

# National

The Official News Magazine of the  
National Association of Colored Women's Clubs  
Founded in 1897

VOLUME I - ISSUE 2

## Notes

*The National Association of Colored Women's Clubs are Women of Color.*

*We are dedicated to the well-being of women, children, families, the home, the community and the promotion of racial harmony among all people.*



*Through community service and education*



*Through mentoring and scholarships*



*So that those we serve are better able to take their proper and rightful place in society as citizens, community leaders and parents.*

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# *National Notes*



**DOLORES MARGARET HARRIS, EdD**

*Volume 1 Issue 2*

*Dedicated to the 23<sup>rd</sup> President of the  
National Association of Colored Women's Clubs*

**A PRAYER OF THANKS, PEACE AND CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE  
OF DR. DOLORES MARGARET HARRIS**

Heavenly father we give thanks for our dearly departed sister Dr. Harris.

We pray for peace for her family, friends and love ones. Bless the members of her club, state, region and national.

As we celebrate her life, we are so grateful for her service to our organization. The contributions she has made to National Association of Women's Club will never be forgotten. Tirelessly over many years she continuously gave her leadership skills, spiritual guidance and financial support to our great historical organization. She put her love into action doing all she could to preserve the integrity of NACWC. We will truly miss her beautiful smile and kindness.

Thank you Lord for allowing us to know such a wonderful sister that loved you and shared your love with all those she met. She never missed an opportunity to lift as she climbed, to make a difference in the lives of individuals for the better.

Bless each member of NACWC to have the spirit like Dr. Harris to be empowered with wisdom, knowledge and visions for the future. We pray her legacy will live on to inspire generations to come.

Thank you for answering our prayer in Jesus name. You have never failed us and never will. You are all powerful and all knowing, we stand on the promises in your word. Thank you for your love protection and strength to endure.

We give you glory and honor in the name of Jesus, Amen

Sheryl Brady, NACWC National Chaplain

## DOLORES M. HARRIS, EdD 23<sup>rd</sup> National President of NACWC

### OBITUARY

*Lovingly composed with the assistance of 30<sup>th</sup> NACWC National President Andrea Brooks-Smith, Carole Early, Denise Williams, Sandy McGlotten, Vivien Hansbury, and NACWC Past National Presidents Dr. Patricia Fletcher (25th), Evelyn Rising (28th) and Sharon Bridgeforth (29th).*



**Dolores Margaret Harris** was born on August 5, 1930 in Camden, New Jersey. Educated by the New Jersey Public School System, upon her graduation from Glassboro High School she was inducted as a National Honor Society member.

She received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees from Rowan University (Glassboro State College); then went on to receive her EdD from Rutgers University. She was a members Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., The Links and other social leadership organizations.

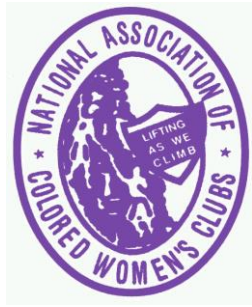
Dr. Harris' career began in 1959 as a teacher and reading specialist with the Glassboro School System and ended in 1991 when she retired as Director of Continuing Education at Rowan University.

*It was through her membership in the Glassboro Orchid Club that Dr. Harris flowered, bloomed, and joined the ranks of quintessential federated club women, serving as a faithful member of the Glassboro Orchid Club where she served as President, Vice President, and Education and Legislation Committee Chairperson.*

Dr. Harris distinguished herself as the 23<sup>rd</sup> National President of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. (NACWC). She was brilliant, extremely bright and a humanitarian. This slight of build, soft spoken woman mentored others and is responsible for ensuring NACWC's historical legacy. Through her efforts, the Records of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs From 1895 to 1992 are preserved on microfilm and can be found in the Library of Congress, as well as university libraries in America and Europe.

Dr. Harris embraced the first two tenets of NACWC's multiple endeavors found in the organizations constitution: to promote interracial understanding, justice and peace among all people; and to raise the standard of home and advance moral, economic, social and religious welfare of the family. Her national theme "*Strengthening the Black Family through Breaking the Welfare Cycle*" reflects the second tenet. She supported and worked with those vanguards that created projects to accomplish the theme's goal.





**Dr. Dolores M. Harris, EdD**  
(Continued)



*Dr. Harris – 5<sup>th</sup> from the left.  
Photo taken of NACWC Board of Directors  
By Seve Oba Adigun - July, 2012*

To address the first tenet, Dr. Harris sought approval from the NACWC Executive Council. Her recommendation was to sponsor the international Re-Forestation Project (water wells) and work in collaboration with the UN sponsored group, Africare. The recommendation was approved.

Under Dr. Harris' direction, the NACWC began the collaboration with Africare and members of NACWC agreed to donate \$15,000 toward the construction of the Mandangy Wolof Maternity Center in the Republic of Senegal. At that time, NACWC was a United Nations NGO. The last NACWC representative to the UN NGO Committee was Mrs. Vivien Hansbury. She recalled, "Dr. Harris made at least two trips on behalf of NACWC to Africa. The maternity center and the water wells were very important to her."

During a telephone conversation, Past National President Dr. Patricia Fletcher reflected that the work with Africare made it possible for NACWC to help African women. Helping the women of Africa had always been something the organization wanted to do. The project 'opened doors' that made many things possible.

Dr. Harris touched the lives of many of her NACWC federated club sisters. Her insightful leadership sustained the NACWC organization and its legacy. Through her work on behalf of NACWC and through her humanitarianism, Dr. Harris affected and continues to effect people throughout the United States of America, in Africa and in Europe.

Dr. Harris was a woman of faith and for many years a faithful member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Glassboro, NJ. She always remained devote, attending church regularly no matter where she lived.

Dr. Dolores Margaret Harris loved her family and was a nurturing, supportive parent. She delighted in being a grandmother and great-grand mother and loved in being around them all. She is survived by her family and friends, including her daughter and son-in-law Sheila and Chet Davis and her son, Gregory Harris of Orange, New Jersey.

## **CLUB WOMEN'S CREED**

Keep us, O God, from pettiness.

Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face  
without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we not be hasty in judgement.

Let us take time for all things;  
Make us grow calm, serene, and gentle;  
Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences,  
that in the big things of life we are as one.

And may we strive to touch the common woman's heart for us all.

And Oh, Lord God, let us not forget to be kind. Amen

# National Notes

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**The Bridge Builder**  
**By Will Allen Dromgoole**  
**(Written in 1900)**

An old man going a lone highway  
Came at the evening, cold and gray,  
To a chasm, vast, and deep and wide,  
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight dim;  
The sullen stream had no fear for him;  
But he turned, when safe on the other side,  
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim, near,  
"You are wasting strength with building here;  
Your journey will end with the ending day;  
You never again will pass this way;  
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide-  
Why build you this bridge at the evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head:  
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,  
"There followeth after me today,  
A youth, whose feet must pass this way.

This chasm, that has been naught to me,  
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;  
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

**Editor's Note:** This poem is in the public domain.

FROM THE  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT



Sisters,

Years ago I was asked (by a former girl's club sister), why was I still in the organization when this is something we did when we were children. The question at the time caused me to pause and ponder on it for a while. Today when I think of each of us and the works of this organization, the poem "The Bridge Builder" by Will Allen Dromgoole summarizes it for me.

In essence the writer was asked the same thing, why would he build a bridge on a road that he would no longer travel? His answer was that although he would never travel that road again, he was building it for the young person traveling after him. That is our purpose sisters, to prepare a better world for those that come after us.

The task won't be easy and it is definitely not for the weak. It requires work not just words. It requires collaboration and growth. It requires linking up with like-minded women to expand or form new clubs, so that we can be about the work of bettering our communities and the world as a whole. That is what our founders did in 1896. They dedicated their lives to battles they never wanted us to have to fight and that they would never see the fruits of (i.e. anti-lynching, women's suffrage, equal rights). That is what we do when we educate in our communities, when we service our communities and when we give back to our communities. That is literally what *Lifting As We Climb* means.

I know the situation (COVID, politics, disenfranchisement, etc.) is difficult but we can't dwell on that (when has it ever been easy for people of color). We have to focus on creative and innovative ways to stay active with each other and our communities. Our current environment is a test, a test to see if we have what it takes as an organization to endure. I am proud to say that so far we have!!

These first 2 years of my presidency has had its bumps and bruises, but I am still standing and so is the NACWC stronger than ever. We have to keep moving and keep working, there is no time for stagnation. The fate of our communities depend on it. **"Too long have we been silent under unjust and unholy charges; we cannot expect to have them removed until we disprove them through ourselves". – Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin.**

Remember - *Lifting As We Climb* is a lifestyle, not just our motto.

With love,

*Andrea Brooks-Smith*

30<sup>th</sup> NACWC National President

## FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



Greetings Federated Sisters:

Welcome back to a new fall beginning for each federated club! I hope you began with a zeal of enthusiasm and ready to partner with other federated women throughout the nation. Your continued cooperation and participation are outstanding to the communities and affiliations you serve. We must be committed to working together and providing strong leadership in the federation. If we are to remain a viable organization, we must become active participants by attending local clubs' meetings, state, region, and national conventions.

We must be willing to rise to the challenge of change. This through the change of how we communicate today. We have the options of Zoom, Tele-conference, Social -Distancing and Snail-Mail. I believe we can build stronger bridges.

Membership is a must; we can explore new and creative ways to recruit new members by using the old techniques, we have embraced before. The most significant part of any organization is its strength. The effective membership that has been used by clubs around the states by using the three R's. There is no need to reinvent the wheel, let us keep it rolling.

Retention – Perhaps the hardest chore any club has is keeping its membership current. We must be ready to keep our members engaged in hands on activities. Making them an integral part of the programs and structure of the club.

