

State University of New York College at Buffalo - Buffalo State University

## Digital Commons at Buffalo State

---

Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and  
Education on Women

Organizations and Individual Collections

---

2004

### Organizational Records, Biographical Material & News Clippings; 2004

Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/uncrowned\\_queens](https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/uncrowned_queens)

---

#### Recommended Citation

"Organizational Records, Biographical Material & News Clippings; 2004." Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women. Digital Collections. Monroe Fordham Regional History Center, Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State.  
[https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/uncrowned\\_queens/7](https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/uncrowned_queens/7)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Organizations and Individual Collections at Digital Commons at Buffalo State. It has been accepted for inclusion in Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Buffalo State. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu).

**Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 12, 2004 4:05 PM  
**Subject:** UNCROWNED QUEENS INSTITUTE: JANUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the JANUARY 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

First, we wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. Second, we'd like to thank you for your continuing support of the Uncrowned Queens Institute. We have been gratified to know how much the Uncrowned Queens project means to individuals and groups in the community. Your feedback regarding the use of the Web site has been tremendous and confirms that the Institute is fulfilling its mission. The anecdotes that we've received about the reuniting of family members and friends, as a result of connecting through the Web site, have been heartwarming. In addition, we've received countless e-mails from students, historians, teachers, and others who have used the site for research on the history of Western New York women, our community and the 1901 Pan American Exposition. In addition many of the Uncrowned Queens use the site to enhance their resumes, enrich their family histories, or expand their portfolios. Let us know how you've used the Uncrowned Queens website, books or other publications.

===== HOW YOU CAN HELP THE UNCROWNED QUEENS INSTITUTE =====

As we enter a New Year and begin the 5th year of the Uncrowned Queens Institute, we look forward to a year of expansion and enrichment of our organization. We invite you all to join us in this important work. Your help is needed in the following areas:

- Contribute new biographies and local history vignettes to the Web site and/or for new publications that we are planning for 2004.
- Invite the Uncrowned Queens founders to your church or organization, for a book signing (volumes I and II are still available) or for an educational presentation.
- Cash contributions are needed to continue the maintenance and expansion of the website and other Institute programs. The Institute is a 501 c (3) organization and any contributions are tax deductible.
- We also actively seek corporate and organizational grants. If you know of an opportunity to apply for a grant to support the Institute's mission, let us know and we'll follow-up with that organization.
- Not a Western New Yorker, but interested in establishing an Uncrowned Queens Project in your community? We are willing to consult with any group that would like to replicate the Uncrowned Queens model. Contact us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS TO PARTNER WITH STUDIO ARENA THEATER =====



Uncrowned Queens will partner with Studio Arena Theatre's production of A Raisin in the Sun (January 11 - February 8).

Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D. and Barbara A. Seals Nevergold, Ph.D. will be the featured guest speakers for two workshops, sponsored by the Education Committee of Studio Arena Theater. The educational programs will address topics related to SAT's production of A Raisin in the Sun, the award winning play written by the late Lorraine Hansberry. Ms. Hansberry was the first black playwright to have a play on Broadway.

On January 26th at 5:30 - 7:00 pm, Dr. Brooks-Bertram will discuss The World That Shaped A RAISIN IN THE SUN: Drama for Social Change. Dr. Brooks-Bertram will take closer look at national change, events, and ideas that influenced Lorraine Hansberry's groundbreaking drama A RAISIN IN THE SUN. This program will take place at Buffalo State College in Butler Library 210.

On February 2nd at 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., Drs. Nevergold and Brooks-Bertram's presentation is entitled: Women of Passion, Power and Purpose: The Uncrowned Queens of Western New York in the 1950's.

Focusing on the era during which Raisin in the Sun was set Drs. Nevergold and Bertram, co-founders of Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women Inc., will draw a parallel between the women in the play, e.g. the Uncrowned Queens of Raisin and the real-live histories of the African American women of Western New York. The biographies of these women provide the backdrop for a discussion about the roles and activities of women at this time, and how their contributions and accomplishments enriched an entire community. This program will take place at the Theater in the Stage Left Lounge.

Both programs will offer time for audience discussion. Refreshments will be served. These programs are free and open to the public and are part of a four-part series of community outreach activities accompanying the production of A Raisin in the Sun.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS IN BLACK ISSUES BOOK REVIEW =====

Our book, Uncrowned Queens: African American Women Community Builders of Western New York, Volume I will be reviewed in the March-April edition of Black Issues Book Review magazine. This edition will hit the newsstands at the end of February. Visit Black Issues Book Review online at <http://www.bibookreview.com/> to find out more about a subscription.

===== HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR COPY OF UNCROWNED QUEENS? =====

For information on how to obtain a copy of Uncrowned Queens: African American Women Community Builders of Western New York, Volumes I and II, please contact the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or call Barbara Nevergold at 834-7302.



===== UNCROWNED QUEEN ACCOMPLISHMENTS =====

Karla Holloway's *Passed On* is the recipient of the 2003 The Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright LEGACY Finalist Award. The Hurston/Wright LEGACY award is the first national award presented to published writers of African descent by the national community of Black writers. Karla Holloway is the William Rand, Jr. Professor of English.

Uncrowned Queen Mary Ruth Kapsiak was featured in her hometown newspapers. The December 10th editions of Greene County Democrat and the Greene County Independent of Eutaw, Alabama published extensive articles on Eutaw native and Uncrowned Queen, Mary Ruth Morrow-Kapsiak. Both newspapers lauded Mrs. Morrow-Kapsiak on her accomplishments and used extensive segments and photo from the Uncrowned Queens website in the articles honoring this native-daughter.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

JANUARY 26: "The World That Shaped A RAISIN IN THE SUN: Drama for Social Change." Presentation at Buffalo State College, Butler Library 210, 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2: Women of Passion, Power and Purpose: The Uncrowned Queens of Western New York in the 1950's. Presentation at Studio Arena Theater, Stage Left Lounge, 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 5: Presentation at Key Bank Corporate Offices

FEBRUARY 7: Book signing at Tops Friendly Markets Upper Falls Store

FEBRUARY 10: Black History Program, IRS.

FEBRUARY 14: Book signing at Mood Makers Bookstore in Rochester, New York.

FEBRUARY 15: Presentation to AAUW at Rev. B.W. Smith Family Life Center.

===== NEW UNCROWNED QUEENS =====

The Uncrowned Queens Institute is pleased to announce that the following women have been added to the Uncrowned Queens Web site (<http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>).

- + Eleanor Dent
- + Alicia Grant Estenoz

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

We continue to accept nominations for Uncrowned Queens. The mission is to recognize and honor these "unsung" royalties and to preserve the history of these women and their contributions to our community. Success is measured by



**Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Barbara A. Nevergold" <bnevergo@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 28, 2004 5:58 PM  
**Subject:** Uncrowned Queens November Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER 2004 EDITION OF THE UNCROWNED QUEENS INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ON WOMEN, INC. NEWSLETTER.

===== KUDOS TO QUEENS =====

Throughout the year, the UQ Institute recognizes the contributions of its many Uncrowned Queens. This year, a particular emphasis is placed on those Queens who are in their 70's, 80's and 90's. Recently, UQ was particularly honored to participate in ceremonies that honored Garnet Hicks Wallace for her nearly two decades of outstanding community building as a member of the Buffalo Psychiatric Center's Board of Visitors.

===== GARNET HICKS WALLACE =====

The Board of Visitors, at the Buffalo Psychiatric Center, is a seven-member board appointed by New York State's Governor, and confirmed by the State Senate. Board members are empowered to monitor the care of mental health patients and act as advocates on their behalf. Initially appointed to the Board in 1986, Ms. Wallace served as Board secretary on several occasions and served on numerous committees, most notably the Minority Family Advisory Committee. During her Board tenure, Ms. Wallace often visited individual patients and attended many functions for patients as well as staff.

Ms. Wallace's decision to resign from the Board was prompted, in part by the fact that as she puts it, she's three years away from 90. But, her retirement from the Board means she will be devoting more time to her other volunteer activities, her church, Bethel AME Zion and several other organizations in which she has membership. On October 14<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Visitors and members of the Psychiatric Center's administrative staff hosted a reception in Ms. Wallace's honor. Members of Gamma Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., The Links, Inc., Buffalo Chapter and Women for Human Rights and Dignity, Inc. attended this reception and lauded Ms. Wallace for her contributions to those organizations, as did members of the Center's executive staff. Dr. Nevergold, who is President of the Board of Visitors, also spoke on behalf of the Uncrowned Queens Institute when she recognized Ms. Wallace as a "Mother Warrior", who has set an example, by her good works, for all of us.

Assembly member Sam Hoyt also attended the reception and presented Ms. Wallace with an Assembly Resolution in her honor. The Resolution concluded, "Therefore, we wish to recognize this extraordinary woman for all she has given to those in need of mental health services and also to our entire community throughout her many years of work and volunteerism. We wish her continued good health, peace, and contentment for many years to come, and we express our grateful appreciation for her outstanding service." Although they were unable to attend, Erie County Legislature Demone Smith and New York State Senator Bryon Brown also sent proclamations in honor of Ms. Wallace.

We are also pleased to recognize Ms. Virginia DeBerry, author of several successful novels.

10/28/2004



===== VIRGINIA DEBERRY =====

Best-selling authors Virginia DeBerry & Donna Grant took top honors in both Contemporary Fiction, and Female Author of the Year categories for their novel, "Better Than I Know Myself" (St. Martins Press, June 2004) at the First Annual Open Book Awards, presented by the African American Literary Awards Show, Inc. The ceremony and dinner were held September 29, 2004 at the historic Alhambra Ballroom in Harlem, New York.

"To be acknowledged by readers means a lot to us," DeBerry said. "That's who we're thinking about when we sit down at the computer together to write," Grant added.

According to the publishing industry, African American consumers spend over \$400 million annually on books. The AALAS Open Book Awards is an opportunity to not only celebrate and recognize African American authors and writers, but to focus more attention on this market segment as a whole.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT =====

During the month of November, the Uncrowned Queens co-founders will be conducting oral history interviews with seven of our Uncrowned Queens who are septuagenarians and octogenarians. This unprecedented project will add another dimension to the regional history of African American women. Sometime during next year, we will have excerpts of these interviews on our website. The Oral History Project is funded by a grant from the University at Buffalo's Educational Technology Center and is a collaboration with the University Archives, African American Studies Department and the American Studies Department.

== UNCROWNED QUEENS TO COMMEMORATE THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT CENTENNIAL ==

Next year, 2005, is a very significant year for the entire Buffalo and Western New York community. It is the centennial of the Niagara Movement. As a bit of background, the Niagara Movement, albeit short-lived, was an organization founded by a group of African American leaders that included W.E.B. DuBois, John Hope, and Monroe Trotter. It is believed that local Buffalo residents Mary B. Talbert, her husband W.H. Talbert and the Rev J. Edward Nash were also involved in the founding meetings, and at least one of these meetings was held at 521 Michigan Avenue, site of Mr. & Mrs. Talbert's home. The Talbert home was located next door to the Michigan Street Baptist Church, pastured by Rev. J. Edward Nash. Held from July 11-14, 1905, the Niagara Movement, named for the mighty Falls, because of the plan to "unleash a mighty current" of protest laid the groundwork of the modern civil rights movement and is recognized as the fore-runner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

The Uncrowned Queens Institute is planning several activities to commemorate the Niagara Movement Centennial. In fact, we are advising you now to reserve the dates, October 7-8, 2005. Induction ceremonies will be held that weekend for Mary B. Talbert and nine other women into the National Women's Hall of Fame. The Institute will organize a bus trip to Seneca Falls for the induction services. Additional information will be available in the next few months.

===== FUTURE UNCROWNED QUEENS =====

Forty-one young women completed the Rites of Passage Ceremony of the Debutante's Program of the Gamma Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. On October 21<sup>st</sup>. the young women participated in a program that showcased their talents, grace and maturity as young women who are poised for adulthood. As stated by the Sorority, the purpose of the Rites of Passage Ceremony is two-



fold. "First, we feel the need to affirm for our daughters the positive aspects of passing from childhood into womanhood in a way that will punctuate their transition. Secondly, we want to affirm from our community, the support, examples, the role models, the respect, and the responsibility to bring out the best in these young ladies." Judging by the response from the packed auditorium, both goals were achieved. The program was held at McKinley High School, where Crystal Barton, co-Mistress of Ceremonies, is Principal. UQ Janet Barnes was the Rites of Passage Chair. Sorors Ingrid Johnson-Jacobs and Gina Mayo-Hawkes are co-chairs of the Debutante Program. Co-founder of the Uncrowned Queens Institute, Barbara Seals Nevergold, shared Mistress of Ceremony duties. Dr. Nevergold is a member of Xi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and is pleased to have been invited by the Sorors of Gamma Phi Omega Chapter to participate in this outstanding event.

===== NEVERGOLD SPEAKS AT WOMEN'S ACTION COALITION =====

On Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, Barbara Seals Nevergold spoke to the members of the Women's Action Coalition. This group, comprised of representatives from Women's organizations throughout Erie County, meets monthly to share information about their organization's programs. Further the groups coalesce to support and strengthen efforts, which will ensure that women's voices are heard on the social, political and economic issues affecting us. Dr. Nevergold spoke on the development and growth of the Uncrowned Queens Institute and the Institute's plans for commemorating the Niagara Movement Centennial.

===== BEYOND THE GLASS CEILING: GENDER EQUITY IN GOVERNMENT =====

On Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, the Buffalo/Niagara Chapter of Friends of Women's Rights National Park, Inc. and Canadian Consulate General/Consulate General du Canada will co-sponsor an international panel that will dialogue on advancing women in elected and appointed positions. The program will take place at the Twentieth Century Club, 595 Delaware Avenue. This is a dinner program and the cost is \$35.00. For further information, please visit, [www.womensrightsfriendsforever.org](http://www.womensrightsfriendsforever.org). The Uncrowned Queens Institute is a supporter of this program.

===== IN MEMORIAM =====

It is with sadness that we inform you of the passing of Uncrowned Queen Phoebe Lillian Parks. "Lil" died on October 1, 2004 at the age of 91. A resident of Buffalo since 1948, Lil was an active member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church where she served on the Altar Guild and was a Sunday School Teacher. For nearly a decade she performed with the New Sensational Seniors, a song and dance group. A memorial service was held at St. Philip's on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

November 1, 2004: Oral History Project begins interviews.

November 8, 2004: 5:30 pm- "Beyond the Glass Ceiling: Gender Equity in Government" A Seneca Falls Dialogue with an International Panel on Advancing Women in Elected and Appointed Positions. Twentieth Century Club, 595 Delaware Avenue. \$35.00. Checks can be made payable to "Friends of Women's Rights National Park".

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

We continue to accept nominations for Uncrowned Queens. The mission is to recognize and honor these "unsung" royalties and to preserve the history of these women and their contributions to our community. Success is measured by the



numerous requests received from students, all over the world, who are using the site for historical, cultural and sociological research. You can assist in this important work by spreading the word about Uncrowned Queens; submit a nomination for an Uncrowned Queen.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*

END OF E-MAIL MESSAGE



**Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2004 11:40 AM  
**Subject:** UNCROWNED QUEENS FEBRUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the FEBRUARY 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

===== GET WELL SOON! =====

Barbara Seals Nevergold, Uncrowned Queens co-founder, had a slight setback from an auto accident in late January, but she is on the mend and recuperating nicely. She thanks you for all of your well wishes.

===== AFRICAN HISTORY MONTH =====

February is the month that the country recognizes and celebrates the history, culture and contributions of African Americans in the United States and the world. We wish to thank the numerous corporations, community organizations, churches and businesses that have participated with the Uncrowned Queens Institute in these important activities. Some of our collaborators include TOPS Friendly Markets, the American Association of University Women, Key Bank, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), New York State Department of Social Services, Buffalo Board of Education, Mood Makers Book Store of Rochester, Buffalo Books, and others. See the homepage of Uncrowned Queens for an updated list of events (<http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>).

