



Goose Creek SC NAACP Branch #56A3 April 2009 Newsletter Volume 4, Edition 4

Special Postmark Honors Civil Rights Pioneers

Goose Creek Post Office Commemorative Postmark Offered Nationwide

Stamps highlight NAACP's 100th Anniversary

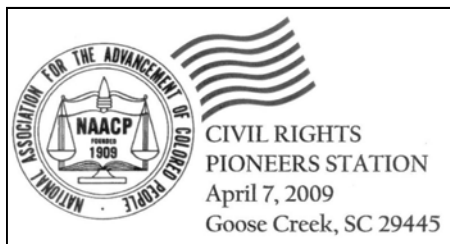


Left to Right: Brenda Bines, President of Goose Creek Branch; Kimberly Williams, Postmaster of St. George; Sherald Martin, Postmaster of Goose Creek; and John Matthews, Goose Creek NAACP member.

Goose Creek, SC — Sherald Martin, Postmaster of the Goose Creek Post Office and Kimberly Williams, Postmaster of St. George unveiled the Civil Rights Pioneers Stamp in the Lowcountry on Tuesday April 7, 2009.

The Civil Rights Pioneers Stamp was issued on February 21st in New York, on the 100th anniversary of the NAACP.

The stamps were unveiled for the Lowcountry in Goose Creek – but with a unique, local twist.



The U.S. Postal Service has created a special pictorial postmark with the City of Goose Creek and the NAACP logo.

The stamps and Civil Rights Pioneer Station Postmark will be available following the unveiling ceremony Tuesday, April 7th.

The event, which will take place at the Goose Creek Community Center, will be attended by

postmasters and NAACP leaders from throughout the Lowcountry.

The stamp unveiling was in celebration of the NAACP's Centennial Celebration and to honor these Civil Rights Pioneers that were commemorated by the US Postal Service.

The stamps honor: Ella Baker, Daisy Gatson Bates, J.R. Clifford, Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer, Charles Hamilton Houston, Ruby Hurley, Mary White Ovington, Joel Elias Spingarn, Mary Church Terrell, Oswald Garrison Villard and Walter White—all of which served as NAACP founders or organization leaders.

Postmasters Sherald Martin and Kimberly Williams will unveil and presented the Civil Rights Pioneers stamp enlargement to Brenda Bines president of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch in honor of the NAACP's 100th Anniversary.

City of Goose Creek Mayor Michael Heitzler along with the NAACP Branch Presidents from Charleston, East Cooper, Goose Creek, Moncks Corner, North Charleston, and St. George were on hand for the unveiling ceremony. The Hanahan High School Junior ROTC posted the Colors and students from Charleston Development Academy, a Public Charter School, along with youth members from the Charleston and Goose Creek NAACP Branches gave orations about the civil rights heroes commemorated on the stamps.

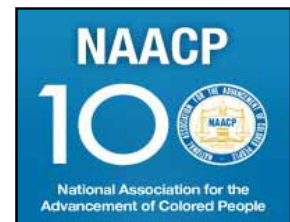
The postmark, which will be advertised nationally in the Postal Bulletin, is free, but must be applied to items bearing First-Class postage. The postmark and the Civil Rights Pioneers stamps were available to collectors at the unveiling ceremony, and will be available through the mail for 30 days following the date of issue. "I'm very proud to be a part



President Brenda Bines with Harry Spratlin, U.S. Postal Service Communications Coordinator, Greater South Carolina District

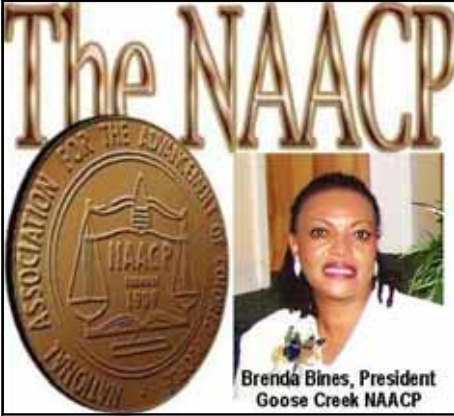
of this special event," said Postmaster Sherald Martin, "we're proud to welcome everyone to Goose Creek for an evening of inspiring historic interpretation."

See Stamp Unveiling on page 8



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Brenda Bines, President
Goose Creek NAACP

BRANCH MEETINGS

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

Upcoming Meetings

Monday Apr 6, 2009

Monday May 4, 2009

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Executive Meeting

7:00 PM to 8:00 PM General Meeting

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Officers

PresidentBrenda Bines
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Secretary.....Jenae Haynes
Treasurer.....Tamekia Morant

Executive Committee Members

The Rev. Ted Adams	Ranese Harrell
Jackie Adams	David Johnson
Eddie Anderson	Betty Jones
Barbara Blackwell	Thomas Lanier
Herbert Bodison	Marlene Lemon
Lori Brooks	John Matthews
LaMaurice Burgin	Robert Newton
Veronica Dukes	Paul W. Staggers, Jr.
Andrea Glover	Clarence Turner
Beverly Hargrow	Eyamba Williams

NEWS FROM SC STATE CONFERENCE

New Meeting Schedule Notice

Last month we announced the new schedule for regular meetings of the State Conference that would establish the second Saturday in the months of **January, March, May, June, August and November** as general meeting dates.

