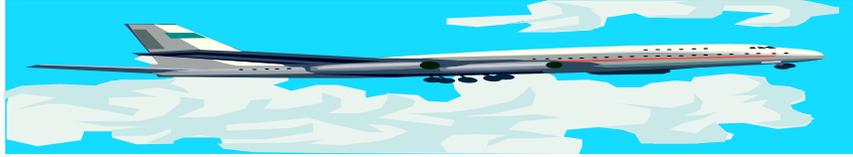


BRANCH



NATIONAL

SECTIONAL

SOUTH CENTRAL

FLYING HIGH WITH GRATITUDE

National Association of University Women

MESSAGE FROM THE SECTIONAL DIRECTOR



Betty Wilkerson

Sectional Director



Inside This Issue:

Sectional Director Message	1-2
Beaumont News	3-6
Beauregard/Vernon News	6-10
East Baton Rouge News	10-11
Eunice News	12-14
Grambling News	14
Lafayette News	14-16
Houston News	17-18
Lake Charles News	18-21
Little Rock News	21-28
Crowley News	29-31
Mansfield News	31-33
Pine Bluff News	34-38
Rayne News	38
St Landry News	39
Journalist Message	40

As my first term as Sectional Director comes to an end, I am very proud of the many things we have accomplished as a unit. Our journey began with twenty three awesome and dynamic branches and we gained two more along the way. We all will land in Lafayette, LA on June 18, 2015 as twenty-five outstanding community-oriented branches. I applaud your works as you provide the much needed services in your community. I am truly honored to serve along an outstanding crew of “progressive women remaining relevant in a global society.” Thank you my sisters for all you do in the name of our great organization – The National Association of University Women.

Although we are at the end, we still have a great deal of work to complete this year. I am sure that you are closing your year as a branch, and preparing for our upcoming Sectional Conference. Below I will note some important things that need to be handled prior to the year end. Please adhere to the following:

- The 56th Annual South Central Sectional Conference is scheduled for June 18 -20, 2015 in Lafayette, LA at the Lafayette Ramada Inn Conference Center on Evangeline Thruway. Registration is still open with a fee of \$185.00. If you do not attend you will miss out on an incredible opportunity to gain insight on the works of the National Association of University Women. The hosting branches are planning a **very unique** conference that will be remembered for years to come. I am looking forward to seeing you and sharing this amazing experience with you.

Director's message continued...

- Note to all sectional officers, branch presidents and committee chairpersons, the Executive Meeting will begin promptly at 4:00pm in the Louisbourg Room at the hotel. Branch Presidents please have your annual report ready to turn in at this meeting; you will need thirty-one copies of your report.
- The attire for the conference: Executive Meeting –Business Casual; Thursday Night Program/Reception – Western With A Bling; Friday – White; Friday Night Program/Reception – Elegant Black and White; Saturday –White, Green or Green and White.
- The National Officers attending the conference are: National President Evelyn Wright, National 1st Vice President, Christiana Worthams and National 2nd Vice President, Letisa Vereen. Come ready to show them our Southern Hospitality.
- If your branch held elections prior to the conference, please bring the following information for new officers to the conference: Name, Office, Mailing Address, email address and phone number of each of your branch officers.
- Branch Presidents please bring with you a copy of your National Dues Forms that you submitted to the National Financial Secretary this year.

The SCNAUW Airline is still on course to land on time in Lafayette, LA on June 19, 2014. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Sisterly,

Betty W. Wilkerson

South Central Sectional Director



The EAGLE will LAND SOON!!
Are you ready for some
GOOD OLE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Beaumont Branch news—Debra Williams, reporting

Food Drive

Dr. Debra coordinated a food drive with the Southeast Texas Food Bank as part of their diabetes-focused initiative. NAUW members and students and staff at Bingman Head Stat donated non-perishable food items that will be used locally and benefits for students and families at our school who have been diagnosed with diet-related chronic diseases. Foods donated included oatmeal, brown rice, whole wheat pasta, fruit in own juice, canned meat (tuna, chicken, salmon), and dry beans. 2 barrels of food were collected for the initiative.



