

Summer 2004

AVERY Messenger

The Newsletter of the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture and the Avery Institute of Afro-American History and Culture



Faculty of Avery Normal Institute,
circa 1916



Faculty of Avery Normal Institute,
circa 1947



**Grand
Reunion
Issue**
(1954 - 2004)

Features

- The Avery Normal School
- Memorable Moments: Avery's Legacy
- A Day in the Archives of the Avery Research Center

College of Charleston



AVERY Messenger

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Archives Reading Room

The Center's Archives Reading Room is open to the public year-round, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except College of Charleston holidays and winter break. To contact the Archives Reading Room, call (843) 953-7608.

Parking

Limited parking is available at the Avery Research Center with some parking on adjacent streets.

Admission

By donation

Facilities

The Avery Research Center is handicapped accessible.

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http://www.cofc.edu/avery/avery_institute.htm

On The Cover

The earliest known photograph of the first all Negro faculty at the Avery Normal Institute dates from 1916 and includes: Mr. Benjamin F. Cox, Principal, Mr. A.W. Murrell, Miss Lois Johns, Miss P.R. Oberdorfer, Miss S.E. Hamilton, Miss F.A. Clyde, Miss E.P. Morrison, Miss Oselletta Davies, Miss Marie Forrest, Mrs. A.L. Demond, and Mrs. B.F. Cox.



The last known Avery Normal Institute faculty photograph (below) from around 1947, shows from left to right: Back Row: Carutha Williams, Isabell Coaxum, Alphonso Hoursey, John Davidson, Hattie Green, John F. Potts. Second Row: Geneva P. Singleton, Ann Duncan, Francis C. Thomas, D. Jack Moses, John Howie, Michael Graves, Luther Bligen. Front Row: Margaret R. Poinsette, Lois Moses, Johnnie Johnson, Cynthia McCottry, Esther Manigault, Lucille Williams, Charlotte Tracy.



Avery Institute President's Report

Leila Potts Campbell

Your Board has been working very hard at furthering the mission of the Institute. Our new membership chairperson, Priscilla Robinson, has come up with some new and innovative ways to increase membership, and they are working! She is inviting organizations to join not only as an organization, but to get the organization's members to become members. So far the Links Inc., Sigma Pi Phi, and the Continentals have stepped up to the plate, and others are being approached. Businesses are joining, and incentives are being given for increasing the level of giving. Hats off to Priscilla!

Our new Fund Raising Committee, ably led by Rosamond Whipper-Black, has brought us several ideas for a fall fund-raiser, and details are being worked out now. We will tell you more about it in the September issue. Stay tuned!

The **Institute's Annual Meeting** is being planned to take place on July 1, 2004, at the Avery Research Center at 3:30p.m. during the Avery Grand Reunion since many of the out-of-town members plan to be at the Reunion. The meeting will last less than an hour. We will report on the activities of the previous year, vote on the next fiscal year's budget, elect new board members, and give awards. The reunion schedule shows that reunioners will already be at Avery that afternoon for a tour and reception, so it should be convenient for all.

We are very sad to see Dr. Chandler leave as the Director of Avery. She has been a friend to us, and we are very proud of her accomplishments here at Avery. Even though we are sad at her departure, we are very pleased that she will not be far away and will still be aligned with Avery with the Jazz Initiative, which all of us are supporting. This is original research that is already uncovering wonderful information, and it is due, in part, to our financial support of the effort.

Dr. Dulaney will return to us full-time from the History Department. He plans a reorganization of the staff, which he describes in an article in this issue. His plans to take us to a new level look excellent and we wait with anticipation at the changes.

We are so very pleased at the positive response on the content and appearance of our Avery Messenger. I invite you to make recommendations on subjects you would like to read about. Send us suggestions at our PO Box 21492, Charleston, SC 29413.

Message from the Avery Research Center Director

Dr. Karen A. Chandler

We are pleased to bring you this very special issue of the *Avery Messenger*—our Avery Grand Reunion Issue. 1954 and 2004 represent two historic 50th Anniversaries – Avery's last graduating class (1954) and the closing of Avery, and the Supreme Court decision – *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*. We look forward to hosting you during the reunion scheduled for June 30-July 4, 2004 at the Avery Research Center – the “living legacy” of the historic Avery Normal Institute.

Avery has hosted and helped sponsor an array of events observing the 50th Anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* including the *Briggs et al. v. Elliott et al.*, Clarendon County, S.C. case. They have included a panel discussion with the MOJA Arts Festival 2003; *The Seat of Justice*, an original play by Charleston Stage; and a display from *Courage: The Carolina Story That Changed America*, an exhibition curated by the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte, N.C. Deborah Wright has been busy providing research assistance to the Discovery Channel, PBS, the *Charlotte Observer*, *Charleston Magazine*, *City Paper*, *Sandlapper*, Star 99.7, and each of the local television affiliates for upcoming print and broadcast stories. The extensive series — “*Brown v. Board: 50 Years Later: A Dream Unfulfilled*,” was recently published by the *Post and Courier*.

Thanks to the substantial funding of \$500,000 from President Lee Higdon, renovation of the Center's McKinley Washington Auditorium and other spaces on our third floor, as well as a stunning design of Houston Conwill's cosmogram, are nearing completion. Look forward to a commemoration of the auditorium and completion of Avery's renovation phase in the near future.

I have recently accepted a tenured appointment and promotion as an Associate Professor of Arts Management in the School of the Arts with graduate teaching in the Masters of Public Administration program. I thank each of you, particularly President Higdon and Provost Elise Jorgens, for supporting the important work of Avery during my three-year tenure. As a testament to the success and potential of recent initiatives, my new appointment will continue work with The Charleston Jazz Initiative and the International Partnerships Among Museums/American Association of Museums. I look forward to this ongoing work with Dr. Dulaney and the Avery staff. Thank you, all, for the rich opportunity to serve you and to continue Avery's vision!

The Normal School at Avery

By Cynthia McCottry Smith, Class of 1940, and
Isabell Coaxum McWilliams, Class of 1938.

Avery Normal Institute was founded by the American Missionary Association for the recently freed slaves. It was dedicated on May 7, 1868. Operation of the school had many ups and downs through the years. The earthquake of 1886 and a fire in 1945 seriously damaged the school. Avery rebounded and continued to be the finest school in the state for educating Negro children and training elementary school teachers.

Avery had two levels of education: Classical College Preparatory and Pedagogy, or Training for Teachers. By 1886, Avery had produced many Negro teachers who were certified but only two were allowed to teach in the City of Charleston. In 1906, Martha C. Gadsen and Sallie O. Cruikshank taught at Shaw School on Mary Street, which was founded by the New England Freeman's Aid Society and turned over to the public school system in later years. By 1924, ninety percent of the local elementary teachers and principals were alumni of the Institute. Mr. Schiffley, Assistant State Supervisor of Negro Schools, stated emphatically, "The Avery Teacher Training Department is the finest in the state." In 1920, Ellen Sanders became the first Negro hired to teach in the city's public schools. She taught at Buist Elementary and retired in 1945.

