

# THE COMET II

Volume 15 Edition 2

April 30, 2010

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Washingtonians, The Booker T. Washington Foundation really needs your support. We would like to have you make a commitment to help with the promotion and support of the Foundation's programs and activities. You need to come forward with finances and support to help promote programs at the BTW/Monteith Cultural Center and maintenance of the Booker T. Washington web site.

We are asking everyone who ever attended Booker T. Washington to donate at least twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars each year toward this effort. Can we count on you?

The Foundation's Board of Directors have voted to

make sure everyone reads our quarterly publication, the Comet II. With the web site you can log on whenever you desire and get all of our updates.

The website is: [bookertwashingtonfoundation.org](http://bookertwashingtonfoundation.org). You may acquire information about the list of requested donations needed to furnish our new headquarters.

The journey to this time in the life of the Foundation has been long, arduous, and necessary. Some of us have made many sacrifices and attended numerous meetings to insure the success of the acquisition of property, a building with history that could serve as a repository for all of the BTW

memorabilia, a meeting place and a classroom for the masses to come and experience history in a very unique way.

If you did not get your \$25.00 in by April 30, I hope this message will assure you that it is never too late to send it. Please try to make it an annual donation. Mark your calendar, make your check or money order to the Booker T. Washington Foundation.

Plan now to attend the BTW Heritage Weekend. Get in touch with Margaret Tipton and join the John Work Chorus. Contact your class president or a class member and become active. We need you and your ideas.

## CLASS OF 1957

Hello Washingtonians! On the second Sunday of March of each year, our classmates worship together.

Our annual worship service this year was held on March 14 at Greater St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

in West Columbia. Classmate William Montgomery was our host. After an inspirational worship service, we were served a delicious dinner. We enjoyed the fellowship and opportunity for group photographs. We also received a token of

appreciation from our host.

We ask that you contact our sick and shut-in members and say you were thinking about them

Reporters, **Mary Davis Williams, William L. Davis, Jr. and Frazier Davis**

### Deaths

Ishmael Howell	
Noble Cooper, 1946	
Chester "Chet" Irwin McElroy, 1967	
Rosa Mae Winson	
Frankie Jones Wilson, 1955	
Jack Thomas Williams, 1951	
Jimmie Sykes Brooks, Former Dietitian	

### Special points of interest:

- \$25.00 Annual Dues pay ASAP
- John Work Chorus rehearsals begin May 4
- Scholarship Info attached
- Condolences

## CLASS OF 1963

The 1963 classes of BTW and CAJ have been very active. Joint officers are as follows: President-James E. Parker (BTW), vice president-Robert Brown (CAJ), secretary-Charlotte Thom (CAJ), assistant secretary-Julia Meadows (BTW), treasurer-Debra Jones (CAJ) and parliamentarian-Waldo Hargrave (BTW/CAJ?). When the classes originally united, classes continued to meet with respective schools, but on alternating months shared joint meetings. Classes no longer meet separately, but as a unit on the second Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are held at members' homes.

The two classes have shared several joint ventures: Trips to Biloxi, Mississippi and New Orleans, Louisiana, Niagara Falls and Toronto, Canada, Annual Class Outing at Saluda Shoals, and Annual

Christmas Celebration at Delta House.

**The class is now sponsoring a trip to Miami and Key West, Florida, July 25-July 31, 2010. This will be a package deal to include motor coach transportation, 6 nights lodging, including 4 consecutive nights in the Miami area, 9 meals: 6 breakfasts and 3 dinners, a visit to Bayside Marketplace, a guided tour of Miami, a visit to exciting Key West, free time at South Beach, a visit to fabulous Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino and a cruise by celebrities' homes on Biscayne Bay.**

**Departure date is Sunday, July 25, 2010 from Midland Shopping Center, Two Notch Road, Columbia, SC and return on Saturday, July 31, 2010. Cost for the trip range from \$509.00 to \$759.00, depending on hotel occupancy.**

If you are interested in joining the 1963 BTW/CAJ Classes, please contact Jacob Jones (803) 736-2041, jones8949@bellsouth.net, Julia Meadows (803) 736-3944, or James E. Parker (803) 754-8093, parkerje@bellsouth.net.

The time for the first three payments has passed. We began collecting in the month of September. We have set the final payment date for April 30, 2010. If you really want to be a part of this crew of happy wanderers, you must begin paying as soon as possible so that all of your money will be in by the deadline. We certainly do not want anyone to miss this excursion.

Reporters

James E. Parker and Jacob Jones,

## CLASS OF 1964

The class continues to be very active. Our January meeting was hosted by Melvin McKie, Joseph Holston hosted in March and we traveled to Atlanta, GA in April.

