

## National Membership Committee (NMC) Report – May 2021

**MEMBERS:** Barbara Spencer Dunn, Dorothy F. Bailey, Kathie House, Ida Jones, Anita Shepherd, Gloria Browne-Marshall, Moses Massenburg (on leave) Ex-Officio: Sylvia Cyrus and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham

**Recommendation:** *NMC recommends approval for the following Organizing branches to continue working towards chartering in 2021 during the Virtual Conference in September with all requirements met by August 15<sup>th</sup>.*

Rochester Organizing Branch, Rochester NY  
Tulsa Historical Society Organizing, Tulsa, OK  
NC Triad Organizing Branch, Greensboro, NC

### **NMC, International Subcommittee Update**

As part of the Vice President for Membership, [Barbara Spencer Dunn] and 2019 Co-Chair, National Membership Committee (NMC) [current Vice Chair], Dorothy F. Bailey announced the reorganization of the NMC in 2019, a NMC International Subcommittee was formed. Professor Gloria Browne-Marshall was named Chair of this Subcommittee in August of 2019. Professor Browne-Marshall began contacting identified international contacts and developed new relationships in Paris on a planned book tour to Paris. In 2020, Professor Browne-Marshall and NMC leadership moved these interest groups to engaged members of ASALH with the goal in mind to encourage each to participate in Black History programming in February 2021 in honor of our 2021 Black History theme: The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity. The 2021 theme "The Black Family" provided an exceptional opportunity to invite participation from our global family. We are excited to report connections with five leaders from around the world and four of them had been engaged for years in Black History programming in their respective countries. The fifth leader has had a relationship with our Co-Chair for Membership, Dorothy F. Bailey since 1996. All five agreed to create programs using ASALH's annual Black History for the first time in their country.

Additionally, all of these international contacts celebrated Black History in February, this year. (*Black History Month is celebrated in other months around the world*). We proudly introduce **Rosemary Sadlier**, Vice-Chair, Royal Commonwealth Society - Canada and Chair, Royal Commonwealth Society - Toronto Branch and **Julia Browne**, CEO & Founder, The Original Tours of Black Paris of Toronto, Canada; **Tony Warner**, Founder of Black History Walks UK of London, England; **Jatin Haria**, Executive Director, Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights of Scotland; **Arlette Frund**, University of Tours of Paris, France; **Pauline Magauta Molokwane**, Royal Bafokeng Nation of Rustenburg North West Province, South

Africa. Pauline, Rosemary and Arlette have already purchased ASALH memberships at end of 2020 and/or in January 2021.

The links for each program was placed on ASALH's events calendar and was shared with ASALH membership; they are still available for viewing. The programs were held on Zoom as follows: **France on February 4<sup>th</sup>; Scotland on February 10<sup>th</sup>; Canada on February 13<sup>th</sup>; South Africa on February 14<sup>th</sup>; and England on February 21<sup>st</sup>.**

### **FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES**

Barbara Spencer Dunn [ VP for Membership] and Dorothy F. Bailey [Vice Chair, NMC] attended a meeting with the Council of Presidents for the Pan Hellenic Council hosted by the Council of Presidents current President, Dr. David Marion, ASALH's friend with Omega Psi Phi. ASALH representatives reintroduced Dr. Carter G. Woodson to all nine Presidents of the Pan Hellenic Council of Presidents and shared the Fraternities and Sororities connection to Dr. Woodson's legacy at the founding of ASALH. [It is documented in the *Journal of Negro History and a conference 1950 program journal* that five fraternities and sororities joined ASNLH as Life Members: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity]

### **THE CIAA ANNOUNCES THE 2021 BLACK HISTORY THEME**

On Wednesday, January 6, 2021, The CIAA released a Press Release to share with the public that each year beginning in 2021, they will announce ASALH's Annual Black History Theme at the annual kick-off of The CIAA tournaments. (Press Release attached.) This is an exciting membership effort.

Coach Clyde Doughty, VP for Athletics and Recreation, at Bowie State University sent a letter to all member CIAA University Athletic Departments encouraging them to join ASALH as an Institutional Member. Coach Doughty purchased the membership for Bowie's Athletic Department as an example of encouragement. We are excited about this outstanding membership recruitment strategy.

A letter has been sent to all The CIAA member institutions History Departments. Along with the signature of the Co-Chairs of the Membership Committee [at the time Dunn/Bailey], the letters were also signed by some of ASALH's members representing The CIAA member universities as well. Our goal is to recruit HBCUs and the NMC shared a PowerPoint with the Executive Council members to join the Committee in recruiting HBCUs where they have contacts as well.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMPLIANCE (see attached chart re noncompliant branches)**

The NMC and Executive Director Sylvia Cyrus meet weekly to review and discuss membership matters. Most recently the NMC and Ms. Cyrus have focused discussions on those branches that are non-compliant with the rules and requirements to sustain branch status. The NMC has found, with the assistance of Ms. Cyrus's office, the following concerns to be significant and require time to develop effective procedures to address. They are:

- (1) Officers within branches have not paid their annual dues
- (2) Branches do not have the five required officers within branches
- (3) Branches have failed to submit annual reports
- (4) Branches have not submitted their financial reports in March. (this requirement was a result from the 2020 audit)

During its weekly meetings, the NMC repopulated the Compliance Sub-Committee, which has as its main concern to work closely with all branches to ensure that they are in compliance. To efficiently address compliance, all forty-eight branches are now clustered into five regions and have an assigned member of the NMC to work directly with the branches.

