



The Mighty **SPARTAN**

B. W. Harris Alumni Association-USA WWW.BWHarrisAlumniUSA.Org
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“Our Alma Mater; Our Purpose!”

SPRING MARCH 2014 BWHESAA-USA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER VOL. 16 ISSUE 16

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Staff

Joanna Freeman Richards
Staff Writers

Contributors:

Louisa Merchant, Mona Diggs
Henry Byrd Phillips, Joe Stewart
Charles Coleman, David Moore,
Meyartha Perry, Gudrun Harris

FEATURED SPARTAN: Gerald Richards

*By Joanna Freeman Richards
2nd National Vice Chair for
Membership and Public Relations*



Gerald Richards

B.W.Harris Alumni Association-USA
Perseverance, Achievement & Quality

MS: *What was your most memorable moment at BWHES? How has your time and education at BWHES impacted/influenced your life as a career man?*

GR: One of my most memorable experiences at BWHES was an incident that placed Principal Father E.G.W. King and I on a collision course. Gala Day 1973, we were advised the convertible the school queen was scheduled to ride in the parade would be late. Father King said if the convertible vehicle arrived after the parade had begun it should not be placed in the parade.

Working Together For Success: The Year of the Projects

*By Gudrun Harris
National Chair*



In 2013 leading up to Convention, our Association made a paradigm shift in how we approach our relationship with our alma mater. During my 2012 tour of the school, I worked with the Principal Lurleen King-Falla to identify discreet projects that she believed would be the most beneficial for students, and was consistent with the objectives of the Association.

FEATURED SPARTAN

Contd.



Gerald Richards



GR: I asked Father King if that meant the school queen would walk the entire distance of the parade, he said, yes. The convertible arrived on campus ten minutes late, and I directed the vehicle to be placed in the parade. Father King, in expressing his anger at me directed I be suspended

from functioning as President of the Student Council for two weeks. Reflecting on that suspension forty years later, I have no regrets in doing what I did.

MS: *When did you enroll at BW Harris?*

I enrolled at B.W. Harris Episcopal School in 1971 after spending one year at Ricks Institute. Prior to Ricks, I spent a year at Grammar School in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The Grammar School experience was priceless, but high school in Liberia was preferable!

MS: *Tell about your time and experiences at the school.*

GR: My time and experiences at BWHEs were truly extraordinary life altering moments for me. I arrived at BWHEs in the 10th grade and was elected class President. During that time I also worked as a Police cadet at the Criminal Investigation Division of the Liberia National Police. In the eleventh grade, I was nominated Colonel of the School Cadet Corps. That same year I left the Police Department and took a part time job as a floor cameraman at ELTV for 6 months

before moving into broadcasting and hosting my weekly Television program "The Academic Scene" on ELTV. In the twelfth grade I served as Student Council President. My elevated presence at ELBC/TV drew much attention to B.W.Harris as I was instrumental in assisting with advertisements for various class social programs in an effort to move their revenue profits into positive territory, and cast the spotlight on our beloved school.

MS: What would you list as your greatest achievements since graduating from BWHEs?

GR: Some of the greatest hallmarks of my life since I left B.W.H.E.S. were attaining a BS in Criminal Justice Administration with emphasis

FEATURED SPARTAN

Contd.

on Law Enforcement Administration, and MS in National Security and Public Safety with my eyes fixed on a PHD in Criminal Justice. In 2013

MS: *Tell us about your involvement with the Alumni Association.*

GR: I got involved in BWHES Alumni Association as a way of giving back to the school after sitting on the fence for well over two decades. It is a good thing to give back either in financial resources or time as a way of helping to lift the academic

integrity of B.W.Harris School.

MS: *If you could change anything about the current condition at the school what will that be?*

GR: If I could change anything about the current condition at the school it would be to **increase** the academic bench mark for teachers and students.

MS: *Any teacher or school staff you would want to thank?*

GR: I would like to express

my profound thanks and deep appreciation to all former and present administrators, and teachers of Bravid Washington Episcopal High School for their service and sacrifice to the cause of education.

