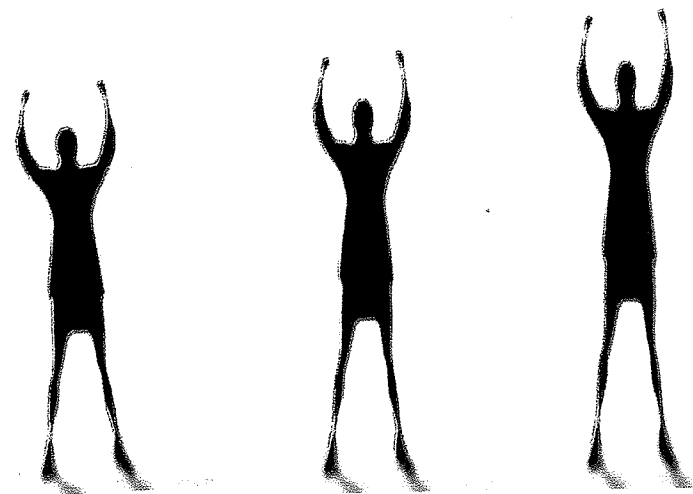


**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION**

"WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN"



PAST

PRESENT

FUTURE

Thank you for sharing this day of remembrance with us

The Committee

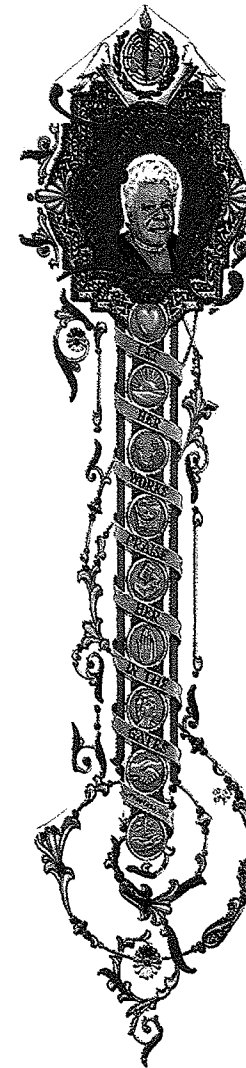


EXCLUSIVELY YOURS
BY MARY
MARYHBEN@AMERITECH.NET

**"WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN"
CHARTER MEMBERS REMEMBERED**

I LEAVE YOU A THIRST FOR
EDUCATION.

Mary McLeod Bethune



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION

P.O. BOX 963

CHAMPAIGN IL 61820

Mrs. Odessa Hudson,
Champaign County Section Organizer
Mrs. Carol Lewis, Section President

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH

401 EAST PARK STREET

CHAMPAIGN IL 61820

SEPTEMBER 27 2008

2 P.M.

"THE MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE"

Mary McLeod Bethune



Mary McLeod Bethune was an extraordinary educator, civil rights leader, and government official who founded the National Council of Negro Women and **Bethune-Cookman College**.

Mrs. Bethune's background as a teacher inspired her to open the Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls in Daytona Beach, Florida. On October 3, 1904, the Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School opened with just five students. Eventually the school blossomed to include a farm, high school, and nursing school. The school became the co-educational Bethune-Cookman College in 1929 after merging with Cookman Institute and was fully accredited in 1943.

Mrs. Bethune proved her expertise not only as an educator, but also as an organizer and fundraiser through her work with Bethune-Cookman College. She employed her diverse talents

when she founded the National Council of Negro Women in 1935. She envisioned NCNW to be an "organization of organizations" that would represent the national and international concerns of Black women. It would also give Black women the opportunity to realize their goals for social justice and human rights through united, constructive action. In addition to being an educator and an organizer, Mrs. Bethune was also a political activist. She was the first African American woman to be involved in the White House, assisting four different presidents. But she had the most significant influence on Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal Government. From 1936-1945 she served as the informal "race leader at large" for the administration. Mrs. Bethune was also one of the most influential African American leaders in the Black Cabinet, which organized the Federal Council on Negro Affairs. She also served as Director of Negro Affairs for the National Youth Administration, where she tirelessly worked to help young people find jobs and to secure funds for youth.

In 1974, Mrs. Bethune became the first Black leader and the first woman to have a monument, the Bethune Memorial Statue, erected on public park land in Washington DC in honor of her remarkable contributions. She also became the only Black woman to be honored with a memorial site in the nation's capital in 1994 when National Park Service acquired the **Council House**, Bethune's last official residence and the original headquarters of NCNW. Today the Council House offers a variety of educational programs and exhibits. Mary McLeod Bethune's legacy of education, civil rights, and leadership continues to endure. Since 1943, Bethune-Cookman College has graduated more than 12,900 students. In addition, the college offers bachelor's degrees in 26 major areas.

Today, NCNW consists of over 39 national **affiliates** and over 240 **sections**, connecting more than 4,000,000 women to the organization! Mrs. Bethune's dedication and remarkable achievements continue to inspire the mission and work of NCNW.

It is our pledge to make a lasting contribution to all that is finest and best in America, to cherish and enrich her heritage of freedom and progress by working for the integration of all her people regardless of race, creed, or national origin, into her spiritual, social, cultural, civic, and economic life, and thus aid her to achieve the glorious destiny of a true and unfettered democracy.

