



Goose Creek SC NAACP Branch #56A3 August 2008 Newsletter

Cincinnati July 12-17, 2008 - 99th Annual NAACP Convention Focuses on Power, Justice, Freedom & The Vote
NAACP leaders pledge a new push to remove Confederate flag from South Carolina Statehouse grounds



July 14, 2008 - Dennis Courtland Hayes, NAACP Interim President and CEO during his speech at the convention announced a renewed boycott aimed at bringing down the Confederate flag. The NAACP is asking Hollywood actors and producers to join the boycott and not come to South Carolina to shoot any movies. State lawmakers passed a law that just went into effect July 1 to offer producers better incentives to make their movies in the state.

Hayes told members at the national convention in Cincinnati that, "As we work with others who want to work with us, we will continue to fight those who resist our righteous call for justice; we will continue to fight that which is disrespectful and injurious to us as a people. Therefore, the Association must turn its attention to the State of South Carolina where the confederate flag flies on the State House's plaza grounds in the face of our children. No less than the

noose itself, whose message we get as a people, the confederate flag is a racially divisive symbol whose message of racial hatred, segregation, slavery, and second class citizenship we equally reject and must continue to do with direct action, including a continued tourism boycott.

The confederate flag dishonors the black and white United States soldiers who sacrificed their lives in defeating that flag and the vanquished confederacy it represents. The NAACP must return to South Carolina, return to our starving brothers who would sell us back into slavery hoping never to see us again. We must tell them, "A'nt gonna let nobody turn us around", turn us around, turn us around, ain't gonna let nobody turn us around, we gonna keep on walking, keep up talking, moving up the King's highway; we must remind them, that "before I'll be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave, go home to my Lord and be free." The National staff and the South Carolina State Conference of Branches invite your participation in our future direct action activities in the state of South Carolina.

While Hayes didn't provide details of what might be coming, he told members "Stay tuned for more information."

"This is unfinished business," said Dr. Lonnie Randolph, state NAACP president. □

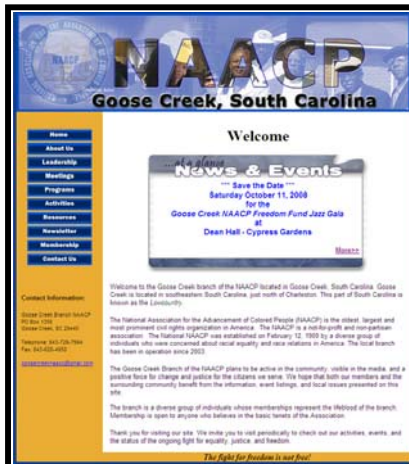
Go to <http://www.naacpwebcast.com/naacp2008/> to see the convention from gavel to gavel



**Andrea Glover
Branch President**

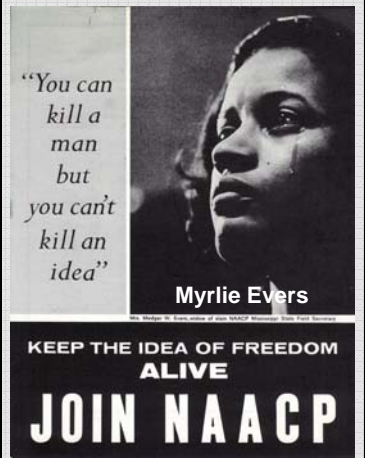
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Our Website
www.naacpgoosecreek.org
went online
Monday July 28, 2008

Visit our website and give us your feedback and recommendations to improve the site.
 John Matthews, Webmaster
 Email: goosecreeknaacp@gmail.com





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 Veronica Dukes Robert Newton
 Ranese Harrell Roscoe Singletary
 Jenae Haynes Rev. Mae Taylor
 David Johnson Eyamba Williams*



Save the Date Saturday October 11, 2008

for the

Goose Creek NAACP Freedom Fund Jazz Gala

at

Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens


Why a Jazz Gala? Jazz is America's musical art form. Jazz originated around the beginning of the 20th century in African American communities in the Southern United States from a confluence of African and European music traditions. It has evolved into an enduring expression of creativity and innovation. But jazz is much more than an extraordinary musical genre — it is also the story of central social, political and cultural issues of the 20th century that continue to play a part in our fledgling 21st century.

There will be food, wine, dancing and live jazz by Jazz Pianist Oscar Rivers & Company

Tickets are \$60.00 each for the VIP Reception and Jazz Show or \$35.00 for the Jazz Show only. For tickets and more information contact Marlene Lemon at 469-2397, Roscoe Singletary at 797-6903, Eddie Anderson at 553-9648, Thomas Lanier at 345-8561, or Eyamba Williams at 475-8202.

Goose Creek NAACP
Freedom Fund Jazz Gala 2008
Saturday October 11, 2008 at
Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens

6-7:30 PM Private VIP Reception
8 PM Jazz, Wine and Dancing
 Tickets are \$60.00 and \$35.00 per person



**Oscar Rivers
and Company**

*******2008 Branch Election Notice*******

A Nominating Committee (5-15 members) will be elected during the September meeting. All members whose memberships are current as of 30 days before the meeting date may be elected to the Nominating Committee.

The Goose Creek Branch NAACP will hold elections for Branch officers and at large members of the Executive committee during the month of November 2008. All officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee will be up for election. Any person desiring to run for office must be a current member of the Branch, and reside or work within Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester County which is the area covered by the Goose Creek Branch. The exact date, time, and location for the election will be determined and announced during the September or October meetings of the Branch. In order to vote in a Branch election, one must be a member in good standing of the Branch 30 days before the election as well as provide valid identification.

