

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.

Final request to renew your membership for July 2020 thru June 2021
Your commitment is needed now more than ever!



Maintenance Reserve Fund 2021 Campaign for Donations thru June 2021
Help to keep our Cultural Center in good condition!

From President Joe Matthews...

Good day! I pray and hope you are staying safe by following the CDC Guidelines.

Events

August was a busy month. On August 6th AACS sponsored a motorized march commemorating the 55th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The event was highly successful with 150 cars and one motorcycle participating. The motorcade traveled passed the three Palm Coast early voting locations before ending in Bunnell at the county courthouse's parking lot. Speakers at the brief courthouse program included Flagler County NAACP President Linda Matthews, AACS Board Chair Edmund Pinto, and me.

On August 28th, another motorized march was held in collaboration with the Flagler NAACP to commemorate the 57th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington. This was a highly successful event with more than 300 cars and 2 motorcycles participating.

Thanks to all AACS members who supported these important activities.

Center Administration

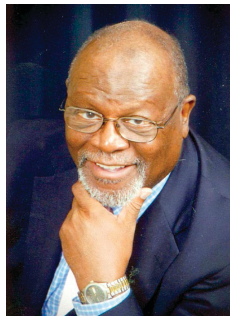
We have come back from the summer hiatus and fully entered fiscal year 2021, running from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. This is a friendly reminder that payments for annual membership dues now must now be completed since we are under a fiscal year dues schedule.

During the pandemic, in-person General Membership meetings at the Center are being replaced by virtual meetings via Zoom. The next scheduled meeting is 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 24th. Look to receive meeting information via robocall, e-mail, Facebook, and our website. Also, the Executive Board has begun to successfully conduct its monthly meetings via Zoom.

Cultural Programs

On Saturday, September 26th our Black Study Group's

(continued on next page)



AACS Election on November 20

Each year, AACS members vote to elect directors and officers to fill leadership positions. This year we will be electing three Directors, First Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. Each position will have a three-year term starting January 2021. Duties of each position are stipulated in the AACS Bylaws.

Current directors with terms ending this year are **Daniel Isaac**, **Melba J. McCarty**, and **Jean M. Tanner**. Each director always is eligible to serve another consecutive term. Daniel and Jean have offered and been nominated to run again for the position of director.

Current officers with terms ending this year are First Vice President **Sybil Dodson-Lucas**, Recording Secretary **Geraldine Wright**, and Treasurer **Merritt A. Robertson**. Each of these officers is eligible to serve another consecutive term in their current position. Those who have offered and been nominated to run for officer positions are **Joseph T. Jones** for First Vice-President, Geraldine Wright for Recording Secretary, and Merritt Robertson for Treasurer.

No floor nominations were made as part of the September General Membership Meeting for any position to be filled this year. As a result, the slate of candidates has been finalized as described above. Many thanks to those offering to run and nominated!

Mail-in election ballots will be sent to each FY 2021 financial member in adequate time to allow for return by our Friday Election Day, November 20. Election results will be announced at the General Membership Meeting on November 21.

Vote by Nov. 3 and again by November 20!

From President Joe Matthews continued...

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speaker series continued with a virtual program featuring A. Peter Bailey, a renowned speaker, activist, lecturer, and author. AACS received a grant from the Florida Humanities Community Project to support this well attended and received presentation.

### Facility Maintenance

As you know, the Board of Directors started the Maintenance Reserve Fund 2021 Campaign in September 2019 to obtain funds for two major expenses confronting AACS: replacing air-conditioners and roof replacement. Many thanks to all those members and friends for continuing to make donations to the Fund 2021 Campaign for our current needs and to build a reserve to handle some future big-ticket building related projects.

This year some donations have been used to obtain and fully pay for our new air-conditioners. Our attention now is focused on much-needed roof replacement, likely costing more than twice as much as the air-conditioners.

The following members have joined with me on the ad-hoc Roofing Committee to fully accomplish roof replacement: **Daniel Isaac, Edmund Pinto, Victor Krause, Merritt Robertson, Reinhold Schlieper, and William Seeney**. These members are drawn from the standing committees for Building and Grounds, Budget and Finance, Directors, and Officers.

I am pleased to announce that roofing company bids have been examined and R&K Certified Roofing has been selected as the primary contractor. Several AACS members have enjoyed previous experiences in using R&K for their roofs.