— **Founder Mary McLeod Bethune's Pledge for NCNW**

Mission

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) is a council of national African American women's **organizations** and community-based **sections**. Founded in 1935, the NCNW mission is to lead, develop, and advocate for women of African descent as they support their families and communities. NCNW fulfills this purpose through research, advocacy, and national and community-based services and programs on issues of health, education, and economic empowerment in the United States and Africa. With its 39 national affiliates and more than 240 sections, NCNW is a 501(c)3 organization with an outreach to nearly four million women

Our Method

NCNW translates its philosophy of public education, community service and advocacy into activities designed to promote a number of benefits for our constituents including:

- Disseminating information about issues affecting African American women and their families.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles and behaviors through wellness projects.
- Sponsoring events such as **The Black Family Reunion Celebration** to build on our strengths and traditional values.
- Training and supporting women and youth in career development and community leadership.
- Supporting economic development and entrepreneurship.
- Providing mentoring and educational support to our young people.

The national office of NCNW acts as a central source for program planning and seeks to fill the gaps that exist in our communities. Through its core of volunteers in 34 states, NCNW addresses local needs through organized strategies to bring the added support of a network of thousands of women whose collective efforts enhance community service and actions.

History

Looking Back on the Formation of a Council

The significant challenges facing our families and communities today demand that we find ways to optimize our resources to work more effectively. Historically, positive change has come about when coordinated, focused efforts are put into action both on local and national levels simultaneously. This is why the vision of **Mary McLeod Bethune** (1875-1955) is even more relevant today than it was in 1935 when she called together 28 national women leaders to form "an organization of organizations," a council.

Why is an organization like NCNW so necessary? In 1935, Mary McLeod Bethune, from her vantage point as Advisor of Minority Affairs to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said that she could not rest to see the unharnessed womanpower among our women. When the 28 national women leaders responded to her call she pointed out that what was needed was not another organization, but one that would bring organizations together. Mary Church Terrell proposed forming a "council." Thus, Mrs. Bethune founded the National Council of Negro Women as such - "a national organization of national organizations."

Hers was a visionary call for working together with a "Unity of Purpose and a Unity of Action." Much like the United Nations, which is a kind of council of sovereign nations coming together to

promote development and peace, NCNW is a council of autonomous national organizations coming together to improve the quality of life for women.

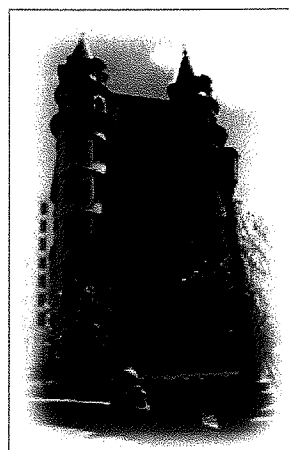
Mrs. Bethune envisioned NCNW functioning as a clearinghouse, facilitating networking and coalition-building, and advocating the use of collective power on issues affecting women, their families and communities.

Through the years there has been growing appreciation and recognition of the value of a unified voice in the corridors of power. This has been expressed in different ways. What happens on Capitol Hill has direct bearing on the quality-of-life issues core to our community's survival and well-being, and our voices must continue to be heard loudly.

History of 633 PA Avenue

Mrs. Bethune always said:

"My people should have a strong presence in the nation's capital."



Her wish has been fully realized with the acquisition of NCNW's national headquarters located at 633 Pennsylvania Avenue - a place of honor, prestige and influence on America's "Main" street, seated comfortably between the White House and the U.S. Capitol.

NCNW purchased the **Bethune Council House** at 1318 Vermont Avenue Northwest in 1943. Today it is home to the Bethune Museum and Archives, the only archives devoted to Black Women's history in the United States. By an Act of the 102nd Congress, the Bethune Council House became a unit of the National Park Service. NCNW used the equity from the Council House to initiate the purchase of its current headquarters at 633 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest in December 1995.

Our headquarters represents "our women" at the national table and the continued presence of our issues on the national agenda. A spirit of social and civic activism and a devotion to the betterment of the African American community fills this building to which every African American can point with pride.

Slave traders legally operated the "Center Slave Market" on Pennsylvania Avenue at the corner of Seventh Street Northwest.

In 1848 near this site, 76 slaves, including Emily and Mary Edmondson, two teenage girls who followed their four brothers, boarded the schooner the Pearl and attempted to escape to the Underground Railroad.

The story of the slave girls provided the plot and inspiration for Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin. No other single event had a greater impact on the abolitionist movement and congressional debate on slavery.

As Dr. Dorothy I. Height notes, "it seems providential that we stand today on the shoulders of our ancestors with an opportunity to claim this site and sustain a strong presence for freedom and justice."

HISTORY OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION



Mrs. Odessa Hudson saw the need for the National Council of Negro Women here in Champaign County. In October of 1981 fifty women came together at the call of Mrs. Odessa Hudson at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church 401 E.

