

Western North Carolina Conference Area Lay Organization Meeting

August 9, 2014 - Springdale AME Church

The Lay Organization meeting was called to order by President Penny Oliver at 10:10 AM.

Devotion:

Bro. Wilbert Hooker led the Lay Body in singing the Lay Hymn. Our Chaplain, Rose Taylor prayed and then led us in the Lay Litany.

The Lay Body received an arousing, warm Welcome from Rev. Robert L. Goode, Pastor of Springdale AME Church, for coming today. He proceeded to thank the Lay Body for electing Penny Oliver as President of the Western District Lay Organization. President Oliver, who also serves as the Local President for Springdale's Lay Organization concurred with Pastor Goode and invited everyone, "to be at home." She expressed her overwhelming joy with so many in attendance for the first meeting in support of this Western NC Conference year. The Springdale Lay Organization extends an invitation to everyone to come and visit their Thrift Shop, located in the back of the church, which is used to fund some of their fundraisers and they do not have to take funds out-of-pocket. Again, welcome to Springdale AME Church!

President Oliver asked if there were additions/deletions to the Agenda; none was given.

Roll Call of Officers: Diane Foy

|                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| President             | Penny Oliver            |
| First Vice President  | Wilbert Hooker, Jr.     |
| Second Vice President | Betty Parker, (Excused) |
| Third Vice President  | Theresa Watson          |
| Treasurer             | Woodrow Winchester      |
| Financial Secretary   | Mozell Weston           |

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Recording Secretary          | Diane Foy                  |
| Asst. Recording Secretary    | Bertha McLendon, (Excused) |
| Corresponding Secretary      | Barbara Smith              |
| Chaplain                     | Rose Taylor                |
| Historiographer              | Sonia Barbre               |
| Parliamentarian              | John Smith                 |
| Director, Lay Activities     | Jackie Kanipe              |
| Young Adult Rep.             | Mary Harris                |
| Eastern District Coordinator | Bettie Duell               |
| Western District Coordinator | Renee White, (Excused)     |
| Credentials/Membership Chair | Janie Wilson               |

Ex-Officio Officers:

- Gertrude Upperman
- James Hill, (Excused)
- Mary Dasher-McAdams
- Dwight Patterson, (Excused)

Bro. Winchester recommended that Bro. James Hill's status be changed to "excused" due to his health. President Oliver and the Lay Body were in agreement with this recommendation.

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Minutes:

President Oliver stated that since a copy of the Minutes is available in our handout, as well as on the website, they will not be read at this time. The Lay Body was asked if there were any corrections - none given – approved/accepted, as printed.

Correspondence: Barbara Smith

No Correspondence received, at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Woodrow Winchester

Bro. Winchester first addressed the housekeeping/overview of the Treasurer's Report. Handouts were made available, first to all Local Presidents then to remaining Lay members.

The Procedure for the Financial Report is:

Voucher for Expenditures to Financial Secretary - Mozell Weston

Receipts – No Monies should come to Woodrow Winchester

For example: Scarves - Emma Devine

Polo Shirts - Jackie Kanipe

Prayer Breakfast – Mary Locklear

We Always Have Accountability of All Funds!

Per Bro. Winchester's request, Bro. Wilbert Hooker, Jr. confirmed this amount as the Bank Account Balance as shown on the statement, also. Some items that were highlighted from this report were:

One outstanding check for \$100.00 to Greater Bethel, Charlotte (Choir), at the Conference for Lay Night. This was a stipend that was budgeted for by the Committee.

President Expenses includes expenses for both Outgoing President Dwight Patterson, (Last voucher for Annual Conference) and Current President Penny Oliver, (Planning Meeting Expenses at Hampton), totaling \$ 1,356.71.

Coordinator's Expenses totaled \$ 559.95, for visitations to other churches.

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Treasurer's Report: Woodrow Winchester (continued)

Bro. Winchester commended Sister Jackie Kanipe & the Lay Night Committee on their budgeting skills. The Committee budgeted \$ \$3,000.00 and the actual amount spent was

\$ 2,578.90, (including Reception), which was the biggest component of their expenses. All Bills are paid at present.