Baby Shower

Pregnant and new moms at Bingman were treated to a Baby Shower May 20th. Dr. Debra shared how to prevent SIDS and each received a onesie packet (CPS) with door hanger as reminders. In the “First Years Last Forever”, she explained that by doing 7 simple things during the first 3 years they can ensure their babies’ brains will develop normally – touching, talking, reading, smiling, singing, counting, and playing.



The ladies were treated to chicken tenders and finger sandwiches (NAUW), fruit (Molina), and a tiered cake (Legacy). They played an educational BABY! Bingo created by Dr. Debra and received great prizes—Huggies pack, 2 diaper bags, lotion/shampoo/powder kit and V-Tech monitors (Legacy), fragrance lamp (NAUW), baby wipes, and gift cards (Raising Cane and Chick-fil-A).



Community Health Choice (Reyna Kibbe), Legacy (Lesly Johnson), Molina (Susan Gonzalez), and United Healthcare (Arlene Olmos) donated gift bags for every attendee which included bottles, baby shampoo/wipes, stuffed animal, boogie wipes, hangers, snack containers, Pedialyte, baby rattles, and information on caring for the baby. Brian Garcia of Entergy generously donated umbrellas for each attendee; one lucky participant won a huge basket donated by the ladies in Social Services and another won a \$25 gift card donated by Legacy.



Beaumont news continued....

Clairmont Mother's Day Party

The Beaumont Branch, spearheaded by Mary Monroe, treated the mothers at Clairmont Nursing Home to a Mothers' Day Party which they enjoyed. She was joined by Delores Darby, Doris Goolsbye (who made beautiful gift bags), Sandra Henson, Catherine Mickles and NAUW husband, Dr. Hubert Monroe.



Fighting Diabetes with Food Health Fair

The Southeast Texas Food Bank hosted its 1st Annual "Fighting Diabetes with Food" Health Fair on Saturday, April 11th, 2015 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Attendees benefitted from free or low-cost early detection and preventative health screenings, free healthy food boxes, and educational opportunities - diabetes risk tests, dental screenings, and prizes and giveaways. Dr. Debra presented "Diabetes 101" to over 100 who learned risk factors, symptoms, and how to prevent diabetes.



March for Babies



Sandra Henson represented the Beaumont Branch at the March of Dimes annual March for Babies Walk.

Scholarship Extravaganza

The Beaumont Branch hosted its Scholarship Extravaganza April 24th and it was an awe-inspiring evening. Performances by Gladys Knight, Stephanie Mills, Kool and the Gang, Major Harris, Etta James, Tina Turner, Johnny Mathis, Kirk Franklin, and Gloria Gaynor were requested; due to scheduling conflicts they were unable to appear, but they sent some capable stand-ins-Tiffany Grogan, Muriel Shynett, Henderson Williams, Dwight Wagner, and Debra Williams. They were fantastic and very capable Camille Briggs emceed and she was truly in her element. The guests were treated wonderful music and a superb fashion show



Beaumont news continued....



Homebound Hospice Partnership

Sophisticated Divas/Charlton-Pollard Dancers

Member Tyna Williams' Sophisticated Divas dance team has won another completion! They placed first at Ozen on May 23rd and her Charlton-Pollard elementary dancers danced at the Houston Rockets game.



Beaumont news continued....

The Beaumont Branch is partnering with Pioneering Women, founded by Port Commissioner Georgine Guillory, to donate personal items for the homebound patients of Gentiva Hospice who are in dire need of help. Most of the patients have life-threatening/limiting illnesses and cannot afford to buy the items due to low income, no family or family support. Through this partnership we have committed to improve and give support to the lives of these hospice patients.

New Officers

The Beaumont Branch recently elected new officers at its last business meetings. These ladies bring a wealth of expertise to their new posts which will enhance the programs already in place and those that are planned.



Judy Rufus
1st Vice-President



Cynthia Jackson
Financial Secretary



DeLisa Fuselier
Recording Secretary



Beauregard/Vernon Branch news---Ollie D Johnson, reporting

The Beauregard/Vernon Branch Jetliner is making its final descend as the program year climax. Our flight made several landings while cruising the airways as we addressed the goals set for 2014 – 2015. Membership increased, a youth group (Young Achievers) was organized, community projects were completed and several members are planning to join me in Lafayette for the 56th South Central Conference.

