



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

The Goose Creek- NAACP will elect all branch officers and at-large members of the executive committee on November 3rd.

All members whose memberships are current as of April 1 and live or work in Berkeley, Charleston, or Dorchester County may be nominated for office or as an at-large member of the executive committee. If you want to run for office or be a at-large member of the executive committee fill out the attached Consensus Form.

Here are the general membership meetings of the Goose Creek NAACP Branch for the purpose of election of officers and at-large members of the executive committee:

- On **September 1, 2008** at Isaac Abraham Masonic Building, 7 p.m., there will be an election of the nominating committee. All members whose memberships are current as of 30 days prior to the meeting date may be elected to the nominating committee.
- On **October 6, 2008** at Isaac Abraham Masonic Building, 7 p.m., there will be a report of the nominating committee, receipt of nominations by petition, and election of the election supervisory committee. In order to sign a nominating petition, or be elected to the Election Supervisory Committee, a member must be current as of 30 days prior to the October meeting.
- On **November 3, 2008** the election of branch officers and at-large members of the executive committee will take place at Isaac Abraham Masonic Building. Polls will be open from 6:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. In order to vote in a branch election, one must be a member in good standing of the branch 30 days prior to the election. A form of identification is required.

We look forward to your participation in these activities.

For more information pertaining to the November NAACP branch elections please contact Brenda Bines via phone (870-4225) or email her at brenda_bines@yahoo.com.

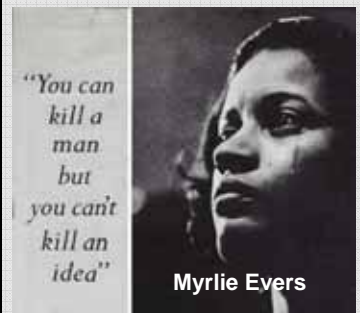
Andrea Glover
Branch President
729-7994



Andrea Glover
Branch President

Inside This Issue

Branch Elections Notice.....1
 2008 Freedom Fund Jazz Gala.2
 Branch Elections Notice.....2
 Springfield Riot Anniversary...3
 Oklahoma Sit-In Anniversary...4
 Health: Kidney Disease.....5
 Closing The Gap in Health.....5
 American Indian Youth.....6
 Take Down The Flag.....7
 Voters Rights & Deadlines.....8
 ACT-SO 2008.....9
 Prepared to Vote.....11
 Upcoming Events.....12



KEEP THE IDEA OF FREEDOM
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JOIN NAACP



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Officers

PresidentAndrea Glover
 1st VPPaul 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

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 Sept 1, 2008
- Monday Oct 6, 2008
- Monday Nov 3, 2008
- Monday Dec 1, 2008

Goose Creek NAACP

Freedom Fund Jazz Gala 2008

Saturday October 11, 2008 at Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens

Music by Jazz Pianist Oscar Rivers and Company

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

Tickets:

\$35.00 for Jazz Show



Saturday October 11, 2008

You're Invited to

**Goose Creek NAACP Branch
Freedom Fund Reception and Live Jazz**

at

Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens



Cypress Gardens



*There will be:
Food, Beverages,
Wine, Dancing, and
A Silent Auction*



Dean Hall

*Annual Awards
will be presented
during the
VIP Reception*

**Get Your Tickets Now to Join Us to
Celebrate Goose Creek NAACP Branch's
Fifth Anniversary**

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

PLACE A MESSAGE IN OUR FREEDOM FUND SOUVENIR JOURNAL

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

The deadline for copy ready pages is Sept 15, 2008

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



Lest We Forget NAACP LEADERS MARK 100th ANNIVERSARY OF SPRINGFIELD RACE RIOT



Above Attorney Donald Jackson, President of the Illinois State Conference, NAACP
On the Left: Kenneth Page, President, Springfield NAACP Branch, Michael William, President, Bloomington Branch, Barbara Jones, IL State Secretary, Quincy Cummings, IL State Youth Advisor, The Rev. Nelson Rivers, III, The Rev. Charles White,

The Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, III
Chief of Field Operations
NAACP National Headquarters

Two-day horrific event led to formation of the NAACP

In the summer of 1908, the country was shocked by the account of the race riots at Springfield, Illinois, the hometown of Abraham Lincoln. Within hours of a reported rape of a White woman by a Black man, a mob of thousands took control of Springfield. In the violence that held sway in the city for two days, two Black men were lynched, four White men were killed, scores of people were injured, and extensive property was damaged before 4000 state militiamen intervened.