Park St. Champaign. Mrs. Rosie Bean who lived in Chicago and was part of the National Organization was here to help the group organize. We elected Shirley Walker as the first president. Mrs. Rebecca J. Williams served after Shirley pursued her career in another city. Mrs. Anna Wall Scott was our 3rd President. Under her tenure we were affiliated with the United Negro College Fund. Mrs. Scott helped NCNW sponsor events featuring Albertine Walker, William Warfield and many others. Mrs. Billie Campbell was our 4th President. Under the tenure of Mary Haywood our 5th President we initiated the following events: Evening with NCNW, Taste of NCNW, Wealth of Music, Evening of Cultural Diversity and May Fellowship. Ruthie Hillsman became our 6th President and among many other activities began our annual Gala, Mother's Day Brunch, and bus excursions to Black Expo in Indianapolis. Beverly Lacey was our 7th president and Rita Myles was our 8th President. Currently, Carol Lewis serves as president number 9.



Welcome to the celebration of the National Council of Negro Women, Champaign County Section's Charter Members.

We have come together to recognize and pay special tribute to the trailblazing women who used their wisdom, common knowledge, and creative abilities to organize this section.

The National Council of Negro Women is an organization founded on the high ideals of health, education, and economic empowerment. It was on this site, Bethel Church, that a woman of vision named Odessa Hudson called together fifty women in October, 1981 and formed this section.

When Mary McLeod Bethune formed the National Council of Negro Women, it was her desire that the organization leave no woman behind. Therefore, there is a place in the National Council of Negro Women, Incorporated, for any woman who wishes to serve her community by contributing her time and talents to NCNW's purpose.

Both Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Bethune understood and believed that "if you touch someone with a single finger they may not feel it. But if you combine fingers into a fist, your impact will be felt."

Thank you for joining us for this special occasion.

Sincerely,

Carol Lewis

Carol Lewis, President

PROGRAMME

- Mistress of Ceremonies..... Beverly Lacey, Past President
NCNW Champaign County Section
- Invocation..... Rev, Jerome C. Chambers, President
Champaign County Branch NAACP
- Welcome Alicia Lowery, NCNW Life Member

Lift Every Voice and Sing

- The Occasion..... Gwendolyn White, NCNW Member
- NCNW Yesterday & TodayEarlene Terry, Second Vice President,
NCNW Champaign County Section
- Solo..... Phoebe Lenear
- Introduction of Speaker.....Rev. Robin Barrow
- Inspirational MessageRev. Terri Hord-Owens

HONORING THE PIONEERS OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION NCNW

Memorial

- Presentations to Charter Members
Gwendolyn White, Barbara Gillespie-Washington, and Cheryl Kennedy
- Special Tributes to Charter Members Family and Friends
- Charter Member Family Recognition
- Presidential Remarks Carol Lewis
- Benediction Rev. Terri Hord-Owens

PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM

REV. TERRI HORD OWENS



Rev. Owens is a native of Terre Haute, IN. She accepted Christ and grew up under the pastorate of her paternal grandfather, the late Rev. Noel Hord. Rev. Owens received her bachelor's degree in government with a minor in Afro-American Studies from Harvard University. She was active in student politics, and served as president of the renowned cultural/political group, the Kuumba Singers of Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges.

Rev. Owens began her professional career in the area of information technology, spending 23 years in the area of data management and data warehousing. She has previously held senior management positions with IBM, Ernst & Young, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and SBC, consistently earning recognition for excellence and leadership.

Despite professional success, Rev. Owens felt that God had yet another assignment for her to complete. She accepted her call to ministry under the spiritual leadership of Bishop T. Garrott Benjamin, Jr., senior pastor of Light of the World Christian Church in Indianapolis. Rev. Owens returned to Chicago with her family to pursue her Master of Divinity degree at the University of Chicago Divinity School. Upon graduation, the faculty of the Divinity School named Rev. Owens as a recipient of the John Gray Rhind Award, given to "an advanced M.Div. student whose excellence in academic and professional training demonstrates promise for significant contribution to the Church". The Rhind Award is the top award given to M.Div students at the University of Chicago. Rev. Owens was ordained at Light of the World Christian Church in Indianapolis, wearing the robe of her late grandfather. In August of 2005, she was appointed Dean of Students at the University of Chicago Divinity School, where she is responsible for students' academic progress, admissions and financial aid, recruiting, and academic policy.

Rev. Owens has been married for 21 years to Minister Walter Owens, Jr., Minister of Music and Arts at the Salem Baptist Church of Chicago. Together they have served at Martin Temple AME Zion Church in Chicago, under the pastorate of Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett; Light of the World Christian Church in Indianapolis, IN, and since 1997, at Salem Baptist Church of Chicago, a 24,000 member congregation under the dynamic pastorate of Rev. James T. Meeks. Rev. Owens has been instrumental in the development of drama ministry in each of these congregations, as well as being active in children, youth and women's ministry. A firm believer in the power of the performing arts in ministry, Rev. Owens has written several plays to reinforce the teaching of the Word. She regularly writes skits and plays to reinforce sermons. She and her husband co-wrote a Christmas musical, *Emmanuel*, a musical which focuses on the impact of the Messiah's birth on the relationship between Mary and Joseph. A community tradition that began in 1992 in Indianapolis, *Emmanuel* made its Chicago debut in December, 1999 at the New Regal Theater. A CD of their original music for the production was produced in 2000. Rev. Owens is also the author of *No Greater Love*, a passion play produced annually at Salem. She recently developed a devotional booklet based on a sermon by Rev. Meeks entitled "How to Pray For An Hour." Rev. Owens also serves as a teacher in the Membership Development ministry at Salem, teaching 14-week New Members' classes about the foundations of the Christian faith. Over 70% of these students are new converts. She is also widely sought as a conference speaker and workshop leader.

