



SC NAACP Holds Its 11th Annual King Day at the Dome Rally



Honoring King: Creating a Coalition for Social Justice

by Tom Turnipseed

The 12th annual King Day at the Dome march and rally at the South Carolina State House on January 17 brought together a coalition of organizations and individuals who are working to fulfill the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. They advocated cooperative activism for more jobs, affordable housing, better health care for the poor and disabled, and to oppose drastic cuts for public education, as well as a draconian Arizona styled immigration legislation that will be very costly, financially and morally.

Our event has had the highest attendance of any King Day birthday celebration in the country since 2000, with this year's crowd filling the front plaza and including two busloads from Detroit. More than 50,000 people participated in 2000 in our first such march and rally sponsored by the South Carolina NAACP to protest the Confederate flag flying atop our State House along with the United States' and South Carolina's state flags. In a disrespectful gesture to the massive protest, the South Carolina General Assembly brokered a "compromise" among themselves that moved the rebel flag from atop our state capitol to the Confederate soldier's memorial monument in front of the State House on July 1, 2000.

The Confederate flag has been a symbol of

white supremacy, waved by the Klan, racist rednecks and assorted devotees of the Confederate morality when they lynched and terrorized black people from the Civil War to the present day. The KKK waved the rebel flag as they burned black churches in South Carolina in the '90s. In 1962 it was placed atop the State House in defiance of the Civil Rights Movement. At the Confederate soldier's monument the rebel flag has remained a visible statement of in-your-face disrespect to people of color. At the rally we renewed the S.C. NAACP's call to remove the Confederate battle flag from the State House grounds.

Dr. Lonnie Randolph said it was an atrocity to celebrate the 150th anniversary of South Carolina's secession from the union on December 20th in Charleston with a "gala". South Carolina's secession and subsequent firing on Fort Sumter to defend slavery started a war that killed over 600,000 soldiers, and is nothing to celebrate. He declared it is as offensive to black people as it would be to Jewish Americans if we "celebrated" their oppression under Nazi Germany.

The NAACP held a protest march and rally against the secession "celebration" in Charleston and I was in a picture on the front page of the local newspaper participating in the march. On December 29 Dr. Randolph held a media conference that I attended. 3 days later I received a handwritten letter from an unnamed person who signed the letter, "a

See King Day at the Dome on page 4

Myrlie Evers Williams

"You can kill a man but you can't kill an idea"

KEEP THE IDEA OF FREEDOM ALIVE

JOIN NAACP

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Goose Creek Branch NAACP
 PO Box 1356
 Goose Creek, SC 29445-1356
 Telephone: 843-276-6294
www.naacpgoosecreek.org
 Email: info@naacpgoosecreek.org

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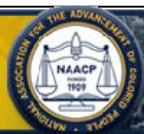
BRANCH MEETINGS

**Goose Creek NAACP meets the first Monday
of the month at Abraham Masonic Building
206 Liberty Hall Rd; Goose Creek, SC.**

Upcoming Meetings

Monday February 7, 2011 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM General Meeting
Monday March 7, 2011 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM General Meeting

**NAACP
ANNUAL MEETING**



102nd NAACP Annual Convention
NAACP: Affirming America's Promise
July 23 - 28, 2011

Los Angeles Convention Center
1201 S Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, California 90015

Convention Housing Information will be available March 2011

**For ALL NAACP CONVENTION RELATED INQUIRIES
call the Events Planning Department at 410-580-5780.**

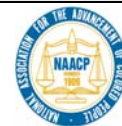
**THE 42ND NAACP
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**WATCH
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Go online to
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to see nominees



**58th Annual Southeast Region
Civil Rights Advocacy Training Institute**
"STRATEGY, STRENGTH, AND SUCCESS"



March 24 - 27, 2011
Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa
201 Tallapoosa Street • Montgomery, AL 36104 • (334) 481-5000

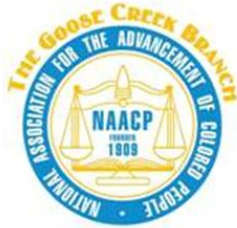
Conference Registration
Adult \$50 • Youth/College \$30

For Registration, Event Tickets and Additional Information, call:
(404) 227-1659 or email naacpse@gmail.com

Guest Speakers include:
NAACP President Benjamin T. Jealous ♦ Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell ♦ Dr. Hazel
N. Dukes, President NY NAACP ♦ Bishop James Davis, A.M.E. Church ♦ Bob King,
International President United Auto Workers



Attention: Parents • Students • Teachers



Goose Creek NAACP And The Princeton Review Have Teamed UP To Provide Free Practice SAT and ACT Exams for Students Test Strategy Session for Students

A Free Financial Aid Workshop for Parents

8 AM Saturday February 19, 2011

At

Goose Creek High School

1137 Red Bank Road; Goose Creek, SC

Join us at Goose Creek High School on Saturday, February 19, 2011 from 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM for a free practice PSAT or ACT exam. While students are testing, parents are encouraged to attend the free Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshop also held at Goose Creek High School.