After the Civil War, many Negro teachers who had been trained at Avery opened one-and two-room private schools that existed until after World War II. These schools provided Avery graduates a way of making money and staying in the city. Ellen Sanders operated such a school, located at 188 Calhoun Street, where she taught grades one through eight. At one time she had as many as one hundred students. She hired teachers to make up the faculty. There were many other private schools directed by Mrs. Daniels, Miss Alma Izzard, Miss Anna R. Macbeth, Mr. Gustavus Sinkler, Mrs. Wigg, Mrs. Susie Dart Butler, and others.

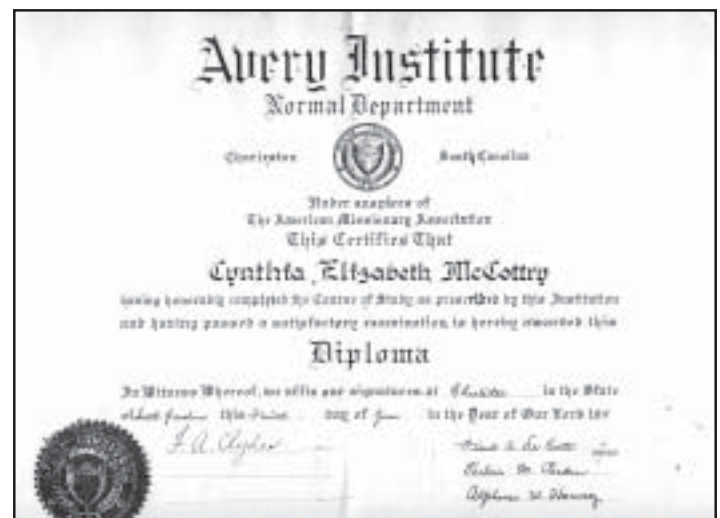
Many teachers upon graduating from Avery immediately began teaching in South Carolina finding employment in Charleston, Colleton, Berkeley, Williamsburg, Beaufort, and other counties, and on the sea islands. Just a few of hundreds who pursued their careers in this manner were Lucile Turner, who taught on Johns Island in 1908, and Laura Lee Deas, who taught in 1914 at Wallingford Academy, a private school. Anna Eliza Izard ran a private elementary school. In 1925, Cinderella Coaxum began teaching at

Simonton. Dorothy Robinson taught at Avery in 1938, and Julia Alston taught at Avery in 1943. Some of Avery's male teachers included John Middleton, Benjamin Bailey, Neomiah Knight, and Sammy Willie Williams.

Julius Rosenwald, a wealthy philanthropist, created a fund to build more than five thousand rural Negro schools. Many of these schools were in South Carolina. They were small but well constructed brick buildings. In 1940-41, Isabell Coaxum taught in one of the Rosenwald schools located in Berkeley County. It was called Cordesville Graded School and housed grades one through eight. There were four teachers. Each teacher taught two grades. Isabell taught music and grades one and two. Emily Harleston taught grades three and four, and Bernice Giles taught grades five and six. They were graduates of Avery Normal Institute. Annie King of Greenville, South Carolina taught grades seven and eight.

The salary was \$60 a month for eight months and \$12 of that was used for room and board. They lived with Dr. and Mrs. Evans in Cordesville. Mrs. Evans was the principal. Many days they walked the two miles to school. Sometimes Dr. Evans would drive them to school if he were making a house call.

Other teachers did not fare quite as well. Emily Robinson in 1941-42 taught in a two-teacher school in McClellanville, South Carolina. The building was made of wood and was heated by a pot belly stove. They had to sweep the room and make the fire. The pay was \$40 per month for seven months and \$10 of that was used for room and board.



The teacher-training program was thorough and rigorous. The Normal Tract was a three-year program

beginning in the eleventh grade. Some of the courses were Child Psychology, Poster Making, Manuscript and Printing, and Games. In grade twelve, courses in Rural Education, Children's Literature, Health and Hygiene, College Composition, Methods in Education, History of Education, Test and Measurements were offered. Prospective teachers entering the Normal class took courses in Observation, Lesson Plans and Practice Teaching. Tuition for Avery students in the early 1900s was \$1.50 per month.

Students taking the Normal course were taught to make hectographs. Gelatin and water were mixed, boiled, and left to set in an oblong pan. After it congealed, a purple carbon was placed on it for a time and later removed. Then it was time to make copies by pressing one sheet at a time on the homemade hectograph. All charts and flash cards for every subject were made by hand. Teachers really worked very hard and were very innovative in order to give the children a sound education.

As late as 1941, classes in shop were required for Normal students. They made bookcases, small tables, trash baskets, and pencil holders. These articles became a part of their classroom when they began teaching. Julia Magwood Harris, Julia Alston Gourdine, Martha Grace, and Esther Manigault still have some of these objects.

Thousands of teachers graduated from Avery. Early on the classes were small. Later, as many as thirty young men and women were in the graduating classes. Quite a few teachers finishing Avery continued their education by pursuing a college degree. They were given college credits ranging from one semester to two years of college depending on the years they went to college or the college they attended. As a result, especially in the late forties and fifties, Avery graduates continued their studies receiving Masters and Doctoral degrees in education by attending New York University, Columbia University, Chicago University, and others. Teachers who graduated and did not go directly to college in the years up to the early forties chose to further their education by taking college courses for credit during the summer, attending Allen University, South Carolina State College, Claflin, Benedict, and other colleges. Allen-Benedict Summer School for teachers was held at Avery in the late 1940s. After a certain period of time, the State Department of Education began requiring teachers who only finished the Normal course to renew their certificates every three to five years taking at least six hours of credit. Needless to say, it was continuing education for teachers then and as it is now.

BENNETT COLLEGE
GRANDFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

Terms of Admission - 1942 July 9, 1942

Transferred credit from Avery Institute, Teacher Training Department

*** NORMAL CLASS ***
CHIEF: E. MCCOTTRY

COURSE	NO.	DESCRIPTION	SEMESTERS	APPEARS	SEMESTER HOURS
English	100	College Composition	2	80	2
Education	101	Rural Education	1	87	3
Education	101	Methods of Education	1	87	3
Education	100	Practice Teaching	2	92	3
Education	101	Tests and Measurements	1	73	3
Education	100	History of Education	1	83	3
Psychology	101	Child Psychology	1	90	3
Art	100	Handicrafts	1	87	2

WILLIAM FLOYD
Principal

Graduates received college credits for their classes at Avery. This earned them advanced placement when entering college.

