

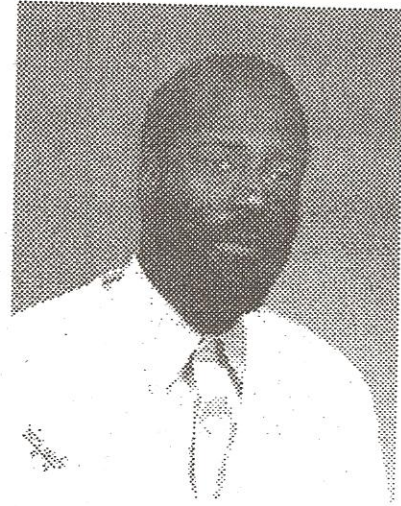
**B. W. HARRIS  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
CONVENTION 2001**

June 29—July 1, 2001  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

*"Looking Beyond the Inevitable"*



# FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN



My fellow Spartans,

Greetings!

I write this letter with a great deal of pride. Our Association has done well over the years. Our accomplishments have been as a result of the hard work and dedication of all of you. You are the driving force behind our success and the reason why the BWH Alumni Association is recognized as one of the leading Alumni Associations in the United States.

Let me summarize for you our accomplishments over the past two years, namely;

- ◆ Twenty Scholarships
- ◆ Shipment
- ◆ Books
- ◆ Teacher Planners
- ◆ Kindergarten Supplies
- ◆ Computers and software
- ◆ Biology Lab Equipments
- ◆ Photo Copier
- ◆ Supplement Principal's Salary
- ◆ Creation of a web page to communicate the association's activities
- ◆ Launching of the Capital Campaign
- ◆ Revitalization of the North Carolina and Georgia chapters
- ◆ Continuous & productive relationship with the Board of Trustees and the school Administration

Our efforts in Liberia have been focused on priorities and projects identified by the school. We are grateful for the support of each of you. We are particularly grateful for efforts of the Tri-State (NY,NJ,CT) chapter for their contributions towards the kindergarten project and scholarships and to the Metro(DC, MD,VA) chapter for their contribution towards the copier. We are grateful to the Texas chapters for their work on Convention '01. We would like to mention Toyuwa Harris for the scholarship he gave in honor of his brother, Konkai Harris, as well as, Pierre King for his work on the Audit team. We must also thank Elyne Padmore for her work with the Souvenirs.



Our thanks to Varney Coleman and Charles Williams for their assistance with the shipment and Eugene Bedell for his ongoing counsel. We appreciate the work of Mydea Reeves Karpah in launching the Capital Campaign and James Smith for his contribution of supplies. Our special thanks to Raphael Eastman for his efforts in recruiting contributors to the Capital Campaign. Let us also congratulate the chapter Presidents for all of their hard work, especially Jehu Brandy, Bendu Hansford, Erma Brown and Letia Asaf.

We cannot say enough about the quality of people and their dedication to this organization. Your participation has proven that quality makes a difference more than quantity. We truly have a lot of energetic and dynamic individuals, all of whom have contributed their time and efforts to ensure the success of this organization. Many of you have made contributions but I must honorably mention the following persons:

Kwaku Addy for his support and Jimmy Neal for his tireless and sacrificial efforts in serving as our liaison directly from the Association through his many visits to the school. Because of Jimmy's visits, we have received first hand information and we have been able to assess the situation at the school better. Rev. Fr. Himie-Budu Shannon and Deontee Brumskine-Ricks for their advice, Joe Boayue for his wisdom, Milton Ricks for his work on the webpage, Roseline Hutchins for her dedication, Handel Diggs for his loyalty, Madia Garga-Shannon for her work on the Newsletter and Convention booklet and Horatio Bernard for his leadership. All of you have been instrumental in helping to build the Association into the body it is today. To each and every one of you, I offer my personal thanks and appreciation.

Let us now pause to remember all of our members who have departed this earth. We lost several spartans during the last two years and we would like to express our deepest condolences to their families. Indeed, "the candle that burns the brightest only burns half as long". May loving memories ease your thoughts and bring you comfort.

A family is always important to the strength of any leader and I can indeed say I have the support of my family. Special and heartfelt thanks to my dear wife Yvonne and our children, Charles, Shaka and Boimah for their patience and understanding.

As we continue our journey into the new millennium, I envision four main areas of involvement for our Association:

- ◆ to continue to improve & develop our fund-raising structure
- ◆ to pursue the opportunities of the internet to enhance the profile of our Association
- ◆ to focus our efforts on the major projects identified by the school
- ◆ to support and improve the Chapters and increase the participation of all Spartans in our efforts

The future of our Association shines very bright and with the continued support of all of You, we can continue to be a beacon of inspiration and hope to the young people of BW Harris School. The state of our Association remains very strong. May God bless you and yours.

Sincerely,

*Charles Hansford*



## MESSAGE FROM HOUSTON, TEXAS

On behalf of the Houston and Dallas Chapters it gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your families to Houston, Texas for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual convention. We hope and pray that your stay will be a memorable one, and a convention that you will never forget. Lots of individual hours were put into the planning and organization to make sure you leave this convention with a pleasant feeling.

Each member has displayed a lot of empathy and enthusiasm for the event. As you attend these events and interact we hope you and your families have lots of fun, personal fulfillment and leave with the excitement and knowledge that you have provided some financial and moral support to our fellow Spartans back home. We know that all time and monies spent will contribute, no matter how small, to achieve the dream of those "*Looking Beyond The Inevitable*." Fellow Spartans it is important that we continue our efforts and look beyond our individual motives. If you have enjoyed the events, please make sure to thank those who have made it a success, and go back and educate others about the convention so that they too can be a part of our dreams to help our fellow Spartans back home.