Articles on the subject appeared in newspapers and magazines. Among them was one in the Independent of September 3rd, by William English Walling, entitled "Race War in the North." After describing the atrocities committed against the colored people, Mr. Walling declared:

"Either the spirit of the abolitionists, of Lincoln and of Love-joy must be revived and we must come to treat the Negro on a plane of absolute political and social equality, or Vardaman and Tillman will soon have transferred the race war to the North." And he ended with these words, "Yet who realizes the seriousness of the situation, and what large and pow-

erful body of citizens is ready to come to their aid?"

Mary White Ovington wrote to Mr. Walling and they met in New York in the first week of the year of 1909. Meeting with them was Dr. Henry Moskowitz, a prominent member of the administration of John Purroy Mitchell, Mayor of New York. It was then that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was born. It was born in a little room of a New York apartment. On August 14, 2008 the NAACP hosted activities marking the 100th anniversary of the Springfield race riot in Illinois—considered one of the pivotal events in American history that led to the formation of the NAACP.

Following the relocation of two black suspects from the local jail on alleged charges of 'crimes against whites' on Aug. 14th and 15th of 1908, a white mob set on vigilante justice ransacked Springfield's small black community (known as the Badlands), forcing families to flee, decimating over 40 homes and businesses, lynching two prominent black men and injuring others. It took up to 5,000 Illinois national guardsmen to end the two-day riot.

"Our commemoration of that tragic event in American history reminds us what kind of country we used to

be, and the kind of country we long to become," said NAACP National Board of Directors Chairman Julian Bond.

The riot was most shocking, not only because of the dastardly acts perpetrated, but because it happened in a northern state capital and in the hometown of President Abraham Lincoln—known most notably for his human rights stances and the act of freeing the slaves. At the time, the Springfield riot was among a growing list of racially motivated attacks against blacks. There had been at least seven other outbreaks in towns and cities in prior years.

"From this act of American terrorism in Springfield we learned that from tragedy we can bring hope and change," said NAACP Field Operations Chief the Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, III. "Who would've thought, that in the wake of that outrageous mob violence would come Supreme Court decisions and public policy that has changed the social, economic and political fabric of this nation."

To mark the day, a program was held at the old Illinois state Capitol Building, tours of the riot route were provided and a day-long symposium titled, "Racial

Justice—100 Years Later" took place at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

The Illinois State Conference of the NAACP will hold its annual convention in Springfield Oct. 10-12. "We look forward to returning to Springfield to continue to focus needed attention on this often overlooked act of terrorism that led to the birth of our great Association," said Attorney Donald Jackson, president of the Illinois NAACP. The state NAACP was in Springfield today for its planning meeting for the upcoming state convention.

With strong backing of the Springfield Branch, NAACP and broad community support, a bronze sculpture depicting the gables of a burned out house has been commissioned to mark the historic, often forgotten riot event in Springfield. No permanent memorial currently exists. A plaque noting the connection of the riot to the formation of the NAACP will be dedicated later this year.

"It is my hope that events commemorating this year will

See Springfield Riot on page 4



Springfield Riot from page 3

translate into actions that will last another 100 years," said Springfield NAACP Branch President Ken Page.

The Springfield commemoration is part of a series of activities aimed at raising the awareness of habitually overlooked American civil rights successes.

On August 9, the NAACP and others celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Dockum Sit-In (in Wichita, Kansas) which led to the first successful *student-led sit-in of the Civil Rights Movement*.

During the 50th Anniversary recognition, nine people who took part as youths in the Dockum Drugs sit-in received the city of Wichita's highest honor -- and an apology.

On the sit-in's 50th anniversary, Mayor Carl Brewer and City Council members Lavonta Williams and Sharon Fearey presented the sit-in participants keys to the city.

"On behalf of the city, we're sorry for what happened to you and for what you went through," Brewer told them.

The Dockum and Oklahoma City sit-ins are often overshadowed by the later sit-ins in Greensboro, N.C. and other places throughout the South but were just as groundbreaking.

Note: See the August 2008 NAACP Creek Connection for information about the Dockum sit-in and The Oklahoma sit-in is covered in this edition of the NAACP Creek Connection. □

Special thanks to:
Richard McIntire, Communications Director-NAACP National Office, The Rev. Charles L. White Deputy Chief of Field Operations, NAACP and The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, IL. For their contributions to this article. I encourage you to visit Springfield, IL and the Lincoln Library.

**50 Years Later - We Can't Forget
NAACP LEADERS MARK 50th ANNIVERSARY
OF Oklahoma City Sit-ins**



NAACP National Board of Directors member Bob Lydia, NAACP Interim General Counsel Angela Ciccolo (L) and NAACP Youth & College Division Director Stefanie Brown (R) unveil the commemorative print honoring participants of the 1958 Okla. City sit-in.