Reclamation – We have lost so many of our active women. Let them know that we are still strong and resilient. We are stronger when we work together. Reclaiming memberships, you must be willing to explore new creative ways to enhance ideals for your club.

Recruitment – Recruiting new members will always be an objective. We must exemplify actions by letting women know who we are. It is imperative that we publicize our group as one of the first African American group in the nation. Publicizing your activities and events in your local newspaper. We must sing the praises of an organization you belong to and love. There are other benefits and advantages of being a member. We have our most valuable resources, the youth clubs.

Many years ago, a group of pioneers had great love of this organization as other followed to pass it down to us. Now, it is our turn. We must share our love with others for generations to come. We have a choice, we can lift others up – So, let us get energized by using our strength and talents.

“Do not follow where the path may lead – go instead where there is no path and leave a trail”.

Sisterly,

*Laura T. Jamerson*

“Lifting As We Climb”



### THOUGHTS ...

This 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue of the National Notes Magazine comes with an adjustment of perspective and reflection on the events of the past biennial years, as well as on the last 10 months. To the assistant editors, reporter, contributing editor and all the NACWC members who have submitted articles, your contributions to this issue of the magazine and to the monthly National Notes Bulletin are gratefully appreciated

There have been many things on all our minds beyond our love and concern for NACWC. We have been concerned for our families and loved ones, our neighbors and friends, our children's education, our jobs, will we have the food and essentials we need, and the uncertain fate of our democracy. At times we have been anxious and stressed and have wondered if the world around us will fracture.

We have seen that women and men of color are being murdered by those who are supposed to serve and protect and that parity with regard to justice, still has not been accomplished in this country. We have seen looting and destruction. For many of us, our loved ones and friends have all departed this world, including our beloved past 23<sup>rd</sup> National President Dr. Dolores Harris.

*We can't and will not give in or give up! Surrendering to the negative is not an option. We will continue to be diligent and to work hard in our communities. With our collective strength we grasp the future and holdfast to it!*

Why? My dear federated sisters, our mission remains the same. Understanding, justice and peace for all people must prevail. We must foster and protect the constitutionally guaranteed civil rights for all people.

As citizens and NACWC club sisters we cherish the vote, guard against corruptive forces that try everyone's freedoms and because, as our 30<sup>th</sup> National President, Andrea Brooks-Smith reminds us:

***Lifting As We Climb is not just our motto – Lifting As We Climb is Our Lifestyle!***

As Always, it is an honor to serve. Continue to Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, and Stay Aware!

With Respect,

*Cassandra Cecelia Guice*

Cassandra Cecelia Guice, Editor  
NACWC National Notes

## Biennial Report – National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

*Submitted by Mrs. Opal Bacon*

*NACWC National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*

*Areas of Responsibility -NACWC Membership And*

*NACWC Young Adult Department*



September 26, 2020

1. Membership Adult subcommittee formed. This committee will handle issues dealing with adults and adult clubs. It has developed an adult new club procedure for forming an NACWC adult club. Prospective club will submit a letter of interest/intent to form to National 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president who will share with Membership Committee. There is a new club packet which includes a checklist, an information form, a welcome letter, instructions to state presidents regarding adult clubs
2. Headquarters need several repairs to front structure as well as inside the building. Problems exist with basement, elevator, etc. Estimates have been gotten. An assessment of what needs to be done overall has been done. This was paid for by the grant NACWC received.
3. As of September 25, 2020, only one state had sent in \$500.00 donation request to recap some financial loss due to cancellation of Convention. The Ohio payment had not been received.
4. WND Educational Foundation awarded NACWC the Mary Church Terrell Century of Service Award.  
Opal Bacon, NACWC 2nd vice president, accepted the award August 27, 2020, on behalf of

NACWC and Pres. Andrea Brooks-Smith. The award was presented during the second segment of a three-day webinar entitled “The Long Road to the Vote.” If you missed the programs, you may view all three sessions which may be accessed via:

<https://wndceducationalfoundation.org/.org>  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. also received the award.

5. You may pay per capita and make purchases online now using PayPal. No PayPal account is needed.  
Go to [nacwc.com](http://nacwc.com) and click on “Donation.”
6. Paraphernalia for national is now available through two sites:
  - a. DD Party 1896 Collection  
[www.ddparty1896.com](http://www.ddparty1896.com)
  - b. NACWC FED SHOP  
[www.b2the9s.com](http://www.b2the9s.com)

A third site will be opening soon. Between the two current sites, you can get a wide variety of items.

6. Membership Committee has a publication called the Purple Pipeline. It features membership issues and members. It is our means of developing bonding while providing membership information. There will be 4 issues per club year.



## Biennial Report

*Submitted by Mrs. Opal Bacon*

*NACWC National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*

(Continued)

7. Central Region, under the leadership of Pres. Melody Blair, is hosting a series of monthly Zoom workshops. They are scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. The first two were on Parliamentary Procedure with Lillie Palmer as presenter. The second one, Coping with COVID, was presented by Dr. Andrea Bacon. The moderator for each workshop will be a member from one of the young adult chapters. Sunday, there will be a repeat of the Parliamentary Procedure workshop for the young adults. There was also a workshop on membership with Opal Bacon as presenter. If you missed these workshops, they will be placed on the Central Region website.
8. The Central Region website contains a lot of useful information and forms. The per capita form is online there. It has an interchangeable feature which allows you to complete all per capita forms. You need Adobe Acrobat to use all

features. Registering on the website gives access to all workshop invitations and registrations as well forms and information. There is a blog with Valerie Eaglin as facilitator.

The best way to access the CRACWC website is via Facebook. Go to the CRACWC Facebook page. You will see an invitation to visit the website. Click on that and you are on the website.

9. Pres. Blair is contacting former members and clubs in an effort to get them to rejoin. She sent out a survey this month. You may have received it.
10. This Sunday September 27, the first virtual/live induction service will be conducted at the University of Kentucky. Pres. Andrea Brooks-Smith, Pres. Blair, and Deborah Sanlin (Regional YA Coordinator) will participate. The pinning will be done by the campus adviser.

## Biennial Report

*Submitted by Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams*

*NACWC National Historian*

*Areas of Responsibility – Preserving NACWC History*

The goal during this period has been to use our great history to illuminate our extraordinary work as an organization in the past with the hope of increasing our identity among others and knowledge among ourselves as the first, secular, national organization for women of color in the USA. Our



partnership with Dr. Pamela Johnson, Pres. of the WNDU Educational Foundation, of Washington, D.C. and others provided opportunities to work together to achieve this goal. We collaborated on two projects that significantly increased our visibility across the country.

## Biennial Report

Submitted by Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams  
NACWC National Historian  
(Continued)

I am honored to have had the opportunity to contribute information on the NACWC and other historically significant African American women, to the development of the *Women and the Vote: Centennial Calendar*. It was published to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Enactment of the Nineteenth Amendment granting women the right to vote in the USA.

NACWC was featured in the calendar on July 21, 2019, noting our founding and in August of 2019, three of our founders were featured; Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, Ida B. Wells and Frances Harper. The NACWC was placed in the spotlight once again during the month of February, 2020, identifying our organization as the first national organization for women of color, along with pictures of Mary Church Terrell, our first President, our Founders' Meeting in 1896, our Motto: "Lifting As We Climb", and other significant facts. Harriet Tubman was identified in the photo and other members who have gained historical acclaim, including Margaret Murray Washington, Fannie Barrier Williams and Mary McLeod Bethune. Calendar sells by NACWC members resulted in the contribution of \$4,682 in support of our National Capital Campaign. All of us working together achieved this great outcome.

Once again, NACWC assisted as a partner in the development of "*The Long Road to the Vote*" a

three-session seminar aired nationally, as a webinar, on August 26-27, 2020. The NACWC and contributions of our members as suffragists and equal rights activists, prior to the suffrage movement, were highlighted by renowned historians, Drs. Marjorie Spruill, Sharon Harley, Kimberly Hamlin, Allison Parker and Martha Jones. Each of these historians lauded the work and accomplishments of the NACWC, providing confirmation of our recognition as a recipient of the *Mary Church Terrell Century of Service Award*. The award was named in honor of our 1<sup>st</sup> President because all partners were in agreement that she exemplified equal rights activism.

The award was accepted by Nat'l 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Opal Bacon. I was honored to serve among other Advisory Board Partners representing the Center for Black Digital Research, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., Maryland Women's Heritage Center, Nat'l Women's History Alliance, Nat'l Women's History Museum and Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.

Thank you to every member of the NACWC for your support and contributions to the success of these two projects. Hopefully the knowledge of our great history will continue to serve as an inspiration to others in the community.

## Biennial Report

Submitted by Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams  
NACWC National Historian  
(Continued)

### Mary Church Terrell Century of Service Award



September 3, 2020

Mrs. Opal Bacon, Second Vice President  
National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Incorporated  
1601 R Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Mrs. Bacon,

It was such a privilege to present the Mary Church Terrell Century of Service Award to you in honor of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Incorporated as part of our program, The Long Road to the Vote on August 27, 2020. Congratulations on the receipt of this award named in deep respect for the Honorable Mary Church Terrell, a giant of American history. NACWC has made such extraordinary contributions to women and the vote and in so many other ways. The Awards ceremony was the highlight of our recognition of the Centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

I am attaching a digital copy of the Award to this letter; in the coming days, we will be sending you a physical plaque with the actual award. There is now a link to the video recording of the program where the Award was presented (see <https://wnidceducationalfoundation.org/>) and also a link to a short video focused specifically on the presentation of the award to NACWC and your acceptance.

We have heard such positive feedback about this program from our partners and participants, we would appreciate your advice for how best to carry this work forward. We would appreciate it if we could schedule a brief conversation with you or a representative to discuss your feedback and recommendations.