I would like to take this time to remember our falling Spartan brothers and sisters that went on before us. The Houston Chapter want to especially remember our own brother *Mr. Henry Boakai Freeman* for the important role he played doing his involvement with the chapter. He left us at a time when we needed him most, but we had to come to the realization that God loved him best.

We welcome constructive criticism and suggestions of how to make future planning more successful, we are also willing to accept your complaints! However, please refrain from criticizing the efforts of those that worked hard to make this a success.

To the Dallas Chapter, I say thank you for your contributions and your efforts. My wife and I want to especially thank those members of the Houston chapter that stood by us in the good times and the rocky times of our joining. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. We want to let you know from the bottom of our hearts, We Love You. May God continue to bless you, and pray for us as we move on to our next joining to carry out God's work.

Let us all celebrate our 9<sup>th</sup> annual convention in love and unity because it is always good and pleasant for brothers to dwell together in Unity.

With God All things are possible.

*Lehu J. Brandy Jr.*  
President- Houston Chapter



## **NATIONAL BOARD OFFICERS**

**Charles Hansford**

National Chairman  
(Wisconsin)

**Horatio Bernard**

1st National Vice Chair  
(Washington, DC Metro)

**Handel K. C. Diggs**

2nd National Vice Chair  
(Tri-State NY, NJ & CT)

**Madia Garga-Shannon**

National Sectary  
(Tri-State NY, NJ & CT)

**Roseline Sims-Hutchins**

National Treasurer  
(Washington, DC Metro)

**Joseph Boayue, Jr.**

National Chaplain  
(Washington, DC Metro)



## MESSAGE FROM THE 2ND NATIONAL VICE CHAIR

May 22, 2001

Fellow Spartans:

Another convention is at hand for us to review our accomplishments, our challenges and our opportunities.

We congratulate the Spartans of Georgia and North Carolina for reactivating their chapters. We laud the Washington D. C. Metro Chapter for mentoring new chapters and the Tri-State Chapter for developing a blue print for building and sustaining viable chapters. Kudos to the Texas Chapter for hosting this year's convention. To encourage active chapter membership, we established the Bishop Dillard H. Brown award for Spartans whose work exceptionally enhance the association, we established the Chairman's Medal of Honor.

As we celebrate, we must also confront our challenges to reactivate the Minnesota and California Chapters, sustain the Midwest and Rhode Island Chapters and establish the Delaware/Pennsylvania Chapter.

Now is the time to focus relentlessly and utilize our opportunities such as the web site, chapter guidelines, best practices and point persons to produce peak performing chapters. This will require leadership, sacrifice, volunteerism and perseverance.

Let us therefore seize this moment.

Sincerely,

*Handel K. C. Diggs*

2nd National Vice Chairman



## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Scholarship committee has been a pivotal force in the lives of many young, energetic, and promising boys and girls over the past years during the year under review a set back off the committee has been the inability of all four members to meet for deliberations hence, the decision making was done with limited participation from all the committee members. As we move forward our suggestions is that the schedule for applicants be amended in order for the full committee to meet at convention in July. This yearly meeting will be designated for the purpose of reviewing applications and deciding on awards.

As we journey on in the year 2002. Our plan is to encourage the good work of the committee. We have served the committee since it's beginning and would like to ask for that a new chairperson be appointed. We also suggest that committee members be selected from all active chapters.

During the year we communicated with the principal in reference the number of applications received. The number of applications for both E.G. W. King and Herbert Grisby Scholarship fund did not comply with the guidelines approved. We would like more than ten names for the selection of recipients to be made by the committee and not the school. A total of twenty persons received scholarships.

We apologize to the Tri-State chapter for the misunderstanding of the guidelines from the chapter. According to the guidelines the selection of recipients for the Herbert Grisby scholarship will be done by the Chapter's Committee. National will serve to coordinate money transfer and not selection. Going forward all correspondence for the Herbert Crosby Scholarship fund should be sent to the tri-state chapter.

We express thanks to each of you for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Rev. Fr. Himie Buqu Shannon*  
Chairman





## FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARD REPORT

We the members of the Financial Control Board extends to all a warm and heartfelt greeting. Our thanks to you for giving us this wonderful opportunity to help make a genuine contribution on your behalf to this wonderful organization and in turn to our beloved alma mater.

This past year was truly a busy and challenging one, but as you no doubt are aware, a most successful one personally focus and the association as a whole. Immediately after convention 2000 we were charged with the task of purchasing a copier and a firm to ship the items we had acquired to the school.

We looked at and spoke with a few individuals and companies about shipping, and after consultations with the National Board it was decided to use the services of the John S. Connor Company in Baltimore. Being the shipping handlers for Firestone, they provided us with not only the most secure route but, also the lowest rate. These factors along with their schedules made it an easy decision.

The copier was a little more challenging as we had to look at numerous machines and companies. After taking into consideration the specs required and maintenance accessibility, we advised that the Danka Imaging Company who offered the best deal for a Canon copier to be selected. We eventually purchased the from Danka.

The convention souvenirs, T-shirts and caps were another challenge given to us and thanks to the hard work of Ms. Elyne Padmore and Mr. James Smith, we were able to get a huge jump in securing these items reasonably. Ms. Padmore was able to also outsource the t-shirts cutting away the expense to the association. This year we will spend the least amount ever spent on souvenirs.

The laboratory was our final project for the year. We were able to secure responses from three firms providing us quotes and shipping information. We sent the best two to National and it was decided to go with the Fisher Scientific Company. They opened an account for us and shipped the equipment to us immediately.