August 18-19, 2008, the NAACP marked the 50th anniversary of the Oklahoma City Sit-Ins. On August 19, 1958 a nationally recognized sit-in at the Katz Drug Store lunch counter was led by NAACP youth leader Clara Luper.

NAACP Interim President Dennis Courtland Hayes said, "This is to commemorate the significance of how young people came together to protest injustice and largely through their own efforts,"

Roosevelt Milton, who is president of the Oklahoma City NAACP branch said, "We want to celebrate them all, not just the original sit-inners who participated on that first day, but everyone who participated."

Milton was a teenager living in Arcadia during the sit-ins. He was unable to protest. But he knew others who did, and was moved by their efforts. He recalled traveling to Oklahoma City to shop for school clothes, but being unable to do so at the mainstream department stores.

"We would go the Goodwill because that's where poor people went. We knew not to go to JC Penney's or Brown's. We knew not to go to Katz and places like that," Milton said, adding that if black people were allowed to shop in those stores, they certainly were not allowed to try anything on before they purchased it.

Clara Luper and nine others who participated in one of the first protests in the modern civil rights movement gathered at the Oklahoma History Center, where they were honored for their efforts to end racial segregation.

Special recognition was paid to Luper, a history teacher who was arrested 26 times in civil rights activities across the country.

Clara Luper, the advisor of the local NAACP Youth Council and high school history teacher, created a play for Negro History Week entitled *Brother President*, based on King's nonviolent techniques in Montgomery. Henry Wright, the



Original sit-inners with their youth council advisor [at the time] Clara S. Luper (in purple)

National Youth Director of the NAACP, saw one of the performances and invited Luper and the cast to New York to perform for the 1957 Salute to Young Freedom Fighters Rally. Along the way of their travels, the group stopped for the first of their many integrated lunch counter experiences. When they returned to Oklahoma City, the group decided to undertake the breaking down of segregation in public accommodations, starting at home.

"She's a trailblazer," said the Rev. Charles L. White, NAACP Deputy Chief for Field Operations. "She stood behind young people who dared to make a difference."

After the ceremony, Luper, who uses a wheelchair, said she did not realize at the time how important the sit-ins would become in changing the course of the nation's history.

As for those who want to continue the battle against social injustice, "keep trying," she said.

Attorney John Green was honored by the NAACP for his continued service in representing Oklahoma's civil rights activists for more than 50 years.

Although the Oklahoma story is not widely recognized, Clara Luper and Oklahoma City's

See Oklahoma City Sin-In on Page 6



Chronic Kidney Disease in African Americans

African Americans are nearly four times more likely than Caucasians to develop kidney failure, which requires dialysis or a kidney transplant.

African Americans make up about 12 percent of the population but account for 32 percent of people with kidney failure.

Among new patients whose kidney failure was caused by high blood pressure, more than half (51.2 percent) are African-American.

Among new patients whose kidney failure was caused by diabetes, almost one third (31.3 percent) are African-American.

African-American men ages 20 to 29 are 10 times more likely to develop kidney failure due to high blood pressure than Caucasian men in the same age group. African-American men ages 30 to 39 are about 14 times more likely to develop kidney failure due to high blood pressure than Caucasian men in the same age group.

Almost all of us know someone that has been diagnosed with Chronic Kidney Disease

According to the SCDHEC, 1 in 8 South Carolinians have been diagnosed with some form of Chronic Kidney Disease.

Chronic Kidney Disease-What is it?

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) occurs when kidneys are no longer able to clean toxins and waste product from the blood and perform their functions to full capacity (remove water and wastes, help control blood pressure, keep body chemicals in balance, keep bones strong, tell the body to make red blood cells and help children to grow normally). This can happen suddenly or over time. In the beginning, CKD is silent.

Diabetes is the number one cause of kidney disease. High blood pressure is the second cause. Genetic diseases, autoimmune diseases, birth defects and other problems can cause kidney disease. (Anything that can interfere with proper blood flow to and through the kidney can lead to a decrease in kidney function).

Many African Americans already know they have diabetes or high blood pressure, but are not aware they may also have kidney disease. They are shocked to be diagnosed with kidney failure and then immediately begin dialysis. Even though their kidney disease progressed over time to kidney failure, it's as if it happened all of a sudden.