MS: *Any final thoughts?*

GR: I profoundly encourage any former student, and graduates of B.W.Harris school reading this news latter, not presently involved in the alumni association to get connected and support the projects of your local chapter. If you don't have a chapter in you state, please find one in the nearest state, and support their projects.

MS: *Gerald Richards funds scholarships in his name.*



1. Under whose administration was the SmartTech Program implemented at the school?
2. What was the name of B.W.Harris Choir Director during 1983?
3. What is the date and name of the birth place of Bravid Washington Harris?

ANSWERS

1. KC Diggs
2. The Late Mr. Nii Kotie
3. January 6, 1896, North Carolina

The Year of the Projects Contd. by Gudrun Harris

The result was “2013-2014: Year of the Projects.” Under the “Year of the Projects,” we embarked on an ambitious program to do things that would benefit every level of the school. This would be a first in the history of the Association.

Our Association actions in the Year of the Project benefited more students in a single period than ever from its founding over 20 years ago. This is something we can all be proud of. The National Officers and I are humbled that we were privileged to lead these historical achievements and set benchmarks for subsequent leaders.

One of the notable developments of the Year of

the Project was the integrated approach, where classes, chapters, and individual members and the National leadership worked with one voice to implement the various projects.

Tri-State Chapter continued its Kindergarten and Clinic Projects. The chapter provided materials and supplies for the Kindergarten Class and the clinic. Tri-State also made significant contributions towards the acquisition of auditorium chairs and the girls' basketball Jerseys.

Metro Chapter continued from its last project and purchased library books for Grades 7-12. The chapter had previous purchased

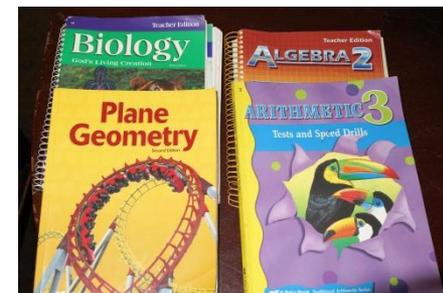
elementary school library books. Texas Chapter joined with Cllr. Mohamedu F. Jones' M. Fahnbulleh and Alliette Benson Jones Star Project and bought audio teaching systems and materials. Rhode Island chapter provided two laptops to enable mobile technology at the school.

The Class of 1983 and Marjon Wiles Greaves individually provided dictionaries and other reference materials that will be used from Kindergarten to 12th Grade.

The Association acquired the Teachers' Edition of the A Beka Books system and equipment and supplies for the laboratory. We also purchased the first consignment of 10 sets of new

computer lab. We bought the boys' basketball jerseys and basketball equipment for the school. The Association's investments in these many projects simultaneously were a first.

In sum, we have begun the actual process of changing the educational environment of the school in a systematic way. I can report that the Year of the Projects proved successful.



Update on Convention '14

*By Joanna Freeman Richards
2ND Vice National Chair &
National Convention
Committee Member*

The National Convention Committee has continued to work closely with the host North Carolina Chapter and the National leaders to plan the 2014 Convention. The collaboration has been focused on making all the components of a successful Convention work seamlessly.

One historical milestone that was achieved was that North Carolina presented its draft At-a-Glance at the October Board Meeting a full 9 months before

Convention, making it the first chapter to accomplish such a feat in the history of the Association. This was achieved because of the productive relationship that North Carolina has fostered with the National Chair and the National Convention Committee.

An exciting and new development for the 2014 Convention is the recognition of our Queens over the years. North Carolina Convention Program Chair and former Ms. BW Harris Amanda Wright, is working closely and diligently to ensure that our Queens receive the recognition they deserve. She is making contact with former Queens and works closely with the Convention Committee to plan this part of the program.

Continuing the innovations that the host and the Convention Committee are introducing in 2014, for the first time, we will have multiple colors of t-shirts for chapter members and non-affiliated members. Each chapter will work with the Convention Committee to select a color of its choice for t-shirts, which will be placed in the packages of registrants from that chapter.