All in all, it has been a good year and we look forward to continuing in assistance in making this an organization you can be proud of.

Sincerely yours,

<i>Jimmy Neal</i>	Chairman
<i>Elyne Padmore</i>	Member
<i>James Smith</i>	Member





## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

It has been my privilege to serve as Chairperson for the Annual Fund Campaign called "**WE TOUCH THE FUTURE**" Capital Campaign. The loyalty of the alumni and friends of B. W. Harris Episcopal School is truly amazing and reflects deep feelings of attachment to the school of their formation in Christian values.

We greatly appreciate your zeal and affection for all that truly represents Sparta. We realize the many personal needs each of you faces and yet you always find the means to light the way to those who follow. We are so proud of the impact that the level of giving has had on the Capital Campaign. Just imagine what would happen if every former student or alumni participated!

We are all aware of the importance of this campaign as our work is ongoing. This year we sent our first brochure and at this Convention we will appoint Regional Campaign Managers. Our mission is far from over. We will need to continue to provide increasing numbers of students with financial assistance through the E.G. W. King Scholarship Fund, supplement the programs and work diligently to complete the Science Labs. Our students must be given the academic edge to succeed. As basic costs continue to rise, your financial support helps us to maintain a reasonable and affordable quality education for our Liberian children who are a light for all in their paths.

I extend to you my gratitude for making this such a successful campaign and ask you to continue your great spirit of giving as we prepare to begin the drive for the 2001-2002 Annual Fund. You truly are the "Stewards" of Sparta.

Sincerely,

*Mydea Reeves-Karpeh*  
Chairperson





## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS

Sonya Drummond & Raphael Eastman	\$300.00
St Paul Episcopal Church, VA	\$273.00
Charles & Yvonne Hansford	\$100.00
Trinity Church, WI	\$1,000.00
Northfield Mount Hermon School, MA	\$2,493.36
Rev. Himie-Budu & Madia Garga Shannon	\$500.00
James Smith	\$100.00
	<hr/>
Total	<u>\$4,766.36</u>

## HONARABLE MENTION

Our thanks and appreciation to Mr. Kimmie Weeks for his tremendous efforts in raising monies for the Capital Campaign. Kimmie is a young man who took on the project of raising money for our school and because of his tirelessly effort raised an enormous amount of money. Kudos to Northfield Month Hermon School of Massachusetts.

**HTTP://WWW.BWHARRIS-ALUMNI.ORG**  
**Statistical Report**

The B.W. Harris Alumni Associations' web page celebrated its first anniversary on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2001. In celebration, a compilation of visitors' characteristic has been prepared.

<b>Unique Visits*</b>	<b>Total Visits*</b>	<b>Spartans signed into Registry:</b>	<b>Spartan visits by chapter affiliation</b>
2707 visitors	4101 Visitors	Male Spartans: 64 Female Spartan: 43  Class of 1968 - 1 Class of 1970 - 1 Class of 1973 - 1 Class of 1974 - 1 Class of 1975 - 8 Class of 1976 - 3 Class of 1977 - 1 Class of 1978 - 18 Class of 1979 - 13 Class of 1980 - 22 Class of 1982- 9 Class of 1983 - 5 Class of 1985 - 2 Class of 1986 - 2 Class of 1988 - 1 Class of 1989 - 1 No Class year- 11	Metro: 21 North Carolina: 4 Rhode Island: 3 Texas: 5 Tri-State: 18 No Chapter: 22

*Statistics tracked by* **THE COUNTER.COM**

\*Unique Visits = Non repeat visitors

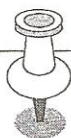
\*Total Visits = Number of visits to the Web Page. (Includes repeat visitors)



Visits By Days of the week	Hits from search engines	Domains (Organization)	Domains (Countries)	Spartan Visitors Non U.S.
Sunday 194 (5%) Monday 435(12%) Tues 714(20%) * Weds 619 (18%) Thurs 659 (19%) Friday 501 (14%) Saturday 289 (8%)	Yahoo 65% Alta Vista 34%	Commercial (.COM) 1457 (42%) Networks (.NET) 874 (25%) Unknown (.???) 684 (19%) Educational (.EDU) 92 (2%) Organizations (.ORG) 70 (2%) US Government (.GOV) 59 (1%) US Dept of 117 (3%)	<b>UNITED STATES</b> (.US) 52 (1%) <b>MALAYSIA</b> (.MY) 10 (0%) <b>SWEDEN</b> (.SE) 5 (0%) <b>TAIWAN</b> (.TW) 4 (0%) <b>CANADA</b> (.CA) 4 (0%) <b>NEW ZEALAND</b> (.NZ) 2 (0%) <b>NETHERLANDS</b> (.NL) 2 (0%) <b>ZAMBIA</b> (.ZM) 2 (0%) <b>United Kingdom</b> (.UK) 2 (0%) <b>ITALY</b> (.IT) 1 (0%) <b>BELARUS</b> (.BY) 1 (0%) <b>FRANCE</b> (.FR) 1 (0%) <b>GUINEA</b> (.GN) 1 (0%) <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b> (.ZA) 1 (0%)	Liberia Ghana France Taiwan Philippines Zambia

Spartans, please visit the Spartan Registry at [http://www.bwharris-alumni.org/Spartan Registry](http://www.bwharris-alumni.org/SpartanRegistry) and sign the Registry.

