



## Brenda Bines elected as the branch president



**Brenda Bines**

Brenda Bines will guide Goose Creek's NAACP chapter as the national organization celebrates its 100th anniversary next year.

Brenda Bines was elected president at November's local chapter election. She ran unopposed for the unpaid, two-year term.

David Cakley was elected first vice president; Orville Hayes will be second vice president; Jenea Haynes, secretary; and Tamika Morant, treasurer.

Ms. Bines will take office in December.

Her priorities will be increasing membership – she has set an ambitious goal of 200 new members next year – and fundraising, so the organization can offer more programs to the community. Current chapter membership is about 125 members.

Ms. Bines will step into a position that has been held by Andrea Glover since the branch was chartered in 2003. Ms. Glover chose not to seek reelection.

Ms. Glovers said she did not seek reelection to give other members an opportunity for leadership. She will continue to be active and direct her attention to youth, education, and event planning.

Glover deserves praise for her work to get the branch started and working to improve civil rights in our community. During her tenure the branch has gotten off to a good start. Her focus was to get the branch inline with the NAACP's guidelines for branches.

She used her commitment to youth and education to lead the branch to have annual SAT and College Preparation Workshops and participation in the NAACP's ACT-SO competition. ACT-SO is an acronym for Academic Cultural Technological

Scientific Olympics. It includes 26 categories of competition in humanities, sciences, business, performing arts, and visual art.

Ms. Bines plans to continue the work that has been started and increase youth and young adult participation in the branch.

Ms. Bines said, "There is still much left for the NAACP to do. I will work to get the energy and enthusiasm of a new generation of NAACP Goose Creek branch members to give their support for the challenges ahead." ■

### Branch Officers Elected for 2009 - 2010

**President** - Brenda Bines

**First Vice President** - David Cakley

**Second Vice President** - Orville Hayes

**Secretary** - Jenae Haynes

**Treasurer** - Tameka Morant

**Assistant Secretary** - Eyamba Williams

**Assistant Treasurer** - Betty Jones

#### ACT SO Co-Chairpersons:

Marlene Lemon  
Clarence Turner

**Education Committee**  
Andrea Glover

**Executive Committee**  
**Members At Large**

LaMaurice Burgin  
Ranese Harrell

David Johnson  
**Finance Committee**

**Chairperson:**  
Tamika Morant

**Freedom Fund Committee**  
**Chairperson:**

Barbara Blackwell  
**Health Committee**

Lori Brooks  
**Housing Committee Chair-**

**person:**  
Thomas Lanier

**Labor & Industry Committee**  
**Chairperson:**

Herbert Bodison

#### Legal Redress Committee

**Chairperson**  
Paul Wesley Staggers, Jr.

**Life Membership Committee**  
**Chairperson**

Eddie Anderson  
**Membership Committee**

**Co-Chairpersons**  
Jackie Adams

Beverly Hargrow  
**Parliamentarian:**

Veronica Dukes  
**Political Action Committee**

**Chairperson**  
Robert Newton

**Press and Publicity Committee**  
**Chairperson**

John Matthews  
**Religious Affairs Chairper-**

**son:**  
The Reverend Ted Adams

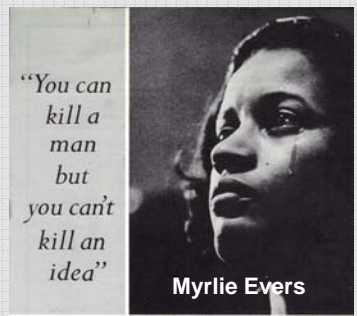
**Youth Work Co-Advisors:**  
Eyamba Williams  
Jenae Haynes



**Andrea Glover, President  
Goose Creek Branch NAACP**

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**Myrlie Evers**

KEEP THE IDEA OF FREEDOM  
ALIVE  
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 Email: [goosecreeknaacp@gmail.com](mailto:goosecreeknaacp@gmail.com)

**Officers**

President .....Andrea Glover  
 1st VP .....Paul W. Staggers, Jr.  
 2nd VP.....Thomas Lanier  
 Secretary.....Brenda Bines  
 Treasurer.....Deneen Moore

**Executive Committee Members**

*Eddie Anderson Nancy James*  
*Herbert Bodison John Matthews*  
*Rosalind Cato Christine Moore*  
*Veronica Dukes Robert Newton*  
*Ranese Harrell Roscoe Singletary*  
*Jenae Haynes Rev. Mae Taylor*  
*David Johnson Eyamba Williams*

**CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST JULIAN BOND SERVES LAST TERM AS NAACP CHAIRMAN, REMAINS ON NATIONAL BOARD**



Julian Bond will not seek reelection as chairman of the NAACP when his term ends in February, the NAACP announced November 18, 2008.

In a letter to Board members, Bond wrote that he would not run for reelection as Chairman of the National Board; however, he will remain on the Board. He also intends to stay active on the board and run for reelection to the Board when his three-year term ends.

"It has always been my plan to serve until the Centennial which will be underway in February when my term ends," said Bond. "I'm not resigning, I'm just not running for reelection," he added.

"I thought it was time for a new generation to take over the leadership," said Bond, who has served as chairman since 1998.

NAACP board members and officers are volunteers in elected positions, and the chairmanship is a one-year term. Bond will step down in the organization's centennial year, after 11 years as chairman. NAACP CEO Benjamin Jealous, who was recently appointed, noted in the press release that the organization looks forward to Bond's continued active involvement in the board.

For Bond, this decision was part of a life change. "Being Chairman has been a wonderful honor however, it has been more time demanding than anything I've ever done. I'm ready to let a new generation of leaders lead," he said.