Accordingly, there will be no general meeting this month. However, only the State Executive Committee will convene on **Saturday, April 11, 2009 at 9:00 AM.**

The next General Meeting will be held at the State Conference Office on Saturday, May 9, 2009, beginning at 11:00 AM.

Centennial Freedom Fund Campaign

Centennial Freedom Fund Celebration and Woman of the Year Coronation will take place **Saturday, May 16, 2009** at the Carolina Coliseum in Columbia. If you have not reserved your Gold Tables please respond as soon as possible. The program will begin promptly with dinner at 5:30 PM. An additional special feature of the Centennial Celebration will be the recognition of NAACP members age 90 and above. Members in this age group that attend will take part in a special group photograph and receive a commemorative certificate marking the occasion. We are asking your branch secretary to submit the names and membership ID numbers of those that will attend no later than Saturday, May 9, 2009.

The cost of branch Gold sponsorships will be \$650.00, the same as last year; however, we will likely institute a limit on the number of Gold Sponsorships available at the unit rate.

The format for the Centennial Celebration will be similar to last year with reserved tables.

Please note that your placement in the Gold section will be based upon the date your commitment/check is received.

Mandatory Executive Leadership Training

All elected and appointed officers of NAACP units must attend a session of NAACP Leadership Training being offered this spring. Those who attended the training in January will have satisfied this requirement. Failure to attend the training will result in the National Office removing you from office. We are planning opportunities to satisfy our training needs in South Carolina. Any of you that attended a certification training session since 1999 will have to attend four (4) hours of this training. Others that are new officers or will attend for the first time will have to attend a full eight (8) hour session. You will be able to designate a category on the pre-registration form. We have identified the following dates on which to hold training opportunities: **Saturday, April 25th and Saturday, May 2nd.**

On **Saturday, April 25th** we plan to offer two (2) re-

[See Mandatory Training on page 3](#)

Goose Creek NAACP Branch



4th Annual Real Men Cook 4 to 6 PM

Saturday April 18, 2009

At

Goose Creek High School Cafeteria

There will be entertainment, door prizes, and great food.

Come early!

Tickets are only \$10

To register as a cook or for tickets contact: Herbert Bodison at 324-2894
Thomas Lanier at 345-8561, or
Andrea Glover at 729-7994



NAACP and Community United for Public Schools (CUPS) Opposes the proposed South Carolina Education Opportunity Act in the South Carolina Senate (S-520) and in the South Carolina House (H-3802)

Last month, March 4th, voucher proponents introduced The South Carolina Education Opportunity Act in the South Carolina Senate (S-520) and in the South Carolina House (H-3802). The South Carolina Educational Opportunity Act is a school choice bill that would create tax credits ranging from about \$1,000 to \$4,800 a year for parents who home school or send their children to private schools, parochial schools or new public schools. The bills have been referred to the Committee on Education.

State Senator Robert Ford of Charleston, a Democratic, is a sponsor on this bill and is widely promoting it.

The writers of The South Carolina Education Opportunity Act (S-520 and H 3802) were creative in naming their education options but vouchers or tax credits or scholarships are what they represent. The bill is very similar to other vouchers and tax incentives for private schools pushed by republicans. Tax incentives for private schools are only effective for families above a certain income level; low income families do not have the needed discretionary funds for tuition and such. As a result, if S-520 and H-3802 are signed into law, it would take materials and human resources from public schools, leaving the neediest children in an educational environment even worse than what they have now.



On March 30th the NAACP and other groups held a news conference opposing the legislation.

The coalition in opposition to the bill is called CUPS, Community United for Public Schools. It's comprised of ten different groups, including the NAACP, ACLU, League of Women Voters, Ministerial Alliance, and members of the Legislative Black Caucus.

Dot Scott, president of Charleston Branch NAACP, says if the legislation passes, it



would be devastating to public schools. The group has started a petition against the bill. Scott says, "My biggest opposition is not against private schools, it's about the resources that's available. We understand should this legislation pass, it would be devastating to public schools. What disturbs us most, here is the senator that's speaking for the people in his district, and not to talking to them. If he can have a forum to speak about the gaming issue, surely education would be one that he would want to speak out to the parents."



Senator Robert Ford

Ford told WCBD TV Channel 2 he will do a poll on the issue, but has no plans to have a public meeting at this time.

Victoria Middleton, Executive Director, ACLU South Carolina Office said, "There is no evidence of benefit to the public from such unproven schemes, but there is initial evidence, in other states, that they amount to requiring taxpayers to subsidize the private choices of wealthier families while diverting much-needed funds from public schools. The ACLU of South Carolina's National Office strongly opposes programs that allow public money to be diverted to private schools, whether through tuition vouchers or tax credits."



Victoria Middleton, ACLU

See NAACP Opposes Education Bill Page 10

Mandatory Training Continued from page 2

gional sites for training, one in **Laurens County** and the other in **Colleton County**. The exact sites in these two areas have not been confirmed as of the time of publishing this notice. Once the specific locations are confirmed, we will first post that information to your unit email address then by regular mail. The **May 2nd training session** will be held in **Columbia** to provide for centralized access to the training. The first segment, between 8:30 AM and 12:00 PM, will be designated for candidates for recertification as well as new participants. The new participants will continue with the training through the second session which ends at 4:00 PM. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The lunch break has been designated a working session to conserve time.

