**MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP CALL AGENDA – DECEMBER 12, 2019**

**REVIEW MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT TOOLS BELOW IN ADVANCE OF MEETING:**

 **INCLUDED:**

* **One Power Point Presentations: (1) Focus on ASALH**
* **Statements, and Quotes that will enhance our understanding of**

**Dr. Woodson’s intentions and impact. These are provided for use in letters, presentations, scholarly conversations, and discussions with those you hope to recruit.**

**Consider this:**

* Before meeting with an organization, review their Mission Statement to connect with

what we have in common in advance of meeting. Always share the Annual Black History Theme.

* *Meeting people where they are* is always a win-win situation—it brings you in conversation with the prospective member in a way that leads to interest in what you are promoting, even when it requires financial resources from the prospective member. (Everyone you encounter is a prospective member. Every event is a place of recruitment.)
* Be confident in the purpose of ASALH and the vision of our founder from the founding of the organization. Review the statement below written in the 1989 Black History Bulletin that was dedicated to Dr. Woodson by the Associated Publishers [then President Dr. Edgar Toppin]. Excerpt from the article written by Dr. Roland McConnell entitled *Carter G. Woodson’s Accomplishments* (Book 2):

“Carter Godwin Woodson has been deservedly recognized as the father of the scientific study of the history as applied to African Americans. As such, he was the creator of the field or discipline of African American History called Negro History in his day referred to currently as Afro- American History or Black History. He discovered, researched and organized the body of knowledge on African Americans, developed its bibliography as well as its methodology and philosophy. Moreover, he developed supports and techniques that perpetuated and popularized the field so that it **became and remains** the main source and vehicle of knowledge and pride for black people **everywhere** as well as for the scholar and more serious student. How this was achieved is a testament to Dr. Woodson’s genius.”

The purpose of the Association soon thereafter were defined as follows:

1. To collect sociological and historical data.

2. To publish books on Negro Life and History.

3. To promote the study of the Negro through clubs and schools.

4. To bring about harmony between the races by interpreting the one to the other.

**END OF EXCERPT**

**Current Mission Statement:**

To promote, preserve, interpret and disseminate information about black life, history and culture to the global community.

**STATEMENTS THAT WILL BE USEFUL IN YOUR PRESENTATIONS ABOUT DR. WOODSON AND ASALH:**

**Statement:** All things Black History lead back to Woodson’s pioneering work. This is the legacy you are a part of preserving to pass to the next generation.

Excerpt from the 1989 Black History Kit dedicated to Dr. Carter G. Woodson written by Dr. Roland McConnell, ASALH. (Historical fact: The Roland C. McConnell Branch in Baltimore was named for Dr. McConnell shortly before his transition.) Referencing 1619…

“Volumes published brought out under the editorship of Carter G. Woodson are classic and sometimes priceless.  Volume I [speaking of the first volume of the Journal of Negro History], for example, introduces Anthony Johnson and his wife Isabel, who arrived in Virginia in 1619, doubtless as indentured servants, received their freedom, had children, acquired land in addition to an indentured servant whom they tried to retain for life as a slave.6 In the same volume, Woodson listed over a hundred advertisements in newspapers for runaway slaves.  These ads included characteristics for slave identification that revealed a number of positive features which belied the slaves' degradation.  Some runaways had money, were well clothed, spoke English, French, German or High Dutch, played the flute, and had such occupational skills as that of carpenters, brick-layers, blacksmiths, and clothes making.7”

**Quote by John Hope Franklin in 1957:**

 In his article the “New Negro History,” which appeared both in the Crisis of the NAACP and in the Journal of Negro History in 1957, Franklin wrote the following:

The work of Dr. [Carter G.] Woodson and the Association [for the Study of Negro Life and History] in those early years may be regarded as launching the era of "The New Negro History." Dr. Woodson and his associates went about the task of exploding the myths of Negro history and of putting the Negro in his rightful place in the history of this country. And they did it with as much precision and system as those who sought to tear the Negro out of any meaningful context of American history.

This was, perhaps, the most far-reaching and ambitious effort to rewrite history that has ever been attempted in this country. But it was more than an attempt to rewrite history. It was a remarkable attempt to rehabilitate a whole people—to explode racial myths, to establish a secure and respectable place for the Negro in the evolution of the American social order, to develop self-respect and self-esteem among those who had been subjected to the greatest indignities known in the Western world. Finally, it was a valiant attempt to force America to keep faith with herself, to remind her that truth is more praiseworthy than power, and that justice and equality, long the state policy of this nation, should apply to all its citizens and even to the writing of history.

Source: John Hope Franklin, “*The New Negro History*,” *Journal of Negro History* (April 1957): 89-97, quoted passages occur on pages 93-94.

* Study the statements above.
* Adopt your favorite quotes that you can utilize in presentations. (Memorize your favorites.) Be willing to share [on the monthly meeting call we’ll allow a couple to share] your favorite and why it is your favorite.
* Share your thoughts about the tools to help enhance your presentations to those in your immediate area and how you see this greater understanding of Dr. Woodson’s impact and The Association that “We” now serve as “legacy keepers” being useful for recruiting purposes.
* Tailor the PowerPoint presentation to your audience. [You will not need every slide for every presentation. But you should know the information on every slide for discussion purposes when needed.]
	+ Note: Please share your thoughts on the information provided. If you think of other things needed, those will also be added to the Toolkit that is being produced.

