

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN



The Southwesterner Southwest Sectional Newsletter

Southwest Sectional Newsletter: Vol. VI, August 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015 Editor: Billie Frierson

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Clara Frost

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Journalist Billie Frierson

Protocol Julia Williams

Technology Beverly Thomas

Ways & Means Bernice Shannon

Woman of the Year Paula May

Youth/Education Lily Fae Pierre

*Santa Monica	8
South Bay Branch	6
*South Central Los Angeles	8
Southwest Section address	8
Sectional Director Report	1
Tribute to Audrey Jordan	2
West Coast Cities Branch	4
Woman of the Year	3



**Southwest Sectional Director
Zola Jones
Greetings my NAUW Sisters**



INDEX

Beach Cities	5
Branch News Highlight	2-6
Clare Frost	2
*Culver City	3
Dr. Essie French Preston	7
Inland Empire	2
*Inglewood	5
Kenya Dennis	3
Los Angeles Branch	4
Meeting dates, times & places	8
National Convention Photos (insert)	
Remember this...	(Insert)

It is a rewarding experience to serve as Your Southwest Sectional Director.

This is a historical period in the Southwest. The leadership of the organization has been trusted to a member of the Southwest Section. During the 69th National Convention, members of the Southwest Section were elected as National President (Evelyn Wright), National First Vice President (Christiana Worthams) and National Woman of the Year (Kenya Dennis). I look forward to working with our new national administration and to assist the new president to carry out her vision for the organization. Congratulations to all of you!

The Mighty Southwest is doing "**Great Things**" in our community. Our projects during the past year included providing children school supplies as part of a "Backpack Give Away" Project. Helen Ricks, Culver City, reported that the "Backpack Giveaway" was a wonderful success. It was held on Friday, August 8th, at St. John's United Methodist Church. The turnout was great. Approximately 150 backpacks were distributed along with school supplies provided by branches

from the Southwest Section. We also contributed to the Dixon – Hightower Foundation. The Foundation named a school after our own Dr. Judith Washington.

In October we held a “Celebration Event” to honor our National President, National First Vice President and National Woman of the Year. Over eighty members and guest attended the event. The food was delicious and what a dancing good time was had by all. Members attended the “Happy Dinner Dance” celebrating Fannie Love, South Bay President 60th birthday and retirement from Los Angeles County Public Library. Myraline

Jamison celebrated her 90th birthday and 50 years as a NAUW Member. Dr. Maureen Malone celebrated her 90th birthday. Members including our National President Wright watched Dr. Essie French Preston received her award for **Outstanding Faculty Member for the Los Angeles Community Colleges**. Congratulations ladies!

Get “Ready” for the 46th Southwest Sectional Conference hosted by the Inglewood Branch. Please plan to attend in large numbers. Long term members who have served for 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years will be recognized during the Founders Day Celebration. Over fifty members will be recognized for their community service. Don’t miss this Celebration Program presented by your Sectional Director Zola Jones and National President Evelyn Wright. We accomplished much and I thank all of you for a job well done. We are “Progressive Women Remaining Relevant in a Global Society”. *Zola Jones, SW*

Director



Southwest Section Lay Member Report by Clara Frost

In August 2014, I received the honor of being appointed Lay Member of the National Association of University Women, Southwest Section. As Lay Member, my goal is to work closely with and support the Sectional Director’s plans for the Southwest Section. The months of August and September were busy with phone conferences and communicating via email, which prepared me to undertake the duties of Sectional Lay Member.

October 4, 2014: Attended Sectional Board of Directors Meeting. Copies of By-laws, scholarship letter and application were distributed to Presidents and sectional officers. Planning committees were formed for Founders Day Program and the celebration of newly elected National Officers: Evelyn Wright, President; Christiana Worthams, 1st Vice President; Kenya Dennis, Woman of the Year.

November 25, 2014: Attended Sectional Conference planning committee meeting with Zola Jones, Director; Dr. Judith Washington, President, Inglewood; and, Sandra Chefney and Willa Snorton, Co-chairs, Inglewood.

December 1, 2014: Notified Branch Presidents that deadline to apply for Scholarship was December 31, 2014.