There will be a registration fee for all participants; therefore, we discourage you from bringing others who are not participants in the training to the session. A pre-registration fee of \$25.00 per person will cover meals and training materials. Onsite registration will cost each participant \$30.00. Registration will begin at 7:50 AM. Everyone will need to check out at the end of the session to ensure your attendance is properly credited.

National NAACP Convention

Preparation for the NAACP National Convention involves tending to a number of items. Branch membership must be at 50 or above (twenty-five for Youth Units) ninety calendar days prior to the opening of the Convention.

Branches must have your financial reports on file and up-to-date. The convention is planned July 10 -17, 2009. The adult main hotel, the New Your Hilton, has rates starting at \$240.00. Call 1-800-445-8667 or reservations. The youth main hotel is the Marriott Marquis; adults also welcome. It has rates starting at \$199.00. Call 1-800-266-9432 for reservations. Taxes must also be included. We would like to have every unit in attendance and in good standing during the convention. The State Conference is researching group transportation options by charter bus or train. Please let us know if you are interested. □



NAACP will honor Chairman Julian Bond with 94th



Horace Julian Bond, known as Julian Bond, (born January 14, 1940) is an American social activist and leader of the American Civil Rights Movement, politician, professor and writer.

While a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, during the early 1960s, he helped found the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). He was the first president of the Southern Poverty Law Center. Bond was elected to both houses of the Georgia Legislature, where he served a total of twenty years. He has been chairman of the NAACP since 1998.

Julian Bond, will be the 94th recipient of the Spingarn Medal, the NAACP's highest honor. Bond will receive the award during the NAACP National Convention in New York City July 16 at the annual Spingarn Dinner as the Association continues celebrating the 100th anniversary of its founding.

The Spingarn Medal, instituted in 1914 by the late Joel E. Spingarn, then NAACP Chairman, is awarded for the highest or noblest achievement by an American of African descent during the preceding year or years.

"Chairman Bond's record of service and leadership is legendary and inspiring," said NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous. "He has suffered and survived many attacks from extremists, but has always stood strong. His passionate oratory, deep thinking, political savvy and sense of humor make him a unique scholar-statesman of our time and an omnipresent soldier in the struggle for equality on many fronts."

Having been on the cutting edge of social change since 1960, Bond has faced jail for his convictions and being an active participant in the movements for civil rights and economic justice. In his student days as founder of the Atlanta student sit-ins at Morehouse College, he directed three years of nonviolent anti-segregation protests that won integration of Atlanta's movie theaters, lunch counters and parks. He was arrested for sitting-in at the then-segregated cafeteria at Atlanta City Hall. He was also co-founder of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, becoming its Communications Director and later working in voter registration drives in rural Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas.

He was prevented from taking his seat in the Georgia House of Representatives in 1965 by members who objected to his opposition to the Vietnam War. He was re-elected to his own vacant seat and un-seated again, and seated only after a third election and a unanimous decision of the United States Supreme Court. He would become a veteran of both chambers, putting in more than 20 years of service in the Georgia General Assembly.

Co-chair of a challenge delegation from Georgia to the 1968 Democratic Convention, Bond was nominated for Vice-President of the U.S. but had to decline because he was too young. He was the first African American to be nominated for vice president of the United States.

Last April Bond was named a "Living Legend" by the Library of Congress and in 2002 received the prestigious National Freedom Award from the U.S. Civil Rights Museum, which honors individuals who have made significant contributions in civil rights and who have laid the foundation for present and future leaders in the battle for human rights.

With his bold, distinguishable voice he has narrated numerous documentaries, including the Academy Award winning "A Time For Justice" and the prize-winning and critically acclaimed series, "Eyes On The Prize," that chronicles the American civil rights era of the '50s and '60s. He was a commentator on America's Black Forum, the oldest black-owned show in television syndication, while his poetry and articles have appeared in numerous publications.

To make certain that this award is continued on an indefinite basis, Joel E. Spingarn donated in his will \$20,000 to the NAACP with the following statement: "To perpetuate the lifelong interest of my brother, Arthur B. Spingarn, of my wife, Amy E. Spingarn, and of myself in the achievements of the American Negro." If this organization fails to continue, the Spingarn Medal is to be managed by the president of Howard or Fisk University.

In 1915, the NAACP set up a committee that consisted of several prominent persons, such as John Hope, president of Morehouse College, John Hurst, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and William H. Taft, president of the United States of America, to select the recipients of the Spingarn Medal. The first person to receive this award was Ernest Everett Just, a former professor of biology at Howard University, in 1915. Since that time, there has been a recipient each year except one (1938).■



Eliminating Health Disparities: An NAACP Strategic Priority

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

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

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Cancer and Fear of It

Cancer is a major health disparity for African Americans in South Carolina due to several factors. First, we are not sufficiently aware of cancer, or in many cases, we are in denial about it. Second, the African American lifestyle that often includes high use of alcohol and cigarettes puts us at high risk for developing lung cancer and cancers of the head and neck. Third, African Americans are not appropriately screened for cancer by their physicians mainly because we lack adequate health insurance. Screening for colon cancer is a good example.

Those of us in the medical profession must educate African Americans and other minorities on how to deal with fears and the many health myths that are still very prominent in our community. These myths and fears interfere with the proper education, treatment, and follow up care for many of our loved ones who will have to deal with this disease. One common myth is that once cancer hits the air it will spread like wildfire. This, of course, is false.

