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BDPF Newsletter

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Consultant and attendees at the first leadership training session. The program was held at St. Paul Elementary School.

Leadership Program Begins

The Community Leadership and Educational Achievement Program had its kick-off meeting on January 28 with 10 parents having committed to participating in the program. Glenda Manning, a motivational consultant, led the all-day session. Six more full day sessions will cover topics such as leadership, communication, parenting, school structure and functions, and community resources. Once trained, the leaders will go into their communities to teach other parents how to become actively involved in the education of their children.

BDPF Holds Annual Elections

At BDPF's annual January elections, Hezekiah House, Jr. was elected to succeed the outgoing chair, W. Harrison Brown. Mr. House, relatively new to the Board, worked with United Parcel Service (New York, NY) for 32 years before retiring. He also has served for six years as Imperial Potentate of the National Imperial Council of Shriners (USA). With his long history of working with people, consensus building and guiding organizations, we anticipate that Mr. House will be a very effective Chair.



BDPF Board Chair
Hezekiah House, Jr.

Marie Gates, a long-time BDPF Board Member, is the new Vice Chair. She replaces Arlonial Bradford, who chose not to run for a new term. Mrs. Gates is an unusually active volunteer in and around Summerton.

The dedicated and effective service of both Mr. Brown and Ms Bradford is gratefully acknowledged. Mr. Brown's presence will be sorely missed. Fortunately, Ms Bradford will continue donating her services and expertise as a Board Member. To learn more about BDPF's Board members, please visit our web site (<http://www.bdpfoundation.org>).

Healthy Choices/Healthy Lifestyles Program Gets Off To Great Start

In December, Clarendon County Turning Point (a public health initiative) awarded a grant to BDPF to start a program named Healthy Choices/Healthy Lifestyles. The program, which began in January, has been integrated into the Enrichment/Tutorial Program. Its goal is to prevent pre-teens from adopting negative attitudes and self-destructive behaviors. A variety of activities are used to help the participants learn about themselves, good health practices and wise choices. Before the end of the year, the children will be challenged to develop and publicize a public health education campaign that targets their peers. Individualized interventional help will be provided to help selected students address ways of resolving conflicts and enhancing self-esteem. The program promises to be highly successful.



A group of BDPF volunteers. Left to right: 1st row - Lula Edythe De Laine, Marguirite De Laine, Beatrice Rivers; 2nd row - Marie Gates, Ella Johnson, John Wesley Richburg; 3rd row - Luetina Ragin, Arlonial Bradford, Gussie Cochrane.

**BDPF IS AN ALL-VOLUNTEER PUBLIC CHARITY,
SUPPORTED ENTIRELY BY GIFTS.**

Banquet Plans Underway

BDPF's 2006 Banquet will take place on Saturday, June 10, 2006 at Scott's Branch High School. A dynamic civil rights speaker and scholar, President Gene R. Nichol of The College of William & Mary, has accepted our invitation to give the keynote address. He is the author of a number of articles on civil liberties, civil rights, and the civil rights movement. An extremely engaging speaker, President Nichol has been both the host of a public affairs television series and a regular newspaper columnist. For banquet information, email us at <board@bdpfoundation.org> or telephone us at 803-485-2196 (please leave a message if no one answers).



Visitor Floyd Evan Lawson pitched in and donated some time to help a student in BDPF's Tutorial Program.

Tutorial Program Wins Grant

State Street Global Philanthropy Program has generously awarded a grant to BDPF to enhance and extend the existing Enrichment/Tutorial Program. Marguirite De Laine, the BDPF Board Member and former school-teacher who is responsible for the program, said some of the funds are being used to purchase much-needed chalkboards, dry erase boards, audio-visual equipment, globes and maps, educational manipulatives, etc. The purchase of this educational equipment and educational software will enable the volunteer tutors to be more effective in assisting participants. Most of the rest of the money will be used to provide enrichment trips for participants in the program.

Sew What, Inc. Update

The members of the Sew What, Inc. cooperative have begun their first project. Although the lack of heavy duty sewing machines limits in the kinds of goods they can make, the women have proved to be very innovative.



With over 1,000 yards of donated fabric, the women have begun

sewing attractive and practical aprons. Details on how you can purchase one of these "Made in Summerton" items will be in the next issue of the BDPF Newsletter.

The cooperative is searching for funds that will enable them to buy the machines they need for commercial work and to rent a room large enough to serve as a "factory." Until such time as they acquire better facilities, BDPF will manage to let the women use space at the Center. Anyone who has ever undertaken a construction project knows how inconvenient it is not to have a dedicated working space. We are working hard to find some seed money for Sew What!



BDPF Members Joseph A. De Laine, Jr. (left) and W. Harrison Brown (right) pose for an informal photograph with Dennis Vasquez and Linda Rosenblum of the National Park Service.

Historic Site Team Visits BDPF

On January 24, 2006, BDPF hosted a team of two from the *Brown v. Board of Education* National Historic Site in Topeka KS. The *Brown* site is part of the National Park Service. It is dedicated to commemorating events connected to the five cases involved in the *Brown* litigation. The two visitors were *Brown* site Superintendent Dennis Vasquez and Historian Linda Rosenblum.

They came to Summerton to better acquaint themselves with the mission and activities of BDPF, as well as to initiate ongoing working relationships between the National Park Service, BDPF and the other sites covered by the *Brown* ruling.

An immediate goal of the team is to obtain funding for an innovative educational program. It will bring intergenerational members together to teach, share and learn about their home community's involvement in the landmark Supreme Court case, *Brown v. Board of Education*.

BDPF board members have enthusiastically agreed to work with the National Parks Service. Cooperative efforts have already begun.

Foundation Provides Dictionaries

BDPF was able to donate 346 dictionaries to Scott's Branch Intermediate School – thanks to supporter Dr. Suzanne Carothers. The New York University professor mediated channeling the books, obtained by her university via a grant from First Book National Book Bank, to BDPF. It was a major challenge to get the books from New York to Summerton without paying approximately \$1,000 in transportation charges. A woman who lives in Florida heard of the problem. She has a brother who drives a truck from North Carolina to New England twice a week. He delivered the books to Eden NC. Board member B.B. De Laine drove more than 300 miles to get the books, deliver them to Summerton and return to his home in Charlotte NC.

New Web Site

Thanks to the generosity of Jennifer Jefferson, CEO/Creative Director of Kalla Creative, BDPF's web site has a clean new look and streamlined functionality. Visit us regularly at <<http://www.bdpfoundation.org>> to see what is happening at the Foundation. Send an email to jennifer@kallacreative.com to thank our supporter for her work.