

**WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA LAY ORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**ROCK CREEK AMEC - SNOW CAMP, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2016 – 10:00 AM**

We were given opening remarks by President Penny Oliver. Sonia Barbre was in charge of Devotion, leading the Lay Body in singing “*Bye and Bye.*” Brother John Smith prayed and our Scripture lesson came from *Psalms 1*. A heartfelt welcome was received from the host pastor, Reverend Archie T. Evans of Rock Creek AME Church and the Local Lay President, Brother Andy Patterson.

**Roll Call of Officers – Diane Foy**

All Lay Organization Officers were present except for the following which were *excused* by the President. They were;

Barbara Smith, Corresponding Secretary  
Jacqueline Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities  
Renee White, Western District Coordinator  
Niki Allen, Credentials/Membership Chair

*Ex-Officio Officers:*

Gertrude Upperman  
Mary Dasher-McAdams  
Starr Battle – (*as reported by Brother Hooker, Starr’s Husband Leonard is under the weather.*)

**Officers Reports**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Wilbert Hooker

- Brother Hooker has been assisting Union Bethel, Cary, in raising the needed Assessments for their church; he will keep the Lay Body apprised of their progress. His plans are to visit other churches to get them involved in Lay Activities.
- He continues his community services projects at the various nursing homes – visiting and praying for the sick & shut-in. In so doing, it makes Brother Hooker feel so good as he shares song or two, then leaves.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Betty Parker

- No Report.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Adam Johnston

- Brother Johnston informed the Lay Body that his report from General Conference that was made at a previous meeting, mistakes have been corrected on his permanent copy. (*As explained by President Oliver*), he followed proper protocol in submitting his report to the “*Christian Recorder.*” Brother Adam first submitted his report to President Oliver and since we now have a Public Relations person, Bobbi Hague, everything goes through her and she in turn submits the report to Janie Reeder, after the adequate number of words and proper guidelines had been adhered to.

Eastern District Coordinator – Bettie Duell

- Sister Duell visited White Cross, all is well. Sister Niki Allen sent Lay Membership Cards, asking all Presidents/Representatives to see her before leaving for your members.

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Western District Coordinator – Renee White

- No Report – Absent

Historiographer – Sonia Barbre

- Sister Barbre was able to capture many wonderful picture shots at this year's Prayer Breakfast that was held at Macedonia, she thank everyone. They are not yet ready to be placed in our scrapbook. We have cataloged over 500 pictures with approximately 400 more to be placed, so we have plenty of history captured in pictures.
- She is on a committee with Sister Claire Neal and is requesting all local churches to send in old bulletins and photos since 1996 as part of our history; please scan this info to her.

Corresponding Secretary – Diane Foy (*In Excused Absentia of Barbara Smith*)

The following "Thank You" correspondence was read from:

- Starr Battle, (*Death of her Grandmother*)
- *Family of the Late Presiding Elder Emeritus Tyson L. Coble, Sr.*
- Bettie Duell, (*Death of her Mother*)
- Presiding Elder Bernard Wilder

President Oliver commented that although the cards may be addressed to her as a result of a telephone call, visit or kind gesture, it is on behalf of the Western NC Conference Lay Organization – "we are in this together, she can't do this by herself, no one can."

Public Relations – Bobbi Hague

- Sister Hague thanked everyone for the nine pages submitted for the "Lay Express." Already she has four pages for November, (i.e., weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, just to name a few.)
- She has been challenged to come up with a Church Directory Appeal, (*see form in attached packet*). The main purpose is to list the church name; phone #; fax #; Church office hours; church email address; church website; worship service hours; church school time; bible study day/time. **Please** Provide a Picture of the Church, if possible. Information can be emailed to Bobbie at: [so-b-it1@hotmail.com](mailto:so-b-it1@hotmail.com)

Social Action – Callie Freeman

- Sister Freeman representing the NAACP brought vital background information on candidates running for office and registration information for those persons not yet registered. This information was made available in the foyer area.
- Per President Oliver, also enclosed in the packet is a report covering what is going on in the world today from Brother Kenneth Woods, our Social Action Representative.