We are fortunate to have in South Carolina several notable cancer treatment facilities. The Medical University of South Carolina Hollings Cancer Center was recently afforded distinction as a National Cancer Institute Designation Center . There are only 63 other centers in the country with this distinction. We also have several very fine private practice physicians who have expertise in treating all kinds of cancer. We must use all of these resources together in an

effort to educate the minority populations to overcome the fear of cancer. Make sure you get your information from a professional about cancer treatment. *I am Dr. Thaddeus John Bell, Closing the Gap in Health Care for African Americans and the underserved.*□

Cancer Death Rates Dropping among African Americans but Survival Rates Still Low New Cancer Report Details Progress and Challenges

Atlanta 2009/02/18 -While death rates from cancer continue to drop among African Americans, the group continues to be diagnosed at more advanced stages and have lower survival rates at each stage of diagnosis compared to whites for most cancer sites. The findings come from Cancer Facts & Figures for African Americans 2009-2010, the latest edition of a report produced every two years by the American Cancer Society, the nation's leading voluntary health organization.

The new report says death rates for all cancers combined have decreased faster in African American men than white men, primarily because of rapid declines in the death rates from lung and prostate cancers. While overall cancer death rates have also decreased among African American women, they are dropping at a slower rate than among white women. The slower decline in African American women is largely due to smaller decreases in breast and colorectal cancer death rates.

The report estimates that among African Americans in 2009, there will be about 150,090 new cases of invasive cancer diagnosed and about 63,360 cancer deaths. The most commonly diagnosed cancers among African American men will be prostate (34 percent), lung (16 percent), and colon and rectum (10 percent). Among African American women, the most common cancers will be breast (25 percent), lung (12 percent), and colon and rectum (11 percent). Cancer of the lung will be the most common cause of cancer death in both African American men (31 percent) and women (23 percent), followed by prostate cancer in men (12 percent) and breast cancer in women (19 percent). Cancer of the colon and rectum and cancer of the pancreas are expected to be the third and fourth most common causes of cancer death in both men and women.

"African Americans have the highest death rate of any racial and ethnic group in the U.S. for most cancers," said Otis W. Brawley, M.D., American Cancer Society chief medical officer. "As this report points out, the causes of these disparities are complex and likely reflect social and economic disparities, not biologic differences. African Americans face inequalities in income, education, and standard of living, as well as barriers to accessing high-quality health care. And while it is discouraging that these differences still exist, we absolutely must face them and continue to enact policies to address them in order to save lives and reduce suffering from cancer among African Americans."

Although the overall racial disparity in cancer death rates is decreasing, in 2005, the death rate for all cancers combined continued to be 33 percent higher in African American men and 16 percent higher in African American women than in white men and women, respectively.■



MADISON AVENUE PROJECT

- Ending racial discrimination in America's advertising industry -

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE NAACP AND MEHRI & SKALET, PLLC

The Madison Avenue Project was formed by the NAACP and Mehri & Skalet, PLLC to reverse the widespread, entrenched discrimination against African American professionals employed in the advertising industry. For more than forty years, the advertising industry has been investigated and charged by government agencies for discriminatory employment practices which resulted in a deficiency of African American new hires and promotions. The industry has fallen far short in adequately addressing these disparities.

The Madison Avenue Project seeks to redress the historical discrimination against African American advertising professionals and to create systematic changes in the culture, policies, and practices of the advertising agencies to promote diversity and equality.

After receiving complaints of discrimination from African American advertising professionals, Mehri & Skalet began a preliminary investigation and—in partnership with the NAACP—commissioned the report “Research Perspectives on Race and Employment in the Advertising Industry,” by Drs. Marc Bendick and Mary Lou Egan. The report revealed:

African-American advertising employees are *underpaid* in the advertising industry

- Black college graduates working in advertising earn \$.80 for every dollar earned by their equally-qualified White counterparts
- Black managers and professionals are only one-tenth as likely as their White counterparts to earn \$100,000 a year

African-Americans are *under-hired* in the advertising industry

- African-Americans should be 9.6% of the managers and professionals (based on national demographic data), but in

2008, only 5.3% of managers and professionals were African-American – a difference of 7,200 African-Americans “missing” from the professional and managerial ranks at advertising agencies

- About 16% of large advertising firms employ **no** Black managers or professionals, a rate 60% higher than in the overall labor market

African-American employees are *under-utilized* in the advertising industry

- Blacks are only 62% as likely as their White counterparts to work in the powerful “creative” and “client contact” functions in agencies
- African-Americans are often excluded from “general market” agencies and find work only in agencies specializing in “ethnic markets”

Since the Madison Avenue Project was launched—at a press conference in New York City on January 8, 2009—the Project has received an enormous outpouring of support. We greatly appreciate your support and especially those who have been willing to share their stories. To change the advertising industry, it will require the collaboration of the civil rights leaders, attorneys, and industry activists who created the Project and you. If you are employed in the advertising industry and believe that you may have been discriminated against, please contact us:

<http://www.madisonavenueproject.com/sub/contact-us.jsp>

Mehri & Skalet, PLLC is a private law firm dedicated to using the legal system to serve the public interest. We are class action and complex litigation attorneys who work to enforce statutes that protect Americans from unfair or discriminatory practices. These include: civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination; laws that shield consumers from fraud and defective products; securities laws that protect shareholders from corporate fraud; laws that govern employee benefits (ERISA) and wage

NAACP Files Landmark Lawsuit Against Wells Fargo and HSBC

Remedies would benefit millions of potential borrowers

March 13, 2009 - The NAACP filed separate lawsuits in U.S. District Court in California against two of the country's largest lenders, Wells Fargo, and HSBC. These lawsuits allege systematic, institutionalized racism in sub-prime home mortgage lending. The remedies being asked for in the lawsuit include measures for increased accountability and transparency.