Thank you for participating in the ceremony and for your inspiring words accepting the Award. And thank you for all the work that the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs has done and continues to do to secure and protect the right to vote for all Americans.

With best regards,



Pamela R. Johnson PhD  
President  
WNIDC Educational Foundation 1526  
New Hampshire Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
<https://wnidceducationalfoundation.org>  
202 251 1423

cc: Ms. Andrea Brooks-Smith, President  
Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams, National Historian

## AWARD LETTER

## CERTIFICATE

National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.  
is awarded

*The Mary Church Terrell  
Century of Service Award*



For more than 100 years, your organization has fought for voting rights, organized for gender and racial equality, increased voter registration and turnout, promoted women's education and leadership, and worked to improve the quality of life within your community. The fortitude, leadership, and dedication to service of your organization exemplify and deserve this honor.

*Advisory Board*

For the Mary Church Terrell  
Century of Service Award

August 27, 2020

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## **Biennial Report**

*Submitted by Tiny Thomas  
Louisiana State President*

### **Louisiana Association of Colored Women's Clubs**

"I will blessed the Lord at all times" Psalm 34

The Louisiana Association of Colored Women's Clubs of Shreveport, LA is doing well in spite of the COVID-19.

We currently have 2 active clubs with a total of 25 members. Our clubs are currently meeting by ZOOM Calls and conference calls.

We are still Lifting and Climbing by continuing to support our charitable organization. We participated in the 124<sup>th</sup> NACWC Anniversary by donating \$124.00 per club to the Providence

House. We are still collecting our crossword and puzzle books to donate to the Harmony House Nursing Facility once our state has opened back up. We are in the process of having a Stay at Home Tea and preparing for a ZOOM Pajama Christmas Social in December.

We still have our teachers tutoring youth after school and volunteers who go to the schools and read or do reading by ZOOM to the classes.

We have a new president for the Mary Church Terrell Club Dr. Brenda McCray Richardson. We are working hard to keep safe but yet continue to do our club work.

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## **Biennial Report – Missouri State**

*Submitted by Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams  
Missouri State President*

### **Missouri Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.**

This is been quite an active and fruitful year in Missouri. We have grown in numbers as well as our outreach. Although the state is small in terms of the number of clubs, we have been productive. There are currently two adult clubs. Both are located in St. Louis; the Harriet Tubman Literary Club and the Thursday Study Club. As a result of the aging membership of the Thursday Study Club,

the activities reported here are largely as a result of the efforts of the Harriet Tubman Literary Club.

At the beginning of the club year, we welcomed six new members. These members are inspired workers who have already helped us to expand our outreach. On October 26, 2019, we Inducted 13 young ladies into the NACWC at Lincoln University, in Jefferson City, MO. The name of this new club is POISE – "Protecting Our Identities through Sisterhood and Empowerment"

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## **Biennial Report – Missouri State**

*Submitted by Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams*

*Missouri State President*

(Continued)

The club's name reflects its focus on the importance of our image in the community and their enduring spirit of sisterhood. The Induction was the culmination of the outreach efforts of two former members of the Young Adult Club founded August 24, 2008 at Lincoln University; Eden Prosser and Heather Robinson. It was formed in honor of Josephine Silone Yates. Rachel Black answered their call and, with their help, inspired the founding of POISE. The Harriet Tubman Literary Club is serving as the Sponsoring Club for POISE and our members were delighted to participate in the induction. We worked closely with the chapter to insure an elegant event. We were also delighted to welcome our Nat'l 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Opal Bacon, who traveled to Jefferson City, to participate in the Induction Ceremony, along with our Regional Coordinator of Young Adults, Deborah Sanlin, and members of other adult and young adult chapters.

Several meetings were held between POISE and the Harriet Tubman Literary Club via Zoom, prior to the Pandemic. This platform provided an opportunity for members of the Sponsoring Club and POISE to review together their Constitution and By-Laws to clarify the Duties of Officers and the Roles and Responsibilities of the Sponsoring Club in relationship with the young adult campus club.

This new chapter provided a number of successful activities for students on campus and in the community.

Members in St. Louis were involved in outreach to a number of agencies and organizations individually, resulting in combined donations of more than \$15,555.00 and 1,141 hrs of volunteer service. Direct club donations were made to organizations to support their outreach efforts during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis received a \$500.00 donation in support of its Food Outreach Program and an additional \$500.00 donation was given to the Haven of Grace Homeless Shelter for Pregnant Women, ages 18 yrs +.

In addition, donations of hats, socks and gloves were presented to a local church for its homeless shelter. Each member supported the Women & the Vote Centennial National Calendar Project in support of the National Capital Campaign. Members also enjoyed social events planned for the purpose of strengthening our bonds of sisterhood; such as viewing the movie "Harriet" together and enjoying lunch together during the Christmas holidays.

## Biennial Report –Missouri State

Submitted by Dr. Arthelda Busch Williams

Missouri State President

(Continued)

In lieu of our Annual State Convention, a State Meeting was held via Zoom. Twenty-one members participated including POISE. Members were updated on national and regional projects and goals and officers were elected. A memorial observance was provided for Barbara Bratton, Past Regional

President, Patricia Danner, Ethel Davison and Elizabeth Edwards, Past St. Louis Pres. The current theme for the MACWC is *Inspired Women; Caring, Courageous and Committed, While “Lifting As We Climb.”* Our goal is continued growth through service and sisterhood.

## Biennial Report – Oklahoma State

Submitted by Ms. Jackie Gates (SW)

NACWC Oklahoma State President

September, 2020



### STANDARD CLUB ACTIVITIES

**Langston, Oklahoma.** *The Langston Beautiful Club* was the host for the 109<sup>th</sup> State Leadership Conference held in June, 2019. Langston Beautiful was the winner of the Princess Review. Gladys Johnson is the new Princess. Working with the Research and Extension Program of Langston the Club worked with the youth for the month of July. The Club served lunch to 30 students who were participants in the STEM program. The students were engaging in hands-on in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Langston Beautiful organized a “Back to School Bash” giving students school supplies for the school year along with a monetary donation. A big celebration in commemoration of the Clubs 39th

Annual Community-wide Prayer Breakfast was held in November. It was attended by 50+ people from the communities of Coyle, Meridian and Langston all located in Logan County. This is a time when the Club takes time to offer prayer for our churches, families, educational institutions, military, world and local leaders, and the sick and shut-in located in Logan County.

For a fundraiser they held a “Stay At Home Tea” and a patron list. Their Fundraiser came just in time to be of assistance to a family who lost three siblings in an automobile accident. Another fundraiser, Chili dinner was held to garner more funds to be of assistance to the family, over \$5,000 was raised and given to the family.



## Biennial Report – Oklahoma State

*Submitted by Ms. Jackie Gates (SW)  
NACWC Oklahoma State President*

**Checotah, Oklahoma.** The Gardenia Art Club held their Annual Public Religious Program at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. A delightful presentation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas engagement in the Civil War was a reenactment of the documentary film portraying the Kansas soldiers and their part in securing a victory in the war. The reenactors were presented with Certificates of Appreciation and all veterans were given a Certificate also. It was a spirit filled service worshipping and praising God.

Gardenia Art hosted the Fall Executive Board meeting. Wrapped socks and other footwear was distributed to residents at The Checotah Manor Nursing Home. Members went through the building singing Christmas carols and wishing each resident Holiday wishes. Seventy-two packages were given to the residents. Articles on Black History was presented to two local newspapers throughout the month of February. The Club has

been doing this for over 10 years. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Spring Tea was held in March and the Gardenia Art Club was hostess. Finger food and punch was served. This event was attended by all of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls from area schools.

Gardenia Art members did their patriotic duty for the community by planting and maintaining two brick planters at the front of Veterans Park. It is used by the community for civic and patriotic community events. One scholarship or incentive grant was presented to a high school graduate. The sudden death of one of our members was a very sad occasion. Resolutions and deeds of kindness were extended to the family.

Checotah Chamber Old Settlers' Day Festival was held in June. Gardenia Art Club participated with a Snack Corner Booth providing water, lemonade, pastries and friendly greetings for festival attendees.

## Biennial Report – Youth Department

### *124<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Report*

*Submitted by Barbara Hill*

*NAYC Supervisor*

*Morehead City, NC*



The members of the Les Vingt Femmes Girls Club, along with members of the adult club. Took food and other supplies to the food drive at Food Lion, Morehead City on August 12, 2020. This Food Drive was held by TV Station WNCT. These Items will be distributed to our local Food Bank.

## **Biennial Report – Youth Department**

### **Junior Cosmos Study Club**

*Submitted by Melba McMullen*

An update from the JCSC. We are meeting virtually in the midst of the pandemic. We are having meetings once a month, and motivational speakers once a month, all via Zoom.

We had 10 seniors this year. We are very proud of all of their accomplishments. They were celebrated at an outdoor event at Government Plaza. Each young lady was presented with a JCSC stole, gift bag and monetary gift.

One of our seniors has authored a book, *When the World Was Set Ablaze*, by Brianna Byrd. Her book can be purchased on Amazon.



EMAIL JUNIORCOSMOSSTUDYCLUB@GMAIL.COM  
FOR ZOOM LINK BY FIRDAY, MAY 22, 2020

This year we are proud to have 51 bright, young, vibrant and intellectual young women of color in the Junior Cosmos Study Club. Our president is Miss Maia Brasfield. We are needless to say looking forward to a great year.

Right now we are making plans for the Miss Junior Cosmos Pageant which will be held virtually. This pageant was scheduled for April 2020 but was cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns.

We will be participated the Links Virtual Walk on Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>.

