

EDITOR: Joyce Swarn; REVIEW BOARD: Bertha Baugh, Chad Clark, Valarie Williams, and Joyce Batten

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



VALUING OUR VOTES AND VOTING OUR VALUES was the theme for the 2006 NAACP National Convention. It will also be the theme for our upcoming Political Candidate Forum.

The National Convention was held in the Washington DC Convention Center July 14-20, 2006. My first NAACP national convention, I was there, along with 30,000 members from across the United States including Hawaii and Alaska.

It was historic in my view, for two reasons. First, we lobbied on Capital Hill for the passage of the Voting Rights Act extension, without amendments. The next day, the vote passed the Senate without any negative votes. There was one abstention. Secondly, it was at this convention that President Bush addressed the NAACP for the first time, during his Presidency.

Of course, there were many other highlights. The Reverend Jessie Jackson gave a rousing presentation, on the day before the President's visit. Reverend Jackson's visit was followed by a panel discussion by Senators Ted Kennedy, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.

Vancouver, thanks for sending me, along with President Emeritus Val Joshua, to such an historic event. Now let's prepare to take our young people in 2007.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING & CANDIDATES FORUM

Saturday, October 21, 2006, 9am to 12pm
Community AME Zion Church
3605 E 13th Street, Vancouver, WA

This meeting features a free Pancake Breakfast and Candidates Forum. The membership meeting and pancake breakfast will run concurrently from 9am - 10am.

Candidates Forum

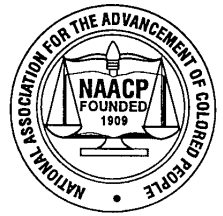
Candidates for the 17th and 49th Legislative District from 10am - 11am
Candidates for Clark County positions from 10am - 12pm.

BRANCH ELECTIONS

2007 - 2008 Branch elections for the Vancouver NAACP will be held at our December regular membership meeting. Anyone wishing to run for office can contact Nominating Committee Brenda Simmons (360) 694-1454, Iloba Odum (360) 600-1308, Joyce Swarn (360) 254-6025, or Al Flory (360) 696-0167.

The offices are: President, 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary. We generally fill Executive Ccommittee chairs by appointment. However, if you are

VANCOUVER BRANCH NAACP # 1139
POST OFFICE BOX 1903, VANCOUVER, WA 98668-1903
360 256-6232
VOLUME 6; ISSUE 3; OCTOBER 2006
www.naacpvanc.org



interested in any of the Standing Committee Chair positions please let the nominating committee know.

Candidates for office must submit a Petition signed by three members in good standing in writing by October 21st, or at the October 21, membership meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, and are still subject to the Petition rules stated above.

We will also identify the Elections Supervisory Committee at the October meeting. Elections will be held at the November membership meeting.

2006 NORTHWEST MINORITY and WOMEN BUSINESS EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE

8am. - 2pm, Saturday, October 7, 2006
Clark College - Gaiser Hall
1925 Fort Vancouver Way
Vancouver, WA

Our Branch has purchased tickets for six members who will staff an exhibit for this event. Our exhibit will feature information on our youth programs (Rites of Passage, Urban Youth Camps and our Youth Employment Program). Additionally, we will have tee shirts, lapel pens, and key chains available along with membership applications.

Concise, information and conference details – including speaker photos and bios, workshop descriptions and the event agenda – are located at:
<http://www.hotovations.com/conference.htm>

YWCA 13th ANNUAL BENEFIT LUNCHEON, OCTOBER 10, HILTON HOTEL

The Branch will sponsor a table at this event. Our table will feature our Rights of Passage Graduates. Reverend Marva Edwards, ROP Chief Operating Officer and Charles Simmons, ROP Lead Teacher, are coordinating student attendance in this program.

If you are interesting in finding out more about the Luncheon follow this link to their web site:
www.ywcaclarkcounty.org/luncheon.htm

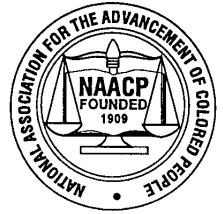
YWCA CASA PROGRAM AND YOU

YWCA Clark County has an urgent need for more Court-Appoint Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers.

Hundreds of children are the subjects of legal proceedings each year in Clark County, because they have been abused, neglected or abandoned. The CASA is a trained volunteer representing the best interests of the child in foster care, insuring that the child's voice is heard in the complicated child welfare and court systems.

The CASA follows the child's progress throughout the court intervention, advocating for his or her needs. To provide this service for a child, the volunteer investigates the facts of the case, recommends a course of action to the court, monitors progress, and encourages positive communication. Professional staff provide support for CASA volunteers as they perform these duties.

VANCOUVER BRANCH NAACP # 1139
POST OFFICE BOX 1903, VANCOUVER, WA 98668-1903
360 256-6232
VOLUME 6; ISSUE 3; OCTOBER 2006
www.naacpvanc.org



The CASA Program seeks volunteers from all cultures, professions, racial/ethnic and educational backgrounds. More people of color, bilingual/bicultural individuals, and men are especially needed.

Currently, Clark County CASA is appointed on behalf of 615 children. Over 200 of the children do not have a volunteer CASA to advocate for their needs. Many of the children are affected by their parents' addiction to Methamphetamines and over 20 percent are children of color.

The basic qualifications for this volunteer position are:

- Interest in children, their rights, and special needs.
- Time (including some flexible daytime hours) to devote to training sessions, investigations, court appearances, and follow-up for an assigned case.
- Ability to work with a child, family members, and professionals using tact, concern, and basic human relations skills.
- Advocates must be 21 years of age or older.
- Advocates must have no serious criminal history or history with Children's Protective Services.

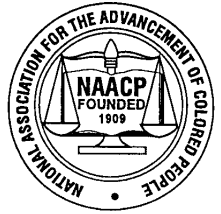
CASA volunteers must complete initial training [30 hours of classroom work], as well as ongoing, in-service training sessions [12

hours per year]. Initial volunteer training is offered three or four times a year.

The next training cycle begins with an introduction to YWCA volunteer service on Tuesday, January 16, 2007, 6pm - 8:30pm, at the YWCA, 3609 Main Street, Vancouver, WA. There is no charge for the training.

Make a difference in the life of a child. For more information, contact Al Flory at the YWCA, 360-696-0167 or aflory@ywcaclarkcounty.org.

VANCOUVER BRANCH NAACP # 1139
POST OFFICE BOX 1903, VANCOUVER, WA 98668-1903
360 256-6232
VOLUME 6; ISSUE 3; OCTOBER 2006
www.naacpvanc.org



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
VANCOUVER, WA
PERMIT NO. 851