

NAUW PRIDE



Growing Stronger Everyday..

Progressive Women: Redefining Community Service in the 21st Century

March 2011

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Mrs. Dolores Y. Owens
National President

Message from the President

My NAUW Sister Scholars,

Here we are in our 101st year as a model service organization. Reflecting upon the past 100 years and our grand celebration at our convention in Washington, DC last year marking this momentous occasion fills me with pride. The unveiling of the bust of Founder, Mary Church Terrell, the visit to her gravesite, the first time presentation of the Mary Church Terrell Service Award presented to Congresswoman, Eleanor Holmes Norton were great history making events that we shall long remember.

Much appreciation must be given to Past President, Ollie D. Johnson, the convention planning team and to each of you for whatever role you played in making this once in a lifetime event special and memorable.

The month of March is our time to celebrate women. The National History Project has chosen as their 2011 theme: "Our History is Our Strength". This concept is much like the one taken from the Akan people of West Africa "Sankofa" which teaches us that we must go back to our roots in order to move forward. That is, we should reach back and gather the best of what our past has to teach us, so that we can achieve our full potential as we move forward. It is most important that we review our history and celebrate our founding members and so many other women of color who over the years made valuable and lasting contributions to us and to society. At the same time, let us continue to make history by celebrating and empowering each other by embracing the many contributions that each of us makes every day to our families, our friends and our communities.

Traveling throughout the sections, it is evident that our organization is poised toward greatness. Each section, has its unique way of carrying out the mandates of the NAUW. What better time than now, to "redefine" ourselves and what we do best—provide services to the disadvantaged—as we begin our second century of service. Your president is grateful to serve in this capacity at this time in our history where we will make our mark and leave a proud and rich legacy for those who will follow in our footsteps.

"I have been the recipient of love and service, therefore I can love and serve..." To those members who have welcomed this president into their homes, for business and for pleasure and to those who have offered warm greetings and words of encouragement along with gifts of kindness and sisterly love; thank you for bringing smiles to her face and joy to her heart. She is, indeed, grateful for the support of every member and recognizes that "No task is too great when we tackle it together."

PRAYERS FOR OUR SISTERS IN RAYNE, LA and JAPAN TSUNAMI VICTIMS

A recent tornado in Rayne, LA, left families devastated in terms of damage to properties and personal injuries. We are thankful that our NAUW sisters in Rayne are all safe. Some have experienced damage to their homes, but have not needed to evacuate. For further information or to offer assistance, please contact Diane Granger, President of the Rayne Branch, 337-896-8931. Also, individual donations can be made through Doctors without Borders to the victims of the Japan disaster on line: donate.doctorswithoutborders.org.

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Letisa Vereen

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Dr. Bettye J. Williams

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Greetings from the National Vice Presidents

National First Vice President Letisa Vereen

I am excited about the endless possibilities and major accomplishments that are expected in the near future. Our goal for the National Association of University Women is to strengthen this organization in membership, and the assistance of all members is needed. Branch Membership Rosters indicate that our membership is below the reported 2000 members. To achieve this goal, all branches must focus on membership growth as their number one priority. Below is an account of our membership by section through December 2010.

	<u>2009 - 2010</u>	<u>2010 - 2011</u>	<u>Growth</u>
Northeast	396	365	-31
North Central	166	129	-37
South Central	666	641	-25
Southeast	569	549	-20
Southwest	215	197	-18

Our National Membership Drive began January 1st and will end May 30, 2011. Please join us in recruiting new members, retaining the present members, and reclaiming inactive members and branches. All branches can all begin recruitment efforts by incorporating our theme: "Progressive Women: Redefining Community Service in the 21st Century" into all programs throughout the year. During our National Membership Drive, each branch is asked to set its individual goal for membership. Start planning now to reach your branch goal. Utilize the list of suggested activities, the new brochure designed specifically for recent college graduates, and the new brochure for all other potential members who are college graduates.

To culminate our Membership Drive, branches will be recognized for their efforts and accomplishments in June. Remember, membership is the life of our Association and all members must continue to work together with commitment, dedication, diligence, loyalty, and cooperation to insure successful results.

Sisterly,



Letisa Vereen

National Second Vice President Bettye J. Williams, Ph.D.

