire and fire you up. There will be two special guest speakers. Clarine Royston of ACORN will share with us her recent experiences in the struggle for homesteading in St. Louis. Johari Endesha, lead vocalist for Infra Red Funk Band, will tell us what Diana Ross' multimillion dollar contract with CBS and superstar status means for Black people. Don't miss this session! Don't be on the Bijou (late). The Black community is welcome to attend.

The January Freedom Session will focus on Dr. Martin Luther King in preparation for the January 15 commemoration activities. Special guest will be Steve Boyd, who does an impressive rendition of King's speeches. There will also be a short film on King's life and work.

Recently, OBS was called to action by Fannie McAllister, whose son, Maurice, is being railroaded on two separate charges of assault on a guard. OBS accompanied Mrs. McAllister to the arraignment in Huntsville, Mo. on Wednesday, Dec. 2. Presently, Maurice is under psychiatric examination at Fulton State Hospital. Maurice became "instantly insane" in between visits from his mother. Whatever prison authorities did caused Maurice not to recognize his family, be incoherent in his speech, and allegedly according to prison guards--become violent. Though Mrs. McAllister is thoroughly disgusted about the fact the prominent attorney, Forrest Elliot took \$700 of her money and refused any further action on the case, other than one court appearance, she will not take this situation lying down. OBS stands firm in support of the McAllister family.

FREE MAURICE MCALLISTER!!

BUF CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENOCIDE

The past two months has seen the St. Louis Black United Front taking to the street--going to the masses of Black folk with the message of the

Campaign. BUF reps have been on radio talk shows, spoken at area colleges, King Awareness Program, the cutback Coalition rally and has actively supported the paper plate campaign, the ACORN Homestead Squatters struggle and spoken out against the city's hiring of would be Black murderer, Dr. Milton Kardesch. BUF will be announcing soon an additional part of the campaign as a response to racist violence, eg. racist burning on the South side. Anyone interested in having BUF speak about the campaign should contact Gwen Luster at 382-5782 or Jamala Rogers at 381-0732.

KING HOLIDAY COMMITTEE

The King Holiday Committee sponsored two Awareness programs to begin the mobilization for the January 15 activities. The first program saw Brenda McGee (BUF) and Katib Waheed (Coalition for Humane & Sensible Solutions) as main speakers. There was also a musical selection from the First Ward Singers at each program. The second program featured Richard Dockett as the keynote speaker who connected the work of Dr. King with the issues of today and the need for us to struggle for our civil & human rights. Each session had a lively discussion period. The King Committee is now finalizing the program for January 15 so keep abreast thru the OBS newsletter. King buttons are available for 50¢. For buttons or more info, call Jamala at 381-0732.

AMIRI BARAKA (LEROI JONES) APPEAL

Amiri Baraka's appeal of trumped up charges of resisting arrest HAS BEEN DENIED. He has been ordered to report to Rikers Island prison on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1981. During the two year battle, it has been widespread support from the masses that kept Amiri out of jail. THE PDC is urging all freedom loving people to send telegrams to Governor Hugh Carey opposing the appeal denial and requesting clemency. Address is State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224. You can also help publicize the case and support his struggle financially by buying a Free Amiri Baraka button. For more info, call Kalimu Endesha at 381-0732.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| December 8 | Amiri Baraka to surrender to Rikers Island Prison |
| December 11 | Testimonial Dinner in honor of Councilwoman Betty Thompson at the Baptist Church of the Holy Communion, 7 p.m. Come out and help make that evening very special for her. |
| December 12 | St. Louis Black United Front membership meeting at 4 pm, 1401 Rowan. |
| December 13 | OBS Freedom Session at 3 pm at 1401 Rowan |

NOTICE!!

People are already asking about the OBS Anniversary Celebration in 82. Mark your calendar! The second anniversary celebration dinner will be Saturday, January 30, 1982 at the New Monsanto YMCA at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1981. During the two year battle, it has been widespread support from the masses that kept Amiri out of jail.

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