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS INTERVIEWED ON WBFO RADIO SPECIAL =====

WBFO Radio interviewed Peggy Brooks-Bertram for the collaboration between the Uncrowned Queens Institute and Studio Arena. Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. collaborated with Studio Arena for a series of fun and informal talks addressing issues surrounding Lorraine Hansberry's groundbreaking drama, A RAISIN IN THE SUN. Dr. Bertram delivered the session entitled: The World That Shaped "A Raisin in the Sun": Drama for Social Change on January 26, 2004 at Butler Library, Buffalo State College. Drs. Bertram and Nevergold participated in another session entitled: WOMEN OF PASSION, POWER AND PURPOSE: The Uncrowned Queens Who Shaped Western New York in the 1950's, February 2, 2004, Studio Arena Theatre, 710 Main Street.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS WITH TOPS FRIENDLY MARKETS =====

In celebration of AFRICAN HISTORY MONTH, The TOPS Friendly Markets in collaboration with the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc., features the Seals Ebony Studio Exhibit. The exhibit features photos of the African American community during the 1950's. The



exhibit can be seen throughout the month at the following locations:

FEBRUARY 7: Tops Friendly Markets, Book signing, Rochester, New York.

FEBRUARY 17: Tops Market, 1000 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, NY, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., also Storytelling with Karima Amin.

FEBRUARY 21: UQ Book Signing, Tops Market, 1275 Jefferson Ave., Buffalo, NY, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 28: Book Signing, Book Raffle, Tops Market, 1275 Jefferson Ave., Buffalo, NY, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Storytelling with UQ Karima Amin

FEBRUARY 28: UQ Book Signing, Tops Market, 425 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

==== OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS =====

FEBRUARY 14: Book signing, Mood Makers Book Store, Rochester, NY. 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 15: Presentation and book signing, AAUW, Rev. Bennett W. Smith Family Life Center, 2:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 26: Luncheon and book signing, Hyatt Regency, Department of Social Services, 12:00 Noon.

FEBRUARY 29: Book signing, Thunderbay Gift Shop Boulevard Mall, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 24: Presentation and book signing, Key Bank Main Street Corporate, Headquarters 12:00 Noon.

==== OKLAHOMA! =====

Photos and biographical sketches for African American community builders of Oklahoma are beginning to arrive. Naturally, the first addition is that of Drusilla Dunjee Houston after whom the Web page is named. Her 1917 poem, America's Uncrowned Queens provided the inspiration for the establishment of the Uncrowned Queens Project. The very next bio is that of Mollie Lee Parker Franklin. The photo and bio-sketch was provided by her son John Hope Franklin who is the nation's most celebrated African American historian. Professor Franklin is a native of Oklahoma and in 1996 was elected to the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. He is the James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History at Duke University and has also served on the faculties at St. Augustine's College, Howard University, Brooklyn College, and the University of Chicago. A former president of the Southern Historical Association, the American Historical Association, and the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, he has received dozens of major awards and more than 100 honorary degrees. In 1995, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's



highest civilian honor. That same year the John Hope Franklin Research Center was founded at Duke as a repository for African and African American studies documentation. During the Clinton administration, Professor Franklin was appointed by President Clinton to lead a panel of advisers on promoting racial understanding in the United States.

Another early arrival is that of Eddie Faye Gates, Oklahoma Historian and author of the recent book on the Tulsa Oklahoma massacre of 1921, Riot on Greenwood: The Total Destruction of Black Wall Street. Other early arrivals include Maggie Ellis. In 1889, Maggie Riley Ellis and her family were among the first Blacks to voluntarily settle in the Oklahoma Indian territory. They made their new home in Lincoln County, near Chandler Oklahoma. This information was received from Mel Chatman, an independent scholar and researcher from Lincoln County, Oklahoma. Mel has been working in collaboration with the Uncrowned Queens Institute for the past two years and we look forward to his continued assistance in building the repository of women from Oklahoma.

===== NEW UNCROWNED QUEENS =====

The Uncrowned Queens Institute is pleased to announce that the following women have been added to the Uncrowned Queens Web site (<http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>).

- + Mollie Lee Parker Franklin
- + Yvonne Stafford

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

We continue to accept nominations for Uncrowned Queens. The mission is to recognize and honor these "unsung" royalties and to preserve the history of these women and their contributions to our community. Success is measured by the numerous requests received from students, all over the world, who are using the site for historical, cultural and sociological research. You can assist in this important work by spreading the word about Uncrowned Queens; submit a nomination for an Uncrowned Queen.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*





# YOU'RE INVITED

# A Raisin in the Sun

The title "A Raisin in the Sun" is rendered in a large, bold, bubbly font. A string of a kite is attached to the top of the letter 'i' in "Raisin" and extends upwards to a kite flying in the sky. The background is white with scattered black ink splatters.

Please join us for a series  
of fun and informal talks  
dealing with issues surrounding  
Lorraine Hansberry's  
groundbreaking drama  
**A RAISIN IN THE SUN.**

**JAN. 12, 19, 26,  
FEB. 1 & 2, 2004**



*Special funding for student matinees & community-wide  
education programs provided by the  
Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.*



## **FAIR HOUSING & MARTIN LUTHER KING**

### ***An Historic Perspective***

Jan. 12, 2004 | 5:30 - 7 p.m. | Studio Arena Theatre, 710 Main St.  
Speaker: Anne Huiner of Housing Opportunities Made Equal  
with performance by the HOME Players

## **AFRICAN-AMERICAN STORIES ON STAGE**

### ***Readings of Plays from Lorraine Hansberry to August Wilson***

Jan. 19, 2004 | 5:30 - 7 p.m. | Langston Hughes Institute, 25 High St.  
Speaker: Michael Hill of Langston Hughes Institute

## **THE WORLD THAT SHAPED 'A RAISIN IN THE SUN'**

### ***Drama for Social Change***

Jan. 26, 2004 | 5:30 - 7 p.m. | Room 210, Butler Library, Buffalo State College  
Speaker: Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D., co-founder of  
Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research & Education on Women, Inc.

## **SUNDAY SALON**

### ***A Conversation with Philip Rose***

Feb. 1, 2003 | 4:45 - 6 p.m. | Studio Arena Theatre, 710 Main St.  
Speaker: Philip Rose, Producer of the original Broadway production  
of A RAISIN IN THE SUN and author of YOU CAN'T DO THAT ON BROADWAY

## **WOMEN OF PASSION, POWER & PURPOSE**

### ***The Uncrowned Queens Who Shaped Western New York in the 1950s***

Feb. 2, 2004 | 5:30 - 7 p.m. | Studio Arena Theatre, 710 Main St.  
Speakers: Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D. & Barbara Seals Nevergold,  
Ph.D., co-founders of Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research & Education  
on Women, Inc.

***All talks are free and open to the public. No reservations  
are necessary. For complete descriptions of programs,  
call 716-856-8025, ext. 1772***



710 Main St.  
Buffalo, NY 14202-1990  
716-856-5650 or 1-800-77STAGE  
[www.studioarena.org](http://www.studioarena.org)

***A RAISIN IN THE SUN plays  
from Jan. 9 through Feb. 8,  
2004 at Studio Arena Theatre.  
For show times & dates, call  
716-856-5650 or visit  
[www.studioarena.org](http://www.studioarena.org).***

## **Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 09, 2004 12:15 PM  
**Subject:** UNCROWNED QUEENS MARCH NEWSLETTER

---

### UNCROWNED QUEENS - 2003-- THE YEAR IN REVIEW

---

Annual Report of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc.

Prepared by:  
 Barbara A. Seals Nevergold, Ph.D.  
 Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D.  
 January 2004

---

This Annual Report 2003 is not only an opportunity to reflect on the past year and our activities, but also an opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the countless people who have contributed to the success, growth and development of the Institute and who continue to support and encourage us. This report reflects the versatility and vitality of the Uncrowned Queens Institute and offers tangible examples of the Institute's continued growth and development.

The year 2003 marked the fourth year of the founding of the Uncrowned Queens Project. As with previous years, it was a year of expansion, advancing our mission and establishing an organization that will have sustainability and longevity. To that end, we are pleased to report that the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. was formally designated a 501 c (3) non-profit organization in 2003. We are indebted to a small group of individuals, who constitute our Board of Directors, for their commitment to and support of the Institute. We will say more about the Board later in this report. We have developed new partnerships, solidified old alliances and created innovative ways to get the "message" out about the history and role of African American women and men in the Western New York region.

---

### STATUS OF BIOGRAPHIES

---

The Institute continued one of our foundational activities: collecting biographies for the website. The "techno-pedia" which we have created has grown to more than 700 biographies, including new biographies of women from Rochester, Niagara Falls, New York City, Syracuse and Lackawanna, in addition to those from Buffalo. Future plans include the creation of a "digital repository of black women's regional history," which will preserve and extend the Institute's pioneering work into other regions of the country.



Throughout this year we worked diligently to communicate the message that the Uncrowned Queens Institute is dedicated to the identification, collection, preservation and dissemination of Black women's history using web-based technology, as well as traditional publications, to display African American women's photos and biographies. In particular, we strived to ensure that black women whose contributions and achievements--large and small-- resulted in the improvement of the quality of life in our community are recognized and rewarded with their "crown".

While we continue to be successful in obtaining new biographies of hundreds of Uncrowned Queens we've also encountered several barriers and challenges that have hampered the achievement of this goal. They include the following:

- Many women do not think they've done anything to "deserve" the recognition;
- Many women have the misconception that only "high profile" women can be named Uncrowned Queens; and
- Many women are reluctant to write about themselves in positive and complimentary ways.
- Others believe we discontinued identifying "queens" after the initial launch in February of 2001. Nothing could be further from the truth.

We continually answer the questions resulting from the above by restating our mission and by working, pro-actively, to teach women how to value their own achievements and to document their achievements and contributions in writing. We have offered and will continue to offer workshops to women on "How to Write Your Biography". We invite those of you who are reading this and fit any of the above descriptions, or know someone else who falls into one or more of these categories, to write to us and set up a workshop on writing the biography.

#### ===== WEB SITE UPDATE =====

We are excited to report that the website has grown in the number of daily "hits" received from individuals around the world. Our analysis of the reasons why people use the website includes educational, research, personal interest in the goals and objectives of the Institute, searches for specific individuals on the site and use of the site to prepare profiles of a specific Queen for an award or other honor. Currently we are averaging 40,000 to 45,000 hits per month. As we continue to expand to other geographical locations we anticipate that access to the website will similarly increase.

We have established a number of new Linkages with other websites that compliment our site, and contribute to the increase in hits. For example last year we were linked with the Chicken Bone Journal-this site receives 70,000 hits per day!; List serve of the Association for the Study of African American life and History-this site carries our conference and event notices nationally and they get more than 100,000 hits per day; Facing



History-another national site that lists UQ on its site with accompanying information; the National Women's History Project; and Kate Clifford Larson's site on the biography of Harriet Tubman.

===== APPEARANCES AND EVENTS =====

**Uncrowned Queens Day Proclaimed in Buffalo and Erie County**  
 In honor of its second year anniversary, the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. received proclamations from the City of Buffalo and County of Erie declaring February 15, 2003 Uncrowned Queens Day. The proclamations were presented to Uncrowned Queens co-chairs Barbara Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram during a press conference on that day in the State Hall of the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.

February was an extremely busy month for the Uncrowned Queens Institute and its co-founders. Our activities included numerous television, radio and newspaper interviews, presentations and programs. The co-founders were interviewed for a WIVB-TV documentary entitled "Black Soul: the Legacy Continues" that aired on February 10th on channel 4 and its sister station, WNLO. This documentary also featured a segment devoted to the photographic work of Barbara's father, Rev. Willie B. Seals. Rev. Seals, proprietor of Seals Ebony Studio, was a well known photographer in the Buffalo community. The Uncrowned Queens Institute collaborated with the Seals Family in mounting an exhibit of the photographic collection at the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society that has been on display since June, 2001.

In recognition of African American History Month and continuing a partnership with our corporate sponsor, Tops Markets, Inc., a month-long series of activities resulted in raising awareness of the Institute and funds for the scholarship program of the area LINKS, Inc. chapters and introduced many Western New Yorkers, Black, White and Latino, to the Uncrowned Queens: African American Community Builders, Vol. 1. Members of the Erie County, Niagara Falls and Rochester chapters of the Links, Inc. joined the UQ founders for book signings at selected Tops Markets in Buffalo and Rochester. Proceeds from the book sales were donated to the Links scholarship fund.

Uncrowned Queens's founders were also interviewed by Linda White on her television program, "Live with Linda White" on Channel 7 and with Mayor Anthony Masiello on his cable television program. During the Tops Markets book signings, radio stations WUFO-AM and WXLO-Fm (Rochester) provided remote broadcast programs. Members of the Links organizations, as well as the Uncrowned Queens founders, were interviewed.

In addition to the aforementioned, several presentations were given: at Key Bank Corporate Offices, St. John Baptist Church, Campus West School, First Shiloh Baptist Church (Barbara conducted a Family History Workshop), the Niagara Falls Housing Authority (in honor of Doris Jones) and Tops Corporate Offices.



Several special activities included the induction of Mae Jemison, first black female astronaut, into the Uncrowned Queens; presentation of 75 copies of volume 1 of Uncrowned Queens to the Buffalo Board of Education (this gift made possible through the generous donation of the Buffalo Teachers' Federation and its president, Phil Rumore); and an extraordinary presentation to a group of Russian educators who were visiting Buffalo.

The educators, sponsored by the US State Department and World Connect, were hosted by the Uncrowned Queens Institute at the Educational Opportunity Center. Thanks to EOC and its director, Dr. Sherryl Weems for access to their distance conferencing facility. We were able to connect to the conference center at UB and conduct a joint program with Dr. Lillian Serece Williams, Chair, African American Studies at UB and Dr. Vladimir Ageyev, Clinical Professor, Department of Learning and Instruction, also at UB. The Russian educators were particularly interested in issues of women's role in grassroots organizing, work, education, social and political activism. Although we had an interpreter, language was not a barrier and the interchange was lively and enlightening. We received an invitation to come to Siberia, Moscow and other parts of Russian (when the weather gets warm!).

In March, Women's History Month, we returned to Rochester for a presentation and book signing at Memorial AME Zion Church. Dr. Juanita Pitts, M.D., a towering representative of Black women in that city, invited us to participate in the Annual Harriet Tubman program. Also in March, Uncrowned Queens took to the airwaves once again. This time as guest hosts of the Ted Kirkland Program on WUFO-AM radio. Peggy and Barbara also appeared on AM Buffalo, Channel 7 T.V.'s morning show where Peggy introduced the "Uncrowned Queens Vegetarian Pizza."

The co-founders were guest presenters at the Women of Excellence Program hosted by Alpha Beta Sigma at UB. The event took place at the Student Union on the Amherst Campus of the University at Buffalo.

We also had the opportunity to recognize two women of national stature as Uncrowned Queens. Poet Laureate, Lucille Clifton (a native of Depew, New York) and Dr. Beverly Hendrix Wright were added to the website. The Uncrowned Queens founders were also recipients of awards for their work, from Gamma Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Alpha Beta Sigma Sorority.

In May, a presentation was given for the staff at Buffalo State College's Weigel Health Center and book signings took place during the National Conference of the Girl Friends, Inc. at the Adams Mark Hotel.

Peggy Brooks-Bertram was honored in June as one of the nominees for the YWCA Leadership award. She also participated, as a presenter, in the National Underground Railroad Family Reunion, which was held in Philadelphia. Barbara and Peggy were interviewed for another television documentary this month as well. Claudine Ewing, WGRZ-TV reporter highlighted the Uncrowned Queens Institute as part of a program on the significance of Juneteenth in



the Western New York community. The Institute was a co-sponsor with St. John Baptist Church and the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc. for a program on African Americans and hospice care and featuring Uncrowned Queen and author, Dr. Karla Holloway, an Uncrowned Queen.

