

# The Southwesterner Southwest Sectional Newsletter

Newsletter  
September-  
December  
2010  
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## National Association of University Women - Southwest Section

Editor: Billie J. Frierson,

Contributors: Christiana Worthams, Hester Watkins, Margarette Crockett, Pamela Foster, Dr. Essie French-Preston, Christiana Worthams and Beverly Thomas

### Southwest Sectional Officers:

**Audrey Jordan**  
South Bay Branch  
Sectional Director 2009-2011

**Hester Watkins**  
South Central LA Branch  
Lay Member 2008-2010

**Pamela Foster**  
West Coast Cities Branch  
Recording Secretary 2008-2010

**Christiana Worthams**  
Los Angeles Branch  
Corresponding Secretary  
2008-2010

**Kenya Dennis**  
Culver City Branch  
Treasurer 2008-2010

**Annette Welford**  
Inglewood Branch  
Financial Secretary 2009-2011

**Sally Gibson**  
Santa Monica Branch  
Immediate Past  
Sectional Director 2005-2009

**Martha Caldwell**  
Los Angeles Branch  
Nominating Committee Chair  
2009-2011

**Bernice Shannon**  
South Bay Branch  
Sectional Consultant  
2009-2011

### Highlights

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Special congratulation to the Santa Monica Branch Officers and Members for hosting the Sectional Conference! Great job!



**Audrey F. Jordan, Southwest Sectional Director**



**Our Motto is Have A BLAST**  
**B = better**  
**LA = larger, and**  
**ST = stronger**

Wow! What a year we have had. We have worked together as a team and gotten a lot accomplished since the last newsletter. I thank all of the officers, presidents, committee chairpersons and members for a job well done. When we work together great things happen.

What a wonderful job the Santa Monica Branch did in hosting the Southwest Sectional Conference on February 5-6, 2010. Our hat is off to Lenora Brantley, President, Zola Jones, Chairperson and Yvonne Meredith Co-Chairpersons for the outstanding job of organizing the event. Everything went so smoothly because of all their hard work behind the scenes. When you see the Santa Monica Branch, let them know how much you enjoyed the two days.

Hester Watkins, immediate past Lay Member did an excellent job with her committee in organizing a wonderful "Founders' Day Program" on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The Ceremony and history presentations were lovely and informative. The speaker, Mrs. McCauley, who was a good friend of Virginia Hathaway, was inspirational.

We thank all those who donated to the Red Cross for the Haiti disaster relief. We were able to give \$1000 for the project. Most of the money was collected at Sectional. Some members who were not able to attend Sectional sent money in later. I appreciate the valiant effort and the sacrifice made by the membership to help those in need.

We want each Branch to make a concerted effort to fill their web page with valuable information about your Branch. We want our Section to grow. If people can see what we are doing they would be more inclined to join us. We would like to set a goal of all the Branches having their pages complete by December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will give an award to the Branch with the best designed and most informative section on the website.

Wouldn't it be fantastic if we could add 100 new members to our section this year? We would like each Branch to increase their membership by 10 people. Let's see which Branch will be the winner at the Sectional Conference in 2011.

The 2010 Youth conference was held at the El Camino College, Compton Educational Center in Compton. It was Co-Chaired by Adriana McNally, President of Los Angeles Branch and Essie – French Preston Lay Member. Thanks to the L.A. Branch for taking the lead on this event. Thank you to all the Branches which donated \$100 to help defray the cost of the event. We thank the Branches for helping with registration, food service and general hosting. It was a very successful day. We look forward to future collaboration with the Compton Educational Center.

(Continue on next page)



Acorns



Oak tree leaves and branches



Like and oak tree with its ... growing STRONGER every day...

We thank all of the Branches for their continued support to give scholarships to youth. We gave over forty four thousand dollars (\$44,000) in scholarship aid from our section. The Los Angeles Branch leads the way with more than eighteen thousand dollars given in scholarship aid to the community. A special thank you to the branches for their one hundred dollar donations to the Sectional Scholarship Fund. One Thousand dollars (\$1,000) was given to our college Recipient this year.

The tree planting project in the name of NAUW was one of the highlights of the Centennial Celebration. Evelyn Wright organized the project. Each Branch donated ten dollars (\$10) to purchase 10 trees to replenish the forest. We donated 100 trees to represent 100 years of service to our nation.

We were saddened by the death of an outstanding member of the Southwest Section and the Los Angeles Branch, R.C. Ola Brown. R.C. Ola joined NAUW one month after it started in southern California in 1954. She was active until her death. She will be greatly missed by the members of NAUW. She was the Second Sectional Director for the Southwest Section.

