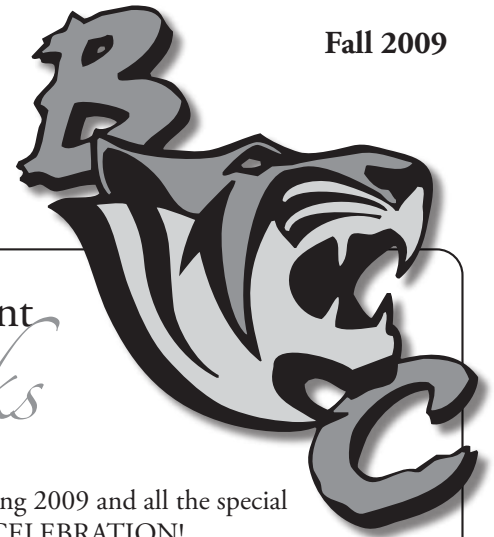


Tiger Pride

A Publication for the Benedict College National Alumni Association

Fall 2009



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Mary Primus Jones



A Message from the BCNAA President

A Note of Thanks

Dear Benedict College Family and Friends,

WELCOME HOME TIGERS! Your coming to Homecoming 2009 and all the special planned events for the weekend means that we are having a CELEBRATION! We can't wait to see you and share in all the festivities together.

I wish to take this time not only to welcome you to HOMECOMING but also to say THANK YOU for your loyal and outstanding support to the College. Since my assuming the presidency on October 24, 2008, I continue to be inspired by the dedication and commitment of alumni and friends of our beloved alma mater.

Great accomplishments are being made.

- We concluded this year's Annual Fund Campaign which yielded the highest alumni giving total in the history of the College. I commend all of our club presidents, campaign drive directors, and the many alumni donors who helped to make this year a success. Hats are off to our Annual Fund Committee Chair, Mrs. Marlene McClerklin.
- Our alumni groups are stepping out and standing tall in special projects. The Volunteer Corps, directed by Mrs. Rosena Lucas, is providing weekly assistance to the Alumni Affairs staff and serving as receptionists in Morgan Hall.
- The 2009 Homecoming Committee has out done itself, with detailed planning; we are all in for an outstanding weekend celebration.
- Benedict College Day at the Dome was a huge success. Thank you for your support and mark your calendars now to be present in April 2010 for the second annual event.
- The College continues to be listed among the top 10 schools in the nation for producing Physics major graduates.
- The Gospel Choir just won another first place title in the national competition held annually for HBCUs. This is the fifth first place win for the choir in seven years.
- Our alumni are really supporting athletics. The purple seat campaign is ongoing, and alumni are purchasing not only a personal seat, but some are getting seats for their entire family. The Tiger Boosters are also traveling with the football team, cheering them on to greater victories.
- All of this adds up to a difference in attitude which in turn changes the atmosphere at Benedict College. I detect more pride. We are represented at Trustee Board Meetings, Commencement Ceremonies, Annual Convocations, Student Open House Celebrations just to name a few. Coming from the North, South, East, and West, will be our Champions of Tiger Pride during this HOMECOMING weekend. Join the Celebration!



With Tiger Pride,

Thelma Brooks Salmond, *President*

Benedict College National Alumni Association

IN THIS ISSUE:

Young Alumni • Alumnus Profile • Homecoming '09 • Club News • Powers of Good • Hall of Fame • Office of Alumni Affairs

Benedict College Young Alumni and Celebrity Publicist Releases

Debut Literary Project

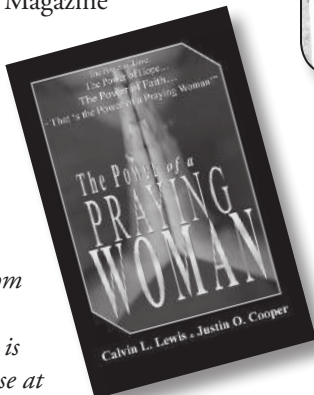
2007 Benedict College graduate Justin O. Cooper releases his new inspirational self-help book *The Power of a Praying Woman*. Cooper who serves as the publicist and personal assistant to two-time Grammy award-winning Gospel/R&B record artist/actress Ann Nesby. With his hand at bat with *The Power of a Praying Woman*, a collaborative effort between Cooper and Bainbridge, GA native Calvin L. Lewis, an emerging playwright/author. The book highlights Cooper's and Lewis' homage to the influential women of faith in their lives.