The Uncrowned Queens of Forest Lawn was the subject of a special presentation by Barbara Nevergold at the cemetery's Chapel. This program was part of the annual Ancestral Tour, in collaboration with the Afro American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. and the Forest Lawn Group.

Connie Porter, Lackawanna native, author of the Addy Girl Series, "Imani Mine" and "Albright Court", spoke at UB and was inducted into the Uncrowned Queens in September. This period also marked intense preparation for the third annual conference, scheduled for November 7th and 8th at the Marriott Hotel and the Buffalo Museum of Science.

In November we realized two major milestones: our third annual conference, "Embracing African American Women of Power, Passion and Purpose", and the publication of "Uncrowned Queens: African American Community Builders" volume 2. The book represents another one hundred bios of Uncrowned Queens from our website. A completely new Introduction, Analysis and Afterword accompany this volume. We also were invited to one of our first community book signings by Dr. Curlane Jones Brown. The book signing was held at the newly opened Refuge Temple Plaza on Jefferson Avenue. Thanks, Dr. Curly! We had a wonderful time.

Continuing a tradition and enduring partnership with the Xi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., we donated and auctioned off a two-volume set of Uncrowned Queens: African American Community Builders (Vol. 1 & 2) at the sorority's annual Lucky Number Luncheon. The proceeds of this fund-raiser benefit the sorority's community programs. The Institute is proud to participate in this worthy cause.

We also participated in "an evening with local authors" event, which was sponsored by the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society. A similar event was also hosted by the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library at the Central Branch. We had the pleasure of joining other local authors in reading from the second volume of "Uncrowned Queens."

In December, we welcomed another international visitor, Ms. Ga Ma, chairwoman of the Women's Federation of Tibet Autonomous Region of China. Again, we are indebted to the Educational Opportunity Center for offering the resources of their Distance Learning Laboratory. Ms. Ga Ma and her interpreter, Dr. Mary Nimtz, were introduced to two grassroots movements initiated by women: the Uncrowned Queens Institute and the Buffalo Quarters Society as well as the programs and services offered by the EOC.

For photos and more detail regarding these programs, go to the Events Page on the Uncrowned Queens website.



## ===== HONORS AND AWARDS =====

Since its inception, the Uncrowned Queens website has received numerous citations from website experts who have evaluated our site and recognized it for its content, design, ease of navigation and innovation. This year was no exception. We received the following web awards: The Rose Awards - Silver Award - "rewards those web designers who are the best of the best". Uncrowned Queens received a Silver Rose Award because "your site provides the Internet community with a wonderful educational experience...your web site is well designed with excellent site content, a good navigational system, family-friendly content, and good choice in backgrounds/headings/colors/fonts..."; American Association of Webmasters - Silver Award : this award was "designed to supply formal recognition and acknowledge the hard work and dedication that has been put into constructing the website". The Association said that the Uncrowned Queens website was a "great site with nice graphics, layout, design and appearance. We are very impressed with the quality and content your website presents."

## ===== THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE =====

Our third annual conference entitled, "Embracing African American Women of Power, Passion, and Purpose", was held November 7th - 8th. Local and national presenters and participants contributed to an exciting and educationally stimulating event. Eddie Faye Gates, a member of the Tulsa Race Riot Commission and author of several books on the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 was our guest and key note speaker. In fact, we were pleased to have Mrs. Gates as a guest lecturer at the University at Buffalo on the 6th of November.

The Uncrowned Queens Institute has been selected by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission to replicate our project for that state's centennial in 2007. In honor of Mrs. Gates' work with the Tulsa Race Riot Commission and symbol of our connection to the people of Oklahoma, a scroll that listed all the names of the survivors/descendants of the Tulsa Race Riot was created for the conference. Conference participants were asked to sign the scroll, which will be sent to the Oklahoma Historical Society for permanent display in the African American Museum.

Workshop presenters included Bruce Fisher, Curator, African American Museum, Oklahoma Historical Society; Sharon Holley, Librarian and Coordinator of Urban Services for the Department of Extension Services at the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library; Kush K. Bhardway, Ph.D. candidate, Center for the Americas, University at Buffalo and instructor for the KIPP Sankofa Charter School; Jennifer Parker, President and Chief Executive Officer, the Black Capital Network, LLC, Inc.; Sharon Barnes, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Interdisciplinary and Special Programs, the University of Toledo; and Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D., co-founder of the Uncrowned Queens Institute.

The Uncrowned Queens Institute also honored several



individuals/organizations as "Culture Keepers", during the Conference. The "Culture Keepers" were cited for their outstanding contribution to the preservation and dissemination of local black history. Professor Jessie and Mrs. Hortense Nash; James and Carolyne Blount, Publishers, Editors, Owners of about...time Magazine; Dr. Juanita Pitts, M.D., of Rochester, New York and Mrs. Eddie Faye Gates of Tulsa, Oklahoma were this year's award recipients.

The success of a conference of this magnitude is due to the commitment, work and contributions (monetary as well as in-kind) of many. Our partnerships and collaborations with individuals, organizations, businesses, governmental agencies and community groups have truly lifted us higher. The Uncrowned Queens partnership with the State University of New York at Buffalo has been tremendous and we are especially appreciative of that important support. President Greiner has congratulated us on numerous occasions and commented on the publication of the Uncrowned Queens, volume 1. He states that, "Together with your tireless commitment to preserving our region's vibrant cultural heritage, this historical document promises to be a lasting legacy for future generations of leaders at UB and throughout Western New York."

We are also indebted to and sincerely appreciative of the following for their involvement, support and contributions to the Third Annual Uncrowned Queens conference: In addition to those named previously, Tops Friendly Markets, Xi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Afro American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, the Forest Lawn Group, Key Bank, M & T Bank, Moog, Inc., Delphi Automotive Systems, Alpha Beta Sigma Sorority at UB, UB African American Studies Department, UB School of Law, UB Cora P. Maloney Institute, UB Baldy Center, UB Women's Studies, Buffalo State College Office of Diversity, and Najeyah Sultan. On March 17, 2003,

We'd also like to thank our conference vendors for their support of our efforts: Flight 104, Carmen May, Imani Kemet Enterprises, YWLA Charter School, Roswell Park Cancer Institute's African American Smoke Freedom Project, Minority Health Coalition-Judith Anderson, and Fraternally Yours.

#### ===== FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP SERIES =====

This year, a new approach was taken for offering family history workshops to young people. The Uncrowned Queens Institute partnered with Xi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.'s Leadership Intern Program. This program is a full-year program that offers monthly workshops and other activities to a group of high school juniors and seniors. This year's intern group is comprised of 32 energetic and enthusiastic young men and women.

Barbara Nevergold arranged to conduct a series of family history workshops with the interns over a three month period. During these workshops, the youngsters were taught some of the rudiments of family history research, e.g. interviewing and developing a family history "tree"; family history sources, etc. Each participant received a portable



this historical documents promises to be a lasting legacy for future generation of leaders at UB and throughout Western New York." President Greiner allowed us to quote him on the jacket of the second volume.

We also would like to acknowledge Phil Rumore of the Buffalo Teachers Federation, without whose support we could not have published this second volume and for his purchase of books for the Buffalo Public Schools. We also want to acknowledge the support of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library for purchasing books for each of their branch libraries and Tops Markets, Karl Oesterle, for the donation of books they will make during Black History Month 2004 to the suburban schools.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS INSTITUTE =====

Another major milestone in the development and evolution of the Uncrowned Queens Project was reached this year. Uncrowned Queens was officially designated by the IRS as the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc., a 501 c (3), non-profit organization. The mission of this organization is "to conduct research on the issues affecting women of color, to use this research to develop educational programs that will enhance the quality of life for women and their communities, to promote the collection and dissemination of the individual histories of women, women's organizations and women's collective history and to teach and educate women on the use of technology to preserve, and disseminate their histories."

Additionally, the work to replicate the Uncrowned Queens project in the State of Oklahoma continues. The historically black college Langston University agreed to host the Oklahoma Uncrowned Queens webpage. In October, Professor John Hope Franklin, Historian Laureate of the country and former Oklahoman, provided the bio-sketch and photo of his mother Mollie Lee Parker Franklin to contribute to the development of the webpage for Uncrowned Queens of Oklahoma. Independent scholars in Oklahoma including Bruce Fisher of the Oklahoma Historical Society, Mel Chatman formerly of Chandler, Oklahoma in Lincoln County and Jolyn Jackson of Sapulpa, Oklahoma have begun the work of identifying "Queens" for Oklahoma. We are deeply indebted to these individuals who "discovered" the Institute on line and continue to be ardent supporters. Their efforts are indispensable in replicating the project in Oklahoma.

We are pleased to announce our Board of Directors:

- Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D., President
- John Staley, Ph.D., Vice President
- Derrick M. Byrd, Jr., Secretary
- Barbara A. Seals Nevergold, Ph.D., Treasurer
- Sylvia Wright
- Pashion Corbett-Marshall
- Alanna E. Marrow
- Lillian Yvonne Margaret Bertram



## **Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 07, 2004 12:14 PM  
**Subject:** Uncrowned Queens April 2004 Newsletter

Welcome to the APRIL 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

### ===== ON THE MEND: A MESSAGE FROM BARBARA NEVERGOLD =====

"Thanks to all for your cards and well wishes for my speedy recovery. It has been a difficult few months, but I am on the mend and hope to be fully recovered in the near future."

Barbara

### ===== HAPPY 99TH BIRTHDAY =====

A belated happy birthday and many, many well-wishes to Uncrowned Queen, Mary Crosby Chappelle who turned 99 years old on March 16th. Mrs. Chappelle continues to be an inspiration to us all.

### ===== POETS ARE INVITED =====

If you have a poem that you would like to submit to the Uncrowned Queens website, please sent it to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

### ===== AN UNCROWNED QUEEN GOES TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS =====

Zola Crowell, an Uncrowned Queen who is featured in Volume 2 of "Uncrowned Queens: African American Women Community Builders of Western New York" has recently made a significant contribution to the Library of Congress. A family historian, Zola's research uncovered the history and a photo of her great- great- grandmother, Charity Butler. Charity, a slave on the Butler Plantation, lived to be 106 years old. The Uncrowned Queens website featured Zola's research and the photo of Charity Butler that she allowed us to post on the website. Staff from the Library of Congress found this information and contacted Zola about providing her documentation for the Library Archives. Thanks to Zola and the Uncrowned Queens, Charity Butler's life and history will be preserved by our nation's foremost archival repository.

### ===== UQ'S OWN NOMINATED FOR YWCA AWARD =====

Barbara A. Seals Nevergold, Uncrowned Queens co-founder, has been nominated for the YWCA of Western New York's 2004 Volunteer Award. Each year the YW presents this award during its Leader Luncheon program. This year, the



Leader Luncheon will honor 43 nominees on Friday, June 4th at the Convention Center. Dr. Nevergold was nominated for this award by the Buffalo Rotary Club. A pre-event reception in honor of all the nominees will take place on May 5th at the YW's 190 Franklin office.

===== MARY TALBERT CLUB CELEBRATES 30 YEARS =====

The Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club will observe its 30th Anniversary at a banquet on April 24th.

This year, the Club will award its first \$1,000 scholarship to a local graduating high school senior. The Club will also honor, at its banquet, James "Pappy" Martin for his dedicated work with young people.

In 1974, Mrs. Carolyn B. Thomas was motivated to found the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club when she learned that the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority was renaming the Talbert Mall Housing Project. Mrs. Thomas called several women, who shared her determination to perpetuate the memory of Mrs. Talbert, to a meeting in her Linwood Avenue home. In addition to Mrs. Thomas, the charter members of the organization were: Mrs. Annie Brown, the first President, Mrs. Rhoda Townsend, Mrs. Jannie Davis, Mrs. Ruby Grandberry, Mrs. Mervine Miller, and Mrs. Mary Chappelle.

The club's purpose, "To preserve the noble ideals and good works of Mary B. Talbert through the sponsorship of scholarships and charitable projects which are directed towards the education of our youth and well-being of our total community" has formed the foundation for its work. The Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club is an affiliate of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

APRIL 16: UQ co-founders, Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H. and Barbara Seals Nevergold, Ph.D., will be the guest speakers at a symposium for faculty, staff and students of the University at Rochester's Frederick Douglass Institute. "Uncrowned Queens: From Project to Institute" will be the topic of the presentation, which will be given at the Institute in Rochester, New York.

APRIL 24: The Uncrowned Queens Institute salutes the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club, which will be observing its 30th Anniversary at a banquet on April 24th.

MAY 7: Uncrowned Queen Georgia Burnette, RN (retired) will be the keynote speaker at the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier's Annual Family Dinner on May 7th. Mrs. Burnette's topic is the "Buffalonians". She has spent many hours interviewing the founding members of this group and will share an historical over-view of this significant organization during her presentation.

===== NEW UNCROWNED QUEENS =====



The Uncrowned Queens Institute is pleased to announce that Essie Gregory has been added to the Uncrowned Queens Web site (<http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>).

===== COMMENTS FROM OUR GUEST BOOK =====

"Today I had the wonderful experience of meeting Dr. Peggy Brooks-Bertram at Millard Fillmore Gates Hospital where I am currently employed in the Admissions Department. She was having a conversation with Mrs. Shirley Parks and I noticed her showing Shirley the Uncrowned Queens books. I was so taken by Dr. Brooks-Bertram that I purchased the books for myself and she did me the great honor of signing them both. She told me all about your work with the community of Tulsa, OK and other projects you are working on.

Stephanie M. Anderson

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

The Uncrowned Queen Institute continues to seek the biographies of women, with connections to Western New York for the website. Our "techno-pedia" continues to expand but we know that there are many more biographies that have not yet been submitted for inclusion in this ground-breaking history project. Biographies can be submitted to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or write the Uncrowned Queens Institute at 984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*

END OF E-MAIL MESSAGE



## **Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 07, 2004 12:14 PM  
**Subject:** Uncrowned Queens April 2004 Newsletter

Welcome to the APRIL 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

### ===== ON THE MEND: A MESSAGE FROM BARBARA NEVERGOLD =====

"Thanks to all for your cards and well wishes for my speedy recovery. It has been a difficult few months, but I am on the mend and hope to be fully recovered in the near future."

Barbara

### ===== HAPPY 99TH BIRTHDAY =====

A belated happy birthday and many, many well-wishes to Uncrowned Queen, Mary Crosby Chappelle who turned 99 years old on March 16th. Mrs. Chappelle continues to be an inspiration to us all.

### ===== POETS ARE INVITED =====

If you have a poem that you would like to submit to the Uncrowned Queens website, please sent it to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

### ===== AN UNCROWNED QUEEN GOES TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS =====

Zola Crowell, an Uncrowned Queen who is featured in Volume 2 of "Uncrowned Queens: African American Women Community Builders of Western New York" has recently made a significant contribution to the Library of Congress. A family historian, Zola's research uncovered the history and a photo of her great- great- grandmother, Charity Butler. Charity, a slave on the Butler Plantation, lived to be 106 years old. The Uncrowned Queens website featured Zola's research and the photo of Charity Butler that she allowed us to post on the website. Staff from the Library of Congress found this information and contacted Zola about providing her documentation for the Library Archives. Thanks to Zola and the Uncrowned Queens, Charity Butler's life and history will be preserved by our nation's foremost archival repository.

### ===== UQ'S OWN NOMINATED FOR YWCA AWARD =====

Barbara A. Seals Nevergold, Uncrowned Queens co-founder, has been nominated for the YWCA of Western New York's 2004 Volunteer Award. Each year the YW presents this award during its Leader Luncheon program. This year, the

10/21/2004



Leader Luncheon will honor 43 nominees on Friday, June 4th at the Convention Center. Dr. Nevergold was nominated for this award by the Buffalo Rotary Club. A pre-event reception in honor of all the nominees will take place on May 5th at the YW's 190 Franklin office.

===== MARY TALBERT CLUB CELEBRATES 30 YEARS =====

The Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club will observe its 30th Anniversary at a banquet on April 24th.

