



LWAAAC



## **THE DRUMBEAT**

**A publication of the Leisure World Association for African American Culture (LWAAAC)  
Vol. 7 No. 3 Spring 2024**

Dear LWAAAC Members,



**Let's go from Heartbeat to Drumbeat** as we near the end of this year and look forward to our new year! Being the vice president of LWAAAC has been an honor and has prepared me to take a leap of faith into the future to fill the shoes of the president. It is an early step, but a necessary one. Janet Overton was an exemplary president and served this organization well for almost a year. She must now take a medical leave of absence. During her tenure, several programs were executed: the LWAAAC website is up and running, and programs happened that were designed to build and strengthen our community, allow us to have some fun, and strengthen bonds of friendship and solidarity. I want to personally thank Janet for her dedicated service to LWAAAC and the community. *LWAAAC's prayers go up for you, Janet, and we know the blessings will come down.*



Those of you who know me know that I, too, believe in reaching out, bringing people in, and widening the circle of our organization and community ties. As this year is close to ending, we have nearly 300 members. Many showed up for the dances, and about one-third have showed up for meetings. Some that didn't attend events or meetings supported LWAAAC with their dollars because they want to be associated with this African American organization.

My goal is to be purposeful about bringing the majority of members into the circle. I want all who have the heart to join us in beating the drum by volunteering to serve on a committee or sharing and helping to implement ideas for programs and fundraising. I am deeply optimistic that some of you are willing to give of your time, energy, expertise, and love to support our organization and help others.

The spirit of service is hard wired in all of us. It's a vital part of our character. It is deep in our hearts. It defines who we are as individuals and as an organization. I want to challenge you to think about volunteering as something more than just an activity. I want all of you who have

made a commitment to be a member of LWAAAC to utilize your talents and skills throughout the year to start right out of the gate in July, “With an Empowered Heart and a Helping Hand”. I guarantee you LWAAAC will be known not only inside the Leisure World community, but outside of our gates as well.

***Maxine Hooker***

Maxine Hooker

President

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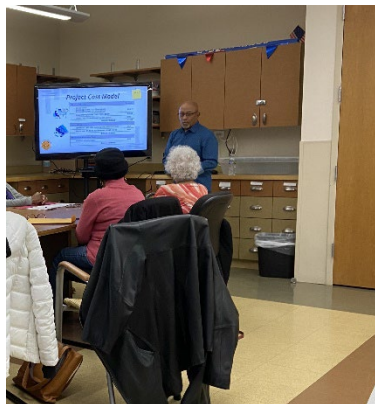
### MEMBERSHIP APPROVES NEW STANDING COMMITTEE

During the general membership meeting on May 3, LWAAAC members, upon a recommendation by the board of directors, approved the establishment of a new standing committee: the technology committee. Accordingly:

The technology committee shall provide short- and long-range planning for all technology initiatives: innovation, vision, goals, program objectives/strategies/activities, infrastructure, evaluation, budgeting, and collaboration with others. The committee shall maintain the organization’s websites, event calendars, email accounts, and cloud storage.

The committee shall adhere to the guidelines in the manual, “Policies and Procedures for Standing Committees,” adopted by the board. The committee shall submit an estimated annual budget to the budget committee and submit all funding requirements for each proposed activity to the budget for recommendation to the board.

Luis Alomar was appointed to chair the technology committee. Alomar headed the web development group that brought the new LWAAAC website, [lwaac.com](http://lwaac.com), to fruition.



*Alomar briefs board in early days of website development*

# LWAAAC MOMENTS



*GirlTrekkers first walk*



*Juanita's 65<sup>th</sup> AKA anniversary*



*Packing up luggage for Shepherd's Table*



*Thanking Robert Yates*

## A LWAAAC Wednesday



*Tea anyone, or maybe a turn at the tables?*

## LWAAAC COMMITTEES



**Amenities**-Acknowledges and responds to situations where members and their families may appreciate support

Co-chairs, Karen Robinson, [blinkyl1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:blinkyl1@sbcglobal.net), (240) 293-6583; Elise Nicholls, [elise2row@aol.com](mailto:elise2row@aol.com); Louise Markray, [markraylv@gmail.com](mailto:markraylv@gmail.com), (301) 598-3839

**Community Service**-Plans and implements outreach activities within and outside the Leisure World community and supports the wellbeing of students in Montgomery County

Under its Education Assistance Program, the committee has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to two students at James Hubert “Eubie” Blake High School, “a signature school for fine arts and humanities.” Taj Kontosis is captain of both the football and basketball teams, and Jaylah Jackson is captain of the cheerleading squad. Both have laudable academic records and extensive experience in community service activities as well. The students will receive their awards during a ceremony on May 22.