To for more on this action and to view the original complaints against Wells Fargo and HBSC go to: www.naacp.org

NC Attorney General Joined by California, Arizona, Louisiana, Mississippi and New York Announce Legal Action to Oppose Texas Challenge to Voting Rights Act

4/2 - North Carolina's Attorney General Roy Cooper, joined by 5 other states, is filing an amicus brief in support of the constitutionality of Section V of the federal Voting Rights Act (VRA). The VRA, which was reauthorized in 2006, is now being challenged by the Northwest Austin Municipal Utility District Number One of Austin, TX. The implications of the challenge could undermine voting rights throughout the country.

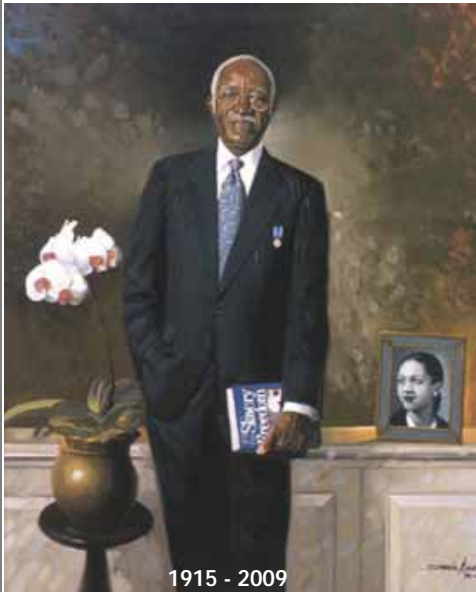
Benjamin Todd Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, one of the defendants in the case said, “Without the Voting Rights Act, millions of people would be disenfranchised and locked out of the ability to participate fully in our democracy.”

The Voting Rights Act has long been deemed one of the most important federal civil rights statutes, preserving and protecting minority voting strength. The VRA also assures that citizens who speak a different language are not discriminated against in the voting process.

The U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder is the lead defendant in the case. In addition to NAACP, several other organizations have intervened in the suit including the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, (to name a few) in collaboration with the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale & Dorr. ■



We mourn the passing of Dr. John Hope Franklin



1915 - 2009

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond and NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous released the following statement on the passing of noted historian and activist John Hope Franklin:

America has lost a real treasure with the death of John Hope Franklin. He was a pioneer in democratizing American history, giving black Americans a proper place in the development of the United States. His magnificent work, *From Slavery to Freedom*, insures people of color will not be forgotten when the American story is told. He was more than America's most prominent historian - his civic activism set a high standard for academics, marching in Selma, serving on numerous commissions and advising presidents. He is irreplaceable and will be much missed.

John Hope Franklin was the 1995 recipient of the NAACP Spingarn Medal, the Association's highest honor, given for distinguished merit and achievement among Americans of African descent.

John Hope Franklin was born January 2, 1915 in Rentiesville, Oklahoma and named after John Hope. He graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He graduated from Fisk University in 1935 and gained a doctorate in history in 1941 from Harvard University.

Franklin met and courted Aurelia Whittington at Fisk. They married on June 11, 1940 at her

parents' home in Goldsboro, North Carolina. Their only child, John Whittington Franklin, was born August 24, 1952. Aurelia was a librarian. Their marriage lasted 59 years, until January 27, 1999, when she succumbed to a long illness.

"My challenge," Franklin says, "was to weave into the fabric of American history enough of the presence of blacks so that the story of the United States could be told adequately and fairly."

In the early 1950s, Franklin served on the NAACP Legal Defense Fund team led by Thurgood Marshall that helped develop the sociological case for *Brown v. Board of Education*. This led to the 1954 United States Supreme Court decision ending the legal segregation of black and white children in public schools.

"It was evident how much the lawyers appreciated what the historians could offer," Franklin later wrote. "For me, and I suspect the same was true for the others, it was exhilarating."

Professor Franklin served on many national



Dr. John Hope Franklin, Chair of the Advisory Board of the President's Initiative on Race, presents President Bill Clinton with the Board's report (1999)

commissions and delegations, including the National Council on the Humanities, from which he resigned in 1979, when the President appointed him to the Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy. He also served on the President's Advisory Commission on Ambassadorial Appointments. In September and October of 1980, he was a United States delegate to the 21st General Conference of UNESCO. Among many other foreign assignments, Dr. Franklin served as Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions at Cambridge Univer-

sity, Consultant on American Education in the Soviet Union, Fulbright Professor in Australia, and Lecturer in American History in the People's Republic of China.

Franklin broke numerous color barriers. He was the first black department chair at a predominantly white institution, Brooklyn College; the first black professor to hold an endowed chair at Duke University; and the first black president of the American Historical Association.