This year, the Club will award its first \$1,000 scholarship to a local graduating high school senior. The Club will also honor, at its banquet, James "Pappy" Martin for his dedicated work with young people.

In 1974, Mrs. Carolyn B. Thomas was motivated to found the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club when she learned that the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority was renaming the Talbert Mall Housing Project. Mrs. Thomas called several women, who shared her determination to perpetuate the memory of Mrs. Talbert, to a meeting in her Linwood Avenue home. In addition to Mrs. Thomas, the charter members of the organization were: Mrs. Annie Brown, the first President, Mrs. Rhoda Townsend, Mrs. Jannie Davis, Mrs. Ruby Grandberry, Mrs. Mervine Miller, and Mrs. Mary Chappelle.

The club's purpose, "To preserve the noble ideals and good works of Mary B. Talbert through the sponsorship of scholarships and charitable projects which are directed towards the education of our youth and well-being of our total community" has formed the foundation for its work. The Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club is an affiliate of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

APRIL 16: UQ co-founders, Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H. and Barbara Seals Nevergold, Ph.D., will be the guest speakers at a symposium for faculty, staff and students of the University at Rochester's Frederick Douglass Institute. "Uncrowned Queens: From Project to Institute" will be the topic of the presentation, which will be given at the Institute in Rochester, New York.

APRIL 24: The Uncrowned Queens Institute salutes the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club, which will be observing its 30th Anniversary at a banquet on April 24th.

MAY 7: Uncrowned Queen Georgia Burnette, RN (retired) will be the keynote speaker at the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier's Annual Family Dinner on May 7th. Mrs. Burnette's topic is the "Buffalonians". She has spent many hours interviewing the founding members of this group and will share an historical over-view of this significant organization during her presentation.

===== NEW UNCROWNED QUEENS =====



The Uncrowned Queens Institute is pleased to announce that Essie Gregory has been added to the Uncrowned Queens Web site (<http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>).

===== COMMENTS FROM OUR GUEST BOOK =====

"Today I had the wonderful experience of meeting Dr. Peggy Brooks-Bertram at Millard Fillmore Gates Hospital where I am currently employed in the Admissions Department. She was having a conversation with Mrs. Shirley Parks and I noticed her showing Shirley the Uncrowned Queens books. I was so taken by Dr. Brooks-Bertram that I purchased the books for myself and she did me the great honor of signing them both. She told me all about your work with the community of Tulsa, OK and other projects you are working on.

Stephanie M. Anderson

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

The Uncrowned Queen Institute continues to seek the biographies of women, with connections to Western New York for the website. Our "techno-pedia" continues to expand but we know that there are many more biographies that have not yet been submitted for inclusion in this ground-breaking history project. Biographies can be submitted to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or write the Uncrowned Queens Institute at 984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

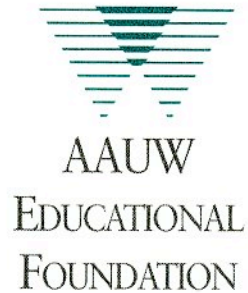
PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*

END OF E-MAIL MESSAGE





IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
MISSION OF THE AAUW EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

*The Buffalo, New York Branch*

---

NAMED A GIFT TO THE

*Research and Projects and General Support Funds*

---

IN HONOR OF

*The Uncrowned Queens Project*

---

*Mary Lee Smyth*  
PRESIDENT  
AAUW EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

PROMOTING EDUCATION  
AND EQUITY FOR ALL  
WOMEN AND GIRLS

*May 1, 2004*

---

DATE



**Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 04, 2004 10:37 AM  
**Subject:** UNCROWNED QUEENS MAY 2004 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the MAY 2004 newsletter of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc.

===== AAUW ESTABLISHES GIFT IN HONOR OF UNCROWNED QUEENS =====

The Buffalo branch of the American Association of University Women has announced that it will designate a portion of its 2004 Educational Foundation contribution as a scholarship in honor of the Uncrowned Queens Institute. A young person will receive funding for further academic study through a gift provided from the Association in the name of the Uncrowned Queens Institute. Tamara Brown, vice-president of the Association's Educational Foundation, informed us that the Institute was being recognized because of its role in community education. A letter from Ms. Brown stated "It is with the help of many individuals and organizations that we fulfill the mission of the AAUW and advance educational and career opportunities for women. This year your contribution has certainly helped further this mission, and the naming of this gift in your honor is a small indication of our deep appreciation." The presentation will be made at the Association's Annual Achievement and Award Luncheon on Saturday, May 1st. at the Twentieth Century Club. More information about the scholarship recipient will be provided in the June newsletter.

===== ALBRIGHT-KNOX ADDS UQ'S WORK TO PERMANENT COLLECTION =====

We congratulate UQ Valeria Cray-Dihann who recently had a sculpture accepted by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery for its permanent collection. AdamEve, 1971, a diptych made of Plexiglas and aluminum, is currently on view at the Gallery. Valeria, a multi-media artist, works in a variety of media including ceramics, copper, aluminum, acetate, jute, textiles, Plexiglas, and wood.

Again, we applaud Valeria for her singular accomplishment! View her biography on-line at  
[http://www.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/files\\_2002/craydihaan\\_valeria.htm](http://www.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/files_2002/craydihaan_valeria.htm).

===== INVITING ALL UNCROWNED QUEEN POETS =====

The Afrikan Consciousness Workshop and the Uncrowned Queens Institute are sponsoring an "Uncrowned Queens Poetry Night" on May 24th from 6 - 8pm at the North Jefferson Library. All women who currently have poetry on the Uncrowned Queens website are invited to attend and read their poetry. Invitations are also extended to poets who don't currently have their work



on the website. For more information, contact Vonetta T. Rhodes at 881-5150, ext. 4351.

==== POETS ARE INVITED =====

If you have a poem that you would like to submit to the Uncrowned Queens website, please send it to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

===== HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 16 & 17, 2004 =====

HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 16 & 17, 2004  
Harriet Tubman Retreat Center, 180 South Street, Auburn, NY

Tubman Retreat Historical Background  
Submitted by Debra Johnson

The Retreat started as a project of the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC) Upstate New York Organizing Committee. This committee was formally organized on January 9, 1993, after the Eastern Region Conference held October 1992 at Erie Community College City Campus, Buffalo, NY.

ASCAC's primary objective is to promote the spirit of pride and love for our African Heritage.

Our purpose is to provide educational programming to serve the need of our communities throughout Upstate New York

The Harriet Tubman Retreat Committee's founding members included: Debra M. Johnson Coordinator, L Nathan Hare, Bernice Keith, Hank Curtis, Ed and Debra Laundry, Adisa W. Hunter, Menkaure Griffin, and Joyce Hill.

The Committee's purpose is to create an educational program, at the Harriet Tubman home of our ancestor, to help keep her Legacy and vision alive. The Committee also wanted to expand the mission and purpose of ASCAC through out New York and Canada.

#### Harriet Tubman Memorial Library Project

We envision the renovated Library becoming the unquestioned authority and resource for authentic archival items and historical documents of Harriet Tubman. An intended outcome is that the library would motivate potential advance degree candidates to concentrate on adding their contributions to the store of knowledge about the period surrounding Harriet Tubman's life.

We envision a state-of-art library with computer networked to libraries all over the world to share and acquire information on the history of African people, the Underground Railroad, African Americans in New York State, and most importantly, the history of Harriet Tubman, her family, friends and her community.



## Goals of Retreat Committee Project

1. Help to create a Research and Retreat Center at the Harriet Tubman Home
2. Develop training workshops and classes in teaching a curriculum of African History Worldview
3. Develop a youth institute especially for students at colleges in the area such as Cayuga Community College, Cornell University, Ithaca College, and Syracuse University.
4. Develop classes for high school and elementary students to provide a forum for the Youth Institute participants to teach what they have learned.
5. Promote the establishment of study groups as defined by the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC)
6. Promote ASCAC purpose: to provide a body of knowledge that continuously contributes to the rescue, reconstruction, and restoration of African history and culture.

HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 16 & 17, 2004  
 Harriet Tubman Retreat Center, 180 South Street, Auburn, NY

### ===== NEVERGOLD NOMINATED FOR YWCA AWARD =====

Barbara A. Seals Nevergold, Uncrowned Queens co-founder, has been nominated for the YWCA of Western New York's 2004 Volunteer Award. Each year the YW presents this award during its Leader Luncheon program. This year, the Leader Luncheon will honor 43 nominees on Friday, June 4th at the Convention Center. Dr. Nevergold was nominated for this award by the Buffalo Rotary Club. A pre-event reception in honor of all the nominees will take place on May 5th at the YWCA's 190 Franklin office.

### ===== KUDOS TO UNCROWNED QUEENS =====

CONSTANCE EVE: Congratulations to UQ Constance B. Eve, founder and Board President of Women for Human Rights and Dignity, Inc. Under Mrs. Eve's leadership, WHRD, Inc. recently observed its 25th anniversary. Susan L. Taylor, Chief Editorial Executive of Essence Magazine was the keynote speaker at WHRD's 25th Annual Forum and Luncheon on April 24th. The organization honored Mrs. Eve with the Superior Volunteer Award. Thanks to the work of this organization, hundreds of women and their children have received services that have resulted in countless success stories and improved quality of life for these women and their families. Mrs. Eve and her group are to be commended for an outstanding job.

JENNIFER PARKER: Jennifer Parker was honored on April 24th by Grassroots, Inc. for excellence in the business field.

BARBARA SEALS NEVERGOLD: co-founder of Uncrowned Queens Institute has just completed a Family History Seminar with students in the Leadership Intern Program. The Leadership Intern Program is a yearlong educational enrichment and leadership skills building program sponsored by Xi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. The Family History Seminar resulted



from the on-going partnership between the UQ Institute and the Sorority. The seminar consisted of three sessions conducted over a three-month period. Thirty-two students in the program were taught about family history resources and how to develop their own family tree. They also learned basic interviewing skills. Thanks to the generous support of the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. each student was given a tape recorder and tapes to use for interviewing family members. Student feedback about the experience was extremely positive with one student responding that "Everyone whether in an internship program or not should experience this type a seminar. Thank you."

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

MAY 1: The Buffalo branch of the American Association of University Women will be make a presentation on behalf of Uncrowned Queens during the Association's Annual Achievement and Award Luncheon on Saturday, May 1st at the Twentieth Century Club. More information is provided above.

May 7: The Afro American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. will hold its Annual Family History Dinner at the New Golden Nugget. UQ Georgia Burnette will be the keynote speaker. Daisy E. Anderson, Rich Newberg, Mylous Hairston and the Black Progressives of Niagara Falls will receive the William Wells Brown Award for preservation of African American History.

May 12: Barbara Seals Nevergold will be the guest of 5th, 6th and 7th grade students at the Waterfront School. The event is Author's Day and Dr. Nevergold will talk to the youngsters about her experiences as an author.

MAY 24: Uncrowned Queens Poetry Night at the North Jefferson Library from 6:00-8:00 p.m. All women who currently have poetry on the Uncrowned Queens website are invited to attend and read their poetry. Invitations are also extended to poets who don't currently have their work on the website. For more information, contact Vonetta T. Rhodes at 881-5150, ext. 4351.

JULY 16-17: Harriet Tubman Retreat. More information to come.

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

The Uncrowned Queen Institute continues to seek the biographies of women, with connections to Western New York for the website. Our "techno-pedia" continues to expand but we know that there are many more biographies that have not yet been submitted for inclusion in this ground-breaking history project. Biographies can be submitted to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or write the Uncrowned Queens Institute at 984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).



# Afrikan Consciousness Workshop

North Jefferson Library

6:00-8:00p.m.

## **Afrikan Womyn's Month: Movements and Melanin**



May 24, 2004

“WOW!

Womyn of the Word”

...a tribute to

Uncrowned Queens, Inc.

Featuring:

Afrikan Womyn Poets  
from the Buffalo area



## **Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2004 10:19 AM  
**Subject:** UNCROWNED QUEENS JUNE 2004 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the JUNE 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

### ===== GEORGIA BURNETTE - 75 AND STILL GOING STRONG =====

Georgia Burnette is a principal example of how the women, who we've recognized as Uncrowned Queens, contribute to our community over long periods of time and in myriad ways. Georgia, who admits to being 75 years old, retired from a distinguished career in nursing and embarked on a new career as an oral historian and journalist. The following offers a glimpse of the current activities that she's engaged in and provides a list of several recent articles that have been written by this remarkable woman. We encourage you to obtain copies of the following articles by Georgia. We're sure that you'll not only enjoy reading them, but find them educational as well.

Blacks In New York and History, July 2004

"Looking Back: Black Nurses Struggle for Admission to Professional Schools."

The Officer, May 2004 (official publication of the Reserve Officers Association)

"Recalling Their Stories: The Veterans History Project" In October 2004, Georgia will present this paper as part of a panel at the Annual Conference of the Oral History Association in Portland, Oregon.

The Buffalo Challenger, April 28, 2004

"Writing Our Own History: The Veterans History Project, Part I." This short piece briefly discusses the finding that minority veterans are under-represented in the overall number of veterans being interviewed. The primary causes are identified.

Part II will discuss reasons minority veterans are reluctant to tell their stories.

Reminisce Magazine, Fall 2004

"I Want A Teacher In The Family." This is a short story of Georgia's husband's (Luther) mother who was pregnant as she worked the fields in order that oldest son, Elmer could attend school. It is also the story of his older sister and brother, Blanche and Bill Burnette as they worked for food and lodging while struggling through a segregated Arkansas high school in the 1930's.



### Reunions Magazine

"56 Years of Friendship" has been accepted for the Winter 2004 issue. This is the story of a 1997 reunion held for friends I met in 1941 when I was 12 years old.

Georgia is also celebrating her first year as columnist for Pathfinders Travel Magazine for People of Color

### ===== "GIT ON DA BUS" =====

On Saturday, June 5, 2004, "Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of Western New York," is Planning to present Buffalo's very first "storytelling crawl." Patterned after the "Kansas City Jazz Crawls," ticket-holding bus riders will travel to four "mystery" sites in the city where they will hear wonderful stories presented by several of the "Tradition Keepers." This event is being Cosponsored by Juneteenth of Buffalo, Inc. as a pre-Juneteenth Weekend activity.

Storylisteners, adults and children will board a school bus at Juneteenth Headquarters, 1517 Genesee Street, at 3:30pm. The bus will depart at 4:00pm sharp and will travel to four sites, where storytellers will be waiting to share stories in themed programs.

The themes for this event are "We've Come This Far by Faith," "They Built the Bridges," "Back in the Day," and "Nothing But the Fun Stuff." The bus will return to Juneteenth Headquarters around 6:30, where light refreshments will be available.

Tickets are being sold for \$10. Seating is limited.

For more information, contact Karima Amin at 834-8438 or Sharon Holley at 886-1399.

### ===== KUDOS TO UNCROWNED QUEENS =====

Buffalo native and Uncrowned Queen, Virginia Deberry and co-author and friend, Donna Grant, have just completed their third novel together. *Better Than I Know Myself*, will be in stores the first week of June. Virginia and Donna will kick-off their national book tour with a stint on the Tom Joyner Morning Show cruise---*Fantastic Voyage 2004*---beginning May 29th. What a send off! For more information on their tour schedule visit their website, [deberryandgrant.com](http://deberryandgrant.com).

Other Uncrowned Queens in the news include the recent winners of Buffalo Board of Education seats: Dr. Catherine Collins, Ms. Betty Jean Grant and Mrs. Florence Johnson. Dr. Collins and Ms. Grant are first time Board members having been elected respectively as at-large and Ferry District representatives. Long-time Ferry District representative Florence Johnson was elected to a six-year term as an at-large member. Congratulations to all



three who will assume their seats, in these vital positions, on July 1st.

