



#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

This nation is about to choose a person who may be considered the most powerful person in the free world, the President of the United States. Voter suppression has been under attack but I am confident that you will exercise your constitutional right and vote.

Although the attempts to disenfranchise certain groups such as African Americans, Hispanics, the elderly, students, and the poor through laws such as Voter ID, eliminating early voting and other attacks to dissuade you from voting, those efforts have been temporarily suspended. Your voice, however, is your power. VOTE.

As we move forward, we are again, attempting to bring excerpts of reports from committee chairpersons in an effort to keep you apprised of the work that is being accomplished by the small army of volunteers of the Branch. And if we had more members working on committees, we could accomplish a lot more. I am hopeful that as we continue to pursue this initiative, that you will see articles more in depth but still maintaining confidentiality.

The Branch wants to go "GREEN." I am hoping that you will visit our Face Book page at <a href="www.sanaacp.org">www.sanaacp.org</a> or our Web Page at <a href="www.SanAntonioNAACP.org">www.SanAntonioNAACP.org</a> to read the newsletter. It's easy — just type the desired link into your browser and see our new look. We would also welcome you to contact us by email at <a href="mailto:sanaacp@satx.rr.com">sanaacp@satx.rr.com</a> for suggestions you might have and your acceptance of us contacting you via email on "Action Alerts" that come from our Washington Bureau and other issues coming from the National Office and from the State. This way, you will always be in touch with the NAACP.

Again thanks for your continued support to this great organization.



August 9, 2012, The General Membership Meeting President Hill called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. held in the Barbara Jordan Community Center. Rev. Malvyn Berry gave the opening prayer. The guest speaker was Mr. Richard Durbin, Chief of the Criminal Division of the US Attorney's Office, Western District of Texas. Mr. Durbin's office has heavy involvement in prosecuting drug cases, especially those dealing with the drug cartels. He was well received by the membership and answered several questions from the audience.

Following the presentation, President Hill determined a quorum to be present and the meeting was opened for business. Following a report from the treasure, reports from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention were made by delegates: Horace Brown, Johnny Merry Thompson, Ann Johnson Brown, Minnie Hill, Gloria Chandler and President Oliver Hill. Written reports are filed and available in the NAACP Office.

# September 6, 2012, Report of the Executive Committee, NAACP San Antonio Branch

The Communication- Press - Publicity committee is proud to announce that the San Antonio Branch has access to the NAACPVAN voter registration website. The access will enable us to create lists for voters, based on geography, demographics, voting history and previous survey results. Data can be analyzed to determine the most efficient time and day of the week for voter contact. Data can be loaded into the system, and tasks can be created.

The committee has also updated/upgraded the Freedom Fund Dinner flyer. It can be viewed on our website at <a href="www.SanAntonioNAACP.org/Events.html">www.SanAntonioNAACP.org/Events.html</a>, or as an Event on our Facebook page at <a href="SANAACP.org">SANAACP.org</a>. "Like" our Facebook page to stay informed. The



September 2012



Freedom Fund Dinner "Invite" can be shared with any friend on Facebook. The current setting allows for comments on this event

The Chair of the committee suggested the Executive Committee research for the possibility that for additional branch revenue, there could be an online magazine that places ads. Committees could write up an article monthly or quarterly to inform the public on their specialties, while helping to obtain income and new memberships for the branch.

# TEXAS STATE QUARTERLY EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD IN TYLER, TEXAS.

(August 11, 2012) President Gary Bledsoe called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M. The welcome was given by Mr. Decker, President of the Tyler Branch; also, the welcoming team included a councilman, commissioner and city manager.

High points of the meeting noted ways of getting churches involved in a membership campaign and Texas is involved in three court cases: Voter ID, Section 2 of Voter Rights Act, and Section 5 of VRA. Oral reports included Communications and Criminal Justice.

## AUGUST 2012 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The Chair, William Burman reports the Economic Development Committee has focused upon the City of San Antonio Professional Services and Construction Contracting Disparity Study. The study indicates that over an extended period of many years, African Americans have received zero to dismal inclusion in professional services and construction contracting with the city. The same is true for the San Antonio Independent School District SAISD voters recently approved in excess of \$500 million School Bond issue

for the SAISD District. Professional Services and construction contracting with African Americans in the District is also dismal.

July, 2012, The Chair reports on Pittman Sullivan Park Walking Trail Bond Project. The committee organized community meeting to meet with city officials and the Architectural firm charged with completing pre-design work for Pittman Sullivan Park Walking Trail Bond Project. Under the NAACP leadership, a total of \$650,000 was acquired for the project through the City of San Antonio 2012 Bond Project. Over twenty people attended the meeting held at the Davis-Scott Branch YMCA to meet the design team and provide input into the project. A number of members from the NAACP were in attendance, which included Mrs. Minnie Hill, Ms. Nettie Hinton, Mrs. Delores Mosley and Ms. Jerri Keys. The Architects will hold a second meeting within thirty days to provide four possible trial alternatives, to receive additional comments and expand opportunities for additional community input.