Since 1998 when he first assumed chairmanship, Bond said, the NAACP has made significant advancements in providing equality and opportunity for ethnic minorities by eliminating discriminatory practices and serving as a watchdog for discrimination in more than 2,000 communities across the country.

Bond also emphasized the results of NAACP efforts in recent presidential contests, namely the registration and turnout of thousands of voters.

Reflecting on 100 years of activism, Bond said the NAACP has been "instrumental" in eliminating legal as well as extralegal discrimination in the United States.

"We have been a major player in every anti-discrimination movement in the country over the last 99 years," Bond said, citing discrimination and segregation at the ballot box and in public education as examples.

In aggressively pursuing the end of discrimination and segregation in the country, Bond said the NAACP can claim "some responsibility" for the election of Barack Obama.

Although Bond hailed the historic election of Obama as the first African-American president as a "great step," he said it does not mean the end of discrimination.

"The elevation of one man doesn't erase discrimination which exists in all parts of the country and in every aspect of society," he said. "We still have a job to do and we have to make sure Obama has all the help he needs." This help, Bond added, includes criticism.

The future goals of the NAACP are to ensure that the "remaining vestiges" of discrimination are eliminated, Bond said.

"We need to make sure that democracy is perfected so that it extends to everyone," he said. ■

**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 Dec 1, 2008**

**Monday Jan 5, 2009**

**Monday Feb 2, 2009**



## The NAACP Celebrates the historic victory of President-Elect Barack Obama

*"Change has come to America."*

Barack Obama - 11/4/2008



Read what our members and others had to say about Barack Obama's historic victory . . .

Barack Obama was elected America's 44th president and its first African-American commander in chief Tuesday November 4, 2008, in a sweeping victory that redrew the country's political map.

In his acceptance speech before a throng of emotional supporters in Chicago's Grant Park, Obama echoed the main theme of his campaign, saying, **"Change has come to America."**

**Read what our members and others had to say about Barack Obama's historic victory . . .**

I benefited from those that came before me, and while my participation in the Civil Rights movement was not as great as some I do remember the era. I remember well not being allowed to do certain things and go certain places because of the color of my skin. I have great respect and admiration for my ancestors who paved the way for this time in history. My first reaction was one of "pride" a new sense of hope and the fulfillment of promises of being the best. "Yes we Can" and "Yes we Did."

This is such a great time not just because of the historical significance of having the first African American President of the United States of America but because we now have hope again, we can build on the greatness of our people and rebuild and regain the respect, honor, and opportunities we deserve. We are a people destined for greatness, again "Yes We Can."

**Andrea Glover, President  
Goose Creek Branch NAACP**

**"The election is over, and the result is incredible, but the movement has only just begun."**

**Benjamin Todd Jealous  
President/CEO NAACP**

"I am extremely happy and proud to see an African American elected as President. Although South Carolina did not see fit, America overall saw fit to elect a gifted and talented leader in Barack Obama to bring change, positive change and healing to America and the world.

Obama's election emphasizes that it is okay to work hard, to dream, to strive for excellence, and to believe that you can succeed in whatever you want to do by working hard and staying focused."

**Madie Robinson  
President, Florence Branch NAACP  
Member, NAACP National Board of Directors**

....Not in my life time did I believe that I would have the blessed opportunity to "cherish the moment", and to share it with my mother!

Obama's victory - America's victory! We dared to hope, we dared to believe, and we had the audacity to win!!! The world won!! Grace abounds!

**Claudia Collins  
WZJY 1480 AM  
The David Mack Show**

"It was emotional and exciting to see Martin L. King's dream unfold in front of our very eyes.

Oh how I wish my parents were alive to witness this moment....a ray of hope they never

experienced or could imagine!

I did not give the war, our sinking economy, gas and food prices any thought. My thought was what a great time it is to be alive and living in America."

**LaMaurice Burgin, Member  
Goose Creek Branch NAACP**

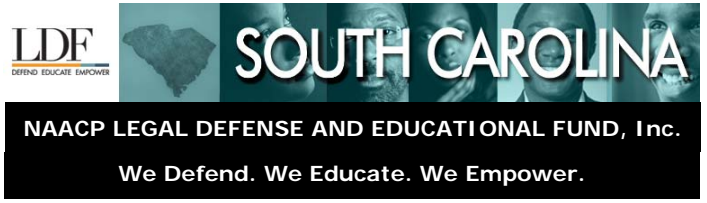
"I have worked on President Elect Obama's campaign here in South Carolina since April 2007. So, when he won this historical election on Tuesday I was overwhelmed with joy that lead to tears and I had such a sense pride that lead to humility. Finally, I felt a sense of belonging and a connection to this country that I never felt before. Praise God for this Victory! I am very proud of President Elect Obama and his accomplishments. He will be a dynamic leader and I believe he will go down in history as one of the greatest presidents of our time."

**Barbara Bodison, M.A.  
Teacher  
Charter Member, Goose Creek Branch NAACP  
President, Berkeley County Education Association**

It was inspiring to see a man of color finally going to the White House. I thought of this campaign and how Barack had united people of all colors. I had a choice and my choice was not that he was black, but he was the most qualified candidate. Hurray for the "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA".

**Samuella Holmes, Member  
North Charleston Branch NAACP**

See Change has come on page 8



## This Moment: A Culmination of Sacrifice and Good Work

By Benjamin Todd Jealous

Yesterday, we ushered in a new era. Yesterday, we destroyed the remnants of Jim Crow, abolished a one-color-fits-all definition of leadership, and declared that our nation would rise above the politics of the past. Yesterday, we witnessed the most inclusive election, enjoyed by the largest, most informed and most motivated electorate in our nation's history. Yesterday, we elected an African-American man as President of the United States of America.