The members are to be commended for a successful flight and I really appreciate their interest and hard work. Crew members enjoy the month of July and be ready to board the jet liner for 2015 – 2016 program year in August for the “Planning Retreat”.

Adopt a School Project

The Adopt a School committee visited the different schools and interviewed the principals to determine the school project that they would recommend to the branch for approval. Pine Wood Elementary and Vernon Middle Schools were the schools presented. Monetary donations were made to each of the schools to support the PBIS Program at Vernon Middle School and to purchase library books at Pine Wood Elementary. Pictured in the middle school photo are Principal; Casandra Wilson, Assistant Principal, Roger Atkins and Adopt a School Chair, Susie Davis.



Beauregard/Vernon news continued...



Scholarships and Book Steipends Awarded

The **Scholarship Committee** with Seneca Johnson as chairperson, received over fifty (applications) for the Wilma Lee Sowell Scott Scholarship. The recipient of one of the two \$1,000.00 Wilma Lee Sowell Scott Scholarship from Vernon Parish was Courtney Smith and Victoria Moore from Beauregard Parish received the second \$1,000.00. Two \$250.00 book stipends were presented to Cierra Vidrine (Beauregard) and Lucki Gil (Vernon).



This single parent from DeRidder in Beauregard Parish lost her job earlier and was in need of assistance. The branch donated this Easter Basket to her. Shown is part of the items received. She was very thankful for the donation.

Reading Jubilee



Reading to pre-school aged students is a project that members of the Beauregard Vernon Branch Volunteer to do each year. During the month of May, Ikira Bouvia and Shalena Brown read to the Toddlers Class at Fort Polk. There were 12 toddlers present. The books chosen for the reading activity were Little White Duck by Walt Whippo and Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley. The children were very excited. Each child received a book to take home and because the teachers requested a repeat, refreshments are planned for the next visit during the month of June.

Beauregard/Vernon news continued...

Meet our New Members



Melynda Hill-----Alice Guess



Quintella Thibodeaux-----Ikira Bouvia

First Time Attendees'



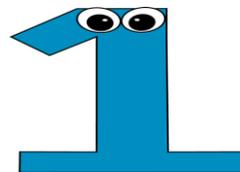
Louise Craft (a)

Tara Henry (b)



First time attendees' certificates are presented to the new members who were in attendance at the South Central Planning Session in 2014.

Welcome
Aboard Flight SC NAUW



Beauregard/Vernon news continued....



Shalena Brown (a)



Paula Wingo (a)

Felicia Harrison (b)

Tonya Hollifield our Pilot in Training (b)



We, the crew members aboard the Beauregard/Vernon Jet are proud to welcome our new crew members aboard. The jet is not yet full to capacity, however with the Captain, Stephanie Spikes and Co-Captain/First Vice President and Chairperson of membership Charlotte Cooper aboard, we have no doubt that the empty seats will continue to be filled.



Beauregard/Vernon news continued...

Personal Growth Workshop

Forever Emerald, Ollie D. Johnson presented a workshop on “How to Determine Branch Progress. She thanked the Captain and members aboard the aircraft for their efforts in keeping the aircraft cruising the friendly skies. Her focus was on the goals, objectives and activities set during the Planning Retreat held in August 2014. She indicated that an evaluation is the key component in determining progress. Crew members were ask to assist as she listed some programs and activities that were observed by her and then allowed the members to fill in what she had missed. The members were then asking to mention projects where improvement needed to be made for the 2015 – 2016 program year. Members were excited with the recommendations, ideas, and suggestions made by FE Ollie and are looking forward for a smooth departure for the airways in August 2015.



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Board names two new principals | WestFel...
theadvocate.com

East Baton Rouge Branch news—Sandra Castle, reporting

Scholarship

The EBR branch is very excited about selecting the new scholarship recipient. Several candidates were recently interviewed and the process has begun to select the winner. This was a very rewarding experience hearing all the stories and seeing what these awesome candidates have dealt with and struggled with to get to this point. The announcement of the scholarship recipients is coming soon! Thanks to the committee for assisting with this process.



