

SANDERS BLALOCK

Sanders Blalock, a native of Florence, has lived here all his life, except for 5 years spent in the Army during World War II, and in the Korean Conflict. After serving us twice, Sanders returned each time to his job at Tennessee Valley Authority. Upon retirement there, Sander's talents have been valuable at the International Fertilizer Development Center: devising programs to improve food production in other nations.

This career working to improve world food production is impressive, but we honor him for the way he has applied it personally to bring spiritual compensation on a one to one basis. He has been a Santa Claus to thousands of kids--and some big folks, too. Neighbors have received a bounty from the garden of this man with a green thumb; and, the sick and elderly get wood to heat their homes and blankets to keep them warm.

He has served in every elective office of the Florence Lions Club and was for 11 years Chairman of the club's antique show committee. Now a District Governor of Lions International, Sanders has been chairman of the Elks Club Needy Child Shoe Program for 15 years, and is a member of the board of the Alabama Rehabilitation Center. He is a life member and former commander of the local post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He has been active in the American Legion, heading their district oratorical contest for the past two years; is a Mason, a working member of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and on the Board of Florence-Lauderdale Humane Society. His wife, the former Helen Cole, worked for Howell Heflin, and for many years, Graham Edwards, Florence City Administrator.

For these and so many other unsung personal acts of aid and comfort known only to the recipients, Florence Exchange Club enshrines the name of Sanders Blalock in its Book of Golden Deeds this May 12, 1981.