



# NBCFAE – Washington Headquarters

April 2011

## NBCFAE Mission Statement

We the members of the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees will promote equal opportunity for African-Americans, other minorities, and female FAA employees, improve employee-management relations, and provide an effective liaison among the FAA employees, management and the community at large.

## Message from the President



*Jamaal Lipscomb, Terminal Facilities Group*

Thank you to the 2011 Black History Month Planning Committee: Dessie Burnett, Deames Bynum, Purvis Collier, Linda Clark, Joan Griggs, Phyllis Seaward, Leila Dianne Speed, and Scott Stewart.

This year's Black History Month Theme was that of African Americans in the Civil War. Frederick Douglass believed that any African American that was willing to bear arms and fight for what was then the Union, not only deserved their freedom, but deserved to be recognized as a citizen of these United States.

It was during the NBCFAE's Black History Month celebration that we chose to recognize not only these unknown soldiers that fought for the freedoms that we benefit from today, but those soldiers throughout our history that made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure that there was a change.

Mark "The Speaker Man" Wiggins opened up our Black History Month program challenging us as a coalition, an organization and as an individual to be conscience of our mission and purpose, Intentional in our execution, planning and consistent in both our message and approach. He challenged us to be history makers and not settle for being just part of history.

Our Black History Month opening was followed with a travel back in time with Lakisha Davis and Phyllis Seaward who helped us recognize the incredible accomplishments that we have made as a people since first arriving many years ago on slave slips.

Mr. Edward Harris stood before us as the honorable Frederick Douglass and recited Douglass' Independence Day speech of 1841, after giving us a brief biographical sketch of Douglass' life as a slave, freed man and abolitionist.

This year our annual Scholarship Luncheon closed out our Black History Month activities. We were honored to have the Honorable Christopher A. Hart, Vice Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board as our Keynote speaker. As one of our largest events, our scholarship luncheon allows us to provide \$17,000 annually in scholarship funds to deserving college bound high school students.

As always, we appreciate your continued support and hope you realize how important your involvement is in helping us reach our fund-raising goals. Without our active members, retired members, and friends we would not be able to provide so much to so many.

A special thank you to Shakea Mercer (Violinist), Jessica Anderson (soloist), Lakesha Bankston-Glover (soloist), Tish Thompkins (soloist) and the entire Black History Month Committee!

Graphics and media were sponsored by the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees Washington Headquarters and the Assistant Administrator for Regions and Center Operations, ARC-1

Thank You,

*Jamaal Lipscomb*

NBCFAE Washington Headquarters President

## NBCFAE Scholarships

*Phyllis Seaward – ERT Chair*

This is a friendly reminder that the 2011 NBCFAE Mamie M. Mallory Scholarship Education Foundation deadline is **April 28, 2011** and the Washington Headquarters Scholarship deadline **May 28, 2011**. The Washington Headquarters Region will award (9) recipients that have shown superior accomplishment in the areas of leadership, community service, work study, and extracurricular activities. Three special awards will be presented - the Garret A. Morgan Scholar Award (Technical), Willie Card Scholar Award (Humanity) and the Bessie Coleman Scholar Award (Tenacious Thirst). The Washington Headquarters Scholarship Ceremony will be scheduled in July 2011, at FAA Headquarters.

## HQ Outreach – Educational Activities

*Brittany Newton, AJE-5*

On March 2, 2011, two members of the Headquarters En Route community, Monica Elliott and Purvis Collier, went to Samuel Chase Elementary School in Temple Hills, MD to support the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE) Adopt-A-School program. Quarterly, NBCFAE members visit the school to share aviation activities with the students. This quarter, approximately 75 Students' participated in Aviation Bingo. This has always been one of the student's favorite activities, according to Collier. Instead of calling out "B6" we use aviation related terms such as December 17, 1903, or aeronautical chart, with a brief description of the term. After several visits to the school, we've noticed that some students recognize descriptions of the aviation terms. This activity allows the students to have fun and learn at the same time. In addition to Aviation Bingo, the team left each student with a post card of Aviation Fun Facts and another card with an Aviation Word Search. This material can be found on the Aviation & Space Education Outreach Program site at [https://employees.faa.gov/tools\\_resources/education\\_outreach/](https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/education_outreach/). NBCFAE continues to promote the Aviation Careers Education Programs in our communities. The program introduces young people to the aviation community early on, and we hope it encourages some of them to consider a career in aviation.



