

The Comet II

July 31, 2015

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Booker T. Washington Foundation

www.bookertwashingtonfoundationsc.org

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Important Dates:

Heritage Weekend -
June 24–26, 2016

Banquet, Place TBA,
Fri., June 24, 2016

**Tour BTW Auditorium and/or BTW
Montieth Cultural Center**

John Work Chorus, BTW Auditorium,
Sun., June 26, 2016

President's Voice

Greetings Washingtonians!

My how the time flies when you are trying to renew your stride!

I want to thank everyone who worked so diligently to insure that the BTW Heritage Weekend would be successful. I did not doubt that all would go well. It was just great how they felt the need to keep me informed about everything.

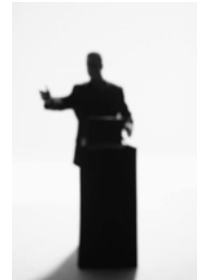
Thanks for all of your prayers and wishes for my speedy re-

covery. You have proven what I always knew. You are a fantastic group of folks.

Congratulations to our four scholarship recipients: Kyana Gadson-Brown, Kelvin Mills, Christaszyah Townsend, and Terrel Vaughn. May you do well wherever you go and return soon to another Heritage Weekend Celebration. Let us know what you are doing and where you are. We sure hope you will come back and help perpetuate

the BTW Foundation with your presence as well as your substance.

In His Service,
Henry T. Hopkins '50



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: bookertwashington-foundationsc.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 2015 Scholarship recipients are Kyana Gadson-Brown (Hoke County High School,

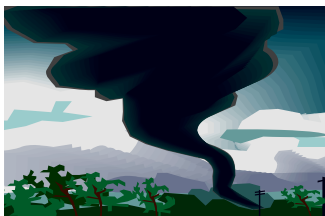
Raeford, NC), Kelvin Mills (Seminole High School, Sanford, Florida), Christaszyah Townsend (W.J. Keenan High School, Columbia, SC), and Terrel Vaughn (Westwood High School, Blythewood, SC).

Scholarship Committee: Ida Spells English, M. LaNelle Kohn, Geraldine Stroman Parker, and Doris Johnson Andrews, Chairperson.

Questions may be directed to Doris Johnson Andrews, Geraldine Stroman Parker, Ida Spells English or M. LaNelle Kohn. Doris can be reached at (803)754-7736 or email andy316@netzero.net and Geraldine can be reached at (803)754-8093 or email parkerqs@bellsouth.net.



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



Class of 1943

Hi Washingtonians! It is news time again.

Earlier this year a special service was held at St. Luke Baptist Church. The pastor extended a hearty welcome to members and guests who reached the age of 80 and above. Sixteen persons ages 80 to 103 lined up across the front of the church well dressed with pride. The theme was "What Happened to the Well-Done Crowd?" The speaker, from Atlanta, Georgia, gave an inspiring and encouraging message. At the age of 85 he is still in great demand. We were served a delicious meal in the dining hall across the street. The pastor said it was wonderful. I was the guest of classmate, Nathaleen M. Jenkins, who was an honor classmate and has been a friend for 72 years. We are thankful for every day of that friendship and that we continue to have a reasonable portion of health and strength.

The Annual Toliver Street Block Party was held on Memorial Day Weekend at the "Old Land Mark". This day is sponsored each year by nieces, nephews, and cousins. Many from the Toliver Harrington families, family friends and others attended.

Class of 1955

Well, hello Washingtonians.

We have weathered the storms of June and July with many memories and pleasures. The Foundation's Forty-first Annual Heritage Celebration was good as always. Dr. Lillie Mae Anderton Robinson, 1965, spoke well at the banquet before the evening gave way to dancing to the music of Ken Cheeks. Class members in attendance were Ruth Williams, New York, Ora M. Cummings, Oretta Kenly Young, Bessie Jones, Albert Griffin and wife Sarah, 1955, Roland Harris and wife, Vera Quattlebaum Murphy, Inez Bush, Mary Brown Jones, James Kelley and wife.

Evelyn Reese Montgomery, the late Randolph Johnson's wife, Gloria Johnson Prioleau, Mary Harmon White, Carol Hampton Brooks, Lovae Pearson, Alphonzo Edmunds, Sarah Furgess, Harry Williams and wife, Loretta Anderton Sherman, and our guest, Paul Taylor. Classmate, Willie Johnson, was absent due to the funeral of his brother, Irvin Emmanuel Johnson, 1953.