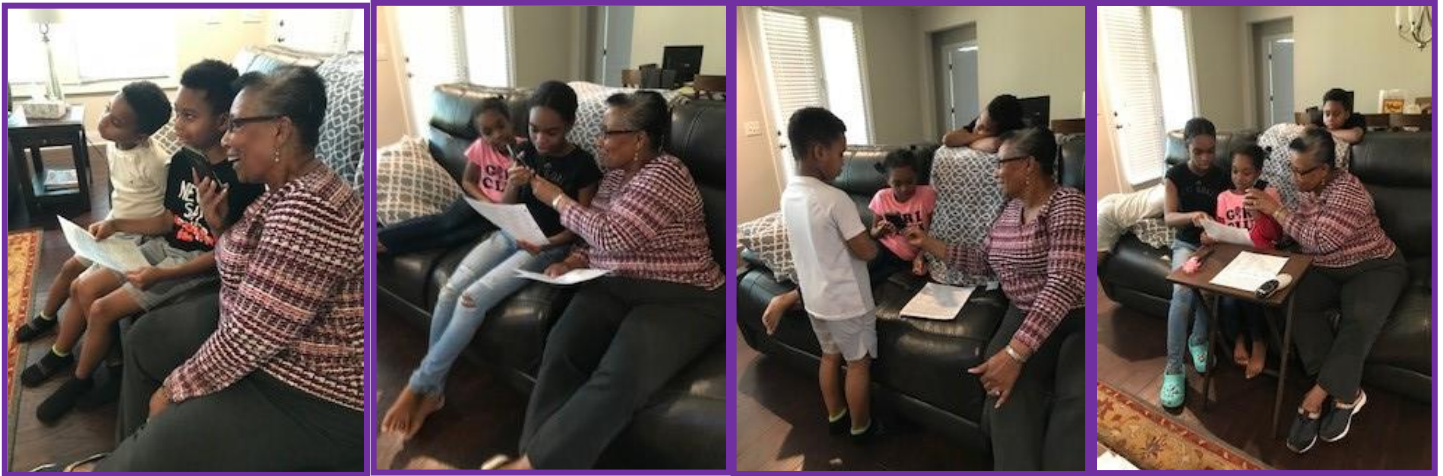
## **Stepping Forward Youth Group, Durham, North Carolina**

### **Sponsor: Model Mothers Club**

*Submitted by Carolyn Robinson*

The Stepping Forward Youth Club members and supervisors did a telephone outreach to their adult club members (Model Mothers Club and Jr. Daughters of Dorcas), local and state youth supervisors and some of the National, Regional, State and District officers. This was a follow up call to see how everyone was doing since the country was experiencing the Covid-19 pandemic. The youth had a little script sheet that they used to call and chat with everyone. It was a very rewarding experience to see how just making a telephone call brought joy and happiness by letting others know you were thinking of them. Participating in the calls were two family groups who could safely practice quarantine protocols in their homes: Marlon Corbett Jr with Ms. Priscilla Barbee and Jada, Makayla, Ahmad, Amari, Zanah and M'Haganie Whitted with Ms. Geraldine Young and Ms. Carolyn Robinson. This activity served as their Make A Difference Day of service.

**Stepping Forward Youth Group**  
**Durham, North Carolina**  
(Continued)



Pictured Above: Ahmad, Amari, Jada, M'Haganie, Makayla, with Geraldine Young

**Priscilla Barbee, a youth supervisor of Stepping Forward Youth Group,** has been very active in helping to support families in need of food through volunteering and donating food and needed supplies. She suits up with gloves and mask to volunteer to deliver meals for children and families affected by the closing of the Durham Public schools due to the coronavirus. She said it was one of the most self-satisfying adventures she has ever done. She saw firsthand all the need by going to the individual homes and site locations. Fidelity and other Independent companies in Durham provided the food. All of the food was prepared by independent restaurants. She picked up the food and delivered it to individual homes, Durham Public School locations, and individual shut-ins.

She chose to provide those services since her employment was shut down and employees were allowed to volunteer in other areas of the county for several weeks. Taking necessary health precautions

were paramount and also trusting in God to keep her safe as she helped serve others. Priscilla said there was so much tension and stress about this virus because not much was really known. But she said, “well I figured, I could sit at home and stress about or I can try to be a solution and help out. “

Since that program ended, Priscilla is still helping senior citizens and others by donating food twice a week to the Mustard Seed Project. She often has people contact her with free food and she shares it with any and every one she can. The Mustard Seed Project provides free food and meals to the community and ran by a lady who uses her only source of income from social security to help eliminate hunger in Durham. Priscilla shares with this project and many others. She is always somewhere “lifting up”.



**Alpha Chapter Youth Club – Alabama**

*Submitted By Josetta Greene*

Continuing a legacy of “Lifting As We Climb”, the youth along advisors from Alpha Chapter made a donation of \$124 to West Alabama Foodbank on Friday, August 14, 2020.



The AC Youth Clubs are frequent volunteers to Foodbank.

Pictured left to right: Mrs. Tucker-West AL Foodbank Volunteer Coordinator; Mrs. Mary Greene-Advisor AC Youth Clubs; Miss Payton Ike -Jr. AC/Jr. AC Madres President, SAYC Treasurer and AAYC Treasurer; Mr. Jared White -Jr. AC /Jr. AC Madres Vice President and AAYC Chaplain; and Ms. Josetta Greene, advisor AC Youth Clubs.

**Fannie A. Parker Club – North Carolina  
Youth and Adult Club Members Working Together**

*Submitted By Stella Brothers*

The Fannie A. Parker Club Youth and Adult Clubs helped the Tornado Victims in Winsor, NC Bertie County. Our club donated, delivered and volunteered. Rachel's House, a non-profit organization, opened their doors so we could have a place to make this happen.

We are in the process or starting an "Adopt-A-Family" program for the victims in Windsor, NC for 6 months to a year. We will be working with other

organizations, churches, and civic groups. The goal is to provide one-on-one spiritual help through prayer and relationships; school and community services; volunteer personal time and provide tangible items such as clothing, household items, personal hygiene products, medical needs, furniture or other items needed in starting a new home or help with the existing home. (*Go to Around the Federation on Page 33 for Pictures*)

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**Biennial Report – Service**

**The 124<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Community Service Project**

**Alabama**

Alpha Chapter Youth Club  
\$124 to West Alabama Food Bank

**Arkansas**

Les Jeunes Amies  
\$250 to their local food bank

Semper Fidelis Women's Club  
Over 250 masks donated to local elementary schools,  
\$124 to local food pantry, and \$124 in books by  
black female authors to local library.

**Louisiana**

Mary C. Terrell Club- Louisiana  
\$124 Providence House of Shreveport

Hollywood Camellia Club- Louisiana  
\$124 Providence House of Shreveport

**Mississippi**

Forward Lookers  
\$124 in personal care items to  
Catholic Charities' Women Shelter

Cotillion Federated Clubs  
124 can goods and  
\$124 to Greenwood Community Food Pantry

**North Carolina**

Lea Vingt Femmes Girls Club - North Carolina  
Donated food and other supplies to local food drive



## Systemic Racism Is Not New

*Submitted by Dorothy J. Sanders-Johnson  
NACWC Southwest Region Past President  
Assistant Editor Southwest Region*

As we have had to deal with so many critical issues in 2020, fires, hurricanes, and the COVID-19 Pandemic, killing of our Black men and women at the hands of the police, some phrases have become popular. i.e., “Black Lives Matter”, “Say Her/His Name”, “No Justice, No Peace”, “Defund the Police”, and “Systemic Racism”.

The term Racism has been around since the beginning of time. There are at least five types of racism: Systemic Racism, Systematic Racism, Structural Racism, Environmental Racism, and Individual Racism.

### Systemic Racism

System-wide racial inequality from the collective policies and practices of social institutions, the justice system, education, media, and healthcare institutions.

### Systematic Racism

Racism that follows a deliberate method or a plan that can be carried out by parts of society, like individuals or institutions.

### Structural Racism

This is a form of systemic racism that studies the way history, culture and social psychology supports racial divides in a society.

### Environmental Racism

Racism when certain racial groups are disproportionately exposed to environmental hazards such as pollution, unclean water.

### Individual/Internalized Racism

Individual/Internalized racism happens within an individual based on their own prejudices and xenophobia.

Slavery is a classic example of systemic racism. Policies, practices, and procedures that are put in place for the express purpose of controlling a targeted group of people. I am a direct descendant of slaves and heard first-hand accounts of life as a slave from my great grandmother who was born into slavery in 1847, owned as property by a slave owner. She was put to work as soon as she could walk and comprehend what she was told to do (a slave to the master’s daughters, who were in the same age range as she), always expected to be at their beck and call. She lived that life until the Civil War and slaves were freed. Free from ownership by the masters, but not free from their oppression because they designed and wrote legislation that still bound, controlled and limited their former slaves’ access to equality. These limitations were still in place when I was born.



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## Systemic Racism Is Not New

(Continued)

I grew up in a time when segregation and black suppression was legal. There has always been a concerted effort to keep people of color “in their place”, either by legal means or by means that are not legal but are hidden in regulations that leaves the interpretation to the person in control of the situation.

The wide-spread systemic injustice to people of color, especially Black people in this country has always been, but is now, finally, being exposed for the sin that it was and is. Many of us, pre- integration era women, have experienced this first-hand. Discrimination in education, attending segregated schools that were supposed to be equal to the white schools, but lacked most of the basics that white schools enjoyed; discrimination in employment, housing, and lending institutions; transportation, relegated to sit in the back of the bus, even though you paid the same fair as everyone else; couldn’t vote, but required to pay taxes; and a justice system where there was no fair justice for Black people. Sexual harassment of Black women, false accusations of Black men for crimes they didn’t commit, that led to them being hung to death was common. Discrimination in wages, paying Black workers less than their white counterparts doing the same job, to name a few.