Juanita Sealy-Williams, Chair, [sealyjaws@gmail.com](mailto:sealyjaws@gmail.com), (301) 822-4531

**Membership**-Enrolls members and maintains a membership database

LWAAAC is accepting the new \$25 membership fee for the period July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025. Payment can be made by check payable to “LWAAAC” at monthly meetings, by deposit in the LWAAAC mail slot in the Lifestyle office in Clubhouse I, or by USPS mail to LWAAAC, Attn: Membership, PO Box 12316, Silver Spring, MD 20908. For more information, contact the membership committee at [lwaacmembership@gmail.com](mailto:lwaacmembership@gmail.com).

At the May 3 membership meeting, the committee reported a paid-in-full membership of 292.

Alfonso Holston, Chair, [alholston38@gmail.com](mailto:alholston38@gmail.com) (301) 438-3537


**Public Relations**-Publishes information about LWAAAC members, events, and activities

During the meeting on April 30, the board of directors of the Leisure World Community Corporation (LWCC) appointed Sherry Weaver to the LW communication committee. She will serve until the end of December 2024.

Sherry Weaver, Chair, [lwaacprcom@gmail.com](mailto:lwaacprcom@gmail.com) (301) 275-8918

**Programs**-Plans and executes educational, social, and recreational events

### **Programs/Activities/Events**

**GIRLTREK** - Come  walk with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 am ~  
Clubhouse I Entrance

***For a one or two mile partner walk!***

**Wednesday, June 5 – LWAAAC Monthly Meeting**

**EVENT: Saturday, June 8 – Annual Gathering on the Lanai ~ 4:00 - 7:00 pm**

Ticket Price: \$50.00

**EVENT: Wednesday, June 12 – Arena Stage performance – “Migration” – 12noon**

**"A performance that needs to be experienced."**

\$85.00 for members/\$95.00 for non-members

Contact Sandy Henderson for information about sales and ticket availability.  
(202) 730-5130

***The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence*** tells the story of one of the largest movements of people in United States history, when millions of African American migrants moved from the rural South to the industrial North in the 1900s to escape Jim Crow, racial oppression, and lynchings. Inspired by Jacob Lawrence’s iconic 60-panel “The Migration Series” (1940-41), this signature work from the award-winning dance company, Step Afrika!, uses the images, color palette, and motifs in the painting series to tell this astonishing story through pulsating rhythms and visually stunning movement.

Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> – AAHP Healthy Thursday – 1:00pm

**EVENT: Saturday, June 15 – LW Community Juneteenth Celebration**

Wednesday, June 26 – Annual Membership Meeting

**EVENT: Thursday, September 5 – National Theater - Ticket price \$125.**

MJ Performance – 2:00pm

Sandy Henderson, Chair, [sky99henderson@gmail.com](mailto:sky99henderson@gmail.com), (202) 730-5130



On Saturday, June 15, LWAAAC will take a lead role in implementing the Juneteenth program for the first time since General Manager Robert Kimball introduced the celebration to Leisure World three years ago. Juanita Sealy-Williams, former LWAAAC president and current vice chair of the Leisure World Community Corporation, will lead a committee of LWAAAC members who will collaborate with LW Lifestyles Department to bring to the community an afternoon of enlightenment, food, and fun.

The celebration will begin at 4:30 pm with a welcome by the Ogbani Harambee Drumming and Percussion Ensemble, proceed through a buffet meal of traditional food and drink, move into an illuminating and entertaining program, and close with dazzling fireworks.



The event will be hosted by Jessica Faith, the newest meteorologist to join NBC4's StormTeam4. Ms. Faith is a graduate of Alabama A&M and Mississippi State University; she joined the channel 4 team last year.

More details about the event will be forthcoming from the LW Lifestyles Department, the LWAAAC committee, the *Leisure World News*, and [lwaaac.com](http://lwaaac.com).