The American Cancer Society honored UQ Bertha Hill as a "Voice of Hope" recipient. Bertha is the president of the Sisters Network of Buffalo, a breast cancer survivor's organization for African American women. This organization provides a warm and nurturing environment for women to bond, rejuvenate and find solace and support in others who have shared experiences. Bertha was lauded for her tireless efforts to educate Black women about this disease, including prevention, detection and survival.

Zola Crowell has recently received a letter from the Library of Congress to acknowledge receipt of genealogical materials related to Charity Butler, Zola's great-great-grandmother. It all started with the Uncrowned Queens website. Zola posted the photo and story of Charity Butler on the website where the Library of Congress staff saw it and contacted her. Zola and her family donated more than 50 items to the Library. These materials will be housed in the Library of Congress' Manuscript Division. The letter to Zola stated, "We are most grateful to you for making this gift possible. Your gift will be a welcome addition to the collections conserved by the Library's Manuscript Division. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and for your support of the Library of Congress." We also thank Zola for sharing this information with us and providing another example of the impact that the Uncrowned Queens Institute is making on the preservation of Black women's histories.

===== HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 16 & 17, 2004 =====

HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 16 & 17, 2004  
Harriet Tubman Retreat Center, 180 South Street, Auburn, NY

Tubman Retreat Historical Background  
Submitted by Debra Johnson

The Retreat started as a project of the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC) Upstate New York Organizing Committee. This committee was formally organized on January 9, 1993, after the Eastern Region Conference held October 1992 at Erie Community College City Campus, Buffalo, NY.

ASCAC's primary objective is to promote the spirit of pride and love for our African Heritage.

Our purpose is to provide educational programming to serve the needs of our communities throughout Upstate New York

The Harriet Tubman Retreat Committee's founding members included: Debra M. Johnson Coordinator, L Nathan Hare, Bernice Keith, Hank Curtis, Ed and Debra Laundry, Adisa W. Hunter, Menkaure Griffin, and Joyce Hill.

The Committee's purpose is to create an educational program, at the Harriet



## **Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 06, 2004 9:19 AM  
**Subject:** UNCROWNED QUEENS JULY 2004 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the JULY 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

===== ORAL HISTORY PROJECT RECEIVED FUNDING! =====

The Uncrowned Queens Institute and the University at Buffalo Archives' jointly proposed oral history project entitled: The Uncrowned Queens Oral Histories Collection and Website Project has been approved for funding. This project is one of several that have received support from the University's Educational Technology Center. The purpose of this project is to capture the oral histories of African American women, preserving the collection and making the interviews accessible from a dynamic web exhibition - the first online, audio/visual, digital techno-pedia of African American women's oral history.

Initially, we will focus on interviewing and preserving the oral histories of 5 African American women septuagenarians and octogenarians of Western New York. Secondly, the project will create a multi-media online exhibit accessible as links from both the University Archives (<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/archives>) website and the Uncrowned Queens webpage (<http://www.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>). The website's components will include edited versions of the interviews, interactive study questions for educators and students, and a dynamic virtual guestbook feature where visitors to the exhibit can add a response to the exhibit. Dr. Peggy Brooks-Bertram and Dr. Barbara A. Seals Nevergold will conduct the interviews and oversee the project.

Intended outcomes of this collaboration include the beginning of a permanent, dynamic online exhibition focusing on the oral histories from African American women identified as Uncrowned Queens of Western New York. Importantly, the process of establishing a digital online oral history project has wide applicability and is intended to provide a prototype for future similar oral history projects in the UB community and of the regional oral histories of African American women across the country. The project will connect the University with broader audiences, particularly the University's African American community and enrich historical understanding in public memory by promoting historical research skills and services.

The project represents a continuing collaboration with the University Archives and forms new collaborations with the UB's Educational Technology Center, African American Studies, American Studies and the Educational Opportunity Center. The Uncrowned Queens Institute is pleased that this



project also builds on an existing cultural and historical initiative which began in 1999 and which was an important element of the UB response to the 2001 celebration of the 1901 Pan American Exposition. The Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. is the only continuing initiative of this county-wide centennial celebration and over the past 5 years has grown in stature both locally and nationally. The Institute's website is currently home to the biographical sketches and photos of more than 700 African American women from Buffalo and Western New York.

===== THANKS LISA FRANCESCONE =====

For more than five years Lisa has worked with the Uncrowned Queens Project and Institute as our Webmaster extraordinaire, creative graphic designer and so much more. She has been an integral and valued member of our organization. Lisa has decided to move on to tackle some other challenges. Lisa is enormously talented and we know that she will enhance any project that she decides to work on. She will be sincerely missed. We wish her all the best and although a simple "thank you" is inadequate, we truly appreciate and thank Lisa for all of her hard work, contributions and support over these last years.

===== MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY CENTER BOOK SIGNING =====

On June 12, 2004, Barbara Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram were invited to speak and have a book signing at the Montgomery Community Center in Rochester, New York. The response to this event was overwhelming. Drs. Bertram and Nevergold were greeted by women who expressed support for the Uncrowned Queens Institute and its mission. Many of those in attendance told them about family and friends in Oklahoma that they are going to contact and encourage to become part of the Uncrowned Queens Oklahoma project. In addition, they will spread the word in Rochester and actively promote the Uncrowned Queens. Several women also agreed to give us their biographic sketches and photos. The Uncrowned Queens Institute also was invited to work with Carolyne Blount, Editor of about...time magazine. Mrs. Blount has a wealth of Rochester African American history that she has agreed to share with the Institute. We are indebted to a wonderful woman, Viola Curry, who is responsible for organizing the program and getting more than 40 women to give up a Saturday afternoon to hear about the Uncrowned Queens programs. We appreciate and thank you, Viola, for your support of our mission and work!

===== UQ CO-FOUNDERS SPEAK AT GRADUATE'S RECOGNITION LUNCHEON =====

Peggy Brooks-Bertram and Barbara A. Seals Nevergold will be the keynote speakers at a luncheon, July 10th, sponsored by The Board of Christian Education of St. John Baptist Church. The luncheon will honor all members of the Church who are graduating from educational programs from grammar school to professional schools.

===== HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 17, 2004 =====



## HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 17, 2004

Harriet Tubman Retreat Center, 180 South Street, Auburn, NY

### Tubman Retreat Historical Background

Submitted by Debra Johnson

The Retreat started as a project of the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC) Upstate New York Organizing Committee. This committee was formally organized on January 9, 1993, after the Eastern Region Conference held October 1992 at Erie Community College City Campus, Buffalo, NY.

ASCAC's primary objective is to promote the spirit of pride and love for our African Heritage.

Our purpose is to provide educational programming to serve the needs of our communities throughout Upstate New York

The Harriet Tubman Retreat Committee's founding members included: Debra M. Johnson Coordinator, L Nathan Hare, Bernice Keith, Hank Curtis, Ed and Debra Laundry, Adisa W. Hunter, Menkaure Griffin, and Joyce Hill.

The Committee's purpose is to create an educational program, at the Harriet Tubman home of our ancestor, to help keep her Legacy and vision alive. The Committee also wanted to expand the mission and purpose of ASCAC through out New York and Canada.

### Harriet Tubman Memorial Library Project

We envision the renovated Library becoming the unquestioned authority and resource for authentic archival items and historical documents of Harriet Tubman. An intended outcome is that the library would motivate potential advance degree candidates to concentrate on adding their contributions to the store of knowledge about the period surrounding Harriet Tubman's life.

We envision a state-of-the-art library with computer networked to libraries all over the world to share and acquire information on the history of African people, the Underground Railroad, African Americans in New York State, and most importantly, the history of Harriet Tubman, her family, friends and her community.

### Goals of Retreat Committee Project

1. Help to create a Research and Retreat Center at the Harriet Tubman Home
2. Develop training workshops and classes in teaching a curriculum of African History Worldview
3. Develop a youth institute especially for students at colleges in the area such as Cayuga Community College, Cornell University, Ithaca College, and Syracuse University.
4. Develop classes for high school and elementary students to provide a



forum for the Youth Institute participants to teach what they have learned.  
5. Promote the establishment of study groups as defined by the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations (ASCAC)  
6. Promote ASCAC purpose: to provide a body of knowledge that continuously contributes to the rescue, reconstruction, and restoration of African history and culture.

HARRIET TUBMAN RETREAT JULY 17, 2004  
Harriet Tubman Retreat Center, 180 South Street, Auburn, NY

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

JULY 10: Peggy Brooks-Bertram and Barbara A. Seals Nevergold will be the keynote speakers at a luncheon sponsored by The Board of Christian Education of St. John Baptist Church.

JULY 17: Harriet Tubman Retreat. Harriet Tubman Retreat Center, 180 South Street, Auburn, NY. For details call Charley Fisher at the CAO.

===== NEW UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

We welcome Shirley A. Parks to the sisterhood of Uncrowned Queens.

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

The Uncrowned Queen Institute continues to seek the biographies of women, with connections to Western New York for the website. Our "techno-pedia" continues to expand but we know that there are many more biographies that have not yet been submitted for inclusion in this ground-breaking history project. Biographies can be submitted to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or write the Uncrowned Queens Institute at 984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*

END OF E-MAIL MESSAGE



**Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Francescone, Lisa" <lcf@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2004 8:59 AM  
**Subject:** Uncrowned Queens Newsletter - August 2004

Welcome to the August 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

== UQ INSTITUTE RECEIVES FUNDING FROM ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATOR DEMONE SMITH ==

The Uncrowned Queens Institute is pleased to announce that it has received a grant from Legislator Demone Smith for its on-going programs. Legislator Smith has been supportive of the Institute and pledged assistance not only with the UQ of Western New York project but also with the UQ of Oklahoma project. Thank you, Legislator Smith, for recognizing the importance of preserving African American women's history. We also want to acknowledge the assistance of Board member, Sylvia Wright, for her advocacy on the behalf of the Institute.

== MARY BURNETT TALBERT TO BE INDUCTED IN THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME ==

Thanks to the diligent efforts of a number of people who submitted nominations, on several occasions, for Mary B. Talbert's induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame, Talbert is one of ten women who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in October 2005. The following was excerpted from the National Women's Hall of Fame website.

"SENECA FALLS, NY, July 14, 2004 - As the nation prepares to commemorate the 156TH anniversary of the first women's rights convention, the National Women's Hall of Fame announces its 2005 Inductees.

"These ten women embody the fulfillment of the 1848 convention's vision of women's potential. Each of the inductees represents her own version of the American dream. None of their achievements would have been possible without the work of the brave women and men who convened the first women's rights convention. We are honored to share their stories of perseverance and accomplishment with the nation and the world," said the Hall's President, Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker.

Mary Burnett Talbert (1866 - 1923) Civil Rights activist and suffragist, Talbert was the first African-American high school principal in the state of Arkansas. Moving to Buffalo in 1891, she went on to lecture internationally on race relations and women's rights. In 1905, she helped found and organize the Niagara Movement, a forerunner of the



NAACP.

These ten women will join the 207 already inducted into the Hall, the first national membership organization recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of great American women. For more information on the Hall or its activities, please call (315)568-8060 or visit the Hall's award winning website, [www.greatwomen.org](http://www.greatwomen.org)."

=== AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANCESTRAL TOUR AT FOREST LAWN ===

The Afro American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. in collaboration with Forest Lawn Cemetery [www.forestlawn.org](http://www.forestlawn.org) will sponsor its third annual African American Ancestral Tour at the Cemetery. This guided motor coach tour will feature historical information and re-enactments of several interesting and prominent African Americans whose final resting place is at Forest Lawn. Several of the stops on the tour will be at the gravesites of Uncrowned Queens: Mary B. Talbert <<http://wings.buffalo.edu/./files/talbert.htm>> (look for a special re-enactment of Mrs. Talbert), Amelia G. Anderson, and Theresa G. Evans. The Rev. Willie B. Seals also will be cited on the tour. Rev. Seals is the father of Uncrowned Queens co-founder, Barbara A. Seals Nevergold.

For the second year, Barbara Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram will give a special lecture, preceding the tour. The lecture is entitled, "1901-1905: From Pan American Protest to Niagara Movement: the Buffalo Connection". This presentation examines the early history of the protest movement in the African American community. A \$5.00 donation is requested for the lecture. Refreshments will be served. A donation of \$7 is requested for the tour.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling 885-1606, ext. 302. The lecture will begin at 1:30 pm followed by the tour at 3:00 pm. The lectures and tours are scheduled on August 22 and September 5, 2004.

===== UQ CO-FOUNDERS PARTICIPATE IN FOREST LAWN CEMETERY LECTURE SERIES =====

Barbara A. Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram will be the speakers at a lecture entitled "1901-1905: From Pan Am Protests to the Niagara Movement: the Buffalo Connection". This lecture is part of a special series sponsored by the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. and Forest Lawn Cemetery. The lecture precedes the Ancestral Tour, also sponsored by the Association and Forest Lawn. A \$5 donation is request for the lecture. Refreshments will be served. The lecture will take place at 1:30 pm in the cemetery's Chapel.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS HEALTH AWARENESS NETWORK =====

Uncrowned Queens is developing a new extension to its Web site called



the Uncrowned Queens Health Awareness Network

[http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/history/health\\_aware/index.htm](http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/history/health_aware/index.htm)

We would like to encourage women to share their health stories so that they may help other women to pursue treatment and develop strength during the healing process. The site is not intended to offer answers for all health issues. It is simply a place where women can share stories about issues concerning their health. August Is National Hair Loss Month

There is a month for everything! August is National Hair Loss Awareness Month. The American Academy of Dermatology states that this annual event is designed to increase public awareness about hair loss, the importance of early detection, and available treatment options. Hereditary hair loss, the most common form of hair loss, affects nearly 50 million men and 30 million women in the United States according to the National Hair Journal.

Hair loss is considered a beauty taboo. Confronting the stigma of hair loss poses considerable psychological and emotional challenges for both men and women. For every five men with hereditary hair loss, three women experience the same condition. Yet women's hair thinning remains a "taboo" subject for the media, the public and patients. Did you know that over 20 million women in the United States are suffering from some type of hair loss? About 40% of them are also under forty years old. The emotional aspects of hair loss range from anxiety, depression, frustration and poor self-esteem. Fortunately there are more options available now to help slow down and even reverse hair loss. Given the wide range of problems caused by hair loss, it can be said that one's spirit is a one of many casualties of hair loss no matter the cause. Excess hair loss can have many different causes. Unfortunately, treating and diagnosing female hair loss is not as simple and straightforward as male pattern baldness. Many physicians subscribe to the theory that women should immediately begin a regimen of growth stimulants (whether it is Rogaine for Women or others). Like men's hair loss however, there are underlying causes, and the good news is that a large percent of women's hair loss is completely reversible. The general idea behind diagnosing and treating it involves a responsible informed physician and a series of tests to rule out, or rule in, the causes. Hair loss is especially difficult for women because hair has been called our "crowning glory," and society has placed a great deal of social and cultural importance on hair and hairstyles. Unfortunately, many conditions, diseases, and improper hair care result in excessive hair loss. People, who notice their hair shedding in large amounts after combing or brushing, or whose hair becomes thinner or falls out, should consult a dermatologist. With correct diagnosis, many people with hair loss can be helped. <http://www.aad.org/pamphlets/hairloss.html> Also see <http://familydoctor.org/081.xml>.

This month, the Uncrowned Queens Health Network provides information about women's hair loss with a special story about the experiences of



Deidre Whiteside, a new, beautiful, bald, Uncrowned Queen. See Deidre's Story on the Uncrowned Queens Health Network.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS IN THE NEWS =====

UQ Georgia Burnette recently appeared on AM Buffalo. Georgia was interviewed about the Veteran's History Project, which Georgia has written about extensively.

UQ Zola Crowell is the recipient of a Diversity Scholarship from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She was recommended for this prestigious program by the Northeast Office of the NTHP and was chosen from a field of 87 applicants. Zola will be attending the 58th National Preservation Conference in Louisville, Kentucky from September 28 to October 3, 2004. The conference theme is "Restore America: Communities at a Crossroads". Congratulations, Zola! We are sure that you will have much to contribute at this conference.