Faculty

There were exceptional instructors during the life of this school. One stands out in particular. Miss Florence A. Clyde, who joined the faculty in 1916 as a sixth grade teacher, later became the Director of Training at the Normal School. She was stern, thorough, and demanded perfection. Many were in awe and fear of her but received excellent training under her method of teacher instruction. She retired in 1943 after thirty-seven years at Avery.

Under the directorship of Miss Clyde in the late thirties and forties, critic teachers were Mrs. Pauline Murphy, Miss Laura Scott, Mrs. Susie Butler, Miss Vadie M. Ellison, Miss Thelma Menchan, and Miss Lois Lawrence. The last classroom teachers involved with the Normal and Training School were Johnnie Wineglass, Lucille Williams, Esther Manigault, Alice Parks, Cynthia McCottry, and Isabell Coaxum with John F. Potts as principal.

Attendance at PTA meetings was a must for parents in the training school. Programs, recitals, spelling bees, and operettas were among the elementary school activities. In 1940, Miss Clyde directed the operetta "Pinocchio" with Herbert Massey in the title role. It was a smash hit... just one of many. In 1941, Catherine Pelzer and Cynthia McCottry received the prize for being the best teachers in the Normal Class. Miss Erma L. Pequette donated the prize, which was \$3.00, so each of them received \$1.50.

By 1944, salaries of Black teachers were equalized in the public school system of Charleston. Non-degreed teacher graduates would not be able to teach on a permanent basis. Those who were teaching continued to work on their degrees and were permitted to remain in the classroom. It was thus the beginning of the end for the Normal program.

When Isabell and Cynthia began teaching at Avery under the A.M.A. in September 1945, the monthly salary was \$120 for nine months. They had college degrees.

Here we must pause and give credit to someone who was supportive, inspirational, encouraging, and farsighted as we approached the termination of the Avery Normal Institute and the graduation of the last Normal Class. That person was John F. Potts, our principal for two years, 1945-1947. He guided us through this turbulent era so that we were able to prepare ourselves for any eventualities.

Members of the last faculty of the Normal School and the subjects they taught were Lois Moses, Director, who taught Observation, Lesson Plans and Practice Teaching; Geneva P. Singleton, General Math; Margaret R. Poinsette, Test and Measurements; Isabell Coaxum, Plays, Physical Education, Health and Hygiene; and Cynthia McCottry, Manuscript, Arts and Crafts, and Poster Making.

In 1947, the members of the last Normal Class were Leola M. Seabrook, President; Willie G. Ancrum, Vice President; Isabell B. Hilton, Secretary; Mildred H. Comfort, Treasurer; and Lillian M. Terry, Business Manager. Other students were Ida Lee Bostick, Ruth L. Cummings, Delores L. Davis, Lucille C. Miller, Viola M. Roper, Mary Lee Seabrook, Amanda E. Smalls, Etta Mae Doyle Smith, and Viola R. Taylor.

After eighty years of operation under the auspices and watchful eye of the American Missionary Association, the legacy of Avery was passed to the state. The Normal course became history when the members of the Class of 1947 graduated. It was a sad day indeed. The Teacher Training Department that had provided an invaluable service to thousands of African American teachers and children in Charleston and beyond was no more.

There are many thousands of stories, events, and incidents that were a part of the Normal School that will live on in the lives of those who taught there and those who were taught by Avery's teachers.

Memorable Moments: Avery's Legacy

My Mentor, Miss Coleman

I read a lot growing up, mainly because I was an only child. When I went to Avery and met the librarian, Miss Coleman, I admired her so much. She later married Mr. Robinson, the shop teacher. Miss Coleman made such an impression on me, I decided to follow in her footsteps and become a librarian. She never knew how her proficiency inspired me to decide on my career in life. About twenty-five years later, I met her at the American Library Association National Convention and revealed to her that she was the reason I became a librarian. She was so delighted and happy. So was I.

Julia Wilson Pope, Class of 1935

You Lose Some... and You Win Some

Some of my lifelong impressions were made many years ago, as a sixth grade boy attending Avery School. The notion of sportsmanship, taught by Coach Luther Bligen, has served me well.

Speaking to us at a pep-rally in the auditorium before a homecoming game, Coach Bligen taught us how a good team should conduct itself in the event of defeat. "When two good teams are competing against each other, one good team is *going* to lose," he explained.

"It would be up to us to exhibit good sportsmanlike conduct whether we won or lost," Coach Bligen said.

I took those words to heart.

During my life's journey, I have fortunately not suffered many defeats, however, when I am served a blow, I accept it by recalling the lesson of the sportsmanship taught many years ago at Avery.

Charles E. McKenzie - Avery, 1944-1954

Problems in Democracy

When I was in grade eight at Avery, a co-op was founded under the leadership of Mr. William Bluford, our history teacher. Elected as treasurer of the co-op, I really thought I was grown up. So very proud was I.

As a senior with Miss Julia Brogdon teaching "Problems in Democracy" our class resented the fact that we could not attend the College of Charleston. I took envelopes and stamps to class in order for us to write letters of application there. We did not tell our parents and my mother wanted to know how we got involved in such a controversy when the story broke in The News and Courier on Sunday, June 11, 1944. We were called "colored agitators" and declared that the college would revert to a private institution rather than admit Blacks. This was a beginning. The rest is history.

Hazel Murray Stewart, Class of 1944

The Avery Songbirds

In the spring of 1952, a young female vocal quintet, formed by Cynthia McCottry Smith, was invited to audition for The Ralph Sigwald Radio Show, which was nationally broadcast from the Francis Marion Hotel. This group of students from Avery High School was called "The Averyettes" and its members were Dorothy Staniard, Francina Colonel, Delores Sheppard, Gwendolyn Simmons, and Loretta O'Neill. The musical director was Dycy Jack Moses. They performed well that evening, but officials cited that the girls were too young to further compete. (Remember, this was the South in 1952.)

The group later went on to perform regularly on D. Jack Moses' (WCSC TV) weekly television program, The Talent Parade, which featured talent from throughout the state.

Delores Sheppard-Ferguson - Avery, 1946-1954

Champs

It was 1947. Our Avery team captured the State Basketball Championship title. The excitement among the team members, our coach Luther Bligen, and the student body was pure joy. Our winning season took us to Tennessee State University in Nashville to compete in the National High School Basketball Tournament. Many of us had never ventured that far from home. The experience was awesome despite our loss.

Fast forward to seventeen years later, I am the basketball coach at Bonds-Wilson High School in North Charleston. I re-live my Avery experience taking my State Champion team to the National competition in Nashville, Tennessee.