Sign up by visiting www.princetonreview.com - enter zip code 29445 and select either PSAT or ACT in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. From here you will be able to select free events and register. Space is limited so sign up today.

Questions? Please contact:

Andrea Glover Matthews (843-729-7994); Email: glover_andrea@yahoo.com,

Brenda Bines Watson (843-870-4225); Email: brenda_bines@yahoo.com

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or call Princeton Review at 800-2Review (800-273-8439)

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided

Free to All Students

Hosted By Goose Creek NAACP





Redistricting from page 1

Carolina" and printed "Sons of the Confederacy, Senior Vice President" on the envelope. He began the four page diatribe with, "Mr. Tom Turnipseed, Since you seem to love the black people (Re: Your recent smiling face while Lonnie Randolph did the usual BS on TV and you marching in Charleston) Do you realize the blacks are taking over and whites like you are helping and cheering them on?...They have a truckload of children (without) a daddy so they get a bigger welfare check...the white race creates everything in America". As a life member of the NAACP serving on the SC NAACP's planning committee, I've raised the wrath of racists who have picketed our law office with signs calling me a race traitor.

The immigration issue is also threatening to racists. Dr. King said "We may have come on different ships, but we are in the same boat now." Wade Henderson, CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights Coalition spoke at our rally against the immigration legislation pending in South Carolina, calling for coalition action to defeat it.

Passage of the law will require State resources for additional law enforcement personnel, more prison space, the defense of legal challenges. We will lose tourism dollars due to boycotts and lose labor for the tourist and construction industries and to harvest our crops, all while vital government services are cut. Morally, the bill violates our values by jailing peaceful, hard-working people and separating children from their families, as well as by racial profiling.



Homeless Helping Homeless (HHH) was on the King Day agenda. HHH members are working to remove the negative stereotyping of homeless and become responsible, productive citizens with jobs, affordable housing and

health care.

John Holmes, chairman of Homeless Helping Homeless (HHH) quoted Dr. King, "we are all interdependent, all interrelated. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are our brother's keeper because we are our brother's brother."

Our interdependent coalition at King Day at the Dome will work for social justice to fulfill Dr. King's legacy.■

Tom Turnipseed is an attorney, writer and peace activist in Columbia, SC. He is a Life Member of the NAACP and a active member of the Columbia NAACP Branch. His blog is <http://tomandjudyonablog.blogspot.com/>

What Others Said About King Day at the Dome



"INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERY" powerful words from the Great Dr. King as this Mighty Man of God Dr. William J. Barber, II addressed the people at the Prayer Service of the NAACP King Day At The Dome. Awesome is the descriptive word that comes to mind for one who is never afraid to preach the truth. He boldly stands for right and righteousness. We must take hold of those inspiring words that "Nothing Would Be More Tragic Than For Us To Give Up Now! May God continue to richly bless him, his family, and the ministry God has blessed him with.■

*Wanda Taylor
Colleton County Branch NAACP*



"I thought there was good representation at SC's King Day at the Dome from the many organizations that are facing the continuous and vicious attacks of human and civil rights. This reflects the overwhelming need to join together in confronting these issues. It is sad

that we are witnessing unprecedented racism at this time in the history of our nation.



Dr. King left us with messages of hope for the purpose of action, not simply remembrance. We must honor him by applying these messages to our actions to further his dreams."■

*Donna S. DeWitt, President
South Carolina AFL-CIO*



Thanks for you all having me as a guest with the South Carolina State Conferences NAACP.

The King Day at the Dome in South Carolina provided me with an opportunity to reflect on the past while renewing my commitment to the fight for Human and Civil Rights. It was an opportunity for The Georgia State Conference NAACP to reinforce its support for the South Carolina State Conference NAACP Boycott against South Carolina until the Confederate Flag is taken down from the Capital.

Perhaps more than the renewing of the commitment to the fight for Human and Civil Rights at the King Day Program was the exposure to the crowd. A crowd that in freezing temperature found a way to brave the weather to celebrate the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

*Edward Dubose, President
Georgia NAACP Conference of Branches
Member NAACP National Board*



"Take down that flag and fold it up. Take down the myth that the Confederacy was a good thing. Take down racism. Take down terrorism. Take down hate. Take down the lies. Stop letting that flag unfurl its untruths over this capitol. It

flies in a stale wind."