"This book serves as one of my ultimate goals as a writer. It allows me to encourage and inspire others through experiences I've witnessed and it is my way of saying thank you to the monumental women in my life," says Cooper.

Cooper is a 1998 graduate of Kingstree Senior High School and an honors graduate of Benedict College. He has spent the past decade pursuing his dream of working in the world of media and entertainment. His bylines and media credit include: *The Urban Network Magazine* (Los Angeles, CA); *IMARA Woman Magazine* (Columbia, SC); *How We Live Magazine* (Columbia, SC); and *The Atlanta Journal Constitution Newspaper* (Atlanta, GA).

The Power of a Praying Woman is published by Kingdom Builders Publishing (Camden, NC) and is available for purchase at www.Amazon.com.



Greetings from the Alumni Affairs Director:

Wow! I can't tell you how proud I am to be a Benedict Tiger. It is my pleasure to greet you and express great appreciation for your continued support and commitment to our alma mater.

Exhilaration is a perfect way to describe how we wrapped up this past fiscal year. The 2008-09 Alumni Annual Fund Campaign reached a record \$904,000. We thank each of you and we especially thank those of you who met your annual fund goals.

The amount contributed this year was unprecedented for our College and we thank you immensely. The pride of our alumni expressed for Benedict and the excitement surrounding the College's future is gratifying. Benedict College has long been recognized and respected for its commitment to producing young men and women who are prepared to contribute to a global society.

Congratulations to our top ten club winners who are: Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Columbia #1, Columbia #2, Greenville, Laurens Clinton, Progressive, Spartanburg, and Washington #46. There were 16 members who met goal and will be eligible for the drawing for the Travel Voucher valued at \$800. The drawing will take place during Homecoming Weekend.

We appreciate your efforts on behalf of the College and your continued involvement to ensure that Benedict's Alumni are the best in our region. We are listed among the top ten of all of the UNCF Colleges for alumni participation. We applaud all of the members and friends of the Benedict College National Alumni Association.

My very best to you for an enjoyable fall season.



Ada Brown Belton '77
Director of Alumni Affairs



DAY AT THE DOME...
Luncheon on the grounds of the State Capitol

IN MEMORY, 2009

We recognize with gratitude the following donors who have made memorial or honorary gifts to Benedict College.

IN MEMORY OF MR. WALLACE BYRD '51

Dr. Jasper and Mrs. Thelma B. Salmond

IN MEMORY OF MRS. ELIZABETH BROOKS BELLINGER '54

Dr. Jasper and Mrs. Thelma B. Salmond

IN MEMORY OF MRS. BEVERLY TOLIVER CHAPMAN '70
Mr. Harvey Chapman

IN MEMORY OF Mrs. THELMA JAMES GOODWIN '45
Mr. John Goodwin

IN MEMORY OF REV. DR. ROSCOE C. WILSON
Dr. Jasper and Mrs. Thelma B. Salmond

Benedict College National Alumni Association Featured Alumnus Profile

Jimmy DuRante '73

Jimmy DuRante was born in Hartsville, South Carolina, on December 16, 1950, to Burnice and Susie Durant. He completed his public education from Butler High School in 1969 and graduated from Benedict College in 1973 with a Degree in Economics.

He has worked in the insurance industry for over thirty-two years. Jimmy is employed currently as a Master Claims Representative for the Nationwide Insurance Company in Greenville, South Carolina. He was a former Producer Agent for Kendall & Associates, Greenville, SC, and as a Senior Claims Adjuster/Multi-Lines for USF&G Insurance Company.