On or before our regular scheduled October meeting, there will be a report of the Nominating Committee, receipt of Nominations by Petition, and Election of the Supervisory Committee. All members whose memberships are current as of April 1st may be nominated for office or as an at-large member of the Executive Committee. In order to sign a nominating petition, or be elected to the Election Supervisory Committee, a member must be current as of 30 days prior to the October meeting.

On November 3, 2008, the election of officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee will take place at Abraham Masonic Hall. Polls will open from 6 to 8PM. In order to vote in a Branch election, one must be a member in good standing of the Branch 30 days prior to the election. A form of identification is required.

We look forward to your participating in these activities.

Brenda Bines, Branch Secretary

BRANCH MEETINGS

Goose Creek NAACP meets the first Monday of the month at

**Abraham Masonic Building
 206 Liberty Hall Rd
 Goose Creek, SC.**

**6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
 Executive Meeting**

**7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
 General Meeting**

Upcoming Meetings

Monday Aug 4, 2008

Monday Sept 1, 2008

Monday Oct 6, 2008

Monday Nov 3, 2008



July 14, 2008 - For almost 100 years, almost every great stride on behalf of Black people—and many of the greatest on behalf of all people— have been made because of the work of the women, men, and youth of the NAACP.

Let me give thanks to all of us, the members, the supporters, the volunteers, the staff, the national directors and trustees, especially Dennis Hayes, and Chairman Bond.

The honor of being named the 17th president to lead this great organization is something that I approach with both a sense of great humility and great urgency.

Before I recognize my family, let me acknowledge the civil and human rights leaders from around the country who are in this crowd today including Rev. Freddie Haynes who flew in from Dallas to be here with us. I am looking forward to working with Freddie, I'm looking forward to working with each of you.

Last and far from least, let me give praise and thanks to my father, a life-long civil rights activist and to the women of my life:

My 91-year old grandmother, Mamie Todd—herself a third generation member of the NAACP; My mother, Ann Todd Jealous, who once drove much of the way from Ohio to Western Tennessee with SNCC in the trunk of a car to evade Klan patrols while bringing aid to Tent City; My beautiful wife and fellow warrior Lia; My daughter Morgan, a 6th generation NAACP member —named for a great patriarch of our family who

Remarks by NAACP President-Elect Benjamin Todd Jealous 99th Annual NAACP Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio

taught himself to read, purchased himself and his family out of slavery, and went on to be a co-signer of the VA Constitution after the Civil War.

In short our family, like all of the families in this room, is a movement family. That is to say we are a family in which it is understood that nurturing your own children and fighting for all children is the same act.

These are great times we live in, monumental times.

Turn on CNN and you see that black women are billionaires, a Black man has a real shot at the White House, and my grandmother, like many of you, is giddy with the possibility that she may one day soon see little Black girls having pajama parties at the White House.

This is the way it is supposed to be. The way Black history was told to me and my generation was that it always gets better. There was the middle passage and then we ended the slave trade. There was slavery and then we ended it. There was Jim Crow and then we ended that too.

And now, the day we all dreamed of is at hand. We're told 'young man, young woman, go out and reap the rewards.' But of course, it is not that simple. Just turn on the local news and you get the rest of the story.

I can remember the first time I was able to articulate that something was really wrong with the way Black history was going in my lifetime. I was 22 and I had been at one-too-many 21st birthday parties for another young Black man only to hear someone toast him for having survived to 21 — as if for a young Black man in this day and

age, turning 21 is an accomplishment.

I went to my grandmother and said, 'Tell me the rest of the story Grandma. Tell me what happened. Things aren't getting better.'

She just looked at me and said, 'It's simple, baby, we got what we fought for, but we lost what we had.'

We gained the right to send our children to any school, but local schools are falling apart and they seem to be re-segregating by the day. We gained the right to live in any neighborhood but the cost of housing in too many cities and towns has become exclusively high. We gained the right to join the local union but it is harder to unionize and union jobs are hard to find. We gained the right to go to any hospital, but the cost of health care is exorbitant, good coverage is too scarce, and too often the act of saving your own life becomes a fast track to personal bankruptcy. We gained the right to not be terrorized by the Klan but street gangs are now bigger more widespread and just as deadly.

And so what do we do?

We do what we do!

We are the NAACP. We are the direct descendents of the abolitionists. We are the boldest, most successful band of nonviolent agitators in the history of this country and for almost 100 years we have built bridges to the future —better, more efficiently, and against great odds:

We came together in 1909 as a small group of multiracial human rights activists on the prayer of

ridding the country of lynch mobs. Over the next three decades we built the bridge to victory by building the public outrage and opposition that made it possible;

In the early 1930s we took aim at outlawing Jim Crow and we constructed the legal bridge to make it happen;

In 1954, we set our sights on desegregating every institution in this country over the next four decades we built bridge after bridge, and succeeded school by school, corporation by corporation.

We are the biggest grassroots army for human rights in this nation. We have presence not just in every state, but in thousands of cities, counties, and campuses. We have the ability to pull deep support from the ranks of the religious community, labor, the media, and small and big businesses. We know what we must do and we know how to do it.

We also must recognize where we are right now. We are at a crossroads. We are at a defining moment in our history. This country is ready for change and yet we must make the case more aggressively, communicate more broadly, coordinate more boldly and accelerate the pace of progress more rapidly while aiming squarely at the civil and human rights injustices that are affecting our communities most deeply.

And so, we will regenerate, we will reach out. We will recapture the zeal of our founders, while realizing the power of

See Ben Todd Jealous on page 4



Ben Todd Jealous from page 3

everything from blogging to social networking, to straight up marching — just as the local branch has done here in Cincinnati.