We congratulate President-elect Barack Obama and his wife Michelle on their historic win. This moment is 232 years in the making. In this moment, we honor the memory of freedom fighters like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Ida B. Wells, Medgar Evers, Rosa Parks, and so many others who gave their lives so that the promise of America can be real for all people. It is their sacrifice that made this moment possible.

Full electoral participation has always been a driving goal of the NAACP, and NAACP leaders and members around the country rose to the challenge. This election saw mobilization efforts previously unimaginable. We registered thousands of voters, on the ground and on the web, but it didn't stop there. Our ground game delivered voters to the polls and defended them once they were there. That's why we were in courtrooms across the country, challenging laws and policies that served to prohibit eligible voters from casting ballots.

This election wasn't perfect. There were still far too many reports of voter disenfranchisement and harassment. There were still far too many problems with the inequitable distribution of resources that resulted in long lines, faulty machinery, insufficient ballots, and racially motivated voter challenges at polling locations in low-income and minority communities. There were still too many eligible voters who stayed home on Election Day. The election is over, and the result is incredible, but the movement has only just begun.

As we bask in the glow of Barack Obama's stunning victory, we acknowledge that the battles are still many. Nonetheless, we have proof that an inspired nation can come together across racial, cultural, and generational boundaries to bring about even greater change. ■

**Note: President and CEO Benjamin T. Jealous will be the keynote speaker for King Day at the Dome on January 19th. See page 6 for more information.**

## Who Really Won on Election Day?

By Alexis Karteron, NAACP LDF Assistant Counsel

In recent weeks, we've all devoted much attention to Election Day's winners and losers. Without question, we can place Barack Obama in the "win" column -- his ascendancy to the presidency of the United States is a stunning development in American history. But what about South Carolina voters? Far too many lost out this election season when they were unable to participate in this historic election.

This year, the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund ("LDF") launched Prepared to Vote ("PTV"), a voter empowerment campaign that targeted ten states, including South Carolina. PTV partnered with grassroots organizations that work in African-American communities on voter education projects. In particular, we distributed educational materials that provided answers to the questions that arise every election season and sometimes hinder participation. The materials covered a variety of topics, such as eligibility requirements, valid reasons for casting absentee ballots, updating registration records, assistance at the polls, and locating polling places. PTV partners included statewide organizations like the South Carolina Progressive Network, and local ones like individual NAACP branches. The Goose Creek, Charleston, Orangeburg and Greenville branches of the NAACP were particularly enthusiastic partners. Our partners ultimately helped to distribute more than 30,000 PTV brochures and Know Your Rights flyers to voters around the state, and we also reached voters directly through educational forums. As a result of our partners' efforts, thousands of voters received the critical information they needed to ensure that they could participate on November 4th.

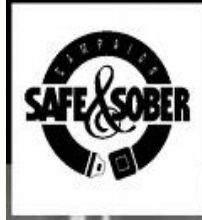
We also joined the national Election Protection Program and encouraged people to use the 866-OUR-VOTE hotline to report problems at the polls on Election Day. To see the fruits of all of these efforts, I was fortunate enough to find myself in Charleston on Election Day. Along with John Matthews, Publicity Chair of the Goose Creek branch, I had the opportunity to spend the morning answering questions and talking directly with community members as a guest on The David Mack Show, WZJY TALK Charleston. The Charleston branch and its president, Dot Scott, graciously hosted me for the rest of the day, and we were able to monitor the calls that poured in to 866-OUR-VOTE from across South Carolina. People reported difficulties of all kinds, like long lines, machine breakdowns, poorly trained poll workers and inaccurate registration records. While we were able to address many of these problems, the reality is that unfortunately many voters were unable to cast their ballots.

Although it is disappointing when voters encounter difficulty, we now

**See Who Really Won on Page 11**



\*This Holiday Season  
If You Catch a Buzz,  
Catch a Ride.



## December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

### Impaired Driving is a Deadly Problem

\* Impaired driving is one of America's deadliest problems. Nationally, in 2003, more than 17,000 people died in alcohol-related highway crashes. Hundreds of thousands more were injured.

\* Every 30 minutes, nearly 50 times a day, someone in America dies in an alcohol-related crash. This means you, your friends, your family are regularly at risk.

\* According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), about three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives.

\*Too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. Impaired driving is no accident – nor is it a victimless crime.

\* Since 1981, every President of the United States has proclaimed December "National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month" to help underscore the public's commitment to preventing impaired driving and promoting the use of designated drivers and sober ride programs.

\* Legislators and law enforcement officials are becoming even more vigilant in combating impaired driving. 2004 marked the first year that .08 blood alcohol content (BAC) laws have been enacted in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

\* The month of December and the New Year's Eve holiday are also often highlighted by significant increases in state and local law enforcement efforts to combat impaired driving such as the use of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols.

**This Holiday Season, If You Catch a Buzz, Catch a Ride -- Designate a Sober Driver Before All Holiday Parties**

## Closing the Gap in Health Care

Dr. Thaddeus John Bell, M.D.



Last week, we witnessed one of the most historical events in American history. Senator Barack Obama was elected President of the United States of America.

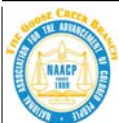
The state of the US today is the worst in many years. Barack Obama has a tremendous task ahead. Remember that excitement you felt the moment he was named President-elect? That rush of energy and the feeling that everything was going to be alright? Don't forget that feeling. Be reminded of that feeling daily as you live your life. Let that feeling be the source of energy that spurs you to do better, live a healthier life style, and work smarter. Let the "Obama Effect" help elevate your "A-Game."