Statistics tracked by **THE COUNTER.COM**  
<http://www.bwharris-alumni.org> ®



## **TRI-STATE CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**Milton N. Ricks**  
**President**

**Gudrun Harris**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

**Pierre King**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Elyne M. Padmore**  
**Treasurer**

**Karen Cassell**  
**Secretary**

**Muriel Wayne**  
**Assistant Secretary**

**Joshua Cassell**  
**Chaplain**



## REPORT FROM THE TRI-STATE CHAPTER (NY, NJ, & CT)

The Tri-State Chapter is proud to report the completion of another successful year. We are consistently adhering to the purpose of our Constitution by planning events to raise money for B.W. Harris and fostering good relations with our members.

We are in the midst of preparing for our Annual Event. We are anticipating a high turnout as our regular Dinner/Dance has been converted to an Awards program, which has received many positive responses. We are particularly proud of the following major accomplishments of the Tri-State Chapter:

- ◆ The ability to sustain a core membership for the past 9 years.
- ◆ The Chapter's decision adheres to the Majority rule.
- ◆ Our participation in all National projects.
- ◆ An Account in a reputable bank in the name of BWHESAA Tri-State Chapter.
- ◆ Financial Accountability of dues collected and a financial report after every major event.
- ◆ Reaching out to the general membership of more than 100 by sending Birthday, Christmas and Sympathy cards. In addition, last year we give out gifts to all members who attended at least three meetings during 2000.
- ◆ Defining active membership to include persons who do not attend meetings but substantially contribute to the Chapter by giving their time and money for events or hosting meetings for the Association. These members are also included in our reaching out projects.

## **REPORT FROM THE WASHINGTON, DC, Metro Chapter**

The B. W. Harris Episcopal High Washington DC Metro Chapter Alumni Association met regularly during the 2000-2001 year. The meetings were held at various members' homes, and were generally well attended. One area of focus during the coming year is to encourage and promote active participation through an "Every Member" Campaign; this is central to our chapter's hosting of the 2002 Convention.

The major focus of activities in the year was directed toward the Chapter's hosting of the 2002 convention. Ad hoc and Special Committees and Task Forces were formulated and executed plans towards the planning of next year's Convention. The primary areas were venues, organization and funding. In the coming year leading up to June, these activities are expected to intensify and become accelerated.

The Chapter undertook one major fundraising activity in the year: (1) An Evening at Kendejah in February 2001. This activity met the financial goal we set. We anticipate having more of such activities in the coming year, as well as undertaking innovative fund-raising activities.

For the second year in a row, the Chapter undertook a community outreach activity. An Easter Egg Hunt was held at Episcopal Church in Aspen Hill Maryland and we had over 150 kids.

Washington Metro Chapter has the highest number of members in the Association. We have a listing of about 200 members with at least 35 members at any given meeting. It is noteworthy that the majority of active members have paid their dues for the year. This is encouraging, but we are seeking even more compliance in the coming year.

We lost one of our members, Massa Clarke Williamson early in the year, but as true Spartans we worked with the family in giving her a Spartan Burial. May her Soul Rest in Peace.

We had one major officer change, late in the year, when the Chapter's secretary Charles Williams resigned due to personal schedule.

We were very instrumental in helping the North Carolina and Delaware Valley/Pennsylvania chapters formulate. Kudos to Letia Assaf and Maesah Nelson. A delegation of six attended the installation of the North Carolina Chapter's installation and we attended the first meeting of the Delaware Valley/Pennsylvania.

We are working diligently to finalize plans for Convention 2002.



**In Memorial Of Our Fallen Brothers And Sisters.**



**"Je ne mourrai pas entier, car mon oeuvre me survivra."**

**"I will never die completely because my work will survive me"**

## GEORGIA CHAPTER UPDATE

The chapter has existed since the Alumni organization began. We have always been in the spotlight of the association and hosted the convention in 1995. At this convention we raised over \$13,000. Since then, we have had members represented at all conventions.

I am very happy to announce that we have bounced from the great beyond with 68 registered members. We began reorganizing early 2001 and have had several meetings and one fund raiser.

We look forward to the Houston convention and will be fully represented . Thanks again for your efforts.

Sincerely,

*Erma R. Brown*

President

### Meet The Newly Elected Officers

**Erma McBorrough Brown**  
President

**Rosalita Brent Kennedy**  
Vice President

**Gail Farnghelo Gatei**  
Secretary

**Amelia Coleman Goodridge**  
Treasurer

**Eudora Wilson Gardiner**  
Chaplain



**B. W. HARRIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
**ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**  
**JULY 01, 2000**

The annual board meeting of the B. W. Harris Alumni Association of the U.S.A. was held in Providence Rhode Island at St. John Episcopal Cathedral. Board members present are; Charles Hansford, National Chairman, Horatio Bernard, 1<sup>st</sup> National Vice Chairman, Handel K. C. Diggs, 2<sup>nd</sup> National Vice Chairman, Madia Garga-Shannon, National Secretary, Roseline Syms-Hutchins, National Treasurer and Joseph Boayue, National Chaplain. Other members present at the meeting range from the Washington, DC -Metro States, Tri-States, North Carolina, Texas, California, Midwest, and the host Rhode Island Chapter.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Charles Hansford. He admonished the members to be participants in the discussion and expressed thanks for their attendance. He further extended thanks to the Rhode Island chapter for their tireless effort in planning for this convention. Following the opening was a prayer led by the Dean of the St. John Episcopal Cathedral, Rev. Marie D'Convolla followed with welcome remarks by the president of the Rhode Island Chapter, Mr. Joshua Johnson. Following the opening of convention the officers of the Rhode Island Chapter were installed by Dean, Rev. Marie D'Convolla of St. John Episcopal Cathedral.

