

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN



## The Southwesterner Southwest Sectional Newsletter

Southwest Sectional Newsletter: Vol. VII, August 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017 Editor:

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**Bylaws, Founder's Day,**

**Scholarship: Clara Frost**

**Membership Dr. Essie Preston**

**Nat'l/Internat'l Dr. Judith**

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**Necrology: Dr. Rhonda**

Jefferson

**Nominating : Hattie McFrazie**

**Journalist Dr. Virginia Hathaway**

**Protocol Julia Williams**

**Technology Beverly Thomas**

**Ways & Means Yvonne**

Meredith

**Woman of the Year: Paula May**

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*Southwest Sectional Director  
Dr. Essie French Preston  
Greetings my NAUW Sisters*

Congratulations to members of the Southwest Section for the great work that you have done this past year. Branches continue to raise the bar of excellent in the implementation of programs and projects.

**National:** The Southwest Section made a contribution of \$1,000.00 to the National Leaf Project, had 100% contribution to the National EBOLA Project, and contributed to the Nigerian School for Girls

**Sectional:** Contributed to the St. John's Back-Pack give-away in September, provided lunch for Habitat for Humanity, participated in the Girls in Technology Conference at El Camino College Compton Center, prepared Homegoing Resolution for members of the Southwest Section,, Participated in Black Expo in Oakland, California, coordinated the publication of the Southwest Section Newsletter and hosted a Southwest Section Retreat.

**The 47th the Sectional Conference** was hosted by the Inland Empire Branch at the Ontario Airport Hotel& Conference Center on February 5-6 in Ontario, California. We experienced an exciting and motivational conference. The Sectional Scholarship of \$1,000.00 was awarded and the Woman of the Year, Mrs. Sheryl Garner Hunter was selected. At Founders Day we acknowledge our Founders and those women of the National Association of University Women whose shoulders we stand on. The membership campaign, "Operation 300" was initiated. We were able to close the year with 212 members. The Sectional Community Service Project consisted of over 1500 items being donated to the Foothill Family Shelter which houses homeless adults and children for a period of up to 120 days. Over 40 members from the Southwest Section attended the 70<sup>th</sup> National Convention in St. Louis at The Arch, St. Louis, Missouri. The Southwest Section won the Pearl Level Achievement Award for 5,000-9,999 Volunteer Hours, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in New Branches Chartered 2014-2016.and Certificate of Achievement for First Sectional Director Report Submission 2016.



## *Clara Frost, Lay Member*

It is an honor to be of service to the National Association of University Women, Southwest Section. As Lay Member, my goal has been and continues to be that of service to the NAUW, while working closely with our Sectional Director, Dr. Essie French-Preston.

2016 was very eventful year, having attended the National Convention in St. Louis, MO and serving as a member of the National Necrology program. My work continued throughout the year as I participated in the following activities:

- ✚ Prepared and submitted Sectional and National Lay Member reports
- ✚ Prepared amended Southwest Section Bylaw, Article XV Section and distributed to executive board members
- ✚ Continue to work with Fannie Love in creating a program brochure
- ✚ Attended Women in Technology (WIT) Conference, May 6, 2016
- ✚ Recruited members to volunteer for the Habitat for Humanity Service Project, May 21, 2016
- ✚ Attended NAUW National Convention, July 27-August 31, 2016
  - Served on Necrology Committee
- ✚ Attended and presented for Southwest Sectional retreat at the El Camino College Center, September 24, 2016
- ✚ Participated in SCLA Branch's annual holiday outreach activity: "Joy in a Bag." Branch members (7) and young girls (4) from the Leadership Academy visited the Vermont Care Center convalescent home; shared gift bags and sang Christmas carols to the residents, December 10, 2016.
- ✚ Prepared certificates for Helen Ricks and members who participated in the Backpack Giveaway with St. John's United Methodist Church.

In addition to the above tasks, there were numerous in-person meetings and telephone conferences with Dr. French-Preston, Branch Presidents, and committee members for planning and preparation of the 2016 sectional retreat and 2017 sectional conference.

### ✓ **November 20, 2016 – February 2, 2017:**

1. Sectional Scholarship
  - a. Emailed applications and letters to presidents.
  - b. Responded to emails
  - c. Scheduled interviews and notified committee members of date and location.
  - d. Contacted 2-applicant to schedule interview
  - e. Interviewed candidate and finalized selection
  - f. Prepared Scholarship Program
2. Founders' Day
  - a. Prepared and submitted Founders' Day program template for review
  - b. Responded to emails
  - c. Made adjustments/corrections to program as needed
  - d. Finalized and printed programs for Founders' Day
3. Provided feedback and templates to vendor for procurement of plaques.
4. Prepared and submitted Sectional reports.

