

On a Move Event #2

The second major event I attended was the Ruth –Marion Baruch and Pirkle Jones Photo Exhibit which opened on January 21st. The exhibit is in San Anselmo, Ca (close to SF). This was the second time I attended this exhibit since Pirkle Jones died a few years ago. I miss him. The Pirkle Jones foundation still does exhibits in their names. Ruth and Pirkle did the first photo book on the BPP back in 1968 and it was called the “Vanguard”. Then in 2005, they redid the book and called it “1968” with more beautiful photos. The photos captured our growth, youth, energy and love from the people. It’s a must have photo book.

The drive from Sacramento is a little over an hour to San Anselmo. The Smith Anderson North Gallery is very nice. They have two galleries at the same location. Many of the people who attended knew of the BPP and had stories to tell. I brought some material to sell; Huey in the chair posters flew off the table along with Emory’s art posters for the 40th and 45th yr reunion. I met a lady who was a member of the Third World Liberation Front at UC Berkeley in 1969 with Richard Aoki.

I spoke about being a Panther in Training and the reading list we had to read books from. I told them the story on how the BPP newspaper started coming out on Wednesday. Back in the day, no one wanted to print our newspaper. We were too Black and too Revolutionary. So Big Man called the Berkeley Barb newspaper editor, Max Sheer. Max said, “We get our paper printed in SF. Ride over with us on Wednesday when we take our paper to the printer.” So they drove over to Howard Quinn on that Wednesday and that is how it started coming out on Wednesdays. I also spoke about Wednesday nights getting the paper out and working at the Fillmore office sorting papers, stacking papers and boxing papers for shipping.