Daisy Davis was a member of the South Bay Branch for over 25 years. She moved to Texas a few years ago but continued her membership with the South Bay Branch up until approximately a year ago. She passed away in June. Her funeral was held in Inglewood.

As we look forward to our Centennial Celebration in Washington D.C., We thank the Branches for collectively donating five hundred dollars to help with the National Convention. This will be an historic event as we celebrate our one hundred years of service to our nation.

by Audrey Jordan, Southwest Sectional Director

## National theme - Community and Education: Our Connection for the Future

### 43<sup>rd</sup> Southwest Sectional Conference Photos Branch Presidents, February 5-6, 2010



Compton - Josephine Bolden, Capitol Branch - Doris Jones, Sectional Director Audrey Jordan, Inland Empire -Deborah Davis and South Bay - Martha Abrams-White Standing: Inglewood - Erma Morgan, West Coast Cities - Pamela Foster South Central Los Angeles- Santa Monica - Lenora Brantley Christiana Worthams, Culver City - Mildred Slaughter Not in photo Los Angeles - Adrieana McNally



Don't you just love the 1960s/ Members at the Friday night dinner/dance



Santa Monica Branch members at 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session



Seated current and former Sectional Directors: Audrey Jordan, Sallie Gibson, R.C. Ola Brown and Josephine Bolden Standing: Evelyn Wright 1<sup>st</sup> National VP, Pauline McGriff Smith, National President Ollie Johnson. Far left Lay member Hester Watkins



Scholarship Committee with scholarship Master Degree Winner







The photo above was taken at the South Bay Branch SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH PROGRAM on April 25, 2010. LEFT TO RIGHT: Guest/Member\_\_\_, Erma Sharif Compton Branch, Hattie McFrazier South Bay Branch, Janice Hahn, Barbara Young Inglewood Branch, Audrey Jordan – Southwest Sectional Director, Evelyn Wright National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Culver City Branch

*Congratulations!*

Hester Watkins, our 2006-2010 Lay Member, extends a hearty congratulations to Dr. Essie French Preston who starts her position as 2010-2012 Lay Member. National President Ollie Johnson installs the new officers. Kenya Dennis and Pamela Foster await their turns to be installed as new officers.



From the desk Dr. Essie French-Preston

Dear Members:

With your commitment, dedication, and assistance I have embraced eight goals for the mighty Southwest Section for 2/2010 through 2/2012:

1. To update the By-Laws for the Sectional
2. To encourage and assist Branches in updating of their By-Laws.



3. To increase attendance at the Founders Day Luncheon
4. To undergird the programs initiatives of the Sectional Director
5. To chair the scholarship committee
6. To provide support to Branches as needed
7. To assist with the hosting of the Youth Conference
8. To plan and assist the collaborative efforts of a Women Conference

## Youth Conference Highlights

The National Association of University Women Southwest Section Youth Conference was held at El Camino College Compton Educational Center on June 19, 2010, from 8:30 – 11:30A.M. The Los Angeles Branch took the lead in presenting and organizing the Youth Conference. Adriana McNally and Essie French – Preston served as Co-Chairpersons. Compliments are hereby given to the first five members who signed up to assist with the sectional youth committee; they are Josephine Bolden, Dr. Desmonette Hazly, Pat Perkins, Gwen White and Rosalind Mouton.

The purpose of the youth conference was to provide an opportunity for middle and high school students to be exposed to educational opportunities afforded to them. Students were provided with information about state and private colleges. All branches participated in the invitational process encouraging students to attend to the conference, donating \$100 in support, making visits to high schools in the Compton Unified School District and/or sending invitations to students. Students were divided into groups and escorted to classrooms to hear of topics related to the college experience. T-shirts, goodie bags and college materials were distributed at various times during the workshops and various breakout sessions on Financial Aid, college readiness, Information on the Historically Black Colleges, and transition from junior /community colleges to four year colleges.



Hester Watkins presented the first Founders' Day Program that was set apart from our Sectional Conference on March 6, 2010. Below are the program and a few highlights and facts.

close personal and intellectual fellowship among professional women. In 1919 the group expanded by organizing branches outside of Washington D.C. On April 6-7, 1923 the group representatives formed the National Association of College Women. The following year at a conference held April 24-26, 1924 the organization became permanent and was chartered in Washington, D.C. On August 9, 1974 at the biennial convention in Philadelphia, the charter was changed and the organization became the National Association of University Women, NAUW.