"South Carolina, if you want to do something good, take down that flag and lift up justice."■

*The Rev. Dr. William Barber, II, President
NAACP North Carolina Conference
of Branches
Member NAACP National Board*

MLK at the Dome Remarks Cont'd on Pg 8

Eliminating Health Disparities: An NAACP Strategic Priority

Elimination of disparities in accessibility to quality health care services by African-Americans and other minority groups is central to the work of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch. The Health Committee of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch:

- Advocates for universal health insurance and access to appropriate health care for all;
- Campaigns for equal access to health education, care and treatment;
- Sponsors events, such as health forums, HIV/AIDS Testing, and events that highlight issues of importance to people of color;
- Promotes equal representation of African-Americans and other minorities within the health professions;
- Advocates for increased research funding for African-American health issues; and supports health initiatives of the national NAACP.



The HIV/AIDS Epidemic in the United States Is REAL—Get the Facts!

In the United States as well as in South Carolina, the HIV/AIDS epidemic disproportionately affects African-Americans compared with persons of other races and ethnicities. Today, women account for more than 1 in 4 new HIV/AIDS cases in the United States.

In 2008, there were more than 14,600 persons reported to be living with HIV infection (including AIDS) in South Carolina. According to recent data, South Carolina ranked fourth in the country for the proportion of persons living with AIDS who are African-American (73 percent). The rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS per 100,000 is almost six times higher for black males than for white males.

Before we can stop any epidemic, we first have to recognize the magnitude of the disease. HIV is still a threat across the United States. And even though there are treatments to help people with HIV live longer than ever before, AIDS is still a significant health issue. Surprised? Get the facts:

- Every 9½ minutes (on average), someone in the United States is infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.
- In 2006, an estimated 56,300 people became infected with HIV.
- More than 1 million people in the United States are living with HIV.
- Of those 1 million people living with HIV, 1 out of 5 do not know they are infected. (People who have HIV but don't know it can unknowingly pass the virus to their partners.)
- Despite new therapies, people with HIV still develop AIDS.
- Over 1 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with AIDS.



National BLACK HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2011

African-American Women and AIDS

SAVE THE DATE

African-American Women's Conference
ENABLING, ENRICHING, AND ENHANCING INDIVIDUALS
Sponsored by the UMC Global AIDS Fund Committee
MARCH 3-5, 2011
Columbia, South Carolina

Get Educated! Get Tested! Get Involved! Get Treated!

WORLDWIDE GLOBAL AIDS FUND

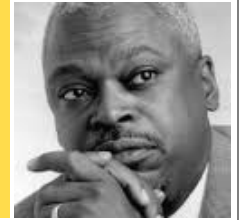
Today, women account for more than 1 in 4 new HIV/AIDS cases in the United States. Of these newly infected women, about 2 out of 3 are African-American. Most of these women got HIV from having unprotected sex with a man.



The Leadership
Conference

Message to Goose Creek NAACP from 2011 King Day at the Dome Keynote Speaker Wade Henderson

President and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights



I am Wade Henderson, president of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights – a coalition of more than 200 national civil and human rights organizations – including the NAACP -- working to build an America that is as good as its ideals.

It was my honor to be with you for King Day at the Dome to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and to join in your efforts to make his dream a reality for every person in the Palmetto State.

For more than 100 years, the NAACP has been on the front lines of every battle for civil rights and equal opportunity. As a former director of the NAACP's Washington Bureau, I know firsthand that the NAACP's greatest strength lies in its grassroots – the more than half a million members nationwide in almost 2,000 local units, including the branches here in all 46 South Carolina counties. So to every NAACP member -- and to every person who shares a vision of a more just society -- let me say: It's your faith, it's your passion, and it's your dedication to the cause that makes this vital work possible.

As we know, Martin Luther King devoted his life to creating a coalition of conscience that transcended race, religion, region, and partisanship. He believed that, even at the most perilous points in our national journey, a coalition of conscience could move America forward.

On the day before his life was taken from him, Dr. King declared that he had "been to the mountaintop" and had "seen the Promised Land." But he concluded prophetically, "I might not get there with you."

Dr. King would have been proud that, four decades later, those whom the civil rights movement had enfranchised would elect a President who proudly proclaims himself to be part of the "Joshua generation" that continues the journey towards justice begun by the Moses generation.

