

AAHGS

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC

Volume 6, Number 2

NEWSLETTER

February 1994

NJ-AAHGS will meet Saturday, February 12, 1994, at Noon at the Afro-American Historical Society Museum, 1841 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, N.J.

10:30 a.m. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will meet

12 Noon - Refreshments - Bring brown bag lunch. Beverage will be provided.

PROGRAM:

REMEMBERING THE ANCESTORS -
CREATING A NATIONAL MEMORIAL
TO COMMEMORATE THE AFRICAN
HOLOCAUST & DIASPORA.

Presenters -
National Memorial
Foundation,
Lawrence Hamm
Rosalind Carmichael

NOTE: Please call the Museum at 547-5262 if the front door of the Library is locked. Someone will come down and admit you.



We are not out of the woods yet, weatherwise! Therefore, we list again the members of our County weather committee in the event of snow, sleet or freezing rain. Chapter members are asked to take responsibility to call County

representatives by 9 a.m for information regarding meeting cancellations. Following are the County representatives and their telephone numbers:

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>NAME AND TELEPHONE</u>
Hudson	Glenn D. Cunningham (201) 433-3487
Essex	Lloyd E. Washington (201) 763-4949
Bergen	Bernice C. Jackson (201) 837-0642
Middlesex	Carlos Edwards (908) 906-6327
Monmouth	Amanda Edwards (908) 352-8015
Mercer	Lucius A. Bowser (201) 763-5892
Passaic	Lillian Page (201) 916-0114

1994 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AAHGS

The 1994 Annual Conference will be held at the HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOTEL, 2225 Georgia Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. April 29 through May 1, 1994. Call 202-462-5400 for reservations. All reservations must be made by 27 March 1994 to receive the following room rates: Single \$75; Double \$80; Triple \$85; Quads \$90. All of the above is plus 11% sales tax and \$1.50 occupancy fee per (Continued - Page 7)

From the President

By Lloyd E. Washington

The beginning of a new year is a good time to give our research a hard look and get it in order. We can begin by organizing our records, labeling the family photos, writing the letters we have been putting off and paying a visit to our older relatives to see how they can help us with our problems. We could also share with them the information we have uncovered.

Make the time to go to the library, Archives and other research institutions to get the copies of the vital records that we have been putting off.

The new year is also a good time to make a commitment to the Chapter and its activities and to help other members solve some of their problems.

We may not find the answers to all of our problems in 1994, but there is a good chance that we can find the answers to some of them.

DID YOU SEE?

The Monday, December 20, 1993, Today section of The Star-Ledger had a full-page spread on GLADYCE BLACK SHERMAN of Belleville, a talented painter whose works were displayed during December at the Belleville Public Library. This 85-year-old lady, who continues to paint professionally, entered the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Art when there were

no other Blacks enrolled. She also studied at the Art Students League in New York City.

New Jersey Chapter member, Claudine Brinkley Austin, advises that GLADYCE BLACK SHERMAN was married to her father's first cousin.

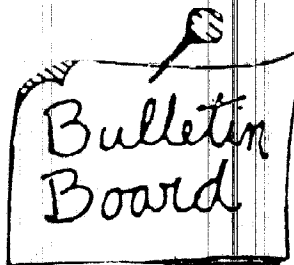
We'll have a copy of the article on GLADYCE BLACK SHERMAN at our February meeting for those who missed it and for those who read it but were unaware of the connection to Claudine's family.

WANTED

By Lisa Crawley,
Chapter Archivist

Are you a clipper? The Archivist is looking for interested members to collect articles and materials related to African-American history, particularly in New Jersey. To date we have some 92 articles on file in our Black History Archives Box which will be located beginning in February at the Afro-American Historical Society Museum, the site of our Chapter monthly meetings.

The articles are available for public use as a reference source during the Museum's regular hours of operation. To locate information quickly, a subject and article index are also available. Some of the
(Continued - Page 4)



January 3, 1994 - Announcement of National Archives move to Archives II in College Park, Maryland, to consolidate records stored in a variety of leased locations in or near Washington, D.C. A substantial number of records will remain in the Washington, D.C. headquarters. It is expected that the move will take three years. (The New Jersey Herald, A-8, January 3, 1994).

January 22, 1994 - 10 a.m. - Meeting of Terrace Block Assn. at the Elmwood Ave. Annex of the East Orange (NJ) Public Library with Lucius A. Bowser speaking on African-American genealogy.

Janury 27 - April 17, 1994 - Exhibition - "Ancient Nubia: Egypt's Rival in Africa," traveling exhibition organized by the Dept. of Archeology and Anthropology (Univ. of Pa.). Brady Gallery, Newark Museum, 49 Washington St., Newark, N.J. General Infro. - (201) 596-6550.

Newark Public Library African-American History Programs:
(All programs free and open to the public). For further info. call (201) 733-5643.