On November 10, 2008, Dr. Bell was featured in an article in The Post and Courier of Charleston, SC about his views of Senator Obama's election as president. Go to [http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/nov/10/doctor\\_hopes\\_blacks\\_will\\_adapt\\_healthy\\_l60917/](http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/nov/10/doctor_hopes_blacks_will_adapt_healthy_l60917/) read the wonderful article. ■

I am often reminded that elderly folk are at the mercy of family members and too often that is not good. Too many times I have seen elderly people not taken care of by family members in a way that I would have taken care of my mother or father. If you have an elderly parent please take time to make sure you understand their needs. Take time to understand when and how often they should take their medications. Elderly folk take about eight medications a day which can be very challenging for any anybody. Untreated hypertension and diabetes can cause early dementia in the elderly. If you notice they can not remember when their next doctor appointment or get confused about times and places it could mean they have early dementia. Verbal Abuse of the elderly is a problem in the African American community and when it happens it is a sign of other abuse. Remember elderly parents need constant attention, guidance and love. This message is in memory of my parents. I am Dr. Thaddeus John Bell, Closing the Gap in Health Care for African Americans & the underserved. ■

Website [www.closingthegapinhealthcare.com](http://www.closingthegapinhealthcare.com)

If you have questions for Dr. Bell or general comments for Closing the Gap in Health Care, Inc, please send an email to: [info@closingthegapinhealthcare.com](mailto:info@closingthegapinhealthcare.com)



## South Carolina NAACP News and Activities



**ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**  
**NAACP**  
 FOUNDED 1909  
**KING DAY**  
 At The **DOME**  
**JANUARY 19, 2009**  
*Bringing the Change We Need to Every Community*  
**EDUCATION • JOBS • JUSTICE**

**Special Guest Speakers**

<b>Benjamin T. Jealous</b> NAACP National President & CEO	<b>Bishop Kenneth Monroe</b> South Atlantic District AME Zion Church
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<b>King Day Prayer Service</b> 8:30 AM Zion Baptist Church 801 Worthington Street	<b>Centennial King Day Rally &amp; Pre-Inaugural Salute</b> 10:15 AM State House Steps Main and Cervais	<b>Volunteers Wanted</b> Community Outreach Logistics Marketing Parade Marshalls	For more information call the State NAACP at 803-754-4384 or contact your local Branch. Send an email message to info@scnaacp.org
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Support The NAACP Campaign for Dignity in South Carolina

### Plan to attend King Day at the Dome

Dr. King's dream of social and economic justice and his call for peace are even more relevant today.

Had he not been killed by an assassin's bullets - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, would be 80 on his next birthday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. His vision lives on and on Monday January 19, 2009 The SC NAACP will sponsor the annual King Day at the Dome event in Columbia. This will be a day of reflection for us as we continue the dream and efforts for a better South Carolina.

A caravan of vehicles will depart from Abraham Masonic Lodge Hall in Goose Creek at 206 Liberty Hall RD at 6:30 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m.

**Please contact the King Day at the Dome Coordinator, David Cakley at 276-6294 to sign up for transportation or if you have any questions.■**

### Bob Jones University President apologizes for racist policies

*"It's unfortunate it took them this long", said Dr. Lonnie Randolph*

Bob Jones University has apologized for racist policies including its refusal to admit black students until 1971. Bob Jones University President Stephen Jones decided to issue the apology because the school still receives questions about its views on race.

The private fundamentalist Christian school was founded in 1927.

We failed to accurately represent the Lord and to fulfill the commandment to love others as ourselves. For these failures we are profoundly sorry. Though no known antagonism toward minorities or expressions of racism on a personal level have ever been tolerated on our campus, we allowed institutional policies to remain in place that were racially hurtful.

The interracial dating ban was lifted in March 2000, not long after the policy became an issue in the Republican presidential primary that year. Then-candidate George W. Bush was criticized when he spoke at the school during one of his first campaign stops in the state after losing in New Hampshire.

Bob Jones University President Stephen Jones decided to issue the apology because the school still receives questions about its views on race.

Dr. Lonnie Randolph, president of the South Carolina NAACP State Conference said the civil rights group welcomed the statement.

"It's unfortunate it took them this long — particularly a religious, faith-based institution — to realize that we all are human beings and the rights of all people should be respected and honored," Said Dr. Randolph.

Randolph said that when Jones became president three years ago, he asked the civil rights leader not to hold the decisions made under his

**Congratulations** to Booker Manigault, Moncks Corner Branch NAACP; Dot Scott, Charleston Branch NAACP; and Mary Ward, North Charleston Branch NAACP for their reelection as president of their branches. Mr. Manigault and Ms. Scott ran unopposed but Ms. Ward beat out former branch president, Mr. Ed Bryant for her reelection.

### Berkeley County Had the Largest Voter Turnout Ever

The 2008 General Election proved to be the largest, most participated in election that Berkeley County has ever experienced. Absentee numbers totaled over 12,000 with a record number voting absentee in person in the Voter Registration absentee poll. At the time of the election, Berkeley County had 89,203 registered voters. A record number of 65,971 voters participated in this election. That gives us a percentage of 73.96% voter turnout. Voter turnout for the 2004 was approx. 61%. 52,937 voters as compared to the 65,971 this year. Election days problems were typical, with long lines, long ballots and a slow process. Seems as though this election, we had more voters showing up at their wrong precincts, which happens every election, but probably seemed heavier this time due to the large numbers. Voting machine problems were minimal, which we are very grateful. A special thanks to those of you who work so hard behind the scenes to help facilitate the election process. We could not do it without the helping hands of others.