Rev. Owens is the devoted and proud mother of 17-year-old W. Mitchell Owens, III, a talented composer and musician

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The Occasion

So much has been sung of beautiful young girls, why doesn't somebody wake up to the beauty of senior women

Harriet Beecher Stowe

The Champaign County National Council of Negro Women is awake and proudly pay tribute to brave and courageous women who understood the need to affirm each other. Louise Otto once said, "The history of all times, and of today especially, teaches that women will be forgotten if they forget to think about themselves." Today is our effort to think about ourselves. Women have been instrumental on every front in our world today. We take this time to honor the CHARTER MEMBERS OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN who have been diligent in empowering women of all ages to move forward in the pursuit of excellence.

We pause this afternoon in honor of visionary women. Over decades these women have recognized the need to help people help themselves. During their advocacy role for minority women they have provided guidance which has been critical in helping many to overcome many obstacles that would have curtailed progress. Through innumerable sacrifices, NCNW pioneers have been instrumental in providing community-based supportive services, informing women of their rights, reaching women and children at risk, assisting community organizations, promoting educational initiatives, working with senior citizens by linking them to a variety of basic needed services and being an out stretched hand to help in a multiplicity of capacities.

History is in the making today. Never before have we celebrated the legacy of the great Charter Members of NCNW. This historical event is to demonstrate in a tangible way our appreciation for your service and commitment. You are the trailblazers who used their wisdom, knowledge and creative abilities to organize the Champaign County Section of the National Council of Negro Women, which continues to be a viable force in our community today. Thank you for the high ideals of health, education and economic empowerment that you set in motion. As you have empowered us, we are strengthened to continue the great example of service to mankind. You have taught us to reach out and give love to the loveless, reach out and make a home for the homeless; reach out and shed God's light in the darkness, reach out and let the smile of God touch through each of us.

To you our Beloved Charter Members, we salute you!

Lovingly and respectfully,

*Barbara Gillespie-Washington
Charter Member Celebration Chair*

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN INC.
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION
CHARTER MEMBERS. ---- OCTOBER 1981



Mary Alexander

Mary Alexander was a member of the Council for Community Integration and co-founded the Champaign-Urbana Improvement Association. She was active in many school and community organizations including P.T.A., the Urban League, the Champaign Human Relations Commission and the East Central Illinois Area Office on Aging. She was a lifetime member of the Salem Baptist Church and Church Women United. Mary retired from the University of Illinois as a Food Service Administrator after more than 25 years of service.

Odelia Alexander**

Erma Scott Bridgewater

Erma Scott Bridgewater, during a 24 year career, served as Director of Recreation at Douglass Center, as a Relocation Officer for the Urban Renewal Program and later as Housing Specialist for the Community Development program. She has served on various boards and committees and received many awards for her service. She has been a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church since age 12 and a member of the Bethel Choir for 70 years.



Mary Jane Brooks**

Octavia Cole

Octavia Cole worked at White Line Laundry, Magnavox, Francis Nelson Health Center, Eisner Bakery and Sears. Mrs. Cole's community service accomplishments included membership in Church Women United; NCNW, Urban League Guild (former President), NAACP, Champaign County Cooperative Extension Home-Makers (Mary Bethune Unit) where she had recruited and mentored many young women, 4-H Leader, Cub Scout Leader, Champaign County Election Judge, Sunday School Superintendent/Director, Sunday School teacher, Deaconess and Choir member. She had for many years been a Mt. Olive Baptist Church delegate to the Wood River District Association, Baptist General State Congress of Illinois and National Baptist Convention.



Michele Cooper**

Nettie Leona Cook

Nettie Leona Cook was employed in administrative service division at the Chanute Air Force Base for 26 years. She also had a very active civic life in the Champaign-Urbana Community, serving as the Corresponding Secretary of the Champaign-Urbana Kindergarten Association; Co-founder and past officer of the Royalties - a civic-minded club; Worthy Matron of Deborah Chapter #27, Order of Eastern Star; Financial Secretary of the Champaign County Section of NCNW; Telecare Volunteer, and Election Judge. As a devoted member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, she served as Treasurer of the Missionary Society, and the Church Building Fund Raiser; a dedicated representative to Church Women United and she served on the Stewardess Board. For all of these activities, she received many service awards.



Elaine Copeland** Cyndi Council** Esther Donaldson**

**No Photo or Information Available

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN INC.
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CHARTER MEMBERS. ---- OCTOBER 1981



Doris Ruth Hendricks

Doris Hendricks worked as a Cook at the Sigma Chi Fraternity for 10 years. She applied to and was employed by the University of Illinois Housing Division - Food Service and retired from there as a Food Service Supervisor after 20 years of service. After retirement, she was called back to work in Customer Relations in the Residence Halls and stayed for 3 years. Doris was a long-time member of the Salem Baptist Church, serving as a member of the Deborah Chapter #27, order of Eastern Star; the Daughter of Isis.

