



Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

Buford A. Johnson Chapter Newsletter

February, 2018

February Meeting

Our February meeting will take place on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at Altura Credit Union at 10:00 AM. We plan to have a guest speaker. For those who have not joined for 2018, we will have membership forms and will collect dues. We will also talk about future plans and will have information on how you can participate. We have events to participate in for Black History Month. Please plan to join us.

DOTA Harlan Leonard to Speak



DOTA Lt. Col. Harlan Leonard (USAF Ret.) will speak on the Tuskegee Experience at Towngate Elementary School on the evening of February 22nd. The event will occur at 6:00 PM. More information will be available at our meeting. Towngate Elementary School is located at 22480 Dracaea Avenue, Moreno Valley.

Black History Celebration at Kansas Avenue SDA Church



The Buford A. Johnson Chapter has been invited to attend services for Black History

Month at the Kansas Avenue Seventh Day Adventist Church on Saturday, February 17th. The service will begin at 11:00 AM. Those attending are encouraged to arrive early to secure parking. Dress will be the uniform...navy blazer, grey slacks, white shirt or blouse, and a red tie for the men. The theme for the service will be African. Each of the first three Saturdays has been themed to represent a different part of the African-American experience. The address of the church is 4491 Kansas Ave., Riverside, CA 92507. More information will be available at the meeting.

Black History Event in Perris, CA



Foss Field Park

On Saturday, February 24th, our chapter will have a table at a Black History Celebration at Foss Field Park in Perris, CA. The event will begin at 10:00 AM and continue until 2:00 PM. We will be handing out information on the Tuskegee Airmen. Please plan to join us. Donald will have more information at the meeting.

In Your Thoughts and Prayers

Our chaplain, Gilbert Williams, is very ill according to his wife, Yolonda Williams. Gilbert always leads us in prayer to open our meetings. Now is the time for all of us to remember Gilbert in our prayers.

Red, Black, and Green Ball



Yolonda and Gilbert at a past ball

The African American Coalition will present its annual Red, Black, and Green Ball on Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 6:00 PM till Midnight. The event will take place at Marinaj Banquets and Events at 22605 Alessandro Blvd. in Moreno Valley, CA. Tickets are \$60.00 per person and proceeds to toward funding the Moreno Valley Unified School Districts Annual Black Baccalaureate Event. Tickets can be purchased by calling 951-259-2581 or 909-567-0222. You can also get tickets from a member. Past events have been a great deal of fun with food and dancing. Donald will have more information for us at the meeting.

This Day in Tuskegee Airmen History

February 5, 1944 The 332nd Fighter Group's 100th Fighter Squadron began flying P-39s in Italy, but not yet on combat missions. (332nd Fighter Group History, Oct. 1942-1947; Maurer, Air Force Combat units of WWII; Maurer, Combat Squadrons of the Air Force, WWII). The group flew with the 62nd Fighter Wing. At the same time, Lt. Elwood T. Driver, flying a P-40 for the 99th Fighter Squadron (not yet assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group), shot down one FW-190. (Twelfth Air Force General Order 66 dated 24 May 1944). On the same date, the 99th Fighter Squadron received ten P-40s, bringing its inventory to 33 aircraft. (99th Fighter Squadron history, Feb.-Apr., 1944)