The closely working relationship between the host chapter, the National Convention Committee and the National Officers offers a model for success going into the future.

The National Convention Committee comprises:

Darren Wilkins
Handel Diggs

Joanna Freeman Richards
Albertha Gillespie
Dorothy Richards-Tolbert
Abdul Sherif
Angeline Bishop-Oshoko
Theodosia Elliott
Gloria Caine
Amanda Wright
Owen Neal
Wanda Jones
Victor Gibson

Convention Calendar

Pre-registration: July 2, 2013
– June 1, 2014
Registration: June 2, 2014
– July 5, 2014
Friday July 4, 2014
Executive Board Meeting
Welcome Party
Saturday July 5, 2014
General Convention
Renaissance Ball
Sunday July 6, 2014
Worship Service
Family Day

Association to celebrate Bishop Bravid W. Harris in 2015

By David Moore and Meyartha Perry



A Committee to Honor Bishop Bravid Washington Harris was established by the Capital Campaign Chair, Cllr. Mohamedu F. Jones, to plan and execute an event to be held during our Annual Convention in Maryland 2015.

Honoring Bravid Washington Harris 2015 will commemorate the pastoral works of Bishop Harris, his contribution towards education in Liberia, and keep his legacy alive. The goal of this committee according to Cllr. Jones, is to raise funds and celebrate the 55th anniversary of the founding of B.W. Harris Episcopal High School in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa, which was named for Bishop Harris.



The Honoring Committee is planning to hold a raffle and will be offering tickets for sale to members and the public.

The Grand Prize is \$5,000.00, the 2nd Prize is \$3,500.00 and the 3rd Prize is \$3,000.00.

There will be 12 additional cash prizes of 3 \$500.00 prizes; 3 \$300.00 prizes; 3 \$200.00 prizes and 3 \$100.00 prizes.

The Honoring Committee has begun an extensive publicity and outreach campaign about the raffle, and expect full participation of members.

Capital Campaign

By Staff Writer

Daffeh Hansford became the first 2014 Lifetime Member. Varney Coleman, Rosalyn Coleman, Saba Kla-Williams and Marjon Wiles Greaves have committed to reaching Lifetime by 2014 Convention and have started paying towards their Lifetime membership.

Handel Diggs has committed to joining Gudrua Harris, David Moore and Mohamedu Jones by contributing to all funds of the Capital Campaign.

The Committee has announced that it is looking forward to a healthy and robust fundraising year.

Fundraising Tips for Chapters and Classes

By Staff Writer

Birthday Pledges! Ask for donations to a your chapter cause instead of birthday gifts.

Walk-a-thon: Choose a date and a route, make up some pledge forms, and advertise with posters. Have participants gather donations or pledges using their pledge forms.

Hold a Theme Party: Decide on a fun theme. Charge an entrance fee, but be sure to explain to people what their cover charge is going towards.

Bingo: Host a bingo night at a local hall, place of worship, or school.

International Dinner: Have people from various ethnic origins cook traditional foods, and then charge admission to an international dinner.

Holiday Ornament Sale: Sell ornaments during the holiday season.

Karaoke: Rent a karaoke machine, sell tickets or charge an admission fee, and sing all night.

A CHAT WITH TX CHAPTER

By Joe Frank "J. Yuk" Stewart,, President



Hello fellow Spartans, on behalf of the BW HESAA- Inc, USA: Texas Chapter, we are so excited to inform all Spartans of our chapter progress, what we are doing, our success, and what to come in months and years ahead.

On January 18, 2014, Texas Chapter team took on an impressive project of honoring all former Student Council Presidents of B.W.Harris Episcopal School. As we all know or have heard, our program was

a BIG SUCCESS. We had a 3 day event, meet and greet on Friday 01-17-14 at Ms. Irna Williams home, the main event honoring program Saturday 01-18-14 at the Aladin's Reception Hall and Sunday 01-19-14 the farewell luncheon for our out of town guests.

The Texas Chapter named Ambassador Henry H.D. Williamson, 1972 Student Council President as our leading honoree; all awards will be named in his honor at any of our event henceforth.

