

INTRO AND WELCOME LETTER TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CLASS OF 2023

Welcome. These items were first shared at an EC orientation meeting in 2017. We hope this information will be of value as you serve your term and beyond.

Please consider becoming a partner with the National Membership Committee and help us raise our membership to 5,000 and more during your term on the EC.

Helpful questions and answers to share with others

DID YOU KNOW?

The author of the book *Hidden Figures*, Margot Lee Shetterfly, reached out to the Hampton Roads Branch of ASALH to help her find grant funds to conduct the research to write the book entitled *Hidden Figures* that ultimately led to the movie. Ms. Shetterly notes the following statement in her book: "My deepest gratitude to Audrey Williams, President of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) which served as sponsor for the seed stage of the Human Computer Project," which became the book/film *Hidden Figures*.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ancestor Dr. Harriett Jenkins, one of ASALH's Centennial Ray of Light Honorees, was the Assistant Administrator of NASA who first recruited African American astronauts to the NASA. Charlie Bolden who was one of Dr. Jenkin's first recruits, was honored as an ASALH Centennial Ray of Light while serving as the first African American Administrator of NASA. Later, we discovered that Dr. Jenkins was a friend and colleague of the women sited in the book *Hidden Figures*; Dr. Jenkins was a mathematician and graduate of Fisk University.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2005, the Maryland State Department of Education purchased 24 institutional memberships for all of its public school jurisdictions. With this fact in mind, consider what you could do in your state to encourage support for ASALH. Share your thoughts for your state at the February 2021 EC Meeting. If you will not be present, send your thoughts to me at vpformembership2019@asalhorg and it will be shared with your fellow EC members during that time.

Who is the ASALH Centennial Ray of Light Honoree who was the first African American Administrator of NASA?

Guion Bluford
Frederick Gregory
Charlie Bolden
Leland Melvin

Who is Carter G. Woodson's college friend who was the first Principal of the Normal School that became Bowie State University?

Mordecai Wyatt Johnson
Don Speed Goodloe

Booker T. Washington
Robert Moton

What are the names of the brothers who founded the Washington-based Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation (ABC) that in 1976 was responsible for gaining Landmark status for the Carter. G. Woodson Home Historic Site to the National Park Service making it the 389th Unit of the National Park System?

As a result of being adopted by different families, brothers Robert DeForrest and Vincent DeForest's last names were spelled differently. As adults, they did not change the spelling of their last names.

What HBCU College President served on the first board of the Associated Publishers?

Don Speed Goodloe

Mary McLeod Bethune

Benjamin Mays

Frederick Patterson

Dr. Benjamin Quarles surveyed the state of Maryland to establish the need for an organization that would be responsible for preserving African American History and Culture in the State. From this task, Dr. Quarles wrote authored a bill that Senator Verda Welcome approved and moved forward in the Maryland State Legislature to form what is now known as the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC).

All of these Goodloe and Quarles facts are published in the *Journal of Negro History*.

Did you Know Activities

ACTIVITY: Provide a DID YOU KNOW fact about Dr. Woodson in reference to an HBCU that you think no one else on the EC will know. Bring this fact with you to the January 2021 EC meeting.

ACTIVITY: Find a little known fact in the *Journal of Negro History* and bring it to the February EC meeting for posting by VP for Membership to share with the rest of your fellow EC members. Search deeply to ensure it is a fact that you think no one else has found.

ACTIVITY: A teambuilding activity for use by members of the EC to introduce Dr. Woodson to family members, friends, associates, church members, colleagues, and people throughout the country and around the world. Dr. Woodson is someone that everyone should know.

- Conduct the Carter G. Woodson Team Building Activity. Use links below:
http://kiamshayouth.org/kyeo/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Tools-for-Teachers_Team-Building-1.pdf

Instructions (Based on the number of participants, please be creative and revise these instructions when necessary. Conduct the activity even if there is only one participant. Be prepared to share your experience and mission statement developed with others.):

http://kiamshayouth.org/kyeo/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Tools-for-Teachers_Team-Building-2.pdf

ACTIVITY: RAYS OF LIGHT LINK BELOW -- REMEMBER TO USE WITH STUDENTS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

The link below features clips from interviews of ASALH's *Rays of Light Centennial Honorees* who were all asked to respond to the question *How has Dr. Carter G. Woodson impacted your life and your life's work?* Full interviews will be used as part of the interpretation of the Woodson Home Historic Site and will not be released until Phase II is completed in the Spring of 2022. Click link below.

[Link](#)

THINK ABOUT IT.... (written before President Obama's second term)

ASALH is one of the most important organizations needed today to SERVE as a counter culture to what this world is encountering.

Dr. Woodson was a man of deep faith and integrity. As Executive Council members the legacy of our founder, take every opportunity to mentor a younger person or peer as you advance the mission and vision of our founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson. We are challenged with the responsibility keep Dr. Woodson's legacy alive.

Suggested Reading:

- On November 24, 2016, National President, Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, sent a letter to all members of ASALH in reference to the 2016 presidential election. We highly recommend and encourage you to read this letter and share it broadly. It reminds us that "we are armed with the weapon of history" so we will move forward with a healthy fearless perspective toward the future. We look forward to your contributions to this worthy cause as we continue the legacy of our founder, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson.
- **Please review the Executive Council Membership Recruitment PowerPoint.**