In short, we will build a bridge to a better America, a bridge to a better world, just as we have done before. We will build this bridge with a vision that is bold and belonging to a great future.

We will build it by marrying the wisdom of our wisest tradeswomen and tradesmen with the ingenuity of our youngest. We will build it with onramps for each generation, reenergizing the leaders currently in our ranks and recruiting those who don't even know that they are about to join those ranks. We will build it with connectors that allow us deliver enhanced support to every state conference, local branch and youth & college chapter.

We will build it with unity, with the work, the wealth, and the wisdom of every person of goodwill in this room, in this organization, and in this nation.

So when my grand daughter or son says, 'Grandpa Jealous, how did we get here?' I will respond, 'We got what we fought for and kept it.' The stories of the new NAACP will be the stuff of legends for the 22nd century.

This is our history. This is our reality. This is our destiny. □

**PLACE A MESSAGE IN OUR
FREEDOM FUND
SOUVENIR JOURNAL**

We invite you to sponsor a full-page in our Souvenir Booklet. You can sponsor the inside front-page cover for \$200.00, the inside rear cover for \$175.00, a full page for \$100.00, a half page for \$60.00, one-fourth page for \$35.00, or one-eight page (Business Card Size) for \$25.00.

The deadline for copy ready pages is Sept 8, 2008

If you have any questions please contact Barbara Blackwell at 843-486-9890, Marlene Lemon at 469-2397, Beverly Hargrow at 824-9680, or John Matthews at 843-442-1319.

Goose Creek NAACP Branch in the News . . . Published Wednesday, July 23, 2008

Goose Creek NAACP hears from Sumter's Rodgers

By Sharon Gnau
Goose Creek Gazette

Published Wednesday, July 23, 2008



Sharon Gnau
Micheal Rodgers speaks at the July meeting of the Goose Creek Chapter of the NAACP.

A controversial issue was revisited at the Goose Creek NAACP's recent meeting.

Guest speaker Michael Rodgers of Sumter told attendees that the question about whether the Confederate flag represents bigotry, hatred and slavery – or honor, courage and valor – is moot.

He prefers instead to back his point of view by "talking about the facts."

At the July meeting held in Goose Creek, Rodgers – a high school math teacher in Sumter – said he wants the flag to come down.

Rogers first cited the definition of a flag a – piece of cloth varying in size, shape, color and design, usually attached at one edge to a staff or cord, used as a symbol of a nation, state or organization.

"The Confederate flag is the flag of the Confederate soldiers who fought for the Confederate States of America. The Confederate States of America lost the Civil War," he said. "South Carolina is a state in the U.S. and has its own flag. The U.S. has one as well."

Rogers said he feels strongly about the issue, which was seemingly settled several years ago when the flag was removed from the state capitol dome to its current location at the Confederate Memorial on the statehouse grounds.

"I'm really passionate about this. Doing this would be easy. We need to work together to get our government to give us what we want," he told the group. "What does it say if they can't do the easy things?"

With South Carolina's per capita income among the lowest and slowest –growing in the nation, he proposes that per capita income could be improved if the NCAA and NAACP boycotts were ended.

Citing the population in South Carolina as among the most diverse in the nation, Rodgers says the state needs to work to improve relations between people from all backgrounds.

"Ending the NAACP and NCAA boycotts will help," he said. "Our state gains nothing and loses a lot by flying the Confederate flag from Statehouse grounds. Clearly, obviously and irrefutably, taking down the Confederate flag is required for the common good."

Rodgers suggested that members write their legislators and even the governor.

"Explain to them that the Confederacy is dead. If anything, you'll get a letter back," he said. "We need to keep the pressure on by writing and calling."

According to Rodgers, representatives and senators he's talked with in the past have always "indicated that they would vote to pass a bill" mandating the flag be taken down "if only there was such a bill."

Now there is, he said. The bill to take down the flag, H-3588, calls for South Carolina's state flag to fly where the Confederate flag now flies, on every day except May 10.

"On that day, we can celebrate the service of the Confederate soldiers and the anniversary of the reunification- and in some ways, rebirth of our great nation – the United States of America," he said. "This is a common sense bill that says take it down." □

Special thanks to Sharon Gnau and Frank Johnson of the Goose Creek Gazette for sharing this article.



Goose Creek NAACP Branch in the News . . . Published Wednesday, July 09, 2008

Saving history - Author works to keep stories alive

By Sharon Gnaou



Sharon Gnaou
Damon Fordham signs copies of his new book at the July meeting of the Goose Creek branch of the NAACP.

Growing up, Damon Fordham never imagined he would someday be safeguarding the stories passed down from generation to generation – that he would be a guardian of history.

He says he grew up in a family that told stories: “Even when I was a child, I loved history.”

But as times started changing and young people became more active and mobile, there was a lot more for them to do - and sitting around talking to grandparents or keeping up with what an older neighbor might be doing didn't top the list.

When he spoke to a full house at a meeting of the Goose Creek branch of the NAACP last week, the teacher of United States and African-American History at Springfield College said he realized there was a real danger of losing these oral histories if they weren't communicated while the people who could tell them were still living. He set out to painstakingly compile a collection of their stories and recently authored “True Stories of Black South Carolina.”

Fordham describes the book as a

collection of essays about lesser-known historical events.

“I decided to go and talk to the elders. I was honored to be able to interview the people I did,” he said. “It was important to me. Too often, the best stories ever told have been lost to the graveyard. I have tried to resurrect as many of these stories as possible.”

Researching events he discovered in old newspapers and on microfilm provided a springboard for knowing where to start.