In the last year of his life, Dr. King published a book whose very title – "Where Do We Go

from Here: Chaos or Community?" – speaks to our predicament today. In the historic and ultimately tragic year of 1968, Dr. King wrote of a society that had just enacted landmark legislation extending civil rights and voting rights. Yet in spite of these advances, economic inequalities were widening. Then as now, growing numbers of anxious and angry Americans were intent on reducing or even reversing the progress of recent years.

Today, more than four decades later, Dr. King's observations are truer and timelier than ever. Once again, we have come a long way. And, once again, we have arrived at the crossroads between chaos and community.

On the one hand, the doors of opportunity are opening wide for extraordinary achievements by extraordinary individuals. But, when we examine how entire segments of society are faring, the picture isn't so pretty. The inequalities in wages and wealth, education and employment, housing and health care are almost as wide as when Dr. King devoted the last year of his life to the fight for economic justice.

While Wall Street is enjoying record profits, South Carolina – like much of the rest of the country – is suffering a prolonged job crisis. Among all Americans, the official unemployment rate is 9.4 percent. Here in South Carolina, it's 10.6 percent -- and that is intolerable. Among African-American workers, national unemployment is 15.8 percent. Among Hispanic workers, unemployment is 13 percent. That is unconscionable.

There should be no denying the urgency of taking strong steps to put America back to work, and our coalition is working night and day for policies that will strengthen the recovery and provide opportunity to every corner and crossroads of our country.

While we fight to build an economy that works for all, another issue is threatening to divide the very Americans who are most in need of economic opportunity. That issue is immigration reform.

We know that the immigration system tears families apart. We know that it creates a permanent underclass that lives in the shadows and outside the protection of the law. And we know that it allows some unscrupulous employers to exploit workers, whether immigrant or native-born.

In short, we know that the immigration system is badly broken – and urgently in need of repair. But, instead of fixing it, there are those who would make it even more unworkable, even more unfair, and even more unsuited to the nation's needs in the increasingly globalized economy of the 21st century.

In the last session of Congress, one commonsense solution – the bipartisan DREAM Act – failed to win the three-fifths supermajority that it needed to shut down a filibuster in the U.S. Senate. The DREAM Act exemplifies basic American values and enjoys wide support. If young people were brought into this country through no fault of their own – if they seek to study hard, work hard, and live within the law – and if some even yearn to wear our country's uniform and risk their lives to defend our freedoms – then they should be able to earn permanent residency and a path towards citizenship.

But in this polarized political environment, the DREAM Act became an impossible dream.

Worse still, the paralysis around immigration reform has encouraged those who want to shred the Constitution, starting with the 14th Amendment.

This month, lawmakers from a dozen or so states traveled to Washington to announce their intention to introduce bills that would gut the American Citizenship Clause of the 14th Amendment by denying citizenship to children born on U.S. soil whose parents may be undocumented.

**Message From Wade Henderson
Continued On Page 8**



South Carolina AFL-CIO and Machinists Union Sues Governor Nikki Haley and SC Labor Secretary Over Organizing Rights

Washington, D.C., January 20, 2011 – The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) is suing South Carolina's new Republican governor over her pledge to use state resources to deprive South Carolina citizens of rights guaranteed by federal labor law and the 1st and 14th amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

The suit, filed today in U.S. District Court in Charleston, SC, charges Republican Gov. Nikki Haley with violating the federal constitutional and statutory rights to free speech, free association and due process by establishing a State governmental policy of hostility to unions and workers seeking to join unions. The IAM and the South Carolina AFL-CIO filed the suit under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, which prohibits state officials from acting in a way that deprives citizens of Federally-protected rights.

The IAM suit also names Catherine Templeton as a co-defendant. Templeton is Gov. Haley's pick to head South Carolina's Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

"Gov. Haley placed her hand on a bible and swore to defend the Constitution of the United States," said IAM Southern Territory Vice President Bob Martinez. "But her stated intention is to actively oppose workers in South Carolina who wish to exercise their legal right to join a union. There is nothing in the governor's oath of office that gives her the right to choose which laws to enforce and which to ignore."

On December 8, 2010, Governor Haley announced she would nominate union avoidance attorney Catherine Templeton to head South Carolina's Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR), declaring unequivocally, "We're going to fight the unions and I needed a partner to help me do it."

"By tasking Ms Templeton to lead the fight against union organizing in South Carolina, and specifically against the IAM at the Boeing facility in North Charleston, Gov. Haley is requesting a state official to violate the very law she is charged with enforcing," said Martinez. "The state has no business whatsoever taking sides or exerting influence in a worker's decision to join or not to join a union."