Attending our Awards Dinner were : Honoree- Mr. Gerald Richards 1973 Student Council President, Honoree- Mr. Winfred Clarke 1980 Student Council President, Honoree- Ms. Konner Kamah KOKO Dennis 1981 Student Council President and the Texas Chapter Vice President and the Chapter leading

Honoree- Ambassador Henry H.D. Williamson. Also in attendance were: our National Chairman Ms. Gudrun Harris, our newly elected 2nd Vice National Chair Mrs. Joanna Freeman Richards, D.C.Metro Chapter representatives were Ms. Velma Hoff and Ms. Comfort Brown, amongst others.

The Awards is named: The BW HESAA, Inc. USA Texas Chapter Henry H.D. Williamson Awards Dinner Program.

Presently, the chapter is putting together the National Chapter financial reports for the CURFIS TEMPLATE, reports for Texas members, our slide show disc of photos from our event to be posted on the B.W.Harris website when completed.

We are scheduled to have our officers conference call meeting, to be followed by our

conference call meeting with chapter members. We are also preparing for our election of officers after the 2014 Convention, to continue the work of the Texas Chapter and the National Association of B.W.Harris School-Perseverance, Achievement, and Quality.

In conclusion, as President of the Texas Chapter, I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to the Texas team: Ms. Konner Dennis, Ms. Irna Williams, Mrs. Marjon Wiles Greaves, Mrs. Mayetta Clarke-Browne, Mrs. Everlinah Dixon Cole, Mrs. Rachel Green Grigsby, Ms. Doris Grimes, Mrs. Ada Collins Taylor, Ms. Annie Pritchard, Ms. Ene West, Mrs. Grace Dottie Smith, Mrs. Julia Townsend, Ms. Jacke Randall, Mrs. Markarh Saleh, Mr. Varney Goba, Mr. Johantz Caine, Mr. & Mrs. Jehu Brandy, Mr. Andy Forh and last but not least my wife Mrs. Christine "Tuwlo" Stewart for all her support to the Texas team. Thanks and JESUS BLESSINGS to all Spartans.

A CHAT WITH TRISTATE CHAPTER

By *Louisa Merchant, President*

The Tri-State Chapter will be hosting its Annual George D. Browne Awards Dinner and Dance on Saturday, April 26th, 2014 at the Central Family Life Center, 59 Wright Street, Staten Island, New York.

We will be honoring distinguished members of the community who have made mentionable contributions that have impacted the lives of Liberians in the Tri-State Area.

We will also honor special Mother's in the community

As always, there will be good food, good music, dancing and good company. Tickets are \$35.00 for regular

tickets and \$50.00 for Patron tickets.

Advertisements in our Souvenir Booklet will be \$100.00 full page, \$50.00 half page and \$25.00 for a quarter page. Remember to congratulate our honorees, put a special message in for a special someone or/and advertise your business. Please reach out to Rillette Hammond at Liberianaka@yahoo.com with your questions and advertisement information.

We look forward to seeing you all April in Tri-State Territory!

**SUPPORT TRI-STATE
SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL**



Tri-State Chapter Invites you to its 2014 Bishop George D. Browne Achievement & Parents' Awards Dinner

Date: April 26, 2014

Time: 8:00pm - 2:00am

Tickets: Regular: \$35.00/Patron \$50.00
(Dinner included in ticket price)

Dress: Semi-Formal/African

Dinner: Served 8:30pm-9:30pm

Cash Bar

Red Carpet Photo Shoot: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Venue
Family Life Center
59 Wright Street
Staten Island, New York 10304

Contacts for Tickets and Information

Louisa Merchant, President: 917-862-7510

Chalnelcia Davies, Program Chair: 718-812-6794

Massa David: 917-216-3006

Muriel Wayne: 718-406-6256

David Moore: 609-422-8925

Eugenia Burphy Andrews: 917-301-8805

Rillette Hammond: 347-731-3850

Harriette Harris: 201-936-6068

Morrie Wariebi: 646-785-9094

Patrick Wortee: 908-265-7498



The Late Archbishop
George D. Browne



Tri-State Chapter Special Project: Kindergarten Class

A CHAT WITH METRO CHAPTER

By Mona Diggs, President



“Helping children at B W Harris in Liberia achieve is the cornerstone of our Association”

The D C Metro Chapter is proud of its work to support the goals of the Association. We have planned a number of events to support this effort and 2014 is no exception. In addition, for 2013/ 2014 school year, the Chapter donated Three Thousand Dollars to the Association for the purchase of books for the library for grades 7th through 12th and provided tuition through the scholarship program for two students.