“Most history books are written by historians for other historians. I wrote this history book for the average Joe.”

The book includes Fordham's own recollections of people who passed through his life and the lessons they taught him. Among the many stories featured in the volume include those of Samuel Smalls - DuBose Heyward's inspiration for Porgy and Bess; the Spartanburg woman who took part in a sit-in at the age of eleven and the tale of Denmark Vesey, who Fordham calls the architect of the great would-be slave rebellion of 1822. The collection also throws a spotlight on the many overlooked contributors to Southern Culture.

A coauthor of “Born to Serve – The Story of the WBEMC in South Carolina” and a researcher for Sweetgrass Baskets and the Gullah Tradition by Joyce Coakley, Fordham is passionate about preserving the past.□

Special thanks to Sharon Gnaou and Frank Johnson of the Goose Creek Gazette for sharing this article.

Author speaks about the power of miracles

By Sharon Gnaou
Goose Creek Gazette



All eyes are on Dr. Cheryl Footman as she talks about how she has relied on faith to overcome obstacles in her life.

She is the CEO of her own publishing company. She is also a minister, educator, inspirational speaker, gospel singer and writer.

Yet for all her accomplishments, Dr. Cheryl Footman attributes her abundant life to a strong faith in God, divine inspiration and an unwavering belief in miracles.

As she spoke at the July meeting of the Goose Creek Branch of the NAACP about her new book, “Jesus is Still Working Miracles,” there could be no doubt that her message was one that came from the heart.

“It seems like there's nothing but bad news in the media. We don't even talk about the good things happening,” she told the group. “Today bad news is so prevalent, we're not even phased by what we hear anymore. Maybe we feel like we don't have any other avenue.”

Footman says she wrote her book as a means of giving people hope and letting them know that miracles do exist.

“In this book I've written about 24 miracles. They are all true - all miracles that I've experienced in my own life.”

She chronicles the obstacles she has overcome in her own life through her faith and sends the message to others that there is

always hope.

“I don't profess to be a perfect human being, but I'm striving for perfection,” she writes. “I may not be what I ought to be, but I thank God I'm not what I used to be.”

A special education, reading and mass media instructor in Orangeburg's Consolidated District 4, Footman ran for South Carolina Secretary of State in 2006. She is the choir director and pianist at her church and also teaches Sunday School.

She says she is working on another book that will provide a model for revamping the public education system in America. Footman expects to complete the book by the end of July.□

Special thanks to Sharon Gnaou and Frank Johnson of the Goose Creek Gazette for sharing this article.

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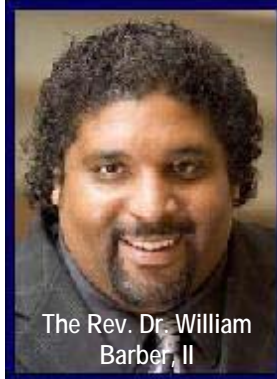
Cincinnati July 12-17, 2008 - 99th Annual NAACP Convention Focuses on Power, Justice, Freedom & The Vote

The Rev. William J. Barber, II North Carolina NAACP president elected to NAACP National Board from Region 5

The Rev. William Barber II, president of the North Carolina chapter of the NAACP, was elected to the NAACP national board of directors from Region 5.

Region 5 includes North and South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee. This year delegates from Region 5 were very fortunate and we could not make a bad choice. We had three good candidates.

The Rev. Barber will be an excellent addition to the national board.



The Rev. Dr. William Barber, II



Madie Robinson



Edward Dubose

All three candidates gave a short speech to the delegates before the election. However without a doubt the Rev. Barber gave the most fervent and inspiring speech. to the Region 5 delegation.

The other two candidates were:

Madie Robinson, the incumbent, from South Carolina who is president of the Florence Branch NAACP.

Charles DuBose from Columbus, Georgia is president of the Georgia State Conference of NAACP Branches.

It's unfortunate that Madie

Robinson didn't get re-elected. She has worked so hard and is a valuable asset to the organization at the local, state, regional, and national level. I hope she will run for and win one of the at large seats and return to the national board for another term.

It's disappointing that Georgia and Alabama don't have a national board member from their states. I hope the board will address this and see that all active states have at least one member from their state on the national board. □

Comments on the 99th National Convention



"I would like to thank all persons from South Carolina who attended the 2008 National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. The city of Cincinnati served as a great host for this year's convention.

It is always a pleasure to meet and fellowship with other freedom fighters from all over the world.

The new President and CEO, Ben Jealous, was in attendance. Interim President and CEO Dennis Hayes is to be applauded again for providing exceptional leadership, dignity and class during his tenure as president.

I hope that each unit will continue to work hard to fulfill the mission of this great organization. I also challenge each unit to work to increase our membership statewide so that we can increase our delegate count to more than 60 by next year. Now that we have returned, let us work to make our state conference not just a good state conference, but a great one."

Dr. Lonnie Randolph, Jr.
SC State Conference President



The 99th National Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio will be recorded as one of historical significance and very successful. Delegates had an opportunity to hear the next President of the United States in the person of Senator Barack Obama or Senator John McCain. It was heartening to see the level of enthusiasm among the youth and their contribution to the civil rights agenda including the 2008 election. Chairman Julian Bond gave a dynamic opening speech that challenged units and delegates to continue the fight for freedom, justice and equality. Delegates had an opportunity to hear from Dennis Courtland Hayes, Interim President and CEO, and meet Benjamin Todd Jealous, new President and CEO.