February 5, 1994 - 2-4 pm. Printmaking Workshop and Discussion by Robert Blackburn.

February 10, 1994 - 6:30 pm. Playreading, East Lynne Co. "Stars of the Morning" by Lofton Mitchell.

February 17, 1994 - 6:30 pm. Theatrical Symposium with Lofton Mitchell.

February 19, 1994 - 2 pm. Children's Program- Musical Puppetry.

February 26, 1994 - 2:30 pm. Phyllis Wheatley Literary Club book presentation.

February 6, 1994 - 3 pm - Opening Reception of Exhibit "Blacks, History and the Beauty Industry," at the Afro-American Historical Society Museum, 1841 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, NJ, 2nd fl. Free. Call (201) 547-5262 for further details.

February 15, 1994 - 11 am-1 pm- Glenn D. Cunningham will lecture on "Black Seminoles: A Shared Heritage," at Jersey City College, Room 311-A, Gilligan Student Union Bldg.

February 15-19, 1994 - Richard Dickenson will be a presenter at the National Association of African-American Studies convention in Virginia on "Christianburg (Continued - Page 4)

BULLETIN BOARD (Continued
from Page 3)

Institute in Christianburg,
Montgomery County, Va.:
A Budding Museum."

February 19, 1994 - 1-3 pm.
Jean Sampson Scott Greater
New York AAHGS will meet at
the Countee Cullen Branch
Library, 104 W. 136th St.,
(At Malcolm X Blvd.) Man-
hattan. Speaker:
Yelena Khanga, author of
Soul to Soul: A Black
Russian American Family.

February 19, 1994 - 7 pm -
Glenn D. Cunningham will
speak at a meeting of
the Stewards of Calvary
C.M.E. Church, Jersey City,
on "Hidden Footprints: The
History of the Black Church
in Jersey City."

February 25, 1994 - 11:30 am -
Lucius A. Bowser will speak
at a Black History Month Pro-
gram sponsored by the U. S.
Drug Enforcement Admin. in
the Newark Federal Bldg., 2nd
fl. on the theme "Striving
Towards Freedom." The program
will include other speakers,
music, skits and refreshments.

March 18-20, 1994 - African-
American Family Reunion Con-
ference, Ritter Hall Annex,
13th St. and Cecil B. Moore
Ave., Phila., Pa. For de-
tails, call (215) 204-6244.

April 29 - May 1, 1994 -
AAHGS Annual Conference,
Howard University Hotel
(See page 1 of this news-
letter).

QUERY

Looking for information on
JAMES F. WASHINGTON, born in
Fishkill/Mattewan, N. Y. in
1870. Father,
GEORGE WASHINGTON; Mother,
ESTHER (REYNOLDS) WASHINGTON.
Married ADA SEYMOUR of
Hartford, Ct. in 1902 in New
York City. Had a son, LOUIS
F. WASHINGTON, born Hartford,
Ct. 1903. JAMES F. WASHINGTON
left the Hartford, Ct. area in
1908. May have moved to Rye,
N. Y. or New York City. Looking
for city and date of death.

Please respond to:
LLOYD E. WASHINGTON
18 Lindsley Ave.
Maplewood, N.J. 07040-1510

Wanted - by Lisa Crawley -
(Continued from Page 2)

sources you will find include
the following:

"Slave Remains Buried in
Newark?"

"A Rock, A River, A Tree -
Poet Maya Angelou's
historic inaugural
poem."

"Jersey's Governor Selects
First African-American
Secretary of State"

If you are interested in
joining the Archives Committee,
or if you have donations,
please contact Lisa Crawley,
(908) 352-8015, 1090 Mary St.
Elizabeth, N.J. 07201.

THANK YOU TO BILLY PRUITT, EDITOR OF THE PRUITT FAMILY REUNION NEWSLETTER, FOR ALLOWING US TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING HEREIN:

"The following is excerpt of the speech given at the Pruitt Family Reunion in Richmond, Va. by the hostess and Virginia Chapter President, Janie Pruitt Worrell.

`Tonight, we have come together to celebrate family. We are here to enjoy one another's love, fellowship, joys and maybe a few problems.

`To me, celebration means fun, being happy and everyone on one common ground.

`There are not very many things in this society for Black families to celebrate. Statistics say we have the highest percentage of crime against one another. We are high in the percentage of drug abusers and high in the percentage of disfunctional families, whatever that means.

`Tonight, I see none of those things. Tonight I see unity, love, strength and beauty. Tonight I see a family celebration.

`In recent years, we have been told, have read and tried to be made to believe that the Black structural family is breaking down. This can only happen, if, we the Black family, allow this to happen. It is celebrations like this that help keep this unity intact.

`We have to stay in touch with our Black history, remembering who we are, where we came from and the forces that bind us together.