Help us call for the passage of "No excuse early voting bill" and keep up the hard work, we appreciate it!!

Wanda Farley, Director  
Berkeley County Elections & Voter Registration

**See Bob Jones University on Page 11**



# Take Down The Flag!

<http://takedowntheflag.wordpress.com/>

September 14, 2008

## After the War

By

Michael Rodgers



Michael Rodgers

The Confederate soldiers who formed and joined the Klan after the war are not the ones we celebrate on Confederate Memorial Day.

When Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered in

April 1865, the army under his command, the Army of Northern Virginia, surrendered too. Then on May 10, 1865, Confederate president Jefferson Davis was captured. The Civil War was over.

In South Carolina, we have on our Statehouse grounds a beautiful monument to the Confederate soldiers. The inscriptions are inspiring: "This monument perpetuates the memory of those who ... died in the performance of their duty ... these were men whom power could not corrupt, whom death could not terrify, whom defeat could not dishonor...."

On Confederate Memorial Day, May 10, we have a regular state holiday to honor the Confederate soldiers who were killed during the Civil War and the Confederate soldiers who did not dishonor themselves after their defeat. It is on Confederate Memorial Day that we should fly the Confederate battle flag to honor these soldiers.

Unfortunately, many Confederate soldiers chose to dishonor themselves after their defeat. During the period known as Reconstruction, many former Confederate

soldiers formed and joined the Klan. As part of the Klan, these former Confederate soldiers terrorized people in the southern states, especially the former slaves.

Thus, the first people to associate Confederate soldiers with terrorism, racism, and hate were the Confederate soldiers who became Klansmen. After the war, how are the now former slaves supposed to distinguish between an honorable Confederate veteran and a Klansman? There is no way for them to know who is under the Klansman's hood. And thus, these former slaves were the second people to associate Confederate soldiers with terrorism, racism, and hate.

Now, let's recall what Sen. Glenn McConnell said in 1999 about the Confederate flag controversy in South Carolina, "It hurts us to see groups like the Klan holding that [Confederate] flag. You want to talk about a sick feeling? Our group, our historical groups, we are disgusted when we see it. But we're equally disgusted and sickened by the political rhetoric and people say it's an emblem of racism, it's an emblem of hate, it's shameful and all of this. How do they think we feel when it's the emblem of our ancestors? They hurt our feelings."

Sen. McConnell feels disgust when he sees the Confederate flag being held by the descendants of the Confederate soldiers who dishonored their own service by turning to terrorism after the war. And he feels equal disgust when he hears talk associating the Confederate flag with racism and hate from the descendants of those who were terrorized by these former Confederate soldiers.

**How can Sen. McConnell feel equal disgust for cause and effect?**

Now, the people of South Carolina should

be proud of the service and the sacrifice of our Confederate soldiers who served honorably during the war. Unfortunately, the legacy of all the Confederate soldiers who served honorably during the war was tarnished, to put it gently for those whose feelings are hurt easily, by those Confederate soldiers who became Klansmen after the war.

Thankfully, the legacy of The Confederate soldiers who were killed during the war is safe, because we know that they never joined the Klan. We will fly their Confederate battle flag to honor them on Confederate Memorial Day. We will honor them and their honorable colleagues who surrendered at the war's end and never joined the Klan.

In South Carolina, we must honor those who did their duty, and we must not honor terrorists. The way for us to make sure that this message is crystal clear is to pass H-3588. We must complete the compromise with clarity.□

**It's time to put our country first. It's time to take down the Confederate flag.**

**Change has come from page 3**

My reaction to President Elect Obama's win was one of jubilation, excitement and an overwhelming sense of pride. I cried, jumped, screamed, hugged my husband, called significant people in my life, this is a moment in time I will never forget. I am so proud of the American people to rally around the fact that we need CHANGE. The win for Obama is a win for our future generation, we must stand tall for him and ourselves. The Dream is now a reality and we all know that if we work hard and truly commit to our desires we can have whatever we want and most importantly we do not have to be ugly in so doing.

**Rosetta Givens Mitchell, Member  
Goose Creek Branch NAACP**

This momentous occasion means a new day for all Americans. As an African-American I feel a sense of personal pride to see Barack Obama reach the pinnacle of the American dream. For all minority Americans, it means that there should be no limit to our aspirations. As an American, I am very heartened to see the broadness of support for Obama. This helps us all to recognize that he will serve as the president of all of the people. I am also gladdened by the picture that this presents to the rest of the world. America is beginning to live up to the values the we espouse as a nation.

**Christine Moore  
Member Goose Creek Branch NAACP  
Instructor College of Charleston**

**BARACK OBAMA ... PRESIDENT ELECT OF THESE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA! Oh, by the way, did I mention that our next President is a black man?!**

Seriously, I look at my beautiful grandchildren—all 7 of them—ages 3-16. But on November 4, 2008, election night, I began to see with unlimited vision, new heights, new professions, brand new expanded possibilities spread out before my grands, before America, much like lilies sprouting in a massive, unstoppable, blossoming field. A field now renamed "LIMITLESS HOPE!" No, not that some of these goals were not available or attainable beforehand ... but that this expansion now comes cloaked in recognition and packed with affirming truths that all men, indeed, are cre-

ated equal. This single truth led Thomas Jefferson, on June 28, 1776 (232 years ago), to pen, and for America's Constitutional Congress to unanimously adopt on July 4, 1776 and title "**The Declaration of Independence**". Jefferson's Declaration opened with these words: "IN CONGRESS. JULY 4, 1776. THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." Paragraph two of this declaration opened with these unshakable words:

*We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men were created equal...*

**Bessie Williams Simmons  
Member, North Charleston Branch NAACP**

While watching the election results and the announcement that Barack Obama had been elected decisively as our next President, I thought about my parents and how they always remained optimistic about the promise of America. I remembered my father who on one Sunday afternoon sat down and wrote a letter to the Governor of Arkansas (Governor Orval Forbus) pleading with him to protect the Arkansas nine, the first African Americans to attend the all white Little Rock high school. I remembered the way I felt when I heard John Kennedy's inaugural address, and of course, I remembered the words in the I Have a Dream speech.