UQ Valeria Cray-Dihann was featured in the Buffalo News on Sunday, August 8th. The newspaper article lauded Ms. Cray-Dihann for her artistic accomplishments; she is the first local African-American artist to have her work displayed in the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. She was also recognized for her community achievements, in particular her presidency of 50 Women with a Vision.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

AUGUST 22: Barbara A. Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram will be the speakers at a lecture entitled "1901-1905: From Pan Am Protests to the Niagara Movement: the Buffalo Connection". The lecture precedes the Ancestral Tour at 1:30 pm at the cemetery's Chapel. A \$5 donation is request for the lecture. Refreshments will be served.

AUGUST 22: Ancestral Tour of Forest Lawn Cemetery. 3:00 pm. \$7.00 donation is requested. Tour Guides: Sharon Holley and Barbara A. Seals Nevergold. For reservations call Forest Lawn Cemetery at 885- 1606 ext.302.

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

The Uncrowned Queen Institute continues to seek the biographies of women, with connections to Western New York for the website. Our "techno-pedia" continues to expand but we know that there are many more biographies that have not yet been submitted for inclusion in this ground-breaking history project. Biographies can be submitted to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or write the Uncrowned Queens Institute at 984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at



**Barbara A. Nevergold**

**From:** "Barbara A. Nevergold" <bnevergo@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 05, 2004 4:55 PM  
**Subject:** Uncrowned Queens October 2004 Newsletter

Welcome to the October 2004 edition of the Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. newsletter.

=== UQ INSTITUTE AND FOUNDERS ARE RECOGNIZED IN UB ARCHIVES ON-LINE EXHIBIT ===

The University at Buffalo Archives launched an on-line exhibit, entitled "Women's Work: A Tribute to the Women who make UB work" on September 28, 2004. The exhibit features the biographies and photos of 80 women who have been connected to the University in faculty or staff positions, and in many instances as alumnae. Archivists Jessica Tanny and Karen Walton Morse, who are responsible for the exhibit, introduce the exhibit with the following statement: "Women have been an important part of UB's history from its very beginnings. The University's first alumna graduated in 1876. The University hired its first female staff member in 1888 and its first female faculty members seven years later. As such, women have been, and continue to be, an important part of the life and legacy of this University.

This small exhibition focuses on the achievements that women faculty, staff, and administration have made and their contributions to the University at Buffalo over the past 100 years. Because women have been so involved in the University it would have been impossible to have an all-inclusive exhibit. We have chosen to feature the biographies of approximately 80 women, past and present, who through their own achievements will represent hundreds of their colleagues.

There have been a multitude of women over the years who through many different capacities have made the University work. From administrative assistants to nationally recognized scientists doing cutting-edge research, each woman who has worked at UB, whether specifically highlighted or not, has made a contribution to the University."

In addition to the Uncrowned Queens Institute and its founders, the exhibit includes 11 African-American women, most of whom are Uncrowned Queens. The exhibit links the biographies of these women to their biographies on the Uncrowned Queens website.

The Uncrowned Queens, who are featured in the exhibit include: Rowena Adams Jones, Ruth Bryant, Masani Alexis Deveaux, Mary Gresham, Muriel Howard, Juanita Hunter, Brenda Moore, Barbara Sims and Letitia Thomas-Rogers. Bertha Boston and Bertha Laury are also recognized in the UB exhibit.

The exhibit is located at  
[http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/archives/womens\\_work/](http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/archives/womens_work/)

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS PUBLISHES BROCHURE =====

We are pleased to announce the publication of a new brochure that describes our

10/21/2004



organization, identifies our accomplishments and achievements, states our plans for the future, and offers an opportunity for financial support of our organization from the community. We are indebted to the Honorable Demone Smith who provided the funding that supported this publication. We thank County Legislator Smith for his on-going support of the Uncrowned Queens Institute.

=== AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANCESTRAL TOUR AT FOREST LAWN ===

For the third year, The Afro American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. in collaboration with Forest Lawn Cemetery [www.forestlawn.org](http://www.forestlawn.org) sponsored another successful African American Ancestral Tour at the Cemetery. Almost one hundred individuals took the guided motor coach tour that featured historical information and re-enactments of several interesting and prominent African Americans whose final resting place is at Forest Lawn. Several of the stops on the tour were at the gravesites of Uncrowned Queens: Mary B. Talbert, Amelia G. Anderson, and Theresa G. Evans for example. The Rev. Willie B. Seals, the father of Uncrowned Queens co-founder, Barbara A. Seals Nevergold was also featured on the tour. The tour guides for these tours were Sharon Holley and Barbara A. Seals Nevergold.

For the second year, Barbara Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram gave a special lecture, preceding the tour. The lecture, entitled, "1901-1905: From Pan American Protest to Niagara Movement: the Buffalo Connection", examined the early history of the protest movement in Buffalo's African American community. Forty individuals attended the two lectures, that preceded the Ancestral tours.

Thanks to all for supporting this annual event. It is a vital contribution to the history of African Americans in the Western New York region.

===== UQ SUPPORTS BCN's "ECOMONIC EMPOWERMENT" CONFERENCE =====

Uncrowned Queen Jennifer Parker, of the Black Capital Network, announces upcoming conference "A Call for Action - Building a Legacy of Economic and Intellectual Capital". The conference will take place at the Buffalo Marriott Hotel on October 23, 2004, from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. The conference includes: Workshops, Motivational Speakers, Luncheon, Community Dialogue, Networking, Door prizes, Local, regional and national speakers. The registration fee is \$65.00 for individuals, and for groups, \$55.00 per person. Continental breakfast, lunch, all workshops and materials are included in the registration fee.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS HEALTH AWARENESS NETWORK =====

Uncrowned Queens has developed a new extension to its Web site called the **Uncrowned Queens Health Awareness Network** [http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/history/health\\_aware/index.htm](http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/history/health_aware/index.htm) . We would like to encourage women to share their health stories so that they may help other women to pursue treatment and develop strength during the healing process. The site is not intended to offer answers for all health issues. It is simply a place where women can share stories about issues concerning their health.

===== Bipolar Disorder and African Americans =====

*Every person, regardless of race or ethnicity, should seek help if they have a mental health problem or symptoms of a mental disorder.*

-- David Satcher, M.D.

Former U.S. Surgeon General

An estimated 2.3 million Americans have bipolar disorder, also called manic-depressive illness. A person with bipolar disorder can go from feeling very, very

10/21/2004



high (called *mania*) to feeling very, very low (depression). With proper treatment, people can control these mood swings and lead fulfilling lives. While the rate of bipolar disorder is the same among African Americans as it is among other Americans, African Americans are less likely to receive a diagnosis and, therefore, treatment for this illness.

Most African Americans with bipolar disorder are going undiagnosed and untreated.

**Several factors have contributed to African Americans not receiving help for bipolar disorder and other mental illnesses. Some of the reasons are:**

== A mistrust of health professionals, based in part on historically higher-than-average institutionalization of African Americans with mental illness; and on previous mistreatments, like such tragic events as the Tuskegee syphilis study.

== Cultural barriers between many doctors and their patients.

== Reliance on family and religious community, rather than mental health professionals, during times of emotional distress.

== A tendency to talk about physical problems, rather than discuss mental symptoms, or to mask symptoms with substance abuse or other medical conditions.

== Socioeconomic factors which can limit access to medical and mental health care. About 25 percent of African Americans do not have health insurance.

== Continued misunderstanding and stigma about mental illness.

### **Signs of bipolar disorder**

Bipolar disorder often starts in the teen years, but can emerge in later life. It is a potentially life-threatening illness that a person cannot handle alone. Tragically, one of five people with bipolar disorder commits suicide. The signs of bipolar disorder include:

#### **Mania**

== Excessive energy, restlessness, racing thoughts and rapid talking

== Denial that anything is wrong; Increased sex drive

== Extremely happy feelings; Paranoia; Substance abuse

== Easily irritated; Aggressive behavior

== Needing little sleep; Unrealistic belief in one's ability

== Poor judgment; Sustained, unusual behavior

#### **Depression**

== Poor appetite or eating too much; Nervousness and worry

== Trouble sleeping or sleeping too much

== Loss of interest in and withdrawal from usual activities

== Feelings of sadness that don't go away;

== Irritability or restlessness; Lack of energy

== Feelings of sadness, worthlessness or guilt;

== Inability to think or concentrate; Repeated thoughts of death or suicide;



Chronic pain or other physical problems that don't respond to treatment

== Increased risk-taking behavior, including reckless driving or substance abuse

**No one knows for certain what causes bipolar disorder. But its causes may include:**

== Brain chemistry - There are chemical changes or imbalances in the brain during both extremes of behavior (mania and depression).

== Genetics - Close relatives of people with bipolar disorder are 10 to 20 times more likely to get depression or bipolar disorder than other people.

== Drug and alcohol abuse - More than half of the people diagnosed with bipolar disorder have histories of substance abuse. In some cases, substance abuse precedes the development of the problem; in others, alcohol or other drugs may be used as a form of self-medication.

== Stressful or disturbing events - Both can cause mood swings

**Bipolar disorder can be treated.**

== There is hope. People with bipolar disorder can be helped by treatment. Treatment can include:

== Medication - The doctor may recommend one or more medicines to find what works best.

== Counseling - Often, psychotherapy or other forms of counseling are used in combination with medication.

== Peer Support - The advice and support of others who have bipolar disorder can aid recovery.

== Complementary Care - Some people benefit from exercise, stress reduction classes and other activities to complement their treatment and help them manage their illness.

== ECT, or electroconvulsive therapy - This is used as a last resort to treat severe bouts of depression and suicidal thoughts. It's only considered when medication and therapy haven't worked.

-- Former U.S. Surgeon General, David Satcher, M.D.--

===== LEWAC OFFERS SERIES ON WOMEN'S HEALTH =====

Catherine Lewis-Smith & Dr. Glen Smith are conducting a 3 segment series "**The Prime of Our Lives**" on women's health starting October 5, 2004 6-8 PM at the William/Emslie "Y" - The dates are Tuesday, October 5th; Tuesday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 26, 2004. Times each session: 6-8 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS IN THE NEWS =====

UQ Zola Crowell is the recipient of a Diversity Scholarship from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She was recommended for this prestigious program by the Northeast Office of the NTHP and was chosen from a field of 87 applicants. Zola will be attending the 58<sup>th</sup> National Preservation Conference in

10/21/2004



Louisville, Kentucky from September 28 to October 3, 2004. The conference theme is "Restore America: Communities at a Crossroads". Congratulations, Zola! We are sure that you will have much to contribute at this conference.

UQ Valeria Cray-Dihann was featured in the Buffalo News on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. The newspaper article lauded Ms. Cray-Dihann for her artistic accomplishments; she is the first local African-American artist to have her work displayed in the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. She was also recognized for her community achievements, in particular her presidency of 50 Women with a Vision.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

OCTOBER 5, 12, & 26: Workshops, "The Prime of Our Lives", on women's health. 6:00-8:00pm each date, William/Emslie YMCA, Light refreshments served.

OCTOBER 23: Economic Empowerment Conference, sponsored by the Black Capital Network. 9:00am - 4:00pm, Buffalo/Niagara Marriott, Registration fee, \$65 per person, groups, \$55 per person.

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

The Uncrowned Queen Institute continues to seek the biographies of women, with connections to Western New York for the website. Our "techno-pedia" continues to expand but we know that there are many more biographies that have not yet been submitted for inclusion in this groundbreaking history project. Biographies can be submitted to us at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) or write the Uncrowned Queens Institute at 984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/> You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*

END OF E-MAIL MESSAGE



# Buffalo Soldiers: Lest We Forget to Honor our Veterans

By Georgia Burnette

African Americans have served honorably and courageously in every American war. Theirs is a history of nobility in the face of American prejudice, and courage in the face of America's enemies.

**H**ow do you celebrate Veterans Day? Shopping at the mall? Vacationing? Catching up on homework, housework, the newspaper, the latest bestseller or resting? Or perhaps you had to work that day? In the not-too-distant-past, it was a day to remember and honor the veterans of our country. Now, somehow we are too busy doing other things.

**-It's Time To Celebrate-**

For Veterans Day 2004, take a veteran to lunch or supper. Better yet, involve the entire family and plan a Veterans Family Day Supper, asking for covered dishes to feed the crowd. Surely everyone has a relative or knows someone who served in a branch of the service, because the draft was an inescapable part of life at one time.

**-Sharing Their Stories-**

Be aware when you ask the former (or current) serviceman or woman to join you in celebrating the day, they might be surprised, but I assure you, they'll be pleased. When offering the invitation, ask the veteran to consider sharing memories of times spent in the military. If it's a close relative (father, brother, grandfather, favorite uncle or cousin) remind them that their story will expand and complement the family history as well as provide a legacy to the younger generation. A friend recalled how much she enjoyed reading the stories of her father-in-law's World War II experiences, thinking, "What a wonderful gift to us."

This may be the first time these stories have been discussed with anyone, evoking strong and sometimes hurtful memories. And do not be surprised if your request is met with a smile and a polite, "Not now, maybe later." or "I'd rather not talk about those days, thank you." Respect these wishes and enjoy the day. Perhaps the memories are too painful to recall.

Our older veterans are a shrinking group and we need to record their stories to set the historical record straight. Sharing their experiences is a chance for them to describe in their own words, feelings about institutional racism of the past, and how they dealt with it.

Many veterans felt the military did not take advantage of their abilities and all too often, this was true. It was representative of the times when African Americans were thought to be incapable of higher level thinking and performance, a problem we still confront today in many situations.

**-Recalling Past Generations-**

Albert Bell, an 82 year old WWII veteran can certainly speak to that issue. Inducted in 1942, he was trained at Lt Leonard Wood, Missouri as a combat engineer. But after six months in a Field Artillery Battalion learning to fire the 155mm Howitzer, his group was pulled out and sent to New Orleans where they were assigned to a Port Battalion, loading and unloading cargo onto ships. Six months later he was transferred to Station Island, N.Y., where they loaded vessels heading for combat zones in the European theater of war. His unit was segregated and discrimination off-base was the order of the day.

Mr. Bell served overseas from 1944-46 in England and France, hitting the Normandy Beachhead on D-Day plus 21. At one time he loaded trucks that traveled the Red Ball Express, with Black drivers who risked life and limb transporting supplies to the front lines.

Following his discharge in January 1946, Mr. Bell returned to the United States.

John Henderson Jr., a veteran of the Korean War, was drafted into the Army, November, 1952. He received reconnaissance training in a Tank Battalion at Fort Knox, KY., and assigned to a special unit whose members examined and rated equipment for combat readiness, prior to purchase by the military. He field-tested jeeps, tanks, half-tracks, ducks (amphibious troop carriers), etc., in Arizona and Alaska. In this instance, his training and subsequent assignment were commensurate with his talents and abilities.

Prior to that time, President Truman had in 1948 issued Executive Order number 9981, Desegregation of Armed Forces. Mr. Henderson's battalion was racially integrated, and off-base, he recalled encountering minimal discrimination. Nevertheless, despite the Executive Order, enforcement was spotty at best, and often depended upon the base commander.

Mr. Henderson does recall an incident when African American servicemen were asked to sit in the back of the local bus transporting personnel from the base into town. The men spoke to their commanding officer who assured the bus company that if the practice wasn't discontinued immediately, the military would substitute their own buses to service the base. The practice ceased forthwith!

Upon discharge from the Army, Mr. Henderson joined the US Army Reserve.

Leon Kelly, Jr. was a career veteran who traveled the world while serving in the Marine Corps, the Navy and the National Guard. At age 17, he enlisted in the Marine Corps, Third Marine Division, receiving training in amphibious assault. He later served two tours of duty in the Navy assigned to Special Services on the USS Sierra AD-18, and the USS Brumby DE-1044. Upon discharge from the Navy in 1975, he joined the National Guard in New Jersey, transferring to Buffalo, N.Y. and was assigned to the 27th Armored Division at the Masten Avenue Armory. He retired in 1979.

