

# The Comet II

April 30, 2020

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Booker T. Washington Foundation

[www.bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org](http://www.bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org)

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## \* DEATHS \*

Samuel "Herc" Goodwin, '61  
Fannie Bland Goodwin, '62  
Augusta "Dootsy" Miles Jones, '46  
Helen Jacqueline Mitchell Grogan, '46  
Anlet Betty Glover  
\_\_\_\_ Goodman Tate  
George Gladman, '53  
Shirley Richardson Henley, '67  
Vashti Jackson Woodson, '37  
Iredella Meetze Duckett, '51  
Sammy Lee Henry, '63  
Romeo Watkins  
Brenda McCoy, '70  
Woodrow Johnson, '67  
Vernell Anthony Foxworth, '74  
Viola Davis Archie, '40  
Brenda Donna Graham, '68  
Johnnie Thompson, '62  
Clarence Alston, Sr.  
Mozelle Isaac Parker, '45

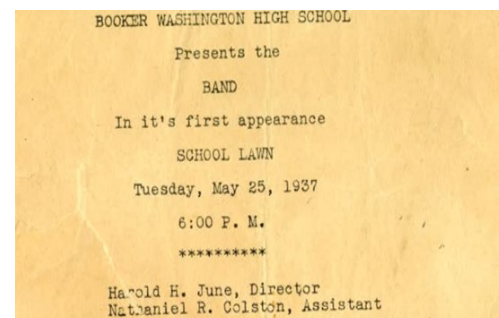


## Gone but not Forgotten:

### *Booker T. Washington High School, 1916-1974*

My most comprehensive public programming project to date involved developing the concept, theme, and design for an exhibition highlighting Booker T. Washington High School, the only African-American high school in Columbia, South Carolina from 1918 until the late 1940s. I served as a contracted museum consultant for the Boudreaux Group, Inc., a local architecture firm, and also the community liaison between the firm and the University of South Carolina. In addition to providing the concept for the exhibit design, I managed a team of interns and other historians in hosting public forums, meetings, and workshops to educate the BTW alumni about the project and to gather materials for the exhibit. The project was recognized by Historic Columbia Foundation with two preservation awards in 2014.

- By Ashley N. Bouknight, Ph.D., Curator, Educator, Museologist



## Class of 1943



Hello Washingtonians!

We are blessed to be able to share with you once again a little bit of news about a few of our classmates. The COVID-19 Coronavirus has required us to reshape and rethink our ways of thinking and living our lives. We have lived and endured long enough to know that our faith will keep us safe and strong.

Thanks to Nathaleen Martin Jenkins for being able to reach our classmate, Margaret Jackson Glover, after we were out of touch for many years. Margaret is anxiously awaiting the appropriate time when we can all get together to discuss and laugh about the good times we had at our dear Alma Mater.

Pauline Blocker Richardson's family and friends are unable to visit her now because of the new rules, but are able to keep in touch with her. Our sympathy was shared with her sister, Georgella B. Faust, '55, in the death of her husband, Matthew Faust, '53. Let us continue to pray for those who are in bereavement.

We are still able to enjoy our church services by way of modern technology since we have been advised to "stay home". Many have had to resort to working from home, homeschooling their children, and ordering their food online in order to stay safe and healthy. Thanks to the area school districts that quickly devised various educational programs and academic strategies to help our students stay abreast of their school work.

Parents, grandparents, great grandparents, and other relatives, please help oversee your child(ren's) school work. Please take advantage of the foods' programs. The way to stay safe is to follow the rules, keep your faith, and maintain your sense of humor.

Before the "stay-at-home" order was given your reporter, Josephine J. Hall, was guest at Bibleway Senior Center for the Black History month

program. Do not forget to stay in touch. Below is a is my original poem of thanks, entitled, "In My New Home", Grateful, Thankful and Truly Blessed... Thursday, July 19, 2019

To everyone who is present,  
To those who couldn't be here,  
I feel I'm in your thoughts,  
Because you really care.  
I will not call a single name,  
So afraid I might miss,  
Because from the beginning,  
You've played a vital role in this.  
In my home away from home,  
With faith and no need to fear,  
You promised to take care of me  
As long as I was there.  
Yes, I'm back on the street  
Where I was born.  
No wonder one writer said,  
"There is no place like home."  
So if I could combine my thanks  
And spread them across the nation,  
Words alone would not express  
My gratitude and appreciation.