*Monica Elliott, ATO-E, provides instruction to Chase Elementary School students in Temple Hills, Md.*

## Race for the Cure

*Regenia Ramsey-Outlaw, Aviation Safety, AFS-170*



*Some of the 2010 NBCFAE Headquarters Team Members*

I'll be coordinating a **NBCFAE Team** again this year. The race will be held on **Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>** and it's a 5K race. It starts at 8:00 am for runners on **6th Street & Madison Drive NW** and 8:15 for walkers on the **National Mall at 4th Street**.

I've created a NBCFAE Team Webpage where you can register for the race or make a pledge for any amount.

Simply go to the [link below](#) and complete the following steps: 1. Select "**Join National Black Coalition of Fed Aviation Employees**" (you will then be taken to the site to sign-up) 2. To make a pledge to the NBCFAE Team, select "**Donate to this Team!**".

[http://globalrace.info-komen.org/site/TR/GlobalRaceForTheCure/KomenGlobalRace/481497606?pg=team&fr\\_id=2024&team\\_id=164205](http://globalrace.info-komen.org/site/TR/GlobalRaceForTheCure/KomenGlobalRace/481497606?pg=team&fr_id=2024&team_id=164205)

The fee to register is **\$40 walkers** and **\$45 runners** which includes your T-shirt.

Last year, we had 18 people who signed up to race (walk/run) with the NBCFAE Team. In addition, we received over \$1,000 in donations! Of course, this year I would like to double participation and donations.

The **NBCFAE Team** will meet in the lobby of FOB-10A (800 Independence, Ave S.W.) @ 7:30 the day race. This will give the runners enough time to get over to the starting line to begin the race @ 8:00 and walkers @ 8:15.

If you have any questions or problems accessing the site, please contact me- [Regenia.Ramsey-Outlaw@faa.gov](mailto:Regenia.Ramsey-Outlaw@faa.gov), 267-9062.

I hope to see you all at the Race on **Saturday, June 4!**

### Monthly Meeting Telcons

Our monthly membership meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, unless notified otherwise. **For your convenience, on May 3rd, you can dial in from noon till 1pm: 202.493.4180 pass code 7777.**

### **Congratulations to New Retirees: Margarete Berrios and Joan Griggs**

*Phyllis Seaward, Accountability Board, AHA-I*

#### Joan Griggs:

Farewell to the Queen! Joan Griggs will be retiring in May 2011, after a dedicated federal government career of 43 years and 10 months. Ms. Griggs completes her career with the Office of Quality, Integration and Process Division, AQS-100. Ms. Griggs served as the NBCFAE Washington Headquarters Secretary since 1995. While working as a Coalition member she displayed her commitment to the Coalition by working passionately with the Conference Committee, the Education Recruitment and Training (ERT) Committee, the Black History Month Program - serving as the assistant to the National President, as an assistant to the Washington Headquarters Treasurer and various other duties within the Coalition.



*Joan*

Ms. Griggs is an example of a mentor who showed grace, style, and class. She always had the right answer to any question. If Ms. Griggs did not have the answer, she would get it for you within the hour. Ms. Griggs loved to help people, network, and was always willing to work in any capacity, i.e. Black History, Scholarship Program, Meet and Greet, Scholarship Luncheon Tickets, just to name a few things. Ms. Griggs was always on time for every membership meeting and came well prepared with minutes from the last meeting and the checkbook. Ms. Griggs will be missed but not forgotten. She leaves a stamp of greatness on the emblem of the NBCFAE.