Announcement –Mozell Weston

- President Barack Obama will be at NC A & T, Greensboro, NC on Tuesday, October 11, 2016. If interested in seeing him at the Coliseum for his last term, go on line to register for seating at the Coliseum - Clinton Campaign Schedule (No Cost). His appearance at A&T is primarily for athletes, closed meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Woodrow Winchester

Last Report given was March, 2016: **Balance Forward.....**

- Mr. Winchester had hard copies of the Treasurer's Report distributed to the Lay Body and the Mechanics & Farmer's Bank statement to President Oliver. A copy of the statement that was included in the Lay Member's packet, covers the months of April thru the end of September.
- Corrections mentioned on statement were:
  - Second Page Date at the top should be October 3, 2016.
  - The amount \$78.52 was mistakenly charged to Public Relations (on 2<sup>nd</sup> Page) – will be adjusted – (\$51.77/Sonia Barbre and \$26.75 paid out to Melissa Roberts, equals the, \$78.52, in question). During the time in question, Sis. Barbre was functioning in both capacities; this will be adjusted.
  - The Contribution line (2<sup>nd</sup> Page) for \$1,000.00 is actually for “*Outreach Ministry.*”

Addendum: \*Prayer Breakfast Profit after Expenditures:

\* Jack and Jill Profit after Expenditures:

**Bank Account Balance: October 3, 2016 ..... - in Bank**

It was moved by Wilbert Hooker to accept the Financial Report as information only; seconded by John Smith, motion carried.

Scholarship Committee – Adam Johnston, Presenter; Niki Allen, Audrey McCain, Lamont Upperman, Betty Parker and Sonia Barbre, Chair.

- Brother Johnston read the list of Scholarship Winners, (see attached sheet in packet). President Oliver emphasized the proceeds from the Prayer Breakfast are the funds that that are given out, so they are utilized. So please encourage our Youth to apply. This year eleven (11) applicants applied for the Dr. James Johnson Scholarship.

Young Adult Representative –Mary Royster Harris

- Sister Harris and her Committee would like to entertain different option in presenting the Jack & Jill with the consent of the Lay Body. With that idea in mind, she had three options that she would like the Lay Body to consider.
- After some discussion, a fourth option was added for the Lay Body to vote on.

The Four (4) Options to vote on were: (Instructions were to - **Vote on only 1 Option**)

- Normal Jack & Jill format starting at 10 am – 1:00 pm (Received 1 vote)
- Do Friday and Saturday, Youth Explosion & Saturday for Jack and Jill, two different locations. (2 votes)
- Friday and Saturday with Centralized Location. (9 votes)

\*\*\*\* **All Day Saturday (Centralized Location), no time restrictions** – (Received Majority Vote) - the Committee will decide the date/time/location and activities for that day. \*\*\*\*

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Conference Meeting Location –President Penny Oliver

The Meeting Dates and Locations sheet is included in our packet which indicates March 11, 2017 is vacant for our next meeting at a Centralized Location, (*Greensboro, High Point, Winston Salem*). We would like to have a volunteer/representative from one of these locations to host our next meeting, (*please contact Sister Diane Foy, (336) 858-3041(336)292-2394 or President Oliver, (336)348-3259/ (336)565-0367*). If no one volunteers, Kenneth Woods indicated that White Cross would be willing to host March 11, 2017 meeting and the Jack and Jill site for 2017 will be at Saint James, Winston Salem, NC.

Prayer Breakfast Report at Macedonia

President Oliver reported, (*in absentia of Jackie Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities*). The financial figures from this project were given by Brother Winchester in his report. President Oliver recognized the Lay President at Macedonia and she extended the invitation for us to come back again. Our president expressed how *we really enjoyed ourselves*.

Prayer Breakfast-2017

Our president emphasized the need to start thinking about a site for next year; we had roughly 206 persons in attendance this year, so we will need a place that will hold at least 200 persons, comfortably. Mount Zion, Hillsborough has requested to host, however, they are only able to *accommodate 179 persons, per the Fire Marshall. Plans are to speak with them to see what could be arranged*.

