

The Comet II

April 30, 2018

Volume 25 No. 2



Booker T. Washington Foundation

www.bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org

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* DEATHS *

Naomi Hall Dreher
Bessie Lee Bate Durham
Freddie Hampton '64
Inez Snipes Henry '42
Trenton Jeter '64
Lula Mae Young Lampley
Eddie Lindler '64
Mamie Lee Mack
Rufus McQueen
Cleveland Matthews '63
Lt. Col. (ret) Charlie James Nixon '53
Angela Johnson Portee
Clara Pryor
Sarah Frances Reardon '41
Eddie Rose '65
John Wesley Scott '64
Prophetess Catherine Hampton Sims
Cynthia Spears '56
Andrew Spigner
Mary Anderson Sumter '64
Rebecca Brown Bolton Weston
Benzena Evelyn Johnson Wolfe '61
Ulysses Chambers '62
Jacob Jones '49
Eloise Hollis Tidwell '43



President's Voice

The Mission Statement of the Booker T. Washington High School Foundation is to perpetuate the heritage and history of BTW, maintain relationships with alumni, develop and build partnerships with community supporters, and to keep the traditions of Carolina. The planned events will highlight and bring to the forefront the unforgettable history BTW in the forefront. We all have an opportunity to help bring the mission statement to fruition by being informed, being supportive and being or becoming actively engaged in the events and activities planned by the Foundation.

Our motto, "Lest We Forget" is before us as we plan to celebrate the 44th Heritage Weekend, June 22-24, 2018 in Columbia, South of Columbia's, first historic Black high school, Booker T. Washington. The celebration and recognition of the Class of 1943 will be a centerpiece as this class is being featured during its 75th Class Reunion.

The Booker T. Washington Heritage Banquet will be held on Friday, June 22, 7:00 pm at the Trinity Education Community & Conference Center located at 2523 Richland Street. On Saturday, June 23, 10:30 am, the 2018 State of the Foundation Forum followed by the first meeting of the Millennium Society will be held at the Booker T. Washington-Monteith Cultural Arts Center, 6808 North Main Street. The Prelude to A Picnic will follow. On Sunday, June 24, 6:00 pm, the John W. Work Chorus will present its annual concert at the Booker T. Washington High School Auditorium.

You may visit the Booker T. Washington Foundation website for additional information about the Heritage Weekend. Ticket information is also available. The website address is: [http://](http://www.bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org)

bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org.

As we forge ahead and begin to plan for 2019, we would like to inform you that the Foundation Board has approved the reorganization of the Booker T. Washington Alumni. The first meeting will be held on Sunday, September 23, 4:00 pm at the Booker T. Washington-Monteith Cultural Arts Center, 6808 North Main Street. Class presidents and/or class representatives are asked to make plans to attend this organizational meeting.

We are indeed excited about the goals and objectives set forth by the Foundation Board. The Mission Statement, Vision, Value Statements, Goals and Objectives may be found on the website. Again, you are encouraged to use this tool as it will be updated to keep you abreast of our ongoing work.

Finally, you are reminded that information about the Millennium Society and the application for the Millennium Society are available on the website. Information about the Commemorative Tree, housed at the Booker T. Washington facility on Whaley Street; Booker T. Washington Way, is also available on the website. I am asking that you take advantage of all the available opportunities to help us keep the Booker T. Washington High School history and heritage at the forefront in our community, our state and our nation!

"Celebrating Our History and Heritage...Lest We Forget"

Gloria Graham Boyd, '65
President



Class of 1943



Hello Washingtonians,

We are counting the days before celebrating our 75th class reunion. To God be the Glory! Some of us are still able to tell the story, while others are gone on, but are remembered in our hearts.

We are proud to report that some members whom we have been unable to contact were found and were ecstatic about hearing from us. Two whom we have reached are Wilhemina Johnson Gordon and Lillian Delaney Edney.

Pauline Blocker Richardson has been basking in the sharing and caring her family has showered on her.