TAKE BACK THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Our neighborhoods—not all but far too many—are plagued by crimes—robberies, batteries, burglaries, even murders by teens and children. In the last 30 years [1980], fear, noise, aimlessness, fights, taunting, swearing, and drug terror are commonplace in the neighborhood. We are living in different times with different demographics and very different family structures. Earlier volunteer practices may not be as effective or as successful to the demographics of this era when the *hip-hop* culture, technology, and video games have undergirded the neighborhood. Even so, university women have and are serving the neighborhood as powerful volunteers, adult role models, and mentors. Branch members are contributing solutions to the foregoing in the following ways:

- (1) Being visible and persistent with the *Reading Bridge Program*;
- (2) Using volunteer hours by laying the groundwork for one-on-one projects with schools, after-school programs, neighborhood centers, libraries, boys and girls clubs/groups, women's shelters, nursing homes; and such groups;
- (3) Uplifting at-risk youngsters, teens, and adults through difficult times and troubling problems;
- (4) Helping a child/adult develop the values, goals, and skills needed for success;
- (5) Spending time with a child/teen or adult listening, talking, tutoring, counseling, and providing emotional support and guidance.

Enhancing the well-being of individuals through community service has long been a tradition of the National Association of University Women. In addition to branch signature programs, the national emphases for this year are literacy—in all its aspects—and documenting volunteer hours. In gorgeous green folders, Sectional directors and all branch presidents were mailed or hand-delivered copies of "Programs and Projects for 2010-2011"—send me (branch presidents) a note if you need additional information. With workshop, parades, book reports, videos, posters and such as central, every month is an opportunity to recognize men and women who have been instrumental in the ongoing struggle for equality in our communities. In our literacy programs, let's remember to include President Barack Obama, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as other great African Americans in our reading materials. "It is not first place that drives one; it is the mission . . . the goal." What an appropriate aphorism.

North Central Section — Annette Burtin, Sectional Director

North Central Section is poised and ready to continue the NAUW spirit of promoting the vision of our founders and present officers by personal growth and “redefining community service in the 21st century.” Chicago hosted the Sectional Conference in Oak Brook on November 12-13, 2010 and elected a new Sectional Director, Annette Burtin. Attendance was great and new programs and initiatives were unanimously adopted by the delegates.

North Central has responsibly responded to the challenges of our National First Vice President Letisa Vereen and our National Second Vice President Bettye Williams. Our branches are continuing to induct new members. We are eagerly exploring prospects of chartering new branches in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana in the near future. North Central has begun logging reading hours and adopting/mentoring kids.

The Branches of the North Central Section have dedicated themselves to community service. Some of their projects included: delivering decorated Thanksgiving food baskets, food items, Christmas cards and gifts to nursing home residents and needy families; sponsoring a breakfast for local nursing homes; serving lunch to Black WWII veterans; collaborating with other organizations to donate holiday stockings to the homeless, abused and mentally challenged; visiting battered women’s shelters to spread holiday cheer and gifts to the residents; and distributing donated books to housing community residents. Coins continue to flow from the purses of North Central to collect funds for our innovative “Socks Project” which benefits our National/International Initiative.

Northeast Section — Pauline A. Chandler, Sectional Director

The Northeast Section sponsored a tree planting on the campus of Howard University in honor of Dr. Sara Winifred Brown. In addition to being one of NAUW’s founders, Dr. Brown was the first woman on the Board of Directors for Howard University. Following the ceremony held at Howard’s Rankin Chapel, a reception was hosted at our National Headquarters by National President Owens. NAUW members witnessing this momentous occasion were (L-R): *Beverly Harris*, Plainfield-Brunswick; *Aletta Seales*, Long Island; *Connie Bunn*, New York; *Evelyn Wright*, Culver City, CA; *Forever Emerald Dr. Lenore Gall*, Queens; *National NAUW President Mrs. Dolores Y. Owens*, Philadelphia; *Northeast Sectional Director Pauline Chandler*, Plainfield-Brunswick; *Forever Emerald Mrs. Phyllis Eggleston*, Philadelphia; *Marie Sly George*, New Orleans; and *Ann Glover-Lingham*, Philadelphia.



Southeast Section — Jacqueline D. Green, Sectional Director

The Southeast Sectional Conference was hosted by Elizabeth, NC Branch of NAUW September 24-25, 2010. Jacqueline D. Green from the Goldsboro Branch was elected as SE Sectional Director at the conference. The attendees came from five states. The branches of the Southeast Section have been diligently increasing their memberships by having membership teas and other informational meeting. Each branch has increased its membership from one member to eighteen members. Other membership activities are in the planning stages.

Several branches have collaborated with other community organizations and colleges to complete community service activities. By assessing the needs of the community, Southeast Branches have developed projects that meet their needs such as sponsoring SAT workshops, developing teen reading clubs, presenting information on breast and cervical cancer, and participating in their annual Poetry Café. In addition, branches in the section have volunteered in a variety of ways to help youth succeed by tutoring, mentoring, literacy and the use of technology. Some branches have used annual smorgasbords, donated fees when branch members work as election poll workers, and charity date auctions to support youth activities, community projects and scholarship awards.