For our Southwest Section's historical records we included our National Officers who are currently serving on the day of our program March 6, 2010. They include National Officers: National President Ollie D. Johnson, National First-Vice President Evelyn .L. Wright, National Second-Vice President Elaine Sias, Recording Secretary Linda Jones, Financial Secretary Linda Ester and Treasurer Monica Guidry. Our Sectional Officers currently serving and our newly elected officers as of February 6, 2010 are Sectional Director Audrey Jordan, Lay Member Essie French-Preston, Recording Secretary Pamela Foster, Corresponding Secretary Christiana Worthams, Treasurer Kenya Dennis, Financial Secretary Annette Welford, Immediate Past Sectional Director Sallie Gibson, Nominating Chair Martha Caldwell, and Sectional Consultant Bernice Shannon. Hester Watkins stated that the luncheon committee wanted to have a meaningful Founder's Day program. Furthermore, we decided to celebrate our centennial by honoring our four founders. When we highlighted their lives we discovered their collective wisdom, courage, vision, insight and strength. We had an opportunity to look closely at the conditions that existed at the time our organization was formed. They ignored the obstacles that confronted them and instead counted the opportunities. We exist today because we continue to practice the principles that guided our founders. (Submitted by Hester Watkins)



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**SOUTHWEST SECTION Founders' Day**

- Opening Hester Watkins
- Introductions Paula May
- Welcome Compton Branch
- Sectional Director Audrey Jordan
- Greetings Evelyn Wright
- National 1<sup>st</sup> V. President
- Special Tribute Our Founders
- Musical Selection Dolores Bodey
- Invocation Santa Monica Branch
- Mildred Slaughter
- Culver City Branch
- Lunch Is Served
- Introduction of Speaker Dr. Josephine Yelder
- Culver City Branch
- Speaker Margaret McCauley
- Acknowledgements Hester Watkins
- Closing Remarks Audrey Jordan

**Founders' Day Committee**

- Hester Watkins Lay Member
- Callie Calvin South Bay Branch
- Pamela Foster West Coast Cities
- Martha Johnson South Central L. A.
- Paula May Compton Branch
- Eddie Jo Patton Inglewood Branch
- Lillie Scott South Bay Branch
- Mildred Slaughter Culver City Branch
- Evelyn Metoyer-Williams Los Angeles Branch

**Tribute to Founders**

- Dr. Nancy Fairfax Brown Mildred Slaughter
- Dr. Sara-Winfred Brown Eddie Jo Patton
- Mary Cromwell Pamela Foster
- Mary Church Terrell Martha Johnson

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**History:** The College Alumnae Club was organized March 11, 1910 by Miss Mary Church Terrell, Dr. Sara Brown, Dr. Nancy Fairfax Brown and Miss Mary Cromwell in Washington D.C. Twenty university students joined, elected officers and planned a program. The new Club desired to stimulate young women to attain professional excellence, to exert influence in various movements for the civic good, and to promote a

## Southwest Sectional Directors



First Sectional Director  
Adelaide Dunn\*



Second Sectional Director  
R.C. Ola Brown



Fourth Sectional Director  
Inez Walls\*



Fifth Sectional Director  
Mairon Phillips\*



Seventh Sectional Director  
Grace Robinson\*



Eighth Sectional Director  
Beverly Jackson\*



Ninth Sectional Director  
Mary Ellen Maddox

Sixth Sectional Director  
Verna Warren\*



Eleventh Sectional Director  
Shirley Brown



Twelfth Sectional Director  
Josephine Bolden

Tenth Sectional Director  
Pauline McGriff-Smith



Thirteenth Sectional Director Sallie Gibson



Current Sectional Director Audrey Jordan

## “Forever Emeralds“Past National Presidents



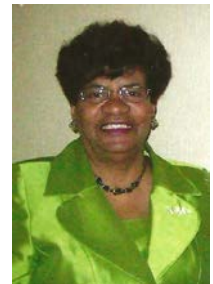
19<sup>th</sup> National President  
Phyllis J. Eggleston



20<sup>th</sup> National President  
Dr. Ezora J. Proctor



21<sup>st</sup> National President  
Dr. Lenore R. Gall



22<sup>nd</sup> National President  
Ollie Johnson







**KENYA D. DENNIS**  
**Culver City Branch Woman of the Year 2008-2009**  
**SOUTHWEST SECTIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2010 -2011**

**Kenya D. Dennis-Culver City Branch -Biographical Sketch**

Kenya Dennis is a Senior Staff Accountant for a \$40 billion Telecommunications company. She received her B S in Accounting from California State Dominguez Hills in Carson California. Right after she finished high school in Detroit, Michigan, Kenya relocated to Inglewood. 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 Dominguez Hills University. The educational experience opened many doors far beyond the minimum wage jobs to which she was accustomed. Kenya has worked in the Accounting profession for over 20 years. She is a wife and a mother. Kenya and her husband are champions of education. She serves on the Parent Volunteer-Fire & Ice Studio: Community Development Center of Performing Arts Committee, the PTA & School Site Council member-Daniel Freeman Elementary and the Grade Parent Volunteer-Wilder's Preparatory Academy. Kenya and her husband constantly express to their children the importance of an education. Her family has a favorite quote by W.B. Yeates, "Education is not the filling of a bucket but the lighting of a fire".

