



Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

Buford A. Johnson Chapter Newsletter

February, 2019

February Meeting

Our February meeting will be held at the Altura Credit Union at the corner of Graham and Cactus in Moreno Valley at 10:00 AM sharp. We are slated to have two guest speakers. Please try to be prompt.

Membership

If you have not paid your 2019 dues, we will collect them and the filled out forms at the meeting. The dues are \$60.00 for the year of 2019. Please do not throw out your red card. It is meant to be permanent. You will receive a sticker for your card. For those of you who did not receive a card last year, they are being made and will be sent out soon. For those paying dues, the treasurer gets the money and the secretary gets the filled out form.

Out and About

As is usual during Black History Month, we have several events to attend. Jackie and LaDonna have been busy. We ask that you attend the events if possible.

Red, Black, and Green Ball

The annual Red, Black, and Green Ball is slated to be held on Saturday, February 9, 2019 from 6:00 PM to Midnight. The address is 22445 Alessandro Blvd. in Moreno Valley. Dress is formal. You may wear your dress uniform. Our DOTA, Lt. Col. Harlan Q. Leonard, Jr. (USAF Ret.) will be honored at this event. Dinner will be served and will be followed by dancing. Please plan to attend. Contact Donald Fleming for tickets at 951-284-9637. Try to come out and support our DOTA. Proceeds will benefit graduating high school seniors from our community.



African American Day at the Kansas Avenue Seventh Day Adventist Church



The Buford A. Johnson Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen has been asked to join in the African American Day celebration on February 16, 2019 at the Kansas Avenue SDA Church. During the month of February, each Saturday is dedicated to one aspect of the Black experience. The first Saturday is Caribbean, the second African American, and the third African. Tuskegee Airmen are a part of the African American Experience. Lunch will be served after the service. Dress uniform should be worn. Please join us. Come early to ensure parking.

Thursday, February 21st

There will be a Black History Celebration on Thursday, February 21st from 1-3 PM. It will include poetry, an African American Art Exhibit, and historical readings. More information will be available at the meeting.

Vista Middle School

On Thursday, February 28th, we are slated to go to Vista Heights Middle School for a history day at 9:00 AM. The address is 23049 Old Lake Drive, Moreno Valley. The school is located at the corner of Pigeon Pass and Old Lake Drive.

Buffalo Soldiers Boots of Honor

On February 2nd, members of the Buford A. Johnson Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen were invited to join the Buffalo Soldiers for their Boots of Honor Ceremony and luncheon. The event was held at the new U.S. Vets complex at the old March ARB. Vets from the center were invited to join the group for lunch. Members from our chapter who attended included Mr. Ivan Berry, Mr. Jonathan Vaughn, Bishop Herman Hodges, Mrs. Dessely Hodges, Mr. Edison T. Marshall, Jr. and Mrs. Dixie Marshall.



Beautiful music helped get the ceremony off to a good start.



Yolonda Williams worked hard all day.



Sandy Hill took time from greeting guests to enjoy lunch.



Altie Holcomb was put to work serving cookies to the veterans.



Jonathan Vaughn attended the event



On left: Mr. Ivan Berry, On the right: Gilbert Williams, Bishop Hodges, and Dessely Hodges.



Edison T. Marshall, Jr. looking dapper.



Edison and Dixie at lunch



Jonathan and the mayor of Perris Michael Vargas



Boots of Honor Veteran of the Year award



Mayor Michael Vargas of Perris presented the Boots of Honor award to Captain Quinn Hawley (U.S. Navy, Ret.)



Altie Holcomb presented Captain Hawley with an award from state Senator Richard Roth in thanks for his military service and volunteerism. Captain Hawley was a chaplain in the Navy and is the Pastor Emeritus of the Perris First Congregational Church.



U.S. Air Force Veteran Mike McGuinness also received a Boots of honor award. Mr. McGuinness is well known for his generous spirit and volunteerism.



Altie Holcomb also presented an award on behalf of Senator Roth to Mike McGuiness



Mr. Berry, Bishop Hodges, and Edison Marshall pose with a veteran from U.S. Vets.

Thank you to Mr. Jonathan Vaughn for helping to take photos of this event.

Scholarship Committee

The scholarship committee met at the home of President Donald Fleming on Tuesday, February 5th to evaluate applications to determine which five would be forwarded to the National Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation. Five outstanding candidates were selected. They will be sent on to be entered into competition for a national scholarship. By putting the application online, more schools were reached. Please keep these young people in your prayers. Thank you to the committee for all of their hard work. Also thank you to all who went to schools and who made efforts to get the applications in on time. You are all appreciated. When you help a child, you change the world.