News Highlights from Southwest Section Branches

The Inland Empire Branch honors the memory of our beloved sister Audrey Faye Davidson Jordan. We have been truly blessed by this precious, dear friend who set the highest standards,

achieving the many goals of our organization with dignity, kindness and wisdom. We will always be grateful for having her in our lives, guiding us in continuing to serve our communities and nation as the "Women Moving Forward with Purpose and Pride." It is for certain that Audrey's love, devotion and vision will always remain in the hearts of the National Association of University Women!

With appreciation, Sylvia Walker, President Inland Empire Branch



More Branch News Highlights ...

Congratulations to Kenya D. Dennis

National Woman of the Year, Southwest Woman of the Year, Culver City Branch Woman of the Year



Biographical Sketch: Kenya Dennis is a Finance Manager for a \$40 billion Telecommunications company. She received her B S in Accounting from California State Dominguez Hills in Carson California. Kenya relocated to Inglewood, California right after high school from Detroit, Michigan. It was not until a couple of years of working in several minimum wage jobs, she decided she needed a different focus in life. Kenya enrolled in West Los Angeles Community College. There she discovered a whole new world of opportunities. Throughout her childhood and high school experience, she had always dreamed of a profession in the medical field. The rapid rise of computers and technology changed her focus to business. She graduated from West Los Angeles College with an Associate Degree in Accounting and transferred to California State Dominquez Hills University. The educational experience opened many doors far beyond the minimum wage jobs she was accustomed to. Kenya has worked in the Accounting profession for over 20 years. She is

currently a wife and a mother. Kenya and her husband are champions of education and constantly express to their children the importance of an education. Her family has a favorite quote by William Butler Yeats "Education is not the filling of a bucket but the lighting of a fire."

BRANCH ACTIVITIES 2010 – 2014

Co-Chairperson- Membership Tea-Power Point Presentation
Thanksgiving Basket Presentation - Slauson Learning Center Students
Chairperson-Holiday Christmas Gala-Personal Development activity

Ways & Means Committee Chairperson
Co-Chairperson-Career Day-Miriam Matthews Public Library
Chairperson-Health Awareness-Healthy Heart Presentation
Chairperson-National Relations-AIDS Awareness & Team Captain
AIDS Walk
Co-Chairperson-International Relations - Heifer Program South Africa
YBS-(Young Black Scholars) Partnership for Youth Recruitment Day,
Black History Month Committee Member, Scholarship Committee
Member and Reading Jubilee Participate

SECTIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES 2010 – 2014

2010 Sectional Conference Finance Committee Member-Santa Monica Host
2010 Southwest Youth Conference participate-El Camino College &
2010 Sectional Project -American Red Cross-Haiti & Soles for Haiti
2011 Sectional Conference Finance Chairperson-South Bay Host
2012 Sectional Conference Finance Committee Chair-South Central LA Host

2013 Sectional Project-Habitat for Humanity Participant and 2013 Sectional Conference Finance Chairperson-West Coast Cities Host
2014 Sectional Conference Registration Chairperson-Culver City Host
2010-2014 National Internal Audit Committee Member



HONORS AND AWARDS

Certificate of Achievement -Christmas Gala Committee Chair
Certificate of Excellence-66th National Convention-Winston Salem, North Carolina-Exercise Activity
Certificate of Appreciation-Service rendered as Sergeant-At-Arms, 66th National Convention Winston Salem, North Carolina
Appreciation Certificate-AIDS Walk Coordinator-Culver City Br.
2011 & 2012 Outstanding Sectional Treasurer Trophy

2010 & 2014 Culver City Branch Woman of the Year

Most Noteworthy Accomplishments: preparer of the 2008 Annual Report and received plaque presented to the Culver City Branch; awarded the 2006, 2010 and the 2014 Southwest Sectional Woman of the Year Award; and received 2010 National Woman of the Year Honoree Plaque

OFFICES HELD AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

2010-2014 Culver City Branch Treasurer
2010-2013 Southwest Sectional Treasurer
Parent Volunteer-Debbie Allen Dance Academy & ATL
All Star Cheer and Dance Squad
MOM-(Moms on a Mission) Middle School Parent Volunteer-Wilders Preparatory Academy

How lucky are we to have such a terrific member in the Southwest Section!

More Branch News Highlights ...