Then came integration where we thought things would improve, and it did to some degree. However, the old systemic racism didn’t go away it just became executed in more subtle ways. Schools were integrated, but if a school is located in a predominantly Black school district, it does not receive the same services as in all white neighborhoods. And, other disparities continue in many of the same areas as in days of segregation.

We are now in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, year 2020, the age of technology and the cyber world and we are still dealing with the same systemic racism as we did in the days of slavery. In the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries Blacks were hung to death by law men, but often by angry mobs who took the law into their hands, supported by local law officials. Today Blacks are not being hung but shot and killed by overly aggressive policemen with a knee on their necks, choke holds and other violent means, and even worse, have been covered up by police departments. Thanks to a little invention called a cell phone, these crimes are now being exposed and guilty parties are being exposed, but not always brought to justice.

Compound the injustices to Black Lives through everyday life with a disproportionately number of Blacks affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic, due to all the factors we have alluded to, and you can call us *Survivors*. We survive because of who we are. Our history as a people is based on surviving. We learned those skills from childhood. NACWC was founded because of the survivor will of the founding sisters who formed a group to raise their collective voices to counter the vicious attack made on the character of African American Women by a Southern journalist and addressed the inequities to which we were subjected. *We are who we are because they were who they were.*

## Systemic Racism Is Not New

(Continued)

**R**acism, systemic or by whatever name you call it is not new, it was real in slavery, and it is real now. The question is often asked why such disdain for Black people? The answer is, we have never been accepted as a *part of the human* race. This involves the cumulative and compounding effects of multiple factors in society, including the history, culture, ideology and interactions of institutions and policies that systematically privilege white people while imposing disadvantages for people of color. As women of the NACWC we must continue the fight begun in 1896, to keep taking action and exposing racism in all forms wherever it is found. Systemic Racism has been identified and is being exposed; our work to condemn disparities and inequities, break down barriers and “Lifting As We Climb” is just as important today as it was in 1896.



**Editor’s Note:** From the *Smithsonian Magazine*, copy of a daguerreotype believed to have been taken sometime in the 1850s in Green County Georgia at the plantation of Samuel T. Gentry. It is speculated that the picture was taken to document the planter’s owner’s wealth. The daguerreotype was donated to the Smithsonian Museum. It is an artifact to down through Gentry Family heirs, recently found in the estate of one Charles Gentry, Jr., former Georgia resident who later moved to Austin Texas. For more information and if you are reading this on your computer click on the following link.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/may-be-earliest-known-image-slaves-cotton-180973705>



## Removal of Confederate Monuments: For or Against?

*Submitted by Jan da Silva*

*Assistant Editor Northeast Region*

Since the murder of George Floyd, Black Lives Matter proponents have used their energies and emotions to begin the dismantling of white supremacy through the removal of Confederate monuments. What was the purpose of these monuments? Most of the approximately 1500 Confederate memorials (as of 2016) were erected between 1890-1920 or 1950-1965. The purposes were not to celebrate a victory by the Confederacy but had the darker design of the subjugation of the more than 4 million formerly enslaved Americans who continued to live in the south. These monuments were erected to symbolize white supremacy. In addition, the monuments celebrate treason and the exclusion of African Americans in American society.

The removal of Confederate monuments has been gaining support since 2015, when 9 congregants were murdered at Emanuel AME Church in North Charleston, South Carolina. In 2017, 36 monuments were removed after the Charlottesville, Virginia rally that resulted in the death of a peaceful protester. As of this point in 2020, 30 monuments have been removed or altered by protesters since the death of George Floyd. As a result of these three events, support for the removal of Confederate monuments has risen from 39% in 2017 to 52% in 2020. More people are recognizing the symbolism of the monuments as a tool of white

supremacy and the change in American societal values means eyes are opening to the systemic racism experienced by African Americans since 1619.

Some historians claim that the Confederate monuments should not be removed as they represent a period of American history. That analysis is disturbing because it does not recognize the fact that these monuments were erected to keep African Americans in their “place” and are tools of white supremacy. Other historians have stated that the monuments be moved to museums where they can be interpreted in the context of American history and white supremacy can be explained to the visitors. For me, no matter if the monuments are left in place or moved to a museum, I believe the story of white supremacy in America should be exposed and told to all citizens. Americans have lived in a bubble, not recognizing all the elements of the country’s history and conveniently forgetting all the damage done to citizens who are not white. This is one of the many reasons why Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin issued the Call to Convention in 1895 to colored women across America. She and all women of the club women’s movement saw how systemic racism impacted their families and communities. It is sad that those same reasons exist today and we as club women have to fight the same battles.

**What are your thoughts?** *Let Us Know!*

Email your comments to [cassguice@yahoo.com](mailto:cassguice@yahoo.com).

Comments will be printed in the monthly National Notes Bulletin.





## By Any Means Necessary Don't Fall For the Okie Doke

*Submitted By Opal Bacon*

*Assistant Editor*

"By any means necessary" is a translation of a phrase used by Martinican intellectual Frantz Fanon in his 1960 Address to the Accra Positive Action Conference, "Why we use violence" and introduced to black civil rights culture through a speech given by Malcolm X at the Organization of Afro-American Unity founding rally on June 28, 1964. The generally accepted meaning is to use all means, including violence, to achieve an end.

Consider the following:

1. The entrenchment of individuals in crucial positions;
2. Embracement of those using unnecessary force;
3. Misuse of political positions;
4. Attacking and decreasing the effectiveness of the USPS;
5. Unsubstantiated conspiracy theories;
6. A 13 million relief package to a country previously scorned;
7. Divisive actions and rhetoric;
8. Encouragement of criminal acts.

These, plus others, to win by any means necessary. Skillfully served to uninformed, impoverished, biased, power hungry, and/or greed-filled groups, they often work. Principles are sold for needs and wants.

How can this be combated? Vote against wishful dictatorship. Vote against personal financial gain. Inform the people. Start with grass roots campaigns.

propaganda. Denounce and hold accountable scheming politicians and their allies. Do not accept temporary fame, gain, relief. They are the okie doke. You are being used.

Vote in all elections on all issues and candidates. Do not be lulled into complacency, indifference, and/or mental drunkenness by the polls. It is the ballot, not the polls, that determines the winner. For some, the polls are an impetus to vote. To counteract that, **everyone** must vote. Remember 2016???

Because some of our black brothers and sisters lack the ability to recognize the okie doke, don't just tell them to vote or take them to vote, tell them what to mark on the ballot. You can teach them how to do this for themselves later. Don't let them fall for the okie doke by any means necessary. Our way of life depends on it

### CENTRAL REGION AND THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

The Central Region Association of Colored Women's Clubs (CRACWC) has embraced 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology and attached it to the region's motto; *Deeds Not Words*.

While updated websites, Facebook pages, teleconference calls and Zoom have become a part of all our lives, with the use of Zoom Meeting technology CRACWC is turning itself into an NACWC mission agenda juggernaut.

"CRACWC is working to 'Recruit and Reclaim' members", says Region President Melody Blair. "While we concentrate so much on recruiting new members we are asking clubs to 'reclaim' previous members. Also, our 2nd VP Linda Horne has several projects going to help build membership."

As for those Zoom Meetings; here is just the short list of the CRACWC seminars conducted via Zoom.

1. Racism 1896 - Present: Four panelist discussing the history and various aspects of racism.
2. Parliamentary Procedure: Proper Ways and Protocol to Conduct a Meeting - Presented by NACWC National Parliamentarian, Lillie Palmer.
3. Membership: Starting a standard club and how members it takes to establish it; Lifetime vs. standard membership; and ways to build membership – Presented by NACWC Nationals 2nd VP Opal Bacon.
4. Coping with Covid-19: Dr. Andrea Bacon presented statistics on the numbers regarding how African Americans were affected. The presentation included breathing exercises that can be done when we feel overwhelmed and at onset of depression.
5. Charter and Induction Ceremonies of Central Region Young Adult Collegiate Chapters.

For information about CRACWC upcoming seminars, go to their website <https://www.cracwcregion.com> or E-mail [cracwc.adm@gmail.com](mailto:cracwc.adm@gmail.com)



**Melody Blair** is the current President of NACWC's Central Region, a member of the NACWC Board of Directors and also a member of current Membership Team. (She is the chairperson of the Adult Standard Membership Sub-Committee).

Ms. Blair is the immediate past National Recording Secretary and a member of the NACWC Legacy Club through her mother Mrs. Ruthann Blair.

**Announcement:** NACWC Regions will be profiled in upcoming NACWC National Notes Magazines in 2021. Send region activities and information to the assistant editor.



**ANNOUNCEMENT:** The Sisterhood Column is devoted to articles that lifting up club sisters. Articles can be in the form of narrative essays, poetry, positive experience or just pictures. These articles will only appear in the NACWC National Notes Magazine that is published twice a year. We invite all NACWC, YA and NAYC club members to submit articles for this column.

## Deborah Ford Williams

*Submitted By Sharon Bridgeforth*

### **My Club Sister....My Roommate...My Sister/Travel Partner and Confidante**

It's so interesting how Deborah and my relationship have evolved over these many years.

**My Club Sister:** Deborah became a member of the LaBella Art and Literary Club through invitation of Past Northwest President Johnnie B. Peters, probably 20 years or more.

Although I didn't know her, I had heard her name before. She was enthusiastic and willing to serve, immediately. I really enjoyed working with her. At the time she joined, I was going to the National Conventions with Past State President, Brenda Jackson and Deborah became roommates with Johnnie.