**Dr. Thaddeus John Bell, Jr., M.D.  
Member North Charleston Branch NAACP**  
Closing the Gap in Health Care for African Americans and the Underserved  
Associate Dean for Diversity at the Medical University of South Carolina

"We all have roles to play. I want to say to you: What is your role? Decide your role and do your roles well. We have to learn that each one of us has a role to play; we all need each other and not one of us is any more important than the other. If we all play our roles well, we can have a successful society. There will always be a role for the NAACP," he said. "Let's not think Tuesday's election solved the problems we are faced with.

**Congressman James E. Clyburn (D-SC)  
U.S. House of Representatives**

On the win of Obama I can't help but stop and reminisce on words of my mother, "You can become anything you want to be and be the best. Never allow anyone to convince you other wise. It's not the color of your skin that makes you, but what's underneath the skin and inside the brain that makes you who you become."

I always believed that one day a black person would become President of these United States. I thank God for allowing me to be part of this great history. I would be remiss if I don't pause in memory of all our ancestors who gave their lives, took many beatings and shed tears so that this event could be possible. Now it's up to this generation and the future generations to work towards stopping black on black crime, bring back education and respect into all families regardless of race, creed or nationality.

**Ranese Harrell  
Member, Goose Creek Branch NAACP**

I had no indication that something like this could happen. I didn't think white Americans would vote for a black candidate in any appreciable numbers, and, as a consequence, there was no way this could happen. So, it was not until Obama won Iowa, and I could see that in the whitest of American states, a black candidate could come out triumphantly, that it began to be possible to me.

It's a great moment for all of us. It's a great moment for the country. We demonstrated something to ourselves and we demonstrated something to others.

But we haven't eliminated racial discrimination, and we ought not take his election as proof of that. This is proof that we're a better country now than we were the day before. But you can't overemphasize it and make it into something it's not.

**Julian Bond, Chairman  
NAACP National Board of Directors  
University of Virginia History Professor** □



Editor's note: Article from the British West Indies

## From Slavery to Obama

By Ken Chaplin



A 75-year-old black woman who lived through race segregation in America's south cried as she left a polling station in Virginia. A young white girl in another part of the country called a cable network station and in a voice filled with anxiety asked the anchor on election day: "How is Obama doing? I cannot eat and I cannot sleep." These two events in a way symbolized the change that was about to take place in the United States. A few hours later, Senator Barack Obama became the first African American to be elected president of the USA, creating history.

Obama is not a descendant of slaves. His father was an African from Kenya and his mother from Kansas. Still, this biracial man represents the long struggle of African Americans. Obama scored a sweeping victory for the Democratic Party over the Republican Party candidate, John McCain. The overwhelming majority of the electorate answered Obama's call for change, some queuing up for up to 10 hours to vote, many in heavy rain.

The voting process in many states was below the standard expected in a highly industrialized country like the USA. Obama ran a superb campaign beating McCain on the ground and in the air. In the final days of the campaign he had more than one million workers on the ground urging people to vote for him. A total of about 700,000 people contributed around US\$500 million to his campaign fund, with an average donation of US\$85. He outspent McCain in television and radio advertisements and had a lot of cash left over.

Many people across the country - black and white - jumped and wept tears of joy after

Obama was declared winner. The black woman had not voted before and wept because she did not believe she would have seen the day when an African American would run as a presidential candidate. The white girl represented a new generation of Caucasians for whom race did not matter: They wanted the best man for the job at a time when their country was faced with the worst recession ever, and believed such a man was Obama. I empathized with the black woman because I too did not believe this historic change in the attitude of so many white Americans in electing a black man as president would have come in my lifetime, although I saw signals over the years. I vividly remember that in August 1960 when I first visited the South I saw "White Only" signs at many places in Louisiana, and the condition under which many blacks lived was appalling. They were treated as second citizens and suffered humiliation. My black escort from a community organization accepted segregation. That visit left me distressed. In the next 40 years when I visited the South on many occasions, the situation had improved tremendously. In May this year, I visited the South again, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas and I observed revolutionary, social and political changes as far as black people were concerned.

What accounted for these changes since the emancipation of slaves in the USA in 1865? Change did not come easily, and black people had to fight like hell. After emancipation, America did not educate its ex-slaves as the British did in the West Indies. Steps by the blacks to improve themselves were met with resentment, repression, lynching, ritual beating, humiliation and the rise in the anti-black Ku Klux Klan. Some blacks opened small businesses in South Carolina, but they were driven out of town. Public schools in the South were segregated and blacks had to attend inferior schools. Then came desegregation in 1954 which many black scholars referred to as the second emancipation. The Supreme Court ordered desegregation of

public schools after the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) waged an intense battle that segregation was unconstitutional.

The court ruled that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal". As a result de jure racial segregation was a violation of the constitution. This paved the way for integration and the civil rights movement. But some southern states used all sorts of spurious arguments and actions to delay desegregation. The NAACP had to return to court which in 1955 ordered that desegregation "occur with all deliberate speed". People in the Civil Rights Movement, led by Dr Martin Luther King, marched and demonstrated against attempts by the South to block the entry of black students to public schools. In the end justice prevailed.