Atlanta classmates David Tucker, Merrill White and Jacqueline Washington planned and hosted in April We met at David and Gloria Tucker's home where we held a luncheon meeting. We later enjoyed dinner, fellowship, drink and merriment. Sunday breakfast was served at the Tuckers' home then we worshipped at New Birth Church where Bishop Eddie Long is pastor.

Classmates in attendance at one or both of the previous meetings include; James Adams, Willie Adams, Samuel Bolton, Robert Bonnette, Frankie Campbell Point, Shirley Ferguson Irving, Emmanuel Irving, Doris Johnson Andrews, Melvin McKie, Catherine McGorder Whatley, Willie Myers, Julia Prince Edwards, Gloria Richardson Priester, John Robinson, James Ruff, Barbara Seabrook Spry, Geraldine Stroman Parker, Willie J. Stroman, Jessie Thorne Edmonds, Moretta Toatley Brown, Jo Tillman Boyd (Charlotte), David Tucker

(Atlanta), Merrill White (Atlanta), Samuel Pelzer, and AP Williams.

### *Classmates in the Spotlight*

**Vivian Hopkins Hernandez** has been very active since retiring and returning to Columbia following a successful career in Maryland. She started another teaching career at Carver-Lyon Elementary School in Richland County School District One where she has been recognized as the District's Elementary Social Studies Teacher of the year. She is so dedicated that instead of spending her spring break relaxing, she took an educational journey across the United States with Richland School District One to enhance her knowledge that will translate into experiential knowledge shared in the classroom and with her co-workers.

**Vivian Hopkins Hernandez and Geraldine Stroman Parker** are taking a line dancing class. Vivian is the dancer. Geraldine is the encourager and goes along for the ride. Vivian is one of the top dancers in the class

### *Announcement*

- ***Class of 1964 is still selling BTW watcher for \$39.95. Proceeds from the sale of the attractive/handsome will benefit the Foundation's scholarship fund.***
- ***Emanuel Irving has produced DVD's of th 2007, 2008, and 2009 Heritage Weekend Celebration. Low cost of each DVD is \$10.00. You cannot beat that price for captured memories of times that can only be relived by viewing them on screen.***
- ***Please help us inform all other graduates of Booker T. Washington of the availability of the scholarships. Tell them to encourage their graduating high school children and/or grand children to take advantage of the opportunities to receive some financial assistance for college.***

Geraldine Stroman-Parker reporting.

## CLASS OF 1955

Our March meeting was held at the home of Walter & Ida Jackson, with Ida and Mary E. Brown hosting. We were glad to see our classmate Georgella Blocker Foust, we hope she will begin to attend regularly. We met at Alphonso Edmonds' in April. We had a great meeting and accomplished a lot. We attended a Birthday Bash for Harold Lewis' 75th, on March 27, at the State museum. Class members,, former postal co-workers and their guests were present. it was a joyous, festive affair hosted by his children and grandchildren, the Charles Prince family.

We are happy to report that Zack Prioleau's health is improving after a brief illness.

Albert Griffin, president, was hospitalized a few times for complications. He home now and taking it easy.

Juanita Abney Pearson was hospitalized recently.

Lorine Perry Edmonds son, Robert Lee Edmonds, died

Frankie Jones Wilson, sister-in-law of Harold Lewis, lost her battle of sickness to death. Her son, Elder, J. Henry Jr. delivered the eulogy. Classmates really rallied around her family, doing whatever they could to help ease the pain of her departure. She was a faithful, hard working member.

Please pray for our grieving and sick and shut-in members. Then pray for all

of us who have reached and exceeded the three-score and ten promised years. We will try to pull ourselves up and begin to focus on preparing for the Heritage Weekend. Try to become a part of some of the festivities by participating in the John W. Work Chorus, attending the banquet and/or the picnic. It only costs \$50.00. John Work rehearsals began on Tuesday, May4, and will continue through the last Tuesday in June. Rehearsals are being held at North minister Presbyterian Church, 7:00 p.m.. The church is on David Street in the Green view section of Columbia.

My son Rodney Way, delivered his Trial Sermon at Macedonia Baptist Church in Georgia.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Class of 1956 will observe its 54th year at the Heritage Weekend activities. Cost is \$150.00.

The Foundation, Historic Columbia, and the Eau Claire Community Council unveiled an historic marker for the Monteith School (\*c1880-1947) at 6808 N. Main Street on March 24,2010.