Eugene Graves, Class of 1947

Unforgettable

When I think of my experiences at Avery, so many teachers and principals come to mind that I find it difficult to omit Mrs. Margaret Rutland Poinsette, whose inspiring teaching enabled me to achieve the highest English test score to-date on entrance exams at Fisk University; Mr. D. Jack Moses, who provided me so many opportunities to perform at the piano and grow musically with the Avery Choral Society, which contributed to my earning bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in music; Mrs. Geneva P. Singleton, whose advance mathematics class enabled me to test out of college math requirements; Dr. Fannie Frazier Hicklin, who taught me French and coached me in my valedictory speech, outside her bedroom window, during her brief illness (I qualified for advanced French in college); Dr. John F. Potts, my exemplary principal, whom

I recommended for another college presidency, when he was President of Voorhees College. The list is endless...

Richard Turner, III, Class of 1952

Graduation Exercises Denied

My classmates invited family and friends to the Seventy-fourth Annual Graduation Exercises of Avery Institute, but guess what? None of the program activities took place. How could this be? Due to an epidemic of Infantile Paralysis all public activities in the City of Charleston were withheld. In the history of Avery, my class was the first one to have no graduation exercises. Much to our regret concerning our graduation exercises, we have something to be proud of. The first and only Avery Institute Annual was suggested, worked out, and published by the class of 1939. I served on the staff. Samuel Smoak was president of the class, Felder Hutchinson, vice-president; Neomi Garrett, secretary; and Myrtle Thorn, treasurer.



Lurline E. Pearson Cotton
Denied Graduation Exercises
Class of 1939

Lurline Pearson Cotton, Class of 1939

Early Years in the Training School

The Training School included the pre-primer and primer grades, as well as grades two through eight. Florence Clyde (better known as "Bertie") was the Director of the Training School.

In the first two levels, we learned the alphabets, numbers, colors, and songs. The teachers came to us from the Normal program, which included one grade level beyond grade twelve. Since we did not have xeroxing machines in the early days, we used a lot of carbon paper for our paper work. All of our teachers were enthusiastic and dedicated. Miss Clyde had three of us skip grade two and go to grade three. The students were Bernice DeCosta, Mildred Miller, and Herbert Seabrook. This was a rude awakening.

Since Miss Clyde liked charts, we were introduced to multiplication and division charts and were expected to know the drills by the end of the semester. There was a close feeling between the students in the Training School and the teachers.

Bernice DeCosta Davis, Class of 1941

The Perils and Prospects of Collecting African-American Historical Archives

By W. Marvin Dulaney

For twenty-seven years I have been collecting historical archives related to the African-American experience. It has been a very rewarding experience, but also one that has frustrated me at times. As a historian writing primarily about the African-American experience, acquiring archival collections in the field has been just as important for me as doing archival research. Indeed, acquiring archival collections has gone hand-in-hand with my research because for most of the history of this country archives documenting the African-American experience have been ignored, devalued, and lost. Thus, those of us in the field often have had to find papers, documents, and other items in private hands in order to have enough information to write accurate accounts about topics in African-American History.

My entry into this field dates from 1976 when I acquired a collection of letters written by African-American inventor, Granville T. Woods. At the time I was writing a biography of Woods for a Bicentennial marker that the Columbus, Ohio, Branch of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History was dedicating on the site of Woods' birthplace. Woods, who was born in Columbus in 1856, had relocated to New York City during the latter part of his life to market some of his inventions. Although he never returned to live in Columbus, he still kept in contact with his relatives there. Before his death in 1910 he had corresponded with his relatives frequently, and one of his cousins had kept his letters. By using the "grapevine" in Columbus, I was able to contact and meet Woods' cousin. She not only allowed me to use the letters for the biography that I was writing on him, she also agreed to donate the letters to the Ohio Historical Society. Thus, when the marker was unveiled in February 1976 to mark Wood's birthplace in Columbus, his cousin made it a very special event by presenting a collection of his letters to the Historical Society.

Finding and acquiring Wood's letters for the Ohio Historical Society is one of many successful acquisitions that I have had over the years. Perhaps the three most important collections that I have been able to find and acquire are those of James A. Taylor (a police officer in St. Louis from 1921 to 1962 who became the

department's first African-American police sergeant); A. Maceo Smith (president of the Texas State Conference of Branches of the NAACP, 1938-1954); and Cleveland Sellers (former Program Director for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee). The process of acquiring all of these important collections required much time and effort, and each has a related story that due to space, I cannot share in their entirety here. In summary I will just state that even though I was ultimately successful in the acquisition of these collections, the process of acquiring them is symbolic of the many perils that have plagued the collection of African-American historical archives.

Some of the perils in this field have developed concurrently with the understanding among the general populace and mainstream archival institutions that African-American archival collections *are* very important. For example, African-American archival institutions like the Avery Research Center now have to compete with more established, mainstream institutions such as the Caroliniana Library at USC and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. On the surface, one could say that the efforts of mainstream institutions to collect in the field is very noteworthy, and it will help them to become additional places where researchers will have access to valuable African-American History sources. The downside is that some of the mainstream archives will use their superior resources to buy and even outbid African-American archives for important collections.

A case point: In 1988 an African-American legislator in Dallas, Texas, retired from his seat in the Texas House of Representatives. This legislator had also participated in and chaired the Dallas Progressive Voters League, the city's oldest black political organization (founded in 1936), for twenty years. The Dallas African American Museum requested that the legislator deposit his papers in its archives, but the Museum discovered that two other organizations—the Special Collections Division at the University of Texas at Arlington and the Barker Texas History Center in Austin had also requested the legislator's papers. Despite an appeal from the Museum that the papers should remain in Dallas because of their relevance to local history, the legislator's papers went to Austin because the Barker Texas History Center could offer him a better deal. The Center in Austin was also able to acquire the collection of a Dallas African-American photographer by outbidding the African American Museum and a Dallas collector.

Although mainstream archives and museums may have better resources to support their acquisition of

African-American archival collections, they also face one of the chief perils in the field: the reluctance of African Americans to give their collections because of their distrust and lack of understanding of museums and archival organizations. This has been a perennial problem and solving it has been very difficult and frustrating to those of us in the field. The problem begins with the actual donor who, first, may or may not know the value of his or her collection; and second, does not trust an archival organization to handle it with the appropriate care and discretion. Few African Americans provide for the care or disposition of their personal papers upon their death. Thus, often their relatives will literally throw away valuable papers, photographs, and documents that they acquire from the deceased. This attitude of throwing away the “junk” that a deceased relative has kept is a legacy of the belief that the papers of African Americans have no value for the historical record. Moreover, unless the person has had a significant public life, his or her relatives may “trash” everything that they find in order to “clean up” and “dispose” of the “junk” that the deceased has left for them.

