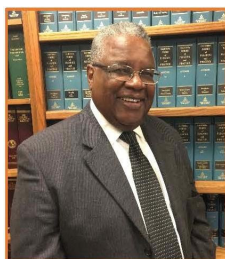


June/July 2017 Newsletter

## Monthly Spotlight: Making a Difference



### From The Desk of President George Holland

Summer vacation is almost over and we must reflect on whether any changes were made or has there been an improvement locally of nationally initiated by the NAACP. The answers to these questions is that the jury is still deliberating.

The NAACP has lost its national president Cornell Brooks who is now a commentator on CNN. The national board did not renew his contract. The national board's reasoning was that they were "going in a different direction." The Council of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church wrote a scathing letter to the national board of directors questioning their decision to not renew Reverend Brooks contract. They reaffirmed their support of the NAACP but expressed concern about our future and relevancy. This was a serious letter questioning our leadership and requires a response by our national board.

Our organization is definitely in need of more structure and regular communication with its local branches. It is my intent to write our board and express my concerns about the direction of our organization. We are all volunteers and require nurturing to keep us supportive because many of our people have forgotten the problems we had to overcome during the civil rights struggle. Things have not changed, just the methods of oppression and denial of civil rights are just as overt but seemingly overlooked and of little concern to some of us.

In a more positive light. We sent four young competitors to the national ACT-TO competition at our national convention in Baltimore, Maryland. Our members enjoyed the competition and their visit to our headquarters' city. We did not win any medals but the learning experience was well worth it. Morandum Henry, a past Imani youth president, was elected as a youth representative to the national board with full voting rights. We are proud of Morandum and he has been an outstanding representative of our branch.

**Danielle Charles, Esq.**  
**Legal Redress**

The Legal Redress Committee reviews complaints and requests for legal assistance and offers advocacy, assistance, and/or referrals.

The committee is particularly interested in matters that offer the possibility of creating systemic change. The Legal Redress Committee Chair may be reached at [daniellecharlesesq@gmail.com](mailto:daniellecharlesesq@gmail.com).



**Thomas Lloyd Smith, Esq.**  
**Political Action Committee**

The City of Oakland Boards and Commissions Want You! The NAACP Political Action committee is encouraging all Oakland NAACP members to visit the City of Oakland website and to apply for a position on a board or commission. The following commissions now have vacancies and are accepting online applications on the City of Oakland website:

- \* Head Start Advisory Board
- \* Housing Residential Rent and Relocation Board
- \* Children's Fund Planning and Oversight
- \* Children's Fairyland Board
- \* Commission on the Aging
- \* Commission on Persons with Disabilities
- \* Cultural Affairs Commission
- \* Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership Administrating Board
- \* Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- \* Board of Port Commissioners
- \* Budget Advisory Commission
- \* Business Tax Board of Review
- \* City Planning Commission
- \* Civil Service Board
- \* Cannabis Regulatory Commission



Google "City of Oakland Boards and Commissions Information Site" and click on the link to find current openings. The Oakland NAACP is strengthened with our members engage in decision-making activities within our city. If you would like to learn more about some of the critical work the Oakland NAACP is doing and ways to get involved through participation in City of Oakland Boards and Committees, please join us at our next Oakland NAACP membership meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

**Douglas Blacksher**  
**Labor & Industry**  
**Economic Development**



Embracing the role of Chairman of the Labor & Industry and Economic Development, I have been extremely busy meeting with numerous companies and challenging them to hire African-American workers and to gain their continued support for minority businesses. I have been extremely busy networking with various companies and reporting back to the membership of job opportunities that range in all areas of employment (skilled and unskilled). I am committed to establishing a presence politically and to pressure non-black businesses that we will no longer promote a system that is not going to insure that black people have a fair opportunity to increase our Economic Development in Oakland.

**Addie Whitehurst, Ph.D.**  
**Women In The NAACP (WIN) Chairperson**



The Oakland Branch has been reactivated the Women in NAACP (WIN). Dr. Allie Whitehurst has been appointed to serve as chairperson of Oakland WIN. The purpose of the Oakland Women In NAACP Committee is to work within the framework of the Oakland Branch to address civil rights issues affecting women and children. The Committee shall also carry out civic and cultural activities to enhance membership and provide financial support to the Branch.

**Barbara Mellion**  
**Membership & Life Membership Chairperson**



Hello my Dear Sister's and Brothers,  
We would like to take this opportunity to THANK all new members that joined this awesome Oakland Branch during the months of May and June. I am also thanking our devoted members that renewed their membership during those Months as well.

We had a great time on June 24, 2017 at the Juneteenth event, hosting a information table for the NAACP Oakland Branch, there were other great booths providing all kinds of things from Afro Centric items, Religious information, Fashion show and great Music. We had many people that stopped by our table asking about the NAACP Oakland Branch and what we do! Of course we gave them an ear full... there were a few people interesting in coming out to our General Membership meeting (every 2 nd Saturday of the month). We also received quite a few people signing up to receive ongoing information and events.

On Saturday August 19 th and Sunday August 20, 2017 we will have an information table at The Art and Soul Oakland Festival. If you plan to attend the event please plan to stop by the table and say hello.

We are recruiting members to join our Membership Committee. Listed are just a few goals, duties and responsibilities;:

- Actively recruit new members and promote and encourage participation
- Follow up with any potential members
- Reach out and encourage previous members to renew their membership
- Provide input/suggestions on how to increase membership
- Should attend committee meetings (working on conference calls for most meeting)

If you are interested in working with us and helping to build our Branch, or just want more information, I can be reached at 510-927- 0133 between the hours of 4:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M., Monday-Thursday or email me at [naacpmembership1051@gmail.com](mailto:naacpmembership1051@gmail.com).

**\* There Is Strength in Numbers\*-\*There is Power in Membership\***

**Morandum Henry**  
**Youth Representative**  
**Past Imani Youth President**



Morandum was recently elected to the National Board of the NAACP with full voting rights. We are proud of Morandum and he has been an outstanding representative of our branch.

Our publicity and press reporter caught up with Morandum. Listen in to what Morandum has to say. Click the link.....

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9-3CKfKn38LMINhdDBqRjhOUIU/view?usp=sharing>



**Monthly Membership Meeting**  
**Saturday, July 8, 2017**  
**10:00 AM-12:00 Noon**  
**West Oakland Library**  
**1801 Adeline Street**  
**Oakland, CA 94607**

**Upcoming Events**

2nd Annual Ron Brown  
Business & Economic Summit and Women's Symposium  
**August 17-19, 2017**  
Hilton Airport Hotel  
One Hegenberger Road  
Oakland, CA  
Contact Phyllis Fultz for additional information  
916-463-0182

**August 19, 2017**  
1-6 PM  
Chapel of the Chimes  
Presents Forever Home of Blues legend, John Lee Hooker  
100th Birthday Celebration  
For additional Information call 415-424-4672

**August 19, 2017**  
Oakland's Heart & Soul Festival

**September 11, 2017**  
Clergy Appreciation Dinner

**September 27, 2017**  
Volutionary Blues - West Oakland's Music Legacy at  
The Grand Lake Theatre  
3200 Grand Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94610  
7:00 PM-10:00 PM (PDT)

Tickets available  
<https://tinyurl.com/evolutionaryblues>

**October 14, 2017**  
2nd Annual NAACP Oakland Branch Cookout  
12:00 PM-5:00 PM

