

BLACK HISTORY

by Gwen Walker

Maggie L. Walker (Banker)



Maggie Lena Walker

Maggie Lena Walker was born in 1867 in Richmond, Virginia in a poverty stricken family. The family lived in an alley, where her widowed mother earned a living as a laundress. Maggie was a very gifted child and completed high school at the age of 16, and began a teaching career. After taking a course in business she organized the St. Luke Bank and Trust Company of Richmond, Virginia. She left teaching in 1889 to become the executive secretary of the Independent Order of St. Luke.

The purpose of the Order of St. Luke was to provide assistance to its members in sickness, in old age and in meeting funeral expenses. Mrs. Walker's duties were to

National Newspaper Publisher Association President Resigns

Patricia O'Flynn Thomas, the first woman elected president of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, resigned that position on January 4, 1990 because of personal problems including health. She had been president since June 1987 having been re-elected for two years in June 1989. She will be succeeded in that position by Thomas Watkins, Jr., publisher of the New York Daily Challenge. Mr. Watkins had been a Vice President of the organization since June 1987.

In a letter to the Board member Mrs. Thomas stated that she has been advised to reduce her obligations if she is to return to good health. She noted "This being the situation, I cannot give the attention to NNPA that the organization warrants and short range priorities demand."

Mrs. Thomas is publisher of the Milwaukee Community Journal, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Gwendolyn Walker

collect the dues, verify the claims and keep the books. She conceived of the idea of training the members to save and invest money. When she assumed the job of secretary-treasurer, the order had only 3,408 members, no reserve fund, and no property. By 1924, 35 years after she took office, she had increased the membership to 100,000 and had acquired a home-office building valued at \$100,000 had organized an emergency fund of \$70,000 and had established a newspaper, the St. Luke Herald.

In 1902 she had proposed the plan for the founding of the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank, of which she later became president. In time the bank became the St. Luke Bank and Trust Company, a depository for gas and water accounts and for city taxes.

Maggie died in 1934.

FORUM

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their bodies.

But most in attendance agreed that one of the keys to beating drug addiction in America was the need for a return to religion. "We cannot say no to drugs until we say yes to God," one Reverend stated.

JOURNAL

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UNITA and RENAMO.

President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe also addressed this session of the United Nations and supported the OAU resolution. Mugabe called for "more sanctions against South Africa aimed at bringing more negotiations." Mugabe also criticized "Israel's shameful collaboration with Pretoria." In a private meeting with President Kaunda, he stressed the importance of solidarity work here in the United States. We must ensure that Kaunda's speech as well as the speech of Mugabe do not fall on deaf ears. There is still much that can be done and should be done here to help our sisters and brothers in southern Africa achieve peace, development and their right to self-determination.

UNO

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blyman Williams has tackled numerous problems - sometimes single handedly - that have occurred in or about the Las Vegas African-American community - and in most instances - brought about needed change. Some issues he has addressed include neighborhood gang and drug problems, the Gerson Park Police sub-station, the problem of the sinking homes in North Las Vegas, improved and more accurate and equitable text books for Nevada schools, the inept and corrupt leadership and conduct of the former Las Vegas Housing Authority Board, the shenanigans of the Clark County School District and the infighting of the Las Vegas City Council which keeps it from functioning at its best level for the betterment of the city at large. And he keeps an ever-alert eye on our national Congressional delegation - Senators Harry Reid and Richard Bryan and Congressman James Bilbray - to see how they are voting in our nation's Capital on issues which affect us all.

He also keeps his eye on the Las Vegas media, which has become renowned for its negative portrayal of the African-American Las Vegas community, and brings into public scrutiny its biased treatment of African-American news and issues.

Assemblyman Williams can also be lauded for his founding and leadership of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee, which in a few short years, has developed into one of the strongest such committees in the country with one of, if not the best programs nationwide. He was highly instrumental in getting the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration ratified

as a national holiday by the Nevada legislature.

In other words, when Assemblyman Williams speaks, we all listen!

Needless to say, he is the recipient of numerous awards and proclamations - and here is yet another.

This champion of the people has just begun. As concerned citizens, we couldn't ask for a better role model for our children among whom he walks, talks and teaches daily.

The Sentinel-Voice is proud to salute Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams as MR. NUMERO UNO, 1989.

CORRECTION

In the January 18 issue of the Sentinel-Voice, a listing of the 1990 Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Parade Award Winners was listed. First place for the Best Community Entry was announced as being Personal Touch. The correct name of the winning entry was Designer's Touch.

JACKSON

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concern to a national railroad, where we'd make the steel and lay the rails, which would generate income. Early on, I'd fight for equal rights for women, so we could stabilize our families. I'd begin to speak of a national health plan that can be cost efficient."

He also said it would not be necessary to raise taxes to pay for all this, but said he is in favor of "fair" taxes. "Those who have more must share more," he declared.

Life Adjustment Network Provides Free Workshops

The Life Adjustment Network is a non-profit group of dedicated professionals, providing a series of ongoing free workshops to individuals who have experienced the loss of a spouse or significant other, due to death or divorce.

The next planned meetings are Jan. 27, Feb. 10, and Feb. 24, 1990.

In connection with the recent warming of the Cold War, Jackson said, "We should be cautiously optimistic." He added, "When the walls come down in Eastern Europe, beyond the exuberance, the remixing of ideologies and cultures may not be as simple as 'let's have the vote.' You've got many groups with vested interests in old institutions. Some ancient rivalries may be revived in the Eastern Bloc. Now that we're unplugging the Cold War, it will still take time for the glaciers to melt, and sometimes this can cause floods."

Addressing critics who accuse him of speaking in oversimplifications, Jackson agreed this is true, but said there is a good reason for it. "When I speak in epigrams, these are just short, witty ways to capture a point on television. In a campaign, they put those cameras in your face, and if you give a great position paper, they wipe you out. So, I say, 'Stop drugs from coming in, stop jobs from going out,' and in 10 or 15 seconds, I can say a lot."

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