Delegates debated resolutions that will become policy for the Association, yet had an opportunity to relax and have fun. The convention ended with the Freedom Awards Dinner with Hill Harper as the speaker. His speech was powerful and quite appropriate to end the convention with the charge to register and vote in November and other things.

Next year the NAACP will be 100 years old and we will celebrate the Centennial National Convention in New York, New York, "birthplace" of the NAACP. It promises to be a memorable and grand occasion. Hope to see you there!

Madie Robinson
NAACP Board of Directors



Take Down The Flag



Complete the Compromise with Clarity

By
Michael Rodgers



Michael Rodgers

July 18, 2008

Learning from Vietnam

We learned from the culture wars in the United States during the Vietnam War era that soldiers who perform their duty honorably should always be respected, regardless of one's opinion of the war they fought in, the reasons for the war, and the political leadership that engaged in the war.

Regardless, regardless, regardless.

The Civil War should not be an exception to this position of respecting soldiers. The Confederate soldiers were not terrorists. When Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered, they did too. The Confederate soldiers followed the orders of their military leaders, who in turn followed orders of their civilian authority, which was the governors of the respective states and the government of the Confeder-

ate States of America.

Terrorism is the actions of the KKK. Terrorism is the actions of al Qaeda.

We must stay true to our respect for soldiers. Respecting soldiers does not imply that we approve or disapprove of the Civil War, that we approve or disapprove of the reasons for the Civil War, or that we approve or disapprove of the political leadership that engaged in the Civil War. The history of the Civil War should be openly debated from every reasonable angle, but nothing should stop us from respecting soldiers who performed their duty honorably.

Our state legislature holds the position that South Carolina should respect the service and sacrifice of the Confederate soldiers. This position was made strongly with the compromise of 2000. However, this position was not made clearly with the compromise of 2000.

Flying the Confederate flag out in front of the Statehouse is confusing. Does this action by our state government imply sovereignty of the Confederacy somehow? Does this action by our state government endorse slavery, racism, supremacy, or secessionism somehow? Everybody is confused, and everybody gets extremely upset when somebody answers these questions differently than they do. The confusion is causing a crisis, and our state leaders must solve this crisis with clarity.

Therefore, our state legislature must clarify their presentation of their position by completing the compromise. I strongly recommend H-3588 as the vehicle for completing the compromise.

H-3588 flies our state flag where the Confederate flag flies now on every day except Confederate Memorial Day. Our state flag was extremely important to the Confederate soldiers from South Carolina, so this action re-

spects the Confederate soldiers. Moreover, this action resolves all doubts about the possible implication of sovereignty of the Confederacy and about the possible endorsement of slavery, racism, supremacy and secessionism.

H-3588 flies the Confederate flag on Confederate Memorial Day on the flagpole where the Confederate flag now flies. This action commemorates the sacrifice and the service of the Confederate soldiers by raising the flag that they carried on this day that we have set aside to honor them. Moreover, this action protects the Confederate flag from being used for any other purpose on the Statehouse grounds (see comment #1).

This is a good bill that clarifies the confusion and completes the compromise. Please support H-3588. Thank you.

July 21, 2008

We're trying to find a better way to honor the Confederate soldiers. The current way ain't cuttin' it.

No one believes that the reason we fly the Confederate flag is to honor the Confederate soldiers.

And the Confederate flag supporters say, "Well, the people are stupid and ignorant and don't know any history and apparently can't even tell a square from a rectangle. And it's all the NAACP's fault."

Wonderful. So, what's the plan to convince everybody that they're wrong? What's the plan? Where is the action from our state government?

I'll tell you where it is. It's H-3588, that's where it is. H-3588 boldly and clearly declares that the reason we fly the Confederate flag is to honor the Confederate soldiers and not for any other reason.

See Take Down the Flag on page 8



Take Down the Flag from page 7

H-3588 says that it's good for SC to commemorate Confederate Memorial Day, that it's wonderful that the Confederate Soldier Monument is on Statehouse grounds, and that it's fantastic that we have a flagpole on Statehouse grounds — in the front near the Confederate Soldier Monument — where we can fly the Confederate flag on Confederate Memorial Day.

H-3588 is a ringing endorsement of all things Confederate, and, moreover, it announces the strong connection that our SC State Flag has with the Confederacy. H-3588 says that it's now time to complete the compromise so that we can celebrate it. So we can all communicate it clearly. So we can tell the world what we have done here in SC.

Soldiers who serve honorably within a military chain of command where elected civilians perform oversight are respected, regardless of the politics of the war in which they fought. And terrorists who operate outside the law are not to be respected. The KKK and al Qaeda are not to be respected.

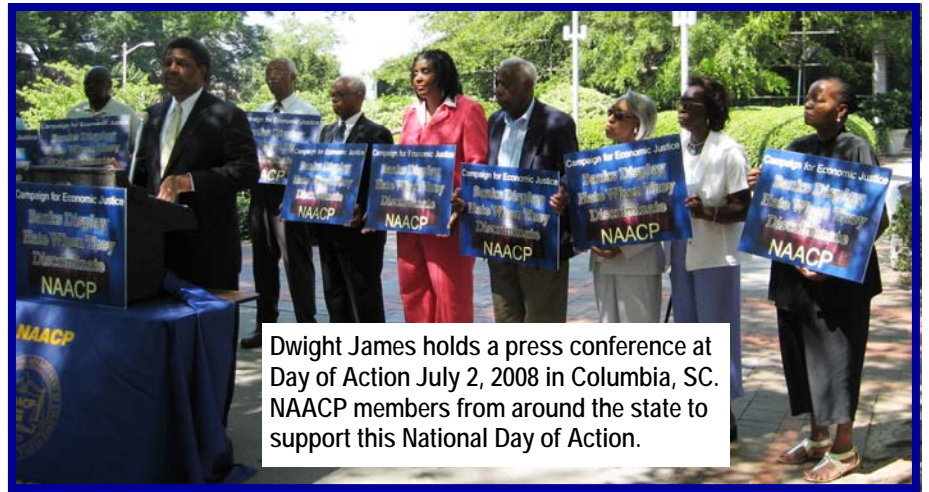
H-3588 is exactly what we need in SC after 9/11. We need to show each other and the world that we in South Carolina take the extra effort needed to support soldiers and to fight terrorism.