2016 Clergy/Lay Institute Update

This topic information is contained in your packets and is scheduled to be held Saturday, October 22, 2016/\$10.00), per person, (includes food afterwards); Deadline: October 15. This will be a round table discussion to ask questions and learn together – not to fight! Last year the church was almost full – strongly urge pre-registration to order food. After the Deadline Date, the registration fee is \$15.00. “*We have a voice in the church; we have to learn to respect each other.*”

Lay Convention – November 2, 3/Mid-Year Nov. 4, 5-Portsmouth, VA

President Oliver announced the *Host Hotel is Full* there are other hotel available in the area. In your packet you will find the daily agenda for the Mid-Year Convocation. You will find there are some changes both for the Lay Convention and Mid-Year Convocation – there will be no Component Meetings. At the Lay Convention there will be workshops, but no Component Meetings!

## NEW BUSINESS

Outstanding Lay Person 2016 election

President Oliver stated that a conference call was held on Sunday, October 2 with the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Executive Board and Sister Valerie Bell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Episcopal District Lay President and one of the items discussed were each conference selecting an outstanding lay person (youth/adult). Because of time restrictions President Oliver sent an email to the WNCCLC executive board to submit at least one nominee, not more than two, for this great honor on or before Thursday, October 6, 2016. The following names were submitted:

Jackie Kanipe (2)	Kenneth Woods (4)	Gertrude Upperman (5)
Starr Battle (2)	Felicia Hilliard-Noel (1)	Bobbi Hague (1)
Dwight Patterson (1)	Mozell Weston (1)	Sonia Barbre (1)

Jackie requested her name to be removed since she received this honor previously; the names left With one or less votes, were also deleted for consideration in the vote leaving the ballot with the following names:

Starr Battle   Gertrude Upperman   Kenneth Woods

In an effort to remain in order, President Oliver asked if she should make a statement about each candidate or someone else speak. Brothers Wilbert Hooker and John Smith both complied that the Candidate/someone else should speak. For Starr Battle, *absent*, (Bettie Duell spoke), Gertrude Upperman, *absent*, (Diane Foy spoke) and Kenneth Woods, *present*, (*desired* no comments). The Marshalls served as our clerks; John Smith and J. Dale Wragg; instructions were that everyone should vote, including President Oliver by circling the person's name.

### Results:

Starr Battle – 13 votes

Gertrude Upperman – 7 votes

\*\*\*\* **Kenneth Woods – 20 votes** \*\*\*\* **“Our Outstanding Lay Person”**

We had three (3) “No Votes” that could not be counted.

### Delegates to Lay Convention Election

The question of delegates to lay convention came up as a part of the Conference Call with Valerie Bell, SED President. President Bell stated that an email would be sent regarding the election of delegates to the lay convention to the conference presidents. President Oliver read the email to the body.

President Oliver shared that inside your packet was information regarding the Lay Convention. (Wednesday/ ending on Thursday at 5:00 PM). President Oliver asked for persons to stand that are already registered or plan to attend. At the time of this discussion, two persons had paid their registration fee of \$150.00, and several others intended to pay registration today, but everyone that intends to go, have made their hotel reservation. DELEGATES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN REGISTRATION FEE OF \$150.00. The duty of these delegates is to bring back a written report, to be delivered to the Lay Body and the body voted to give a stipend to help in your expenditures since you are serving the WNCC.

In discussion, Brother Woodrow Winchester recommended we give each delegate \$125.00. Brother Dwight Patterson made a motion that each delegate receives \$125.00 as a stipend; seconded by Brother Wilbert Hooker; so carried by majority. There were more than three (3) persons interested.

