

LAS VEGAS

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VOICE

NEVADA'S BLACK
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
NOW IN OUR 16TH.
CONSECUTIVE YEAR



"Americans must learn to live together as brothers, lest we all die together as fools." —Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Since 1963 (16 consecutive years) The Las Vegas Voice, has been performing a dedicated service to both the black community and the entire community at large. No good cause shall lack a champion, and evil shall not go unopposed, for we make America better, when we aid in the social and economic development of all people. by: Jack Ferris, Publisher



GOSPEL WORKSHOP INSTALLATIONS



STEVE REED
STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF GWSA
(LAS VEGAS CHAPTER)

We take this opportunity to thank the community for supporting our efforts with your overwhelming attendance at our Installation Service.

There is no greater feeling than standing at a lectern with a full choir behind and a crowded audience in front. On Saturday, we had a National Circle of Prayer on one accord for a successful service. Sister Cookie Wilson (New Jersey Chapter), Aunt Loucille Robbins, Ophelia Wooten (D.C. Chapter), Sister Helen Stephen (Oakland/Berkley, California Chapter), Reverend James Cleveland, our founder and President, and our Evangelistic Board, under the leadership of Sister Ernestine Northington and our members prayed and fasted all day, and the Lord truly sent a blessing.

The officers and choir made a dramatic entrance after the call to worship by Dr. Caruth Hall, resplendent and white, with red corsages, singing "Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around," after which Sister Helen Stephens administered the Litany of Installation, which was a very moving, exciting personal experience.

Sister Ernestine Northington sent up a prayer under the anointing of God that left no doubt in anyone's mind as to why she is the Chairperson of our Evangelistic Board.

Our Assistant Chapter Representative, Mrs. Virginia Brooks Brewster, was Mistress of Ceremonies for Part I of our Musical Service, and as all those who were in attendance can attest, nobody does it better.

Tony Wright and Essence of Love, St. Paul COGIC Choir, Sister Doretha Earl (Victory B.C.), The Hall Singers (St. Paul COGIC), Brother Andre Crockett (St. Paul COGIC) really glorified the Lord in their dynamic soul stirring musical presentations. We are indeed blessed to have these saved servants of God as a part of the Las Vegas Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America.

Sister Helen Stephens and Mr. Morris Chapman (internationally known Gospel singer, recording artist, and TV personality) gave us solos that set the room on fire.

Part II of the Musical Service which presented the Las Vegas Mass Choir of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc., to the community, epitomized the "Interdenominational representation of the Workshop membership. Twelve churches and seven denominations were represented which is just the beginning of our anticipated total community and church participation.

We want to utilize the vast reservoir of musical talent in the Las Vegas area and unite in a perpetual song of thanksgiving to the Master.

The musical material used is all new to the Las Vegas area. "Send Down the Rain", "Gonna Keep



STEVE REED & HELEN STEPHENS



**STEVE REED
& JACK FERRIS**
LAS VEGAS VOICE, Publisher

Singing "In the Spirit", and "When Was the Last Time" were all written and arranged by our own Minister of Music, Mr. Tony Wright, who is a gifted young man, and we thank God for him.

The remainder of the material is courtesy of Mr. Michael Gittens, Minister of Music and Assistant Chapter Representative for the New Jersey Chapter, GMWA, and Rev. Albert Jameson and the Triboro New York Chapter GMWA. This just gives you an idea of the spirit of unity and help the Workshop extends to its sister chapters all across the country.

The Mass Choir is really singing out of the depths of their soul and we pray that we continue to be an organization in which our community and the National GMWA can be proud.

The Mayor of Las Vegas, Bill Briare, Dr. Porter Troutman, UNLV, Mrs. Alice Key, Executive Director of the LV Branch of the NAACP, Mrs. Sarann Knight, Executive Board, LV, NAACP, Superstar Dionne Warwick (I know I'll never love this way again) and her musical family, Eunice Peterson, Lee Valentine and Donna Johnson, Mr. Jack Ferris, Publisher of Las Vegas Voice Newspaper, Comedians Slappy White and Nipsey Russell, State Senator Joe Neal, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Stephens, Berkley Chapter GMWA, and Genevieve Andrade, NOW, Mr. Royal Byron, Religious Editor, Las Vegas Voice and ACC news Consultants are among those who have received Honorary Memberships to the LV Chapter and have given us their total support.

The Workshop is a constant learning experience for all involved and all of the Mass Choir members in our chapter here. LV GMWA successfully completed GMWA prescribed six-week courses in AVP 103 Voice I, YTH 1002 Musicianship for Choir Members, and CW Choir Membership and Decorum. Certificates were awarded by Mr. Tony Wright, M.A., our Minister of Music and Academic Division Representative.

There has been a constant telephone contact with our President, Reverend James Cleveland, who along with Rev. Kenneth Almer, National Board of Directors, Mr. Ed. Smith, National Executive Secretary, Ms. Renee Smith, National Secretary for Representatives and Chapter Representative, Sacramento, California Tri-Valley Chapter, Sister Cookie Wilson, Chapter Representative, New Jersey, Mr. Milton Bingham, Producer, Savoy Records and Aunt Lucille Robbins and Sister Ophelia Wooten of the D.C. Chapter and they are giving us day-to-day guidance and we can't thank them enough.

Mass Choir rehearsals are held every Monday at 6 p.m. at the St. Paul COGIC, "G" & Washington Streets, Las Vegas, Nevada. Please come out and support your chapter.