Jimmy has served his community in a variety of capacities. He was the President of the Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., for two years, 1997-1999, and presently serves as Treasurer of this chapter. He has served also as Cub Master of the Blue Ridge Council of Boy Scouts of America. He is the past chairman of the Deacon's Ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

He has received numerous chapter awards that include the Gamma Gamma Lambda Merit Award, 1989; Extravaganza Award, 1990; President's Award, 1991; Alpha Man of the Year, 1992; and Outstanding Service and Leadership Award Recipient in 2000. Jimmy is a member of the NAACP, the Urban League, and the past chairman of the Selective Service Board #146. He has also served as the 2003-2007 Upstate Chairman of the United Negro College Fund Campaign.



Mr. DuRante's Alumni involvement includes a successful two-year term as the 24th president of the National Alumni Association (BCNAA). His administration fulfilled many accomplishments during his tenure. The college had an increase in its annual giving from alumni, the membership increased, and our BCNAA logo was adopted. Many procedural changes took place to aid in smoother operations.

Jimmy has served on many committees over the years. He currently serves as the chair of the Budget Committee, co-chair of the Annual Committee, and as a member of the By-Laws and Constitution Committee. He is a life member of the BCNAA and a member of the Benedict College Heritage Society. He now serves as the President of the Greenville Alumni Association.

Jimmy has received the National President's Appreciation Award, 2002; Distinguished Service Award, 2006; and the Mamie L. Duckett Award, 2008. He served as Alumni Board of Trustees Member for two years,

2005-2007.

Jimmy is married to Betty Davis DuRante ('73), his college sweetheart. They have three children: Shone Cortez, Felicia Tyshell, and Kazan Catriest. They currently reside in Mauldin, South Carolina.

Jimmy and his wife, Betty, have been very generous in supporting Benedict College. They are listed among the top in the Planned Giving category. He and his lovely wife are also featured on the cover of the 2009-2010 Planned Giving Brochure.

Clubs Recognition at Homecoming Alumni Awards Luncheon...

Congratulations to Laurens-Clinton Alumni Club and the Spartanburg Alumni Club, recipients of the 2009 club awards.

The **Laurens-Clinton Alumni Club** will be presented with the *Premier Club Award* for the highest per capita contribution to the Annual Giving Campaign. The Club will also be recognized with the *Dedication Award* for the greatest increase in contributions to the 2009 Annual Giving Campaign. Mrs. Helen Drakeford is the club's president.

The **Spartanburg County Alumni Club** will receive the *Membership Club Award* which is presented to the club with the greatest increase in membership. Mrs. Betty Brightman is the club's president.

These awards will be given during Homecoming on Friday, October 23, 2009 at the Alumni Awards Luncheon at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia, South Carolina.



BCNAA HOMECOMING COMMITTEE WORKING IT OUT

Elsie King Hamler, Chairperson and Co-Chairs Mary Primus Jones and Joan Gilbert, along with their committee are hard at work planning an exciting 2009 Homecoming. The telephones have been ringing, the e-mails flying and everyone brainstorming about how to make this event successful. Not only is this a busy time, but it is also a time when old acquaintances are being renewed and new friendships forged.

Melvin Kelly and Clifford Bush decided they would try to bring some top notch entertainment and went out and booked the stupendous Lakeside Band and the magnificent Delphonics for our concert. That's the way to go! Now don't get me wrong, everyone is working, but we have to keep telling Robert Thomas to slow down because we don't want Allen University, Morris College or S.C. State to get jealous because our tailgating party is so over the top. We don't know what to do with Solomon Hill who is beside himself declaring our Breakfast with Benedict's Finest will be one of the finest!

We can't hold down Ken Marion who is organizing the Awards Luncheon. Jean Grant is outdoing herself to make sure the decorations are beautiful. There's no stopping Essie Perkins who is working to make the Miss BCNAA Pageant fabulous. Frances Wimberly and Juliet King are in a twitter, talking about the souvenir booklet. Raymond Corley is stomping the area for corporate sponsorships and Juanita Franklin (as always) is looking ahead to locate a site for the 2010 Homecoming activities.