**My Roommate:** When Brenda and Johnnie were no longer attending, Deborah and I discussed being roommates. We both were enjoying the conventions and wanted to continue, so we decided to try it. We had so many things in common and we had so much fun and she was as social as me!! It was great and we have been roommates, ever since. We were talking about it a few weeks ago and we couldn't remember exactly, we think 10 conventions and Board meetings. We also started attending the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation week of workshops, over the past 4 years.

**My Sister:** When the house was being renovated for my Mom, Deborah lovingly, boxed her hats and labeled them. She would also sit with my Mom, when I had meetings. When we first became roommates, I found out I went to high school with her Husband, Clinton. She included me in many family activities including her daughter's beautiful wedding!! It was my honor to be there for her and her family when Clinton passed away.

When I became NACWC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Deborah was there!! She helped in any way she could, especially, when Denver hosted the 2010 National Convention. She helped with securing some of the dignitaries.

**Travel Partner/Confidante:** When I became President, Deborah said, I will travel with you, wherever you go, and she did!! Our first trip was to Mississippi, Alabama and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March. The club sisters were fantastic! She drove us through a rain storm, where we could hardly see, and we made it. Due to the financial state of the organization at the time, she financed portions of the trips.

As a Leader, you need someone who will be your sounding board, and Deborah was that for me, which was much appreciated.

Deborah, thank you for being a fantastic Friend and the Sister I never had! **I Love You !!!!!**





## THE LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS (LAWCWC) CELEBRATES NACWC's 124<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY THROUGH PHILANTHROPY

To celebrate the 124<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of NACWC, the Mary Church Terrell and the Hollywood Camellia Clubs of LACWC's SW Region each donated \$124.00 to the Providence House of Shreveport, Louisiana, totaling \$248.00.

The Providence House is a non-profit that helps the low income and homeless in Caddo Parish Louisiana. The non-profit works to end the cycle of homelessness. Among other things, Providence House will help families gain the access to the assistance they need to move permanently to independent living situations.

Providence House works to address the root cause of poverty and homelessness. Case managers take a holistic approach to understanding, identifying, and using solutions through systemic change. Providence House also partners with Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC) and other local service providers, charities, and non-

profit in Caddo Parish in order to help the less fortunate. The agency expects responsibility and accountability from both the families and others in order to achieve goals and be successful. Aid is offered as a hand up and not a hand out.

Other services include but not limited to:

Working to Learn Education and Adult GED program.

Pathways to Success, which is a series of courses covering critical life skills.

General Counseling and Support Groups.

Job Training and free Career Counseling services.

Transportation Assistance and Rides to Interviews.

Child Education and Development Center.



**From Left to Right:** Verni Howard (Executive Director);

Tiny Thomas (LA State President);

Dr. Brenda McCray Richardson (Mary Church Terrell President); Barbara Lane, Linda R. Smith, Brenretta R.

Anderson, Autumn B. Anderson, Paulette Carter

(Hollywood Camellia Club President); Barbara Norton, and Wendy Bristo (Assistant Director of Programs).

## AROUND THE FEDERATION -YOUTH-

### August, 2020. Teen Empowerment Net Youth Club

Participated in a backpack giveaway drive for the local community. Members help gather school supplies and backpacks for this event. At this event,

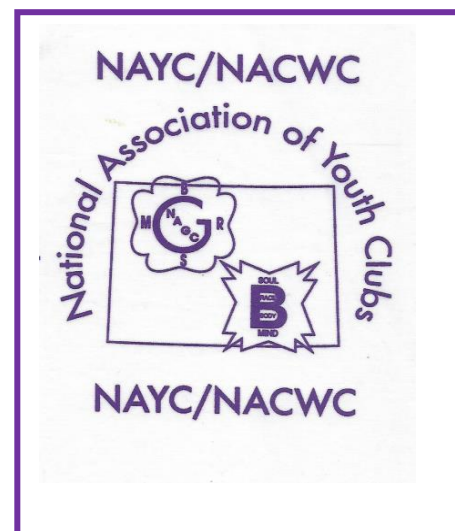
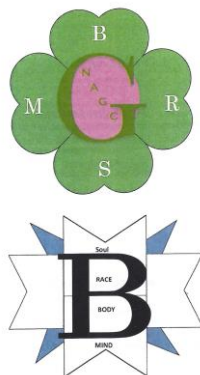
Collaboration with Antioch M.B. Church.  
Gave away 75 backpacks with school supplies.



## NACWC Youth Department



**Eva Owens**  
*National Youth Supervisor  
Assistant National Notes Editor*



## **HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH CLUBS**

In 1930, Mrs. Sallie Stewart, 9<sup>th</sup> National President of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs (NACWC) founded the National Association of Colored Girls. Three years later the first Girls Guide was presented and approved in Chicago, Illinois. The guide was later revised in 1946 and the group's name was changed to the National Association of Girls' Clubs (NAGC).

NAGC's purpose is

- To foster moral, intellectual, cultural, and spiritual training of its members;
- To inspire and to instill ideals of finer womanhood/manhood:
- To teach the marvelous heritage of the African American race:
- To preserve the health and beauty of the body:
- To inspire the love for home and mankind: and
- To provide such training and spirit of dedication that the transition to the Young Adult Division of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. will be automatic and inspiring.

In 1983, Mr. John H. Johnson, publisher of Ebony Magazine, offered to financially support a group for boys should NACWC create such an organization.

On July 30, 1984, The National Association of Boys' Clubs was founded by Mrs. Otelia Champion, 21<sup>st</sup> National President of NACWC and chartered at NACWC's Biennial Convention in Norfolk, Virginia.

In 1991 the two groups merged and was renamed the National Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC). The two clubs maintain the same standards.

Each youth club is sponsored by an adult club and a member of the club appointed as supervisor for the youth. Each member is to be self-directing, responsible, ambitious, and an industrious individual. Each member should be willing to serve as a leader and must be a supporter of the highest ideals for mankind.





## YOUTH CLUB PURSUITS

### FANNIE A PARKER YOUTH CLUB – NORTH CAROLINA

Our youth supported the local food pantry just before the pandemic, donations totaling 199 pounds with a cash value over \$124.



Picture L to R: Stella Brothers (Youth Leader), Jaidyn Jackson, John Castillo, Messiah Coston, Jayla Phelps, Aliah Spencer, Steven Ferebee, Jevelle Bunch, and Janya Jackson

### STEPPING FORWARD YOUTH CLUB – NORTH CAROLINA

#### Food Drive





# GRADUATION



***Marlon Corbett Jr.***

*SE Region - North Carolina  
Stepping Forward Youth Group  
Advisor Geraldine Young*



**YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT  
-RECENT CHAPTER INDUCTIONS-**

**THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.  
WELCOMES**

**The Missouri Young Adult Chapter**

**P.O.I.S.E**

**P**rotecting **O**ur Identities **T**hrough **S**isterhood and **E**mpowerment



Left to Right: Tuesday Williams, Anjonae Selmon, Sara Retta, Leah Pepper, Maikel Pearson, Cheyanne Parker, Alliyah Mayweather, Lee Liddell, Jatara Harris, Kathy Murry Harold, Amel Brown, Rachel Black, Unique Allen

**YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT  
-RECENT CHAPTER INDUCTIONS-**

**THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.**

**WELCOMES**

**Kentucky Young Adult Chapter**

**W.I.S.E.**

**W**omen **I**nfluencing **S**uccess and **E**xcellence



*Induction Ceremony*

Welcome.....*TrAsia Martin, M.Ed. Program Coordinator  
Center for Graduate and Professional Diversity, University of Kentucky*

Invocation.....*Dr. Johnnie Moore Hinton, OACWC President*

Introduction of Inductees.....*TrAsia Martin, University Advisor*

Introduction Ceremony.....*Melody Blair, CRACWC President*

Planting Ceremony.....*Dr. Johnnie Moore Hinton, OACWC President*

Young Adult Pledge.....*Inductees and Officers*

The Charge.....*Deborah Smith  
Central Region Young Adult Coordinator*

Awarding of Certificates.....*Andrea Brooks-Smith  
20th President NAACWC Inc.*

Response/Recognition of Guest.....*Kiaura Acklin, WISE President*

**Official Ceremony Closing**

Remarks.....*Opal Bacon, 2nd Vice President & Membership Chair  
Erika Swainston-Bloomkaster, 38th Region Young Adult Coordinator  
Melody Blair, Central Region President*

"Lift Every Voice & Sing".....*A.L.E.*

Closing Prayer.....*WISE Chaplain*

*"Lifting as We Climb"*

*Inductees*

KIAURA ACKLIN  
ANDREA CUMMINGS  
RENISHA DAVIS  
EUNIQUE GATHER  
KENDALL HOFFE  
JELIAH LOGAN  
RAVEN REEVES  
SHAKIRA WASHINGTON  
CYMONE WEBBS  
ESSENCE WHITE  
IYAHNA WILSON

*"Lifting as We Climb"*

**YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT  
-RECENT CHAPTER INDUCTIONS-**

**THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.**

**WELCOMES**

**Illinois Young Adult Chapter**

**W.O.N. D. E. R.**

**W**omen **O**f **N**otable **D**istinction and **E**xceptional **R**esilience



*Rania Al-Najjar*

*Prevail Bonga*

*Aniya Fleming*

*Debora Foster*

*Candace Jones*

*Tinuola Olarinde*

*Latifat Soyan*

*Shakia Williams*

## THE ELDERS PAGE



**Mrs. Freddie Barnett** joined National Association of Colored Women's Clubs in 1959 and is a Life Member.

In 1959 Mrs. Barnett began by giving her time and talent to NACWC through her membership in the Tacoma City Association of Colored Women's Clubs.

Freddie Barnett is well known for her loyalty. For fifty-five of her sixty one years of service, Mrs. Barnett held offices at various levels in the NACWC organization. These offices included NW Region President (NWRWC), Washington State President (WASCWC) and Tacoma City Association President (TCACWC). She often related stories about the organization that inspired others to become club members and members to "dig deeper" when it came to providing their time and talent.