The Los Angeles Branch continues its legacy of providing academic scholarships for deserving students who will attend a four year college or university. This year we: 1) Awarded a scholarship of \$2000 to a student in her sophomore year at Northwestern University in Evanston Illinois; 2) Worked together and provided financial assistance to purchase household goods for a women's shelter for women and their small children who are affected by the HIV/AIDS virus, suffering from mental health, trauma, and substance abuse problems; and 3) Participated in the Dixon Hightower Foundation: "DHF USA based nonprofit organization with 501c3 status. DHF is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. These purposes include: to organize and fund the building and operation of orphanages and other public assistance and human aid worldwide. . . The founder of the organization is Dr. Joyce Hightower, a US born and trained medical doctor with over 20 years of experience working and living in Africa. She was first compelled to develop a project of ongoing support for orphans while working in Kenya. Since then opportunities have presented themselves in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe. The goal for a project to become completely self-sustaining has guided the planning, development and implementation of the most recent projects under DHF. Visit: <http://dixonhightowerfoundation.org/about-4/>

Los Angeles Branch Members participated in the Southwest Sectional Projects, Habitat for Humanity, and the Back to School Program. They participated in the Revlon Run Walk for Women Los Angeles which supports the team for Women of Color Breast Cancer Survivors Project on 4/19/2014. Members look forward to participating in the 21st Annual EIF- Revlon Run/Walk on May 9, 2015 in Los Angeles early registration is \$25. Six members attended the 69th National Convention in New Orleans Louisiana. Submitted by Terry H. Cummings, Los Angeles Branch President

West Coast Cities Branch hosted the Bi-Annual HALL OF FAME "A TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENCE" Program on March 22, 2014 @11:30 AM, at the Double Tree Hotel 2 Civic Plaza Carson, CA 90745. Theme: *Community & Education: Our Connection to the Future.*



This was a historical time when President Barack Obama declared March of 2014 as **Women's History Month**, we took time out to show our appreciation for every woman in our audience and on this planet; mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts, caregivers, friends, co-laborers in the gospel, the list goes on and on. We were elated to have in attendance our very own, at that time, Sectional Director, Evelyn Wright (*Current Illustrious, National President*). We honored community philanthropists Ken Brown, Vanessa Haynes, Pamella West-Lee, and Ron Cole. We congratulated West Coast Cities Branch, Woman of the Year, Dorothy Ross and awarded our scholarship recipients, Tresurie Hatten and Ashure Anderson.

More Branch News Highlights ...

Beach Cities Branch Members have completed the following as Southwest's newest branch for 2014: Members participated with Culver City Branch in April nicely organized –well planned Health Fair in Watts.

Together Beach Cities organized a successful “Casino Jazz Night” as our scholarship fundraiser. We had jazz, dinner and casino games for entertainment. Beach Cities donated school supplies and participated in a backpack school drive in Watts.

Recruitment works for Beach Cities Branch! On September 14, 2014 **Beach Cities Branch** held a membership tea to recruit new members. We are excited to announce on October 13th under the leadership of National First Vice President Christiana Worthams, Beach Cities held their first member induction service with four new members: Lashonda Blevins, Abigail Mamboleo, LaFonda Riggins, Tiesha Stewart and Melanie Symister * December of 2014 we partnered with Ms. Juan Robinson and Arise Christian Center Church to prepare for toys for kids. We purchased toys, clothes and food for their give away. The participants are from shelters in LA. We packaged toys according to age and helped with the distributing goodie bags to approximately 80 children. Submitted by President Dr. Rhonda Jefferson, Beach Cities Branch



Enjoyed a delicious dinner and listened to music that delighted and surprised our ears.
Joining Beach Cities Branch for a fabulous evening were Christiana Worthams
Bernice Shannon, Valerie Vaultz and National President Evelyn Wright



Photos courtesy of Kim Simmonds, NAUW Beach Cities

More Branch News Highlights ...

South Bay Branch Rites of Passage Program Participants designed deluxe Thanksgiving boxes to hold the bountiful donations of canned meats, canned vegetable, assorted pasta, canned fruits, condiments, stuffing, rice, beans, honey, pumpkin pie ingredients, cake mix, spices and other goodies. The two Thanksgiving boxes were each completed with a \$25 gift certificate for a fresh turkey and fresh produce on November 8, 2014. The Rites of Passage young ladies traced, cut, assembled and created these wonderful presentations while getting to know one another. This exercise left big smiles on everyone's faces... see photos 1 & 2. Left to right 3rd photo of Principal Rickenbacker, Billie Frierson, Mom and second grade Daughter of Transfiguration Parrish receiving one of the Turkey Boxes, the gift Certificate, and two extra bags stuffed with goodies. Permit to photograph youth is on file.