With love to you all,

Mrs. Josephine J. Hall

## Heritage Weekend Update(s)

Heritage Weekend 2020 (HW 2020) is coming and it's GOING VIRTUAL! In keeping with our indomitable Washingtonian spirit and our uninterrupted BTW Foundation tradition, HW 2020 will carry on through the coronavirus pandemic in the safest place—our homes. From Friday, June 26, to Sunday, June 28, 2020, the HW 2020 Committee will bring the weekend's festivities to our alumni, scholars and community by way of website and online programming. Together, the Foundation Board, the Alumni Association and the Millennium Society are excited to promote the joining of generations as we navigate a tech-based experience to celebrate our living heritage even in this unprecedented time. Your interest and involvement will be vital to a successful, interactive live-streaming Heritage Weekend: starting today, SEND YOUR NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, BEST EMAIL ADDRESS, MOBILE PHONE and T-SHIRT SIZE to [BTW.WEEKEND@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BTW.WEEKEND@GMAIL.COM). Further, starting June 1, 2020, the BTW website ([BookerTWashingtonFoundationSC.org](http://BookerTWashingtonFoundationSC.org)) will provide HW 2020 information about registration, online access and the HW 2020 schedule. Let us hear from you (and your classmates and your legacies) and stay tuned!

Lest We Forget...

## Class of 1955



Hello, Class of 1955 Reporting.

I do hope everyone is doing well health wise, with this coronavirus pandemic that has stopped the world and everything in it to a slow drag. Let us remember that God is keeping us all intact. He still sits high and looks low and knows how to get our attention. Let us not worry or be anxious about anything because He has never failed us yet. Thank you, Jesus!

Our March meeting was held at the home of classmate Ora Mack Cummings, and what a reunion we had! The food was spectacular and delicious and we enjoyed every morsel. Members present: Walter and Ida Jackson, Gloria Johnson Prioleau, Oretta Kenly Young, Mary Harmon White, Alonzo Phelps, Harry Williams (Augusta), and our host. Our phone tree callers are Martha Anderson, Karponia Lewis, and Richard Reese. We sent hellos to Roland Harris and Albert Griffin.

Martha Anderson's niece experienced a serious illness on the last newsletter. We hope she has recovered and doing well. As for my family, we are doing well. My grandson will graduate from high school and has been accepted to the University of South Carolina.

Classmate, Naomi Wilson, interviewed State Senator, Rev. Darryl Jackson about community programs that his church, Bible Way of Atlas Road, sponsors to benefit the citizens of Lower Richland. You can read the article in the Opinion section of the April 24, 2020 edition of The State paper online.

We were saddened by the loss of Washingtonian Samuel "Herc" Goodwin, founder and pastor of Steadfast Ministries since 1983.

Nothing much has changed since our last meeting. Keep your dues up and keep on keeping on.

Until Next time, this is Your Roving Reporter, Alonzo Phelps

## Class of 1956

Hello Washingtonians!

Our last meeting was held at the home of Albert and Sarah Griffin on February 1, 2020. We made plans to meet quarterly. We have been forced to alter those plans due to unforeseen circumstances...the COVID-19 coronavirus.

We are happy to report that most of our sick and shut-in are improving. We continue to ask your sincere prayers for us, all Washingtonians, and others all over the world. Please heed the smallest symptom.

Johnnie Mae Corley Patterson, Reporting

## Class of 1963



Greetings,

BTW/CAJ Class '63 still enjoys bi-monthly meetings and planning joint activities. Bi-monthly meetings are 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 6:00 PM at Robert Brown's Place on North Main Street. We always look forward to meetings because we have great fun, food, and fellowship. We no longer talk or think about the longtime rivalry we once had. With this Coronavirus, we truly cherish every moment that we are able come together.

We were not able to have our regular face to face March meeting; however, we were able to convey the message that plans for our upcoming east coast 3 day trip will be placed on hold. We will suspend all upcoming activities until further noticed.

We lost 2 members of BTW/CAJ class since last publication of Comet II: Sammy Henry, BTW and James "Barney" Williams, CAJ.

James E. Parker and Jacob Jones, Reporting

## 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](http://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](mailto:andy316@netzero.net), Geraldine Stroman Parker (803)754-8093 or email [parkergrs@bellsouth.net](mailto:parkergrs@bellsouth.net), Ida Spells English (803)779-3734 or email [minieschild@yahoo.com](mailto:minieschild@yahoo.com), or M. LaNelle Kohn (803) 865-1547.



