

## THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott  
President  
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## The NAACP and You

## NAACP CALENDAR

From time to time we meet and sometimes hear people say that they don't know what is happening at the NAACP. We invite everyone to read this column every week if they are truly interested in knowing what is going on at the NAACP. An attempt will be made in the near future to send to each member a bi-monthly mimeographed newsletter informing them of the activities of the branch relative to the Civil Rights Struggle in Las Vegas.

## NAACP EVENTS

The NAACP Executive Committee will meet in the branch office located at 940 W. Owens on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. The NAACP Monthly General Membership Meeting will be held Sunday, October 11 at 4:00 p.m. in the branch office. This is your last chance to participate in the NAACP Black Dollar Days, which ends this week. You can support this demonstration by exchanging your money for \$2 Bills at the following banks: FIB, Valley Bank and Nevada State Bank.

## NAACP MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

The NAACP Fall Membership Campaign began September 1 and will end December 31. If you have not taken out your membership for

1987 then you ought to be ashamed of yourself. Why don't you mail a check or money order today to the NAACP? The annual fee is \$10 for each adult and \$5 for each child. Why don't you become a volunteer worker to sell NAACP memberships? You can sell them to your friends, neighbors, relatives, fellow employees, seniors, churches, clubs, businesses, civic and social groups.

## NAACP FREEDOM FUND BANQUET

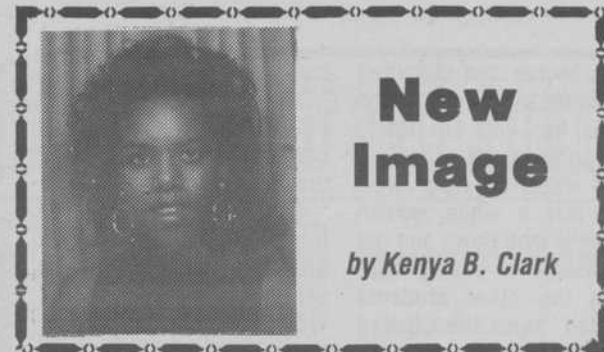
Once each year, the public is invited to make a tax deductible contribution to the NAACP. This year the requested donation is only \$50 per person. The banquet will be held at Bally's, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. and the speaker will be Congressman William Gray III from Pennsylvania who is chairman of the House Budget Committee. Next week banquet tickets will be available at E.O.B., 647-1510 and the NAACP, 646-1662.

## NAACP CHRISTMAS SEALS

You are encouraged to come to the NAACP office and purchase your 1987 Freedom Seals. We must still invest in Freedom. There are 64 seals on each sheet and they are only \$2 per sheet. We request that you purchase them and place them on all of your Christmas mailings.

A volunteer staff of 40 ASCAC members assisted the ASCAC officers in coordinating and offering services during the project. Among the services were youth and children programs. A group of ASCAC members who were medical professionals provided emergency health care that was indispensable in the extremely high temperatures and other conditions incident to such a project.

The Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations was founded in 1984 at the "First Annual Ancient Egyptian Studies Conference," convened in Los Angeles by Dr. Maulana Karenga, representing the Institute of Pan African Studies which hosted the conference; and Dr. Jacob H. Carruthers, representing the Kemet Institute of Chicago.



## New Image

by Kenya B. Clark

It pains me to see young black adolescents altering their lives to accommodate the widespread epidemic of teen pregnancy. My blood runs cold when I see the child within struggling, disillusioned and alone. Socially, emotionally and economically there is great instability. The psychological and physiological well being is effected as well. It tears me up inside to shamefully look down at their hand, all too often to find . . . an absent wedding band. A bitter aura entraps me when I sense the uncertainty, when I see the tired, weak, desolate glare in their eyes. I am left hopeless and empty, questioning myself, what can I do? What can I say? How is this predicament justifiable in your eyes, in your culture, in your society, within your family? I am sorry for the insensitivity that surrounds me, but this rampant plague must be channeled through other directions, other alternatives.

It is true, I don't know every minute detail about each and every individual that is or becomes impregnated. However, I am certain of several concrete notions. There is the importance and

the urgent need for young black women to turn a deaf ear to those few soft, sensual oracles that turn a moment of deceitful pleasure, a moment of oblivion into eighteen plus years of insurmountable suffering, strain, stress and druggery. Don't misunderstand me, there are jolly times as well, but they are few and far between, especially done solo. We have been statistics in the wrong direction, much too long. Let's change that.

The idea for the conference was advanced in a position paper presented by the Kemet Institute in February, 1982, at the annual conference of the Association of African Historians, held in Chicago.