Working with R&K, a storm damage insurance claim has been filed so that AACS' expense will be limited to the amount of our insurance deductible. Expectations are that any interior damages to the building will be covered under the insurance claim.

### Grants and Donations

Since AACS' income has been directly affected by the pandemic, we have obtained pandemic-related grants from the Florida Humanities organization to help meet our operating costs. Thanks to the Grants Committee, especially chair **Meshella Woods** and member **Stephanie Matthews**, for their work to get the grants.

### "It Takes a Village"

In closing, please know that our Chaplain **William Hopson** is available for conversation or visitation during this difficult time. Do not hesitate to call the office if you would like his assistance.

## Black Lives Matter Shirts

New member **Tara Baten McDaniel**, daughter of Director **Lynda Baten**, is saluted for her strongly supporting to our Black Lives Matter T-shirt fundraiser!

Tara has purchased forty shirts for distribution in Maryland, New York, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C.

A graduate of Hampton University, Tara is a former member of John Lewis' congressional staff. She currently serves as Chief of Staff for the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials. We welcome Tara as a new member and appreciate her contributions to AACS.



## The Scribe

**The Scribe** newsletter is published monthly by the African American Cultural Society, Inc., P. O. Box 350607, Palm Coast, FL 32135-0607, and telephone 386-447-7030. The African American Cultural Society (AACS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization founded in 1991.

Advertising appearing in this publication does not constitute endorsement of its content by AACS. Income from donors helps to offset a portion of the expense involved in the production of this publication.

## Happy October Birthday!

Each of the following members is wished a healthy and joyful birthday!



Solomon Bannister (19), Emery Barksdale Jr. (27), Mitzi Brandon (8), Alton Dempsey (20), Hazel E. Edwards (10), Mya Felton (29), James Freeman (24), Marjorie Gaines (24), Anna Garvin (27), Mamie R. Godfrey (21), Barbara J. Goss (3), Gloria D. Howard (28), Ernest T. Howell (8), Clement Johnson (15), Robbie A. Johnson (16), Joseph T. Jones (28), Charles E. Krause III (4), Nia Krause McLean (22), William Phillips (14), Herman L. Price M.D. (5), John Reid (9), Merritt A. Robertson (15), Gail Seeney (19), James L. Sims (7), Joseph Prince Small (8), Elvia Smith (9), Ida V. St. Hill (16), Brion Thorman (1), Muriel Weems (27), and Annette Williams (20).



## New Members...

Many thanks to the following members for joining the African American Cultural Society and helping to accomplish its mission: **Andria Bannister, Solomon Bannister, Thelma H. Fleming, Carolyn Hawkins, Luella Peniston, Richlin Burnett Ryan, Riva Ryan, Weldon Ryan, Xavier Ryan, and Joseph Prince Small.**

AACS membership at this time in the fiscal year has reached a near-record level of 287 persons. New members may join at any time using a quarterly prorated dues payment schedule.

If you have yet to renew your membership, do not delay! Please send your dues payment check today to AACS, Membership Committee, P.O. Box 350607, Palm Coast, FL 32135-0607.

Expectations are that AACS will continue to grow by attracting and retaining members of the community who deeply appreciate the value AACS provides for its members and the community.

## Lifetime Members...

Congratulations to our new Lifetime Member!

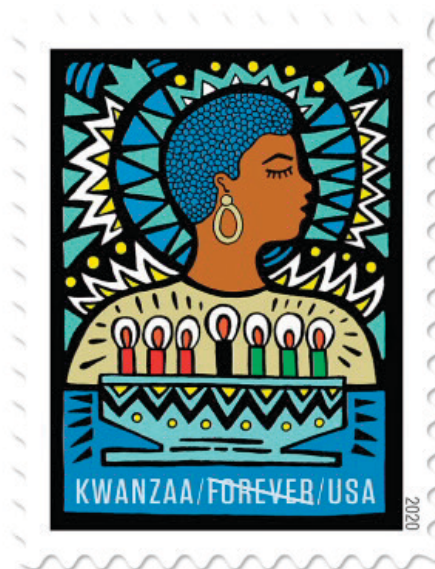
~ Silver ~

**Melinda J. Morais**

Gold memberships cost \$5,000, payable in \$500 annual installments. Silver memberships cost \$2,500, payable in \$250 annual installments.