The Coalition will be hosting Joan's retirement ceremony on: **Tuesday, May 10, 2011 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm - FOB10A Conference room 8A&B.** Please contact Diane Speed or Phyllis Seaward for any questions or concerns. Her office – AQS, will host Joan's June 16th luncheon at Clyde's of Gallery Place.

Thank You Joan . . .Once, Twice, Three Times a Lady!

### Retiree - Margarete Berrios:

The Washington Headquarters Region had to say good-bye to Margarete Berrios, who retired from the FAA, Office of Airports in January 2011. Ms. Berrios held the position as a Training Coordinator until her departure .

Ms. Berrios dedicated over 32 years of service as a federal government employee. She was also an Adjunct Professor at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) for (20) years.



*Margarete*

Ms. Berrios served as the Washington Headquarters President for three years, 2007-2010. In role as President she showed, tenacity, commitment, and dedication . Her leadership was instrumental in the following areas:

- played an intricate role in the 2010 Black History Month Celebration
- increased the HQs membership by 5%
- implemented monthly meetings with SES for members inquiries about the SES' organization
- develop the Spirit Award for students that managed to maintain a 2.5 GPA while facing insurmountable odds during High School
- volunteered for the ACE camps and a mentor at Chase Elementary, Temple Hills Maryland
- promoted the HQs Regional Training by soliciting members on what training courses that would be applicable to their position
- designed the HQs NBCFAE website where members can see information on training and upcoming events
- accommodated gifts cards to families in need throughout the calendar year - especially during the Holiday season
- assisted retired NBCFAE members that wanted to attend the National Conference

Ms. Berrios demonstrated how a leader takes the initiative to promote community awareness with reverence and perseverance. Ms. Berrios captured the essence of a leader, motivator, and friend. She left a stellar legacy that will be missed, however, it prepared us to continually make the NBCFAE a people's organization where all are welcomed, valued, and appreciated.

## ***"The Black National Anthem"***

**by James Weldon Johnson**

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,  
 Till earth and heaven ring.  
 Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
 Let our rejoicing rise,  
 High as the list'ning skies,  
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
 Sing a song full of the faith that the dark  
 past has taught us,  
 Sing a song full of the hope that the present  
 has brought us;  
 Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
 Let us march on till victory is won.  
 Stony the road we trod,  
 Bitter the chast'ning rod,  
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had  
 died;  
 Yet with a steady beat,  
 Have not our weary feet,  
 Come to the place for which our fathers  
 sighed?  
 We have come over a way that with tears  
 has been watered,  
 We have come, treading our path through  
 the blood of the slaughtered,  
 Out from the gloomy past,  
 Till now we stand at last  
 Where the white gleam of our bright star is  
 cast.  
 God of our weary years,

God of our silent tears,  
 Thou who has brought us thus far on the  
 way;  
 Thou who has by Thy might,  
 Led us into the light,  
 Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our  
 God, where we met Thee,  
 Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the  
 world, we forget Thee,  
 Shadowed beneath thy hand,  
 May we forever stand,  
 True to our God,  
 True to our native land.

### **Submission of Newsletter Articles**

If you have information you would like to share concerning NBCFAE activities, FAA related news, or a member's personal accomplishments, please email the article to Marcus Brown, NBCFAE Headquarters Newsletter editor:

[kelbro@earthlink.net](mailto:kelbro@earthlink.net).

### **NBCFAE Headquarters Officers**

**President:** Jamaal Lipscomb; **Vice President:** Deames Bynum;  
**Treasurer:** Victoria Gladden; **Secretary:** Cynthia Smith  
**Committee Chairs**  
**ERT:** Phyllis Seaward; **Membership:** Deames Bynum  
**Newsletter Editor:** Marcus Brown