The banning of discriminatory voting practices that had been responsible for the widespread disenfranchisement of African Americans led to the desegregation of public schools and the National Voting Rights Act of 1965. This in turn produced many Obamas and enabled blacks to make a quantum leap to the top in many spheres. Then there was the heroic action of an NAACP organizer, Rosa Parks, who in 1955 refused to give up her seat to a white man which sparked a boycott and ended discrimination on buses. That has had an impact on black children travelling to school. There are still pockets of racial discrimination and bigotry in the USA and too many blacks living in poverty, but the road travelled thus far has been inspiring. □

Article originally posted on the  
Jamaica Observer website  
[www.jamaicaobserver.com](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com)  
November 11, 2008



## NAACP leader visits Fairbanks (Alaska) Rev. Nelson Rivers speaks at youth breakfast, forum

By Christi Hang  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner



FAIRBANKS — More than 100 people were fired up and ready to go at the Ninth Youth Summit Breakfast, presented by Greater Fairbanks Branch of the NAACP.

The breakfast was so well attended, organizers had to scramble to find extra tables. Virigie King, president of the Fairbanks NAACP branch, said she was surprised and pleased with the turnout.

At one point, Johnathan Kenney, president of the NAACP Youth Council and master of ceremonies, led the crowd of students and community members in a call-and-response of "Fired Up. Ready to Go," a popular phrase heard during President-elect Barack Obama's presidential campaign.

The phrase can be traced back to NAACP members in the Southeast region, whom have used the slogan for years, said Rev. Nelson Rivers III to the Associated Press earlier this year.

Rivers, the chief of Field Operations for the NAACP, was the guest speaker Saturday morning. He has been involved with the organization for nearly 30 years, and in recognition of Rivers' commitment to civil rights and community service, he has been honored with numerous awards, including induction into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame. He also has appeared on media outlets such as "60 Minutes" and "All Things Considered."

Rivers said he has met Obama on several occasions and said the president-elect is an incredible man. When Obama won the election, Rivers said he has met Obama on

several occasions and said the president-elect is an incredible man.



The Reverend Nelson Rivers, III  
NAACP Chief of Field Operations

When Obama won the election, Rivers said the experience was so overwhelming that he cried for the first time since his father died. When he thought of all the people, known and unknown, who paved the way for Obama, Rivers became so overcome with emotion.

Obama's victory was made possible not by only one group of people but all Americans, Rivers said.

"The American people did it. If not for all of the people who voted, we would not have him as president," he said. "It took all of America."

He also credited Obama's ability to recognize the potential of young people when many have the tendency to dismiss them.

"Young people want to lead and have good leaders," Rivers said. "They want to be inspired."

Rivers also spoke at the 12th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday evening.

Young people have to find out where

they go from here and assess what they know. There are more opportunities, positive and negative, for young people today, and one of the most important skills they need to have is wise decision-making, Rivers said.

"The world is a stage. everyone has to operate in their season, and this is their season," he said.

Val Cofield, mother of a West Valley High School senior, said she was excited to see such a big turnout for the event. She said the election proved to young people, no matter their race, color or creed, that they could do whatever they put their minds to.

"This is for everybody," Cofield said. "We need a change, and it's going to take everybody."

Although young people are smart and capable, Rivers said, they still need to heed their elders because of the wisdom that the elders are able to share.

Rivers said a challenge for young people is to realize wisdom comes later after dedicated pursuit. Young people need to be mentored, keep the faith and rise to the challenge with courage, he said.

"It's a great time to be young," Rivers said. □

*Originally published in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner 11/9/08*



# We are **one hundred**

1909 NAACP 2009

NAACP Centennial Celebration | Feb 12, 2009 | New York, NY • 100th Annual Convention | July 11-16, 2009 | New York, NY

In February 2009, the NAACP, the nation's oldest pre-eminent civil rights organization, will mark its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Celebratory events will kick off on January 20<sup>th</sup> with the NAACP Presidential Ball, the first in its 100-year history, and continue throughout the year. The NAACP Headquarters, based in Baltimore, as well as its 1,700 units throughout the country will host activities that highlight the significant role the Association has played in leading social change in America.

Following is a partial listing of upcoming events for your planning calendars. For regular updates, please visit [www.naacp.org](http://www.naacp.org).

**Jan. 19, 2009 – 10:15 a.m.**

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual NAACP 'King Day at the Dome'**

Columbia, SC

Contact: SC State NAACP 804-754-4584

**Jan. 20, 2009**

**NAACP 1<sup>st</sup> Presidential Inaugural Ball**

Washington, DC

The NAACP will host an inaugural ball in honor of the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.

Contact: NAACP 202-463-2940

**Feb. 6 & 7, 2009**

**"The Civil Rights Century: The NAACP at 100"**

Center for Africana Studies

Johns Hopkins University

Baltimore, MD

Contact: 410-516-6385

**Feb. 12, 2009**

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NAACP**

There will be numerous events around the country hosted by local Branches including:

- Founder's Day Services
- Cake-Cutting Ceremonies
- Birthday Parties

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual NAACP Image Awards**

Airs live nationwide on FOX TV at 8 p.m.

**Feb. 21, 2009**

**NAACP Annual Meeting**

New York, NY

Contact: Paula Edme, 212-344-7474 x101

**May 2009**

**NAACP Leadership 500 Summit**

Since its inception in 2005, *Leadership 500* has served as a fertile training ground around social justice advocacy for more than 1,200 mid-level professionals between the ages of 30 and 50. *Leadership 500* workshop topics also explore issues of economic parity and wealth creation; health and wellness as a business imperative and early childhood education.

