

The Orchid



Welcome from the President

Welcome to November edition of The Orchid!

In June we honored the chapters' Entrepreneurs. However October was our entrepreneur month. The chapter is proud to salute Lady Katetia Bennett, Lady Gloria Jackson, Lady Theoldora Williams, and Lady Jacqueline White. Lady Katetia is presently the wellness chair; Lady Gloria is presently the 2nd vice president; Lady Theldore Williams is our sergeant of arms, and Lady Jacqueline is presently the historian. The chapter is proud of their lifelong accomplishments.



This issue of the Orchid highlights a salute to our founder, Community Beautification, Community Partnership (Simple Gesture), Wellness Activity, Status of Women (Breast Cancer Awareness), Literacy (a little known history facts). NAACP, Chapter Awards, Members Awards, and a Meditation Moment.

I wish each of you peace, prosperity, love, and a heart full of happiness as we move forward.

Yours in service,

Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson, President
Guilford County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.



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Guilford County Members



First Row: Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson, Lady Vickie Henry Hughes, Lady Sharon Mitchell, Lady Gloria Jackson, Lady Jacqueline White, Lady Lisa Hickey, and Lady Faye McRavion

Second Row: Lady Melanie Thompson, Lady Ujeoma Uzokwe, Lady Jacqueline Pettiford, Lady A. Rawiya Nash, Lady Theldora Williams, Lady Malinda Carmon, and Lady Tammy P. Williams

Third Row: Lady Gwendolyn V. Parker, Lady Dahlia L. Ashford, Lady Katetia Bennett, Lady Pearlie Bryant, Lady Shawanda Warren Coates, Lady Laknea Drumgoole, and Lady Kimberly Bolden

**The Late Lady Rebecca Graves,
Organizer**

**November
Birthday
Lady Katetia (2nd)
Lady Dahila (17th)
Lady Faye (24th)**

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.®



Happy 98th Birthday



*Lady Ozell Dean,
Founder*



Status of Women

Breast Cancer Awareness

During the chapter meeting, Lady Gloria Jackson presented a Powerpoint presentation where she discussed various information and data on the importance of breast cancer awareness.

Top ladies collaborated with the Eta Omicron Omega of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Invision Diagnostics, Sister's Network of the Triad, and the High Point NAACP chapter to host a mobile mammogram drive for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Invision Diagnostics brought their Mobile 3D Mammography coach to Mt Zion Baptist Church in High Point, NC on October 9 from 10am – 4pm. Any woman over the age of 35 years old that had not had a mammogram in the past year were eligible for a mammogram.



Facts About Breast Cancer

It is estimated that as of January 2017, more than 20,000 women with Metastatic Breast Cancer in the United States were younger than 50.

The frequency of metastatic breast cancer in women under 40 years old has increased over the last 30 years.

Nearly 80% of young women diagnosed with breast cancer find abnormal changes in their breast themselves.

The screenshot also shows a Zoom interface with a list of participants on the right: Sharon Mitchell, Tammy Williams, Eynitha Thompson, Gloria Jackson, and Dahlia Ashford. The bottom toolbar includes icons for Mute, Stop Video, Security, Participants (12), Chat, Share Screen, Record, Breakout Rooms, Reactions, and Apps.



Health and Wellness

Lady Cynthia Participated in the 30 mile challenge



Community Partnership Simple Gesture



Ladies Sharon, Gloria, Jacqueline P. , A. Rawiya, and Cynthia partner with Simple Gesture to provide food once a month to the needed. Once a month the organization pickup the food and leave a bag to be filled for the next month.



Community Beautification

Lady Gloria decorated her front entrance and Lady Cynthia decorated 113 Short Street, Mount Olive, NC for Thanksgiving



Literacy



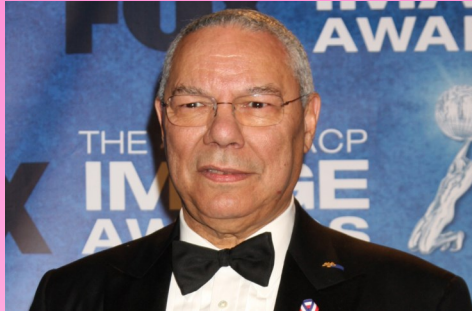
In 1901, Andrew Carnegie, then known as the world's richest man, sold Carnegie Steel Co. for \$480 million. He decided to donate money to establish libraries in the U.S. and around the world, including Greensboro. In 1902, he offered \$30,000 to the city to build a library, requiring, as were his customary terms, that the city provide the land and 10% of his gift for ongoing support.