#### **AUGUST, 2012 LEGAL REDRESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Rev. M. A. Rashad Berry, Complaint Manager, Mr. E. F. "Smiley" Williams, Advisor reporting.

During the month of August there were and 17 walk-ins and 17 office calls. The calls were returned to those who wanted to discuss their case or the status of their love-ones. Other just wanted to get information, making appointments and want to know where we were located.

<u>Investigations:</u> Visited and interviewed seven inmates and one refused the visit and interview. One inmate was released due to a false warrant made against the inmate. Following a discussion with this inmate's attorney and the Legal Redress Complaint Manager, it was agreed that the warrant was wrong. The judge was





contacted and the inmate was released from incarceration.

#### THE NAACP STANDS WITH THE CARAVAN FOR PEACE.

The Caravan for Peace was an initiative sanctioned by the National Office to include the NAACP and discuss the effects that drugs have on the African American Community. The President and Vice President Malvyn Berry attended a meeting to include the NAACP's position during the news conference that would be held while the caravan remained in San Antonio.

A Press Conference was scheduled on August 24, 2012, lead by renowned Mexican poet Javier Sicilia at St. Leonard Parish Hall. The Caravan for Peace will be traveling to twenty seven cities within the United States and eight cities in Texas, San Antonio being one of those cities. The Second Vice President of the San Antonio Branch NAACP, Rev. Berry, was the spokesperson for the NAACP. Ms. Dorothy Collins and Ms. Maria Green (from the San Antonio Branch NAACP) were with Rev. Berry at the Press Conference. Rev. Berry spoke on the NAACP'S General Points, background information and talking points.

The NAACP was interviewed by all the television channels and printed news media; however the NAACP comments were not broadcast or printed.

<u>JULY 2012</u>, this committee reports 12 walk-ins, 49 office calls. The calls were returned with some only needing general information. There were no inmates interviewed during the month of July.

# AUGUST, 2012 REPORT FOR ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Chairperson David Sherman reported there was a meeting with Angie Trevino, Program Coordinator for Military Family Relief Project and Catholic Charities Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc. Shared information with local veterans regarding NAACP website resource link, the new Facebook, and upcoming local Job fair scheduled for September 12, 2012 from 9:30 to 3:00 P.M. at Live Oak Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd.

JULY 2012, Mr. Sherman reports that site visits were conducted as the following Veterans Organizations: Texas Veterans Commission where he received information on benefits and services for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors. Mr. Sherman also met with a representative from the U.S. Department of Justice where he received information about the Americans with Disabilities Act and Disability Rights Laws. He also met with U. S. Department of Veteran Affairs and received a summary of VA Benefits; also received information about educational opportunities, financial security and the female officers program from the U.S. Marine Corps Recruiter.

### YOUTH SHINE AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

During the ACT-SO Competition at the National Convention held in Houston, Texas, San Antonio won medals in two categories — Chemistry and Earth and Space Sciences. Ms. Jacqueline Thompson was the Silver Medalist and Ms. Sherry Juarez was the Bronze Medalist. Congratulations to both medal winners. The Branch is truly proud of their accomplishments.

Also at the Convention and during the National Youth and College Division competition, Texas won 13 of 16 awards. We can feel confident that the future of this organization is in capable hands. We congratulate the sponsors who work tirelessly with the young people to bring these honors to our State.





#### JULY, 2012, HEALTH/WIN COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Deloris L. Mosley reports.

Project Power a Program of American Diabetes Association. Chairperson met with Ms. Patricia (Trish) Mendoza LCSW Community Health Consultant and Liaison SANOF to discuss working with the NAACP and Faith Based entities to improve the health of our community utilizing the program Project Power. Project Power utilizes trained volunteers from the community to deliver educational presentations; materials are in PowerPoint and provider to speakers in advance. All speakers pre-test and post-test are provided by the American Diabetic Association. NAACP would identify churches who would like to implement programs and provide speakers (Doctors, RNs, LVNs, Nutritionist) in the Faith Based Community.

#### **HONOR HOMECARE**

Met with Ms. Jenicia Brussell, RN Nursing Administrator and Director of Honorcare Home Health Agency, we discussed options for increasing awareness of the mission of Homecare. The agency focuses on caring for patients in their home rather than placing them in a facility. Honorcare is located at 7551, suite 105, Callaghan Rd. Mrs. Brussell is planning to join NAACP and work with the Health Committee. This is a Black owned business.

July 30, 2012, attended the UTSA Dean's Distinguished Lecture on Domestic Violence in the African American Community," I was not built to break" Responding to Domestic Violence in African American Communities with Dr. Tricia Bent-Godly, Professors, Howard University School of Social Work. The statics for domestic violence in the black community is staggering. She stated that every nine seconds someone is abused.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Marye B. Gilford
Mr. Ed Miles, Jr.

#### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

The San Antonio Branch NAACP continues to hold its General meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are held at the Barbara Jordan Community Center, 2803 E. Commerce Street, San Antonio, Texas 782203. Our mailing address is PO Box 200225-0225, San Antonio, Texas 78220-0225. We welcome each of you to attend our meetings and join us as we continue to fight for the freedom and justice.

Remember To Vote

Your Power, Your Decision – VOTE