Above all, he documented how blacks had lived and served alongside whites from the nation's birth. Black patriots fought at Lexington and Concord, Franklin pointed out in "From Slavery to Freedom," published in 1947. They crossed the Delaware with Washington and explored with Lewis and Clark. The text sold million of copies and remains required reading in college classrooms.

Franklin received more than 100 honorary degrees, the NAACP's Spingarn Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

Dr. Franklin died of congestive heart failure at Duke Hospital on the morning of March 25th, 2009. He was 94. He is survived by his son, John Whittington Franklin, daughter-in-law Karen Roberts Franklin, sister-in-law Bertha W. Gibbs, cousin Grant Franklin Sr., a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, other family members, many generations of students and friends. There will be a celebration of his life and of his late wife Aurelia Franklin at 11 a.m. June 11 in Duke Chapel in honor of their 69th wedding anniversary. For more information on John Hope Franklin, please visit his memorial web site:

<http://www.duke.edu/johnhopefranklin/> ■





Stamp Unveiling from page 1

To order by mail, write to: Civil Rights Pioneers Postmark Station, Attn: Postmaster, 307 Goose Creek Blvd. Goose Creek, SC 29445-9998. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. By-mail requests must be postmarked by May 7, 2009. ■

Photos from the Ceremony:



Kimberly Williams, St. George Postmaster and Sherald Martin, Goose Creek Postmaster



(L-R) Branch Presidents: Willie Davis, Dot Scott, Rev. Arthur Pinckney, and Booker Manigault



(L-R) Samuella Holmes, President Brenda Bines, and Mayor Heitzler

Above: Goose Creek Mayor Michael Heitzler (3rd on left) with Lowcountry NAACP Leaders



Brandon Taylor, Silas Adams, Andisi Kita, Tamiya Young, and Amir Baumbach



**NEW ON THE JOB****NAACP's Youthful New President Eyes Its Future**

By Brennen Jensen

THE CHRONICLE OF PHILANTHROPY
THE NEWSPAPER OF THE NONPROFIT WORLD

From the issue dated March 26, 2009

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People celebrates its centennial this year. As it heads into its second century, the person the storied civil-rights organization has chosen to lead it is the charity's youngest president ever: Benjamin Jealous, who is 36.

While a fresh face at the group's helm, Mr. Jealous is no stranger to the organization or its mission. As a fifth-generation member of the NAACP, which maintains its headquarters in Baltimore, he participated in one of its voter-registration drives at age 14 in his native Monterey, Calif. As an NAACP intern during college, he served as a community organizer in Harlem and helped stop the closure of a local hospital. Both his parents were dedicated civil-rights activists in the 1950s and 60s; his father was even jailed for protesting at a segregated lunch counter.

"What comes with that kind of family history is the expectation that wherever you see a wrong to right, or where you see an opportunity to advance justice, you will invest yourself," says Mr. Jealous, who started his job in September. To his mind, the election of Barack Obama as the nation's first black president is the culmination of decades of work by the NAACP and others to create equal opportunities for minorities. And while he says it is cause for celebration, Mr. Jealous is adamant that it doesn't mean the work is done.

Indeed, when he surveys America in the 21st century, he sees blacks facing increasing disparities in housing, health care, and education, as well as what he calls "mass incarceration" — ills that collectively create a new form of segregation threatening hard-won advancements in racial equality.

"There's a sense that we are experiencing an interrupted ascendancy," Mr. Jealous says.

The new president also faces challenges within the NAACP itself, which was forced to lay off half of its staff early last year, following years of operating at a financial deficit. Longstanding plans to move the headquarters to Washington were put on hold because of costs. Even be-

fore assuming his post, Mr. Jealous spent months raising money to eliminate the deficit of more than \$2-million.

Mr. Jealous's predecessor, Bruce Gordon, a former telecommunications executive, resigned after serving less than two years, citing difficulties working with the charity's 64-member board as one reason. And Mr. Jealous assumes the role with less than a mandate: A vocal minority of that board sought a more "traditional" leader for the group when they voted in May. Some critics said they felt a prominent minister would be a better choice.

The young president does bring with him a diverse background of social-justice work, including significant experience in the nonprofit world. A Columbia University-educated Rhodes scholar, Mr. Jealous has directed domestic programs for Amnesty International, in New York. Once a journalist, he led the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a trade group for black journalists.

Most recently, Mr. Jealous served as president of the Rosenberg Foundation, a grant maker in San Francisco that works to provide opportunities to needy people.

"Despite his youth, Ben Jealous possessed the necessary experience in social-justice work," says Julian Bond, NAACP board chairman. "He was familiar with the nonprofit world and the foundation world. He had been an effective fund raiser for organizations similar to ours. And he was in tune with our mission and our history — this was an excellent match."

Mr. Jealous would not disclose his annual salary. (Dennis Courtland Hayes, who served as interim president after Mr. Gordon left, earned \$240,000 annually in 2007, according to the latest available IRS filings.) Mr. Jealous is in the process of moving his family from California to Baltimore, where he spent summers as a child visiting his mother's family. In an interview, he spoke about his new duties.

Why did you decide to take this position?