2009 HOMECOMING HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Dr. James Alston
 Mr. Jack Johnson, Esq.
 Dr. Milton Kimpson
 Mrs. Barbara Moore
 Dr. Rufus Pettis
 Dr. Jasper Salmond
 Dr. Ethel Taylor
 Mr. Ralph Warren, Esq.
 Ms. Dorothy Buchanan Wilson
 Mr. Denver Wright

Rosena Lucas is coordinating the volunteers for registration and Marshall McKeever, Hospitality Committee Chair, is getting hosts and hostesses. In the midst of all this excitement, Bernice Tobin and Delores Haynes, along with Sheryl Good, are planning a first rate Scholarship Gala. Walletha Moore is sitting in the cut, planning how to do the evaluations for the conference.

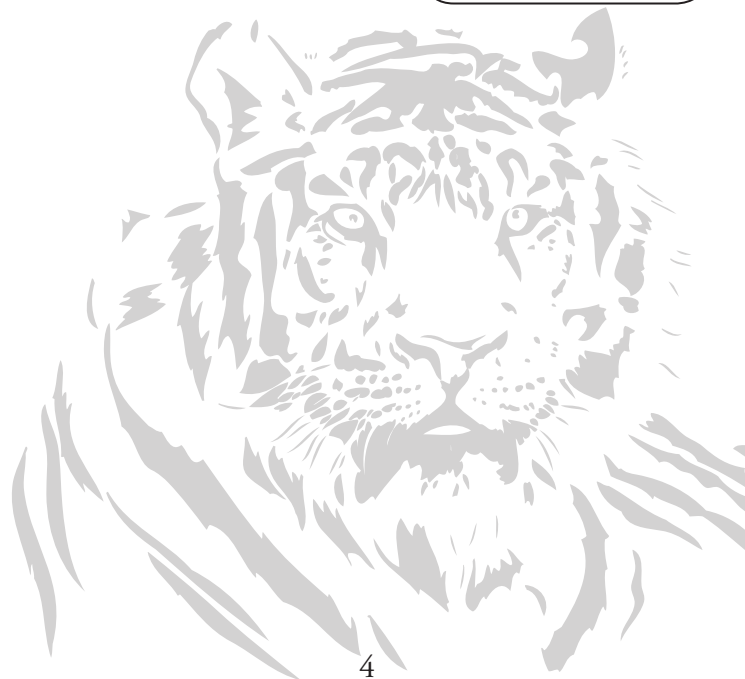
Let us not forget, with all the activities going on, none of the above could be successful without the army of Benedict grads, family and friends who are behind the scenes, supporting and working on the different committees.

Thelma Salmond, Ada Belton and staff, Elsie Hamler, Mary Jones and Joan Gilbert are the guiding light. Their optimism and positive outlook are helping to make working on this committee an enjoyable experience.

BENEDICT COLLEGE 34TH HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

All events hosted at the Radisson Hotel unless otherwise indicated

THURSDAY, OCT. 22, 2009	
12 Noon - 9:00 p.m.	Registration
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Business Session
7:00 p.m.	Welcome Crowning Ceremony Tigerama
FRIDAY, OCT. 23, 2009	
6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Tiger Workout
7:30 a.m.	15th LeRoy T. Walker Golf Tournament <i>TBA</i>
8:00 a.m.	Leave Hotel for Campus
8:15 a.m.	Breakfast with Benedict's Finest
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Campus Tours Career Day
11:45 a.m.	Bus Departs Benedict College <i>Swinton Center, Benedict College</i>
11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	BCNAA Registration
1:00 p.m.	Alumni Awards and State of the College Luncheon
5:00 p.m.	Partnership Alliance Food and Wine Tasting Program (BY INVITATION ONLY)
7:00 p.m.	Scholarship Gala and Silent Auction
11:00 p.m.	Young Alumni Dance
SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 2009	
6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Tiger Workout
8:00 a.m.	President's Breakfast (BY INVITATION ONLY) <i>Swinton Center, Benedict College</i>
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Homecoming Parade <i>Sumter Street</i>
12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m.	Alumni Tailgating Party <i>Charlie W. Johnson Stadium</i>
2:00 p.m.	BC Tigers vs. Ft. Valley State University <i>Charlie W. Johnson Stadium</i>
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Saturday Night Concert Featuring LAKESIDE, THE BEST FUNK BAND IN THE LAND! <i>The band is best known for their 1980 number one R&B hit, "Fantastic Voyage".</i> There will also be a guest performance by The Delfonics.
10:30 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.	Tiger Jam
SUNDAY, OCT. 25, 2009	
11:00 a.m.	Benedict College Worship Service <i>Antisdell Chapel, Benedict College</i>
6:30 p.m.	Annual Homecoming Gospel Concert <i>HRC Arena, Benedict campus</i>