Kenya Dennis has served as leader and active team member in Culver City Branch. She served as the 2008-2010 Culver City Branch Treasurer. Highlights of her activities include: Co-Chairperson- Membership Tea-Power Point Presentation, Thanksgiving Basket Presentation - Slauson Learning Center Students, Chairperson-Holiday Christmas Gala-Personal Development activity, Ways & Means Committee member, 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, Women's History Month Committee Member, Black History Month Committee Member, Scholarship Committee Member, and Reading Jubilee Participate.

**On SECTIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES she has served dynamically and her work has been invaluable as the 2008-2010 Southwest Sectional Treasurer. Kenya Dennis' has served on the Sectional 2008 Sectional Conference Finance Committee Member with the hosting branch - Inglewood and on the 2009 Sectional Conference Finance Committee Member with the hosting branch - Los Angeles. She participated in the 2009 Sectional Conference as a Workshop Facilitator and on the 2009 Sectional Conference Necrology Participant with the Los Angeles Branch Host. She served on the 2010 Southwest Section Founders Day program as a participant during the historical presentation of the Southwest Sectional History. She is known nationally for her skills and accounting knowledge throughout the Southwest Section; she served as a member of the 2008-2009 National Internal Audit Committee. Kenya Dennis served as the Sergeant of Arms at plenary sessions at the 66<sup>th</sup>National Convention 2008 Winston Salem, North Carolina. She served as leader/participant of Exercise Activities also at the convention.**

**Through hard work and dedication Kenya Dennis has earned many honors and awards such as a Certificate of Achievement for Chair of the Christmas Gala Committee, a Certificate of Excellence-66th National Convention-Winston Salem, North Carolina-Exercise Activity, a Certificate of Appreciation-Service rendered as Sergeant-At-Arms, 66th National Convention Winston Salem, North Carolina, a Certificate of Appreciation as the AIDS Walk Coordinator - Culver City Branch, and a trophy for 2009 Outstanding Sectional Treasurer. She was selected as the 2009 Culver City Branch Woman of the Year for her noteworthy accomplishments of preparing the 2008 Annual Report. We congratulate Kenya D. Dennis as the Southwest Sectional Woman of the Year for 2010!**



Evelyn Wright- National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Virginia H. Hill Inglewood Branch, Pamela J Foster-West Coast Cities, Ollie Johnson- National President, Kenya D. Dennis- Southwest Section Woman of the Year and Culver City Branch, Hattie McFrazier –South Bay Branch, and Audrey Jordan –Southwest Sectional Director

### In Loving Memory of Delores Smith

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our dear NAUW Sister Delores Smith of the Los Angeles Branch, Southwest Section. Funeral Services were held on August 30, 2010 at Second AME Methodist Church & her interment was at Inglewood cemetery.

Delores Smith career as an educator spans four decades: first she taught at the Foundation of the Junior Blind for several years, next she taught Business Education courses at Morningside High School for over twenty years. She retired from the classroom, yet continued to work as an educational consultant for Inglewood Unified School District until 1999. Dolores enjoyed traveling across the USA and to the Caribbean. She played piano and the organ. She loved to sing in the choir; she was a member of the District of California Conference Choir, Missionary Society Choir; and she served as the treasurer for the choir.

Dolores was an over achiever as a member of the National Association of University Women Los Angeles Branch. She served as financial secretary and treasurer for more than twenty years. Audits and reports were completed with excellence. She will be remembered as: as a wonderful woman, wife and mother to so many of her students. She nurtured children, teens, young adults and seniors. She assisted many students to help them go to college. (By Martha Caldwell/Willa Snorton)

### RESOLUTION IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER R.C. OLA BROWN

We the members of the National Association of University Women wish the family to know that it is with deep sadness and a sense of great loss that we gather to bid a great Christian sister goodbye, to our beloved and respected sister R.C. Ola Brown. Whereas, Sister Brown was a dedicated member of the organization for over fifty-six years! She served as the branch President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Chairperson of Founder's Day, Scholarship committee member and Co-Chair of the fundraiser.