What kept coming up for me was that I have a 3-year-old girl. I had moved back home to

California for her birth and began to look around. The schools were worse, the prisons were more overcrowded, the community colleges were in worse repair, and even the elite public universities were having problems. There was just a sense of unease and insecurity about whether she would be safe hanging out as a teenager. Ultimately, that sense of urgency and need to change the world before my daughter is completely out there on her own drove me back into front-line work and to seize this opportunity.

How does your age factor into your leadership?

Well, as somebody in their mid-30s raising a child, I'm firmly invested in the crisis of now and very much focused on making change quickly.

I'm also part of a generation that had been told not to fight. My grandmother would say to me how her grandfather had helped end slavery and how she and my grandfather and my mom and dad had helped end Jim Crow. I had opportunities that nobody had in hundreds of years — go study hard and get rich.

That made a lot of sense in the 1970s and into the 80s, but then I saw increasing violence and friends joining gangs. By the time I was 20 years old it was clear that my peers and I were coming of age just in time to find ourselves the most murdered generation in this country and the most incarcerated on the planet. If I listen to my grandmother talk about black history, it sort of always gets better. But if you ask one of my peers, you often get a different story.

What have you done to win over those board members opposed to your selection?

I had the unanimous support of the executive committee, which is 17 people in the board and a powerful footing. Suffice it to say I'm not the first NAACP president to not have complete support among 64 people when they were selected.

We are a highly democratic organization and both encourage and reward people really

See Jealous Eyes Future on Page 11

**NAACP Opposes Education Bill from Page 3**

State Superintendent of Education Jim Rex said "I believe private schools are an important component in the menu of choices parents can choose from. But public funds should go only to schools that are accessible to all kids and fully accountable to the public. Our public school choice legislation will provide additional choices at hundreds of schools, and at no additional cost to taxpayers."



The NAACP and CUPS are opposed to the proposed South Carolina Education Opportunity Act in the South Carolina Senate (S-520) and in the South Carolina House (H-3802) because among other things:

- In this economic crisis, we can't afford to sacrifice our children's education by supporting a third school system. Taking tax dollars away from our public schools and giving those dollars to private schools that are not even subject to basic accountability requirements is simply wrong.
- Tax credits work by taking resources from public school districts and channeling the resources into private schools that don't guarantee accessibility to all students.
- Choice is a false promise; particularly for families too poor to benefit from tax credits.
- In some areas of the state there are no private schools and low income parents can't afford to provide transportation to school.
- So-called tax credit schemes leave less funding for proven educational reforms like smaller classes, summer school, and teacher training.
- They burden public school systems with requirements to provide receipts and track parental payments.
- They remove options from students with special needs and disabilities and leave behind low-income students.
- Families who don't make enough money to pay taxes will not be able to claim the credits, so children from the poorest families will not benefit. Many middle-class families who send their children to public schools also will not benefit, because they do not pay enough in eligible education expenses to claim the credits.
- Private schools would receive these diverted tax dollars without any public oversight or disclosure of educational results. The public education system in our state deserves more funding, not wasteful schemes that will siphon off tax dollars during a budget crisis.

What can you do?

Become informed about the proposed legislation and if you agree with us that this legislation is a bad idea and won't help improve the education of our children then:

- **Contact your state legislators and ask them not to support S-520 or H-3802.**

You can find the contact information for your State representatives online at:

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/cqi-bin/zipcodesearch.exe>

Legislation Pending to Expand Public School Choice

Twin bills filed in the South Carolina legislature aim to increase the choices available to students in public schools, the plan is supported by state Superintendent of Education Jim Rex and school district administrators from around the state.

The House bill (H-3737) is co-sponsored by Republicans Ted Pitts and Gene Pinson and Democrat Anton Gunn. The Senate bill (S-0607) is co-sponsored by Republicans Wes Hayes and John Courson and Democrats Gerald Malloy and John Scott. Both would create public school choice committees in the state's local school districts and require that they create new instructional choices at the elementary, middle and high school levels within two years.

More choices available in public schools means that parents can find programs close to their homes that will be the best option for a quality education for their child. Experts in the new Office of Public School Choice, created by Dr. Rex at the State Department of Education, are helping local school districts to explore, design, develop, implement, and assess public school choice options. This menu includes single-gender initiatives, middle college/early college high schools, Montessori programs, alternative schools, charter schools, magnet schools, arts integration, and virtual schools.

To further expand choice within the public school system, we support legislation to create public school choice committees in school districts to develop choice options in their community schools.

Increasing choice within public schools is one of Rex's five goals for making South Carolina "the most fairly funded, most innovative, and most choice-driven public school system in the United States." The other four goals are accelerating innovation, refining the state's accountability system to ensure maximum results and minimum testing, elevating and reinvigorating the teaching profession, and providing fair and more equitable school funding. ■



Jealous Eyes Future from Page 9

making their case strongly. When somebody comes at you yelling about anything, you really have to accept it as an invitation from one person who cares very deeply to have a constructive conversation. That's what I spent my summer doing. And we are at a very different, stronger place than when we started — as evidenced by the fact that we ended last year well into the black financially, and frankly, in the black for the first time in the last four years.

How did you confront the charity's financial challenges?

We had become somewhat estranged in recent years from traditional philanthropy. You look at the number of grants we were receiving from foundations in the 1970s and 80s versus in the 90s and 2000, and it was headed in the wrong direction. So one of the very quick things I did was let former colleagues in the foundation world know there was a new sheriff in town and invite them to help me change that culture. We were able to raise about \$4-million just over the summer.