Symptoms can include:

- Changes in urination- making more or less, feeling pressure, changes in color, foamy or bubbly urine, having to get up at night
- Swelling of the feet, ankles, hands or face-the kidneys can't remove the fluid and thus it remains in the tissues
- Fatigue or weakness-a build up of wastes or shortage of red blood cells can cause these problems
- Shortness of breath-kidney disease is often confused with



asthma or heart failure because fluid can build up in the lungs

- Ammonia breath or metal taste in the mouth-build up of waste can cause bad breath, changes in taste or an aversion to protein foods
- Itching-waste build up can cause severe itching
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea and vomiting
- Back or flank pain-this is where the kidneys are located

Kidney disease can be found through lab tests combined with symptoms. High blood levels of creatinine and urea nitrogen or high levels of protein in your urine suggest kidney disease.

Left untreated the disease can progress to the need for dialysis or a kidney transplant.

Take these steps to keep your kidneys healthy:

- Manage your diabetes and keep your blood pressure below 120/80 mmHg.
- Eat healthy and cut back on salt
- Be active
- Take medicines as prescribed
- If you're at risk for kidney disease, it's important to get tested...□

Submitted by

Dorris Elmore, RN
Hemodialysis Registered Nurse
Roper/Saint Francis Health Care



Dr. Thadeus John Bell, Jr., M.D.

There are many reasons why African Americans are not having positive health outcomes. Self-interest is very important. Even those who have jobs and health insurance put personal health issues last on their list of priorities. The common thread that runs through all of the excuses is that we put everything and everyone under the sun ahead of our own health. Our attitude about health needs to change. Unfortunately, some folks will never get it and their families and friends will suffer need-lessly as a result. This life is not a dress rehearsal of what is to come. So, just like they say on each flight before take-off, "Put your oxygen mask on first, and then help those around you."



Oklahoma City Sin-In from Page 4



(L) Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett, (C) Jari Askins, Oklahoma Lt Governor, and (R) The Rev. Charles L. White, NAACP Deputy Chief for Field Operations



Attorney John Green

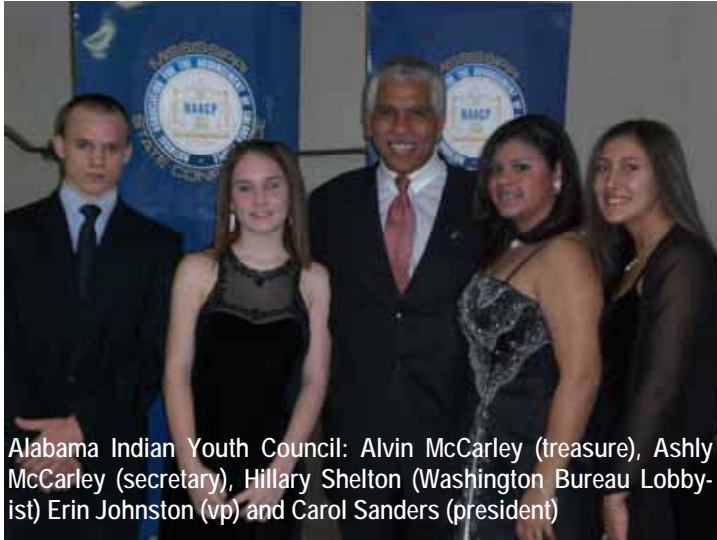
Youth Council played a major role in putting the sit-in movement into effect. The Oklahoma City sit-ins became a pilot study for the NAACP, and their success made them a model for other organizations. NAACP officials recognized the importance of the demonstrations being waged in Oklahoma. In March 1960, NAACP Youth Secretary Herbert L. Wright commended the Oklahoma City youth for "a significant breakthrough in the fight against segregation in the place of public accommodations in the South" and for their contribution "towards making democracy a reality for all of our citizens." NAACP Executive Secretary Roy Wilkins said in 1963, "Your city's example in not just naming a committee, but in acting on a phase of the problem should guide other urban centers to take bold and forward steps to bring about racial justice and mutual respect." □



Message from Sonya Smith

NAACP Alabama State Conference
American Indian Affairs, Chairman

NAACP Alabama State Conference Presents Accomplishments in Indian Country



Alabama Indian Youth Council: Alvin McCarley (treasure), Ashly McCarley (secretary), Hillary Shelton (Washington Bureau Lobbyist) Erin Johnston (vp) and Carol Sanders (president)

2007 serves as a historical year for the NAACP Alabama State Conference. During this year, the Alabama State Conference rang with celebration as it received charter for completion of the Nation's first NAACP American Indian Youth Council. The historical youth council is composed of thirty-one American Indian youth from the Star Clan of Creek Indians and the MoWa Band of Choctaw Indians. Principal Chiefs from the two tribes are Chief Scott "Talking Crow" Sanders (Star Clan of Creek Indians) and Chief Wilford "Long Hair" Taylor (MoWa Band of Choctaw Indians). Youth Advisors are Mericia Sanders from the Star Clan of Creek Indians and Hazel Johnston from the MoWa Band of Choctaw Indians.

