

Happy New Year Comrades and Friends:

Just in from Big Man's New Year's Day Birthday party. Gail and I drove up to Sonoma and spent New Year's Eve and day with Big Man and Carol. New Year's Eve was spent listening to and dancing to Andre's (Reggae) Band. Brother Andre is a family friend of Gail and I and a former student at Merritt College and BSU member. Brother Big Man's Party was great. It was good to see a number of people I only see once or twice a year. They had so much food, everyone left with food. The drive back through Napa Valley (Wine Country) was scenic, even in the rain.

I wanted to start 2011 out by reaching out to everyone to let them know 2011 marks the 45 yr anniversary of the BPP. There are events being planned in Oakland and NY. More info will be posted soon. One of these events will focus on political prisoners.

This year also marks the 40th yr since the Community Control of Police Measure was placed on the Berkeley ballot in 1971. The petition made it to the ballot after 15,000 Berkeley residents signed a petition to have it placed on the ballot - Check the website for details about Petition).

This year also marks the 40th yr since the fight to keep Merritt College in the Flat-lands of Oakland 1970-1971. When Merritt did move in 1971, the community pressured the Peralta College Board to open up a community college to replace Merritt in the flatlands. In the summer of 1971 the Broad opened up North Peralta Community College where the old Merritt used to be. The college survived for 4 years, despite being poorly funded and having few resources.

It's About Time Archives is growing fast. Recently we received a collection of La Raza Newspapers from 1970 thru 1975. We also received 31 issues of Ramparts magazines from 1967 thru 1970. We also added a collection of Liberator newspapers from 1967-1971.

Big Man will be 73 on Jan. 5th!

Today I spoke with Albert Woodfox (Angola 3) and he said to tell all the comrades to have a positive year. This April will mark 39 years in solitary for this strong brother.

Happy New Year and All Power to the People!

-- Billy X Jennings