One of the hallmarks of convention was the remark from Ms. Gertrude Findley, principal of B. W. Harris school. Ms. Findley brought greetings from the president of the Board of Directors and the entire Diocese of Liberia. She further stated that B. W. Harris school is nation building despite the situation in Liberia. Today the school has been rehabilitated once more and ready to take the leading role in training boys and girls for the future. She then challenged the association to continue to be a partner in bringing the school to a standard accepted by all. She expressed thanks for the many things the Alumni Association in the USA continue to do for the school. In closing, she made it clear that the Alumni Association counts and used as a closing remark a poem by the author **Bai T. Moore** entitled "What Counts".

Following the address from Ms. Findley, the chairman stated the purpose for convention '2000' was to identify the major objective for the year. This was followed by report from all adhoc committees.



### **SCHOLAR SHIP—Chaired by the Rev. Fr. Himie-Budu Shannon, Sr**

The scholarship committee presented the body with a written report published in the souvenir booklet. Fr. Shannon presented other members of the scholarship committee as, Mr. Anthony Adgiibe, Mrs. Mary Gabbidon-Sowah, and Mrs. Comfort Rennie. He asked the board to approve five full scholarships, five partial scholarships (given by Deborah Julu) which brings a total scholarships to ten. He further stated that the scholarship given to the body by the Tri-state chapter in honor of Herbert Grispy could not be awarded because of the guidelines given by the Tri-State. They are awaiting further information from B. W. Harris School (Liberia) to finalize the award.

An overview critical for selection was presented;

- Students with a B+ or above average will be given considerations
- Report cards should be presented along with all applications
- Award should be base on a need assessment basis
- Application should be accommodated with a letter of recommendation from the principal of B. W. Harris and another from an alumnus of B.W. Harris; recommendation from committee member is not accepted
- Funds should be disbursed directly to recipient instead of the school with Counselor Cyril Jones and Mr. Joseph Brent supervising all disbursement.

Based on the above, the body approved for the disbursement of \$2,500 to be awarded to ten candidates for scholarship. The candidates were applicants sent to the committee by the principal of B. W. Harris, Mrs. Gertrude Findley.

### **NEWSPAPER—Chaired by Mr. Charles Williams**

Report by the newspaper committee was presented by Mr. Varney Coleman due to the absence of the chairman, Charles Williams. Three regular issues for the year will be produce by Mr. Williams with one special issue before convention in the format of a magazine to be sold. The name of the newspaper will be called "Spartan Voice" The first issue is expected to be out by October.

### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN—Chaired by Mrs. Mydea Reeves Karpheh**

A written report of the capital campaign was published in the convention souvenir booklet. Mrs. Reeves-Karpheh presented to the National Chairman, Mr. Hansford a copy of the *"We Touch The Future"* booklet. Mrs. Reeves-Karpheh call on the body for their support and emphasize the need for every member to give at some level to the capital campaign. She outlined the committee goal to raise \$50,000 by the end of 2001. In respond Mr. Charles Hansford accepted the booklet and report with thanks and echo the plead for every Spartan to get involve in the capital campaign. He went on to say that every little counts and asked Mrs. Reeves-Karpheh to launch the capital campaign by December 2000. Chapters were urged to encourage their members to participate and send



ideas to Mrs. Reeves-Karpeh who will then incorporate those ideas into the national ideas and objectives. A yearly report will be resent by the committee at convention. With standing ovation, the capital campaign report was received and accepted with thanks to the hard work, efficiency and expediency of the chair and members of the committee.

#### **SPORTS—Chaired by Mr. John t. Gabbidon**

Mr. John T. Gabbidon was appointed chairman of all sports activities in regards to the association and especially for convention. Mr. Gabbidon reported that he had organized teams that were waiting to play for Convention. He also appeal to the body for the purchase of official uniforms for the team. He said it is rather embarrassing that when the Association's team is invited to play with other alumni association's team, our team has to wear beer commercial T-Shirts while the other teams are dressed in their official uniforms. The National Chairman promised to look into the possibility of obtaining uniforms for the team. The National Chairman further requested that in the future all sporting events be channeled through Mr. Gabbidon, especially plans for convention '2001' in Houston, Texas. The Rhode Island chapter informed us that their sport coordinators, Mr. Leo Eastman and Mr. Joseph Karpeh will be working with Mr. Gabbidon.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEES – Chaired by Mr. Pierre King**

Mr. King gave a verbal report about the state of the finance of the association and recommended that (a) an accounting system be purchase to enable the body chart the accounts and keep a general ledge and journal. He recommended that the accounting software must be a non-profit accounting software. (b) all subsidiaries chapters use the same software. (c) the association purchase a laptop to be used by the treasurer, financial secretary or an appointed bookkeeper. (d) Create a committee comprising of accounting, finance, economic major with good writing skills be asked to write procedures and policies to protect the assets of the organization and ensure efficient financial system. He stated that he could not prepare an audit report because he could not get in touch with the committee members. Those appointed to work with the audit committee are as follows:

Pierre King	-	Tri-State
Dorothy Richards Tolbert	-	Washington DC Metro
Varney Gobeh	-	Texas
Ebenezer Sowah	-	Rhode Island

#### **Financial Control Board – Chaired by Jimmy Neal**

The financial control board reported briefly on the activities and expressed the desire to continue working for the interest of the association. Quotes for shipments were presented to the body and Mr. Neal was asked to implement the plan for sending the shipment. Although there was no written report, Mr. Neal give a summary of the projects presently being undertaken by the association in Liberia. A proposal was received from Badio and Associates for the purpose of building and installing a water tank of approximately 2000 gallons. The cost was estimated to be USD \$4,000.00. The question was raised as to why a well could not be



built. In his respond, Mr. Neal quoted from a fax received from Mr. Joseph Brent which stated that currently there are no equipment available to drill a well on the site and it was difficult to drill through the rocks therefore building of a water tower was the best route.

