PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we come near the close of the current fiscal year and look forward to the beginning of another, I must again say "I AM SO EXCITED". The past three years have been phenomenal; filled with repeated and frequently unexpected BLESSINGS. There were numerous monetary donations to the Section with the most prominent being the \$65,000.00 scholarship given by a private family foundation.

Three goals were set forth in October 2016: (1) significantly increase membership; (2) increase community outreach programs and (3) increase community awareness of NCNW as a whole and St. Petersburg Metropolitan Section in particular. I am certain we can say those goals have been met. As we venture into another exciting year, let's stand together on one accord with the common goal of fulfilling the mission of NCNW and making a positive impact upon our community.

Yours in Service,

Thelma

NATIONAL NEWS

- NCNW National launched the **HBCU 2019 Hungry for Education** Initiative.
- There was a tour in partnership with Denny's on the campus of Florida A&M University on September 14th. Approximately 500 students participated in this event. National, State and Community based NCNW members were in attendance. The tour moved on to Clark University in Atlanta on September 21st. Follow National NCNW as they continue the tour in support of HBCUs throughout the states.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

is at least one important work to be done that will not be done unless you do it!"

Charles Allen

Prayer List

Dierdre Downing-Jackson

Signora Farris—Lexington Health & Rehabilitation Center

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12 NIV

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune was the first President of Bethune Cookman College from 1923-1942. By 1924, Bethune-Cookman College and the Methodist Episcopal Church had grown very close and Dr. Bethune was able to start a board of Presidents and Principals for Negroes. In late year 1924, she began to organize different groups on campus, including the Women's Christian Association, Boys Industries, Choral class, the Girls basketball team and by 1930 the BCC Band.

Cynthia Glenn, Historian



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

A warm welcome shout-out is extended to our new members:

June

Terrika Burton Hobbs

Judy Ann Morton

<u>September</u>

Maria Crockett Michelle Mann **Dewann McCarthy**

Lucy Oliver Williams

BIRTHDAYS

Jacquelyn Wilson	9/5
Anne Killen	9/9
Dr. Ramona Valentine	9/16
Caprice Johnson	9/17
Joanne Rainey	9/18
Catherine Lewis	9/20
Dr. Marva Dennard	9/20
Lorraine Brown	9/23
Sandra Gibson	9/27

Mae Welch 10/2 Dierdre Downing-Jackson 10/4 Carolyn Wilson 10/4 Rene Robinson-Flowers 10/8 Christina Fields 10/9 Carolyn Hobbs 10/13 10/16 Rev. Frank Brunson 10/25 Timeka Walker

SECTION EVENTS

- September 5th Executive Committee Meeting; 6:00 pm.
- September 8th---Black Pearls General Membership Meeting; 2:00 - 4:00 pm.
- September 21st---SPMS General Membership Meeting; 9:00 am social time; 9:30 am meeting begins.
- October 3rd---Executive Committee Meeting; 6:00pm
- October 13th--- Black Pearls General Membership Meeting; 2:00 - 4:00pm
- October 19th--- SPMS General Membership Meeting; 9am social time;
 9:30 am meeting begins.
- October 31st---Black Pearls event;
 Halloween Fest @ Jet Jackson
 Community Center: 6:00pm.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- September 28th--- Historic Bethel AME Awards Gala; Hilton-Carillon; 7:00pm; Tickets \$75.00. Our Section will be one of several organizations honored with a community service award at this event!
- September 28th--- Sickle Cell Disease Association of America Banquet; St. Petersburg Country Club; 5:00pm; Tickets \$55.00
- October 19th—Next STEPP Annual Banquet; St. Petersburg Coliseum; 6:30pm. Free admission; Donations appreciated.
- October 26th---Lawson Funeral Home Appreciation Banquet; Banquet Masters; Tickets \$50.00
- October 29th---Mayor's Prayer Breakfast;
 St. Petersburg Coliseum; 7:00am. Tickets
 \$50.00

HIGHLIGHTS

On June 22nd, the NCNW State Informational Session was held in Tampa. President/Chair, Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole and Executive Director, Atty. Janis Mathis were in attendance. Community based section members throughout the state gathered together at this conference. Volunteers offered to work on bylaws for the future State Section. State Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Ms. Tee Solomon, will keep the Sections informed as developments occur.

Sisterly, *Thelma*

IMPORTANT – PLEASE REMEMBER: \$55 Local and \$50 National Dues are payable in October. Members who joined in May thru September are paid up until October 2020. Additionally, don't forget our assessments and the importance of compliance. The assessments are necessary for our budgetary planning. The Gilford-Dennard assessment of \$50 payable in October, has been used to sponsor scholarships for our Black Pearls. The March assessment of \$50 has been used to assist with our Founder's Day Program. A portion of both assessments is allocated to the Council House maintenance budget.

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