Wilda Herndon

Wilda Herndon was employed 19 years as a Medical Technician at the University of Illinois McKinley Hospital and the College of Vet Medicine's Small Animal Clinic. She was a member of the Bethel A.M.E. Church and served in many capacities. Her love of community and the people therein, led to her involvement in many clubs and organizations whose prime objective was to serve those in need. Funds were raised and distributed to areas such as the Burnham City Hospital, the March of Dimes, Cancer Fund, and the Bethel A.M.E. Building Fund.



Davie Hill

Davie Hill continued her education while she worked as a beautician in her home. She received an associate's degree from Parkland College at the age of 52. She served as supervisor at The Frances Nelson Home for Children until the family moved to Liberia, West Africa, in 1963. She returned home to work for the new Headstart Program as a Center Supervisor and retired from Headstart after 13 years. Davie has been a member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church for almost eighty years and has held many offices in the Church and its Church School.



Ruth Woodruff Hines

Ruth Woodruff Hines opened her doors to house the Negro (African American) students who enrolled in the University of Illinois in the early 1920s. It filled an urgent need for the students as there was no place for them to live on or near Campus. This legacy continued on for many years and she and Mr. Hines also served as Patron and Patroness for many social affairs given by and for the students. She was a lifetime member of Bethel A.M.E. Church - singing in the Senior Choir and as a member of the Willing Workers Club. She was a member of: the Robert Earnest American Legion Post #559 serving as past president; the University of Illinois Alumni Association; the Champaign-Urbana Senior Citizen's Organization; Deborah Chapter #27, Order of Eastern Star; and Parents Council of Sharps and Flats Music Club, an affiliate of the National Association of Negro Musicians and the Park Street Block Club.



Kathy Howard**

**No Photo or Information Available

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN INC.
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CHARTER MEMBERS. ---- OCTOBER 1981



Rosie L. Dyer

Rosie Dyer served the community as a cosmetologist for 33 years. Mrs. Dyer has made many contributions to her profession and to the community. She served as president of the Twin City Cosmetologists and the Alpha Chi Sorority and has been a member of the Twin City Cosmetologists since it was founded in October 1960. She hosted a fundraiser for the AIDS benefit for Frances Nelson Health Center and for the Adopt Douglass Park Association. She has volunteered at Covenant Medical Center for the past 18 years and she is a member of the Concerned Citizens for a Better Neighborhood. She also served on the committee for the Champaign Douglass Branch Library - Frederick Douglass Memorial. Mrs. Dyer is a member of Mount Olive Baptist Church and has served on the Senior Usher Board, as Director of the Junior Ushers and Pacers and on the committee for Christian Education.

Maudie Flake Edwards

Maudie Edwards promised her parents that if they would help her get into college, she would do the rest. She worked and sang in the Rolland Hayes Choir to pay her tuition. Maudie attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale two years and received a two year teacher's certificate. She continued with summer and night classes to complete her bachelor's and master's degrees. Her first teaching assignment was in a one room schoolhouse at Olmsted. The next assignment was to teach first and second grade in Mound City and eight years later in Ullin. In 1959, Maudie came to Champaign as a first grade teacher. She retired from the Champaign schools system in 1984 and continued to share her love for education as a volunteer, throughout her life.

Callie Embry** Rose Embry** Frances Evans**

Lucy Jess Gray

Lucy Gray is a member of the Bethel A.M.E. Church and sang in the choir for over 30 years. She was active in the Willing Workers Club; the Louanna Riley Missionary Society and served as a trustee. She was the first African American hired to work in retail in downtown Champaign in 1952 at the Kaufman's Clothing Store where she worked for 10 years. She then worked 18 years for the Joseph Kuhn Clothing store. She also worked as Assistant Manager and Buyer for La Boutique in downtown Champaign and she owned and operated Gray's Antiques and Collectibles. Lucy served as Alternate Delegate to the Champaign County League of Women Voters' State Convention which was held on the U of I Campus. As a member of CCDC, she was instrumental in creating the first mini-park in Champaign-Urbana located on Park Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets, the Marco-Nelson Park. Jack Marco and Earnest Nelson donated the land, CCDC provided the money.

Mary Ann Harris**

Mary Haywood Benson

Mary Haywood Benson worked at various jobs in the community including the Commercial Bank for 5 years and Kraft Foods for 25 years. Ms. Benson is a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church and has served as President of the Lou Anna Riley Missionary Society and Secretary for the Lay Organization. Mary served as President of NCNW from 1991-1995 and started the Festival of Cultures event



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Hattie Marion

Hattie Marion was born in Holly Springs Ms. she resided there until she was 16. She then lived in Memphis TN for a short time. She returned to MS where she married Robert Marion after his return from World War 1. They relocated to Champaign with their one child Barnan. Their four children Barnett, Carla, Barbara and Floyd were born, reared and educated in Champaign. Hattie is a very special and unique individual. She is very creative, has numerous talents, interests and gifts. She is civic and community minded. Hattie is a firm believer in lifelong learning and has taken computer classes to enhance her computer skills. She also has many talents and skills such as her love of attributes she has instilled in her children.