Sister Emma Devine questioned the purchase of \$200.00 of Study Guides, since the receipt of Study Guides from the Biennial – much discussion followed. Sister Bettie Duell added additional Guides were purchased with the understanding that the various churches that received them would reimburse the Treasury – this has not been done completely. Bro. Winchester reiterated that all expenditures are covered by Vouchers and if questions, approval of payment by the Budget/Executive Board.

Sister Mozell Weston, Financial Secretary, encouraged Presidents of the Lay, to please pick up receipts for your church.

With no further questions/comments, President Oliver entertained a motion to accept the Financial Report as information. The Motion was made by Kenneth Woods and seconded by Wilbert Hooker, Jr., motion carried.

#### Officers Reports:

1st Vice President- Wilbert Hooker, Jr. shared that he has had numerous visitations and strongly advise all Lay Members to share in as many Area Lay activities, as possible. After talking with both Presiding Elders, plans are to do a series of workshops on "Leadership Skills in our Churches." This effort will be led by Sis. Jackie Kanipe.

Note: President Oliver asked All Officers to turn in their budget request for the next 2 years, to Bro. Winchester, for Budgetary Purposes.

2nd Vice President –Betty Parker, (absent, due to death in her family), per President Penny Oliver.

3rd Vice-President – Theresa Watson attended the Planning Meeting in Hampton; she is currently the Lay President at Saint Paul, Chapel Hill and Co-Chair of WNCCLC Prayer Breakfast.

President Oliver asked our Young Adult Representative to stand and introduce herself. She is Mary Harris, member of Macedonia AME Church; Rev. Kelvin Royster, Pastor. Sis. Harris is looking forward to working with the Lay in her capacity.

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Eastern District Coordinator – Bettie Duell expressed that her goal was to have all churches in the Eastern District join the Lay Organization. She was very proud to announce that 39 out of 41 churches now have established Lay Organizations. Training has been offered and accepted by newly organized organizations. She & Renee White, in absentia, Western District Coordinator, assist each other in their designated Districts, along with Jackie Kanipe and our President, Penny Oliver, to reach their common goals. Accolades were expressed to Flo Avery by Bettie Duell, for her willingness to provide her expertise and very much needed assistance, anytime she is called upon.

Historiographer - Sonia Barbre shared with the Lay Body that she would like to go in a new direction. For example, compile a newsletter. Her email address is: [spbarbre@hotmail.com](mailto:spbarbre@hotmail.com)

President Oliver stated that this idea will be further discussed at the next Executive Board Meeting.

Lay Institute: Jackie Kanipe

The Lay Institute was entitled, "Duties & Responsibilities of Officers for Lay Organization," by Sis. Jackie Kanipe. (Handouts were available).

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Sister Kanipe has a few Study Guides that she picked up from the Biennial and would be willing to share with any of the churches that do not have a Guide.

President Oliver announced that a List of Committees will be available for October's meeting; everyone is encouraged to ask questions.

President's Word

President Oliver expressed her thanks for the overwhelming attendance, support and for coming out to conduct “God’s business and on one accord.” Sister Starr Battle was asked to stand, as our President & the Lay Body congratulated her on her newly elected office of Third Vice-President on the Connectional level. President Oliver announced that we would celebrate her victory with cake and ice cream, immediately following the Lay meeting.

For the Lay Body’s information, President Oliver explained that Starr was first appointed then elected. We have three (3) Offices in our Lay that were appointed by President Oliver;

Recording Secretary .....Diane Foy, (Turners Chapel, High Point)

Asst. Recording Secretary ..... Bertha McLendon, (Bethel, Greensboro)

Youth Representative ..... Mary Royster-Harris, (Macedonia)

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President’s Word – (continued)

We, too, may have to go through the election process for the three that was appointed. We are waiting on directives from our Connectional President, Valerie Bell. In the meantime,

Sis. Battle suggested that Letters of Intent should be filled out for all (3) individuals and be on file. President Oliver assured her that she has all of the necessary information in her possession. President Oliver stressed that she wanted to be transparent, so that everyone will know exactly what is going on. The three (3) appointees were asked to stand; election will be held at our next meeting, October 18th.