Mr. Kelly enjoyed his long service in the military, but encountered racial discrimination throughout his career, primarily in the United States. He recalls an incident in Quantico, VA., when he was asked to sit in the back of the bus, but the three White Marine recruits with him

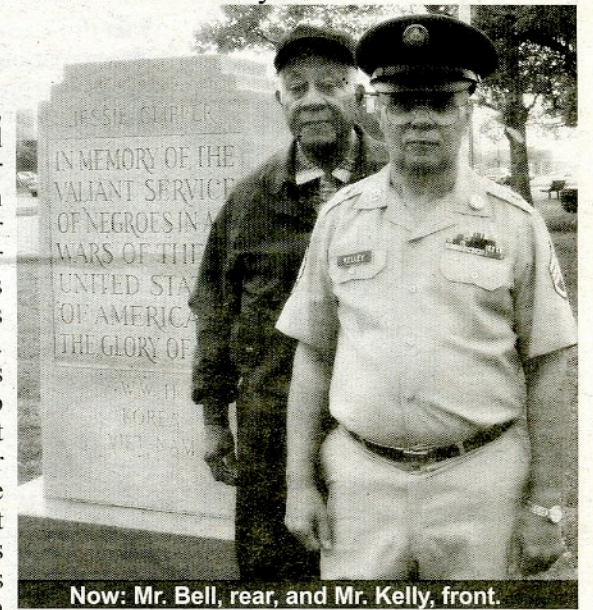
from Jamestown, N.Y., said they'd sit back in the rear with him. When the bus driver refused, all four young Marines exited the bus together. Mr. Kelly remembers this incident so vividly because it was shortly after arriving at the base. He said "It opened my eyes to the differences between the north and the south at the time."

Mr. Kelly was fortunate to have visited many foreign countries during his numerous tours of duty, and will proudly show you his leatherjacket with names of the countries etched on the back.

**-Writing Our Own History-**

This generation of children knows little or nothing of the African American role in past conflicts. There is much yet to be written. We must therefore assume the responsibility for documenting our experiences or our point of view will be lost.

The opportunity to record past military encounters now exists with The Veterans History Project. The program, established in 2000 by the Federal Government, seeks to capture and record the memories and documents of the



Now: Mr. Bell, rear, and Mr. Kelly, front.

Then: Mr. Bell, top, and Mr. Kelly, bottom.



men and women who served in the Armed Forces and those in support of them, including civilian volunteers, support staff and war industry workers.

Throughout the Western New York area, there are eight sites where veteran interviews are recorded and sent to the Library of Congress for posterity. However, the only site within the city is at the Veterans Medical Center on Bailey Avenue. Fern Beavers, Project Director and her staff have recorded close to 50 interviews and is waiting to take your call for an appointment.

Please call Fern Beavers at 862-3114, Sam Feaster 834-9200 or this writer (Georgia Burnette) at 691-8106. In the meantime, make reservations at your favorite restaurant, or plan a bash at home or in the church hall to honor the veterans in your life!

## The Black Soldier: A Portrait in Bravery and Sacrifice

From enslaved Africans in the Revolutionary War, to Colin Powell as the top military man of Desert Storm, African Americans have served honorably and courageously in every American war. Theirs is a history of nobility in the face of American prejudice, and courage in the face of America's enemies. We salute them on this Veteran's Day. Following is a brief history of the sacrifice of America's Black soldiers:

\* **Crispus Attucks**, the son of an African father and a Massachusetts Natick Indian mother, struck the first blow against the British soldiers in the streets of Boston on March 5, 1770 (Africans in America were still enslaved). When the British opened fire, Attucks, along with four others, was killed. He and his companions became the first popular martyrs of the American Revolution.

\* During the Revolutionary War, some 5,000 Blacks served under George Washington. By 1779, as many as one in seven members of Washington's army were Black. According to historian Thomas Fleming, the Continental Line was "more integrated than any American force except the armies that fought in the Vietnam

and the Gulf Wars."

\* The 1st Rhode Island was the only all-Black regiment in the other wise integrated Continental Army.

\* **William Lee**, George Washington's favorite slave, known as his "Black shadow," fought by his side throughout the Revolutionary War.

\* **Peter Salem**, a Black veteran of Concord Bridge, was a hero of the day when he killed Major Pitcairn, the British commander who led the assault on Bunker Hill.

\* **Oliver Cromwell**, a Black man, crossed the Delaware with Washington

\* **Blacks** were basically eliminated from the military after the Revolution. In 1792, Congress restricted militia service to "free able-bodied White male citizens." Most states followed suit.

\* **Sergeant William Carney** of the 54th Massachusetts, the first regiment of free northern Blacks created during the Civil War after the Emancipation Proclamation, was the first Black winner of the newly created Medal of Honor.

\* **Sergeant Major Lewis Douglass** of the 54th Massachusetts was the eldest son of Fredrick Douglass in the Civil War. He wrote to his fiancé: "I wish we

### Tuskegee Airmen



**About the Author...**

Georgia Burnette is a retired nurse administrator and educator whose career spanned a period of 40 years. She retired in 1993.

In 1999 she began a career in freelance writing and has been published widely. In 2002 she became aware of The Veterans History Project; a program authorized by Congress, which seeks to capture and record the stories of servicemen and women. In May she was published in *The Officer*, the official publication of the Reserve Officers Association. That paper was presented at the annual meeting of The

Oral History Association in October in Portland Oregon. Her interest in the stories of Black veterans led to several published articles describing their military service. These stories spoke candidly and with great emotion to the issue of segregation from the veteran's point of view.

Fern Beavers of the Veterans Administration, has invited Georgia to co-author a book about minority veterans with a publication date of early 2005.





**CONTINUED**  
**The Black Soldier**

had a hundred thousand colored troops. We would soon put an end to this war."

\*The 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Colored Artillery Battery was a rare Black artillery unit in the Civil War.

\*A unit of the 107<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry took part in the crucial capture of Fort Fisher in January 1865 during the Civil War.

\*Lieutenant Henry O. flipper was the first Black graduate of West Point in 1877.

\*West Point cadet Charles Young, class of 1889, was the third Black graduate of the U.S. Military Academy. A hero of the Philippines and Mexico and a legendary Buffalo Soldier, Young hoped to lead Black troops in World War I but was instead retired as a full colonel because the military could not accept even the thought of a Black general.

\*Lieutenant Benjamin O. Davis of the U.S. Army Cavalry in 1907, became the Army's first Black general. He was the father of Benjamin O. Davis Jr. who led America's first Black fighter pilots in the Second World War.

\*Eugene Bullard - boxer, acrobat, aviator and spy, was a hero of the French Foreign Legion, the French army, and the French air corps. Decorated in two world wars, by the time he received the French Legion of Honor in recognition of his heroism, he was back home in America, working as an elevator man.

\*The Spanish Civil War was the first war in which White Americans fought under Black commanders.

\*During the Spanish-American War, Theodore Roosevelt and his "heroic" Rough Riders were saved from humiliation and defeat by the Black Ninth and Tenth Calvaries.

\*World War I veterans fought for and came home to the most racist American political regime since before the Civil War. Within four months of Harlem's heroic 369<sup>th</sup> Regiment's triumphal Fifth Avenue parade, there were race wars in the streets of America. The summer of 1919 was known among Blacks as Red Summer - "Red" for blood. Seventy-eight Blacks were lynched (on record) in 1919; ten were veterans, several of whom were lynched in uniform. By the end of the year, there had been race riots in 28 cities, North and South. Blacks were fighting back.

\*The first American hero of World War II was Black. Dorie Miller was a messman on the burning deck of the U.S.S. West Virginia at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. A shy 22-year-old son of a Texas sharecropper, he carried the ship's mortally wounded captain to safety, then manned an anti-aircraft gun to bring down what witnesses said were four Japanese planes. Miller had never been taught to fire the anti-aircraft gun; it was against Navy regulations for Blacks to do so. Only when the ammunition was exhausted and the Arizona was sinking beneath him did he abandon ship. It took three months for his heroism to be officially recognized. Miller became the first Black to win the Navy Cross.

\*The 332<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group, led by Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., was America's first Black fighter pilots. The 332<sup>nd</sup>

flew more combat missions than any other unit in Europe during World War II. In 200 missions they never lost a single bomber.

\*Captain Roscoe C. Brown, Jr., in March 1945, was one of the first Americans to shoot down a German jet. Film of Brown's jet encounter was used by the War Department as combat training for new pilots.

\*The Marines was the last branch of military service to open its ranks to Black volunteers, the first which joined in 1944.

\*The U.S. military remained rigidly segregated throughout World War II, but the Battle of the Bulge saw a brief racial experiment when Black platoons fought in the crucial stages of the Battle among eleven combat divisions. When the Battle of the Bulge was over, the Blacks

were returned to their segregated units.

\*On August 6, 1950, Private First Class William Thompson became the first GI to win the Medal of Honor in Korea and the first Black to win the medal since the Spanish-American War. His medal was awarded posthumously because his commander at first refused to submit the recommendation.

\*Colonel Fred V. Cherry's portrait hangs in the Pentagon. A pilot who was shot down over North Vietnam in October 1965, Cherry became the first Black American prisoner of war. He spent eight years as a POW.

\*The Gulf War, with the ascendancy of General Colin Powell as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, marked the historical zenith of the Black American military experience. Blacks, about 12 percent of the U.S. population, made up 20 percent of the total U.S. troops in the Gulf; some 30 percent of the Army, 22 percent of the Navy, 17 percent of the frontline Marines, and 13 percent of the Air Force.

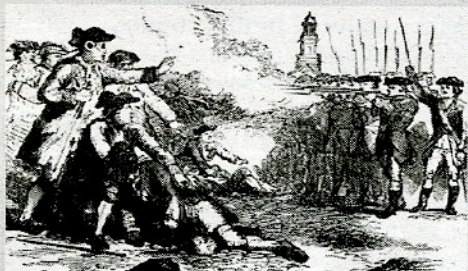
**-Additional Military History Facts-**

\*Bambaata (1865-1906), a courageous Zulu leader, tried to rid Southern Africa of European settlers. His "rebellion" lasted nine months (July 1905-April 1906) ending in his death.

\*Shaka Zulu of South Africa (1786-1828) was one of the finest warriors and generals in history.

\*Ann Nzinga (1582-1663) fought and defeated the Portuguese slavers for more than 18 years in what is today Angola. She commanded a woman army of fierce warriors.

\*In 1896, Emperor Menelik II of Ethiopia, destroyed an Italian force sent to colonize his nation. This was one of the largest military confrontations between Africans and Europeans ever witnessed. (From "American Patriots" by Gail Buckley and "A Crash Course in Black History" by Zak A. Kondo.)



Crispus Attucks, a Black man, was the first to die in Boston against the British.

**Sam Feaster:  
VA Specialist  
Helps Local Vets**

Sam Feaster can speak from experience when he talks to veterans about their VA benefits. Feaster was 18 years old when he joined the Marine Corps, the beginning of his 23 year Federal service. In the Marines he took part in NATO operations throughout Europe. His VA career has been spent as a Patient Services Assistant in the admissions office where he has assisted thousands of area veterans who seek health care from the VA.

Feaster provides eligibility information to veterans, explaining the process that can enroll them in the largest health care system in the nation, the one that has been chosen by over 40,000 veterans here in Western New York. "Veterans who use the VA feel comfortable here because we have so many veterans on the staff. They like the care they receive and they know the excellent prescription benefits can't be matched anywhere," he said.

An enthusiastic spokesman for VA Healthcare, Feaster has taken part in VA outreach at many local events such as the Juneteenth Festival, Erie County Fair, Broadway Market Health Fair, area churches and veteran's posts. The personal contact he provides is welcomed by veterans in completing the paperwork involved in obtaining VA services. He is a member of the VA's Minority Veterans Committee which works to eliminate barriers to VA health care access. He is a member of several veterans' organizations, including the AMVETS and the Vietnam Veterans of America.

Feaster can be reached at the VA at 862-8894 or for assistance in enrolling for VA care. He is available to speak to groups on VA eligibility.

"I want to clear up misinformation about the VA and tell veterans about the respect and compassion veterans will find here," he stated.

**DID YOU KNOW...**

\*The TransAtlantic slave trade and the Eastern slave trade killed more than 100 million Africans. It ranks today as the worst holocaust in history.

\*European 'civilizers' did not legally abolish slavery in East Afrika until 1922.

\*Nine of the first twelve presidents of the U.S. were slave owners. -Zak A. Kondo

**GAS PRICES  
HAVE YOU  
DOWN?**

Call 842-0528  
Ellicott Town Center  
Gas is included



**SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS**

Index No. I-2004-9156

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF ERIE

-----X  
CHAMPION MORTGAGE, A  
DIVISION OF KEY BANK, USA  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
SUCCESSOR TO THE INTERESTS  
OF CHAMPION MORTGAGE CO., INC.

Plaintiff,

against-

THE HEIRS AT LARGE OF DARRYL HARRIS DECEASED, and all persons who are wives, widows, grantees, mortgagees, lienors, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors of interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors of interest all of whom and whose names and places are unknown to the Plaintiff: THE HEIRS AT LARGE OF HENRIETTA HARRIS, AS HEIR OF DARRYL HARRIS, DECEASED, and all persons who are husbands, widows, grantees, mortgagees, lienors, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors of interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors of interest all of whom and whose names and places are unknown to the Plaintiff: DIANE HARRIS, AS HEIR OF DARRYL HARRIS, DECEASED; FLEET NATIONAL BANK; ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; "JOHN DOE AND "JANE DOE" said names being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants of premises being foreclosed herein,

Defendants.

-----X  
Mortgaged Premises:  
91 BURGARD PLACE  
BUFFALO, NY 14211

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S):

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer, on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that there is a deficiency in the sale proceeds, a deficiency judgment may be entered against you. Erie County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the mortgaged premises. Dated: October 11, 2004. FEIN, SUCH & CRANE, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Office and P.O. Address, 1800 First Federal Plaza, Rochester, N.Y. 14614, Telephone No. (585) 325-6202. District: Section: 101.56, Block: 5, Lot: 23. NATURE AND OBJECT OF ACTION. The object of the above action is to foreclose a mortgage held by the Plaintiff recorded in the County of Erie, State of New York on a December 23, 2003, in Liber 13036 of Mortgages, at page 7284, said mortgage was assigned by KeyBank National Association to Plaintiff herein by an Assignment of Mortgage dated February 6, 2003 and recorded March 13, 2003 in Liber 13056 of Assignments of Mortgage, at Page 835. TO THE DEFENDANT, except DARRYL HARRIS, deceased, the plaintiff makes no personal claim against you in this action. To the above named defendants: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Hon. Erin M. Peradtto, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of N.Y., dated October 28, 2004 and filed along with the supporting papers in the Erie County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a mortgage. The premises described as follows: Beginning at a point in the east side of Burgard Place, Eight Hundred Eighty-two and fifty-two hundredths (882.52) feet North of Walden Avenue; begin a plot 130 feet by 30 feet by 130 feet by 30 feet. Premises known as 91 Burgard Place, N.Y. 14211, Section: 101.56 Block: Lot: 23.

**Tell them you saw it in**

**The Challenger**



**Barbara A. Nevergold**

---

**From:** "Barbara A. Nevergold" <bnevergo@buffalo.edu>  
**To:** <UNCROWNEDQUEENS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 29, 2004 5:29 PM  
**Subject:** Uncrowned Queens December 2004 Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE DECEMBER 2004 EDITION OF THE UNCROWNED QUEENS INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ON WOMEN, INC. NEWSLETTER. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide our e-mail users with the most current information pertaining to Uncrowned Queens' activities and events.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT: IT'S A WRAP! =====

Drusilla Dunjee Houston, after whom this web site is named, would often describe her meetings with outstanding women and men in Oklahoma as engaging in "mountain-stepping." Indeed, meeting with and recording the oral histories of UQ octogenarians and septuagenarians was truly "mountain stepping." On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Barbara and I began meeting with women selected for the UQ digital oral history project. The purpose of this project is to capture the oral histories of African American women, in their 70's and 80's, preserving the collection and making the interviews accessible from a dynamic web exhibition - the first online, audio/visual, digital *techno-pedia*.