How might the recession shape the NAACP's work over the next few years?

As far as our work in the field, we've been calling for a moratorium on foreclosures for three years now. This work has kicked up a notch and expanded. We are suing 17 banks right now — not for damages, just to change their behavior of taking blacks with good credit and assets and pushing them into higher-interest and even subprime loans.

You've already met with President Obama in the White House. Do you foresee good access to his administration?

Yes, that's been free and forthcoming, and to [Vice President] Biden as well. Biden pulled me aside for 10 minutes to talk about the way local NAACP members in Wilmington [Del.] had helped create the foundation for his entire career. That's just a type of access that frankly no other organization can claim.

Is relocating the organization's headquarters to Washington still a possibility?

It's definitely still talked about. I have to be careful about what you make the priorities and how you spend money in this economy. Washington is still a much more expensive town than Baltimore. I guess like every other prospective homebuyer in the country, we're sort of in a wait-and-see mode right now. ■

Special thanks to The Chronicle on Philanthropy for this informative article about President/CEO Jealous

ABOUT BENJAMIN JEALOUS, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Previous employment: Mr. Jealous was president of the Rosenberg Foundation, in San Francisco, from 2005 until May of last year. From 2002 to 2005, he was director of domestic programming at Amnesty International, in New York. He spent several years in journalism, as a reporter and managing editor at *The Jackson Advocate*, a weekly newspaper in Mississippi, and as head of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a federation of more than 200 black community newspapers. He has also worked as a program director for the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty and a student organizer for the AFL-CIO.

Education: Earned a bachelors degree in political science from Columbia University in 1996 and a masters degree in comparative social research from Oxford University in 1998.

Hobbies: Skiing, hiking, biking, and reading.



Grover Glenn Hankins, former general counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and environmental law advocate, died April 11th after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 68.

Mr. Hankins was deeply committed to protecting the rights of all people. His death will leave a void in the hearts of all who knew him and the many that honored his dedication to equal rights.

NAACP President Benjamin Todd Jealous called Mr. Hankins a "tireless advocate for civil rights. From civil rights to environmental justice, Grover Hankins was a master litigator, educator and activist in the struggle for equality," said Jealous. "His contribution to the NAACP and to the fight for justice makes him a role model for all seeking change and the advancement of civil and human rights. He is an inspiration to us all and will be profoundly missed."

Mr. Hankins was the principal attorney for The Hankins Law Firm, P.L.L.C, in Houston, Texas. He practiced law for more than 30 years serving faithfully as the National General Counsel for the NAACP from 1985-1989. He was a leader in the field of environmental justice serving as Deputy General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The entire NAACP family sends our sincerest condolences to his family and friends during this time of bereavement. ■



President of Bamberg County NAACP Branch elected Mayor

Dr. Gerald E. Wright, president of Bamberg County NAACP Branch was elected Mayor of his hometown, Demark, SC in February and will be sworn into office on April 15th.

The NAACP Commemorates the Top 100 Films of the Century

Help us compile a list of the NAACP Top 100 Films of the Century.



In honor of its 100th anniversary, the NAACP has teamed up with Blockbuster to identify the top 100 movies for and about African Americans that have had a significant impact on American society and culture.

The NAACP has nominated nearly 1,000 movies that were released during the 100 years since the organization was founded, such as "Roots," "Foxy Brown,"

"Boyz 'N The Hood," and "Brown Sugar."

From now until April 27, you can help the NAACP select the top 100 films by rating films on the [NAACP Top 100 website](http://www.naacptop100.com/): <http://www.naacptop100.com/> The films are displayed on a timeline alongside key events in civil rights and NAACP history. The site also provides a summary of the film, cast and director information, and the movie's trailer to help you decide.

The final list will be announced in June. ■



Goose Creek, SC
Branch # 56A3

NAACP CREEK CONNECTION

Upcoming Events

- Apr 18 Real Men Cook
- May 4 **6 PM Executive Committee Meeting**
- May 4 **7 PM Goose Creek Branch Meeting**
- May 10 **MOTHER'S DAY**
- May 16 ACT-SO Showcase - Cane Bay H.S.
- May 16 SC NAACP State Conference Freedom Fund Baquet (Columbia)
- May 21 5th Annual NAACP Leadership 500 Summit
- Jun 1 **6 PM Executive Committee Meeting**
- Jun 1 **7 PM Goose Creek Branch Meeting**
- Jul 10-17 **NAACP Centennial Convention (NYC)**

Goose Creek NAACP Branch



4th Annual Real Men Cook

4 to 6 PM

Saturday April 18, 2009

At

Goose Creek High School Cafeteria

There will be entertainment, door prizes, and great food.

Come early!

Tickets are only \$10

To register as a cook or for tickets contact: Herbert Bodison at 324-2894, Thomas Lanier at 345-8561, or Andrea Glover at 729-7994

FIVE REASONS TO JOIN THE NAACP

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

**THE NAACP
IS TODAY**



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

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



9 am - 3 pm—Saturday, April 25, 2009 2009 Women's Heart Health Symposium 3rd Annual Women's Heart Health Symposium

An event designed to educate the public about risk factors, warning signs and prevention of women's heart disease.

This event is FREE

**Gaillard Municipal Auditorium
77 Calhoun Street ; Charleston, SC**