I am privileged to serve with such honorable women as my NAUW Sisters. "Thank you," Dr. Essie French-Preston, Madams Presidents, Officers and Members for your continued support and inspiration.

At Your Service

# 70<sup>th</sup> National Convention-2016 Photos

## Saint Louis,



# 47<sup>th</sup> Sectional Conference, 2016 Photos and Highlights



**Sheryl Garner Hunter – Woman of the year**



## Necrology (Our Carnations)



**Sandra Smith - South Bay Branch**

**Marilyn James Miller – Inland Empire Branch**



**Martha Stewart – Santa Monica Branch**

## Branch Highlights from the Southwest Section Beach Cities Innovators!



We purchased notebooks and file folders for the annual St. Michael's Backpack event. We also volunteered our time on the day of the event to pass out the school supplies to the neighborhood children of Watts.

We participated in "Gift of Love" which is a Thanksgiving project to feed families during the Thanksgiving Holiday

Beach Cities partnered with Faithful Central to provide toys and clothing to children who have parents that are incarcerated. We shopped, helped with the gift wrapping and participated in the distribution of the gifts.

On a weekly basis, members of Beach Cities help with a tutoring program called MORE, (My Own Realization of Education) to assist our youth in reading, writing and math skills.

Our greatest accomplishment this year, was giving out our first \$1000 scholarship to a beautiful young lady who maintains a 4.0 GPA, She is attending San Diego State College with the hopes of going into the Medical Field.

Dr. Rhonda Jefferson, President

# CULVER CITY STARS!

Celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1985/86 to 2016/17



## Founding President Ann Hill Started the Culver City Branch in 1984

On July 15, 1984 Sectional Director Grace Robinson and five other ladies met at Ann Hill's home to witness the birth of the Culver City Branch. During Culver City's 1985-1986 fiscal year is when Culver City begin to fulfill the mission to serve and the Branch set its agenda. As the membership begin to grow, Evelyn Gladney-Wright was installed as the Corresponding Secretary and Mary Ann Smith was our Second Vice President. Culver City is proud to say these two ladies are still with the Culver Branch today. Evelyn Wright our National President and Mary Ann Smith as Culver City's Corresponding Secretary. Culver City is extremely proud to have these ladies as members over the past 30 years!!



Culver City's 2016 Woman of the Year, Matteal Kirby. Matteal has been nominated Culver City Woman of the year 3 times! Matteal has been a NAUW member for over 20 years. Matteal is our immediate Past Scholarship Chairperson which she served as the chair for over 10 years. Matteal's passion is NAUW and that's why she is Culver City Woman of the year for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time!



Culver City members President Carolyn Williams and members Dr. Virginia Hathaway and Josie Marie Grant participated in the Angel Tree project during the holidays with the United Methodist Church. The members were there to present Culver City's donation to the Angel Tree Project.



Culver City members end the 2016 year with a Holiday Gathering at Tony P's in Marina Del Rey.



President Evelyn Wright celebrates Culver City 30th Anniversary with our Social Media Prop. #NAUW; promoting technology at all levels!



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**  
*South Central Los Angeles Branch*



**September -Tupperware Fundraiser  
October- Prospective New Member Lunch  
Empowering Your Girls Lead Academy  
Angel Bin Project**

**November – Viejas trip and Empowering Young Girls Lead Academy workshop  
December – Made gift bags of toiletries for convalescent home and Branch Christmas Celebration**

**Erika Lampkin, Branch President**



# Inglewood Branch on the Move!

May 21, 2016, Inglewood joined with fellow m NAUW of our 10 Branches for volunteerism with Habitat for Humanity. Two beautiful homes were being built and South West Section of NAUW served the hard workers lunch.



The Inglewood Branch conducted four new members under the direction of our Branch President Lois LaBeaud and 1st Vice President Cynthia Williams. Kimberly Majors-Taylor, Zandra Palmer, Marilyn Smith and Elmeaner Reeves were inducted in June 2016.

July 2016 in St. Louis, MO, several of our sisters attended the National Convention. A great time was had by all; learning updates, attending workshops and fellowship with fellow NAUW sisters.