Overcoming these perils and educating individuals and organizations in the African-American community about the importance of their papers, documents, and photographs are still important tasks for those of us in the field. Since its beginning in 1985, the Avery Research Center has especially undertaken these tasks and adopted as its mission the collection and preservation of archives related to the African-American experience. As I have said many times, this is a very important mission. It is not only an important mission for the Center, it is also an important one for all members of the community. Even though some people in and outside of the scholarly community are increasingly seeking to use electronic sources for historical research and writing, written archives and manuscript sources are still the building blocks for the writing of good history.

Charleston Black Heritage



To receive “**Charleston Black Heritage**” *The Official Visitors Guide*, send your name, address, and phone number to:

Avery Research Center for African
American History and Culture
College of Charleston
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424

or, order online at www.charlestonblackheritage.com

Spoletto at The Avery: Carlyle Brown Comes Home

Spoletto and the Avery Research Center will host a conversation with playwright and native Charlestonian, Carlyle Brown. His mother, Thelma Howard Brown, is a 1940 graduate of Avery Institute. This free event, held at Avery on June 8, 2004 at 5pm, will present highlights of Brown’s career and the creation of his solo performance *The Fula from America*, and will be moderated by Joy Vandervort-Cobb, associate professor of African-American theater and performance at the College of Charleston. *Fula* is a moving and hilarious tale of Brown’s journey to Africa. This unique travelogue follows Brown through Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, and Guinea as he encounters friendship, generosity, poverty and even civil war. While exploring both his identity and African and American culture, Brown discovers that the desire for freedom, prosperity, and security are not just American values, but human values.



Photo by Joe Kolbow.

Carlyle Brown is the founder of Carlyle Brown & Company, based in Minneapolis. Brown is known for his plays, *The African Company Presents Richard III* and *The Negro of Peter the Great*, nominated for an American Theater Critic’s New Play Award. He is the recipient of playwrighting fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Experience Color! The Art of Jonathan Green and Leo Twiggs

In conjunction with Spoletto, The Gibbes Museum of Art will present two exhibitions featuring the works of renowned African-American artists Jonathan Green and Leo Twiggs, both native South Carolinians. *Myths and Metaphors: The Art of Leo Twiggs* will be featured May 18-August 8, 2004. *Rhythms of Life: The Art of Jonathan Green* will be featured May 28-August 29, 2004.

Join the Gibbes Museum of Art for a panel discussion featuring artists Green and Twiggs, exhibition curators, and moderator Karen Chandler, Director of the Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston. (www.Gibbesmuseum.org). May 28, 2004, 10:30-11:30. \$8/Gibbes members, \$15/non-members.

A Day in the Archives of the Avery Research Center

by Deborah Wright

Archives

The mission of the Avery Research Center archives is to acquire, preserve, and make available records and objects pertaining to, and documenting the history and culture of African Americans in South Carolina and the Lowcountry. The preservation of these historic source materials provides present and future researchers a window into the life and times of those people, places, and things responsible for the shaping of this region and, in fact, this nation.

The archival holdings at Avery consist of manuscript collections, rare books, documents, microfilm, video and audio materials, articles, newspaper clippings, photographs, journals, and periodicals. The Center's manuscript collections are divided into fourteen subject areas: education, civil rights, Civil War, slavery, business, Gullah and the Sea Islands, African-American Women, health and medicine, churches and religion, family histories, organizations, art and artifacts, politics and government, and music and musicians.



Senior Archivist, Sherman Pyatt checks holdings in the Archives storage rooms.

Over the years, Avery has acquired a rather extensive collection of artifacts and memorabilia. Included are African artifacts from several different collections, diplomas and certificates, paintings, prints and posters, sweet grass baskets, fish (shrimp) netting, school buttons and pins, calendars, maps, several articles of period and uniform clothing, instruments, and documentation of slavery.

The Avery Research Center also houses a small museum that works in direct partnership with the archives providing the public-at-large with thematic educational and artful exhibits featuring material and artifacts from our collections.

Reading Room

The primary purpose for the preservation of unique and historical material is its subsequent use by students, scholars, and others. The locale and focal point for that usage is the Avery Archives Reading Room. Authority and honesty are two of the most important principles of archives, and the archivist has to guarantee an unbroken custody or warden-ship of the holdings as well as assure the patron of the integrity of the documents.

It is with this in mind, that the archival staff seeks to carry out its archival duties. I hold the position as Avery's Reference Archivist, and, as such, I am the primary point person for patrons – those walk-in Reading Room patrons, and those who communicate queries and requests via telephone and mail. Along with the helping hand of the Archivist, Sherman Pyatt, whose primary duties include supervising and overseeing all archival activities, and a part-time graduate assistant, currently Ms. Monica Biddix, we accommodate sometimes up to 60 reading room patrons per month and around 100 telephone and mail queries, all of which require some type of research and/or follow-up.

A typical day in the archives/reading room begins by checking e-mail and responding to all manner of requests ranging from, for example, an out of town graduate student doing a presentation on Septima Clark and wondering if I could furnish her with speeches and photographs for her powerpoint presentation. Sounds like a great topic, and I am impressed and pleased with her subject choice, but this means that I have to essentially do her research for her. Even though research queries from out-of-town patrons often require a time consuming search on the part of our limited staff, seldom if ever do we turn down a request. In this particular case, I print out a hard copy of her e-mail and reply with an acknowledgement, letting her know that I will get back to her with the requested material along with the stipulations and particulars for usage.

Another e-mail comes in from a patron planning to visit the archives to research free people of color in Charleston during the antebellum period. He wants to know what primary source materials we have at Avery, what he can have access to, what our hours are,



Patrons research materials in the Reading Room

and the name and number of the most economical hotel closest to the Center. In order to get him started, I direct him to our bibliographies, subject guides, and the annotated listing of our manuscript collections on our web site. Several phone calls have also come in. The curator from the African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa called to request reproductions of thirty-one items from our Pantovic Slavery Collection for their exhibition, "Doorways: A History of Iowa's African Americans." She will fax a list of items needed. Calls come in from newspaper and magazine contributors writing stories that need appropriate images to go along with their stories, and a call from one reporter in particular who would be ever grateful if I would locate the images, scan, and send via e-mail by 3:00 p.m. today are what I deal with. They have a deadline. In addition, by the way, I am asked if I have any suggestions of other images that might be a useful accompaniment for this story. In the meantime, books and collections used on the previous day need to be re-shelved, and a myriad of other loose ends need to be tied.

One of the many challenges facing the day-to-day operation of the reading room is the logistics. The reading room is on the first floor, and the library and manuscript holdings area is on the second. During those times when I find that I am the sole archival staff person on site, our graduate assistant is either off, or has left for the day, and the archivist has an appointment to look at or pick up a prospective

collection in order to pull material, I must make a decision to either leave patrons alone in the reading room or seek support from other departments, which, at times are also challenged in this regard.