There was a question by Brother Winchester wanting to know the maximum number of delegates we could send. President Oliver read the email regarding election of delegations. Bro. Winchester stated we had so many dedicated Lay Members that volunteered to go and serve that we could afford to send nine (9) persons @ \$125.00/each. Brother Dwight Patterson made a motion to send all nine volunteers; seconded by Sonia Barbre; move so carried. The delegates and volunteers are:

	President Oliver	Jackie Kanipe	Mary Harris
<b><u>Volunteers:</u></b>	Wilbert Hooker	Sonia Barbe	
	Betty Parker	Callie Freeman (not eligible 1 <sup>st</sup> mtg)	
	Kathleen Lightfoot	Bettie Duell	

Brother Woodrow Winchester suggested that we pay for our “Outstanding Lay Person – **Kenneth Woods**” **one (1) night of lodging (\$125.00)** as well, at the Lay Convention. A motion was made by Wilbert Hooker; seconded by Adolphus Kelly; all was in favor –the move was carried. Total =10 @ \$125.00.

Question: When are Lay Dues due? When you start collecting dues in November, it will be for 2017.

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President Oliver announced: "Tomorrow is the "Traditional Lay Witness Sunday." It does not mean you cannot hold this on another agreed upon Sunday, with your Pastor. You are encouraged to have a Lay Witness Sunday. You can also have a Lay Day – there is a difference. Lay Witness Sunday is a Sunday when the Pastor is out of the pulpit and a Lay Person is allowed to speak. Historically, all pastors were mandated to attend a Retreat on the Second Sunday in October, now their Retreat is in the spring – not in the fall.

Laity Teaching Moment – Bobbi Hague

Several churches have expressed not having an email address and there are several emails Free sites you may subscribe to. They are;

yelp.com

faith street. com

manta. com - (mainly for businesses) – not just for churches

yellowpages.com

superpages.com

All Free Sites that you can set up yourself. Include your name, address of church, phone #.

Place a password so no one change your information. You should have one (1) person to handle this project – you do not want everyone going in to change your information.

President Oliver asked all Local Lay Presidents to please stand. She expressed her thanks to them for coming to the meetings and admonished them to go back and share this information with their Lay Organizations. Remember to Put God First!

**Announcements/Praise Reports** were made of the various upcoming Lay Witness Services that will be held in the surrounding areas.

Brother Wilbert Hooker announced that an account has been set up at BB&T for his Kidney Fund. He is not in charge of it and if it does not come into fruition all funds will be given to the Kidney Foundation. Several gave testimonials of how God has restored them and kept them and asked for continued prayers; many expressions and continued prayers went out to Lamont and Gertrude Upperman, as we took a group picture taken by Sonia Barbre to uplift his spirits.

Benediction

We joined hands in a circle; prayed led by Sister Jessie Cardwell. Afterwards, our Lay Benediction was sung led by Diane Foy; blessing of the meal by Sister Penny Oliver.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane T. Foy*

**Diane T. Foy, Recording Secretary**

## **Attachments**

Greetings Conference Presidents,

The Second Episcopal District Lay Organization's (SEDLO) Constitution and Bylaws Committee received a query to clarify the composition of the SEDLO Lay Convention. Please peruse the following language delineated in the approved SEDLO Constitution and Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 1.* Membership in this organization is open to all Lay (un-ordained) members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, in good and regular standing, in their Local, District of the Annual Conference, Conference and Episcopal District Lay Organizations. Good and regular standing is defined as every member being governed by the Constitution of the Lay Organization, pays required dues as set by his/her local lay organization, attends fifty percent (50%) of the local lay organization meetings and participates at the Conference Lay, Districts of the Annual Conference Lay, and Episcopal District Lay Organization levels.

*Section 4.* The membership of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization, for the purpose of conduct, for the purpose of conducting its business including the SED Lay Convention, shall be compose of:

- a. All elected officers of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization,
- b. All President, Directors of Lay Activities, Young Adult Representative of Conference Organization,
- c. Six (6) elected delegates from each Conference Lay Organization, at least shall be a young adult, ages 18-30.
- d. Each president or a duly elected representative of each duly organized District Lay Organization of an Annual Conference.
- e. Each President and six (6) elected delegates, one of whom shall be a Young Adult, age 18-30, of each organized Station Church, Mission or Circuit Lay Organization where there is a duly organized Lay Organization,
- f. Each President from each organized Station, Mission or Circuit Lay Organization and six (6) elected delegates and at least one shall be a young adult age 18-30,
- g. All members of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization must meet the requirements of members found in Article IV, section 1.