October 8, 2016, Breast Cancer awareness Presentation by our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Meka Brown. Important information was distributed, activities were played for awareness effort, prizes were given and an interesting dialogue took place that was led by our very own RN, Dr. Lindsay Williams. Branch members support a Breast Cancer Foundation, Susan Komen with monetary donations totaling \$50.00

Prior to the Thanksgiving break for students at Franklin D. Parent, our Branch support a family of youth children and presented them with a \$100.00 Visa Cards from Ralph's Super Market. The family families were selected by the recommendation of the School Counselor as those having difficulty providing little more than the basic needs. The Branch President, Lois LaBeaud and member Chef and Donna Wilson met with the family for blessing.



Annual Holiday Celebration on December 10, 2016 at Truxton's American Bistro, coordinated by our 2nd Vice President, Meka Brown. An "Ugly Sweater" Brunch was enjoyed by all; food, fun, fellowship, raffle gifts and White Elephant game.

Inglewood Branch concluded their 2016, on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December, visiting the Dangerfield Institute—an institute for foster placement for children that house children before they are selected by foster parents. Youth girls, ages 12-16 years were gifted by our Branch members.

## Tri Cities Branch “The Innovators”



Tri Cities Worship Sunday, May 15, 2016.

Christ 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Compton, California



Clothes and shoes were sent to Africa in collaboration with the Pan African program in Los Angeles



**It is a Woman's World too!**

Presentations were presented at meeting by professional business women who have and continue to be successful in the world of work.

**NAUW Southwest Section  
NEWSLETTER  
Inland Empire Branch**

Our branch received seven blessings this program year. In the past five months, we have inducted seven remarkable ladies into the Inland Empire Branch. Further we have one lady in waiting that insists that she join us and we will be inducting her at our next general membership meeting for a total of eight new members. This is the most exciting year we have had since we were chartered in 2009. Our only regret is that they were not members when our branch hosted the 47<sup>th</sup> Southwest Sectional Conference in 2016.

Since they've joined our branch we have had some very inspirational personal growth sessions in genealogy research, Joy the things that make us happy and a session based the book Radical Beauty by Deepak Chopra, just to name a few.

We have some exciting fundraising events planned for this year. We sure hope you will be able to join us. These events help us to support our 6 scholarship recipients. These young ladies are maintaining their grades and keeping us up to date on their progress each school year.

We will be joining the House of Ruth in their effort to end domestic violence. We will partner with them in their tutoring program for all ages and efforts to build women up in all areas of their lives. Since our branch is growing with many skill sets and talents the House of Ruth offers us an opportunity to volunteer in many different areas.

Our work continues with the CLASP program (Claremont after School Program). This is an afterschool tutoring program organized by the Claremont School District.

To support other organizations in our community the Inland Empire Branch purchased a full page ad on behalf of the NAUW to the Claremont Area Chapter of the Links February 25, 2017 event Heart Health Red Dress Fundraiser.

We continue on this journey with God leading the way.

Proverbs 3:5-6

**5** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

**6** In all your ways acknowledge Him; And He shall direct your paths.



**Dr. Ethel Walker Natalia Baudin Marion Watkins Dr. Barbara Gray Seleria Williams Carol Ivy Deanna Daniel**

**Los Angeles was the first Branch in the Southwest (1954)**  
**Our History**  
**Host Branch – February 3 &4, 2016**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Sectional Conference**



Alyce Robinson, President, 1954



The Los Angeles Branch I honored to host the 48<sup>th</sup> annual SW Sectional Conference. We've worked closely with Dr. Preston, Sectional Director with the support of our Sister Branch West Coast Cities, Inland Empire and all of the Branches in the Southwest Section. One of our main focuses this year has been to increase membership. We had a membership informational meeting at our October meeting. In November, Johnetta Jones was selected as our Branch "Women of the Year." Johnetta Jones has over 40 years of service with the LA Branch. She has chaired numerous committees; her main focus has always been on our youth programs.

November was our month to celebrate giving, thus we made a financial donation to the LA Regional Food Bank.

At our December meeting our Branch held our annual Christmas party. We had the pleasure to have Dr. Preston in attendance. While in attendance, we discussed all things pertinent to the Sectional Conference.

The Alexandria House has been selected as our Southwest Sectional Community Project. This is our second year working in partnership with the Alexandria Hose, a transitional housing organization which serves abused women and women with substance abuse problems.

We look forward to our continued partnership!