Our 60th reunion celebration took place during the Heritage Weekend at the Ramada Hotel. Our Tour of the State House followed by lunch at the United House of Prayer on Saturday was funded by the Ramada which also supplied a friendly and knowledgeable

Class of 1956

We have contacted class members about proposed plans to celebrate our 60th reunion in conjunction with Booker T. Washington High School's 100th Anniversary next year. We are hopeful that at least 40 members of the class will be able and willing to participate and attend. We have at least 60 members that we can account for, but may not have correct addresses for or family members do not respond and let us know that they are unable to respond.

Thanks to Mary L. Scott Sims, Grover Jenkins and Johnnie M. Corley Patterson, who always represent the class during the John W. Work Chorus performances. Thanks to Melvin & Birdie Hodges, California, Grover & Betty Jenkins, Ollie M. Williams Milligan and Johnnie M. Corley Patterson who supported the Heritage weekend and attended the banquet on Friday evening. Thankfully, for once it did not rain!

We were happy to hear from Marion Harrison who had been

"under the weather" and in his words, "I felt I was 'down for the count". It's always great to see how awesome the Almighty is in keeping promises.

We are happy to know, through Curtis Abney who was in town recently for the Abney Family reunion, that Willie Leon Roof is healing quite well after surgery.

Please keep our sick, shut-in and grieving members in your prayers. Let them and their families hear from you from time to time. If a name does not appear in the class directory, call and I will try to be of assistance. Pray especially for Frances Hall Smith. I will send along a contact number/name as soon as I get one.

Notice of recent deaths of classmates Marie Anderton Tucker Carnie, Sylvia Davis and Theodore Green. Marie's death was about two weeks before her sister spoke at the Heritage Weekend banquet. We prayed for the entire Anderton family during this time of sad celebration and joyous celebration.



The forty-first Annual Heritage Celebration was great! Nathaleen M. Jenkins and Josephine J. Hall represented the class. We missed Rosa W. Goodson and Ethel Allen, our supportive classmate and friend. Our banquet speaker, Dr. Lillie Mae Anderton Robinson, Class of 1965, delivered an inspiring message. The chair and co-chairpersons along with all committees are due a well-deserved "thank you" for a job well done. Added thanks to our decades coordinators for years of dedicated service. The scholarship committee gets accolades for its careful screening of all the essays that were submitted. Saturday, the Hall Family Reunion was held at Lake Murray Community Center. There was plenty of enjoyment for all. Sunday worship service was held at St. James CME Church, Batesburg-Leesville, SC.

July 4th the Mobley, Summers and Cochran families sponsored a memorial cook-out for Joseph Mobley, Sr. and Susie Mae Summers Mobley at Pacific Park Recreational Center, a very well planned event that included a lot of Washingtonians.

Get well wishes goes out to Pauline Blocker Richardson, Mattie Cooke and Nancy Bryant.

- Reporting, Josephine J. Hall and Pauline B. Richardson

guide. Sunday, we worshipped with classmate, Mary Brown and the congregation of Second Union Baptist Church in Taylors. We were warmly welcomed with open arms and smiles. Brunch followed at the Ramada Inn. In the evening we journeyed to the BTW Auditorium at USC to listen to the BTW John W. Work Chorus in concert, under the direction of Dr. Carl R. Wells. We were delighted to hear many familiar spirituals with a new twist. We thank coordinator, Margaret W. Tipton and her assistant, Gwendolyn Meadows for all of their hard work to gather 75 Washingtonians, legacies as well as friends who composed the choir. Congratulations to classmate, Roland Harris, who won the Embassy Suites Weekend get-away. Sadly Alphonso Edmunds' name was called first, but he was not present. We thank Mary Harmon White's daughter for furnishing the souvenir carry-on bags, BTW logos and fans. Also, thanks to Carol Hampton Brooks and her committee for the BTW Booklet and a job well done planning our reunion.

- Your Roving Reporter, Alonzo Phelps

Class of 1957

Our class had a wonderful group of classmates, family members and friends to come together and celebrate the BTW High School Foundation's Forty First Annual Heritage Weekend Celebration. We had seventeen in attendance on Friday, June 26th at the Annual Heritage Weekend Banquet that was held at the Embassy Suites in Columbia, South Carolina.

On Saturday morning, June 27th, some classmates attended a fellowship breakfast with classmate John Evans and his wife, Christi, who traveled from San Antonio, TX to attend the Annual Heritage Weekend Activities.

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Class of 1957 Cont'd . . .