Following the presentation, the national Chairman stated that the purpose of the financial control board is to approve all disbursement of the Association over \$1,000. Members must have some accounting or financial background. Appointment to the financial control board must be made by the local chapters. The current members elected by their chapter are;

Jimmy Neal	-	Metro
Ruby Addy	-	Minnesota
Elyne Padmore	-	Tri State
James Smith	-	Oregon

The national chairman, Mr. Hansford said he will be contacting all chapters encouraging them to present member to be a part of these two important committee of the association. He envisions representation from each member chapter.

#### **COMMUNICATION—Chaired by Mr. Milton Ricks**

In his report, the web master, Mr. Milton Risks explained that this project entailed getting a domain name, ISP and URL. He went further stated that the site was up and had been used to circulate information for Convention 2000 in Rhode Island. A written report was presented to the body. The body overwhelming embraced the idea and the national chairman, Mr. Hansford went on to stress the importance of a web page by the association but emphasized that this will not replace the newsletter neither will it replace the capital campaign. He said the main purpose of the web page is to heighten awareness of activities of the association and other necessary information. Congratulation was later extended to Mr. Ricks by the National Chairman on behalf of the Association.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **CHAPTERS ISSUES**

The chairman, Mr. Hansford also touched of issues affecting the association in particular to various chapters and their activities. He encouraged active chapters to continue their annual contribution to the national body to help with projects of the association. He went on to say that the board should look at other means of hosting regular meeting, like teleconference which will cut down on transportation by board and committee members. He announced the creation of two new chapters, Texas with 40 members and California. Thus bringing the total number of chapters to seven. Convention '2001' is expected to be held in Texas. North Carolina is still listed as an inactive chapter. The board is open to ideas in revitalization of this chapter.



### **FINANCIAL CONTROL OF LOCAL CHAPTERS**

The National chairman, Mr. Hansford informed the body of his decision to have local chapters present annual reports to be incorporated in the annual report of the Association. He instructed Mrs. Decontee Brumskine-Ricks to amend the Constitution to reflect the same. The annual operating budget for all local chapter was increased from \$500 to \$1,000 and all accounts operating by the local chapters must be in the association's name. These recommendations are all pending approval by the national body at convention '2001'.

### **ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET**

The annual operating budget was presented by the chairman. With minor adjustment and amendment the budget was approved and accepted by the body. Attached is a copy of the proposed budget awaiting the corrected copy from the Chairman by next meeting.

### **PROJECT IDENTIFIED BY THE BOARD**

Lab – requesting local Chapters assistance  
System Water  
Renovation of ceiling  
Books – requesting local Chapters assistance  
Computers - requesting local Chapters assistance  
Memographing Machine / Copiers

### **OTHER ISSUES**

Mr. Joshua Johnson, president of the Rhode Island chapter informed the body of the request by the alumni of St. John Episcopal High School of Cape Mount for honorary membership in our Association. The chairman, Mr. Hansford, instructed Mr. Johnson to study the issue and report at the next board meeting but he must follow closely the constitution of the association.

Ms. Bindu Hansford, president of the Washington DC Metro Chapter presented to the body through one of her representative, Mr. Varney Coleman, a letter asking the association to be more active in the day to day operation of the school. She cited an example of hiring qualified teachers. The chairman, Mr. Hansford said the board will table the matter for the moment and give it further

consideration before responding to Ms. Hansford.

Convention 2002 will be hosted by the Washington DC Metro chapter.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with prayers by Rev. Fr. Shannon.

Submitted by:

*Madia Garga-Shannon*, National Secretary

## **CHAPTER PRESIDENTS**

**Bindu Hansford**

Washington, DC Metro - MD, VA & DC

**Milton Ricks**

(Tri-Stater NY, NJ & CT)

**Letia Assaf**

North Carolina

**Erma McBorrough Brown**

Georgia

**Berma Findley**

Midwest - MI & OH

**Rev. Jehu J. Brandy, Jr.**

Houston Texas Chapter

**Wilfred Clarke**

California

**Joshua Johnson**

Rhode Island

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!!**

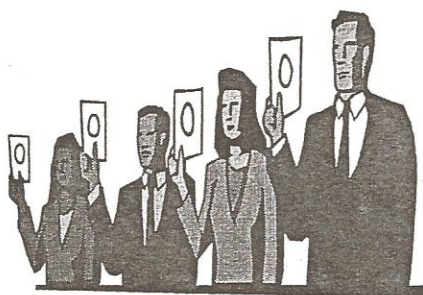


## THE SPARTAN REFLECTION

If you can't be a pine  
On the top of the hill,  
Be a scrub in the valley ——— but be  
the best little scrub  
By the side of the rill,  
Be a bush, if you can't be a tree.

If you can't be a highway,  
Just be a rail.  
If you can't be a sun,  
Be a star;  
That you win or fail —  
Be the best of whatever you are.

*Douglas Mallock*



## THE NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER REPORT

The North Carolina Chapter of the B. W. Alumni Association was re-established on the 7th of April 2001, under the leadership of Letia Assaf. On this day, officers were elected and plans were made for an Installation of Officers ceremony on the 21st of April in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

The goal of the North Carolina Chapter is to "Always strive for success". This philosophy has certainly help us to meet our immediate time table for attending Convention 2001 in Houston as a chapter. We are motivated by this goal because we have realized that with hard work, comes success; with success, the quality of patience and perseverance are attainable. With such an unbeatable combination of qualities, the North Carolina Chapter of B. W. Harris Alumni Association shall remain strong, challenging our strength and resources to building our Alma Mater.