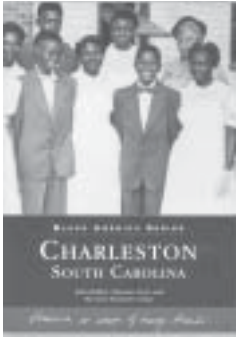
At 12:00 noon, the Reading Room opens for public use. Our patrons begin streaming in. They are required to sign in and possibly complete a registration form, depending on the extent of their research. The researcher is given the opportunity to utilize the reading room patron computer to view our subject bibliography and guide to collections on our web site. The reading room's ready reference section is available for their use, as well as material from our subject oriented vertical file. This file contains newspaper clippings and articles as well as other pertinent data reflecting South Carolina and the Lowcountry. Individual manuscript collection finding aids give a brief history, the scope and content and a listing of the collections' contents are also immediately available and accessible to researchers.

The archives' library, containing over 4000 books and over 125 manuscript collections, is housed on the second floor and does not circulate. We pull books and manuscript collection materials as requested. Photocopying and reproductions are done by the staff on request and are provided in a manner consistent with the archives policy. We do reserve the right to restrict or limit reproduction of materials when they are endangered due to fragility or size.

We do our best to offer suggestions and refer researchers to other appropriate facilities if we find that we cannot accommodate any particular subject matter. By 5:00 p.m., we have usually had a full and complete day with lots of follow-up to be done and plenty on the back burner.

Avery Research Center as a Resource

Over the years, we have had quite a few long-term researchers working out of our archives. Several books have been published using our manuscript collections such as Charleston: Black American Series by John Meffert and Avery archivist Sherman Pyatt; Dr. Lee Drago's Initiative, Paternalism and Race Relations: Charleston's Avery Normal Institute; Dr. Bernard Powers' Black Charlestonians: A Social History, 1822-1885; Allen Mitchell's Wadmalaw Island: Leaving Traditional Roots Behind; Dr. Wilbert Jenkins' Seizing the New Day: African Americans in Post Civil War Charleston; and Dr. Roy Richard Grinker's In The Arms of Africa: The Life of Colin M. Turnbull.



“Charleston: Black American Series,”
by John Meffert and Avery archivist,
Sherman Pyatt

Dissertations that have been completed using our manuscript collections are Mary Allison Carll’s *The Role of Black Artisans in the Building Trades and the Decorative Arts in South Carolina’s Charleston District 1760-1800*; Edward Pearson’s *From Stono to Vesey: Slavery, Resistance, and Ideology in South Carolina, 1739-1822*; Stephen O’Neill’s *From the Shadow of Slavery: The Civil Rights Years in Charleston*; and Patricia Ann Jones Jackson’s *The Status of Gullah: An Investigation of Convergent Processes*.

Outreach and Current Projects

The Avery Archives provides workshops on request for schools, churches, and organizations on the principles of basic archiving and/or an examination of Avery’s archival resources. We provide an average of eight workshops annually and will tailor these sessions to the specifications of a visiting group or class. An example of this is the two-to-three day workshop provided for Cleveland, Ohio’s Kenyon College’s “Great Migration Project.” We also host two workshops annually for the local educational community, which focuses on ways instructors can utilize Avery’s resources in classroom curriculum, research, and student thesis papers.

The in-house publication of archival aids is done on a regular basis and is coordinated and supervised by the archivist. Our bibliographies, subject guides, finding aids, and data for the web site are projects that must be given attention regularly. Graduate assistant, Monica Biddix, has recently completed a guide and index of articles published in the South Carolina Historical Magazine that focuses on African Americans in South Carolina. This magazine, which boasts articles from leading historians and scholars, has been published by the South Carolina Historical Society since 1900. Our guide and index, which includes photocopies of the articles, covers the years 1911 through the present. Articles are organized alphabetically according to subject matter. Categories include Black Women, Eighteenth Century Slavery, Nineteenth Century Slavery, Civil War and

Reconstruction, and Twentieth Century Race and Civil Rights. This comprehensive index and the articles may be found in Avery’s Reading Room. We are also working on an index to *The Post and Courier* with the focus on African Americans in the Lowcountry.

Electronic preservation and digital storage are the wave of the future. Moving in that vein, our Nineteenth Century Illustrated Newspaper Collection and the photographic collection, “Black Charleston in Slavery and Freedom” have been digitized as part of our preservation program. Digitizing is a very costly and time consuming process, and we have had to develop a strategy to do it within our own constraints. We are hoping that in the future we shall be able to digitize other selected collections.



Deborah Wright presenting archives workshop
for area educators

For information about the Avery archives, our collections and our services, visit our website at: <http://www.cofc.edu/avery>, where you will find our bibliographies, subject guides and an annotated listing of our manuscript collections. In addition, please feel free to visit us from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

New Acquisitions

Avery has acquired several important archival collections: Rosen, Rosen and Hagood Law Firm Papers; Humane and Friendly Society (1935-1965) Collection; Nick Lindsey’s Oral History Collection of Edisto Island families; 60-70 books on African-American History from William J. Clement; and additional items for the Walter Pantovic, Charleston Jazz Initiative, and Armand Derfner (including the Charleston Five case) Collections.

Avery Research Center Selected by the American Association of Museums for 2003-2005 International Partnership Award



International Partnerships Among Museums

The Avery Research Center has been selected by the American Association of Museums (AAM) for the International Partnerships Among Museums (IPAM) 2003-2005 cycle to engage in an exchange with the National Museum of Onikan in Lagos, Nigeria. Avery is the only history museum and archives in the Southeast selected for this award.

Dr. Karen Chandler, Director of Avery and Associate Professor of Arts Management, who submitted the IPAM proposal, stated that the exchange project will involve conducting oral histories with South Carolina Lowcountry and Nigerian women about the similar historic and cultural traditions that still exist in both locales that can have an economic impact on women's lives. Dr. Chandler will spend a month conducting research in Lagos in May 2005 and Umebe Onyejekwe, the curator of their museum, will do the same at Avery in January 2005. One result of this exchange will be the creation of an exhibition based on oral histories and acquired archival material.

Dr. Chandler is pleased that Avery has been selected for IPAM. "We're in good company," she stated. The J. Paul Getty Museum, Minnesota Historical Society, Cleveland Museum of Art, Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History and National Portrait Gallery are other institutions selected for the IPAM program.

IPAM was founded in 1980 to establish sustainable linkages between U.S. museums and their non-U.S. counterparts with similar missions through the execution of a mutually beneficial, collaborative project. The program is administered by the American Association of Museums (AAM) and funded by the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA).