December 13, 2014, Katie Webb is photographed enjoying the new National Association of University Women BULLETIN, completed under Dolores Y. Owens National President 2010-2014. Earlier Mrs. Webb's daughter, Ernesha Webb presented an insightful program to the Rites of Passage young ladies. Ernesha Webb covered self-esteem, self motivation, and planning your future. Members and Rites participants were captivated with her presentation skills and her informative message.



January 10, 2015 Dr. Sheryl Love, sister of South Bay Branch Fannie Love made a supercharged presentation to the Rites of Passage Participants. It was so enjoyable that members were taking notes and requesting her handouts on the areas she covered. Preparing for college, selecting careers and how to get started making the computer work for you were just a few of the topics covered. Dr. Sheryl Love is a career counselor with California State University, Pomona, California.

**NAUW Members joined and celebrated at the
El Camino College Compton Center
As Dr. Essie French Preston
Received the Distinguished Faculty Award**

**She currently serves as National Association of University
Women Southwest Sectional Corresponding Secretary and she
is a steadfast member of West Coast Cities Branch**



The El Camino College Compton Center Distinguished Faculty Award honors one full-time faculty member each year that have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to their students, college, and profession. The candidate has a record of

outstanding participation on campus and involvement in professional activities. Candidate has completed the following. 1) Served students, 2) fostered the El Camino College Compton Center mission, 3) planned and organized Campus, professional,

or student activities, 4) demonstrated commitment to education and discipline 5) focused on serving as a representative of the profession 6) exhibiting professionalism to staff, faculty, students, and the campus.

**The recipient for 2013/14 School Year is
Dr. Essie French Preston**

Educational Background Dr. Preston obtained the Doctorate in Education, Ed. D. in Instructional Leadership and the Educational Specialist, Ed. S. in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She received the Masters of Arts in Guidance and Counseling from the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama, the Bachelors of Arts from Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama. She also studied at the University of Miami.

Position Held: She has held the following position: a) Counselor/Professor, El Camino College Compton Center b) Acting Vice President, Student Affairs, Compton Community College 7/11/2004 – 6/30/2005 c) Executive Vice President, Student Affairs, Compton Community College. 7/1996 – 6/ 2004 d) Associate Dean, Enrollment, Student Services, Compton Community College 7/94 – 7/96 e) Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction and Student Affairs, Compton Community College, November 1993 – 1994 f) Interim Superintendent/President, Compton Community College 2/1992 – 10/1993 g) Associate Dean of Counseling and Enrollment Services, Compton Community College, 7/1989–2/1993 h) Director of Admissions and Records, Compton Community College 8/ 1986 – 6/1989 i) Director of Counseling, Testing and Career Placement, Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL. 8/ 1983 – 1986 j) Director of Admissions, Recruitment, and Retention, Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL. 8/ 1982 – 1983 k) Director of The Freshman Assistance Program, Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL. 8/1976 – 1982 l) guidance Counselor, Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL, 8/1972–1976

Campus Activities Dr. Preston is the co-chair of the accreditation committee; she is currently the nursing counselor, and gives

graduation presentation to the nursing students. She is on the state-wide committee with El Camino to establish agreements with Historical Black Colleges and participated in the writing of the grant that was funded by the Chancellor's Office for El Camino College. She worked with the Black Student Union, the Child Development department in sponsoring the Women Conference for over 5 years, the Associated Student Body, the athletic department, the fashions department and all activities held on the campus. Dr. Preston also administers the SAT exam giving the students from all the neighboring cities the opportunity to take the college entry exam at Center