Homecoming Headliner

Lakeside



Lakeside were likely the first band to successfully use a “theme” for each album cover which brought about a lot of notoriety in the music industry and amongst the music faithful. “I wonder what they’re going to come out with next” was the question asked by many fans and the people who followed the group. Starting off with “*A Shot of Love*,” the Robin Hood-themed debut in 1978, Lakeside scored a hit, a dance one at that, right off the bat with “*All the Way Live*.”

The Dayton, Ohio, based band was formed when Otis Stokes and Thomas Shelby quit the Bad Bunch to team up with Mark Wood in the Young Underground. After signing a deal in Chi-Town they changed the name to Ohio Lakeside Express, which in due course was thankfully shortened to Lakeside.

In 1972 the band hit the road for a live gig in Oklahoma City. By this time they had added Stephen Shockley, Fred Alexander, Tiemeyer McCain, Marvin Craig, Fred Lewis and Norman Beavers. They got the shaft on the OKC gig and ended in La-La Land as one of the first acts signed to Dick Griffey’s SOLAR (Sound of Los Angeles Records) label. Likewise the group served as the house band for labelmates, Shalimar and Dynasty, and also ended up penning quite a few tunes for these and other groups.

This funk group secured its first hit in 1978 with “*It’s All The Way Live*.”

In 1979, they released “*Rough Riders*” with a Wild Bunch theme and the funky dance track, “*If You Like Our Music (Get On Up and Move)*.” 1980 gave them their biggest glory with “*Fantastic Voyage*” with its pirates motif. The single (R&B #1) by the same name provided the dance tune many were waiting for in the post-disco era. “*Fantastic Voyage*” was later sampled by Coolio on his smash hit by the same name. That album also featured “*Your Love Is On the One*” and the ballad “*Say Yes*.” 1981 brought the Aladdin-themed “*Your Wish Is My Command*.” The title track was especially popular among fans.

Singles include “*I Want To Hold Your Hand*” (1982) and “*Outrageous*” (1984), both of which reached the US R&B Top 10.

Lakeside members are:

Otis Stokes - guitar, vocals
Thomas Shelby - lead vocals
Mark Wood - lead vocals, keyboards
Stephen Shockley - guitar
Fred Alexander - drums

Tiemeyer McCain - lead vocals
Marvin Craig - bass
Fred Lewis - percussion
Norman Beavers - keyboards

Guest Appearance by

The Delfonics

The Delfonics were a quintessential Philadelphia soul singing group, most popular in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Brothers William and Wilbert Hart formed the group with Richard Daniels, and Randy (Rudy) Cain in high school in the early 1960s. Richard Daniels one of the founding members would be drafted just before the groups first major success.

Soon, they became known throughout the Philadelphia area, signing with Cameo Records. At Cameo, Stan Watson introduced them to the man who made them famous, producer Thom Bell, then working with Chubby Checker. Bell dreamed of creating a Philadelphia version of Motown and struck gold with the Delfonics, whose first album, released on Watson’s own Philly Groove record label, featured the hit “*La-La (Means I Love You)*”, in 1968. Four more Bell-produced albums appeared in the next few years: *The Sexy Sound of Soul*, *The Delfonics Super Hits*, *The Delfonics and Tell Me This Is a Dream*. Among the Delfonics’ popular hits were “*Didn’t I (Blow Your Mind This Time)*”, “*For The Love I Give To You*”, “*Ready or Not Here I Come (Can’t Hide from Love)*” and “*Hey Love*”. Prior to the release of “*La-La (Means I Love You)*”, they had a hit with “*He Don’t Really Love You*” on the small Moonshot label.



