



# National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

## Tampa Metropolitan Section

# Voices United Newsletter

March 2010

Volume 1, Number 6

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### Next section meeting:

April 3, 2010

10:00 am

Lee Davis Neighborhood Service Center

## Greetings from the President

As we continue to support the legacy of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune by developing and advocating for women of African descent as they support their families and communities, I would like to share a few of my objectives during the next few months. I believe your support of these activities will further empower and build confident leaders within the Tampa Metro Section, who will in fact, return into our communities and neighborhoods armed with the fundamental standards of excellence necessary to carry out the work of the National Council of Negro Women. A few of the 2010 Program Goals involve having the membership support:



- Unity Day on April 25, 2010 @ Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church; Pastor, C.T. Kirkland (Please wear all white attire). Dinner will be served after the service. *See Program Committee Report below*
- Our Annual Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Luncheon on May 15, 2010 @ the Hilton Airport at 11:00 am; Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Speaker. *See Program Committee Report below.*
- The annual College Tour on Monday, April 12, 2010. *See Education Committee Report below.*

Congratulations to our newest addition to the NCNW family! The University of South Florida (USF) Collegiate Section's induction was held on Saturday, February 2010. A HUGE THANK YOU to all of the Section mentors who made the dream of capturing the involvement of young women enrolled at USF a reality.

*"This is the beginning of coming together, but keeping together is process and working together is success."* Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune

In sisterly love,

*Electa*

Electa D. Davis, President

**NCNW & National Institutes of Health Join To Reduce Obesity**

NCNW and The National Institutes of Health are working together to help fight obesity in the African-American community, starting with children, ages 11 to 13, and their parents.

The Tampa Metropolitan Section is a partner in this initiative. Classes are held at the YET Center. For more information contact Geraldine Twine at 813- 972-1313 or Electa Davis at 813-932-0616.

### **Become a NCNW member Today!**

If you have been looking for a place to explore opportunities, a place where you can realize your potential with the help of a positive, supportive network of sisters, NCNW is the organization for you. NCNW

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## Chapter News

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### Bylaws Committee

Lorretta M. Cottman, Chair

#### DISSEMINATION OF PROPOSED BYLAWS

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Tampa Metropolitan Section's By-Laws Committee worked diligently to draft a set of proposed bylaws. The group has indeed embraced the Technology wave! With permission from our illustrious President, Electa Davis, members of the Bylaws Committee are excited to report that the "Draft" of the proposed amendments for our local bylaws have been disseminated electronically to members with email addresses.

Those members without internet access received their copy of the "Draft" personally from a committee member or via the United States Postal Service (USPS). Thank you in advance for taking time out of your busy schedule to review the "Draft". We welcome your input at our next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Bylaws Committee members: K. Berrien, D. Dasher, B. Dean, E. Davis, A. Davis, P. Jones, T. Morning, S. Pridgen, C. Smith and L. Cottman.



helps women of African descent enhance their health, knowledge, and personal satisfaction and work to improve their communities.

***But we can only be as strong as our members. We need your support.***

Your membership helps NCNW:

- Promote and recognize leadership among women of color.
- Champion women's rights and civil rights.
- Reduce health disparities among African Americans.
- Increase the educational attainment of African Americans.
- Work toward the economic empowerment of all African American women.
- Celebrate and strengthen the African American family.
- Reach out to women in need in Africa and around the world.

Support our sisterhood and African Americans as a whole - join us today!

## Contact Us

For information on joining NCNW contact:

## Education Committee Report

Josephine Townsend, Chair

The Education Committee continues to plan for the annual Bethune-Cookman University and Embry Riddle Aeronautics University Tour in Daytona Beach, Florida on Monday, April 12, 2010, from 6:30 a.m. until 8:30 pm. For more information please contact Ms. Townsend at 813-857-8283. The group continues to work closely with Mrs. Jennifer Wright to provide a scholarship in her name to a worthy senior seeking an education from an institution of higher learning. The Sponsor-A-Child Campaign is spearheaded by Yvonne Frazier, Teresa Morning, & Josephine Townsend.

***"I Leave You a Thirst for Education. Knowledge is the prime need of the hour."*** Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune

## Membership Committee

Patricia Jones, Chair



### Membership Renewals

#### FEBRUARY

Marquita Arnold  
 Ethel Chester  
 Mary Forbes-Williams  
 Joan Harris (National)  
 Lorene Hart  
 Mildred Harvey L  
 Carol Liddles  
 Monica Mabry  
 Josephine Townsend LL

#### MARCH

Karannea Bagley  
 Barbara Dean  
 Lucille Morris L  
 Harry Morris L  
 Olive Jones L

#### APRIL

Kay Berrien  
 Erma Griffin  
 Pat Jones  
 Deborah Thomas  
 Beavelin Lewis  
 Flossie Pridgen L  
 Sonya Pridgen L  
 Harriet Scott L  
 Molbert Scrivens L  
 Charlotte Smith  
 Selphenia Hudson L  
 Sophia Trevil  
 Birdie Underwood  
 Carolyn Watson L  
 Angela Williams

NCNW - Tampa Metropolitan Section welcomes new member Jennifer Wright, and new life members Carolyn Watson and Lizzie Long.