`What we become in life is also very important, but being able to continue to hold on to strong family ties is absolutely necessary. Never lose your identity. Losing your identity means losing a big portion of your family ties.

`One of the things that I admire about the esteemed Governor of Virginia, L. Douglas Wilder, is he has not lost his ties with his family, hasn't forgotten his roots and still stays in touch with the old neighborhood from which he came.

If you see a face that is not familiar to you, walk up to that person, identify yourself. Find out who he or she is and get that great feeling in your heart to know that he or she is family.

`So, tonight and in the future let's do what our theme says
'Let's celebrate family.'

`(Janie B. Pruitt Worrell is a native of Belton, S. C. A divorcee, mother of two male high school graduates, she resides in Richmond, Va. where she is an employee of A.T. & T.)

LUCIUS A. BOWSER received 1994 recertification as a Merit Badge Counselor of the Essex Council, Boy Scouts of America. He will be available to provide guidance for the boys as they advance through the ranks of scouting and genealogy.

(The following is the continuation of
 "Names of Coloured Members of the
 Princeton Presbyterian Church"
 contributed by R. Boulton Dickenson,
 Historian of the Borough of Staten Island, N.Y. and
 New Jersey Chapter Member)

<u>No.</u>	<u>Names</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
94.	Dianna CARMAN	Dismissed Oc. 25th, 1847
95.	Dianna VAN HORN (Mahlon's Mother)	-Dism. 10th Mar. 1846
96.	Primus BEEKMAN	Dec. Feb. 1844
97.	Susanna Elizabeth VAN HORN	Dism. 10th Mar. 1846
98.	Isaac STOCKTON (H) "Ruling Elder"	- Do (Tombstone b. 1802)
99.	Mary Ann STOCKTON	Do
100.	Elenor BOYLES	Do
101.	Margaret GHOLSON (?)	Do
102.	William THOMPSON	Suspended Jan. 1845
103.	Cornelia W. DITMUS	
104.	Catherine Ann HAWKISON	
105.	Elenor CUDJO ?	Dism. 10th Mar. 1846
106.	Henry HARRISON	Do
107.	Henry THOMPSON (?)	Do
108.	Mary CLAWSON	Do
109.	Emily DAVIS	
110.	Mahlon VAN HORN	Dism. 10th Mar. 1846
111.	Catharine PARKER	Dism. 10th Mar. 1846
112.	Rachel TITUS ?	Do
113.	Rachel TEN EYCK	Do

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1994 ANNUAL CONFERENCE (Continued from Page 1)

room per night. YOU should confirm your reservation by paying the first night when you make your reservation. (Space is limited at the hotel, therefore you are encouraged to register early for the hotel and the conference).

Pre-registration must be postmarked 27 March 1994: \$50 member; \$60 non-members.

PRE-CONFERENCE TOURS: Thursday, 28 April 1994 - Three in-depth all-day tours are being planned - Library of Congress, DAR and The National Archives. Space is limited to the first 30 financial members to register for each tour. You may select one. Plan to register early and to remit fee for the tour. (Conference registration forms with full details will be received by the membership).

NOTE YOUR CALENDAR:

February 5, 6, 7 and 8, 1994 - JANICE JENKINS of NJ-AAHGS will be performing as a Polish Countess in a melodrama "Nadjezda," produced by the Theatre Studio, Inc., at 750 - 8th Ave., 2nd fl., New York City. One-act play by Maurice Barrymore. Tickets \$5.00. (Sat. 5 pm - Sun. 8 pm - Mon. 8:30 pm - Tues. 8:30 pm. The theater is located at Eighth Ave. and 46th St. - (212) 719-0500.

February 19, 1994 - 10 a.m. JANICE JENKINS will perform in a one-woman dramatization of the life of Jessie Redmon Fauset, Camden County native, 1920's and 1930's editor, writer and teacher, at a meeting in observance of Black History Month co-sponsored by the Genealogy Club of the New Jersey Historical Society and the New Jersey Chapter, AAHGS. The New Jersey Historical Society is located at 230 Broadway, Newark, N. J. (entrance and parking in the rear of the building). Let's all plan to attend.

NJ-AAHGS DIRECTORY (All 201 Area Code, except where noted)	
Lloyd E. Washington, Pres.	763-4949
Glenn D. Cunningham, V. Pres.	433-3487
Janice Jenkins, Secy.	451-4940
Odell Washington, Treas. & Finance Chr.	763-4949
Carolyn Whitley, Program Chr.	643-3242
Lucius A. Bowser, Membership Chr.	763-5892
Amanda Edwards, Queries Coordinator	(908) 671-1216
Lisa Crawley, Archivist	(908) 352-8015
Elizabeth Peale Johnson, Newsletter Editor	875-4802<
Send newsletter items to Editor, 124 Mt. Salem Rd., Wantage, N.J. 07461-3725. Monthly newsletters except July and August.	