Terry H. Cummings, President, Los Angeles Branch

## Santa Monica Branch

Members of the Santa Monica Branch attended and participated in the **NAUW 70<sup>th</sup> National Conference** in Saint Louis, Missouri

In November, Santa Monica Branch, in partnership with **Messiah Baptist Church**, planned and conducted the morning worship service honoring **Veterans** for their service to the country. In large numbers, veterans marched into the Sanctuary to the tune of “Onward Christian Soldiers”. Highlights of the event included greeting veterans as they arrived at the church, Presentation of Colors by the Los Angeles High School JROTC, Special “Recognition” of the oldest veteran present who was a World War II Veteran, greetings by President Yvonne Meredith, and lunch for veterans, families and members. Entertainment during lunch consisted of a music rendition by Santa Monica member, Delores Bodey.



During President Meredith’s greeting, she gave special recognition to **Sallie Gibson, the 13th NAUW Southwest Sectional Director**. Highlights from the recognition speech:

*Today we pause in the midst of our celebration to recognize and honor a member of our Santa Monica Branch, Mrs. Sallie F. Gibson. Not only do we honor her today, we also pay reverence and thank her for organizing our Branch, The Santa Monica Branch of the Southwest Section.*



*Sallie is a long time member of NAUW. She joined the Lake Charles Branch, a part of the South Central Section in Louisiana in 1957, where she taught Junior High School English and Social Studies. She remained in that branch until 1964. She left to join the staff of Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana to teach History, and joined NAUW at Southern University. In 1970, Sallie moved to Los Angeles, California and continued her teaching career at Centennial High School in Compton, California. She then joined South Bay Branch of NAUW. Beverly Jackson, a classmate of Sallie from Southern University sponsored her into the group. Sallie had been requested to speak to the school’s graduates on the topic “Where Do We Go From Here”.*

*Not only has Sallie been in NAUW a long time, she has been a member of many organizations. They include, The California Association of Multicultural Counselors, where Sallie served as President of the Association and sponsored the National Convention in Los Angeles 1987-89. She was also President of the State Association of Multicultural Counselors in 1989. She was president of South Bay Branch of NAUW 1990-1992 and Woman of the Year of South Bay 1992. Sallie was also been Woman of the Year for the Santa Monica Branch in 2004.*

Santa Monica Branch continued to implement their youth mentoring program. This *mentoring program* partners with **National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)** supporting High School students who are interested in careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) (STEM). Students in the program attend Palisades Charter High School.

# South Bay on the Move!

## National Convention



The South Bay delegation consisting of Linda Dickerson, Barbara Clark, Sharon Johnson, Margarett Crockett, Fannie Love, and Edna Yow had a stimulating time at the 70th National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, July 28-31, 2016. The South Bay Branch received the following recognition: Certificate of Achievement for Annual Report 2016 Submission – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Certificate of Achievement for Volunteer Hours for 2014-16 – Opal Level; and Certificate of Recognition for Membership – Opal Level.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Leimert Park Village Book Fair



Members Billie Frierson, Sharon Johnson, & Cassandra Noble



Member Treemonisha Smith & CLBC President Betty Blackman

On August 20, 2016, South Bay members participated in the *10th Anniversary Leimert Park Village Book Fair* held at Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, we shared a table with California Librarians Black Caucus (CLBC). The *Leimert Park Village Book Fair* is the largest literary event in the Los Angeles African-American community. Its mission is to promote, encourage, and advocate literacy, education and the love of reading and features more than 150 authors, poets, artists and storytellers.

## Thanksgiving Baskets



Michaela McCluster, Jenna Dickerson, Laila Anderson, Laura Thompson, & Skylar Campbell.

On November 12, 2016, our *Rites of Passage* young ladies decorated *Thanksgiving baskets* which were donated to two families selected to receive a turkey, canned goods and other food staples for the Thanksgiving holiday. The “Rites of Passage” is a six-month program consisting of workshops, cultural and recreational outings for young ladies in sixth through eighth grade.

## Woman of the Year



On November 12, 2016, South Bay’s 2016-17 Woman of the Year was announced – Barbara Clark. Barbara has been a member since 2013 and currently serves as South Bay's Financial Secretary and a Co-Chair of Rites of Passage.

# NAUW Southwest Sectional Activities



Back-Pack Give-Away

St. John's United Methodist Church

August 13, 2016



NAUW Southwest Sectional Retreat (October 2016)



Donation of \$1,000.00 Southwest Section Leaf

## AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE



Greetings, West Coast Cities Branch Sisters!!! My prayer is that you all had a relaxing and rejuvenating Christmas. I, like President Barack Obama, will have to say "Good Bye" as your President. It has been a privilege and a pleasure serving you. I welcome my incumbent, Ms. Aletha McMillan, and am excited to serve on her executive board as 1st Vice President.