The project began with the interview of Uncrowned Queens Gwendolyn Greene followed by Eva Noles, Thelma Ayers Hardiman, Garnet Hicks Wallace, and Georgia Burnette. The initial goal is to collect and preserve the oral histories of 5-10 Uncrowned Queens who are septuagenarians and octogenarians. Secondly, the project will create a multi-media online exhibit accessible as links from both the University Archives <<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/archives>> website and the Uncrowned Queens web page. The website's components will include edited versions of the interviews, interactive study questions for educators and students, and a dynamic virtual guest book feature where visitors to the exhibit can add a response to the exhibit.

These oral history interviews are the beginning of a permanent, dynamic online exhibition focusing on the oral histories from African American women identified as Uncrowned Queens of Western New York. This project connects the University with far broader audiences because as a digital online oral history project it has wide applicability and will provide a prototype for future similar oral history projects. It will also enrich historical understanding in public memory by promoting historical skills and services.

We were privileged to be able to conduct the interviews in the homes of the "Queens." Here they took the opportunity to make available any and all documents, photos and other materials that they wanted to share. We were not disappointed. First, we were most impressed with the willingness of the "queens" to share personal and professional information about themselves and their families. Personal attributes of the "queens" were also both impressive and illuminating. Each had a vivid memory of events and the detail of the events was extraordinary. They talked about the obstacles in their lives and how they overcame them. It was curious to see that little was made of the obstacles as they focused more on their triumphs over obstacles. They encountered many problems and one of the most frequently referred to social problem was racism. It was interesting to see that each individual experienced racism differently.

11/29/2004



Consistent with the data in Vol. II of Uncrowned Queens, African American Women Community Builders of Western New York, Uncrowned Queens have a long and rich history of Church involvement. This is matched only by their involvement in Black women's social clubs and organizations. All share a deep appreciation and love of higher education. Each has a long record of community activism and love for the African American community.

This is only the beginning of our journey into the oral memoirs of these extraordinary women. In our next update on this project, we will share with you some of the names, places and organizations remembered by these extraordinary women. Perhaps you will remember them also.

== UNCROWNED QUEENS TO COMMEMORATE THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT CENTENNIAL ==

Next year, 2005, is a very significant year for the entire Buffalo and Western New York community. It is the centennial of the Niagara Movement. As a bit of background, the Niagara Movement, albeit short-lived, was an organization founded by a group of African American leaders that included W.E.B. DuBois, John Hope, and Monroe Trotter. It is believed that local Buffalo residents Mary B. Talbert, her husband W.H. Talbert and the Rev J. Edward Nash were also involved in the founding meetings, and at least one of these meetings was held at 521 Michigan Avenue, site of Mr. & Mrs. Talbert's home. The Talbert home was located next door to the Michigan Street Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. J. Edward Nash. Held from July 11-14, 1905, the Niagara Movement, named for the mighty Falls, because of the plan to "unleash a mighty current" of protest laid the groundwork of the modern civil rights movement and is recognized as the fore-runner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

The Uncrowned Queens Institute is planning several activities to commemorate the Niagara Movement Centennial. In fact, we are advising you now to reserve the dates, October 7-8, 2005. Induction ceremonies will be held that weekend for Mary B. Talbert and nine other women into the National Women's Hall of Fame. The Institute will organize a bus trip to Seneca Falls for the induction services. Additional information will be available in the next few months.

===== NIAGARA MOVEMENT CENTENNIAL YEAR KICK-OFF =====

The Uncrowned Queens Institute is partnering with the Studio Arena Theatre, Tops Markets, County Legislator Demone Smith, the Convention & Visitor's Bureau, the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club (and other partners to be named), in hosting a Kick-off event to commemorate the Centennial of the Niagara Movement founding in 1905. Open to the public, the Niagara Movement Centennial Kick-off will be held at the Theatre, 710 Main Street, from 1:00 - 3:00pm. All of the community/civic organizations that have plans for events during the centennial year have been invited to attend the Kick-off and bring literature, etc. to publicize their events.

We have also been working with Studio Arena Theatre to capitalize on the production of the play, "CROWNS", a gospel musical based on the importance of hats in the religious lives of African American women. The UQ Institute has identified 16 African American women leaders whose photos will be exhibited at the Theatre throughout the production. The Uncrowned Queens Institute and Studio Arena will unveil this exhibit during the Centennial Kick-off. This display lends a personal/contemporary face to the Centennial events and underscores the continuing role that African American women play in their churches and in the life of their community.

===== UNCROWNED QUEENS NIGHT AT STUDIO ARENA =====

11/29/2004



You're invited to join our local "crowned" Uncrowned Queens for a performance of the award-winning musical CROWNS at Studio Arena on Thursday, January 6, 2005 at 8:00pm. Enjoy a wonderful performance and help support the work of the Uncrowned Queens Institute. Tickets are \$50.00 and can be obtained by calling: 832-7928 or 834-7302.

== MARY B. TALBERT INDUCTION IN THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

==

This is a reminder to reserve the dates, October 7-8, 2005. Induction ceremonies will be held that weekend for Mary B. Talbert and nine other women into the National Women's Hall of Fame. The Institute is collaborating with the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club to organize a bus trip to Seneca Falls for the induction services. Additional information will be available in the next few months.

===== KUDOS TO QUEENS =====

Yvonne Hudson, a woman who has personally kept my hair beautifully trimmed and styled (and at one time, fried, dyed and laid to the side), is hanging up her apron and putting away her combs, brushes and scissors. Yvonne, the proprietor of Yvonne's Beauty Cutique isn't closing up shop, however. She has officially turned over the keys to the salon to her young protégé, Lisa Daniels. Under Lisa's ownership, the salon is now known as Brown Sugar and is located at 2970 Bailey Avenue.

Yvonne and husband, Robert, are planning to re-locate to St. Petersburg, Florida for a well-deserved retirement. We wish Yvonne and Robert all the best, and will miss this beautiful, gracious woman, whose infectious smile and warm hugs were value added extras to her impeccable skills as a hair stylist.

===== TIMBUKTU EXHIBIT COMING TO BUFFALO =====

The Legacy of Timbuktu Preview is coming to Buffalo Friday December 3rd at the Buffalo Science Museum and Saturday December 4th at the Langston Hughes Institute. You will have the opportunity to meet the scholars: Cheikh Abdel Kader Haidara, heir, and curator of the Mamma Haidara Library of Timbuktu, a family library since the 16th century of about 9,000 manuscripts and Dr. Stephanie Diakite', manuscript conservator, attorney for the Malian Government.

Uncrowned Queen Samadah Nur is encouraging everyone to witness a part of our history by viewing of these Ancient Manuscripts. For more information: Contact: Malukah Mohamed - 881-4223, Buffalo Museum of Science - 896-5200, and Langston Hughes Institute- 881-3266.

===== NEVERGOLD AND BERTRAM WILL BE HONORED BY NCCJ =====

On January 25, 2005, Barbara A. Seals Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram will receive the Education Award of the National Conference for Community and Justice. The presentation will take place during NCCJ's 52<sup>nd</sup>. Annual Sister/Brotherhood Celebration Luncheon at the Buffalo Convention Center. We are honored and pleased to have our work on the Uncrowned Queens Institute, in addition to our other educational endeavors, recognized by this venerable organization.

===== UPCOMING EVENTS =====

December 2, 2004: 8:00 pm. "Local Author Book Signing" sponsored by True Bethel

11/29/2004



Baptist Church, Rev. Darius G. Pridgen, Pastor. The Church is located at 907 E. Ferry Street.

December 3 & 4, 2004: Timbuktu Preview at Buffalo Museum of Science and Langston Hughes Center. Check local media for details or call Malukah Mohamed - 881-4223.

January 1, 2005: 1:30pm- 3:00pm. "Niagara Movement Centennial Year Kick-Off" at Studio Arena Theatre, 710 Main Street. Niagara Movement Centennial Year Community Events/Various Community organizational displays. Unveiling of the Uncrowned Queens Niagara Movement Centennial Exhibit. Presentation of UQ Culture Keeper Awards: Lillion Batchelor, founder Buffalo Quarters Historical Society and Wilma Morrison, President of the Niagara Black History Society.

January 8, 2005: 8:00pm. Uncrowned Queens Night at Studio Arena's production of "CROWNS". More information to follow on tickets.

January 25, 2005: 12:00 pm. NCCJ 52<sup>nd</sup>.Annual Sister/Brotherhood Celebration Luncheon: Uncrowned Queens co-founders will be honored with the NCCJ Education Award. Buffalo Convention Center. Tickets: \$40.00 For more information call: 853-9596

===== NOMINATE AN UNCROWNED QUEEN =====

We continue to accept nominations for Uncrowned Queens. The mission is to recognize and honor these "unsung" royalties and to preserve the history of these women and their contributions to our community. Success is measured by the numerous requests received from students, all over the world, who are using the site for historical, cultural and sociological research. You can assist in this important work by spreading the word about Uncrowned Queens; submit a nomination for an Uncrowned Queen.

Nomination forms and information are available on the Web site at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens>. You may also contact Peggy Brooks Bertram or Barbara Seals Nevergold at [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS LIST-SERVE E-MAIL

If you would like to be removed from this list-serve, please send an e-mail to [uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com](mailto:uncrownedqueens@buffalo.com) with the word "Unsubscribe" in the Subject heading.

\*\*\*\*\*

END OF E-MAIL MESSAGE



# County of Erie Executive Chamber Proclamation

- WHEREAS*, Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, the first African-American to earn a doctorate from Harvard University, author of the Souls of Black Folk, and sociologist who proclaimed the race problem as the “greatest problem of the 20<sup>th</sup> century”, called for a national meeting of Black leaders to be held in Buffalo, New York and Fort Erie, Ontario from July 11 to July 14, 1905; and
- WHEREAS*, this meeting attended by 29 men, including DuBois, William Monroe Trotter, John Hope and others came to be known as the Niagara Movement, named for the Falls because the leaders wanted to unleash a “mighty torrent of protest”; and
- WHEREAS*, the members of the Niagara Movement met at the home of William H. and Mary B. Talbert at 521 Michigan Avenue and at the Erie Beach Hotel and developed a manifesto calling for full civil liberties, abolition of racial discrimination, and recognition of human brotherhood; and
- WHEREAS*, the Niagara Movement, in its brief five-year history established 30 branches and achieved several civil-rights victories at the local level, despite its organizational weakness and lack of funds; and
- WHEREAS*, the Niagara Movement is recognized as the first significant black organized protest movement of the twentieth century and is credited with clearing the way and chartering a course for the establishment of the NAACP in 1909
- WHEREAS*, the Centennial of the Niagara Movement funding will be commemorated during 2005 by a bi-national collaboration resulting in numerous organizational observances and programs in Western New York and Canada;

*NOW, THEREFORE, I JOEL A. GIAMBRA, ERIE COUNTY EXECUTIVE*, do hereby proclaim the year of 2005

## “Niagara Movement Centennial Year”



*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I  
have caused to be affixed the  
Seal of the County of Erie,  
this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2004

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Joel A. Giambra". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**JOEL A. GIAMBRA  
ERIE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER  
NEW YORK

December 29, 2004

Ms. Barbara Nevergold  
Uncrowned Queens Institute  
984 Parkside Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14216

Dear Ms. Nevergold,

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Uncrowned Queens Institute and its many community partners in memorializing the Centennial of the Niagara Movement. I regret that prior commitments prevent me from joining you in person. I am, however, with you in spirit.

In 1905, an organization of black intellectuals led by W.E.B. Dubois, John Hope, Monroe Trotter and 27 others, met secretly in the home of Mary B. Talbert, a prominent member of Buffalo's Michigan Street Baptist Church. The organization sent forth a clarion call for full political, civil, and social rights for Black Americans. This development, known as the Niagara Movement, is recognized as the first significant Black organized protest movement of the twentieth century and was the precursor of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which is nationally recognized today as the NAACP.

It is indeed significant for Buffalo, New York to be distinguished as the home of the Niagara Movement. Today it is vitally important for each of us to pause and remember our roots, and to respect the heritage of others; for it is the grand diversity of this country that makes the American spirit unique.

You have my very best wishes for an enjoyable celebration!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise".

Louise Slaughter  
Member of Congress



# THE BUFFALO NEWS

## Studio Arena production gives boost to Niagara Movement's July convention

By JANICE L. HABUDA  
News Staff Reporter  
12/31/2004



Harry Scull Jr./Buffalo News Peggy Brooks-Bertram, left, and Barbara Seals Nevergold check out a historical poster about Uncrowned Queens.

Going strictly by the calendar, the centennial of the Niagara Movement's historic convention isn't until July.

But events commemorating the forerunner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People begin Saturday in Studio Arena Theatre. From 1 to 3 p.m., the public can learn about the plans of myriad

groups that intend to observe the centennial throughout the year.

Studio Arena is presenting the gospel musical "Crowns," which celebrates the tradition of hats worn to church by African-American women.

Before opening night Jan. 7, the theater is unveiling a photo exhibit developed with the Uncrowned Queens Institute of Research and Education on Women that features several members of the organization wearing their "crowns."

"Our idea was to reflect the diversity of ways in which these women have contributed to the community at large and the African-American community," said Barbara Seals Nevergold, co-founder of the institute. "We all wear different hats at different times."

Uncrowned Queens Institute honors black women in Western New York who have made significant contributions to the community, dating to the Pan American Exposition of 1901.

The exhibit will remain at the theater throughout the play's run, which ends Jan. 30. It also will be featured in Tops Markets around the region during February - Black History Month - and in Canada in March.

"While this is a fun thing, the idea is not to lose sight of the historic event," Nevergold said.

It was July 1905 in Fort Erie, Ont., that dozens of black intellectuals, writers and activists met for three days, laying the foundation of the civil rights movement of the 20th century and the NAACP, which was formed several years later.

At least one preliminary meeting was held in the Michigan Avenue home of Mary B. Talbert.

This material is copyrighted and is for your exclusive personal use only. Republication or other use of this material without the express written consent of The Buffalo News is prohibited. The Buffalo News can be contacted at 716-849-4444 or by e-mail at [republish@buffnews.com](mailto:republish@buffnews.com).





# THE BUFFALO NEWS

## Studio Arena production gives boost to Niagara Movement's July convention

---

In recognition of her role in the Niagara Movement and other achievements, Talbert is among 10 women who will be inducted this fall in the National Women's Hall of Fame.

Several local organizations are planning events to commemorate the Niagara Movement's centennial, and a national group - the Association for the Study of African American Life and History - is holding its 90th annual convention here in October.

The Buffalo Niagara Convention & Visitors Bureau is spreading the word.

"The response to the CVB's recently published African-American Heritage Guide demonstrated a high level of visitor interest in events celebrating this community's history," said Richard Geiger, its president.

"We're pleased to be able to build on that interest by promoting a variety of community events scheduled to commemorate the Niagara Movement throughout 2005."

Also Saturday at Studio Arena Theatre, the Uncrowned Queens will present its 2005 Culture Keeper Award to Lillian Batchelor, founder and president of the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society, and Wilma Morrison, founder of the Niagara Black Historical Society and the Norval Johnson Heritage Library in Niagara Falls, Ont.

e-mail: [jhabuda@buffnews.com](mailto:jhabuda@buffnews.com)

---

This material is copyrighted and is for your exclusive personal use only. Republication or other use of this material without the express written consent of The Buffalo News is prohibited. The Buffalo News can be contacted at 716-849-4444 or by e-mail at [republish@buffnews.com](mailto:republish@buffnews.com).



**M&T Bank**

There's Only One Choice.  
M&T CHOICEquity