On October 30, 2010, the Laurinburg Branch NAUW celebrated its 30th anniversary with a luncheon honoring the Co-Founders and the charter members: Anne McNair, Co-Founder; Joyce McDow, Co-Founder; Linda Douglas; Shirley McNair and Marie Willis. National First Vice President Letisa Vereen was the speaker for the event.

South Central Section — Linda P. Armstrong, Sectional Director

The South Central Section held its Annual Planning and Training Meeting in Pineville, LA October 1-2, 2010 with the theme, “Empowered to Embrace Change.” New concepts for “thinking outside the box” in order to better serve were explored. The NAUW South Central Section Face book page was launched in the “Technology is User Friendly” presentation. It was suggested that the Face book site be used to discuss and suggest books to be shared by the members, medical concerns could be posted and members could receive medical awareness and resources from our medical doctor members. In addition, members could keep in contact with each other by displaying photos of branch activities and informing the section of upcoming events in their branches. The Lafayette Branch presented “Be A Winner” which revealed many new ideas for constructing a winning scrapbook. The South Central Section has been divided into four groups in order to better share ideas and mentor newer branches because of the size and wealth of knowledge within the Section. At the group meetings, members are able to share their techniques and help each strive, grow, and exchange techniques.

The Little Rock Branch of the National Association of University Women was chartered on December 19, 2010. National NAUW President Dolores Y. Owens and South Central Sectional Director Linda P. Armstrong conducted the chartering ceremony. Immediately following the chartering, the new members were inducted into the branch. National Second Vice President Dr. Bettye Williams, Pine Bluff President Pamela Johnson, and Monticello President Dr. Vera Lang-Brown participated with National President Owens and Sectional Director Armstrong in the induction ceremony. The Little Rock Founder and President is Kathryn M. Buri.



Little Rock Charter Members, L to R, Back Row: *South Central Sectional Director Linda P. Armstrong, National President Dolores Y. Owens, La Wanda Pendleton, Dr. Linda Parker, Alma M. Valley, Rosalyn Zeigler, Janis F. Kearney.* Front Row, L to R: *Ouida Clark, Wilhelmina Lewellen, Kathryn M. Buri, Valecia Fields, and Pamela Brown.*

Distinguished Section—South Central

The South Central Conference held in Lake Charles in June 1964 had only eight branches in attendance.



The theme at that conference was “Education—The Key to Freedom.” The Sectional Director was Mrs. Hilda T. Darenbourg. Today, South Central is the largest section in our organization with 641 members and expects to have representation at their conference in June 2012 of all twenty-three branches. Congratulations, South Central.

Southwest Section — Audrey Jordan, Sectional Director

The Southwest Section of NAUW held a very successful and informative 42nd Sectional Conference February 4-5, 2011 in Torrance, California. The South Bay Branch NAUW hosted the conference. The theme “Progressive Women: Redefining Community Service in the 21st Century” was masterly carried out during the Sectional Conference. It was a “Diamonds are Forever Conference” featuring a Denim and Diamonds Gala and a 5 Carat Diamond Breakfast. None of this got in the way of carrying on the business and planning of programs for the section. Exciting and meaningful workshop titles included: Finances in Tough Economic Times, Health and Fitness, Parliamentary Procedures and Computer Love

On a very sad note, the Los Angeles Branch has lost three members who made great contributions to their branch as well as to the organization as a whole. They hold precious memories of R.C. Ola Brown, Delores Smith and Daisy Davis.

National Initiatives—Coming Soon!

- *Speakers Bureau*
- *Leadership Development—Conferences/Webinars*
- *Headquarters Maintenance and Renovations*
- *Health and Wellness Tips on Website*
- *A Gathering of Leaders (NAUW Headquarters)*

Women's History Month—Celebrating Women

While we celebrate and sing praises for famous women like our founders and other well known women of today, it is important that we recognize those everyday women in our lives. There are women, be they family or friends, who have made sacrifices for us and held us up so that we could be who we are and what we are today. I thank you and appreciate you for being among those women. —**Dyo**



Centennial Celebration



NAUW



PRIDE

National Association of
University Women

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National Theme:
Progressive Women: Redefining
Community service in the 21st Century

Ladies Distinguishing Themselves – Congratulations



Bertha Frieson
NAUW NATIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR
South Bay Branch



Willie A. Black
100th INTERNATIONAL WOMAN
of the Year Award Recipient
Philadelphia Branch



Maria Sly George
LRTA NAME of FAME
Award
Fall Meeting Banquet
Guest of Honor