Full text of the lawsuit is available online at: http://www.goiam.org/publications/pdfs/01_20_2011_SCGov_Complaint.pdf

The IAM represents more than 30,000 Boeing workers and is among the largest industrial trade unions in North America, with nearly 700,000 active and retired members in dozens of industries. For more information about the IAM, visit www.goiam.org. ■

The Scott Sister Were Released from Mississippi Prison



Gladys (L) and Jamie (R) Scott

After 16 years in prison the Scott sisters, whose incarceration drew national attention, were released from prison on January 7, 2011. Jamie and Gladys Scott were convicted in a 1994 armed robbery which yielded \$11, a crime in which they have consistently denied any involvement. Both sisters were sentenced to double-life sentences and have remained imprisoned since their convictions, despite the fact that they were convicted primarily on testimony from three teenagers reportedly coerced by the County Sherriff's office. One of the witnesses has since recanted his statement and acknowledged that the Scott Sisters are innocent.

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour suspended the women's sentences on Dec. 29 with the condition that Gladys, 36, donates a kidney to Jamie, 38, within one year of their release.

Chokwe Lumumba, a councilman and attorney from Jackson who led the legal battle for their release, is working to get a full pardon for the Scott sisters, and the NAACP and medical ethicists say that the condition to donate a kidney is unenforceable. The family cannot afford the procedure, and the sisters had not been tested to see if their blood type and immune systems are sufficiently close for a transplant operation when Barbour made the stipulation.



NAACP President Ben Jealous (L), Attorney Chokwe Lumumba (C), Derrick Johnson, President Mississippi NAACP(R)

The NAACP made the Scott sisters case a National Campaign, highlighting it on the NAACP website and blog, gathering thousands of signatures on an internet based petition, and direct appeals to Governor Haley Barbour to put an end to the excessive and inexplicable sentences handed to these women.

Derrick Johnson, President Mississippi NAACP said, "Thanks to you, along with thousands of supporters around the country, Gladys and Jamie now know what justice sounds like, what freedom looks like, and what unity means."

Derrick went on to say, "The NAACP will continue working to make these moments a reality, just as we will continue working to make the criminal justice system fairer for all Americans. I couldn't be more proud of your commitment to our efforts." ■



**Message From Wade Henderson
Continued from Page 6**

South Carolina State Senator Daniel Verdin, who spoke at the news conference, even went so far as to compare these U.S.-born children to a "malady" that must be cured. Sadly, this is the same kind of language that has been used for generations to divide our country, and it's exactly what the 14th Amendment was meant to prevent.

The 14th Amendment was intended to forever settle the question of what makes someone a United States citizen, and the amendment is clear that states can never again seek to create an underclass of Americans living among us. Constitutional citizenship was affirmed by the Supreme Court in response to the state laws that denied citizenship to Chinese migrant laborers late in the Nineteenth Century. And the Constitutional citizenship of Japanese Americans and their children was reaffirmed by the courts during World War II in spite of the shameful internment of Japanese Americans.

Centuries of struggle have taught us that we must put citizenship above the politics, the preferences and the prejudices of any particular era. When politicians tell us that some should be exempt from the Constitution's guarantee of equal protection for all because they are a "malady" -- it is time for every American to sound the alarm.

Similarly, the drive in several states -- including South Carolina -- to pass laws modeled after Arizona's notorious SB 1070 is another cause for alarm.

The South Carolina bill, being fast-tracked through the legislature, would enable local law enforcement officials, who are not trained in federal immigration law, to make intrusive and highly selective inquiries into the immigration status of residents and travelers. It presumes everyone is guilty, contradicting the fundamental American belief of innocence until proven otherwise.

Many of us already know what that's like. And we know the damage that racial profiling does -- not only to us as individuals, but to entire communities that are labeled suspicious and forced to retreat to the shadows of society.

I know that immigration -- in South Carolina and every other state -- is a difficult issue with many unique challenges. What is not unique,

however, is the harm that takes place when any community is singled out under the law for mistreatment. We cannot allow that to happen. As Dr. King bluntly said, "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

These proposals won't address the serious issues facing South Carolina. They won't improve the quality of health care, or the education of our children, upon whom the future of our communities depend. They won't make our streets safer. They won't get the economy moving, put people back into jobs at living wages, or help fix South Carolina's budget crisis.