We need to send a clear message, not a confusing one. We need to not ridicule people for misunderstanding the message. We need leadership that says that government is responsible to the people.

We need leadership that understands that if the people don't understand what their government is doing, then the government must make their actions easier to understand.□

Michael Rodgers' blog can be found online at: <http://takedowntheflag.wordpress.com/>

NAACP Calls National 'Day of Action' Against Mortgage Discrimination



Dwight James holds a press conference at Day of Action July 2, 2008 in Columbia, SC. NAACP members from around the state to support this National Day of Action.

The South Carolina State Conference of the NAACP joined the NAACP's national Day of Action against discriminatory mortgage lending last week by gathering at 1201 Main Street, Columbia, SC to demand that several of the nation's top lenders – including Citi, HSBC, WaMu, GMAC and JP Morgan – make amends for discriminating against African American borrowers and eliminate discriminatory policies and practices for good.

John Matthews from the Goose Creek Branch, Dot Scot, president of the Charleston Branch, and Mary Ward president of the North Charleston Branch were among those in attendance for the Day of Action.



"Every one of us deserves equal access to the 'American dream' of homeownership," said NAACP General Counsel Angela Ciccolo. "Making amends is just the beginning. We want to make sure African Americans are never victimized by the lending industry again. This discrimination was nationwide and cut across income-levels. People with six-figure incomes, significant down-payments and who had owned several homes before were not immune from being discriminated against because of their race."

"Owning a home means much more than not paying rent. Home ownership is the key to building the wealth that pays for college, supports retirement, and is reinvested in communities," said Dwight James, Executive Director, SC NAACP. "This discrimination is keeping communities and the next generation of young people from moving forward."

The NAACP filed a class action lawsuit against 17 of the nation's largest lenders last July for discriminatory lending practices. The defendants are Washington Mutual, Inc., Citimortgage, Inc., HSBC Finance Corporation, GMAC Mortgage Group, LLC, GMAC Residential Capital, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., Chase Bank USA NA, Fremont Investment & Loan, Option One Mortgage Corporation, WMC Mortgage Corporation, Accredited Home Lenders, Inc., Bear

See Mortgage Discrimination page 9



Mortgage Discrimination from page 8

Stearns Residential Mortgage Corporation dba Encore Credit, First Franklin Financial Corporation, National City Corporation, First Tennessee Bank dba First Horizon National Corp., Long Beach Mortgage Company, and Suntrust Mortgage.



"The only difference between the victims in this case and other customers is the color of their skin," said Brian Kabateck, who is co-lead counsel on the suit. "They had the same credit, the same income and the same qualifications. But because they were African American, they were ripped off."

Discriminatory loans are not just affecting individual borrowers, but entire families and communities as well.

Recent research, including federal data, proves the rampant discrimination in mortgage lending:

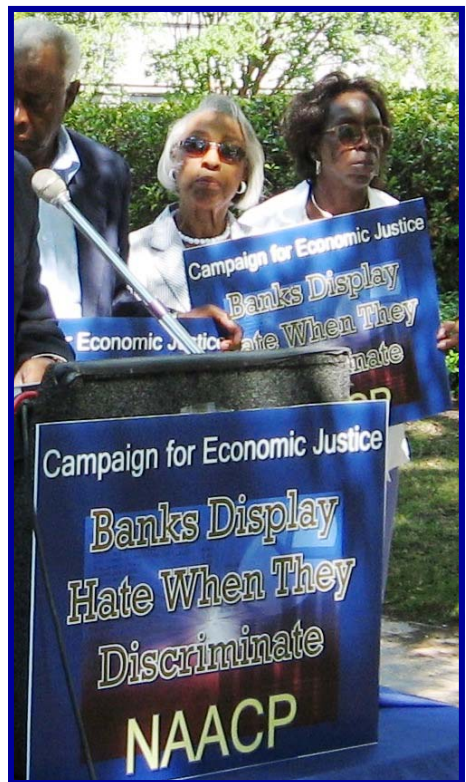
- A July 2007 report by Freddie Mac (Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation) showed that minority borrowers pay higher annual percentage rates on mortgage loans than non-minorities with equal income and credit risk. For instance, in 2005, African American borrowers paid an average of 128 basis points more for loans than their white counterparts. In the subprime market, the difference was even greater -- 275 basis points more.

- A 2006 Center for Responsible Lending study that found when income and credit risk were equal, African-Americans were 31 percent to 34 percent more likely to receive higher-rate, more expensive subprime loans than Caucasians.

- A 2008 study by United for a Fair Economy finds cites federal data showing people of color are more than three times more likely to have subprime loans: high-cost loans account for 55% of loans to African Americans, but only 17% of loans to Caucasians.

The study also estimated losses of between \$164 billion and \$213 billion for subprime loans taken by people of color during the past eight years. This is thought to be "the greatest loss of wealth for people of color in modern US history."

- The National Community Reinvestment Coalition found in 2006 that lending institutions in six major metropolitan areas were engaged in "pervasive discriminatory and predatory practices" involving high-cost subprime loans to



African-Americans. The metro areas were: Baltimore, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles, St. Louis and Atlanta.