Whereas on the sectional level she served as Sectional Director for a number of years;

Whereas on the national level she served as National Financial secretary and consultant for the Southwest section;

Whereas Sister Brown was a loyal, faithful and committed member by participating and fulfilling all of her duties of the National Association of University Women;

Whereas Sister Brown was a loving, kind and gentle sister who loved others, adored her family and loved the Lord. Whereas Sister Brown whose loss we will mourn, we are consoled by the words of Jesus who said, **"I will never leave you nor forsake you"**. Hebrews 13:5. Therefore, be it resolved that we support and embrace Sister Brown's loving family by demonstrating our love for her to you by the words of the poem **"Do not stand at my grave and weep..."**

Be it further resolved that the Los Angeles Branch of the National Association of University women, embrace the family of Sister Brown, knowing that your loss is deep and your sorrow is great, but we want you to know that we share



in your sorrow, but more importantly, we recognize that this loss is **Heaven's Gain**. Signed by National President **Ollie D. Johnson**, National Corresponding Secretary – **Jeanette O. Keyes**, Southwest Sectional Director – **Audrey Jordan**, and Los Angeles Branch President – **Adriana McNally**

### In loving memory a tribute to Daisy Davis August 20 1936 – June 19, 2010

"Daisy Davis commenced her forty-one years in education as an elementary school teacher in Hazlehurst, Mississippi and retired from Compton Unified School District in June 2002 as a middle school counselor. Her last assignment was with Enterprise Middle School. Daisy Davis received numerous awards and certificates of appreciation from perfect attendance to Teacher of the Year. After obtaining administrator credentials, Daisy continued her studies for her PhD in Special Education and was just three classes short from completing, but family had to come first.

Daisy was considered a teacher's teacher, while developing future teachers at Compton Community College where she taught night school for a number of years. She felt her attention in the classroom and supporting teachers at the ground level was the most important part of her education career. She not only displayed her conventions on campus but in her home. Daisy would feed, clothe and house students at any given time. To the day of her passing, those same former students that Daisy considered on their own from four states away kept in contact with her. She was compassionate to everyone that she met and [making] corrections with love was her signature. ... In the early 1980's Daisy joined the NAUW and even after moving to Texas in the mid 2005, she maintained her membership. NAUW's mission and purpose is to promote education advancement in the community was a true fit for Daisy. Raising monies for their annual SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH was mission critical."

From the memorial tribute prepared  
by the family of Daisy Davis. She will remain in our  
hearts always.

### Psalm 23 (for work from the INTERNET)

The Lord is my real boss, and I shall not want.

He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me.

He gently reminds me to pray and do all things without  
murmuring and complaining.

He reminds me that he is my source and not my job. He  
restores my sanity everyday and guides my decisions that I  
might honor him in all that I do.

Even though I face absurd amounts of e-mails, system  
crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping co-  
workers, discriminating supervisors and an aging body that  
doesn't cooperate every morning, I still will not stop--- for He is  
with me! His presence, His peace, and His power will see me  
through.

He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me. He  
claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let  
me go. His Faithfulness and love is better than any bonus  
check.

His retirement plan beats every 401k there is!



When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer and for that, I BLESS HIS NAME!!!!!!

Nothing is impossible when there are possibilities....

### Highlights from Southwest Branches...

From the West Coast Cities Branch: CONGRATULATIONS TO Dr. Essie French-Preston on becoming our new Lay Member for the Southwest Section She is also the new first Vice President of West Coast Cities Branch and is serving with President Pamela Foster on the goals and programs of NAUW. West Coast Cities Branch presented a very successful Hall Of Fame Scholarship Luncheon on March 20, 2010. Six individuals were honored who have impacted the community in a positive way. Treasure Hattan, a high school Senior, received our annual scholarship award at the luncheon. West Coast Cities Branch was honored at St. Timothy's Episcopal Day School on May 22, 2010 for our continued contributions to the education community and received a lovely plaque during the program. On July 9, 2010 we sponsored a fundraiser bus trip to Viejas, featuring games, eating and shopping. (Submitted by Pamela Foster)



More photo highlights from February 5-6, 2010 Sectional Conference above and below!



The next Southwest Section Newsletter **THE SOUTHWESTERNER** is in progress covering activities from the National 100<sup>th</sup> Convention and NAUW activities and programs from September through December 2010. All submissions are welcomed. Please send news of your accomplishments, service, articles citations, new members, and activities to Billie Frierson-journalist / newsletter editor [bf96delrio@aol.com](mailto:bf96delrio@aol.com) for the SOUTHERWESTERNER Newsletter

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