Staff Reorganization at the Avery Research Center

W. Marvin Dulaney, Executive Director

For the three years that Dr. Karen Chandler served as director of the Avery Research Center, she did an outstanding job. She moved the Center forward and helped to increase its public profile. Indeed, primarily through her efforts, the quality of the Center's programming and the audiences for them have been the best ever. Dr. Chandler brought a level of professionalism to the Center that we will miss. Even though we expect her to remain involved with Avery, we will miss having her on site on a daily basis.

Nevertheless, Dr. Karen Chandler's return to the Arts Management Program provides us an opportunity. Her departure will allow me to reorganize the staff to address the tremendous growth that has taken place at the Avery Research Center over the past ten years. During that period the Center's staffing has not kept pace with the number of collections that it has received, nor has it kept pace with the increased number of patrons who use the Center's resources, especially its archives.

As a result, the main component of the Center that needs more support is the archives. Currently, only two full-time staff work in the archives. These two people have a daunting task. They are expected to collect, preserve, and process new collections, and address the steady stream of researchers who use those collections. In addition, they must respond to numerous inquiries received by telephone and email. Clearly, the archives are understaffed. Thus, in order to increase the Center's effectiveness in its most important component, a new staff reorganization plan is needed.

The new plan will consist of several major changes; hiring an additional archivist, upgrading one of the current positions there, and assigning at least one other current staff member to part-time responsibilities in the archives. These changes will focus the Center's efforts on processing and managing its collections, developing better finding aids for them and improving its services to patrons.

The Center will also change its administrative structure. For example, all full-time members of the staff will report directly to the director. Two of the current unclassified positions at the Center will retain that status, but their titles will change to reflect the change in their responsibilities.

Overall, the staffing at the Avery Research Center will be streamlined to improve the accountability and performance of each staff position and to focus each person working at the Center on its mission.

Avery Institute of Afro-American History and Culture Membership News

Priscilla McLeod Robinson, Membership Chairman

I must admit that I love my job! So often I have lamented the fact that much of the history of African Americans has been forgotten or lost. As Membership Chairman I have an opportunity to play a small role in helping to promote and preserve this history. My goal as Chairman is to increase the Avery Institute membership numbers so that we can help to fund Avery projects that document the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of those African Americans from the Lowcountry.

With the hope of encouraging others to join the Institute, we have instituted a number of new initiatives. First of all, included in this newsletter is a list of the incentives that we offer at the various levels of membership. We have tried to offer something that will appeal to everyone. Secondly, in recognition of those people who have joined Avery, we have included a list of their names in this publication. We have also increased our database of potential members of the Institute by over 300 names and we have decided to encourage donations to the Avery Institute Board Foundation, which is administered by the Community Foundation. As you know, this fund was created to support the work of the Institute Board. The Membership Committee has the ambitious goal of increasing the fund to over a million dollars! Right now the principle amount is a little over \$27,000, and over the years we have been able to use the interest earned on the principle (at a high of \$1,000) to support Avery projects like the James Jamerson Project, "Standing in the Shadows of Motown," renovations to the Avery building, and the oral history project. Can you imagine what we could do with the annual interest earned on a million dollar principle? We know that we have a long way to go, but we must make the effort because it is so important for us to leave the legacy of the true history of the African American. You can help. Many of you already make donations to the Community Foundation, but did you know that you can request that your money go directly to the Avery Institute Board Fund? Although we do not like to talk about our own demise, we all know that it will happen. You can prepare for this by taking the legal steps now to bequeath money or property earmarked for the Avery Institute Board Fund at the Community Foundation. Generally, if you leave property to a fund, it is sold and the money earned from the sale will go to the Avery Board.

We are trying hard to keep you informed about the events that are going on at Avery. Because of limited financial resources, however, we can only send mailings out to members of the Institute and others who have been identified because of their attendance at Avery sponsored events. We are, however, going to use our database of e-mail addresses to inform everyone, members or not, of events at Avery. You can help here, also, by sending us the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of people



or organizations that you know whose names are not listed on the Membership list in this issue. If you have an e-mail address and did not receive an e-mail about the recent lecture by John Edgar Wideman, just call us at Avery with that information. Also, if you are in an organization, please request that it put an Avery Membership in its annual budget, then send us the name of the organization, the President's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Finally, beautiful and colorful Avery Institute pins will be available for purchase beginning in June during the 50th Anniversary Reunion and the Annual Meeting. The cost is \$5. The pins will also be available in the Avery Gift Shop. We hope that you buy a pin for yourself and one for a friend of Avery.

We have made every effort to include the names of all of our members as of April, 2004. If we inadvertently left your name off and you have taken out a membership for 2004, please let us know and we will be sure to include it in the next *Messenger*. If you have not renewed your membership or want to become a member, an envelope is enclosed in this newsletter. If you have already renewed your membership, please give the envelope to someone else or donate a membership for a friend.

Thanks to everyone for the memberships. Special thanks to the Charleston Chapter of the Links, Inc. which is well on its way to 100% member-membership and also is a member as an organization; to the men of Sigma Pi Phi Boule-Gamma Lambda Chapter, the first organization to send in its membership; and to the Anastopoulo Law Firm, the first business to send in its membership for 2004.

Flowers to Everyone.

Avery Institute Membership List

Life (\$5,000 - \$10,000)

Mr. Marion Gant
Mr. Phillip Simmons
Ms. Lois Simms

Supporter (\$500 - \$999)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Chase
Mr. Richard Green

Sustainer (\$100 - \$299)

Ms. Mayme Alston
Ms. Federicka Andrews
Ms. Mary Ann Beaufort-Cutrea
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Bondurant
Ms. Juanita Brown
Ms. Leila Potts Campbell
Dr. Karen Chandler
Mr. Howard Clement, III
Mr. William Clement
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert A. DeCosta
Ms. Bernice DeCosta-Davis
Dr. Marvin Dulaney
Ms. Joyce Harley, Esq.
Ms. Cynthia McCottry Smith
Mr. and Mrs. John Orr
Ms. Muriel Potts
Mr. and Mrs. John Purvis
Ms. Catherine Robinson
Ms. Priscilla M. Robinson
Mr. Luther Seabrook
Hon. Lucille Whipper

Family (\$35)

Col. and Mrs. Andrew Bland, Jr.
Mr. Elmore Browne

Mr. and Mrs. John Buncum, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Davis
Mr. and Mrs. James Etheredge
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Farrell
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Fielding
Ms. Roslyn Harper
Mr. and Mrs. Collis Holloway
Mr. Steven Levitt
Mr. and Mrs. John Milkereit
Ms. Bertha L. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Chuma Nwokiki
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Purvis
Dr. and Mrs. Lewie C. Roache
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Rodgers
Dr. and Mrs. Everard Rutledge
Mr. and Mrs. Waymon Saylor
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smalls
Mr. and Mrs. George Stanyard
Dr. and Mrs. James Tolley
Mr. and Mrs. John Walton
Ms. Ernestine Washington