Like the Timex watch, she just keeps on ticking. Mrs. Fannie Phelps Adams continues to garner honors despite her age and the fact that she allows others to transport her to various places. She was

recently honored at Allen University Greater Columbia Chapter's First Annual "women of Valor Celebration, Saturday, April 24, 2010. She is also currently working with Valinda Littlefield, history professor at the University of South Carolina, to trace the personal and professional experiences of nine African American school teachers on Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia from 1884 to 1954 at the height of the Jim Crow era. She and Mrs. Donella Wilson will represent South Carolina in Littlefield's upcoming book.

Contact your class regarding your reunion

dates. Let other Washingtonians know about the Foundation's web site so they can stay abreast of our activities.

**Commit to join the John Work Chorus. Rehearsals every Tuesday at 7:00p.m. at Northminister Presbyterian Church in Greenview.**

*This issue is late due to an earlier mailing that was required to get out. If you have not sent in your \$25.00 donation, then do so as soon as possible. We do apologize for the lateness, but we could not get it out*

## CLASS OF 1960

The Class of 1960 is eagerly looking forward to celebrating our 50th Class Reunion. We will begin our reunion on Friday, June 27, 2010 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 200 Stone ridge Drive Columbia, SC.

In keeping with the BTW class tradition, our reunion will be held during the Annual BTW Heritage Foundation Celebration week. The Planning

Committee and other class committees are working diligently to make our 50th reunion enjoyable and memorable. Saturday evening will be especially exciting. You'll love it! Don't miss it!

Sadly, over the past months we've had to mourn the deaths of classmates family members. Carolyn Smith Somerville's mother, Julia Mae Addison and James and Margaret Kennedy

Smith's daughter, Tammy Smith. Sincere condolences to these families. Keep them in your prayers as they mourn, and heal from their traumatic loss.

**Note:** Class meetings are held quarterly on the 2nd Saturday of the designated month at the North Main Library. Get involved and let's stay connected.

Helen Green Harris reporting.

**BOOKER T. WASHINGTON FOUNDATION**

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*Annual Foundation dues are \$25.00 and are due by January 15 of each year.*



**TORNADOES**

## CLASS OF 1943

MEMBER WASHINGTONIANS, ITS TIME TO SHARE some news with you again

Ruby B. Collins' family came from Atlanta, GA. They gathered at the family home in St. Matthews, and had a joyful time. Seeing Wilhelmina J. Gordon, Edith D. Miller and Terzah S. Gooden recently brought back sweet memories of the old times at BTW 67 years ago. We hope to meet at Shoney's, Bush River Road, soon. Pauline B. Richardson is delighted to join us there. She and her husband have been sick. Let's keep them in our prayers. Johnnie Mae T. Wheeler has extended an early invitation to her church, 2nd Nazareth Baptist, on Saturday, August 7, at 10:00 a.m. , where're Unity in the Community will take place. The public is also invited. We're sharing some recent events: Nathaleen M. Jenkins invited us to her

CHURCH, ST. LUKE BAPTIST, 101 EAST 1<sup>ST</sup> Sunrise Service and Morning Worship. She and her son, Lester, enjoyed dinner later. Rosa W. Goodson, Nancy J. Bryant and Josephine J. Hall also enjoyed the services at their churches. We attended the Roast & Toast for Jean S. Hopkins and read a poem. Congratulations Jean, for a successful career. Did Poetry with a Taste of Tea at Carver-Lyon Elementary School. Guest in Teri J. Beaty's class where her students also recited poetry. Teri is Walter & Ida Jackson's daughter.

April: Helping Hand Day Care Center for Seniors, Cayce, SC, Brown Chapel AMEZ, Zion Chapel Baptist, Reeder point, Twenty-second annual Senior Fun Day, at Seawell's Restaurant, sponsored by Richland County Council's District 10. Among other sponsors were Councilman, Kevin Washington and

former Councilwoman, BERNICE SCOTT. Many Washingtonians were present. We extend our sympathy to the family of Dr. Noble P. Cooper, Sr. Dentist for years at Cooper & Cooper. He was kind and compassionate, a great humanitarian, father, grandfather and friend. He was proud of his BTW Class of 1946. He will be greatly missed, but will continue to live in our memories.

JJ Hall & PB Richardson, reporters

### Additional Scholarship Information

**Ernestine Caldwell Scholarship:** uses the same criteria as Fannie P. Adams Scholarship.

**Gus J. Roberts Scholarship:** provided for students planning to major in engineering.

**Francenia Glymph Scholarship:** provided for students planning to major in education.

**Susan B. Freeman Scholarship:** provided for students planning to attend Benedict

Deadline for all information will

grandchildren of

See attached application form, criteria, and a brief description of the Fannie Phelps Adams and Beverly Garrick Scholarships.