The Youth Council is attached to Dothan Wiregrass Branch 5025 and serves under the leadership of Branch President Franklin Jones. It was organized through the innovation of Alabama State Conference President Edward Vaughn and

Alabama State Conference American Indian Affairs Chairman Sonya Smith.



Alvin McCarley (treasure) Mikayla Snow (Ms. Indian Alabama 2008) and Carol Sanders (president)

Highlights from the year of 2008 include the Ruby Hurley Award for *Best New Youth Unit* in Region five. The NAACP American Indian Youth Council followed regional success with attendance at the 2008 national convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Youth Council Officers were accompanied by Ms. Indian Alabama 2008,

Mikayla Snow who is from the MoWa Band of Choctaw Indians.

Other highlights from the year of 2008 include the formation of a one thousand dollar scholarship known as *The NAACP American Indian Achievement Scholarship*. This scholarship was established through the generosity of the NAACP Alabama State Conference and presented to the first runner-up of the Ms. Indian Alabama Pageant. 2008 will continue success with support for existing accomplishments and additional emphasis on November as American Indian History Month.

NAACP Alabama State Conference American Indian Affairs Chairman, Sonya Smith wishes to extend a special thank you to the Goose Creek NAACP Branch of the South Carolina State Conference for its encouragement and support. The South Carolina State Conference is a tenacious presence in Region five of the NAACP and certain to continue its admirable success. □



Take Down The Flag



Segregationist vs. Integrationist Mindsets

By
Michael Rodgers



August 17, 2008

We're trying to change the mindset here in South Carolina from a segregationist mindset to an integrationist mindset. It's the segregationist mindset that Sen. Glenn McConnell used in the "compromise" of 2001.

Here's how Sen. McConnell described his actions and the mindset he used:

After years of debate, a bipartisan compromise was finally crafted. The compromise required the Confederate battle flag to be removed from the dome and relocated to the Confederate Soldier's Monument. Moreover, we required the flag to fly in a size and shape and to be made with materials that were historically accurate - a soldier's flag at a soldier's monument.

Then, to underscore the rich diversity of our common heritage, a monument of similar size was erected to memorialize our state's important African-American heritage. Its purpose is to honor the heroes of the Civil Rights movement and other African-Americans who have contributed so richly to our state's history. I serve as chairman of the commission that created the African-American History Monument.

Taken together, the two monuments demonstrate eloquently that tolerance is the cement of a free society. Without it we cannot have either unity or diversity based on mutual respect. For all fair-minded people, the long controversy was resolved.

Sen. McConnell wants to require us to take the two monuments together as "mutual respect," i.e. I respect your monument so you must respect mine. Additionally, Sen.

McConnell says, "For all fair-minded people, the long controversy was resolved [in 2001]." This statement is an insult offered from an elected official — arguably the most powerful official in our state government — to a large segment of the voters of South Carolina. According to McConnell, those voters who are not happy with what was done in 2001 are not "fair-minded," meaning that they are biased and unjust. Thus, Sen. McConnell is using an insult-driven, in addition to a segregationist, mindset to achieve his goal.

Here's how Rev. Joseph Darby described Sen. McConnell's actions and the mindset he used:

There was general agreement that the flag should be moved from its former locations. The compromise discussion thereafter included two opposing positions: that the flag should be removed from the grounds entirely, and that the only possible alternative placement was at the Confederate Soldier's Monument. By that measure, one side simply prevailed and the other side did not, and that's not real compromise.

The senator also rightfully acknowledges his role in the creation of the African-American history monument. I initially served on the planning committee, as well, but stepped away when it became apparent that the African-American monument would eventually become a tactical "quid pro quo" resource to justify the placement of the flag. ...

There's adequate room on the grounds of the Statehouse for the placement of the flag in a position that clearly denotes history and not heritage, and I do hope that it's found and agreed to sooner rather than later so that the matter can be resolved and so that all South Carolinians can celebrate our shared history

and offer appropriate respect to our diverse heritage.

Rev. Darby is informing us that the idea of taking the two monuments together was a political ploy by Sen. McConnell that derived from his choice to use a segregationist, "quid pro quo" mindset to declare his solution as a "compromise." Additionally, Rev. Darby declares that an integrationist solution can be found "so that all South Carolinians can celebrate our shared history."