HALL SINGERS OF LAS VEGAS

SPECIAL VOICE EDITORIAL

by Jack Ferris, Publisher



**SHERIFF JOHN MCCARTHY,
SHOULD BE COMMENDED**

The Las Vegas Voice, extends to Sheriff John McCarthy its "Peace-Maker of the Year" award for his dedicated efforts in trying to seek out ways and means of developing a better understanding between Metro Law Enforcement Officers and the Citizens of West Las Vegas. The Sheriff recently met with a group of concerned community leaders. In that meeting at the NAACP Office, Sheriff McCarthy announced that he would do everything within his power to see that residents of West Las Vegas, and indeed, residents throughout the entire greater Las Vegas area would be treated with dignity and respect. Sheriff McCarthy, mentioned that with more than 800 police officers on the force that it was difficult to know what each and every officer was doing at any given time, but added that he had recently assigned Chief Larry Bolden, to act as his day to day liaison man to the black community. Chief Bolden, who came up thru the ranks is both capable and "street wise", he knows the needs of the community. Chief Bolden just happens to be directly in charge of all uniformed police officers. Since his assignment, the Voice has not received or heard of any incidents concerning harrassment or police brutality. As always the Voice is available to come to your aid.

NAACP SETS

"WALK FOR FREEDOM" SAT. NOV. 17

12 NOON

FULL DETAILS IN WEEK'S VOICE

RESCUE MISSION NEEDS THANKSGIVING DONATIONS

The Las Vegas Rescue Mission has found many ways to beat the high cost of living and inflation which we are all fighting today. With small donations they have started a women's and children's shelter that cares for fifty persons per day and the mission itself fed 150 men per day and 70 of these are showered, clothed and given a bed for the night. The people of Las Vegas are beautiful people and have always helped when they know the need is there. At this time the mission is in great need of canned vegetables and fruit, pies and turkeys for the Thanksgiving Dinner. Two hundred persons without homes were fed last Thanksgiving and more are expected this year. Let's get in there and help the Mission located at 414 W. Bonanza Rd. Phone 457-2753 and the women's shelter located 30 N. 4th St. where 575 women and children have been helped when they were in need. Or call Jack Ferris at the Las Vegas Voice, 648-2615.

CITY OFFICIALS TO PAY TRIBUTE TO REV. PRENTISS WALKER



Members of the predominantly black community of West Las Vegas will pay tribute Sunday to the late Rev. Prentiss Walker, a staunch civil rights activist for more than 20 years.

The ceremony will be at 2:30 p.m. at Rev. Walker's former parish, the Greater Faith Baptist Church at 2736 Chamberlain Lane.

Michael L. Himes, a former associate of Walker's, will be the keynote speaker.

This will be the second tribute in as many years for Walker, arranged by Edward Smith.

Smith said, "We are trying to make the tribute an annual event because of what he did when he was alive."

Walker was one of the spearheaders of the movement in the 1960s which led to the integration of Downtown Las Vegas and the Strip, according to Smith.

While employed at the Nevada Test Site in 1960 as a carpenter, he filed a discrimination suit against the facility which eventually led to the hiring of more blacks, Smith said.

Walker, who died in 1977 at the age of 66, came

He was the first black member on the State Democratic Central Committee, and the first black to be admitted to the local carpenter union.

He was a former president of the local chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership conference.

FEDS SUE SEARS

WASHINGTON - The federal government filed five suits Monday against Sears, Roebuck and Co., charging the world's largest retailer with discriminating against women, blacks and Hispanics.

The filing of the suits in New York City and four other cities marked the latest round in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's nearly seven-year investigation into Sears' employment practices.

Sears had tried earlier this year to stop all federal enforcement of job discrimination laws by filing suit against EEOC and nine other federal agencies, contending that the government's policies - such as veterans' preference laws - had created an "unbalanced workforce" dominated by white males.

The Sears' suit was dismissed in federal district court here last May.

In the nationwide suit filed in Chicago, headquarters of the company, the commission accused Sears of paying women less than men in similar jobs; of engaging in sexually discriminatory recruiting, hiring, training, and promotion practices, and of giving lesser employment opportunities to pregnant employees.

In the suits, the commission asked for injunctions to prevent Sears from engaging in discriminatory practices against minorities and women. The suits also ask for affirmative action programs to eliminate unlawful employment practices and for back pay with interest for those persons who have been adversely affected.

In a statement issued in Chicago, officials of Sears, Roebuck said:

"We welcome this opportunity for a fair hearing before the courts, something we have not had in six years of dealing with the staff of the EEOC.

"We are proud of our record in affirmative action and we agree with the attorneys for the EEOC itself who said recently: 'Sears has been in the vanguard of voluntary affirmative action since 1974 and with respect to minorities, possibly as early as 1969.'"

Sears officials said Monday that, by the end of the year, 19.9 per cent of all Sears employees were from minority groups, up from 8.7 per cent in 1965; 10.9 per cent of Sears officials and managers were minorities up from 1.4 per cent in 1965; and 37 per cent of Sears officials and managers were women, up from 20 per cent in 1965.

Sears, Roebuck employs more than 400, 000 people in its more than 3, 700 stores or catalogue distribution centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

After a four-year investigation into Sears' hiring practices, the EEOC voted in the spring of 1977 to charge the company with "patterns of sex, race and national origin discrimination at all levels." Efforts to negotiate a settlement broke down earlier this year.