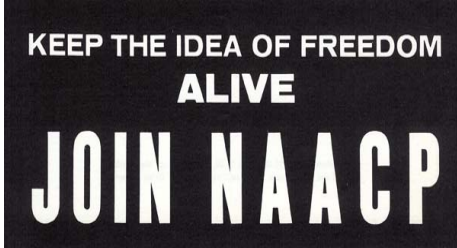
I urge you to speak out forcefully against these proposals. Join the NAACP and other organizations and express your opposition to these proposals, which don't address any of the serious challenges facing South Carolina.

It's up to each of us to work for the society we want to have today and pass on to our children tomorrow. We must recommit ourselves to supporting and promoting basic fairness and equal opportunity for every single person in this country.

As Dr. King told activists listening to that final mountaintop speech: "we've got to give ourselves to this struggle until the end. Nothing would be more tragic than to stop at this point We've got to see it through. ...Either we go up together, or we go down together."

Thank you for all everything that you have done, everything you are doing, and everything that we will do -- together -- to create "the more perfect union" for which Dr. King lived and died. ■

Editor's note: We are especially thankful to Mr. Henderson for his 2011 King Day at the Dome speech and this very informative and inspiring message to members of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch.
Visit <http://www.civilrights.org/> to learn more about Mr. Henderson and The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.



MLK at the Dome Remarks from Pg 4



Freedom is not free. If Freedom was free, founding fathers like General George Washington and Prince Hall and others would not have to be participants in the Revolutionary war that won America's freedom from England.

If Freedom was free, the many people of color and of other races would not had to be involved in the Civil War that won the right for all Americans in the land of Freedom (America) to be free and live the American Dream.

If Freedom was free, Dr. Martin L. King would not have to die for the right of all people in America in general and people of color in particular to live the American dream. The King Day celebration is the continuation of the fight for the rights the American constitution gives us all. We as a people must have a purpose and our purpose ought to be: "Our God, Our Youth, and Our Heritage".

We Seniors are all going to pass on and the fight will have to continued through the youth such as 9th grader [Silas Adams of the Goose Creek NAACP](#) branch who made an excellent address relating to the struggles Dr. King died for. It is incumbent upon us too teach our youth about the God that brought us thus far, to teach them about our Heritage in Africa as well as in America and that if they are to be free, they must be an active part of the political process in America to insure that America will always be the land of the free.

Nathaniel Durant, Jr., 33'
Most Worshipful Grand Master



More MLK at the Dome photos on Pg 10



*SC School Board Association
Black Caucus*



HBCU Teacher Education Units



Hilary Shelton speaks at SC Catalytic Leadership Initiative Symposium

Highlights from Catalytic Leadership Symposium
Sheraton Hotel Myrtle Beach
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Saturday, January 15, 2011

For almost a year, leaders from different segments of the community and state have tirelessly examined the negative factors and forces that impact the lives of children of color and children of poverty in the state of South Carolina. Early on, it was recognized that the problems were well defined in the data from many sources, having been compiled by many researchers over a long period of time. Even the solutions to many of these societal problems have been well documented. Interconnect and cross-functional solutions, however, have been missing ingredients.

For the past year, representatives of South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators (SCABSE) have partnered with five other entities (Legislative Black Caucus, SC Black School Board Caucus, Network of HBCU's, NAACP and The (NN)Group) to focus on creating a theory of action or methodology that would create "catalytic connections" within which to design and implement these solutions. This work became solutions focused as opposed to problem focused. One critical question became the driving force. What actions are necessary to improve the living conditions and life circumstances for children of color and children of poverty within the state of South Carolina?



Hilary O. Shelton, NAACP Washington Bureau Director and Senior Vice President for Advocacy gave both an inspirational and motivating speech to those in attendance of the Catalytic

Leadership Symposium at the Sheraton hotel in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Shelton opened his remarks by thanking and recognizing the organizations that made up and led this coalition: The SC NAACP, The South Carolina Affiliate of the National Alliance of Black School Educators, The South Carolina State Legislative Black Caucus, South Carolina School Board Association's Black Caucus.

He also recognized "all of the great men and women that came from throughout the State for this very important convening."

Shelton expounded on his delight of the theme and what he felt was a deep understanding that this group understood the King Center's challenge to those of us honoring the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King on his 82nd birthday, by treating this holiday as "a day-on, not a day off".

Shelton gave kudos to those who continue in the struggle. He then stressed how important the work being done this weekend was and how momentous it was to do this work "on the civil rights weekend." Goose Creek NAACP Branch members John and Andrea Matthews along with Bill and Brenda Watson and a host of other NAACP members were in attendance. SC NAACP President Lonnie Randolph and SC NAACP Education Committee Chairman Vince Ford were also in attendance.