Individual (\$25)

Ms. Vivienne Anderson
Ms. Gloria Bell
Ms. Emma Bennett
Ms. Catherine Boags
Mr. Carl Burch
Ms. Rose Boyd
Ms. Ruth Bracey
Ms. Catherine Braxton
Ms. Sarah Brown
Ms. Tamara Brown-Boone
Ms. Pauline M. Caffey

Mr. Eddie Carson
Ms. Katie B. Catalon
Mr. Osei Chandler
Ms. Melanie Collins
Ms. Geneva Dansby
Ms. Lavinia Dash
Ms. Rose Davis
Ms. Vermelle Dickerson
Ms. Barbara Kelly Duncan
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Ms. Onica C. Fields
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Col. Dolores Green
Ms. Irma Greene
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Ms. Kaye Jefferson
Ms. Shelley E. Jefferson
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Mr. Kenneth E. Robinson, Jr.
Ms. Lisa Y. Robinson
Mr. Mark A. Robinson

Ms. Marlene O'Bryant Seabrook
Ms. Marie Simpson
Ms. Teresa Smith
Ms. Delphine Snipes
Ms. Pearl Thomas
Ms. Gretta M. Wainwright
Ms. Rosmond Whipper-Black
Ms. Beverly B. Williams

Student (\$10)

Mr. Teddy Foster, Jr.
Mr. Dallas T. Robinson

Organizations / Businesses

Silver (\$300 - \$1,199)
Athenians Club
Charleston-Continental Societies
Charleston-Jack and Jill
of America
Charleston-The Links, Inc.
Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity
- Gamma Lambda Chapter
Kenneth Robinson, M.D.
- New Body Center

Bronze (\$100 - \$299)

Anastopoulos Law Firm
Integrated Billing Services
Paula Orr, M.D.
- Charleston Women's
Wellness Center
Perry Keith Waring
- Charlestowne Associates

Avery Membership Incentives

Organizations/Businesses

(\$1,200-\$5000)

Invitation to Major Donor's Reception
Listing in Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual Avery publication
Announced at Annual Meeting
Perpetual Plaque presented at Annual Meeting
3 Avery Pins
3 Discount (20%) Certificates

(\$300-\$1,199)

Listing in Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual Avery publication
Announced at Annual Meeting
Perpetual Plaque

(\$50-\$299)

Listing in Avery publication

Individuals

(\$5,000 and Up)

Invitation to Major Donor's Reception
Listing in the Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual Avery publication
Announced at Annual Meeting
Perpetual Plaque presented at Annual Meeting

Copy of Book, Black Charlestonians - Bernard Powers, and Class "Art of Quilting" - Marlene O'Bryant Seabrook, and Class, "Jewelry Making" - Leila Potts Campbell, and Class in preserving documents taught by Avery Staff
(In lieu if the 3 classes you can choose a copy of the Video, "Standing in the Shadows of Motown: The Life and Music of Legendary Bassist, James Jamerson")
Avery Cookbook, Treasured Recipes
Avery Pin
Discount (20%) in Gift Shop

(\$2,500-\$4,500)

Listing in the Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual publication
Announced at Annual Meeting
Perpetual Plaque
Copy of book, Black Charlestonians - Bernard Powers
Class "Art of Quilting" - Marlene O'Bryant Seabrook or Class in preserving documents taught by Avery Staff or Class "Jewelry Making" taught by Leila Campbell
(In lieu if the 3 classes you can choose a copy of the video, "Standing in the Shadows of Motown: The Life and Music of

Legendary Bassist, James Jamerson")
Avery Cookbook, Treasured Recipes
Avery Pin
Discount (15%) in Gift Shop

(\$1,000-\$2,499)

Listing in the Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual publication
Announced at Annual Meeting
Perpetual Plaque
Avery Pin
Class in archiving techniques
Discount (10%) in Gift Shop

(\$500-\$999)

Listing in the Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual publication
Announced at Annual Meeting
Perpetual Plaque presented at Annual Meeting
Avery Pin
Discount (10%) in Gift Shop

(\$300-\$499)

Listing in the Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual publication
Avery Pin

(\$100-\$299)

Listing in the Avery Messenger
Listing in the annual publication

(\$35-\$10)

Listing in the Avery Messenger

Contributions

Mr. James A. Bell
In Memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Hiram L. Bell, Sr.
and Dr. and Mrs. Augustus G. Purvis

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Chase
In Memory of
Judith Wragg Chase

Ms. Lavinia Dash
In Memory of
Mr. Charles Edward Dash

Ms. Julia Harris
In Memory of
Lucille Magwood Pettigrew

Ms. Dorothea Moran
In Memory of
Ms. Margaret Wainwright

Ms. Cynthia McCottry Smith
In Memory of
Ms. Lucile McCottry,
Ms. Mamie Geddes,
Ms. Ruth M. Wiley,
and Dr. Turner McCottry

Paula Orr, M.D.
In Memory of
Mr. Wilfred Garrett
and Ms. Alice Garrett

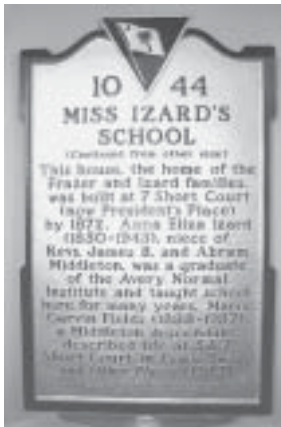
Ms. Joyce Harley, Esq.
In Honor of
Dr. Marvin Dulaney

Please Register for The Avery Grand Reunion June 30 - July 4, 2004

Pre-registration to June 15, 2004
\$150.00 per person

On-site after June 15, 2004
\$180.00 per person

For more information, contact: Juanita W. Brown
(843) 571-5250



Historical Marker Dedication

An historical marker will be dedicated on May 29, 2004 at 10 a.m. that recognizes *The Parsonage* and *Miss Izard's School*. *The Parsonage* was the home of Reverend James B. Middleton (1839-1918) until 1916. He organized and served as pastor of many Methodist churches in the Lowcountry. *Miss Izard's School* was the home of the Fraser and Izard families and was built by 1872. Anna Eliza Izard (1850-1945) taught school there, graduated from Avery Normal Institute, and was the niece of Reverends James B. and Abram Middleton. Dedication location: 5 & 7 Presidents Place, Charleston, S.C.



EVERY RESEARCH CENTER
FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE
College of Charleston
125 Bull Street
Charleston, SC 29424-0001