ARCENEUX -- Newly appointed
eft. of Baines Lower and Jovanka



Congratulations to EBR member Jovanka Ganes!!!
On April 28, 2015 at the West Feliciana School Board meeting Ms. Ganes was introduced to the board as the 2015-2016 Principal il West Feliciana Middle School!! We are so proud of you and excited about your future. Congratulations Jovanka!!!

Condolences

The sisters of the EBR branch are asking that you continue to lift Susie Mines up in prayer as she recently lost her sister Jean. We are praying for you and your family at this most difficult time.



East Baton Rouge news continued...

Presentation on MG Awareness

The EBR Shout out goes to our Recording Secretary Kendra Rushing for an awesome eye opening presentation on a disease called Myasthenia Gravis. Its a rare but powerful disease that will affect 20/100,000 people in the U.S. Myasthenia Gravis is a chronic autoimmune neuromuscular disease characterized by varying degrees of weakness of the skeletal (voluntary) muscles of the body. The name myasthenia gravis, which is Latin and Greek in origin, literally means "grave muscle weakness." With current therapies, however, most cases of myasthenia gravis are not as "grave" as the name implies. In fact, most individuals with myasthenia gravis have a normal life expectancy.

The hallmark of myasthenia gravis is muscle weakness that increases during periods of activity and improves after periods of rest. Certain muscles such as those that control eye and eyelid movement, facial expression, chewing, talking, and swallowing are often, but not always, involved in the disorder. The muscles that control breathing and neck and limb movements may also be affected.

Kendra shared the life story of a friend that was diagnosed with MG and how it has affected her life. Spreading the word about this rare disease will help others better prepared and look for symptoms of this disease. June is M. G. Awareness month so this presentation was right on time! Thanks Kendra!!



HIV/AIDS Awareness

Several members of the EBR branch attended a dynamic workshop at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church on Saturday April 11th. Great workshop and awesome information was shared that the members will bring back their respective communities.

Muffins with Mom

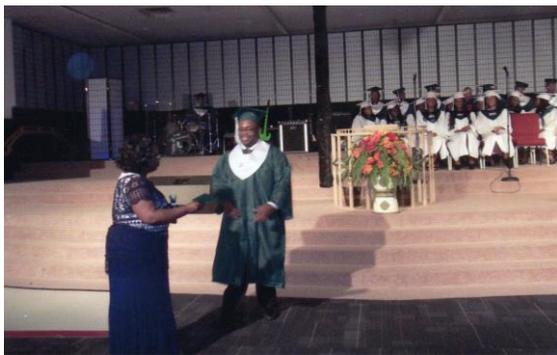
Members from the EBR branch assisted a local elementary school with donating muffins and juice as they honored moms at their first ever Muffins with Mom event. This event was held at Forest Heights Academy of Excellence on May 11th and there was a great turn out and some dad's showed up to help with the serving. Thanks to everyone who assisted with this event!



Eunice Branch News---Denise Antoine & Ardessie C. Francois, reporting

The End of the Road

We've come *"To the end of the Road"*, as the class of 2015 at Eunice High School says in the words of their chosen class song. But, this is really the beginning for all graduates and the Eunice Branch helped a few with their assistance financially through their scholarship program. Graduating seniors receiving scholarships were **Jasmine Edwards, Bethany Issac** and **William Oglesby**. These were presented by **NAUW Sister Denise Antoine, Branch President** and **Chiquita Thomas, 1st Vice President** of the Branch and Chairperson of the Branch's Scholarship Committee.