Nathaleen Martin Jenkins is proud of her sons Lester, Jr. and Gregory who are doing all they can to keep her well and active, and engaged in cooking and traveling short distances.

Congratulations to Rubye Brown Collins' nephew who is doing an awesome job of caring for all of her needs and making her happy as well as comfortable and stable.

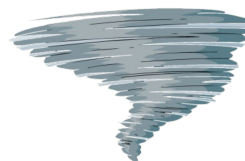
Terza Strother Gooden, Johnnie Mae Terry Wheeler, Elizabeth Taylor and Hattie Mae Adams Marley are all with their daughters who are assisting them with their care. Ethel Dantzler Thurman is being cared for by her daughter and son-in-law in Evanston, Illinois.

I, your reporter, Josephine Jefferson Hall, am attempting to remain as active as I can by attending and supporting many community events. My great grandsons attended the mother-son dance at South Kilbourne Elementary School. They were very excited. I received an award, for reading an original dialogue, from Pruitt Health. This is an annual celebration for volunteers. I presented another original reading at Zion Chapel Baptist Church #1, in March. I along with my sisters, Ida Jefferson Jackson, '55, and Betty Jefferson Hassell, '58 participated in our church's Easter celebration where I read another original reading entitled "An Usher's Dream".

We thank Bernice Scott for 29 years of service, especially her support of the community's annual Senior Day. My favorite activity is participating in the hat parade. Everyone present at Seawell's had a great time and won lots of prizes.

We are sorrowful to report the death of one of our out-of-town classmates, Eloise Hollis Tidwell. If anything or anyone has been omitted we apologize.

So long for now from your reporters Josephine Hall and Pauline Richardson.



Class of 1955

Washingtonians,

Hello to you this wonderful spring day! Our prayers are being answered daily! We prayed that our president, Albert (Al) Griffin would be able to return home soon and he did return. We were elated. He still has a long way to go, but we are proud to report that slow and steady wins the race. Al is in good spirits and is eager to get out again. We know with that kind of spirit, he will soon be back in the saddle leading our class. We have vowed to do more to keep the stress and pressure off him. We just want to thank you and ask you to keep the prayers and petitions going up on his behalf and that of the class. Keep in mind we are closer to the century mark than the half-way point. We have been promised 120 years and we have set that as our life's goal. We may not reach the mark, but we are really striving toward that end.

We held a short meeting at Oretha Kenley Young's home to discuss our plans for the Heritage Weekend in June. We know the committee has put together a weekend package that should satisfy most of you. Please support our efforts to keep the BTW Alumni/Foundation alive and active.

Classmates, Ida J. Jackson and Oretha K. Young were honored and recognized by Northminister Presbyterian Church as **Women of Faith on Sunday April 22, 2018**. Congratulations ladies!

Your Roving reporter, Alonzo Phelps

Class of 1956



Hello, hello, hello, and happy springtime.

We are happy to report that several members of the class participated with the John W. Work Chorus in the joint Easter Concert with Second Calvary Baptist Church again this year. We enjoy this work of praise because the foundation gets the return when we present the John W. Work Chorus on Sunday during the Heritage Weekend, Friday, June 22 through Sunday, June 24. Mary Lee Sims Scott, Pearline Noble Young, and Johnnie M. Corley-Patterson represent the class at most affairs. We sing every year. We need you to join us.

The class will meet Saturday, May 19, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. at the McDonald's on North Main Street. We have not had a meeting for quite a while, so please try to attend. No time is good for everyone, but we hope that all of the church meetings, funerals, and house cleanings will be done before that time and all can come. We need to get a count of tickets for the Heritage Weekend. Remember the cost includes tickets for the Friday evening banquet, the Saturday cookout, and the Sunday John Work Chorus. Cost is \$85.00. Keep in mind that the cost of everything else has gone up so we cannot continue to pay what we paid 20 years ago. We even get a little more in our SS checks each year. Let's keep our Alma Mater on the forefront of our minds and hearts through our continued support.