Early in her membership, Mrs. Barnett was encouraged by the late Mrs. Lillian Walker and Mrs. Greer of the Bremerton Washington Association of Colored Women's Clubs. Freddie soon became a regular NACWC Biennial Convention attendee, always seen

there with her mentoring friends, Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Greer.

In 2019, Freddie Barnett became blind. While some might believe that blindness disables and has prevented Mrs. Barnett from doing, this is not the case. Mrs. Barnett continues to passionately encourage women to join the organization and also, to express to members the importance of loyalty to the organization.

**Editor's Note:** Thanks is expressed to Mrs. Mary Epperson, Cynthia Tucker and Mrs. Opal Bacon, for supplying the information needed for this article.



OF INTEREST  
-AUTHORS WE SHOULD KNOW-

**Terry McMillan.** African American Novelist Terry McMillan is the author of *It's Not All Downhill*. Ms. McMillan noted for her female protagonists, is best known for two popular novels that became movies, *Waiting to Exhale* and *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*.



**Jacqueline Woodson.** African American Newberry Award Winner children and young adult book writer, Jacqueline Woodson is the author of the books *Red to The Bone* and the *Day You Begin* and is best known for her book, *Miracle Boys*. A 2020 Hans Christian Anderson and MacArthur Fellows Programs recipient. Ms. Woodson is praised for creating positive female characters and has been criticized for her straight forward presentation of the genuine issues affecting children and youth today.

**Isabel Wilkerson.** African American author Isabel Wilkerson was the first black woman to receive the Pulitzer Prize in Journalism. She is best known for her book *The Warmth of Other Suns*. Ms. Wilkerson's latest non-fiction writing, is the book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, an Oprah's (Winfrey) Book Club pick.



**Colson Whitehead.** African American Novelist Colson Whitehead, author of *The Nickel Boys*, winner of both the 2017 and 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and is a receiver of the 2002 MacArthur Fellowship Genius Grant. His current work in progress is a not yet titled crime novel.



OF INTEREST  
SUGGESTED WINTER READING

CURRENT EVENTS

**Title**

*Rage*

*You're Fired: The Perfect Guide to  
Beating Donald Trump*

**Author**

Woodward, Bob

Begala, Paul

ENVIRONMENT

**Title**

*Deeper Shades of Green: The Rise of  
Blue-Color and Minority  
Environmentalism In America*

**Author**

Schwab, Jim

HISTORY

**Title**

*Slavery By Another Name: The  
Re-Enslavement of Black Americans  
From Civil War to World War II*

**Author**

Blackmon, Douglas A.

*There is a River: The Struggle  
For Freedom in America*

Harding, Vincent

LITERATURE

**Title**

*Racecraft: The Soul of Inequality  
in American Life*

**Author**

Fields, Barbara J. and  
Fields, Karen E.

PSYCHOLOGY

**Title**

*Autobiography of Black Male Violence:  
A Personal Critique of Episodic Male  
Violence in America*

**Author**

Porter, Rev. Doctor John R.

*Autobiography of Black Male Violence  
A Personal Critique of Episodic Male  
Violence in America – A Study Guide:  
Resources for Men and Boys Who Are  
Tired of Being Destroyed by Miseducation,  
Drugs/Violence, Idleness, Joblessness, etc.*

Porter, Rev. Doctor John R.

**BODY AND NUTRITION  
-EXERCISE-**

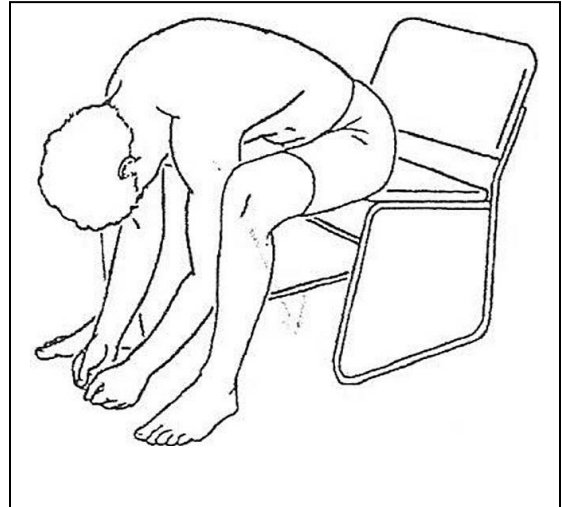
**BACK - Lower Back Stretch (Sitting and Standing)**

Sit in chair with knees spread apart. Bend forward to floor, walking hands down the outside of your left leg until a comfortable stretch should be felt in lower back.

Hold 30 seconds

Repeat 4 times per set. Do 1 sets per session.

Do 1 sessions per day.



**BACK - Thoracolumbar Side-Bend: Single Arm  
(Standing and Sitting)**

Sit in chair.

Reach over head to other side with right arm until stretch is felt.

Hold 30 seconds.

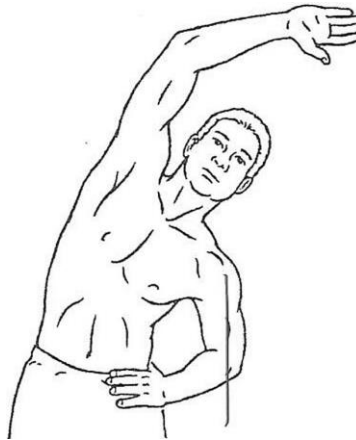
Perform to the opposite side.

Relax.

Repeat 4 times per set.

Do 1 set per session.

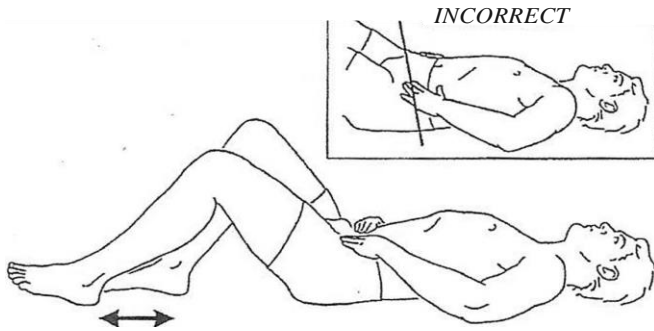
Do 1 sessions per day.



## BODY AND NUTRITION -EXERCISE-

### LOWER TRUNK

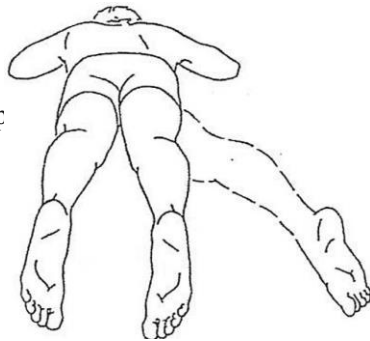
Heel Slide: 4-10 Inches Transverse Plane Stability



Slide heel down. Be sure pelvis does not rotate.  
Do 10 times. Restabilize pelvis. Repeat with other leg.  
Do 2 sets, 1 time per day.

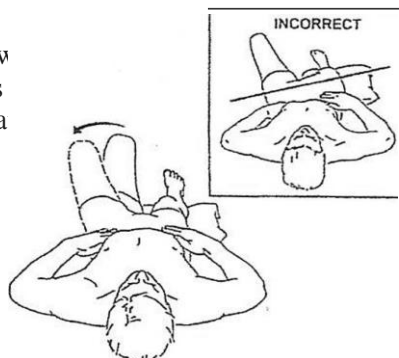
### LOWER TRUNK - Adduction: Prone

Lie face down.  
Slide leg out to side. Keep  
Repeat with other leg



Do 10 times  
1 time per day.

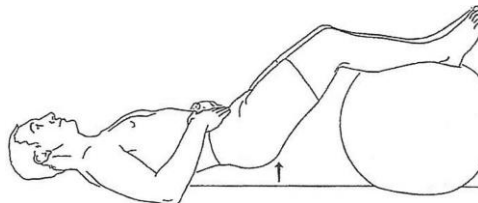
One knee bent, one leg straight, on pillow  
Slowly roll bent knee out. Be sure pelvis  
Do -10 times. Restabilize pelvis. Repea



## BODY AND NUTRITION -EXERCISE-

### EXERCISE BALL

Lift hips, keeping pelvis level. Do 10 times, 2 sets



### LOWER EXTREMITY

Hip Rotation in Supine

Lying flat on back, rotate legs from side to side

Repeat 10 times per set.

Do 2 sets per session.



## CHICKEN SOUP – EVERYONE’S FEEL GOOD RECIPE (Simplified Version – Adapt It and Make It Your Own)

Equipment: Stock Pot (or other large pan)

Ingredients: Chicken (raw - whole or parts; or cooked leftover)

Celery, onions, carrots, garlic and/or other vegetables you like. (Suggest fresh veggies, but frozen or canned can be used.) Salt, pepper, herbs (optional and to taste.)

Directions: Put ingredients in pot/pan, cover with water, put on the stove burner, turn on the burner. Bring to a boil and reduce heat to simmer. If using raw chicken, cook until the chicken is done. If using cooked chicken simmer on low heat for at least 1 hour. (You can always use a crockpot)

## STRESS THERAPY OATMEAL COOKIES BY REBECCA (Vegans Love This)

Equipment: Get a cookie sheet and a big bowl

Ingredients: 3 cups of oatmeal, 1-1/2 cups each of flour, brown sugar, butter; 1-1/2 teaspoon baking powder. Additionally ingredient Options - Add vanilla, chocolate, cranberries, raisins, walnut nuts, pecans.

