

WHY A “REAL SENIOR PROM”

In 2003 CCT celebrated its 25th Anniversary, the idea that many members of the local Tillery community and who are members of the Open Minded Seniors (OMS) had never had the opportunity to neither participate nor attend a Senior Prom because of the era of Jim Crow in the south and the sharecropping experience. Thus the anniversary committee came up with the idea of **THE REAL SENIOR PROM** as part of this momentous celebration. Wow! What a great idea and success. The **1st Real Senior Prom** was held on Saturday, May 24, 2003 at the Weldon Elementary School on Main Street in Weldon, NC. There were nine contestants vying for the title of King and Queen causing much excitement. Children and other family members came home to see their mother or father, grandparent or uncle or aunt in the "Grand March of the Kings & Queens". Some children rented limos to bring their parents to the prom. It was a glorious occasion, and continues to be a highlight event in the lives of the “elders” today.

Our first King and Queen in 2003 were Queen Clementine Fenner Sledge, and King James Harris. Since that time, in the seven year time span, we have held three other proms crowning a king and queen each time. **In 2004, Queen Catherine Savage Lockley and King Levy White** were crowned. In 2006, **Queen Bettie White and King Claude Ford** were crowned. In 2008, **Queen Hilda Walden and King Levy White** were crowned. During this seven year period more than twenty OMS members have sought the title.

This year, the Open Minded Seniors voted to run small children for the title of Little King and Queen of the Real Senior Prom. We are so very happy to announce contestants for this **first** title:

CONTESTANTS FOR KING

Anton Green (age 6)
Sky Cameron Myers (age 5)
Jaamal Rogers (age 5)

CONTESTANTS FOR QUEEN

Justice Dickens (age 2)
Sa'myra Grooms (age 7)
Jordan Kamille Smith (age 6)

We hope we can count on you to help these young people be crowned and to help the Open Minded Seniors in this fundraising venture. **A vote for your favorite little one to be crowned is just \$1.00 per vote and makes you eligible for one of the THREE CASH prizes (You do not have to be present to win).** We also hope you will join us on June 26, 2010 at The Center at Halifax Community College for the Crowning Ceremony and an evening of delightful entertainment and fellowship, and always good food. Please know that your contributions will support the weekly OMS meetings at the Tillery Community Center and outings for their pleasure.

For more information on CCT and OMS, please go to www.cct78.org. Here you will understand how and why, **“We Make the Difference!”**