President Oliver and other members of the Lay attended the Eastern District Sunday School Convention in Raleigh, NC. Presiding Elder Wilder allotted time for an open forum, conducted by the Lay Organization. A few of the comments were: Don’t forget the small churches; we want more young people 30 and below, (we do too!); need more of a personal touch; churches have a desire for more

training. The plan is to visit churches, local presidents help is needed, also. We need to support one another.

While in attendance at the Planning Meeting in Hampton, VA, our president met with Presiding Elders Pridgen and Wilder and Missionary President, Nicki Lyons, working together to avoid conference dates overlapping. The Presiding Elders stated that they will work with us and not schedule anything when we are scheduling an event. There is one conflict, which will be discussed later.

President Oliver expressed that she is a worker; she believes in working and has already visited several churches. She stated, "If there is a problem in your church, come and let us reason together. We are here for kingdom building, working together in the Body of Christ."

#### Announcements

The 3rd Sunday at Emmanuel, (Bro .Kelly's Church), President Oliver will be speaking for Lay Day at 3:00 PM. She desires our prayers, as this will be her first speaking engagement.

If you know of anyone for the office, Director of Public Relations that will work, please let President Oliver know and she will contact the person.

Missionary President Lyons asked for the Lay Organization to change our October meeting date, because of an already scheduled institute. The date has been changed to

October 18th. Discussion followed after the question was asked, "do we stay in one area or travel? In the Central Area we can rotate between 3 or 4 churches; this brings up the same problem as in the past – "never come to the smaller churches." After much discussion the motion was made by John Smith, seconded by Bro. Lamont Upperman, to identify a location for October 18th meeting. The Lay President of Lincolville AME Church, Raleigh, NC, volunteered their church for the next meeting, motion carried. Since Emmanuel's members had to leave for Durham to attend a funeral, this matter will be discussed at our next meeting.

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Lay Night Summary: Jackie Kanipe and Wilber Hooker, Jr.

Sis. Jackie Kanipe expressed her appreciation to the Lay Body for their participation and continued support. Bro Hooker announced if you have ideas, please call and let them know. "We had a wonderful night!"

WNCC Lay Organization Prayer Breakfast: Mary Locklear and Theresa Watson

The Committee had a meeting at Emmanuel AMEC. The letters have gone out with each church responsible for 10 tickets; ticket monies are due ASAP. President Oliver read in our hearing, the letter insert that was mailed with the tickets and all the vital information concerning Lay deceased members that died in the last year and the name of the Outstanding Lay Man Member, from each church. Contact information was distributed.

Credentials/Membership Chair: Janie Wilson

From the WNCCLO we have: 1,325 Members Total

1,192 Adults

133 Youth

Need list to accompany names and monies. Deadline: Sept 1st for all lists. We had 64 persons to register here today; the registration fee is \$5.00/per Lay Organization meeting.

New Business:

SEDLO 15th Lay Convention

November 5-6, 2014

SED Mid-Year Conference

November 7-8, 2014

(Both Events will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown)

President Oliver asked for as many members as possible, to attend the Western District Sunday School Convention and District Conference on Friday, August 15 at 4:00-5:00 PM, at Saint Paul, Lenoir, NC. The members that are a part of the Western District are especially expected to attend and help to host a Lay Forum, as was done in the Eastern District.

Conference Meeting and Locations: October 3rd    Missionary Event

October 18th    Next Lay Organization Meeting at

Lincolntonville AMEC, Raleigh, NC

President Oliver asked that we concentrate on the third Saturday, October 18, and then further decisions will be made regarding the consideration of other areas to meet.

A motion to adjourn made by John Smith, seconded by Lamont Upperman, motion carried. The Lay Body repeated the Lay Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane T. Foy

Diane T. Foy, Recording Secretary