**REMINDERS:**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY, PREPARE A CALENDAR FOR 2020 THAT INCLUDES ALL YOUR MEETING DATES TO SHARE WITH YOUR MEMBERS AND HEADQUARTERS.**

**SHARE YOUR ELECTION DATES AND TIMES WITH HEADQUARTERS.**

**ANNUAL REPORTS DUE JANUARY 15, 2020**. PLAN TO BE EARLY TO GAIN EXTRA POINTS FOR YOUR EVALUATION.

**RECRUITMENT PERIOD:** THIS IS OUR END-OF-YEAR RECRUITMENT PERIOD (OCTOBER (AFTER ANNUAL MEETING) – DECEMBER). WORK TO REACH INTENDED GOAL OF 12 NEW MEMBERS BY END OF YEAR. NEXT YEAR, 2020, IS THE FINAL YEAR OF THE 5-YEAR RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN INAUGURATED IN 2015 BY THEN VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP, DR. GREER STANFORD-RANDLE. BE INTENTIONAL THIS YEAR RECRUITING AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER EACH MONTH FOR A TOTAL OF 12 NEW MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR, 2019. REMEMBER, FAMILY MEMBERS RECRUITED IN 2019 WILL BE INCLUDED IN YOUR 2019 REPORT. THIS CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP IS INDICATED ON THE ACCOUNTING TOOL INCLUDED AS AN ATTACHMENT FOR THIS MEETING. THE TOOL HAS BEEN REVISED TO SEPARATE ‘BRANCH REQUIREMENTS’ FROM ‘ADDITIONAL ITEMS REPORTED’ AS PROMISED AT OUR OCTOBER MEETING. BRING YOUR MEMBERS TOGETHER TO FAMILIARIZE THEM WITH THIS TOOL TO MAKE YOUR YEARLY EFFORT OF PRODUCING YOUR FINAL REPORT AN EFFORTLESS PRACTICE. REMEMBER, YOU ARE PREPARING SOMEONE IN YOUR BRANCH TO SUCCEED EVERY OFFICER IN YOUR BRANCH. ALL OF YOUR MEMBERS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TRAINING AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME AND REMAIN COMPLIANT AS A BRANCH OF ASALH. REMEMBER THE WORDS OF DR. CARTER G. WOODSON WHEN HE FORMED THE FIRST BRANCH OF ASALH:

In the Negro History Bulletin of May 1939, Dr. Woodson said,

"Frequent requests for the procedure required in the organization of branches of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History reach the national office.  Most of such persons are merely interested in meeting occasionally to discuss current events and to pass resolutions on the race problem--matters with which the national organization is not primarily concerned.  It is earnestly hoped that such persons will restrain themselves from using the name of the Association.  The actual branches of the Association are centered at New York City, Petersburg, Philadelphia, Washington, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Terre Haute, New Orleans and Houston.  Other so-called branches have become moribund.  They rushed into organization, thinking that someone would profit thereby without systematic effort, and when the program of serious work was outlined and undertaken the members fell by the wayside."  [end of Dr. Woodson’s quote]

Since 1929, ASALH Branches have been located from coast to coast, even internationally, and today branches follow a strategic organizing process worthy of Dr. Woodson's labor and vision to reach not only the trained historians, but also lovers of history, lay scholars/historians, and the youth of the community at large. [As you know, the first branch of ASALH celebrated its 90th Anniversary this year in Philadelphia, PA (the PhilaHeritage Branch of ASALH founded as the 1929 Branch of ASALH by Raymond Pace Alexander who was selected by Dr. Carter G. Woodson to lead this first branch of ASALH.)  Branches of ASALH serve as a microcosm of the ASALH Headquarters to people throughout the United States and the global community. So it is important for all of our branch leadership and the members that serve in the branches to understand Dr. Woodson’s goal for our existence and his philosophy behind creating this extremely important organization that has lasted for 104 years. In order for ASALH to continue for another 104 years, this level of educating the next generation about Dr. Woodson, ASALH, and the ‘why’ behind the importance of continuing this legacy is our duty and responsibility. Dr. Woodson was a man of great integrity and integrity should be a part of the personality of ASALH—that comes directly from all of us who serve this legacy today and pass it on to the next generation. So we have to educate ourselves to be fully capable of carrying out this important role.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Raymond Pace Alexander [founder of the first branch of ASALH] is the husband of [Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander, J.D., Ph.D.?](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sadie_T._M._Alexander)

1919–1923; Mossell Alexander was the first African-American woman to receive a Ph.D. in the United States, the first woman to receive a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, one of the first Black women to receive a [Phi Beta Kappa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phi_Beta_Kappa) Key in the state of Pennsylvania, and the first national president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

 

**Raymond Pace Alexander** (October 13, 1897 – November 24, 1974) was a [civil rights](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_rights) leader, lawyer, politician, and the first [African American](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_American) judge appointed to the [Pennsylvania Courts of Common Pleas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pennsylvania_Courts_of_Common_Pleas). After graduation from [Harvard Law School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvard_Law_School) in 1923, Alexander became one of the leading civil rights attorneys in [Philadelphia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philadelphia).