Madeline McMullen



Peggy Minor** Joyce Mock**

Mildred Rawls

Mildred Shirley Rawls received her Bachelor and Master degrees from the University of Illinois She retired in 2001 after 29 years as Director of Bradley Learning Center. Life Member of the University of Illinois Alumni Association, Charter member of Delta Sigma Theta alumni Association, Charter member of National Council of Negro Women. Shirley is married to Henry Rawls and the mother of 4 children. They presently reside in Metro Atlanta. Mildred is the Queen bee of the Red Hat Society of the Lawrenceville Senior Center and Vice-president of the Center Site Council. She enjoys writing, poetry, reading and playing bing

Renee Renfro

Renee Karnett Renfro attended the University of Illinois as part of Project 500. She earned a Master's Degree in social studies. Before she graduated she was hired by Developmental Services Center as the social worker for their 0-3 school program and a year later as the administrator for their residential program. She worked for thirty-one years as a social worker with the Urbana School District. Renee has also provided private counseling to children who are in foster homes or are in the process of being adopted and as a result has started Renfro's Counseling Plus. Renee has served as a member of the trustee board as well as usher board for Bethel AME and is presently a member of the stewardess board.

Sheila Rhodes** Ellen Rivers**

Frances Rollins

Frances Johnson-Rollins was one of the founders of the National Council of Negro Women, a member of Champaign-Urbana Twin City Cosmetologist, a licensed cosmetologist and a certified instructor in cosmetology for the state of Illinois. Mrs. Rollins was a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, where she sang in the choir, served on the user board and was a class leader.



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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION
CHARTER MEMBERS. ---- OCTOBER 1981



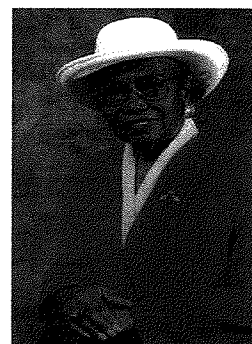
Doris Baker (Wylie) Hoskins

Mrs. Doris Baker (Wylie) Hoskins worked in the Nonacademic Personnel Office at the University of Illinois from 1947-1974 and she taught Orientation Class for new employees from 1968-1974. Doris was appointed a member of the Citizen's Advisory Committee to the Board of Education and the Urbana Park District Advisory Committee and served on those boards until 1974. She was made a life member of P.T.A in 1962. Her other civic and community service included her Church, St. Mary, where she served as Trustee, Lector and Eucharistic Minister; R.S.V.P. - Tax Counseling For the Elderly; Senior Health Insurance Program, Matthew House Board Member, Provena Covenant Medical Center Auxiliary, Krannert Center Senior Volunteer Program - Usher; Champaign County Historical Society - President; and the Committee on African-American History in Champaign County of the Early American Museum.



Odessa Hudson

Odessa Hudson was the founder of the Champaign Section of the National Council of Negro Women, member and past president of the Champaign's Homemakers Extension. She was an active member of the Champaign-Urbana Twin City Cosmetologist. Mrs. Hudson is a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, a Life Member in the 4th Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society



Kathryn B. Humphrey

Kathryn B. Humphrey was employed by the City of Champaign Recreation Department. Later, she was employed by the University Of Illinois College Of Veterinary Medicine as a Laboratory Attendant, and enrolled in science classes at the University of Illinois relating to her job. She remained in this position until her retirement in 1987 after 32 years of service. Kathryn served as a member of the Unit 4 Board of Education and on the C-U MTD Board. She served as Trustee of the Champaign Township Supervisor's Office; as Secretary of the Office; and as a Board Member of the University of Illinois' Employees Credit Union. As a lifetime member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, she taught a Sunday School Class and served in many capacities. She is a supportive member of the Douglass Senior Center Group and is the Co-founder of the Gamma Upsilon Psi Society, which sponsors the Annual Cotillion. Her most rewarding experience was having the honor to travel with the group to join in the Dr. Martin Luther King National March for Justice from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama

Narmen Hunter** Laura Irwin** Evola Jordan**

Geraldine C. Avery Lee

Geraldine Avery Lee received her BA degree in business education from Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh, NC. During their travels while her husband served in the Air Force, she had the opportunity to teach in Massachusetts and Washington DC as well as at her high school in Raleigh. She also worked in the Hickam Air Force Base library in Hawaii. Ms. Lee received her Master of Education, Advancement Certificates and endorsements from the University of Illinois, taught at Rantoul Township High School and became the first African American woman to hold the position of principal. She also worked part-time in the business department at Parkland College. Some of the awards/honors received during her career include: Regional Office of Education and News-Gazette Outstanding Educator Award, WICD TV Golden Apple Award, Outstanding Summer Youth Program Coordinator of the Year Award, Who's Who Among America's Teachers, Upward Bound College Preparatory Academy Award, Peggy Harris Memorial Award, and Green Meadows Girl Scout Council Women of Distinction Award.