By 1906, the beautiful facility, located where the West Market Methodist Church education building sits today, opened to much acclaim. It also opened with some stipulations, one of which was later stated in printed cards: "Free to all white citizens of Guilford County."

But Greensboro's Black community, with support from some white citizens, would not be left out. In 1905, they applied to the Carnegie Corp. for funding to build a library for the community's significant African American population. After years of delay on the part of the city, Carnegie awarded \$10,000 for the smaller library. The Carnegie Negro Library finally opened in 1924.

Greensboro's was the last of 12 segregated Black Carnegie libraries built around the country, 11 of which were in the South. Ours was the only one in North Carolina, and it is one of the few original buildings still standing.

Literacy



Colin Powell believed firmly in equality and justice for all—ideals long professed in word and in song, but not nearly enough lived up to in America. The child of Jamaican immigrants, he took pride in knowing that America constituted a nation of immigrants, and he once described his parents in an interview in 2015 as “two of the best citizens you’ll ever see in the history of this country.” His father came to the U.S. on a banana boat and with very little money, Powell would recall in his autobiography *My American Journey* (1995). His parents built a family and larger community rich in love and perseverance. He described growing up in “the warmth and security of the concentric circles my family formed.” In the poem, “I, Too,” Langston Hughes put it this way, “But I laugh/And eat well/ And grow strong,” despite the reality of racial discrimination.

When I think of Colin Powell, I am inspired by his words in *It Worked for Me* (2012): “Life and leadership can’t be about *me*. They have to be about *us*. They have to be about people.” His sentiments lead me to ponder the promise of America and the never-ending quest for a more perfect union. He stands out for both his courage and humility in my praise song. Nor did Powell shy away from a critical assessment of himself, as evidenced in his reflections on his UN speech in 2003 regarding the Iraq war—a speech he characterized as “one of my most momentous failures.” While conscious of this “blot” on his record, Powell also emphasized the importance of moving on, while never forgetting the lessons learned.

History will remember this giant of a soldier and statesman, beloved by his family, his friends, his nation, and world. Besides, we saw how beautiful he was and how unashamedly he could conclude, like Langston Hughes “I, too, am America.” Colin Powell was America at its best.

Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham
ASALH National President