In addition to finding discrimination nationwide,

the study found that people of all income levels -- not just low or middle -- were victimized. For example, the study found that in Boston, 73 percent of high income (\$92,000 to \$152,000 annual salary) African Americans received subprime loans in 2005.

- The Federal Reserve Board has concluded that African Americans were more likely to pay higher prices for mortgages than their Caucasian counterparts. The United States Inspector General cited the Federal Reserve Board report as showing "significant" differences, making it "clear" that African-Americans were "much more likely to get higher-priced loans" than Caucasians. □



U.S. House of Representatives Passes Legislation Apologizing for Slavery and Jim Crow "Separate But Equal" Eras

Resolution Also Cites Continuing Social and Economic Effects of Transatlantic Slavery Trade on African Americans Today

The Issue:

On Tuesday, July 29 2008 the United States House of Representatives passed, by a unanimous vote, H. Res. 194, a resolution apologizing for the enslavement and racial segregation of African Americans. This resolution was significant for several reasons, including the fact that it addressed not only slavery but the "separate but equal" Jim Crow era as well.

This legislation is an important first step in recognizing a very important aspect of American's history and recommitting ourselves to bringing about an end to the disparities and

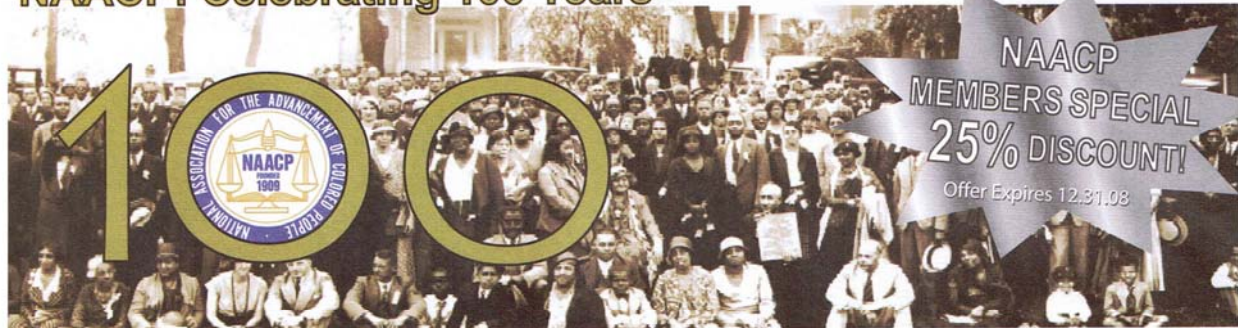
injustices that continue to plague our Nation as a result of the dehumanization of an entire race. In passing this resolution, the House of Representatives has sent a message to all of the American people and others that the most powerful nation in the world is willing to look honestly at some of the most shameful parts of its history, accept responsibility, and apologize for its actions.

The NAACP Washington Bureau has been in negotiations with Senator Tom Harkin (Iowa) to author a companion resolution in the Senate; we are hoping it will be introduced in the near future. The NAACP also

strongly supports H.R. 40, legislation introduced by Congressman John Conyers (MI) to take the next step toward healing our Nation by addressing and seeking remedy for the lingering effects if this deplorable institution.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors.□

NAACP: Celebrating 100 Years



Please let secretary know if you interested in ordering this book

The NAACP is built on the collective courage of thousands of people of all races, nationalities and faiths united in one premise - that all men and women are created equal. From the ballot box to the boardroom, the NAACP has led the fight for civil rights and social justice.

The NAACP and The Crisis Publishing Company have joined with Gibbs Smith to bring you a visually stunning and groundbreaking book that captures the 100 years of the NAACP and *The Crisis* titled "NAACP: Celebrating 100 Years" which is due out Fall '08 in time for Christmas gift giving.

Order your copy today! \$40.00 each plus \$7.25 shipping (\$3.00 shipping for each additional book). NAACP members- \$30.00 each plus shipping. (Must provide membership number). Bulk sales (20+ books), please contact us at 410.580.5138 or email: iartis@naacpnet.org.

**Pre-Order Now!
Due out Fall 2008!**

Highlights Include:

- Over 350 pictures from the NAACP photo files
- NAACP Chronology
- Over 450 pages



The Wichita Sit-In 50th Anniversary Celebration

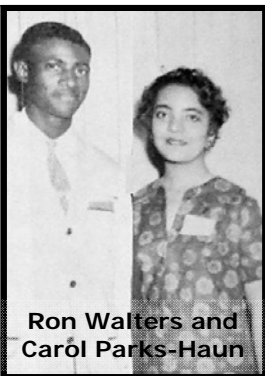
Wichita - not Greensboro, N.C. - is now thought to be the site of the first lunch-counter sit-in staged to protest segregation.



Part of the nation's civil rights history is being updated to give Wichita its due.

A sit-in at a Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., in 1960 is often cited as the first civil rights protest of its kind. But almost two years earlier, a student led sit-in occurred in the heart of the Midwest. At the 2006 NAACP national convention in D.C. Wichita was recognized as one of several cities to stage protests before Greensboro. On Saturday (Aug 9), those who took part in that successful sit-in will be honored in Wichita, Kan., for their role in civil rights history.

In July of 1958, Carol Parks-Haun, 19, and her cousin Ron Walters, 20, decided to protest restaurants which denied services to blacks in Wichita. At the time both were leaders in the local NAACP Youth Council. Walters and Parks-Haun organized a sit-in at Dockum



Ron Walters and Carol Parks-Haun

Drugstore -- a popular eatery with a soda fountain.