The 1984 conference was attended by 500 African Americans, including the leading scholars in the area of African antiquity. During the conference six of the participants founded the Association and set up a temporary organizing framework. Joining Drs. Carruthers and Karenga in this historic event were Drs. John Henrik Clarke, Yosef ben-Jochannan, Asa Hilliard and Leonard Jeffries. A constitution was approved and officers were elected at the second annual conference held in Chicago in February 1985. In 1986 the third annual conference in Harlem was attended by more than 1000 participants. In less than four years ASCAC membership has grown to over 1000.

Our definition of love, real love, must be defined soon. Our definition of self, the actual essence of self, must be scrutinized. Put yourself under a microscope, focus in on you, turn your mental dial on high power. Look at your strengths and weaknesses, your successes and failures. Accentuate on the positive. Taste and see that life is of relevant worth. You must bring forth the genius in you and in others, and justify your existence as young black women. You are the aviator in your life. The distinct portion is in the hands of the beneficent, merciful, omnipotent one.

The overall goal of ASCAC is the restoration of African civilization through scholarly research, massive education, cultural creativity, and spiritual development. The membership is encouraged to participate in the realization of the objectives through local study and research groups. The Association's national office is located at Northeastern Illinois University's Center for Inner City Studies, 700 East Oakwood Blvd., Chicago, Illinois.

The ten hundred conferees, which included a few residents from Europe, the West Indies and other parts of Africa, went to Egypt to celebrate their heritage; they returned with an unforgettable experience. They had participated in one of the great historical events of the 20th century. They had answered an invitation extended 4000 years ago by the great Pharaoh Sesostris who invited an Egyptian citizen to return home after many years of sojourn in a foreign country.

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## CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL-1975 A TURNING POINT IN HISTORY

Thursday, September 24, 1987, marked the 30th anniversary of the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, an historic turning point in school desegregation and an unforgettable moment in American history when President Dwight D. Eisenhower, under irresistible pressure, ordered federal troops to protect nine black children entering the previously all-white school.

This was the first time federal troops were used to enforce a court desegregation order and it sent a clear signal that the national movement would not countenance defiance of a court edict. The message was especially important since President Eisenhower's personal distaste for school desegregation was well known.

Escorted by members of the NAACP, the students, who would henceforth be known as "The Little Rock Nine," were escorted to and entered the school under the steady gaze of 1,100 troops of the Army's elite 101st Airborne Division which protected the young children from a white mob who cursed, spat and threw rocks.

The troops were to remain for the rest of the school year, but the back of the resistance had been broken. The moving force behind the long series of events that culminated at Central High School was the NAACP, and particularly the fiery and fearless president of the Arkansas State Conference of NAACP branches, Mrs. Daisy Bates who, with her husband, published the *Arkansas State Press*.

(Her ardent advocacy was to eventually cost the Bates' their newspaper as advertisers withdrew their support, forcing its closure.)

The events began in the summer of 1954, soon after the U.S. Supreme Court had outlawed segregated schools in the Brown decision. Little Rock's school superintendent, Virgil T. Blossom, drafted a school desegregation plan, under which high, junior high and elementary schools would be fully integrated.

Blossom's plan was watered down by the school board, which adopted its own plan which confined integration to just one school, Central High, and limited the number of black students. Even this was opposed by white segregationists.

Seeing an opportunity to make political capital, Gov. Orval E. Faubus, who wanted the election support of whites in the Arkansas Delta where racism was rampant, entered the picture.

In 1956, he announced a poll which he said indicated 85% of Arkansas opposed integrating schools in their state. He proclaimed he could not "be a party to any attempt to force acceptance of change to which the people are so overwhelmingly opposed."

Alarmed at the slow pace of integration and disturbed by Faubus' intervention, blacks in Little Rock enlisted the support of the state NAACP, headed by Mrs. Bates; Wiley Branton, Chairman of the NAACP Legal Defense Committee; and U. Simpson Tate, Regional attorney for the NAACP.

In the spring of 1956, the NAACP filed a lawsuit in federal court on behalf of 33 black students who were denied admission to all-white schools in their neighborhoods.

The NAACP lost that round when Judge John E. Miller

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## ASCAC

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well as several other museums. Briefing lectures by Drs. Hilliard, ben-Jochannan, Thompson, Holsey and others put the various monuments into historical and cultural perspective. A highlight of the ASCAC Conference-Study Tour project were visits to several Nubian villages where contributions to the schools and community projects were made by ASCAC members. A special program was presented by the Village of Daboud. During the tour two couples were married in traditional African ceremonies conducted in the great Karnak temple complex in the town of Luxor, Egypt.

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