**No Photo or Information Available

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN INC.
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Mattie Sayles



Miriam B. Taylor Scantlebury

Miriam B. Taylor Scantlebury worked in the McKinley Health Center Administration Office as a Quality Assessor for the Patient Service Coordinator. Her past experiences included: Burnham City Hospital from 1962 to 1970 as an ER Night Shift Supervisor and Labor and Delivery Night Shift Charge Nurse; Carle Foundation Hospital from 1970-1983 as Night Shift Intensive Care Unit Charge Nurse in the Cardiology, Neurology and Surgical Departments; U of I Urbana-Champaign McKinley Health Center from 1983 to Emergency Room Night Shift Charge Nurse, Expanded Role Nurse, Medical Clinic II Charge Nurse. Prior to the creation of the Minority International Health Program at McKinley Health Center, she assisted Dr. Jerry Ogbudimpkpa, Ph.D in data collection, planning, implementation and evaluation of pilot students and the subsequent comprehensive health needs assessments (1980-1984).



Anna Wall Scott

Mrs. Anna Wall Scott was appointed to serve on the Charter Human Relations Commission in Urbana, as Chair of the Subcommittee on Education. She was the first woman in the State of Illinois to be elected to the Democratic State Central Committee covering 7 counties in the East Central Illinois jurisdiction. She also served as Vice-Chair of the State Democratic Party with the late Mayor Richard J. Daley and also on the Democratic National Committee serving as a delegate to the Nominating Convention which led to the election of former President Jimmy Carter. She since became active in the Republican Party, serving as Corresponding Secretary of the Champaign County Republican Women's Organization. She completed a 2-year term on the Illinois Real Estate and Banking Board to which she was appointed by the former Governor Jim Edgar. Other community activities include: Past Matron of Deborah Chapter #27, Order of Eastern Star, member of Hadassah, member and past Board member of the League of Women Voters, past Board member of Campus Y.W.C.A., the Junior Vice-Commander of the

Champaign County Council of American Legions, serving a third term as Commander of the William F. Earnest American Legion Post #559 - the first woman in Champaign County to be elected to that position, a member and class leader of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Presently, she is a Professor of Sociology at Parkland College



Sarah Wilson Scott

Sarah Scott was active in the community and in her church. She worked diligently on the committee to provide equipment for the new Douglass Center built in 1945. She was an active member of the Willing Workers Club of Bethel A.M.E. Church. Her desire was to live to be 100 years of age in order to receive a letter from the President of the United States. She missed it by 6 months. She was still proudly living alone at her death.

**No Photo or Information Available

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN INC.
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Halestine J. Session

Halestine Jackson Session, a native of Hartsville, S.C. the proud wife of David Henry Session. Earnings degrees from Allen University, Columbia S.C. and the university of Illinois prepared her for a rewarding career in public school teaching from which she is now retired. She was recognized by Bank of Illinois and Channel 15 as Teacher of the Month in 1989. Mrs. Session is a member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where she continues to use her gifts and talent teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible school. She also gives freely of her time working with the Scholarship and Benevolent committee at the church

Lillian Smith**

Genevieve Stratton

Genevieve Stratton has been a staunch community advocate for youth and seniors. She was ----To many during her years of service at the University of Illinois. Genevieve loves God, her family and God's people. At he church she has devoted much of her time organizing and orchestrating programs in ministry. She is a woman who firmly believes you must do your duty in all things. Anything worth doing is worth doing well. Even when weak in health she maintains a desire to be an active positive influence.



Dorothy Vickers-Shelley

Dorothy Vickers-Shelley worked as an elementary school librarian at Yankee Ridge Elementary School for thirty years. She worked daily helping, in various ways, to expand young minds. Students began their year learning the following statement: "Life is short. Therefore, I shall be a crusader in the fight against ignorance and fear, beginning with myself." During her many years there, Dorothy endeared herself to many of her students, some of whom became parents of her later students. Dorothy Vickers-Shelley is a member of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church.



Shirley Walker

Leona White**



Rebecca J. Williams

Rebecca Williams could not get employment in the Rantoul school system and thus began teaching in Danville, Illinois. She taught there for one year before she left with her family for Libya. Rebecca taught in the U.S.A. dependent schools before returning to Chanutte in July 1968. She became Director of Headstart and expanded the program outside the city limits of Champaign-Urbana. After two years, Rebecca again applied to Rantoul High School and was hired. She taught English in the high school from September 1970 through May 1994. Rebecca was active in several organizations. She was the President of the National Council of Negro Women, office holder in Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and a member of Business and Professional Women. She was an active member in the American Association of

University Women and the Parish Council of Catholic Women. She was also a member of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association.

**OUR CHARTER MEMBERS
 IN LOVING MEMORY**

Our light affliction is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. II Corinthians 4:17

The quality of our life is not measured by how long we live, but what we do while we live. We remember these precious women for the great contribution they made while they lived. Contributions that have made deep memorable footprints in the sand.

Mary Alexander

Odelia Alexander

Mary Jane Brooks

Octavia Cole

Nettie Cook

Esther Donaldson

Maudie Edwards

Callie Embry

Ruth Hendricks

Wilba Herndon

Ruth Hines

Doris Hoskins

Evela Jordan

Madeline McMullen

Ellen Rivers

Frances Rollins

Mattie Sayles

Miriam Scantlebury

Sara Scott

Lillian Smith

Leona White

Rebecca Williams

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION PAST ACTIVITIES



AN EVENING OF RELAXATION with the
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION OF
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN

The Urbana Civic Center
108 Water Street
Urbana, Illinois

GREAT FOOD plus entertainment
September 10, 1994
7:00 - 10:00 P.M.