Lakeside’s Hit Songs Include:

FANTASTIC VOYAGE • IT’S ALL THE WAY LIVE • I WANT TO HOLD YOUR HAND • RAID • YOUR LOVE IS ON THE ONE
REAL LOVE • SOMETHING ABOUT THAT WOMAN • PULL MY STRINGS • BULLSEYE • MAKE MY DAY • TURN THE MUSIC UP
FROM 9:00 UNTIL • WE WANT YOU (ON THE FLOOR) • MONEY • GIVEN IN TO LOVE

Benedict College Columbia Alumni Club # 1 Moving Forward



Little Mr. and Miss Alumni King and Queen to Adorn Homecoming Float

In order to enhance their annual giving as a group, the Columbia BC Club # 1 sponsored their initial Little King and Queen Contest on April 25, 2009, reputed as a grand success, the reigning King is **Austin Michael Bookman**. The beaming Queen is **Deborah Ruth Mitchell**. Austin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Arlisha Bookman of Atlanta, Georgia. He was sponsored by his grandmother Mrs. Ethel Adams, assisted by Mrs. Thelma Perkins and Dr. Phyllis Perkins. Deborah Ruth is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Mitchell Jr. Deborah excelled in her financial report due to the ardent work of her sponsor Aunt Gladys B. Goforth her grandmother Mrs. Ruth B. Sims and her parents.

Other contestants and sponsors were as follows:

Kevari Sheron Squire Son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin B. Anderson and Marie E. Squire. He was sponsored by his Aunt Susie S. Mills, Mr. William Robinson, and Mrs. Gloria Odom.

Armonte Breland Mikell Flowers Son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Holly S. Cherry. Sponsors were Misses Pertell Nesbitt, Louise Entzminger, and Mrs. Ozie Dowdy.

Delya Jakeilia Lemon Daughter of Ms. Quitta Bennett and Mr. John Lemon. She was sponsored by her Aunt Linda Doctor, Mrs. Thelma Whitney, and Dr. Latta Thomas, Sr.

Zlyian O'Neal - Our youngest contestant. She is the daughter of Ms. Taisha O'Neal. Sponsored by Miss Pertell Nesbitt and Ms. Chalesia Beckett.

Nala Unique Riley The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cantrele and Tinarenee Riley. Her sponsors were her Grandmother Marian Coulbourne, Mesadames Patricia Swinton and Onalee Taylor.

Sarai Emma Diana Sanford The daughter of Ms. Temekia Sanford and the granddaughter of Mr. Mrs. Gary and Jackie Johnson. She is sponsored by her mother and Mesdames Elizabeth Holmes, Ruby Schumpert and Mary Cooper.

All eight contestants represented themselves well and were a definite credit to their families and sponsors. Their renditions of vocal and instrumental music, poetry, orations, dance, etc., displayed superb talents of these little friends and future BC alumni. Columbia Alumni BC Club # 1 is very grateful to all contestants, participants, parent's patrons, advertisers and all persons who contributed in any form to the success of this fund raising event.



A special thanks goes to Mr. Ronnie Nowlin for his generous assistance, Commendations were extended to Mrs. Linda Doctor for the exquisite job she did in orchestrating the event and to the Miss Pertell Nesbitt for the tenaciously kind leadership as President of the club.

Orchids Are Extended To:

Several members of Columbia BC Alumni Club # 1 who are very actively involved with Leadership roles in the Retired Teachers National Education Association, namely: Mesdames Linda Doctor, Louise Entzminger, Elnora Robinson, and Pertell Nesbitt.

Although these educators from the classroom did retire, they still find time in various ways to continue to inspire. How do we know? Benedict College told us so. Don't stop caring, don't stop sharing Go Tigers! Go Tigerettes! Go, Go, Go!