JC Patterson, Reporter

Scholarship Information



The Booker T. Washington Foundation has several scholarship opportunities available to graduating seniors. All applicants, except for the Susan B. Freeman Scholarship, must be the legal child or grandchild of a Columbia, South Carolina Booker T. Washington graduate. Susan B. Freeman Scholarship is restricted to seniors planning to attend Benedict College. Applications are available on the BTW website: bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org. Applications are scored independently by each committee member using a rubric. Scholarships are then awarded to the applicants with the four highest combined average scores. The Scholarship committee reviews applications submitted. Scholarship recipients are recognized at the Heritage Weekend Banquet and are acknowledged at the John Work Chorus on Sunday.

Questions may be directed to Doris Johnson Andrews (803)754-7736 or email andy316@netzero.net, Geraldine Stroman Parker (803)754-8093 or email parkergrs@bellsouth.net, Ida Spells English (803)779-3734 or email minnieschild@yahoo.com, or M. LaNelle Kohn (803)865-1547.



The BTW Foundation tries to help graduating legacies reaching to new academic heights.

Booker T. Washington Foundation

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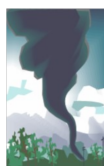
Comet II

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About Our Organization

The Booker T. Washington Foundation began as a way to remembering our school which closed in 1974. It was a way to keep the family together and to give our legacies an idea of why we are so passionate about our Alma Mater. Scholarships are awarded to persons who apply and withstand the rigorous prerequisites and requirements. The dues for membership is \$35.00 per year, payable by April 15 of each year. \$25.00 of the total helps pay for utilities and up-keep of BTW/Montieth Cultural Center.

Our Motto:
"Lest we forget."

**Class of 1964**

Class of '64 had two meetings since the last publication of Comet II.

Our first meeting was held in March. Meeting was hosted by Jessie Thorne Edmonds, Joseph Holston and Frankie Campbell Point at the home of Jessie. The major focus of this meeting was our 55th Reunion. As usual, we had a fun filled day enjoying classmates, family, friends, and yes, the delicious food.



Our April meeting was hosted by Willie (Shirley) Myers, Frances Jenkins Addison, and David (Elaine) Clarkson at Willie's home. Major items on agenda were Heritage Weekend and our upcoming 55th Reunion. Again we had an enjoyable time. Class always end meeting with a photo session.



Classmates attending at least one of the above meetings: Frances Jenkins Addison, Doris Johnson Andrews,

Robert Bonnette, David (Elaine) Clarkson, Jessie Thorne Edmonds, Ernie (Betty) Glymph, Mary Wilson Guinyard, Vivian Hopkins Hernandez, Ann Gardener Jennings, Sandra Krider Johnson, Melvin McKie, Willie Myers, Geraldine Stroman Parker, Samuel "Tank" (Rosa) Pelzer, Frankie Campbell Point, Gloria Richardson Priester, James Prince, James Ruff, Barbara Seabrook Spry, David (Gloria) Tucker, Catherine McGorder Whatley, and Gertrude Sims Wilson.

Kudos

Congratulations to **Angelica Washington Beasley**, daughter of Jacqueline Washington and granddaughter of Coley Washington. **Angelica** was inducted into the Chi Sigma Iota International Honor Society at Mercer University on April 11th. CSI values academic and professional excellence in counseling. Eligibility for membership is extended only to those students who have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better on a scale of 4.0.

Congratulations to **David Clarkson** for winning a 32" Flat Screened Television at the Senior Day, sponsored by Former Councilwoman, Bernice Scott on March 29, at Seawell's.

Congratulations to **Doris Johnson Andrews, Julia Prince Edwards, Vivian Hopkins Hernandez and Geraldine Stroman Parker** for being inducted into the Benedict College Half Century Club in March 2018.

Condolences: Trenton Jeter, Mary Anderson Sumter, John Wesley Scott, Freddie Hampton, and Eddie Lindler.

- Doris Johnson Andrews and Geraldine Stroman Parker, reporters