Patricia Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice  
President: pjones1258@  
tampabay.rr.com; Or

Electa Davis, President:  
813-932-0616  
P.O. Box 1487  
Tampa, FL 33601

There will be a Membership Drive in **APRIL 2010** - so stay tuned! Other activities in the planning stage include a Candle Fundraiser, Prayer Breakfast, "Murder She Wrote" Dinner Theater, a Membership Social and Community Yard Sale.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

**March**

Lonita Brown  
Eddye Dawson  
Doris Ross-Reddick  
Angela Williams

**April**

Emma Thomas

**May**

Kay Berrien  
Dawn R. Dasher



**In Loving Memory of Life Member - ALMA MORRIS**  
*"Make some popcorn and watch the movie"*

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## Heart Committee

Erma Griffin, Chair/ Article submitted by Yvonne Frazier

### Heart-felt Tip #3310

Allow your heart to be a wellspring of life and love ...carry peace, joy and a sense of humor wherever you go.

1. Maintain positive thoughts about yourself and others... for as is your thoughts so is your behavior.
2. Deliberately describe others personalities with positive adjectives.
3. Rehearse the above by taking the letters of a person's name and come up with a positive adjective for each respective letter.

Most recently my thoughts have been drawn to an extraordinary Heart Committee member, Sister Alma Morris. Here are the results:

Behavior Rehearsal:

**Ambitious**      **Magnificent**  
**Loving**        **Overflowing**  
**Magestic**      **Respectful**  
**Alluring**       **Resolute**  
                          **Intelligent**  
                          **Steadfast**



*Positive Thought: "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God"*

Remember use Heart Tip #3310 exercise for yourself as well as others. Here are some adjectives that may help you get started:

strong-impressive-courageous-compassionate-aggressive-gregarious-industrious-joyful-reliable-sympathetic-hardworking-dynamic-successful-faithful-confident-brave-cooperative-exuberant-fabulous-fine-generous-glorious-honorable-protective-sensitive-kind hearted-instructive-determined-thoughtful-lovely-energetic-vivacious-warm-wonderful-willing. Your turn!

## Cherrio Committee

Gloria Philmore, Chair

Please pray for our sick and shut in members:

- Florence Blair - 813-876-3357
- Alexandrina Cohen - 813-253-4166
- Rosalie Jones - 813-238-2965
- Ida Lloyd - 813-626-1447
- Janie Sherry - 813-238-2965
- Lila Johnson-Thomas - 813-839-6538



Mary McLeod Bethune and her family

Committee members:

Alma Childs  
 Erma Griffin  
 Barbara Dean

Amanda Anthony  
 Cassandra Howard

## Social Welfare Committee

Marquita Arnold, Chair

The group will complete community projects on a quarterly basis which would give the committee members an opportunity to be involved with the other NCNW-TMS committees within the council. In the coming months there will be many projects other committees and the council as a whole will be participating in. This will also give our committee the opportunity to plan more effectively and efficiently since some of the service projects require more time to prioritize.

### 2nd Quarter Project-

Empowerment Seminar at THE SPRING. This is still in the infancy stage.

3rd Quarter- The team is looking at partnering with another organization for a Health Fair.

## Program Committee

Antonia Barber, Chair

### Unity Day

**Date:** April 25, 2010

**Place:** Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church  
2002 N. Rome Ave.  
Tampa, FL 33607

**Time:** 11:00 am

**Attire:** All White with NCNW Stole

**Cost:** \$10.00 per person

### Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Luncheon

**Date:** Saturday, May 15, 2010

**Place:** Hilton Tampa Airport Hotel ; 2225 N. Lois Avenue.

Tampa, FL 33612

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$35.00 per person

For ticket information contact:

Antonia Barber 813-621-8745,

antonia\_barber@yahoo.com,

Monica Price 813-313-7889,

mvprice@verizon.net,

Erma Griffin 813-716-2844,

Ruby French and,

Rosa Lee Jones

***Members are asked to sell at least five (5) tickets and all Executive Board members are asked to sell ten tickets.***

## Technology Committee Report

Clemmie Perry, Chair

### How new technology can save you money

A host of clever gadgets can cut costs as you shop and run your home

The rise of the internet has enabled the launch of many tools for making and saving money that we now take for granted, from auction and comparison websites to advice forums. But newer, smarter technologies that remain little used outside “techie” circles can improve your finances in even more tailored and sophisticated ways. *Times Money* has spoken to the experts to bring you a round-up of the best tools.