### **ARTICLE X- MEETING**

*Section 2.* The Lay Convention of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization shall be held within the period [June 1st to October 31<sup>st</sup>](#), which will be held every (2) two years. The site of the Lay Convention shall rotate between the five Annual Conferences.



*Section 5.* All delegates to the District Lay Convention must be elected at a regular or properly convened meeting. The names and addresses of all delegates must be submitted to the Episcopal District Financial Secretary on or [before April 1st](#) of the Convention year. These names shall be forwarded to the District Director of Lay Activities by the Financial Secretary on or [before May 1st](#) of the Convention year for the expressed purpose of expediting pre-registration for Educational sessions.

Each annual conference should *elect* 6 delegates, at least one shall be a young adult. The individuals elected are representatives of their respective conference to the SEDLO Lay Convention, therefore the conference should plan accordingly.

All delegates must be in good and regular standing within the Lay Organization.

The President, Director of Lay Activities, and Young Adult Representative are delegates by virtue of their office.

If there are questions surrounding the convention's composition, please do not hesitate to contact me at [StarrBattlejd@gmail.com](mailto:StarrBattlejd@gmail.com) or [\(919\) 602-0305](tel:(919)602-0305).

Be wonderful,  
Starr L. Battle

## Attachment 2

# Church Directory Appeal

I would like to produce a directory that will help us when we want to visit one of our sister churches. This booklet will give pertinent information that will help you know what time services are held, if they have Church School, what day and time they have Bible Study and other things of interest.

I am able to secure general information about the church from the directory that the Presiding Elders have printed each conference year, so I am only asking for items that I cannot obtain from their book.

Please email me with the following information as soon as you can, but at least by October 18th. Once the directory is completed, it will be emailed to the Lay Presidents, the Elders and the Pastors. Anyone else wishing to receive one should contact me. It will be set up in .pdf format so that you can print it. I suggest each church print at least one copy to have in the church office.

I am also still looking for churches to spotlight, so please send me your church history.

Thank you for your assistance.

Bobbi Hague  
Director of Public Relations  
WNCCLC  
704-957-7583

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CHURCH NAME:

PHONE #:

FAX #:

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS:

CHURCH WEBSITE:

WORSHIP SERVICE TIME(S):

CHURCH SCHOOL TIME:

BIBLE STUDY DAY:

BIBLE STUDY TIME:

MISCELLANEOUS INFO:

(Such as: nursery available (age limit); AA/NA meeting days & times; transportation service; etc.)

**Please Provide a Picture of the Church, if possible.** Information can be emailed to me at: [so-bit1@hotmail.com](mailto:so-bit1@hotmail.com).

## **Attachment 3**

### **SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2016-2017 WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY**

#### **Davis/McKinney Scholarship Winners**

- Matthew Rashaun Rapley  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Shelton T. Miles, Sr.  
College: North Carolina Central University
- Channing C. Jones  
Bethel AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Alphonso E. Mc Glen  
College: University of North Carolina at Charlotte

#### **Dr. James C. Johnson Scholarship Winners**

- Shertonia Daniels  
Living Waters AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Allonia Holmes  
College: Voorhees College
- Tachiana Nichols  
Bethel AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Alphonso McGlen  
College: Western Carolina University
- Erin Thompson  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Shelton Miles  
College: Winston-Salem State University
- Ronnise Owens  
St. Joseph AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Ronald Owens  
College: Spelman College

#### **Kittrell Allen Adams Scholarship Winners**

- Kiah Carrothers  
Greater Bethel AME Church  
Pastor: Reve. Morris Reddon, Jr.  
College: New York University
- Cierra Musungay  
Living Waters AME Church  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Allonia Holmes  
College: East Carolina University

### **Scholarship Committee 2016**

- ❖ Niki Allen
- ❖ Adam Johnson
- ❖ Audrey McCain
- ❖ Lamont Upperman
- ❖ Betty Parker
- ❖ Sonia Barbre – Chair