Do you see what the difference is and who's using what mindset? Rev. Darby wants to make sure that every action of our state government derives from an integrationist mindset so that each action is, by itself, appropriate for all of South Carolina. Sen. McConnell wants our state government to fly the Confederate flag, and he used the segregationist mindset to achieve his goal.

Well, what has been achieved? Where are we? What have we got? Let's see what Frank Wooten from the *Post and Courier* [has to say](#) about the "compromise" of 2001:

Then again, a lousy deal is a lousy deal. Go to Columbia. See for yourself. The flag is even more conspicuous down by the street than it was up on the dome. That's not just a lousy deal for flag foes. It's a lousy deal for flag supporters. It's also a lousy deal for the many S.C. residents trying to stay out of this fight.

And it's a lousy deal for the more than 260,000 Southern soldiers who died during the Civil War, including the more than 20,000 from South Carolina and my great-great grandfather from Georgia, fatally wounded at First Manassas. ...

Advocating that flag's removal doesn't necessarily mean you've gone over to the dark-blue

See Take Down the Flag on page 8



Take Down the Flag from page 7

side. It could merely mean that you respect black South Carolinians' painfully ingrained flag phobia enough to spare them such an "in your face" affront - and/or that you respect our state's Confederate heroes enough to save them from the Klan.

Can we find a way to respect our state's Confederate heroes enough to save them from the KKK and other segregationist, separatist, and/or secessionist groups? Is there a way that we can employ an integrationist mindset to finally resolve this issue so that we're not stuck with this lousy deal that's really not a compromise at all? Yes, and the way is [H-3588](#).

The integrationist mindset informs us that all the monuments on Statehouse grounds and all the state holidays and all the flags that our state flies belong to all of us. This mindset leads us to arrive at a wonderful solution to this issue. This solution, [H-3588](#), requires our state government to fly the Confederate flag on Confederate Memorial Day. Thus, we can all celebrate Confederate Memorial Day – commemorating the service and sacrifice of the Confederate soldiers — by flying their flag. Brilliant.

To recap, we're stuck with a lousy deal that was achieved through the use of a segregationist mindset. We've got a solution now, [H-3588](#), that uses an integrationist mindset to enable all of us to celebrate. I think that this is the solution that Rev. Darby was looking for when he said, "I do hope that it's [an appropriate placement of the Confederate flag on Statehouse grounds is] found and agreed to sooner rather than later so that the matter can be resolved and so that all South Carolinians can celebrate our shared history...."

Please support [H-3588](#), the bill that uses an integrationist mindset to finally resolve this issue. Thank you.

Editor's Note: [H-3588](#) will need to be re-introduced. All bills that do not pass at the end of a two year session expire. We have been asking legislators if they plan to re-introduce the bill and have not gotten a reply yet. We will keep asking and expect the state and national NAACP to begin working on it soon.

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



YOUR RIGHTS AS A VOTER IN SOUTH CAROLINA

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE BETWEEN 7:00 AM AND 7:00 PM. Polls should be open continuously during this time period. You have the right to vote if you are already in line when the polls close at 7:00 p.m.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE A REGULAR BALLOT if you possess acceptable identification and your name appears on the list of registered voters for the polling place in which you seek to vote.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST HELP FROM POLL WORKERS. Poll workers are there to help you.

If you cannot read or write, or you are blind or otherwise disabled, **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT** to ask someone to assist you in voting.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT to view written instructions on how to cast a ballot.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT to vote curbside or request a more accessible polling location if you are unable to enter the polling place because of a physical disability.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT to vote free from the interference of law enforcement.

DO NOT LEAVE THE POLLING PLACE WITHOUT VOTING. If you do not have ID or are not on the voter rolls, you may be able to use a provisional ballot. Ask the poll workers if you are unsure.

IF YOU NEED LEGAL ASSISTANCE on Election Day, CALL THE ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINE AT 1.866.OUR.VOTE.

If you have problems on Election Day such as being refused a ballot or turned away from the polling place, or would like to report voter intimidation, call 1.866.OUR.VOTE.

[The important voting deadlines in South Carolina](#)

October 4, 2008 is Registration Deadline

October 31, 2008 is Absentee Ballot Application Deadline

November 4, 2008 Absentee Submission Deadline

November 4, 2008 is Election Day!

**VOTE ON ELECTION DAY
NOVEMBER 4, 2008!**



Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics

Goose Creek NAACP Branch entered their first NAACP National ACT-SO Competition.

Goose Creek Branch NAACP made its debut at the 2008 ACT SO competition in Orlando, Florida. The Branch entered their first NAACP National ACT-SO with five competitors in the NAACP 30th Anniversary National ACT-SO Competition held at Disney Coronada Springs Resort in Orlando, Florida July 31 – August 3, 2008.