### **Elected officers are:**

Letia Assaf	-	President
Victor Zobon Johnson Jahmaliah	-	Vice President
Josephine Arku	-	Secretary
Russell Deshield	-	Parliamentarian
Villette Brown	-	Social Secretary
Aleda Luke	-	Treasurer
Amoleen Diggs	-	Chaplain



**Saturday, June 30, 2001**

**Plenary Session  
9:00 Anti Meridian**

Call to Order

National Chairman  
**Charles Hansford**

Invocation

National Chaplain  
**Joseph Boayue, Jr.**

Welcome Remarks

Houston Chapter President  
**Rev. Jehu Brandy, Jr.**

Minutes

National Secretary  
**Madia Garga-Shannon**

Operational / Financial Overview

National Chairman  
**Charles Hansford**

Projects of B. W. Harris

1st National Vice Chair  
**Horatio Bernard**

Questions and Answered

Resolutions

Discussions and Adoption

2nd National Vice Chair  
**Handel K. C. Diggs**

New Business

Presentation

Convention Venue 2001/2002

Tri-State Chapter

Announcements

Houston Chapter President  
**Rev. Jehu Brandy, Jr.**

Elections

Election Planning Committee



**Saturday, June 30, 2001**

**Chairman's Grand Ball**

**9:00 Anti Meridian**

Arrival / Seating of Guests

Welcome Remarks

1st National Vice Chair  
**Horatio Bernard**

Remarks

National Chairman  
**Charles Hansford**

Guest Speaker

Florida Harris-Kweekh

Presentation of Awards

National Chairman  
**Charles Hansford**

Bishop Dillard H. Brown Award

The Chairman's Medal of Honor Award

Installation of Officers

Former National Chairman  
**H. Kwaku Addy**

Vote of Thanks

2nd National Vice Chair  
**Handel K. C. Diggs**

The School Ode  
*(please see insert)*

The Grand March





## B. W. HARRIS SCHOOL ODE

*By: Baromi Morris*

Progredimur B. W. Harris School  
Forward, forward march we go,  
To victory, B. W. Harris School,  
Thy praise we sing forever more.

Let us shout.... (let us shout)  
Let us sing ..... (let us sing)  
Let our cheerful voices ring.  
Sweet music swells,  
The chorus in the air  
Trailing the whole creation fair.

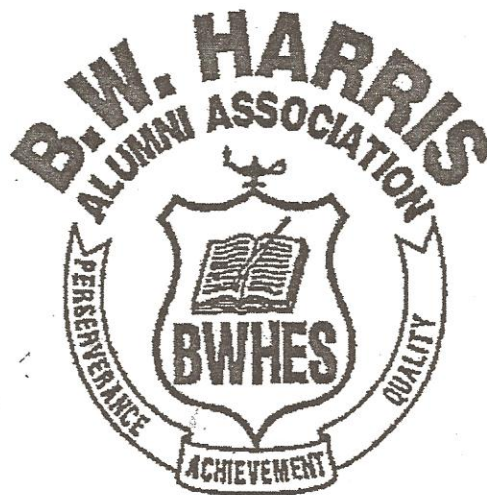
### REFRAIN:

B. W. ——— B. W.  
Harris School ——— Harris School  
Our cheerful hearts unto thee we raise.  
B. W. ——— B. W.  
Harris School ——— Harris School  
O may thou name forever reign.

Praises to God,  
B. W. Harris School ,  
Praises to him O King of love.  
*Thanks be to thee,*  
For B. W. Harris School  
Sing praises to our God above.

Sing O Sing ——— Sing O Sing  
Unto our King ——— Unto our King  
Let our cheerful voices ring,  
Until at last we meet Him in the sky  
To win the everlasting prize.

# **B. W. HARRIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC**



**BY-LAWS AND CONSTITUTION**  
**DECONTE BRUMSKINE-RICKS**  
**CHAIRPERSON**



## **PREAMBLE**

We, the members of THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF B. W. HARRIS EPISCOPAL SCHOOL of the city of Monrovia, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, residing in the United States of America have come together to form ourselves in a social, economic and developmental organization under the name of THE B.W. HARRIS EPISCOPAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, U.S.A.

## **ARTICLE I: PURPOSE**

### **I. The purpose of the Alumni Association shall be:**

- a) to meet, deliberate and organize activities and projects pertaining to the improvement of education in Liberia with particular emphasis on B. W. Harris Episcopal School;
- b) to plan and implement educational and development projects which will improve the environment and quality of education for B.W. Harris School Students;
- c) to promote and foster good relations and concern among members of the Association and their families in the United States.
- d) to promote and foster a good working relationship with the Board of Trustees and Administration of the B. W. Harris Episcopal High School.

## **ARTICLE II: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

### **I. The organizational structure of the Alumni Association shall consist of:**

- a) The Executive Committee
- b) The Regional Associations

### **II. The officers of the Executive Committee shall be a chairperson, a first vice chairperson for programs, a 2nd Vice Chairperson for Membership and Public Relations, an Executive Secretary, a Treasurer, a Financial Secretary, a Chaplain and Assistant Officers appointed by the Chairperson and approved by the Executive Committee.**

The Executive Committees shall meet at least twice a year on the call of the Chairperson. The presence of a simple majority shall constitute a quorum. Notice of all meetings shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting. The notice shall contain the date, time and place of the meeting, and the object for which the meeting has been called. The Chairperson may call a special meeting at the request of any ten (10) Executive Mem-

bers which will require at least one month notice. The notice shall contain the date, time, place of meeting, and the object for which the meeting has been called.

