

## May 1 Update

The "All of Us or None of Us" exhibit is open at the Oakland Museum. Gail and I went to view it last week. The exhibit focuses on political and cultural posters and print shops during the 1960's and 1970's. There are a number of Emory's artwork in the exhibit. There is also a very large picture of our own Bennie Mac Harris working on the press that "It's About Time" donated to the exhibit. Bennie was the person who ran the BPP press. He printed all of the BPP material on that press for many years. The photo was taken in 1972.

While at the Oakland Museum, we also visited the 1968 exhibit. There are displays of how life was in 1968, including a small exhibit of Black Panther Party material. I also checked out some other material that "It's About Time" donated to the museum, like the Huey in the Chair poster. The exhibit will be open until June.

Upcoming events this month include the annual Malcolm X Day On May 19<sup>th</sup>, held in East Oakland at San Antonio Park off Foothill Blvd near 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. Look for our booth. We attend every year and have one of the best displays every year.

Last Friday, Melvin Newton came to visit the It's About Time Archives. Melvin is Huey's older brother who recently retired from Merritt College as its Black Studies Department head. It was the first time he visited and he was very impressed. He couldn't believe we have so much material on the BPP and Merritt College.

Melvin was blown away with our personal collection of Huey photos and artifacts. He said I had photos he had never seen before and photos of events that he was at and didn't remember anyone taking pictures. For example, I have photos of Huey boxing middleweight champ Milton McCreay. I have photos of Huey at different benefits with his wife, Gwen. I have photos of Huey in the Middle East and I have a very rare newspaper from Cuba with Huey on the front page while he was in exile in 1975.

He wants his wife to see the collection and they will drive up from Oakland later this month. We also talked about doing a number of exhibits in Oakland in the near future.

Coming this June, It's About Time will host two new exhibits for

**Juneteenth Day in SF and Berkeley. The two Juneteenth Days in SF will be June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> on Fillmore St. I am talking to Yoshi's about doing a SF Panther exhibit there, as the new San Francisco Yoshi's Music Center and Restaurant is located where our SF office used to be. My exhibit will focus on the SF Chapter and the BPP newspaper as the SF office was also National Distribution for the BPP. It is where Sam Napier and Andrew Austin were based.**

**Berkeley Juneteenth Day is Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup>. I will be doing a display on the BPP connection with Merritt College, with photos from Richard Aoki.**

**I want to wish Brother Mitch Mitchell a Happy Belated Birthday. Last month Mitch turned the big 70. Mitch still lives in Harlem NY. Love you brother.**

**I just got JoNina Abron-Ervin's two new books in the mail last week; "Driven by the Movement" and "Insider Histories of the Vietnam Era Underground Press part 2." Inside the second book there is a 64 page essay by JoNina on the BPP newspaper.**

**I spoke to Emory yesterday. He is recently back from Scotland and said the weather was rainy and cloudy, but he had a nice time and met some interesting people.**

**We are making plans to attend Albert Woodfox's hearing in Louisiana as his case is up for appeal later on this month. Albert is a member of the Angola 3, and has been locked down in solitary confinement for over 40 years.**

**On this date in 1969, the BPP called for a rally to show support for Huey P. Newton in SF at the Federal Building. His case was being heard on appeal of the manslaughter charges against Huey. The May Day, 1969, rally was larger than the Free Huey Rallies in Oakland during the trial. Thousands of people surrounded the Federal building chanting and listening to speeches by BPP members and supporters. I remember Big Man, Charles Garry, Kathleen Cleaver, and Bobby Seale speaking and everybody raising their red books up to the sky to show the government what we read. It was a great day in Party history; I know because I *was there*.**

