

The Hughes Report



By Thomas F. Hughes

WHO REALLY CARES

On Sunday October 10th the NAACP selected the nominating committee for the election of new officers and board members. My wife and I have been members of the local branch for one and a quarter years but we saw people whose names we had heard but never seen at a meeting.

I have missed no meetings all year, but at this meeting they came out of the woodwork - what was disgusting was that they wanted to control the meeting. Where were they when our President was asking for help in the Bachelor's Ball, membership drive, Walk-a-Thon Freedom Fund and other drives....most of all our "Remember Mississippi" campaign.

It has sometimes been difficult to have an executive board meeting because not enough members showed up. Eleanor Walker has shown great patience, fortitude and consideration. Some of our leaders come to the meeting and constantly talk of great disruption and disrespect of our officers. I have always been taught to respect the officers and work with them. Even if you think they are wrong you should participate and try to help get them right.

Do these people really care? How much did these leaders (?) and would be big wheels contribute to our drives?

Reports indicate it was the little people who made our drives successful. Thank God for the faithful few who have attended meetings, helped to form ideas, worked with the problems and have made the contributions, financial and physical.

The last part of the meeting really became political and once again the same question came to mind "Where are these people when it is not election time?" No wonder people are turned off about voting. President Walker said it is time to learn to use our vote instead of blindly following one party - consider the candidate.

In our time in Las Vegas one candidate has impressed me. Last year when I was working with Senior Citizens she came to our meeting and offered assistance in my effort to find jobs for the seniors. She arranged meetings with three large Banks gave me invaluable assistance. She came to the NAACP meeting to give instruction in voting, political affiliation, measures, bills, etc. that affected us. A report I have says that as President of the League of Women Voters she successfully encouraged Black membership in the League and Bernice Moten, Eva Simmons, Mabel Hoggard and Margaret Crawford became active leaders. During her presidency, the league was awarded NAACP Annual Award for Community Service.

Following the Kerner Report she conducted six workshops on "White Racism and Black Power." In the mid-60's she worked on "Solutions Conference" - a Community-wide conference dealing with Black-White relationships.

From 1969-72 she worked on various integration plans attempting to educate the white community to the value of intergrated quality education. She is a long time member of the NAACP and in 1973 she received the Social Action Award for Community Action from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She Cares!!

Who is she? JEAN FORD...

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From Our Readers

EDITORS NOTE: The Las Vegas Voice will publish your opinion on any subject - praise - complaints - questions - or answers. We do reserve the right to edit, and your letter must be signed with a valid address and phone number for verification prior to publication. We want your letters! At your written request your name can be withheld.

Dear Editor:

I'm a minister of the Gospel, having been ordained in the Church of God in Christ. I have lived in Las Vegas for more than thirty years. Having been in business for myself most of this time. I was in the type of business where I had a chance to meet almost every new person who came to town.

I shall never forget a young man who walked into my place of business and introduced himself as Jimmy Gay from Fordyce, Arkansas. I was thrilled to death because I had heard so much about this young man, as a fine embalmer, a good church man, and outstanding citizen. (Over the years he has proven all these qualities.) We became very good friends on that day until this.

I invited him to visit our church and he did so the following Sunday, with his family. The late Bishop Cox, then Pastor, welcomed the Gay family to our fair city with open arms and stated how proud he was to have them with us. Although he was a devout Baptist, he never failed to visit with not only the Church of God in Christ, but all the churches of the city. Bishop Cox many times stated over and over how much he loved this man.

Jimmy and I worked together for several years at the then Sunset Mortuary until it changed hands. (At that time Mr. Gay had a small interest in this company.) He then went to work at another mortuary in this city and did something that very few men would have done, he asked this company to hire me as his assistant with the black funerals. They refused and Jimmy Gay walked out. "Is that a friend for you?" I could go on and on telling you the many outstanding things this man has done in this community but it would take more space that I have been given for this note to the Editor.

However I will have to tell you one of the outstanding deeds of recent date was the replacement of the four Pulpit Bibles that were burned in the recent arson fires.

This man is a member of the Clark County School Board of Trustees representing all of us and doing a very fine job. He is a man we all know we can trust and may I say in conclusion, to lose this man on the Board would be a disaster for the community. I ask you as a 30-year resident of this community, to retain Jimmy Gay for all our sakes.

A.J.

(Name withheld on written request.)

What Are You Doing To HELP Your Community

RE-ELECT BRENDA MASON

UNIVERSITY REGENT

DISTRICT A



EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK



"MAY I HELP YOU?" -- That's Mae Dixon, Counter Girl at The Washboard on Maryland Parkway, laundromat and dry cleaning plant. Mae and her husband George, a Security Guard at the Frontier Hotel, have been in Las Vegas for four years - coming from Denver, Colorado. The Dixons have one son, 6-1/2 year old Richard who attends the Robert E. Lake school. When asked what her family likes to do for fun, she replied: "I love to cook, and sew and we are movie and music fans. We play games at home, like pool and table games that Richard enjoys." One of Mrs. Dixon's outside interests is volunteer work for the community. --CREED

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