We were very fortunate to have two members, Allen and Sandra Barnhardt, who have several years of experience with ACT-SO from their former branch in New Jersey. They were extremely helpful in helping us organize put together our ACT-SO campaign. They invited the ACT-SO competitors and leaders to their home and fed them with great food, wisdom, and advice for the competition. We also received a wealth of information and support from Barbara Williams who heads ACT-SO for the Orangeburg Branch. Our ACT-SO leaders, Marlene Lemon and Clarence Turner who had no previous ACT-SO experience stepped up and did a fine job for our branch, the South Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches, and our contestants. Dwight James, Executive Director, South Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches also rendered valuable support and advice.

Goose Creek participants were: Cameron Robinson, Oratory; Asa Flood, Original Essay; Candace Jordan, Vocal (Contemporary); Sha'ri Jenkins, Instrumental (Jazz Piano); and Kyona Jenkins, Instrumental (Classical Piano).

National winners of gold, silver and bronze medals in the 2008 ACT-SO competitions were announced, with South Carolina winning

two bronze medals. Christopher Leysath from the Orangeburg Branch won a bronze medal in Musical Competition and Elmore Davis from the Marion County NAACP Branch won a bronze medal for Photography.

More than 260,000 young people have benefited from initiative's development & inspiration since its inception. Youth achievement and the allure of the "magic kingdom" combined this summer as the NAACP celebrated the 30th anniversary of ACT-SO at Walt Disney World Resorts in

arts competitions are open to the public.

"The 30th anniversary theme of ACT-SO was 'The Fabric of the Future'," and ACT-SO National Director is Anana Kambon. "This year's event is a springboard for the continuing growth of Goose Creek Youth initiative and ACT-SO. As the NAACP moves toward its centennial, we view ACT-SO as a key community-based initiative that invests in, develops and inspires young people to flourish. The talent and commitment displayed truly demonstrates our motto that *"Today's Youth are Tomorrow's Legends."*



Candace Jordan, Cameron Robinson, Sha'ri Jenkins, Asa Flood, and Kyona Jenkins,

Orlando, Fla

ACT-SO-the Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics--is the NAACP's pioneering youth enrichment program designed to recruit, stimulate, improve and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among African American high school students.

Students competed in 26 ACT-SO categories including business, sciences, humanities, performing and visual arts over the course of the five-day event. The majority of the visual arts, science and performance

Special ACT-SO workshops and panel discussions facilitated by prominent ACT-SO alumni, national corporations and NAACP Youth & College Division leaders were featured during this year's contests, including a college fair, master's classes in drama and vocal classical performance and a seminar focusing on the business side of the music industry. A behind-the-scenes tour for ACT-SO participants on the science that makes Disney a worldwide attraction was held. On Aug. 2, ACT-SO participants lead the Magic Kingdom Parade as another major highlight marking the program's anniversary.

"We are excited to be hosting this year's competition here at Walt Disney World Resort," said Bob Billingslea, Vice Presi-

ACT-SO Continued on Page 10



ACT-SO Continued on Page 10

dent-Corporate Urban Affairs and Development, The Walt Disney Company. "The NAACP ACT-SO program has dedicated three decades to inspiring achievement, developing skills and fulfilling dreams. We can't think of a more suitable place to bring these young achievers together, particularly during Disney Parks Year of a Million Dreams celebration."

Founded in 1978 by renowned author and journalist Vernon Jarrett, ACT-SO provides a forum through which African American youth demonstrate academic, artistic and scientific prowess and expertise, often gaining recognition reserved for entertainers and athletes.

ACT-SO programs span most of a year beginning in the fall, followed by planning and coaching of participants through winter months, culminating in nearly 200 local competitions that run through April. The ACT-SO program is based on the dedication and commitment of more than 100 community volunteers and business leaders that serve as mentors and coaches.

Marlene Lemon said, "We learned a great deal by attending the ACT-SO Competition. It was an exciting and educational experience." She also said, "ACT-SO is a yearlong enrichment program designed to recruit, stimulate, improve and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among African American high school students. Gold medalists at the local level qualify for the national finals held each summer." Marlene is looking forward to taking contestants to New York City next year for the National ACT-SO Competitions. This means "We must have our ACT-SO Kick Off by October 2008, with monthly meetings and enrichment activities, competitions by April 2009 and awards ceremony by May 2009." She and the contestants from Goose Creek will need your support and assistance.