Eleven classmates and family members were in attendance and enjoyed the wonderful John W. Work Chorus Concert. Classmates, Catherine D. Robinson and Lizzie Reese Anderson, performed with the John W. Work Chorus.

Our classmates were delighted to have classmate, Verdell Richardson Reese, in Columbia this year to be a part of this grand celebration. Verdell traveled from Philadelphia, PA.

Classmate, William L. Davis and his wife, Frazier Davis,

placed new black and gold BTW floral arrangements on the front doors of the BTW/Monteith Cultural Center. The arrangements added beauty and a welcoming touch to the building just in time for our Heritage Weekend Celebration. Thank you, William and Frazier for your dedication and generosity to the Booker T. Washington High School Foundation.

Please pray for our sick and shut-in and bereaved members.

- Mary Davis Williams, William L. Davis, Jr. & Frazier Davis, Reporters

Class of 1963

BTW/CAJ Class '63 had their 70 Birthday Celebration/Banquet at the Spring Valley Country Club. There were 110 participants. Each classmate received a souvenir gift bag and a group picture. This celebration proved to be one in which everyone could eat, drink, and be merry.

- James E. Parker and Jacob Jones, Reporting



Centennial Celebration

Doris Glymph Green, chairperson, reported that the expectations for the BTW Centennial is a year-long celebration with periodic activities throughout 2016. The committee meets on the 3rd Monday at the BTW/Monteith Cultural Center. Several proposals are: a 100 voice John Work Chorus; A reunion of Black W recipients; Heritage Weekend—June 24-26, 2016; Publish the first volume of BTW families; Every BTW alumnus will try to donate a \$100.00 endowment gift.

Legacy

CAPT Dana R. Gordon, son of Bobby & Delores Gordon, 1955, was promoted from the position of executive officer of USS IWO JIMA (LHD7) to the position of 10th commanding officer of IWO JIMA on December 9, 2014. He and his sailors and marines onboard IWO JIMA are currently deployed to the 5th Fleet Area of Responsibility performing contingency operations.

Booker T. Washington Foundation

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*** DEATHS ***

- Are Bell Collins Lorick, '50
- Irving Emmanuel Johnson, '53
- Dennis Nathaniel Cannon, Sr., '41
- Wilson John Davis, Jr., '44
- Paul Montgomery Gilmore
- Frances Ross Pennington, '42
- Sally Washington Fitz-Craft, '51
- Thelma E. Bowman, '52
- Sylvia Davis, '56
- Marie Anderton Tucker-Carnie, '56
- Theodore Green, '56
- Adell Gilmore Hiller, '69



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 upkeep of BTW/Montieth Cultural Center.

Our Motto: "Lest we forget."

Class of 1964



Class continues to come together in various settings. Our last gathering was at the BTW Heritage Weekend where 32 classmates and guests were in attendance. Classmates attending include Willie Adams, Robert Bonnette, Frances Jenkins Addison, Jasper Brown, Frankie Campbell Point, Bernetha Fanning Wise, Ernie Glymph, Joseph Holston, Doris Johnson Andrews, Theodore Kohn, Catherine McGorder Whatley, Melvin McKie, Lorenzo Mills, Julia Prince Edwards, Gloria Richardson Priester, James Ruff, Barbara Seabrook Spry, Geraldine Stroman Parker, Jessie Thorne Edmonds, and David Tucker.

Three members of class sang on the John Work Chorus: Frances Jenkins Addison, Jessie Thorne Edmonds, and Melvin McKie, who was one of the soloists.

Let us keep our classmates in our thoughts and prayers. Classmates who have been experiencing health challenges: Doris Johnson Andrews, Eugene Carter, Wardell Epps, Emanuel and Shirley Ferguson Irving, Freddie Hampton, Levi Johnson, Dorothy Kennedy Richardson, Milton Mosby, John Scott,

Class of 1970

Class '70 started 45th Class Reunion Celebration during Heritage Weekend. There were 18 members present at banquet where Rev. Clarence Johnson was a program participant. Class will end its celebration by taking a Canadian trip in September.

- Donna Johnson King, Reporting

Moretta Toatley Brown, AP Williams, and Mary Wilson Guinyard. Our September meeting will be hosted by Catherine McGorder Whatley and Ernie Glymph. Looking to see classmates in September.



Class presented a plaque to Bobby Gist in recognition of his outstanding service and dedication to our class.

- Doris Johnson Andrews and Geraldine Stroman Parker, Reporting