



The mission and purpose of the African American Cultural Society, Inc. is to preserve and perpetuate the cultural heritage of African Americans through educational, artistic, intellectual and social activities and services deemed to be in the interests of the entire community.

From President Joe Matthews...

The following is the President's brief current assessment of several key areas, based especially on his work inside the organization with various AACS committees, the Executive Board of Officers, and the Board of Directors, all serving to move AACS forward.



CENTER ADMINISTRATION

This being the first issue of the Scribe for 2020, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

Unfortunately, we are facing a serious health issue, the Coronavirus COVID-19. Our Executive Board of Officers and the Board of Directors have met and determined the direction AACS will take during the pandemic. An immediate action was to cancel both the March and April General Membership Meetings.

The Cultural Center is presently closed. Center rental agreements through April are being cancelled when the number of attendees would exceed the federal CDC guidelines. AACS committee meetings have been suspended and our Pompano Beach excursion will be rescheduled from May, perhaps into the fall. We are continuing with June's Washington, D.C. trip pending later evaluation of financial and museum availability issues.

When our fundraising events need rescheduling, it was decided to ask those requesting refunds to either keep their money on deposit for a future event, apply it towards membership dues, or donate it to the Maintenance Reserve Fund 2021 Campaign.

We will keep you posted as we move forward through these difficult times. Information on AACS operations during the pandemic for both members and the greater community will be provided via our new website (aacspalmcoast.org), Facebook postings, emails, Robocalls and our *Scribe* newsletters.

The *Scribe* Committee will be publishing the newsletter

(continued on next page)

AACS Salutes Agnes and Ralph Lightfoot

Agnes and Ralph Lightfoot moved to Palm Coast from Somerset, N.J. in 2004. From the outset, they looked to become



part of the Palm Coast community.

Ralph's early education was in Richmond, Va. After moving to New Jersey, he attended Essex County College and later received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Rutgers University. He retired from IBM Corporation in 2004.

Agnes was educated in Baltimore Maryland. After graduating from Dunbar High School, Agnes enrolled in Morgan State University. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Her first job after graduation was with Rochester Telephone. Later, like many young professionals, Agnes moved to New Jersey and worked in New York City. She worked for IBM and Xerox Corporation before opening her own business, Callum's Word Processing, in East Orange, N.J.

After 10 years of operating Callum's, Agnes closed her doors and joined Bell Atlantic Corporation as a Sales Representative in their cell phone division. Bell Atlantic later changed their name to

(continued on next page)

From President Joe Matthews continued...

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every month, instead of bimonthly, to give you twice as much frequent information on what's happening at AACS. I personally want to thank the committee for their forward thinking in making this change.

The Pictorial Directory Photo session scheduled for March 31 was cancelled by LifeTouch, the vendor. I am confident the session will be rescheduled after we get through the crisis.

### PROGRAMS

On Wednesday, January 1, the Ways and Means Committee, led by **Vanessa James-Foxe**, brought in the New Year with our Annual Luncheon. It was a successful event; everyone had a grand time, enjoying the music, door prizes, raffles, and of course the food. I would like to thank Vanessa and her committee members for another outstanding event.

On Saturday, February 8, the Omni Committee, led by **John Reid**, held the Annual Jazz Breakfast, an event enjoyed by many members and their friends. Many thanks for its success to John and his hardworking committee members.

I am so excited about the next program since its committee always has a good program. This year they blew it out of the box! I am talking about the Youth Black History Committee and its program on Sunday, February 16. The theme was "The Beginning; Before We Were African Americans". The many participating students took us way back, with historical observations, songs and dance.

Thank you to **Jeanette Wheeler** and her Youth Black History Committee members **Patricia Bottoms**, **Harriett Whiting**, **Annette Williams**, and others who contributed to the program's success. Special thanks to AACS members **Rob Whiting**, for his program research, and **Melba McCarty**, for preparing students. Also thanked, of course, are the participating students and their parents for their role in getting students to rehearsals.

### WHAT'S NEXT

Please follow guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), state, county and city authorities. That includes practicing personal hygiene and social distancing to stay safe.

I remain proud to be your President, but it takes a "Village" and I know the "Village" will help to get us through this period.

## AACS Salutes continued...

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Verizon Corporation. As the cellular phone industry grew, Agnes career also advanced. She became a National Account Executive with Verizon. Today, Agnes is a real estate agent with a national brokerage firm in Palm Coast.

Agnes and Ralph have eagerly embraced the civic, sports, and social organizations in their new home city. Agnes is an avid tennis player and Ralph is an avid golfer. If they recognized a need in a charitable organization, they would step forward to assist and lead.