## Some Interest Group News

***Men's Fellowship***-Focuses on increasing the involvement of the men of LWAAAC  
Greg Oliver, Contact, [igregoliver@gmail.com](mailto:igregoliver@gmail.com)

Fun Night, the LWAAAC spring membership appreciation event, included a new and important element. This special moment was enabled by a collaboration with the Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., through the efforts of men's fellowship member Wilbur Jackson. Specifically, general information was shared and questions answered on the topics of senior professional and self-care by Dr. Robyn Anderson and Dr. Obi Onyewu. Dr. Anderson has over 20 years of experience in adult medical care including outpatient primary care, hospital-based care and intensive care unit management. Obi Onyewu, MD practices at the CHOICE Pain & Rehabilitation Center, which has several Maryland locations, and serves as the center's medical director.



*Drs. Onyewu and Anderson*



*Line dancing at Fun Night*

***The Book Club***-Each member selects a book and a month and leads the discussion of her selection at the meeting in her chosen month. Limited to about twelve members, the group was started by Marilynn Washington, far left in the photo below, where members of the group are depicted after their February reading of James McBride's *Deacon King Kong*. Book discussions are almost always followed by a **VERY** sociable dinner.



## *It's "Vacay" Time!!!*

*SOME LWAAAC MEMBERS SHARED THEIR FAVORITE SPOTS.*



Luis Alomar: Big Sky, MT



Maxine Hooker, Hawaii



Sharon Mitchell-Boyd & Larry Traynham



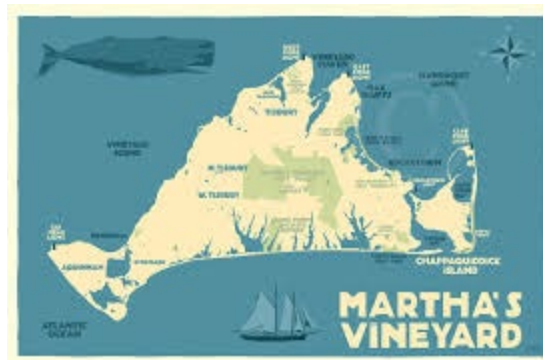
Mazel Pernell: Galapagos Islands



Greg Oliver: Italy



Carl Major: Vail, CO



Juanita Sealy-Williams & Sherry Weaver



## 4 US



Every day a telephone call will be placed to a participant at a regularly scheduled time. These calls will take place between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. as close as possible to the one-hour time block pre-selected by the participant. If the participant does not answer their first call, two more automated calls will be made. If those calls go unanswered, an alternative person who is selected by the participant during program enrollment will be called. This could be an adult child, a neighbor, a loved one, or we will assign an alternate for you. The alternate will then be encouraged to check on the older adult program participant. The failure of the participant and alternate to answer will result in a call to your local non-emergency service. *[From the Senior Call Check website]*

For more information: <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check-sign-up.aspx> or call 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-4325)

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## MC SOAR/Day Tripper Programs

Montgomery County Recreation's Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation (SOAR) program is designed for active adults, ages 55+. "You'll rarely have a better time than one of the SOAR excursions to the performing arts, regional festivals, historic sites, guided tours, shopping venues and ballgames, among others." They are a fun way to stay active, make new acquaintances, and delight in new discoveries just a day-trip from home. Perfect for solo travelers, couples, and friends alike. On MCR excursions, you'll travel in safety and comfort, enjoy fulfilling experiences that are both entertaining as well as educational, and still be home in time to sleep in your own bed. Contact Bernadette Rager, MCPSRA Trip Coordinator, if you have questions. Email: [bg.rager@verizon.net](mailto:bg.rager@verizon.net).

[Day Tripper Brochure and Mailing List](#)  
[SOAR Brochure and Mailing List](#)

*[From the SOAR website]*

## *The Drumbeat*

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*The Drumbeat* is issued quarterly. It's generated by the public relations committee and approved by the president. It does not endorse political candidates or publish information intended to elicit personal or commercial profit, and it promotes no religious beliefs. The 2023-24 public relations committee is chaired by Sherry Weaver, who is joined by Millie Overton, Connie Ambush, and Patricia Means.

Please direct comments or questions to LWAAAC, Attn: Public Relations Committee, POB 12316, Silver Spring, MD 20908.

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**Thank you for reading *The Drumbeat*.**

Sherry Weaver, Editor

[lwaaacprcom@gmail.com](mailto:lwaaacprcom@gmail.com)

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK IN FREQUENTLY ON THE WEBSITE:  
LWAAAC.COM.**

*Photographs in this edition of The Drumbeat were taken by  
Luis Alomar, Eileen Booker, Sandy Henderson, Millie Overton, Sherry Weaver, and Jill Wood.*



**Let the LWAAAC circle be unbroken.**