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

**Booker T. Washington Foundation**

P.O. Box 1641 (Foundation)  
Columbia, SC 29202  
Attn.: M. LaNelle Kohn  
803-865-1547

**Comet II**

431 Piney Woods Rd. Columbia, SC  
29212  
Phone: 803-798-3177  
E-mail: jcpatterson@netzero.com

## About Our Organization

The Booker T. Washington Foundation began as a way to remember 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**

Wow, what a great time we shared at our March 2020 meeting hosted by Georgia Classmates: **David (Gloria), Tucker, Jacqueline Washington and Merrill White.** Many of us arrived at David Tucker's home about 30 minutes ahead of our scheduled noon meeting because of our travels from Columbia and Charlotte. We were elated to have such fun chatting and reminiscing as we awaited the start of our meeting. Because of the Coronavirus, we did not do our usual greeting of hugging, but we did do the elbow bump. Several of our regular attendees were not able to attend the meeting because of health challenges, mobility problems, or prior commitments. Our sick list continues to grow; however, we still manage to keep in close contact via phone calls, email, and social media. We still have many faithful members who attend meetings and class functions; however, we are at that age where many of our classmates have health challenges or mobility constraints. Classmates on our prayer list include Mary Adams Baskerville, Eddie Benjamin, Lizzie Blanks Allen, Dorothy Brown Taylor, Eugene Carter, Wesley Caughman, Louis Chitty, Zack Clarkson, Alvin Diamond, Bernetha Fanning Wise, Luther Gladden, David Grant, Levi Johnson, Thelma Jones Hall, Dorothy Kennedy Richardson, Milton Mosby, Samuel Pelzer, James Prince, John Robinson, James Ruff, Willie Stroman, Mary Wilson Guinyard and AP Williams. Melvin McKie, Doris Andrews and Jackie Washington are caregivers for family members.

Various carpools shared their ride experiences to Atlanta. Comments include: Ann Jennings, "I'm so glad I was able to travel to Atlanta, the drive was refreshing", Robert Bonnette said, "It was a learning experience for me as I listened to the ladies talk about every kind of conversation possible." Larry Nazry of California sent class a link to a Black History documentary in which he is featured. The documentary aired on February 26. Larry was the first Black to integrate and spend his entire 4 years as an undergraduate at Clemson University. He was a roommate of Harvey Gantt. We heard from the following classmates who were not able to attend meeting: Barbara Seabrook Spry, Doris Johnson Andrews, Eunice Watson Cornelius, Daniel "Pete" Green, Julia Prince Edwards, James Prince, Melvin McKie, and Bernetha Fanning Wise.

Members in attendance include Frances Jenkins (Matthew) Addison, Robert Bonnette, Frankie Campbell Point, David (Elaine) Clarkson, Ann Gardener Jennings, Ernie Glymph, Vivian Hopkins Hernandez, Catherine McGorder Whatley,

Willie (Shirley) Myers, Gloria Richardson Priester, Geraldine Stroman Parker, Samuel "Tank" (Rosa) Pelzer (Donald Fleming), Jessie Thorne Edmonds, Jo Till Boyd (Jerrie), David (Gloria) Tucker, Jacqueline Washington, and Merrill White.

**Kudos**

**Eugene Carter's** son - law, **Connell Maynor** is being inducted into the Coaches (MEAC) Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Hall of Fame. His youngest daughter Crystal has earned a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy.

The American Legion Dept. of SC presented a Certificate of Appreciation to **Vivian Hopkins Hernandez** in Appreciation for and recognition of her active participation in the 82nd Annual "Constitutional Speech Contest" on February 22, 2019.

**Larry Nazry** was featured in Black History Documentary. Link below <https://twitter.com/accnetwork/status/1233072031022899201>

**Akiele Addison** is the grandson of **Matthew and Frances Addison** and the son of Aaron and Tiffany Addison. He has been inducted into the National Honor Society after finishing this semester at Midlands Technical College with a 3.6 gpa with 3 A's and 2 B's. He will graduate with honors in December 2020 with his Associate Degree and continue to pursue his bachelors and doctorate at USC in broadcast journalism in Jan 2021.

During this pandemic, Akiele has not given up on learning and has used this time wisely to increase his range of studies online and will be pursuing several internship in the coming months.

Congratulations!

Doris Johnson Andrews and Geraldine Stroman Parker, Reporters