2014 will begin with a bang for the D C Metro Chapter. The Chapter is in its planning stage of hosting its first 2014 fundraising event, “The DC Metro Chapter and Friends of B. W. Harris Community Day”, which is scheduled for May 17, 2014. Past events has been successful, vendors from the community are invited to participate for a small fee, other activities include the sale of food items, awards to current year graduates, networking, and recruiting new members.

This activity generates funds upwards of approximately two thousand dollars. We look forward to generating approximately four thousand dollars for this year’s event.

The Chapter hosted its 4th annual Rev. Dr. Emmanuel W Johnson Sr. Recognition and Awards

program on October 5, 2013. The program honors the founding principal of B. W. Harris Episcopal School by recognizing persons and organizations of significant achievement in their fields of interest and/or profession.

We are very pleased to announce that this program continues to be successful accounting for approximately 350 attendees and a profit margin of Twelve Thousand Dollars.

Highlight from the program include, a video showcase of the associations’ past and current projects, performances, red carpet photo, and a complimentary dinner.

The chapter held its election in August of 2013 and is thrilled to announce that Mrs

. Mona Diggs was elected as the new President. Mrs. Diggs welcomed the new officers and emphasized the need to listen and observe without making premature judgment. She vows to unite the chapter and is encouraging all Spartans in the Metro area to participate and volunteer their services to the chapter. The Chapter is beginning to see an in flock of new members.

The Chapter will host its 5th annual Rev. Dr. Emmanuel W. Johnson Sr. Recognition and Awards program on October 11, 2014 in conjunction with the 2014 National Board Meeting. The event will be held at the Kahler Hall in Columbia. Additional information will be available in the next Spartan Newsletter.

The D C Metro Chapter is also proud to announce that it will be hosting the 2015 convention; plans are being fostered to host the best convention ever!

A CHAT WITH MN CHAPTER



*By Henry Byrd Phillips,
President*

Our Installation program was held; the following members were installed as chapter leaders:

Henry Byrd Phillips -
President

Famatta Zeon – 1st Vice
President & Secretary

Modu Thomas – 2nd Vice
President & Chaplain

Comfort Rennie – Treasurer

Sonie Karbar – Board
Member

Marie Hayes – Board
Member

I would like to extend thanks and appreciation to Comfort Dunbar Rennie, Izannah George, and Salimatu Butler for their hard work preparing the food and hall for our installation program. The program was poorly attended, with some officials not showing up for the installation; unfortunately, revenue was lost.

We welcome back Salimatu who recently returned from Liberia; she was very instrumental during our installation.

We have a roster of 68 members, many of them are inactive. Only two (2) members paid their 2013 dues in full out of 68 members. Some members are still indebted to the association from the first fundraiser, and also the installation that was held.

We are lacking cooperation and commitment from members in paying dues and money owed to the organization.

Due to the above we have no program plan or in the making for the Minnesota chapter for 2014, very unfortunate to report such.

A Spartan has fallen in Minnesota; the late William “Wylie” Cephas departed to be with his creator on Feb 6, 2014 in

New Jersey. Funeral services set for March 15, 2014 here in Minnesota. Also Comfort Dunbar Rennie lost her granddaughter Zhirianna Rennie to a Motor Vehicle Accident. She was laid to rest on December 4, 2013.

May God continue to bless or Alma Mater, B.W.Harris Alumni Association, Liberia, and the United States of America.