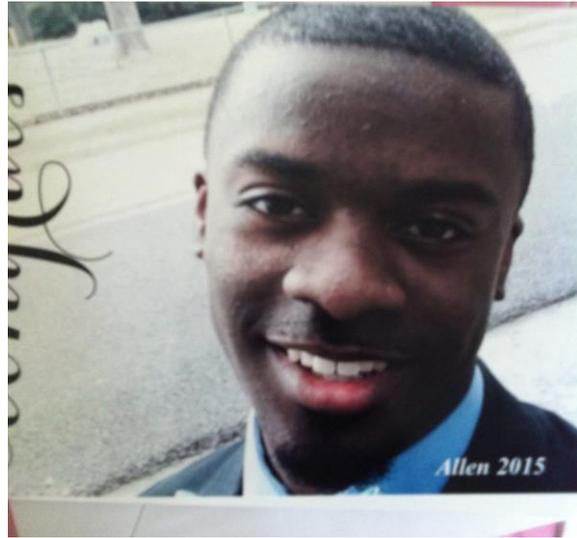
NAUW Sister Parveen Kaur revealed that her son **Manjot "Goldie" Singh**, who was the Val of the 2014 class at Eunice High School, had just completed his first year at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. He was successful each semester to make all A's in his classes. He is working on a degree in Medicine, specializing in Research, following the example of his older brother Vikramjeet, who is presently an MD in New Orleans. However, he plans to go to Harvard Medical School for summer research. She also announced that the family is excited as they slowly move into their new home.



Shanice Artis, Granddaughter of Denise Antoine

Eunice Branch news continued...

This being “Brag Month” for members, the following events were shared: *NAUW Sister Angela F. Lee’s* son **Allen Francis Lee, IV** graduated in the top of his senior class at North Side High School in Lafayette. Among his awards, he received the Outstanding Senior Award in English and was on the Principal’s List. His most eventful gift was a full scholarship from Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, GA where he plans to major in Engineering. Her other son **Alexander F. Lee**, a junior at Early College Academy in Lafayette received awards for his excellency in many subjects, Honor Roll all year, and the Tulane Book Award; *NAUW Sister Ardessie Francois* was smiling because these were her grandsons and she added her granddaughter **JaCera LaShae Francois**, was an honor grad of Neville High in Monroe. She plans to attend Savannah College of Art and Design to major in Graphic Design. Topping off the list was Branch *President Denise Antoine* who announced the graduation of her granddaughter **Shanice Gene’t Artis** who received her BS in Biology and BA in Cognitive Science with a concentration in Neuroscience from the University of Virginia.



Allen Lee, son of Angela Lee, is the recipient of \$100, 000 scholarship to Clark Atlanta University



JaCera with a photo of herself which she recently painted for an art show in Monroe and won 1st place



- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| <i>Parveen Kaur</i> | June 9 |
| <i>Maryland Graham</i> | June 27 |
| <i>Keristian Edwards</i> | July 12 |
| <i>Angela F. Lee</i> | July 21 |
| <i>Carolyn Baldwin</i> | August 10 |



Gladys Blount who was recuperating in rehab after a fall

Ardessie C. Francois who has gone through a procedure for relief with the swelling of her leg

Maryland Graham who was hospitalized after having a stroke.

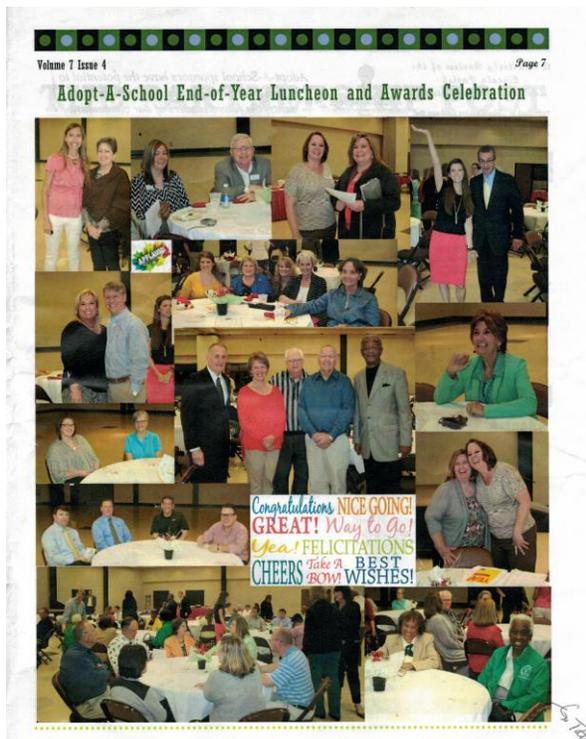


Eunice Branch news continued...

QUOTE:

“Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist, it burns it up. God gives hope because He gives himself.”