ACT-SO national winners receive financial awards from major corporations, college internships and apprenticeships. Corporate sponsors include: McDonald's Corporation, State Farm, the Maryland Institute College of Art, United Parcel Service, Ronald McDonald

House Charities, Sodexo, Wal-Mart, Northern Illinois University, Shell Oil, Coca Cola, the US Navy, Berkeley College of Music, The Walt Disney Company, Toyota Motor Sales, Microsoft, Lockheed Martin, Dow, Northrop Grumman, Kodak, Hyatt, Nestle, NASA and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.

ACT-SO alumni occupy a wide array of careers including executive positions with corporations like Lockheed Martin and Citigroup - one even serves as a vocal coach for FOX television's "American Idol." Famed ACT-SO alumni include musician Kanye West, actress Jada Pinkett-Smith, filmmaker John Singleton and comedian Anthony Anderson.

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



Above: Christopher Leysath (2nd Left) Bronze Medal Winner -Orangeburg NAACP Branch with NAACP President Elect Ben Todd Jealous (2nd R).



Below: Elmore Davis, Bronze Medal Winner -Marion County NAACP Branch



Special thanks to the contributors to this article:
Marlene Lemon (Goose Creek NAACP Branch), Richard McIntire (Communications Director-NAACP National Office), Barbara Williams & Cecil Williams (Orangeburg NAACP Branch)



LDF
DEFEND EDUCATE EMPOWER



NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

Voting is a right! Be PREPARED TO VOTE!

The Prepared to Vote campaign is a non-partisan voter education initiative that will help voters protect their rights by arming them with the information they need to navigate the electoral process, identify instances when their voting rights are violated, and fight to remedy problems before their voting rights are denied.

Working hand-in-hand with grassroots partners in Alabama, Delaware, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas LDF will be on the ground well in advance of Election Day to provide voters with valuable information about voter eligibility, voter registration, and the Election Day process.

VOTER REGISTRATION

AM I ELIGIBLE?

Citizens of the United States who:

Currently live in South Carolina (you can register to vote the first day you move to South Carolina—there is no waiting period);

Are 18 years old by November 4, 2008 (you do not have to be 18 by the registration deadline);

Have not been convicted of a felony, or have completed the entire sentence including probation and parole, or have been pardoned (see information for people with criminal convictions in the LDF Brochure for SC online: http://www.preparedtovote.org/docs/brochure_SC.pdf)

WHEN DO I REGISTER?

To vote on Election Day, you must register by October 4, 2008.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Online: You can download and print a voter registration application online by visiting the South Carolina State Election Commission website (www.scvotes.org/files/VR_Blank_Form.pdf). Mail your completed application to your local Board of Voter Registration by October 4, 2008.

By Mail: You can pick up an application at your local Board of Voter Registration. Mail your completed application to your local Board of Voter Registration by October 4, 2008. Be sure to sign your application and include your driver's license number or the last four digits of your social security number on your application.

In Person: You can register in person at the DMV or at the office for one of the following programs: Family Independence (TANF); Women, Infants and Children (WIC); Food Stamps; Healthy Connections (Medicaid).

If you have problems on Election Day such as being refused a ballot or turned away from the polling place, or would like to report voter intimidation, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

NAACP LDF, Inc. Contact for South Carolina:

Alexis Karteron
Assistant Counsel
NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.
Tel: (212) 965-2252
Email: AKARTERON@naacpldf.org



Goose Creek, SC
Branch # 56A3

NAACP CREEK CONNECTION

Upcoming Events

Sep 1st - **Goose Creek Branch Meeting**

Sept 13th Charleston NAACP Freedom Fund Gala **Date Changed** - Call 843-552-1111 for Information

Oct 11th - **Goose Creek NAACP Freedom Fund Jazz Gala - Dean Hall Cypress Gardens**

Oct 25th Moncks Corner Freedom Fund Banquet
Call 843-899-2110 for ticket information

Oct 31st North Charleston Branch Freedom Fund Banquet at Charleston Sheraton Hotel.



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

FIVE REASONS TO JOIN THE NAACP

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

PLACE A MESSAGE IN OUR FREEDOM FUND SOUVENIR JOURNAL

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

The deadline for copy ready pages is Sept 15, 2008

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

Goose Creek NAACP

Freedom Fund Jazz Gala 2008

Saturday October 11, 2008 at
Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens

Music by Jazz Pianist Oscar Rivers and Company

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

Tickets:

\$35.00 for Jazz Show

\$60.00 Includes Black Tie VIP Reception



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

Saturday October 11, 2008

for the

Goose Creek NAACP Freedom Fund Jazz Gala

at

Dean Hall - Cypress Gardens

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

DIRECTIONS TO CYPRESS GARDENS FROM CHARLESTON

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

Notes:

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

Call 843-553-0515 for directions