DONATION: \$7.00



The Newsletter for Covenant Employees

INSIDE EDITION

February 19, 1997

Harvest of Cultures Donation Presented

A donation of \$150 from the Champaign Urban League of Cultures was presented to Covenant for the new Mary Cole Cultural Fund in late January.

The Harvest of Cultures, a 501(c)(3) project between the Urban League of Chicago and the Champaign Urban League, National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), raised money for the new fund in the form of a "Harvest of Cultures" fund and auctioned the items raised and sold, according to NCNW spokeswoman Dawn Henrich. It is a one-time fund-raiser.

"I have been around Covenant and have seen the good the City Fund does, especially for those who can't afford home ownership," Henrich said. "It's such a good cause."

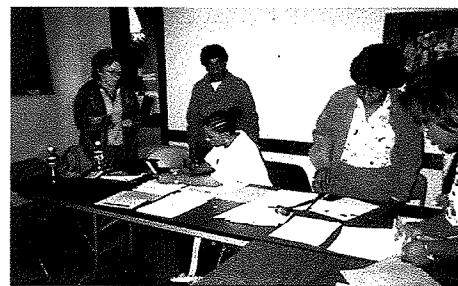
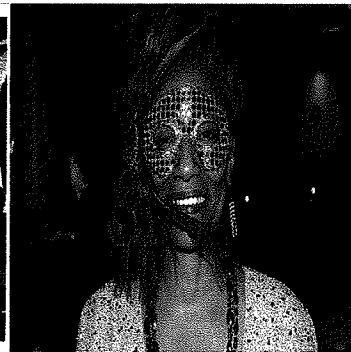
The fund-raiser has benefited the City Fund, which is used for the purchase of the poor owned by Covenant and is named after Mary Cole, who is a member of the Urban League of Chicago. The fund-raiser has helped people who can't afford to buy their own homes, she said.

"The bringing of all different cultures is what Covenant is all about," said Henrich of Covenant chairman Howard Henrich. "This is very happy we could help."

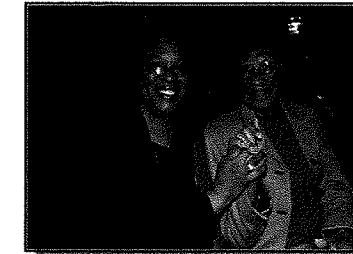
- Jeffrey (2)
 1. J. Green
 2. Smith
 3. Stewart
 4. Berlin



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION PAST ACTIVITIES



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SECTION PAST ACTIVITIES



Champaign County Section

P.O. Box 963

Champaign IL 61820



Become a part of the National Council of Negro Women!

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

New Member _____ Renewing _____

Section or Affiliate Name (if applicable): _____

I am joining as a Direct member, my Affiliate name is _____

Membership Type:

Student \$10 _____ Annual \$30 _____ Associate (men) \$30 _____ Partner \$50 _____

Advocate \$75 _____ Leadership Circle \$150 _____ Life Membership \$500 _____

Associate Life \$500 _____ Group Life \$750 _____ Legacy Life \$1,000 _____

Method of Payment:

Check (payable to NCNW) _____ MasterCard _____ VISA _____

Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Amount \$: _____ Signature: _____

Member Benefits

Student \$10 – Newsletter	Advocate \$75 – Benefits of Partner plus a hardcover copy of <i>Open Wide the Freedom Gates</i> by Dr. Dorothy I. Height
Annual Member \$30 – Newsletter	
Associate Member (men) \$30 – Newsletter	Leadership Circle \$150 – Benefits of Partner plus a signed hardcover copy of <i>Open Wide the Freedom Gates</i> by Dr. Dorothy I. Height, honors at the NCNW National Convention, invitations to exclusive events, DVD: <i>Life and Surprising Times</i> of Dr. Dorothy Height
Partner \$50 – Newsletter, annual recognition in the newsletter, recognition in the Uncommon Height Awards Program Book	
Life Membership: Individual Life–\$500, Group Life–\$750, Legacy Life –\$1,000 – All Individual and Group Life Members receive an engraved silver card; Legacy Life – gold card.	

Charter Celebration Committee

<i>Barbara Gillespie - Washington</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>
<i>Cheryl Kennedy</i>	<i>Co-Chairperson</i>
<i>Mary Haywood-Benson</i>	<i>Program Book</i>
<i>Gwendolyn White</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Hattie Marion</i>	<i>Advisor</i>

Champaign County Section

2008-09 Officers

Elected Officers

<i>Carol Lewis</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Barbara Gillespie-Washington</i>	<i>First Vice President</i>
<i>Earlene Terry</i>	<i>Second Vice President</i>
<i>Lynn Randall</i>	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
<i>Betty Hassell</i>	<i>Assistant Secretary</i>
<i>Cynthia Biggers</i>	<i>Treasurer/Financial Secretary</i>

Appointed Officers

<i>Patricia Adair</i>	<i>Parliamentarian</i>
<i>Cheryl Kennedy</i>	<i>Historian</i>
<i>Nela Delaney</i>	<i>Chaplain</i>
<i>Ruthie Hillsman</i>	<i>Executive Advisor</i>