Dr. Essie French Preston Professional Affiliations are: California Association for Counseling Development, United Way, **National Association of University Women**, Kappa Delta Pi National Honors Association, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., NAACP, Young Black Scholars, Los Angeles, California, Board Member for Family Services of Long Beach, Test Center Supervisor for College Board, Court Appointed Special Advocate: Superior Court of the State of California, President, Achieving Partnership Collaborative, Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Awards and Honors: **Women of the Year, National Association of University Women**, Certificate of Appreciation, Young Black Scholars, California Association of Counseling and Development Award, Alabama Association of Counseling and Development Distinguished Service Award, City of Compton, Outstanding Dedication to Youth, St. Timothy's Episcopal Day School Award Recognition, Compton Unified School District, Award of Appreciation, Phi Delta Kappa Honor Sorority Educator of the Year, Association of Multicultural Counseling, Leadership Tuscaloosa, Latin Organization of Lynwood – Outstanding Support Award, Publications and Presentations, Development of the Human Development 10 course as a hybrid class on line, Establishment of scholarships for Wiley College presentation in Marshall Texas, The History of Black Colleges, El Camino College and Moreno Valley Community College, A four year follow-up study of participants in the Stillman Educational Development Program (SEDP) at Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Poems (published in the Atlanta Newspaper, 1975), A Manual for Examining and Analyzing Instructional Operations to Improve Teacher Effectiveness through Control of One's Behavior (copyrighted 1981), The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, The Evaluation of a Verbal Interaction Instrument for Assessing Effectiveness of Instructional Operations and Verbal Behavior Patterns of College Instructors, Dissertation Abstracts, 1984. The University of Alabama, Special Activities, Stillman College Institutional Self-Study Report, Standard IX, Chairperson, 1980; Minority Women in Administrative Roles in Alabama. Unpublished Thesis; the University of Alabama, 1975 Community Activities; Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church Liturgical Minister; and the NAACP, and Concerned Citizens of Compton.

Well look who's going into
the President's circle

Yvonne L. Meredith

*Yes me and I'm truly excited! I would love for you,
my NAUW sister, to witness and be a part of my
induction ceremony on
Sunday, the Fourteenth of September
Two Thousand and Fourteen
at Two O'clock in the Afternoon*

MESSIAH BAPTIST CHURCH
4500 W. ADAMS BLVD
LOS ANGELES, CA 90016
ENTER BACK DOOR FROM THE PARKING LOT
FOR MORE INFORMATION 714.865.8691



Santa Monica Branch members reveled in the election of Yvonne L. Meredith as she assumed the duties of the Santa Monica Branch President. Yvonne has been an enthusiastic, productive & highly effective NAUW member. Compliments to Ms. Meredith for her work as chair on the National Position Paper Committee booklet: "Stamping out Ignorance through Education." for her work on the National Level.

South Central Los Angeles Branch members are on the move in the New Year; they inducted new member Dani Lyles! The induction ceremony was held on January 10, 2015. Every month is Healthy Month for South Central Los Angeles Branch holds programs and discusses health topics: December the emphasis was placed not only on giving, but also on children toy safety and safety during the holidays. January the focus was on glaucoma; it is estimated that over 2.2 million Americans have glaucoma, but only half of those know they have it. African Americans are 15 times more likely to be visually impaired from glaucoma than others. The best way to protect your sight from glaucoma is to get tested. February is Heart Health Month; in March the Branch is rolling out support for the MARCH OF DIMES CAMPAIGN and the Girls Academy Program is alive and well. Submitted by Erika Lampkin, Journalist South Central Los Angeles Branch

Southwest Branch Presidents, Journalist/Branch Publicity Chair, Meeting Locations, & Time

BRANCH-Presidents	JOURNALIST/Publicity	MEETING LOCATION TIME
Beach Cities-Dr. Rhonda Jefferson	Dr. Rhonda Jefferson	2 nd Tuesday 18119 Prairie Ave, Torrance at 7pm
Culver City-Helen Ricks	Virginia Hathaway	2 nd Sunday DWP 4030 Crenshaw Blvd at 2pm
Inglewood-Dr. Judy Washington	Dr. Judy Washington	2 nd Saturday Warren Lane School at 10am
Inland Empire-Sylvia Walker	Rita Miles	1 st Saturday Pomona Medical Center, 1601 N. Monte Vista Claremont at 10am
Los Angeles-Terry -Cummings	Terry Cummings	3 rd Saturday DWP 4030 Crenshaw Blvd at 10am
Santa Monica-Yvonne L. Meredith	Merelean Wilson	2 nd Sunday various locations at 2pm
South Bay - Fannie Love	Linda Dickerson	151 E. Carson St, Carson 90745 on 2 nd Saturday at 11am
South Central LA-Gwendolyn White	Erika Lampkin	2 nd Saturday City on the Hill in Carson on corner of Gardena/Avalon at 10am
West Coast Cities- Valerie Vaultz	Pamela Foster	3 rd Saturday Central Baptist Hall, 1641 Carson Street, Carson, CA at 2pm

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Southwest Section Director Audrey Jordan

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Postage