- III. The Regional Associations shall consist of a President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President (Optional), Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain and a constituent membership within a geographical location as specified by the convention. The Regional Association shall elect three (3) officers as its representatives to the Executive Committee meetings; one of which shall be the President. They will inform the Executive Committee of the Region's activities.

The Regional Associations may meet as many times as necessary and organize at least one (1) project a year.

### **ARTICLE III: THE CONVENTION**

- I. The Convention shall meet once a year and shall be the forum for making and reviewing policies, receiving annual financial reports, and other reports as specified by the convention.

The Convention shall hold election once every two (2) years for Executive Committee Officers as specified in Article 2, section 2.

The Convention shall establish a budget, define annual goals, and establish annual membership dues.

- II. The Convention will hold a major fund-raising event such as a program and/or sale of B.W. Harris memory items throughout the year.
- III. Members representing each region who are in good financial standing with the Alumni Association including payment of annual dues and registration fee at the convention, will be considered a delegate and have voting status and be eligible to present resolutions through their respective Regional Executive Committee Representatives.
- IV. The Chairperson of the Executive Committee shall preside over the Convention. The Executive Committee Officers shall be the Officers of the Convention.
- V. Every two years, at the time of the elections, an election Commission shall be set up consisting of nine (9) delegates from the Convention floor.



## **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND DUTIES.**

### **I.**

#### **OFFICERS**

The officers of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association are specified in Article 2, Section 2, Paragraph 2. The Officers of the Regional Association are specified in Article 2, Section 2, Paragraph 3. Both the Executive Committee Officers and the Regional Association Officers are elected to hold office for a term of two years and can not be reelected for more than two consecutive terms for the same position. The duties for Regional Association Officers are the same as those of the Executive Committee except that the region is restricted to its geographical area.

### **II. DUTIES**

- A) The Executive Committee Chairperson is the Chief Executive of the Alumni Association who shall preside over the following: all Executive Committee Meetings, appoint persons to vacant Committee positions, and shall act on behalf of the BWHESAA in any manner that is not contrary to the Articles of Incorporation, the constitution, or the majority decisions of the Executive Committee. The Chairperson shall Counter-sign with the Treasurer and Executive Secretary for the disbursement of all funds; shall counter-sign with the Executive and Financial Secretary for the solicitation of funds.
- B) The First Vice-Chairperson for programs shall assist the Chairperson in presiding over the affairs of the BWHESAA and shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in the death, resignation, absence or impeachment of the Chairperson. Shall be responsible for planning, organizing and implementing special projects and programs. A Committee will be set up responsible for reviewing and approving fund request for Regional Association's programs. Such funding is to assist Regions in implementing programs as Fund Raisers for the BWHESAA which will be deposited in the Treasury. Members shall consist of the Financial Secretary (Co-Chairperson) and the various Regional Presidents. Members of this Committee shall all assume duties assigned by the Chairperson.
- C) The Second Vice-Chairperson for Membership and Public Relations shall assist the Chairperson in presiding over the affairs of the BWHESAA and shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in the death, resignation, absence, or impeachment of the chairperson and the First Vice-Chairperson for Programs; Shall be responsible for maintenance of Membership list and promoting the growth of the membership as well as all public relations.
- D) The Executive Secretary shall be responsible with the administrative matters of the BWHESAA including correspondence with members and shall be Co-Chairperson of the Membership Committee; Shall be responsible for recording and keeping a copy of all proceedings of the Convention and the Executive Committee. Shall co-sign all correspondence soliciting funds for BWHESAA and maintain a file of all such correspondence. Shall countersign with the Chairperson and the Treasurer for the disbursement of



all funds. Shall be the third in Succession for the position of Chairperson provided that person is a graduate. Shall also assume duties assigned by the Chairperson.

- E) The Treasurer shall have authority over the financial matters of BWHESAA and shall countersign with the Chairperson and the Executive Secretary for the disbursement of all funds. Shall also maintain a general ledger or spread sheet and provide a quarterly income statement to the Executive Committee. Other duties include:
1. To receive all monies BWHESAA and to promptly deposit same in the name of the organization in an account or accounts in a responsible bank or trust company. No money shall be withdrawn from any such account except by check signed by the Chairperson, Executive Secretary and Treasurer. The First Vice Chairperson may sign where the Chairperson is not available.
  2. Shall be responsible to make an Annual financial report to the Convention.
  3. Shall prepare an operational budget based on annual dues to the Convention.
  4. Shall assume other duties assigned by the Convention and the Executive Committee.
- F) The Financial Secretary shall perform monthly Bank reconciliation and also make authorized disbursement signed by the Chairperson. Each requisition shall recite the amount and the purpose of the payment requested. Any amount in excess of one Hundred dollars must be approved by the Executive Committee

To submit all reports at all regular meetings of the Executive Committee or whenever required, covering the financial condition of BWHESAA showing receipts and disbursements; and outstanding accounts unpaid since the last report; to submit a report of his/her office to the general body at the Convention.

Shall serve as Co-chairperson of the Program Committee and assume other duties assigned by the Convention and the Executive Committee.

- G) The Chaplain shall be concerned with the spiritual growth of the membership. Shall also serve on the Membership Committee. Shall perform other duties assigned by the Chairperson.
- H) The Chairperson shall assign Assistant Officers as deemed necessary. Such assistant as: Assistant Executive Secretary, Assistant Financial Secretary and Assistant Chaplain.

## ARTICLE V: IMPEACHMENT

An officer who fails to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the office to which He/she is elected and engages in acts and conducts contrary to the purpose of the organization, shall be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee after a full