NAACP

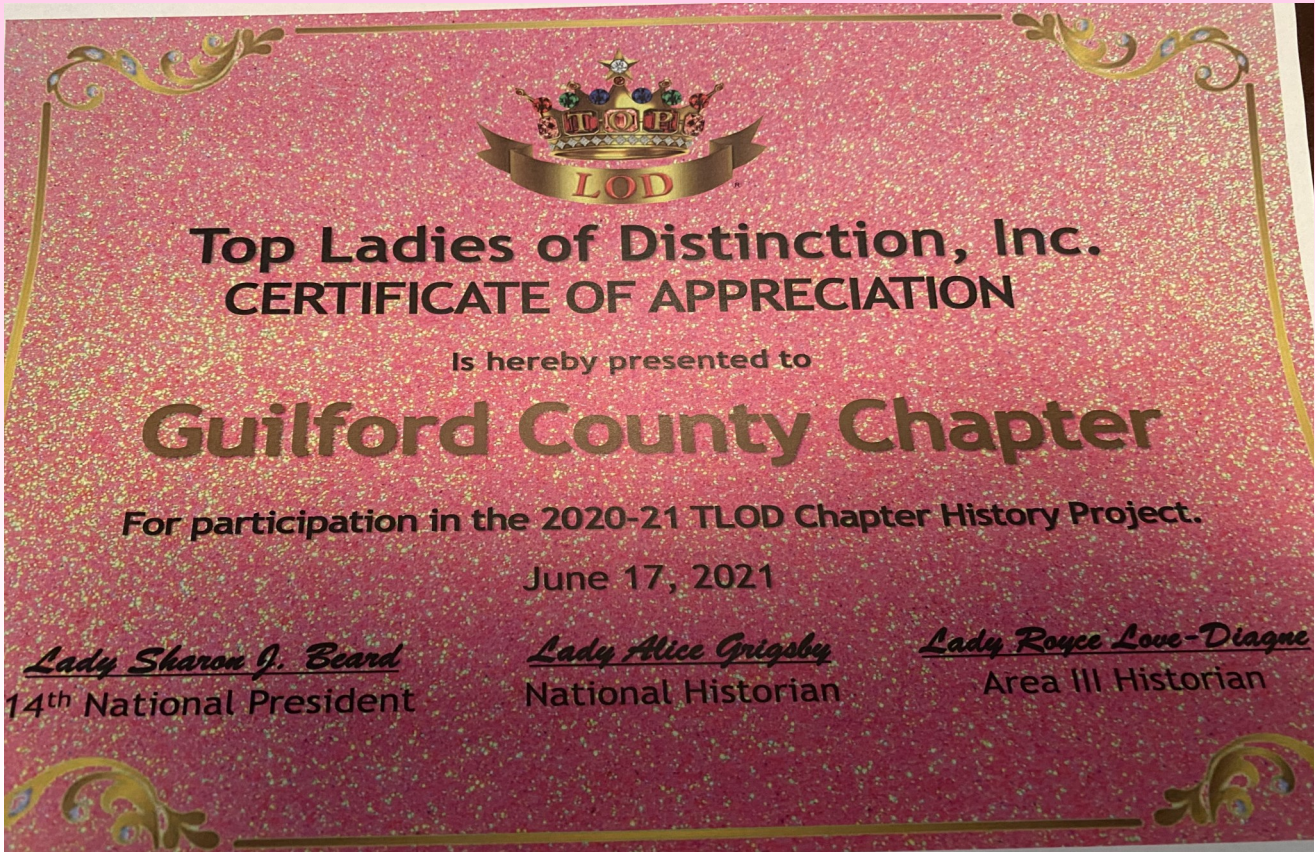


Lady Gloria and Lady Cynthia are Life Members of NAACP



Lady Dahlia is on the education committee for Winchester Virginia NAACP and mentoring young black young ladies at the local high school

Chapter Awards



MEMBERS AWARDS

NEWS & RECORD

COMMUNITY CORNER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021 | B7

CLUB HAPPENINGS



Hickey

■ Cynthia Carlton Thompson received Member of the Year Award for exemplary services to the Guilford County chapter. Thompson is the chapter president, web master, membership chairwoman and director of operations.



Thompson

■ Theldora Williams received the Distinguish Leadership Award for her financial contribution to assist the chapter in implementing its goals and objectives. Her family provides scholarships each year to the Top Ladies of Distinction's chapters



Williams

in the area to deserving seniors. She serves as the sergeant of arms

and is a member of the executive board.

Scholarships

The **Guilford Rotary Charitable Foundation**, part of the Guilford Rotary Club, awarded Matteo Marshall, Warren Bailey, Sam Shepherd, Jeff Broome, Joe Haralson, Jacqueline Lerner, Yamese Wyrick, Jonathan Grace and Colin Ramsey each a \$1,000 scholarship in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements at UNCG.

Twice a year, Guilford Rotary awards Student Veteran Scholarships to student veterans to help them as they transition from military service to civilian life, as well as to recognize them for their service.

Five of the recipients served in the U.S. Army, two served in the U.S. Air Force, one served in the U.S. Navy and one in the U.S. Marine Corps. The average length of service for the recipients was eight years.

Awards

Since its inception in 1964, **Top Ladies of Distinction** has expanded its objectives to include a focus on youth (known as Top Teens of America), improving the status of women, service to senior citizens, community beautification and community partnerships. The nonprofit recently recognized the following individuals:

■ Lisa Hickey received Outstanding Service Award for her dedication and devotion to Guilford County Top Teens of America. Hickey serves as the Top Teens of America adviser. In this role, she is devoted to the leadership, arts and cultural development of the teens.

Send press releases to people@greensboro.com.

Meditation



NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IM-
MEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK
OR IMAGINE, ACCORDING TO HIS POW-
ER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US. Ephe-
sians 3:20

THE GRASS WITHERS
AND THE FLOWERS FADE
BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD
STANDS FOREVER
Isaiah 40:8