Contact: Paula Edme, 212-344-7474 x101

**July 2, 2009**

**Thurgood Marshall Day**

Baltimore, MD

Baltimore City Branch NAACP hosts a bus tour throughout the state that highlights Marshall's life, career and important role in the civil rights movement as an NAACP attorney.

Contact: Baltimore City Branch NAACP, 410-366-3300

**July 11-16, 2009**

**NAACP 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

New York, NY

Additional festivities planned for the NAACP centennial year include:

Televised specials highlighting the most influential films, music and people from 1909-2009.

Release of a commemorative music CD of 'freedom songs' performed by noted recording artists of today.

Release of *NAACP: Celebrating a Century, 100 Years in Pictures*, a photo book of im-

ages and notes from the NAACP's own files and records.

Details about these and other projects can be found on [www.naacp.org](http://www.naacp.org). For more information, contact NAACP Communications Department, 202-463-2940 or email

[communications@naacpnet.org](mailto:communications@naacpnet.org) ■

## Who Really Won from Page 4

have a powerful tool at our disposal. With some creative thinking and an eye toward the goal of expanding access to the franchise, we can pinpoint the problems that occurred in this election, and identify reforms that help us to avoid them in the future.

This election taught us that we need better procedures for addressing machine failure. We also need to seriously consider no-excuse early voting three weeks before Election Day, making absentee voting by mail available to anyone who cannot make it to the polls, moving the registration deadline closer to Election Day, and perhaps even Election Day registration. With the information collected through PTV and on Election Day in hand, more South Carolinians will have the opportunity to cast ballots that count, so that we can all be winners next time around.

**To report problems concerning election administration in your community, please contact the PTV hotline at 877-773-8683 or e-mail [vote@naacpldf.org](mailto:vote@naacpldf.org).** ■

## Bob Jones University from Page 6

father and grandfather against him.

Jones is the great-grandson of the school founder, Bob Jones. He took over for his father, also named Bob Jones, in 2005. ■



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

**Upcoming Events**

- Dec 1st** Goose Creek Branch Meeting
- Jan 5th** Goose Creek Branch Meeting
- Jan 15th** The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
- Jan 19th** King Day at the Dome
- Feb 12th** NAACP 100th Anniversary
- Feb 12th** The 40TH NAACP IMAGE AWARDS - will broadcast Thursday, Feb. 12 (8:00-10:00 PM on FOX. The star-studded broadcast coincides with the NAACP's 100th anniversary



NAACP Centennial Celebration | Feb 12, 2009 | New York, NY • 100th Annual Convention | July 11-16, 2009 | New York, NY

**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



**Impact the issues affecting your community by joining the NAACP today!**  
Call 830-9779 or download application online from: [www.naacpgoosecreek.org](http://www.naacpgoosecreek.org)

**NAACP CREEK CONNECTION**

The NAACP Goose Creek, South Carolina Branch

**Marlene B. Lemon**  
Co-Chair, ACT-SO Committee  
Goose Creek Branch NAACP  
[mlemon2@aol.com](mailto:mlemon2@aol.com)



**Clarence Turner**  
Co-Chair, ACT-SO Committee  
Goose Creek Branch NAACP  
[clarence-turner@excite.com](mailto:clarence-turner@excite.com)

Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics

ACT-SO is an acronym for Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics. It is a major youth initiative of the NAACP. ACT-SO was founded in 1978 by the renowned author and journalist, Vernon Jarrett. ACT-SO provides a forum through which African American youth demonstrate academic, artistic and scientific prowess and expertise, thereby gaining the same recognition reserved for entertainers and athletes. Through ACT-SO, the NAACP is providing an instrument for which youth are encouraged and inspired toward excellence in academic and cultural pursuits while benefiting from the maximum support of their community. The objective of ACT-SO is to prepare, promote, and recognize African American youth who exemplify scholastic and artistic excellence.

Contact Ms. Lemon at 871-1927 or Mr. Turner 330-8584 at to apply for competition, volunteer to mentor and coach applicants, or for more information.

**2009 ACT-SO Competition**



**Save these Dates**

Meetings for interested students and supporters:

**10 AM Saturday December 6, 2008**

Joshua United Methodist Church  
Old Highway 52  
Moncks Corner, SC

**3 PM December 6, 2008**

Wesley United Methodist Church Education Bldg,  
Summerville, SC  
(Near tennis courts in the park off of Main Street)

All interested students and supporters please attend.

Local Competition will be in April

Date: To be announced  
Time: To be announced  
Location: To be announced

**2009 National ACT-SO Competition**

July 8- July 12, 2009  
New York, New York

**2009 NAACP Centennial National Convention**

July 11-16  
New York, New York

**Goose Creek Branch NAACP**

PO Box 1356  
Goose Creek, SC 29445  
Telephone: 843-553-5573 ♦ Fax: 843-628-4950  
[goosecreeknaacp@gmail.com](mailto:goosecreeknaacp@gmail.com)  
<http://naacpgoosecreek.org/contact.htm>



Dr. King's dream of social and economic justice and his call for peace are even more relevant today.

Had he not been killed by an assassin's bullets - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would be 80 on his next birthday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. His vision lives on and on Monday January 19, 2009 The SC NAACP will sponsor the annual King Day at the Dome event in Columbia. This will be a day of reflection for us as we continue the dream and efforts for a better South Carolina.

A caravan of vehicles will depart from Abraham Masonic Lodge Hall in Goose Creek at 206 Liberty Hall RD at 6:30 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m.

Please contact the King Day at the Dome Coordinator, David Cakley at 843-729-7994 to sign up for transportation or if you have any questions. ■