Ralph joined the Eagles Golf Club, first taking a position as Treasurer, and later as Youth Golf Program Director. Over the years he has won many club awards, including Low Gross & Low Net in 2011 thru 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2019. In 2013, Ralph was awarded the club's Community Service Award. In 2018, Ralph was the Palm Harbor Men's Golf Association President's Cup Champion.

Ralph has received the Flagler Palm Coast High School's Lady Bull Dogs Basketball Award for his time and support of the team. Ralph and Agnes also received an award of appreciation from the high school's Football Team.

Ralph always seeks to help Flagler County school students. He has been a member of the county's African American Mentor Program since its inception. He has previously served on the Flagler's NAACP Executive Committee and is currently a member of AACS' Public Affairs and Membership committees.

In addition, Ralph was chair of the Flagler County Democratic Party from 2015 through 2018 and has been campaign manager for several party candidates. County judges now have a more balanced workload because Ralph led efforts for the state to provide an additional judge.

Agnes is the President of the Palm Coast/Flagler Friends of Tennis organization and had been Board President of the county's Family Life Center. In the past, she has served as Treasurer, Vice President, and President of the Flagler Business Women organization. She is now Second Vice President of Flagler County Democratic Women's Club, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Flagler Executive Airport for the last 2 years.

Agnes and Ralph are blessed with their son, Kevin, and two grandsons. Kevin attended Hampton University and earned a degree in Journalism. He is currently an Executive Producer with ABC television in Houston, Texas.

AACS Family Household Members Ralph and Agnes Lightfoot enjoy living in Palm Coast and will continue to give back to the community whenever possible.

In Memoriam

Sybil Daniel

Family Household Member

Palm Coast, Fla.

Jacquelyn E. Faison

Adult Member

Palm Coast, Fla.

Mary E. Foster

Family Household Member

Palm Coast, Fla.

Ethel Jones

Adult Member

Widow of Past President Lorenzo Jones

Palm Coast, Fla.

Shirley Jones

Adult Member

Palm Coast, Fla.

Miriam E. Pincham

Gold Lifetime Member

Widow of Past Curator Thomas Pincham

Charlotte, N.C.

William "Bill" Robinson

Silver Lifetime Member

Palm Coast, Fla.

Kilus White, Sr.

Family Household Member

Palm Coast, Fla.



Happy Birthday!

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Each member is wished a joyful birthday and many thanks for an ongoing commitment to AACCS!

### April

Victor Agard (29), Ann Bernard (7), Nathaniel Brandon (18), Eugenia L. Brown (29), Annie S. Eversley (14), William H. Godfrey, Everett Jackson (24), Leila B. Jordan (10), Elva S. Lee (8), Agnes C. Lightfoot (14), Stephanie E. Matthews (7), Louis P. McCarthy (21), Catherine A. Pearson (16), David L. Phillips (6), Edmund G. Pinto Jr. (17), Marsha Rode (22), Delcena Samuels (7), Reinhold Schlieper (10), Clay E. Simpson (7), Douglas M. Smith (18), James Wheeler (5), Harriett Whiting (20), Col. G. Henry Williams (ret.) (1) and Geraldine Wright (10).



*Did we miss your birthday?*

*Call The Cultural Center, 386-447-7030, to ensure we have it!*

## Membership...

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Many thanks to the following members for joining the African American Cultural Society and helping to accomplish its mission: Anita Alexander, James Alexander, David J. Arrington, Michelle R. Arrington, Mitzi Brandon, Nathaniel Brandon, Freddie Chisholm, Kali Chisholm, Kenneth Davis, Kenneth Davis, Jr., Vita Davis, Matthew Deckman, Pecolia Fitts, Michael Herndon, Valerie Herndon, Barbara C. Holley, Howard M. Holley, Anita Jackson, Everett Jackson, Destine Jefferies, Dr. Lasherica Jefferies, Marc Jefferies, Marc Jefferies, II, Claude Jones, Maxine Martin, Linda Sharpe Matthews, Gina Barclay McLaughlin, James McLaughlin, Beatrice McNeil, Calvin D. McNeil, Sr., Salima Ndulu, Faith Robinson, Mary Rogers-Grantham, Elvia Smith, Angela G. Wheeler, Johnnie Wheeler, Cedric Wiggins, Janis Wiggins and Mark Young.

Also, Mike Morello, Inc., Sister Cities Association of Volusia County, and Jerome Smith have become Corporate Gold members.

Expectations are that AACCS will continue to grow by attracting and retaining members of the community who deeply appreciate the many reasons to join.



Congratulations to the following recent 200 Club winners!

February 2020

Vanessa James-Foxe, Jeanne Lea, James T. Lee, Herman Price and Gloria Singleton.