The Five Regions are:

1.

Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

NMC Contact: Ida Jones

- Martha's Vineyard Branch (MA)
- The Bronx Branch (NY)
- The Manhattan Branch (NY)
- Sullivan County Branch (NY)
- Dr. Carter G. Woodson Greater Trenton Branch (NJ)
- The Honorable Roy L. Roulhac Bergen County, (NJ) Branch
- Edna McKenzie Branch (Pittsburgh)
- Phila-Montco Branch (PA)
- Philadelphia Heritage Branch (PA)

2.

The District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia

NMC Contact: Janet Sims-Wood

- C. Delores Tucker Branch (DC)
- Carter G. Woodson Branch (DC)
- Bethel Dukes Branch (DC)
- Van McCoy (MD)
- Julian Branch (MD)
- Samuel L. Banks Branch (MD)

- Prince George's County Truth Branch (MD)
- Roland McConnell Branch (MD)
- Hampton Road Branch (VA)
- Louisa County Branch (VA)
- Organizing Central Virginia-Lynchburg Branch (VA)
- Richmond Branch (VA)
- Huntington Tri-State Branch (W. VA)

3.

Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee

NMC Contact: Kathie House

- ASALH Detroit (MI)
- Paul Laurence Dunbar Branch (Dayton, Ohio)
- Margaret & Robert Garner Branch (Cincinnati, Ohio)
- Cleveland Branch (OH)
- Joseph Taylor Branch (Indianapolis, Indiana)
- Chicago Branch of ASALH (IL)
- Greater Kansas City Area (MO)
- Louisville Kentucky Carter G. Woodson Branch-Memphis Area Branch (TN)

4.

North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, California

NMC Contact: Dorothy Bailey

- Organizing Triad North Carolina Branch (Greensboro) (NC)
- Romare Bearden Branch (Charlotte) (NC)
- Charleston Area Branch (SC)
- Charles A. Brown (Birmingham) (AL)
- Harper Councill Trenholm Sr. (Montgomery) (AL)
- Mobile Branch (AL)
- Charles Deslondes Louisiana Branch (New Orleans) (LA)
- W. Marvin Dulaney (Dallas-Fort Worth) (TX)
- Our Authors Study Club, Inc. (Los Angeles) (CA)

5.

Georgia and Florida

NMC Contact: Anita Shepherd

- Atlanta Branch (GA)
- Athens Branch (GA)
- Savannah Yamacraw Branch (GA)

- Central Florida - Dorothy Turner Johnson Branch (FL)
- Manasota Branch (FL)
- James Weldon Johnson Branch (FL)
- ASALH of Tampa Bay Branch (FL)
- St. Petersburg Branch (FL)
- South Florida Branch (FL)

Several attempts to work with non-compliant branches have been conducted by the NMC and Vice President for Membership, Barbara Dunn. The newly repopulated Compliance Sub-Committee is following the work started by Vice President Dunn and is developing new procedures, to increase branch compliance, in 2022. We do understand that the pandemic has altered the lives of many branch members. Presently, the NMC does host an informal warning system, which is under review by the Compliance Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee is also developing sanctions to address branch non-compliance and plans to report on these procedures, at a forthcoming Planning Committee meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS REPORT

In spite of the COVID19 disruption, membership has continued to increase. As of March 31, 2021, Membership revenue was \$124,850, which is \$36,735 more than last year as of March 31, 2020 of \$ 88,115. This is close to a 30% increase.

April Report	Membership Fee	Apr. 2021	April, 2020	April, 2019
Dual	\$100	137	145	140
Associate	\$65	10	16	11
Dual Gratis		1		
Corporate includes Gratis	\$1,500	10	3	2
General	\$80	450	279	344
General Gratis		164		
International Address	\$100	3	3	5
Life Interim	\$300 for 5 yrs	5	35	44
Life	\$1,500	580	548	530
Senior	\$55	642	603	607
Senior Gratis		10		
Student	\$45	126	85	126
Received Benefits from dual and Institutional	N/A	311	267	256
<b>Total Individuals</b>		<b>2449</b>	1984	2065
Institutional	\$250	87	61	58
Institutional Gratis		5		
<b>Total Members</b>		<b>2541</b>	2045	<b>2123</b>
Of the total members this is the #of gratis		189		
			Thru April 2020	Thru April 2019
Branch members		1289	1166	1176
Pd \$1500 for Life membership		11	2	7
Institutional members affiliated with branches		62	27	n/a

International members with an International Address are: Edmunds-Flett (Canada) , Frund (France), and Reiss (UK)				
There are two Life Members in Canada, Augustine and Cooper				
There is one Student member in the UK.				
There are 6 General members with International Addresses.				
There are 3 International members that should be counted as General as they live in GA. VA, and PA.				

## **INVITATION TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The National Membership Committee encourages all EC members to join a branch and also help recruit members to ASALH. To carry on the legacy of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, we need all hands on deck. We are reattaching the PowerPoint developed especially for all of you. If you have questions after reviewing the PowerPoint, don't hesitate to email [vpformembership2019@asalh.org](mailto:vpformembership2019@asalh.org)  
We look forward to hearing from you.

### **Committee Members Contact Info:**

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Professor Gloria Browne-Marshall  
Chair, International Subcommittee  
Member, Manhattan Branch of ASALH

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