Orchids from the Woman's Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of SC

To the Benedict College Rally Committee:

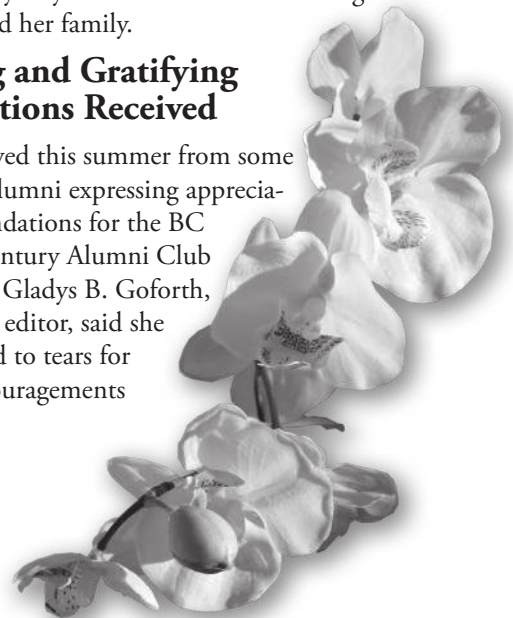
During the 139th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of SC conducted at the Brookland Baptist Church of West Columbia, delegates were entreated to an added feature to the Friday morning activities. Several BC Club # 1 members were in attendance and participants at the June 15-19, 2009 function.

President Claudette Cureton charged the Benedict College Rally Committee to create means for additional fund-raising so as to enhance the Convention's donation to the college. The committee, chaired by Mrs. Gladys B. Goforth, launched an initial drive entitled "The Benedict College Pride March" Persons contributing twenty-five (\$25.00) and above were encouraged to participate in the strut during the Friday morning activities. Other members of the conscientious committee included Mesdames Georgie Burton, Virginia B. Branch, Helen C. Schumpert, Hattie P. Donald, and Mary Foster.

The Queen's crown was worn by Mrs. Agnes Myers Hardison, as she and her family excelled in their financial contribution to the Pride March. Many of the Myers Family have Benedict connections and are always loyal to the cause of the College. We salute Mrs. Harrison and her family.

Encouraging and Gratifying Communications Received

Kudos were received this summer from some out-of-state BC alumni expressing appreciation and commendations for the BC National Half-Century Alumni Club Newsletter. Mrs. Gladys B. Goforth, the president and editor, said she was almost moved to tears for the gifts and encouragements extended.



Columbia Club #2 Concluded Another Banner Year

The Columbia Benedict Alumni Club #2 held their first “Little Mr. & Miss Purple and Gold” Pageant on Sunday, June 14, 2009 in the Ponder Fine Arts Center.

Our contestants and winners were:

Little Mr. Purple and Gold - **Jeffrey Brown**, grandson of Charles & Thomasena Benson; First Runner-up- **Riley H. Snell**, grandson of Grover & Betty Jenkins; Little Miss Purple and Gold – **Gabrielle Johnson**, daughter of Robert & Vivian Johnson; First Runner-up - **Amara Haywood**, granddaughter of Harriet Scarborough Haywood; Second Runner-up - **Tamia Devine**, daughter of Jamie & Tamiaka Devine; Third Runner-up - **Alana Darby**, great-granddaughter of Jasper & Thelma Salmond.

Other contestants were: **Kayla Chiles**- granddaughter of Sarah J. Chiles & Willie Chiles; **Paris Ferguson**- daughter of Karen Ferguson & Oliver Ferguson; **Ra-Ven and Re-Anna Grooms** - twin daughters of Rashonda Kennedy & Rex Grooms; **Lauren Hammonds** - daughter of Darnell & Tamara Hammonds; and, **Shandrea Mitchell**- granddaughter of Cora Allen Mitchell.

Our participants in the talent part of the pageant were: **Maya Kennedy** - granddaughter of Ernestine Dawkins; **Malik Chiles** - Grandson of Sarah Chiles & Willie Chiles; **Kira Chiles** - daughter of Kendrick & Wendy Chiles; and, **Amara Haywood** - granddaughter of Harriet S. Haywood.

The pageant was a great, successful fundraising activity. Our contestants' parents, sponsors, families, and supporters raised a total of \$25,344.

Augusta Club news...

Jacqueline Lawrence represented the month of August in the 2009 Calendar, a publication of the University Health Care System. She is also a certified volunteer for “Reach to Recovery”.

Congratulations to Robert O’Neal, a member of the Augusta BC Club, a 2009 Benedict College Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee.

Oscar Kemp, class of 1954, celebrated his 50th Wedding Anniversary in June 2009. He is married to Rubena Kemp (Clafin graduate).