The winners of the next drawing will be announced on March 28, the date of the cancelled General Membership Meeting. Per the Club's drawings schedule for concluding the 2019-2020 cycle, there will be 5 drawings for prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,000.

If you are interested in joining or retaining your number(s) for the April 2020 through March 2021 Drawings, the application process has begun.

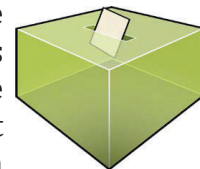
The 200 Club rules are designed for those who like to win. Numbers from 001 to 224 are offered for purchase to AACS members and the public at a cost of \$104 each. All purchased numbers are placed in the lottery drum for every drawing during a monthly General Membership meeting. The club offers fifty-two weekly prizes of \$100 for each Saturday in a month, four quarterly prizes of \$250 each in June, September and December 2020, and March 2021, and one annual prize of \$1,000 in March 2021.

Each owner of a number may win multiple times. You do not need to be present at the monthly drawings to win. Since there are no General Membership meetings in July and August 2020, July winners are drawn at the June meeting, and August winners are drawn at the September meeting.

Contact **Alfreda Brown** at (386) 437-8175 to make your number request or renewal known. Then pay \$104.00 for each number with a check made payable to "AACS". Let's make this a year to remember with all 224 numbers sold to support AACS!

Directors and Officers Elected

Ballots to fill three positions on the Board of Directors and four positions on the Executive Board of Officers were counted and the results announced at the General Membership Meeting in November 2019. The three-year terms of office for the newly elected directors and officers commenced on January 1, 2020.



Shirley R. Jacob



Col. G. Henry Williams (ret.)

The total number of ballots provided to voting members was 249. The number of ballots cast was 125, for a record turnout of 50%. The majority votes needed for election was $63+1=64$ (51%).

There were five nominees on the ballot and no write-in candidates for election to the Board of Directors. Those elected to the Board of Directors are **Richard P. Barnes**, 65%; **Lynda H. Baten**, 73% and **Edmund G. Pinto, Jr.**, 74%. Lynda Baten and Edmund Pinto previously had been serving as directors.

Many thanks to nominees **Shirley R. Jacob** and **Col. G. Henry Williams** for their candidacies and for previously serving as directors for many years.

There were three nominees on the ballot and seventeen write-in candidates for election to the Executive Board of Officers. No write-in candidate was elected. Those elected officers are **Joseph Matthews**, 85%, President; **Victor R. Krause**, 90%, Financial Secretary; and **Reinhold Schlieper**, 87%, Parliamentarian. Joseph Matthews previously had been serving as President and Reinhold Schlieper as Financial Secretary.

Following the AACS By-Laws, the remaining vacancy in the position of Chaplain has been filled by **William K. Hopson** according to Article 4 Officers, Section 4, which states "Vacancies in offices on the Executive Board, however occasioned, shall be filled by the President, and appointees shall hold office only until the next election of officers."

Congratulations to all those dedicated members who have begun to serve their three-year terms as directors and officers to move AACS forward.

The Scribe

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Leslie F. Giscombe, MBA
Founder & CEO

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The Scribe



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*Perfect Gifts to Cheer Up
Family and Friends*

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Individual Adult: \$25

Young Adult (18 to 34): \$12.50

Youth (12 to 17): Free

Call 386-445-8403 now
for immediate enrollments
lasting until **June 30, 2020!**

Stay Safe and Stay Well!

African American Cultural Society, Inc.

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Facebook: AACSPalmCoast

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Email: Info@AfricanAmericanCulturalSociety.org

AACS Activities

Cultural Center Building

Closed until further notice

200 Club Enrollment For April 2020 – March 2021

In-progress

Cultural Center Committee Meetings

April – Cancelled

New Members Reception

Wednesday, April 8 – Postponed

Pompano Beach Excursion

Wednesday, May 6 – Postponed

Cultural Film Presentations

Thursdays in April - Cancelled

Step N Line Dance Classes

Tuesdays in April – Cancelled

General Membership Meetings

Saturday, April 25 – Cancelled

Saturday, May 23 @ 11 a.m.

Saturday, June 27 @ 11 a.m.

FY 2021 Budget Meeting

Wednesday, May 13 @ 11 a.m.

General Membership Enrollment For July 2020 – June 2021

Begins Saturday, May 23

Ends Wednesday, September 30

Juneteenth Celebration

Saturday, June 13 @ 5:00 p.m.

Washington, D.C. Museum Trip

Departs, Monday, June 15

Returns Saturday, June 20

Pyramid Players Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 27 @ 9 a.m.

An Afternoon with A. Peter Bailey

Saturday, June 27 @ 2:00 p.m.

Membership Directory Photo Session

Friday, August 7

Annual Member Appreciation Cookout

Saturday, September 12 @ Noon