Directions: Turn on oven 350. Grease cookie sheet. Mix all ingredients together with your hands. Roll into balls. Put balls on the cookie sheet. Place in oven 10-15 minutes or until done.

## IN MEMORIAM

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### *...Just Hold On!*

*You are being prepared for something greater. If you're going through hardships and trials right now, just know that they are for your own good. You are carefully handpicked by God and placed in your circumstances for a special reason. You can thank God for the hard times and trials knowing that He has a bigger plan and picture for your life! James says, "My brothers and sisters, you will have many kinds of trouble. But this gives you a reason to be very happy. You know that when your faith is tested, you learn to be patient in suffering. If you let that patience work in you, the end result will be good. You will be mature and complete. You will be all that God wants you to be." James 1: 2-4 (ERV). Remember, God designed you to be a person who you are for a purpose. You are unique and special, and you carry great value and significance. God does not see your same potential in anybody else. That's why He wants to do something deep in you so He can do something huge through you. So, when life puts you in tough situation, don't say, "LORD, why me?" Instead say, "LORD, try me." And be exceedingly happy knowing that your loving Heavenly Father is working out His great and wonderful plan in your life!*

*-Kenneth Thomas Ministries*

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Thank you heavenly father for letting us see the dawning of a new day, closed in our right minds and having health and strength. Because you show us new mercies every day we are so grateful to be called your children. Father thank you for choosing us to do a great work in this organization National Association of Colored Women & Youth Clubs. We pray blessings on each member, wisdom for our president and all officers. As we go thru these trying times experiencing death and sickness of our family, friends and love ones because of COVID-19. We ask for the strength to hold on. You are alpha and omega, the beginning and the end of our total being. Jeremiah 29:11 says "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm, plans to give you hope and a future". Help us to hold to your word knowing you will never forsake us. We give you the glory and honor that you are worthy of, you are Lord of Lord and King of Kings. Thank you for your son Jesus, who loved us so much. We praise your name, we bless your name. In Jesus name we ask these and all blessing. Amen.



**NACWC MEMORIAL CEREMONY**  
*The Memorial Ceremony to mourn the passing of sisters.*

The relationship between club sisters is a most profound and lasting bond. The ceremony is one of closure and remembrance. It can be further modified by chaplains throughout the organization to fit the needs of the members they serve. Flowers and familiar songs may be added to the ceremony.

***President Lights White Unity Candle***

**Leader:** At the rising of the sun and at its going down

**All:** We remember them

**Leader:** At the blowing of the wing and the chill of winter

**All:** We remember them

**Leader:** At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring

**All:** We remember them

**Leader:** At rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn

**All:** We will remember them

**Leader:** At the beginning of the year and when it ends

**All:** We remember. As long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of us and we will remember them.

***Candle Lighting Ceremony***  
***Regional Presidents***

**Northeast:** I light this candle in remembrance of the godly women who across the years have lived valiantly and heroically. Give us, O Heavenly Father, the wisdom and the strength to emulate their lives as we continue on the pathway they have forged before us.

**Southeast:** I light this candle in remembrance of the godly women who worked diligently to promote

and uphold the ideals and standards – the goals and objectives – of the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs, the women who taught us that if we did not stand for something we would fall for anything.

**Central:** I light this candle in remembrance of the godly women who gave unselfishly of their time, talent, and treasure to bring to fruition the visions dreams, and programs of the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs and to ensure the longevity of this great sisterhood. May we embrace the gift of giving. May we willingly accept their anointing.

**Northwest:** I light this candle in remembrance of the godly women who achieved against the odds, who through the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the blessings of our Heavenly Father, accomplished incredible deeds with little or no resources. May their legacy inspire us to tackle the seemingly impossible.

**Southwest:** I light this candle in remembrance of the godly women who across the years strove to lift as they climbed through deeds not words. May we continue the traditions they began to enhance and build upon them as we endeavor to promote interracial understanding, justice and peace, to raise the standard of the home, to promote the education of women and children, and to advance the moral, economic, social and religious welfare of the family.

IN MEMORIAM

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THE LIST  
JULY, 2018 TO OCTOBER 19, 2020

**NORTHEASTERN REGION**

**New York**

Barbara Baker Baylor  
Ruth Carter  
Marion L. Gray  
Alvanic Hill  
Geneva Kelly  
Ernestine Octavia Miles  
Mary Alice Newkirk  
Yvonne Nevius  
Diane Simmons  
Bessie Vale  
Johnnie Waddell  
Gloria West

**New Jersey**

Dolores Margaret Harris, EdD  
Sandra Jackson  
Dianne Robinson  
Willie "Billie" Townsend  
Ethel Williams

**SOUTHEASTERN REGION**

**North Carolina**

Lou Davis Smitt Barnes  
Arabelle Bryant  
Amy E. Williams

**South Carolina**

Hazel Harkness  
Victoria "Vickie" Thomas  
Dorothy Williams

**Mississippi**

Gwendolyn Bishop-Chambliss  
Leona Denton  
Violet Williams

**Tennessee**

Darlene Anderson  
Liz Bond  
Hazel Frierson  
Willie Mae Lewis  
Macie Elaine Pope Pryor  
Willie Mae Starks

**IN MEMORIAM**  
(CONTINUED)

**CENTRAL REGION**

**Illinois**

Mrs. Frankie Bowman  
Willie Mae Long  
Mary Glasper  
Gracie Austin  
Martha Milsap

**Indiana**

Teresa Moore

**Michigan**

Jean Kersey Palmer

**Missouri**

Barbara Bratton  
Patricia Danner  
Ethel Davison  
Elizabeth Edwards

**Ohio**

Dorothy Jean Adams  
Constance Coleman  
Paralee Watkins Compton  
Leona Denton  
Evelyn E. Gilliam  
Annetta Herring  
Marjorie Hoskins  
Juanita Mack  
Lucy Thelma Grace Osbourne  
Johnnie Mae Rogers  
Mary Elizabeth Caldwell Simmons  
Mrs. Verona Smith  
Loretta Lee Tucker, Pastor

**SOUTHWESTERN REGION**

**Texas**

Shirley Payne

**Arizona**

Edith Hagler

**Arkansas**

Charlene Warren

**Louisiana**

Leslie Moss  
Mary Dugan

**Oklahoma**

Beatrice Dan

**NORTHWESTERN REGION**

No Loss



## THE FINAL WORD Reflections



I don't exactly remember the presidency of Dr. Harris as I was just a member of the youth organization at the time (around 8-12 years old).

It is her strength and commitment as a Past President that I remember. She was present at all National Conventions and BOD meetings. She had a strong conviction and love the NACWC and the legacy there of. She invested in the organization by being ever present and being the voice of reason even during chaos. Her no nonsense style resonates with me the most. Growing up in this federation she groomed me for greatness.

Although she will be sorely missed, I'm grateful that God granted me (and most of you) the opportunity to sit at her feet and learn the ways of sisterhood and federation. Long live the legacy of Dr. Dolores Harris NACWC 23rd President.

### *Andrea Brooks-Smith, 30<sup>th</sup> National President*

The Lord has picked another beautiful rose for His Garden. I mourn the loss of Past President, Dr. Dolores M. Harris.

I am so thankful to have had the pleasure of knowing her. There is one thing you could say about Dr. Harris, she told it like it was and she didn't mind correcting you either, if you did something wrong!

I remember when I became Executive Board Chair, after the morning session, she came up to the podium, and she said "come down here". Well, I was scared; remember I said correction. I came down from the podium, and she whispered in my ear "You did a great job you didn't let them get out of control". That was music to my ears. She was also very encouraging, not only to me, but ALL of us!

**THE FINAL WORD**  
**Reflections**  
(Continued)

When I was contemplating running for President, and I asked her, how long did it take her to become President, with the moving up process? She said to me, “I didn’t do that, I thought I could contribute to the organization, so I ran”. Again, she encouraged me.

I will remember her with thoughts that make me smile. She left us with **her Strength, Determination and LOVE for the NACWC!!**

*Sharon R. Bridgeforth, Immediate Past President*

I remember Dr. Dolores Harris. I remember a woman who was not tall in statue, but a giant in deeds and actions. But what I remember the most about her, is the way she connected you to people.

When I became president, she came to me during one of our meetings and asked me to tell her more about myself, about my dreams, my education, my likes, and dislikes. Out of that amazing conversation, came a more astonishing action. She introduced me personally to her playwright nephew – Mr. Lee Harris. And when she did, he and I bonded. We are still good friends to this very day. But that bond also helped NACWC financially.

Lee Harris is a renowned playwright. During that time, he had written a musical titled “When a Child Cries.” His aunt, “Dr. Dolores Harris,” had told him she would help him produce the show if he gave a sizeable contribution to NACWC, Inc. She then told him about me, and he contacted me.

Well this is what happened... She kept her word. She had retired from Rowan University as the continuing director of education, but as I had stated earlier, she had connections and still knew the president, board of directors, and many other powerful people who always kept in contact with her. Dr. Harris contacted the president who put her in touch with the head of the theater department. This professor allowed us to produce Lee Harris’ play to the public at no charge for two weekends. He allowed his staff to build the set and use his PR department to help us publicize the play. And what is most memorable is who starred in the play. It was the fabulous, highly acclaimed Mrs. Karen Clark Sheard.

Several members of the New Jersey federation came out to support us. It was a magical evening. I got to meet Mrs. Sheard and other mind-blowing performers and it was all because of the awe-inspiring Dr. Dolores Harris. What a woman. She is a constructor of our motto, “*Lifting as We Climb.*” May God give her blessed peace and sweet rest, until we all meet on that great getting up morning. And may her family be comforted in knowing we loved her and will miss her.

*Evelyn Rising 28<sup>th</sup> National President*



***VOTE!***

***WEAR THE MASK!***

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.**



**1601 R STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009**