*"You can do nothing without prayer and everything with it! Yes We Can!" President Barack Obama*

### VOLUME 7, WINTER ISSUE

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#### Upcoming 48th Sectional Conference News Flash

Dates: February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2017

Location: Double Tree in Culver City

6161 W. Centinela Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230

During our Conference please remember to bring items for our Community Service Project for the Alexandria House such as tooth brushes, tooth paste, and women's feminine and any other hygiene products.



**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

To Our 2017 West Coast Cities Woman of the Year  
Dr. Leandra Fields Robinson-Cowens

### Our New 2016—2018 Officers

#### **President**

*Aletha McMillan*

#### **1st President**

*Valerie Vaultz*

#### **2nd President**

*Paula May*

#### **Recording Secretary**

*Charlia Vaultz*

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

*Dr. LeAndrea Fields-Robinson-Cowens*

#### **Assistant Secretary**

*Gail Taylor*

#### **Treasurer**

*Pamela Foster*

#### **Financial Secretary**

*Rebecca Osborne*

*"...We can do it now! This very moment, I mean right now! Let's Begin!"*

*President Barack Obama, Commander in Chief*



WEBSITE:  
nauw1910-sw.org



*Founded by One  
Common Goal*



COMMON UNITY  
EQUALS  
COMMUNITY



*Thank you, ladies for your  
love and support to the  
West Coast Cities Branch!*

*One Person can  
make a difference and  
Every Person should try!*

Valerie Vaultz  
874 West Alondra Blvd.  
Compton, CA 90220  
310-413-3981

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

### 2016 Accomplishments

**April** Hall of Fame Scholarship Luncheon  
Distribution over **\$4800.00** for College and Book Scholarships, Bread of Life Christian Center's Youth Program, Sectional and International Projects  
**August** Relay for Life Donation and Backpack Give-Away Participation  
**September** Back in Stride Again Business Meeting  
**November** Veteran's Day Celebration  
**November** Thanksgiving Basket Donations—Helped to Feed 100 Families  
**October** Pechanga's Bus Trip Fundraiser  
**December** His Sheltering Arms Toy Give-Away  
**December** Kwanzaa Celebration Christmas Reception

## WCC TEAM MEMBER'S CORNER

### Committee Chairs

Executive - Aletha McMillan  
Membership - Valerie Vaultz  
Programs - Paula May  
Finance - Pamela Foster  
Bylaws - Valerie Vaultz  
Scholarship - Dr. Essie French-Preston  
Human & Social Relations—Dorothy Ross  
International Affairs - Adele Johnson  
Publicity - Charlia Vaultz  
Technology - Arinn Filer/Vanessa Haynes  
Nomination - Dorothy Ross  
Protocol - Julia Banks-Williams  
Founder's Day - Dr. Janice Filer  
National Affairs - Gail Taylor  
Necrology - Dr. LeAndrea Fields-Robinson-Cowens

Our **Next Business Meeting:** Sunday, February 19, 2017

Location: 20620 Leapwood Ave # K, Carson, CA 90746 @ 2:00 pm

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN OUR GREAT ORGANIZATION

**Get Ready! Get Ready! Get Ready!**

West Coast Cities Branch and Culver City Branch Co-Host  
The 71st National Convention—Manhattan Beach, California in 2018!!!

*Communication is the Key  
Knowledge is Power,  
Information is Liberating*



NAIUW West Coast Cities Branch



## How to Hope



Practical Power

It is easy to look at all that is happening around us, as well as our own personal challenges, and become discouraged but I submit to us all that THERE IS HOPE. Romans 5:3-4 enlightens us to the fact that hope is produced when tribulation, patience and experience work together in harmony. We have all endured trouble, waited patiently during our trials and gained experience by doing so. In turn, we have acquired and should, therefore, put to use this recipe for HOPE.

Hope is having expectation with confidence despite the odds. There is something to be said about those who physically see the troubles before them but continue to holdfast to the hope of what lies ahead. With that hope we endure, with that hope we persevere, with that hope we overcome and we do so with joy; knowing that victory is ours.

As women of faith, attached to a great legacy; we reflect on those who have come before us and all that they have done to propel the National Association of University Women to where it is today, while serving as an example to those who will carry on the legacy after us. In doing so, we allow the hope of the past to encourage our today and secure our future.

Hope has guided us through perilous times and brought about a fruitful gathering of women who are determined to serve those in need. With that same hope, we accept the responsibility to move swiftly towards an even brighter future. We are “Progressive Women Remaining Relevant in a Global Society”, we are NAUW!



Be encouraged and continue to hope!

Dr. Shresia D. Fontenot Kenney  
Tri-Cities Branch National  
Chaplain Committee