**Smartphone applications** - Most mobile phones now feature internet browsers, but using these to access money-saving websites on the go is easier said than done, given small screen sizes and painful connection speeds. Much more convenient are applications, or “apps”, for the Apple iPhone. These can be downloaded at iTunes and are free or cost about \$1.00 or \$2.00. Other useful applications include tax calculators, currency converters and a tool to find the cheapest petrol stations. Meanwhile, Findaproperty.com this week released a free app to help people to find properties for sale, book viewings and get directions to them.

**Computer “dashboards”** - A number of new websites provide users in the UK with free money-management tools similar to Mint.com in the US. For example, you can download software at Kublax.com or money.strands.com that pulls in details from your online bank and card accounts to give you an instant overview of your spending.

**Free call services** - Skype offers free phone calls between its users over an internet connection – giving big savings to people with friends or families overseas. You can buy wi-fi phones with built-in Skype software

that enable users to make free calls to other users between wireless hotspots. You can find these hotspots at [myhotspots.co.uk](http://myhotspots.co.uk). Locations include Pret A Manger and some Starbucks. Free downloads (from [Skype.com](http://Skype.com)) and apps for certain mobile handsets and for the iPhone and iPod Touch give them the same function.

Full Article Available Online:

[www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/money/consumer\\_affairs/article7025307.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/money/consumer_affairs/article7025307.ece)

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## Life Membership Committee

Minnie Sullivan, Chair

The Life Membership Committee held its annual luncheon on January 30<sup>th</sup> at the Family Life Center of New Mt. Zion M.B. Church with more than 100 in attendance. The Mistress of Ceremony was Belinthia Berry and Minister Isaac Ruffin provided musical selections. Josephine Townsend gave the invocation, while Gloria W. Davis blessed the food. Antonia Barber led the NCNW Litany and Anna Eccles recognized deceased Life Members.

Other entertainment included a poem by Nijah Moore, Praise Dance by Shaylea Anderson, and Mime Dance by the Souled Out Mime Group. Chairwoman Sullivan gave presentations to the local NCNW past presidents and queens in recognition of Founder's Day. It was an extremely successful activity!

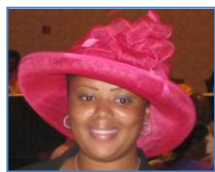
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## USF Collegiate Chapter News

Skye Idehen, President

On December 2, 2009, after 74 years of hard work and dedication, the dream materialized on the University of South Florida campus by seven mentors, one advisor and 49 passionate young women. NCNW USF's goal is to continue on the legacy by educating, enriching and empowering women of color within the university community and the surrounding Tampa Bay area. Since establishment at the University of

South Florida, we have already hosted many successful events that touched on many areas affecting black life such as nutrition and self identity. Some notable events are “I AM NCNW” and “Pizza and Love Handles: Healthy Eating and a Better Lifestyle with NCNW”. We have partnered with other organizations such as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated to host these affluent events. We also have participated in Stampede of Service, Black Day of Service, and Black Emphasis Month programs.



One program that our organization is hoping to transform into a community-wide annual celebration is the “Big Hat Brunch” which will be held on March 28, 2010. We invite you to participate in our future organizational programs and find it exceptionally informative and educational.

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## National News

### **NCNW History – Saga of the Pearl**

Excerpt from: The Saga of the Pearl, Emily and Mary Edmonson

On April 15, 1848, teenagers Mary and Emily Edmondson, their four brothers and 71 other enslaved persons quietly slipped past Seventh and Pennsylvania, the site of the Center Slave Market, on their way to the Pearl, a 54-ton bay-craft schooner waiting at the Seventh Street Wharf to take them to the Underground Railroad and freedom.

Paul Jennings, a former slave of President James Madison, was the mastermind behind this legendary slave escape attempt. Jennings would eventually buy his own freedom, and as fate would have it, provide donations from time to time to former First Lady, Dolley Madison, whom herself, eventually died in poverty (The Washington Post, January 10, 2009).

Thus began the saga of the Pearl, the largest attempted escape to date, which spurred riots and rocked Washington with such impact that the slavery debate in the Senate was escalated; the forces of abolition were

strengthened; and Harriet Beecher Stowe was inspired to write *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Thirteen years later, the Civil War was declared.

Emily and Mary attended Oberlin College in Ohio through the support of Rev. Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe. However Mary, weakened by the effects of the slave holds, developed tuberculosis and died within the year. Heartbroken, Emily returned to Washington to work with Myrtilla Minor, a white woman educator of slave girls and freed persons. This later became Minor Teacher's College.

Today it seems providential that the site of a former slave revolt and slave market is the National Headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women Proudly, we say that is fully paid for and is the only building on Pennsylvania Avenue owned by African-Americans.

**NCNW has created an endowment fund. Your tax-exempt contribution will ensure the preservation of this hallowed site where the National Council of Negro Women works day by day to sustain an active presence and advocate for freedom and social justice everywhere.**

Full article available online: <http://www.ncnw.org/Saga-The%20Pearl.pdf>



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