The work that is referred to in brief article can be found in a more complete form in a document released by the Catalytic Leadership Initiative. This document was distributed at the Winter SCABSE Conference on January 15, 2011 in Myrtle Beach.

To get a copy of the Catalytic Leadership Initiative Document that was presented on MLK Day contact the NAACP SC State Con-

ference of Branches at 803**754-4584 or email scaacp@bellsouth.net. ■

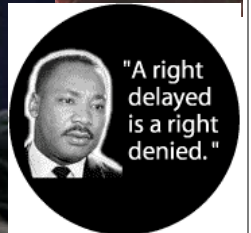
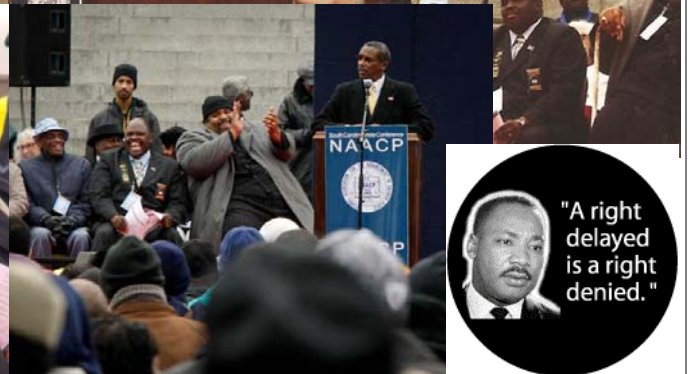




2011 NAACP King Day at the Dome - Columbia, South Carolina



9th grader, Silas Adams who is a member of the Goose Creek NAACP branch excites the crowd with his awesome MLK oration.





David Cakley installed as Goose Creek NAACP branch president



The Goose Creek Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has a new leader. David Cakley was installed as president at the branch's general membership meeting on Jan. 3.

Cakley was previously the Goose Creek NAACP First Vice President. He has been a member of the branch for the past three years. Cakley is a

long time member of the NAACP and formerly he was a member of the North Charleston branch.

Cakley said an emphasis on increasing membership will mark the months ahead.

"We are a multi-cultural, multi-racial organization and membership is the backbone of our organization," Cakley said. "The mission of The NAACP continues to be to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race based discrimination.

"I will be reaching out to increase NAACP membership in Goose Creek. Membership is open to everyone who supports the ideals of the NAACP."

The Goose Creek branch of the NAACP meets at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at Abraham Masonic Building located at 206 Liberty Hall Road in Goose Creek. All meetings are open to the public.

Cakley, who is a retired military officer and retired probation officer, replaces outgoing NAACP President Brenda Bines-Watson, who chose not to seek the leadership position again. Bines-Watson, who took office in 2009, served one term as president.

Bines-Watson said she chose not to seek re-election in order to focus on other commitments.

"It was a good learning experience," she said. "I enjoyed it and extend best wishes to the new officers and all of our members. Hopefully, we'll continue to grow and fight for what is right."



At the January membership meeting, other officers were also installed: First Vice President James Dukes, Second Vice President the Rev. Ted Adams, Secretary Herbert Bodison Jr., Assistant Secretary Beatrice Walker Brown, and Treasurer William Watson. ■

Aiken NAACP branch swears in its first white president



Philip Howell was installed as the Aiken Branch NAACP president by the Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, III on January 8, 2011. Howell downplayed that he is the first white person to head the organization.

When asked his plans for the branch Howell said, "I just want to make the NAACP in Aiken County an even more important part of this county's life."

He has been involved in the Aiken Branch for about two decades, having served most recently as first vice president under former president the Rev. Brendolyn Jenkins. Howell was the second vice president for another former president, the Rev. David Walker.

"This is historic for the branch and the state," Walker said. "Philip is one of us. He knows the association, knows the policies and the missions and believes in those missions. He's going to do an excellent job and will get the support of the branch."

Some Aiken Branch members had filed an election challenge over a procedural decision that Jenkins was not placed on the ballot. The issue went to a committee with the national NAACP office.

The committee confirmed that Jenkins "could not be on the ballot because her membership dues were not submitted in a timely manner," said James Gallman, an Aiken Branch officer and member of the NAACP National Board of Directors. Mr. Gallman is also a former president of the Aiken branch and a former state NAACP president.



"We've worked with Phil for a long time, and we're excited about him serving as our president," Gallman said. "We know he will continue to do a great job and continue what we've been doing in preceding years."