Parks-Haun remembers the humiliation of standing at the lunch counter to request a meal. "You'd come in and go to the

end of this counter and when you were served anything, it was in disposable containers," she says. "We never knew what it

was to just sit there and have a glass and dishes."

Ron Walters says 1958 Wichita was very segregated. "It was Mississippi up north. So we tried to break it down and we deliberately chose Dockum because Dockum was part of a chain -- the Rexall

Drugstore chain -- and we felt if we could do something there in the heart of town, it might have a consequence," Walters says.

The Dockum Drugstore sit-in failed to achieve national visibility in large part because the local newspaper didn't want to scare away advertisers. In addition, the NAACP did not sanction sit-ins at the time. A year and a half later, sit-ins would erupt across the South and attract substantial media attention.

A small article and photograph of participants sitting at the counter published in *The Enlightener*, a local African-American paper, is one of the few media accounts.

Their actions weren't sanctioned by the NAACP National Office; sit-in's were not a recognized NAACP tactic at the time. But under the leadership of Local Branch President Chester I Lewis and Youth Coun-

cil President Ronald Walters, these young people stood up by sitting down and changed our nation.

There was no parade or celebration to mark their accomplishment. In fact, their efforts, largely overshadowed by the later Sit-in's in Greensboro and throughout the South, were nearly forgotten by history. The Branch did receive a Thalheimer in 1959 for their work, but none of the Youth who participated in the Sit-in were able to attend.

On August 9th, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Dockum Sit-In, NAACP members from around the country will converge on Wichita to pay honor and tribute to the members of the NAACP Youth Council of 1958 and their President Dr. Ron Walters.

All of the events of the day (*The Reunion, the March, and the Gospel Celebration*) will receive National Coverage from Veteran Journalist Dan Rather, CBS News Anchor of 24 years and now the host of "Dan Rather Reports" on HDNet, □



Members of the Wichita NAACP Youth Council of 1958 being honored at the 2006 Wichita Branch Freedom Fund Banquet
 Pictured are: Billy Alexander, Congressman Todd Tiahr, Robert Newby, Ron Walters, Carol Parks-Hahn, Galen Vesey, Joyce Glass, Pretice Lewis, Arlene Harris, Governor Kathleen Sebelius, and Janice Nelson



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

Upcoming Events

- Aug 4th - **Goose Creek Branch Meeting**
- Sept 13th Charleston NAACP Freedom Fund Gala with Michelle Obama Call 843-552-1111 for Tickets
- Oct 11th - **Goose Creek NAACP Freedom Fund Jazz Gala - Dean Hall Cypress Gardens**
- Oct 18th Moncks Corner Freedom Fund Banquet
Call 843-899-2110 for ticket information
- Oct 31st North Charleston Branch Freedom Fund Banquet at Charleston Sheraton Hotel.

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

PLACE A MESSAGE IN OUR FREEDOM FUND SOUVENIR JOURNAL

We invite you to sponsor a full-page in our Souvenir Booklet. You can sponsor the inside front-page cover for \$200.00, the inside rear cover for \$175.00, a full page for \$100.00, a half page for \$60.00, one-fourth page for \$35.00, or one-eighth page (Business Card Size) for \$25.00.

The deadline for copy ready pages is Sept 8, 2008

If you have any questions please contact Barbara Blackwell at 843-486-9890, Marlene Lemon at 469-2397, Beverly Hargrow at 824-9680, or John Matthews at 843-442-1319.

NAACP CREEK CONNECTION



Located adjacent to Goose Creek, SC, Cypress Gardens offers visitors the rare experience of being one with nature. During the day you can explore the swamp on flat bottom boats or wander on meandering trails. And at 8 PM on Saturday October 11, 2008 Cypress Gardens will be the place for an enchanting evening of food, live jazz, dancing, and a silent auction to celebrate and support the Goose Creek NAACP Branch on our 5th Anniversary at the 2008 Freedom Fund Jazz Gala.

**Goose Creek NAACP
Freedom Fund Jazz Gala 2008
Saturday October 11, 2008 at
Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens**

Music by Jazz Pianist Oscar Rivers and Company

**6-7:30 PM Private Black Tie VIP Reception
8 PM Jazz, Food, Wine and Dancing**

**Tickets:
\$35.00 for Jazz Show
\$60.00 Includes Black Tie VIP Reception**



*****Save the Date*****

**Saturday October 11, 2008
for the
Goose Creek NAACP Freedom Fund Jazz Gala
at
Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens**

Tickets are \$60.00 per person for the VIP Reception and Jazz Show or \$35.00 for the Jazz Show only. For tickets and more information contact Marlene Lemon at 469-2397, Roscoe Singletary at 797-6903, Eddie Anderson at 553-9648, Thomas Lanier at 345-8561, or Eyamba Williams at 475-6954.

DIRECTIONS TO CYPRESS GARDENS FROM CHARLESTON

Take Interstate 26 West (toward Columbia)
Take Exit 209 A off of Interstate 26 West
Take Hwy 52 West towards Moncks Corner and Goose Creek
Travel approx. 6-7 miles on Hwy 52 West.
Turn Right onto Cypress Gardens Road and follow to end.

Notes:

1. If you take Exit 209 B by mistake, then turn left at Rivers Ave. which is actually Hwy 52 West.
2. In the Goose Creek area watch for signs on the right shoulder of the road off Hwy 52 West and follow those signs out here. (Do not turn to the left when you approach the intersection where you see the 84 Lumber Company sign. Hwy 52 West will be straight ahead of you.)

Call 843-553-0515 for directions