A CHAT WITH PENNDEL CHAPTER



*By Charles Coleman,
Executive Board Representative*

The PennDel chapter has planned series of events consistent with her pledge to its members. The first event will be the membership appreciation day to be held in late March 2014. This gathering will bring together chapter members and their families including friends and supporters.

There will be food and drinks including fun games and

more. Organizers are excited.

The second event will be the Cyril Jones honoring program. This program is intended to honor individuals for their contribution to the school and the society. This year promises to be great.

The program goal is to raise funds and identify a specific project at B.W. Harris Episcopal High School, but that's not all:

This is election year for PennDel and election fever has gripped members of the chapter. The current President Mr. Thomas Grant has said he will not contest the second term, but insiders say if petition to re-run he will reconsider.

Other prospects are the Chapter's line of succession, the firsts VP, second VP and other potential contenders. There are other great individuals in the chapter with leadership potential and great leadership track record, but PennDel goal is become second to none in fundraising in the association. Full details will be released very soon.

It must noted that PennDel Chapter recently hosted

the 2013 Convention.

in which many said by all account was a successful fun filled weekend. The focus was not only on the alumni, but also visitors, friends, families, in fact there was something for everyone to enjoy and they did. Those who attended confirmed they enjoyed themselves and felt it was worth their time.



A CHAT WITH GA CHAPTER



At the time of this publication, information from the chapter had not been submitted.

A CHAT WITH NC CHAPTER



At the time of this publication, information from the chapter had not been submitted.

SYMBOLS FOR CLASSROOM USE

Copy each a few times. Create your own variations.

Each symbol can represent many concepts. This tree can represent nature, growth, rootedness, forestry, environment or park.

A CHAT WITH MIDWEST CHAPTER



At the time of this publication, information from the chapter had not been submitted.

A CHAT WITH RI CHAPTER



Rhode Island informed the editors that the chapter had no updates for this edition.,



Preventing the Flu: Good Health Habits Can Help Stop Germs

www.cdc.gov

The **single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated** each year, but good health habits like covering your cough and washing your hands often can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. There also are flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat and prevent the flu.

1. Avoid close contact.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

2. Stay home when you are sick.

If possible, stay home from

work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

3. Cover your mouth and nose.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

4. Clean your hands.

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Germs are often spread when a person touches



something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

6. Practice other good health habits.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

TIPS – ANDROID PHONES



- **Find a keyboard that works the way you do.**
- **Turbo-charge your camera.**
- **Unleash a watch-dog on your mobile data.**
- **Turn your phone into a personal assistant.**
- **Remove the clutter from websites for a distraction-free browsing experience.**

Banana Bread



- Prep time: 5 minutes
- Cook time: 1 hour
- Yield: Makes one loaf.

Ingredients

- 3 or 4 ripe bananas, smashed
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1 cup sugar (can easily reduce to 3/4 cup)
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- Pinch of salt
- 1 1/2 cups of all-purpose flour

Method

No need for a mixer for this recipe. Preheat the oven to 350° F (175° C). With a wooden spoon, mix butter into the mashed bananas in a large mixing bowl. Mix in the sugar, egg, and vanilla. Sprinkle the baking soda and salt over the mixture and mix in. Add the flour last, mix. Pour mixture into a buttered 4x8 inch loaf pan. Bake for 1 hour. Cool on a rack. Remove from pan and slice to serve.

Hot Toddy



Warm and toasty and just in time for winter, the Hot Toddy is a classic hot drink. Feel free to experiment with your favorite types of tea or skip it all together and use hot water alone. Most black and green teas mix well with the sweetness of the honey and lemon, but from there it's a personal preference and some interesting toddies are possible. There is also a Gin Toddy that is a great variation of this warm cocktail.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 ounces [brandy](#), [whiskey](#), or [rum](#)
- 1 Tablespoon honey
- 1/4 lemon
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 tea bag

Preparation:

1. Coat the bottom of a mug or an Irish coffee glass with honey.
2. Add the liquor and the juice of the lemon quarter.
3. On the side, heat water in a tea kettle and add the tea bag to make hot tea.
4. Pour the steaming tea into the glass and stir.