The Rev Rivers, currently NAACP vice president of stakeholder relations and pastor of Charity Baptist Church in North Charleston, was previously the state conference executive director and Southeast Region director. He said there are a few white branch presidents in other parts of the country, but there are currently no others in South Carolina.

"We've been friends for 18 years," Rivers said of Howell. "He has been a hard worker, knows the organization and is well-respected. He is recognized at the state, regional and national conference. The Aiken Branch is blessed to have him as president."

A native of California, Howell remained in the area after serving at Ft. Gordon in the late 1960s. He owned a dog-grooming business before going to work in that capacity for veterinarian Dr. Holly Woltz 22 years ago. ■



**Goose Creek, SC
Branch # 56A3**

NAACP CREEK CONNECTION

2011 Upcoming Events

- Feb 7 **7 PM Goose Creek Branch Meeting**
- Feb 7 Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- Feb 19 **Free Practice PSAT at G.C. High School**
- Mar 4 42ND NAACP Image Awards
- Mar 7 **7 PM Goose Creek Branch Meeting**
- Mar 24-27 NAACP SE Region Mtg - Montgomery, AL
- May 26-29 NAACP Leadership 500 Summit
- July 23-28 NAACP 102nd Annual Convention
Los Angeles, California

2011 Black History Month Theme:

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE CIVIL WAR

In honor of the efforts of people of African descent to destroy slavery and inaugurate universal freedom in the United States, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) has selected "*African Americans and the Civil War*" as the 2011 National Black History Theme. Established in 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, ASALH is the Founder of Black History Month and carries forth the work of Dr. Woodson, the Father of Black History. We urge all Americans to study and reflect on the value of their contributions to the nation.

In 1861, as the United States stood at the brink of Civil War, people of African descent, both enslaved and free persons, waited with a watchful eye. They understood that a war between the North and the South might bring about jubilee--the destruction of slavery and universal freedom. When the Confederacy fired upon Fort Sumter and war ensued, President Abraham Lincoln maintained that the paramount cause was to preserve the Union, not end slavery. Frederick Douglass, the most prominent black leader, opined that regardless of intentions, the war would bring an end to slavery, America's "peculiar institution."

Over the course of the war, the four million people of African descent in the United States proved Douglass right. Free and enslaved blacks rallied around the Union flag in the cause of freedom. From the cotton and tobacco fields of the South to the small towns and big cities of the North, nearly 200,000 joined the Grand Army of the Republic and took up arms to destroy the Confederacy. They served as recruiters, soldiers, nurses, and spies, and endured unequal treatment, massacres, and riots as they pursued their quest for freedom and equality. Their record of service speaks for itself, and Americans have never fully realized how their efforts saved the Union.

South Carolina's Civil War Sesquicentennial Events

April 2011 Seminar: "Why they Fought" - sponsored by the Low Country Sesquicentennial Coordinating Committee (April 9 - 12, 2011 - Location yet to be determined)

April 12, 2011 - First Shot Commemoration Ceremony: Sponsored by the Town of James Island. - Fort Johnson, James Island, SC) For further information please contact Doug Bostick at dbostick@knology.net.

Jews, Slavery, and the Civil War conference - The College of Charleston host this conference to discuss the Jewish experiences on the home front and during Reconstruction. (May 25-26, 2011)

Please see additional events and seminars at Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Historical Trust (www.fortsumtertrust.org) and South Carolina Sesquicentennial of the Civil War (www.sccivilwar.org).

**Learn more about the Sesquicentennial
and other Civil War Commemorations**

<http://sc150civilwar.palmettohistory.org/events.htm>

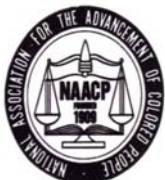
Fort Sumter National Monument: <http://www.nps.gov/fosu/>

Charles Pinckney National Historic Site: <http://www.nps.gov/chpi/>

FIVE REASONS TO JOIN THE NAACP

1. The fight for freedom is not free! Your membership will help fund initiatives and programs to support our mission of racial equality and equal justice
2. A membership in the NAACP is your opportunity to give back to the organization that has done more to change this country for the betterment of people of color, women, and the disenfranchised than any other in the nation's history
3. Your membership in the NAACP makes you a part of a force of 300,000 people who stand for the freedoms guaranteed in our nation's constitution
4. Your membership in the NAACP makes a direct and positive impact in your community when you join your local Unit
5. Your membership in the NAACP will give you access to our upcoming benefits program that provides discounts on products and services across the country

**THE NAACP
IS TODAY**



**Impact the issues affecting
your community by joining the
NAACP today!**

**Call 830-9779 or download
application online from:
www.naacpgoosecreek.org**