AACS Credits earned with donations to the Maintenance Reserve Fund 2021 Campaign are accepted with one credit equal to one dollar towards a lifetime membership.

## Kwanzaa is coming!



Prize drawings for both August and September 2020 were made in September since routinely there is no General

Membership meeting in August. Congratulations to all the winners! The August winners are **Walter Boone**, Ivory Johnson, **William Seeney**, Nancy Stacey and **Foster Vestal**. The September winners are Cynthia George, **Shirley Hinds**, **Melinda Morais** (quarterly prize), **Seconia Reid** and **Foster Vestal**. **Alton Dempsey** won the corrected drawing of a July prize.

The next prize drawings will be made at the General Membership Meeting on October 24. Per the Club's annual prize schedule, a total of 29 drawings now remain through March 2021 for prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,000.



## Maintenance Reserve Fund 2021 Campaign

Last September, the Board of Directors announced the start of the Maintenance Reserve Fund 2021 Campaign, due to end in June 2021. The Campaign is designed to raise \$125,000 to correct the inadequate Reserve balance.

Every member is asked to donate during the Campaign in anticipation of AACS' 30th Anniversary in 2021. Although monthly pledge payments are encouraged, one-time gifts also help to reach our goal. Online donations are accepted at the AACS website, AACSPamCoast.org. Checks may mailed to the Cultural Center.



**Donations \$51,900**



**Goal \$125,000**

## Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

The operating budget for the fiscal year begun in July has been approved by the Board of Directors. The budget for total consolidated income is \$94,100 with 28% from Fundraisers, 18% from Center Rentals, 28% from Memberships, and 26% from Donations/Grants.

The budget for total consolidated expenses is \$90,700 with 22% for Cultural Programs, 39% for Center Maintenance/Utilities, 16% for Center Workers, 15% for Center Insurance/Licenses, 6% for the Center Office, and 2% for Professional Services.

Overall, the new budget anticipates net operating income of \$3,400 for the current year, slightly more than the actual \$2,800 income for the past fiscal year ended in June.

### **Signup a New AACS Member or Renew Your Membership Today!**

Send a check for \$50 if you are a Young Adult Member (Age 18 to 34), for \$100 if you are an Adult Member, or for \$150 if you are Family Household Members living at the same address.

*Please make your check payable to AACS, P.O. Box 350607, Palm Coast, FL 32135-0607*

Dues also may be paid online at our AACSPalmCoast.org website.

Membership Category \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Member  
Name(s)

Birth  
Mo./Day

Phone  
Number

Email  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_



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**The Scribe**

Advertising Rates per edition

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Quarter-page: \$25

Full page: \$100



*The Scribe*  
*September 2020*

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PERMIT NO. 30  
Flagler Beach, FL

*Stay Safe and Stay Well!*

**African American Cultural Society, Inc.**

**Cultural Center Building:** 4422 North US 1, Palm Coast, Florida

**Telephone:** (386) 447-7030

**Website:** AACSPalmCoast.org

**Facebook:** AACSPalmCoast

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 350607, Palm Coast, FL 32135-0607

**Email:** Info@AfricanAmericanCulturalSociety.org

**AACS Activities**

**Cultural Center Building**

Office Hours 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. **(V)**

**200 Club Number Enrollment**

Completed

**New Members Only Reception**

postponed until further

**Pompano Beach Excursion**

May 5-6, 2021 **[T]**

**Cultural Film Presentations**

No presentations in October

**Dance Classes**

Tuesdays 4:30-6 p.m.  
postponed until further notice

**General Membership Meetings**

Saturday, October 24 @ 11 a.m. **(V)**

**Membership Dues Reenrollment**

In-progress

**Juneteenth Celebration**

Completed

**Washington, D.C. Museum Trip**

June 14 - 19, 2021 **[T]**

**Pyramid Players Golf Tournament**

Saturday, April 10, 2021 **[T]**

**27<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Gift Giving  
Drive-Thru**

Friday, December 4

**Membership Directory  
Photo Session**

postponed until further notice

**Annual  
Member Appreciation Cookout**

Saturday, May 22, 2021 **[T]**

**[C]** Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic **[T]** Tentative **(V)** Virtual (remote) activity