The Augusta BC Club will be hosting the CSRA Football Classic in Augusta, November 7, 2009, at the Lucy Laney High School Stadium, 2:00 PM (same as last year). This is the third year for this event: Benedict College vs. Clark Atlanta University.

Charleston Area BC Club news...

Simmons Accepted at Duke

Arlecia D. Simmons, has recently entered the Master of Divinity Program at Duke Divinity School in Durham, N.C. She is simultaneously completing her doctoral dissertation for the Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the University of Iowa.

Arlecia is the eldest daughter of Lovie Simmons Howell - President of the Charleston Area Benedict College Alumni Club and Co-Chair of the Budget Committee.

“Powers for Good”

As one of our nation’s distinguished institutions of higher education, Benedict College salutes its 140th year of existence. Since opening its doors to those who aspire to become “Powers for Good” in an ever-changing global society, the college has been guided by the oar of its mission and delivered well beyond the expectations of its creators. Its role as a historically black college remains deeply rooted in America’s great promise for equal access to education, whether fortunate or less fortunate.



The time, resources, commitment, talent and success of its alumni create a North Star that will inevitably guide all future graduates. Today’s environment places a weighty premium on education and the will to excel. Consequently, students from Benedict College are encouraged to navigate and champion the fields of science, education, business, technology, humanities, and much more. The realization of increased enrollment for the third consecutive year is a most exciting and public testimonial affirming the college is on mission. The college’s steady enhancement of its financial position, academic curriculum, faculty, administration, physical plant and a many other business processes are all positive signs of sustainable growth and institutional health. Additionally and given today’s economy, the unprecedented testimonial and contribution of \$902,000 from Benedict College alumni last year, took the words “Tiger Pride and Powers for Good” to a whole new level!

Please know, our obligation to Benedict College today is quite simple but very serious. We must engage ourselves in all that is necessary to preserve and promote both her legacy and the value of her diploma. Preservation and promulgation require engagement, passion and an unshakable belief that each of us can truly make a difference. You can begin by putting your fingerprints on the legacy we create today for Benedict College graduates yet unborn. This is the time! This is the place! This is the reason why we ask you to link arms with us and make the 140th year of Benedict College’s existence your story to tell!

Love Collins, III, MBA

Executive Vice President- Institutional Advancement
Benedict College, Columbia, SC



Hall of Fame Inductees



CHARLES W. BLAKELY
Native of Cayce, SC
Entered Benedict in 1954
Football and Baseball

COACH ISAAC L. SMITH, JR.
Class of 1967
Football, Defensive Backs



MARION NICHOLSON
(Posthumously)
Attended Benedict 1959-1962
Football & Track

LONNIE WAYNE FERGUSON, SR.
Native of Spartanburg, SC
Class of 1972
Cross Country



ROBERT O'NEAL
Resides in Augusta, GA
Class of 1968
Baseball

WILLIAM E. PARTLOW
Native of Gastonia, NC
In 1969 became BC's Athletic Director
& Head Basketball Coach



MELVYN R. COOPER
Class of 1974
Academic Scholar
Basketball

Membership Has Its Privileges...

Dues expire June 30 annually.

Please pay your dues as soon as possible.

Why? Your dues help support the Association's annual operating budget from July 1st to June 30th. Annual membership dues are \$25.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please send them to Kenneth Marion at klmbc81@hotmail.com or call 843-327-1694.

Please visit the College's website at www.benedict.edu for a complete listing of benefits.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Hotel discounts

Annual meeting and election voting privileges

Car rental discounts

Reserved deck parking on campus

15% Bookstore discounts

First Class mailing and publications

Mark Your Calendars

2009

Concert Choir Christmas Concert----- Dec. 6

Winter Commencement -----Dec.12

Benedict Christmas Break ---Dec. 23 - Jan. 3, 2010

2010

21st Annual Harambee Festival -----February 27

Founder's Day Convocation ----- March 2

Founder's Day Rally----- March 20

BCNAA Annual Spring Meeting----- March 25-27

Charter Day Awards & Dinner----- April 21

Spring Commencement -----May 8