Grambling Branch News---Dr Grace Tatum, reporting



Dr Grace Tatum attends the Adopt-A-School End of the Year luncheon and awards celebration in Lincoln Parish.

Lafayette Branch News—Stephanie Minix, reporting

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Mary Gothe-Lafayette Branch.

"The thoughts we think and the words we speak create our experiences." When your interpretation changes, so does your reality."

Single Parent Award

The Lafayette Branch Single-Parent Committee presented the 2015 Single-Parent Award recipient at the climax of the 12th Annual Tribute to Excellence Banquet, held on Sunday, April 19, 2015 at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Holidome) in Lafayette, Louisiana. Teresa Frank was selected for her (1) special contributions or achievements (2) demonstration of positive parenting principles (3) exhibition of leadership skills (4) accomplishment of special short-term and long-term goals; and (5) civil, economic, and social impact on her family and the community. Members of the Single-Parent Committee included: Judy Gobert Chairperson, Elsie Azare, Brenda Dugas, and Quintella Baskerville.



Lafayette Branch Single- Parent (2015) Award Recipient (L-R) Judy Gobert –Single Parent Committee Chairperson, Recipient Teresa Frank, Lafayette Branch President, Mary Gothe

It's hard growing up without a father, but it's easy when you have a fantastic mother who plays both roles.

Unknown author

Lafayette Branch news continued...

12th Annual Tribute to Excellence Banquet

The Lafayette Branch of the National Association of University Women held its 12TH ANNUAL TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENCE BANQUET on April 19, 2015, in Lafayette, Louisiana at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Holidome). Nine distinguished individuals from local communities were saluted in gratitude for the impact they have made toward perfecting social change, through various capacities. The branch is proud to have honored:

Christopher Andrus :	Excellence in Community Service
Mae Chapman :	Excellence in Directorial Leadership
Dr. Bobbie DeCuir:	Excellence in Education and Leadership
Reverend Cozy Gage :	Excellence in Ministry
Denise Guillory:	Excellence in Entrepreneurship
Dr. Ezora Proctor :	Excellence in Leadership, Community Service and Government
Theresa Singleton :	Excellence in Literacy Writing and Children's Literature
Jeanette Williams:	Excellence in Community Service
Hilda Wiltz:	Excellence in Leadership and Community Service

Elaine Sais of the Rayne Branch of the National Association of University Women served as the Mistress of Ceremony for the event. Special Guest, Sectional Director, Betty Wilkerson was also in attendance. The Excellence Banquet Committee was comprised of Mary Gothe – Chairperson, Stephanie Minix – Co-Chairperson, Audrey Nell Paddio, Nakeisha Pierce, Dr. Constance Broussard, Mona Gordon, and Linda Armstrong.



Lafayette Branch Excellence Banquet Committee Members and Tribute to Excellence Honorees (2015) (l-r) Nakeisha Pierce, Linda Armstrong, Special Guest – Sectional Director Betty Wilkerson, Honoree Mae Chapman, Stephanie Minix, Honoree Theresa Singleton, Honoree Mae Chapman, Honoree Hilda Wiltz, Honoree Dr. Bobbie Decuir, Honoree Dr. Ezora Proctor, Honoree Denise Guillory, Lafayette Branch President-Mary Gothe, Gwendolyn Cormier. Seated: Reverend Cozy

Lafayette Branch news continued...



Lafayette Branch Members in Attendance
12th Annual Tribute to Excellence Banquet (2015)

**“If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way”
Martin Luther King Jr**



(L-R) Lafayette Branch President, Mary Gothe,
Mistress of Ceremony, Elaine Sais
12TH ANNUAL TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENCE
BANQUET (2015)

2015 Scholarships Awarded

The Lafayette Branch Scholarship Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Constance Broussard has selected three recipients of the 2015 Scholarship awards. Monetary stipends will be awarded to two college-bound recipients and one undergraduate, attending the University of Louisiana, formerly ULL. The Scholarship Committee members were: Chairperson Dr. Constance Broussard, Lafayette Branch President Mary Gothe, Stephanie Minix, Quintella Baskerville, and Nakeisha Pierce.

***“ANGELS WATCHING
OVER ME”
A Tribute To Our Beloved
Bernice James***

