The Charlotte Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc



Presents its

first induction into their

Charlotte-Mecklenburg
Women's
Hall of Fame

Friday, March 24, 2000 6:30 p.m.

Museum of the New South
324 N. College Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

# The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Women's Hall of Fame

In recognition of Women's History Month, the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPW) thought it only appropriate to recognize those women who have made significant contributions to their community. Therefore in partnership with the Museum of the New South, where the awards will be displayed, we honor those women.

The women inducted this evening are the first to be recognized. They will serve as the models, as well as the committee that will select future inductees. With all of the outstanding civic contributions that women have made in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, there is a host of women to acknowledge and we look forward to celebrating them annually.

#### Acknowledgments

Museum of the New South

Lawrence Toliver

Esther Sturgis

Queen City Lincoln Mercury

Binaco Investment

Bishop George Battle Jr.

Bank of America Corporation

Esther Elder

Flowers by Lois

PJ's Graphic Designs

Thereasea Elder

M. Pete Cunningham
NC House of Representatives

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Fighting Back Program



Geraldine "Gerri" T. Powe

Geraldine Powe's life has been dedicated to educating children. Her professional career began with teaching pre-school and early childhood students. She became coordinator of pre-school, kindergarten, and first grade for the Hempstead School District, Hempstead, New York. Following an early retirement from the New York School System, Gerri returned home to Charlotte in 1979 and immediately put into service her motto, "Take Time For Others."

She reactivated the Charlotte Youth Club and served as third Vice President (Director of Youth) 1983-85, 1987-90. Although Geraldine was not active with the Senior Club in 1985-86, she worked very hard to increase the financial membership of the Youth Club (to prevent losing the charter) and to help create more interest and activity in the group.

Gerri's unique service has been working with young people. As Youth Director, she reached out to the community to bring into the organization young girls from the Anita Stroud Center to become members of the NANBPW Youth Club. She raised funds to take two girls from the Center to the District Meeting. Gerri believes in developing the total personality of children. She talks constantly about (1) academic achievement; (2) building self-image; (3) focusing, setting goals, aspiring for excellence; (4) racial pride; and (5) character and integrity.

Gerri has been featured in the Charlotte Post in an article entitled "Defying Biology: About being A Mother" to hundreds of children. "Girls With Goals" was the heading for an article that the Charlotte Observer did several years ago. Geraldine is a mentor for girls and is committed to helping young girls become self-sufficient. Motherhood is more than a biological connection in the African-American community. The nurturing instinct has and is continuing to save many youngsters.

Honors and Awards include: a 21-year member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church; Chairperson of the Education, Family & Life Institute; Sheepfold of Bartholomew (responsible for the recently instituted jail outreach ministry in conjunction with Mt. Carmel Baptist Church); original member of the Coleman W. Kerry, Jr. Scholarship Committee (helped set guidelines for the recipients of scholarships); Co-Chairperson of Committee to develop programs for the Friendship Community Enrichment Center. Gerri received the Sojourner Truth Award (NANBPWC); the Equality Day, Virginia Shadd Community Award; Humanitarian Award; and the Community Service Award, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Gerri has served on the Comprehensive Building Committee as well as participating in numerous other educational, political and philanthropic organizations.



Sarah M. Stevenson

Sarah Stevenson acted as supervisor of a program of the Charlotte Area Fund designed to provide housing, home furnishing and decorating training for the underprivileged. More recently, our recipient was engaged as an Ombudsman by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee to investigate and undertake to resolve complaints of unfair discrimination in our community. Thereafter as Associate Director of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council, our honoree was employed by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee to coordinate a dispute settlement program, providing a vehicle by which disputants are provided an opportunity to resolve their differences in a peaceful manner through mediation. That program, originated ten years ago, prospers to this day.

Perhaps our recipients's greatest accomplishment has been to introduce the concept of peer mediation to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Schools, affording students an opportunity to talk through their differences. That program has greatly reduced the incidence of school suspensions and resulted in the establishment by the school system of the position of Peer Medication Coordinator in 1991.

In addition to these professional engagements, our honoree has held many significant voluntary positions in Charlotte. Some of these positions include: First African-American President of the Integrated PTA Council; Covener of the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Forum (at McDonald's Cafeteria, the organization which provides political candidates a hearing in the African-American community); a Chairperson of the North Carolina NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (the organization which has provided financial support for legal actions that have resulted in desegregating public facilities); Coordinator of the observance of the Annual Martin Luther King Day; President, Black Women's Caucus; and the first African-American woman to be elected to political office in Mecklenburg County (The Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board).

Finally, in 1993 our honoree received the Elizabeth Koontz Award from the North Carolina Human Relations Commission in recognition of a lifetime of dedicated commitment in the areas of education and civil and human rights.

Sarah was the Secretary to the Board for Black Ministry Services for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Presently, she is a reconciler/peacemaker for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, assisting churches, pastors, and others to resolve conflicts in a Christian manner.

### Club Officers and Members

## Programme Starr Reece King, Mistress of Ceremonies

Anna M. Hood
Geraldine T. Powe
Sarah M. Stevenson
Sandra Frazier

President
Vice President
Second Vice President
Recording Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer
Director of Resources
Director of Membership
Director of Communications
Chaplain
Parliamentarian
Historian

Sandra L. Frazier
Linette P. Fox
Gloria Y. Richards
Peggie L. Reid
Anna M. Hood+√\*
Frances P. Hamlin
Doris E. Belk
Jacquelyn P. Black
Marie B. Butler
Starr R. King
Mae C. Orr
Lothell M. Ramseur

Winnie N. Brailey
Thereasea C. Elder+\*
Rosa L. Foust
Tressie V. Goodson
Chinyere N. Harris
Sabrina Kennedy
Cora M. Maxwell
Juanita C. Miller
Irene Moore
Madie M. Smith
Sarah M. Stevenson\*
Dorothea E. Threatt
Alfrika Williams

Sarah M. Coleman
Esther D. Elder
Theresa Dutch Gaston+
J. Belinda Grier
Margaret D. Hunter
Tonia C. Linder
Teresa S. McIlwain
Shirley M. Miller
Chelsea A. Smith
Patricia A. Smith
Esther M. Sturgis\*
Loris R. Vaughters

√ Founder +Charter Member \*Life Member

## Education & Enrichment Committee Members

Esther Elder

Thereasea Elder

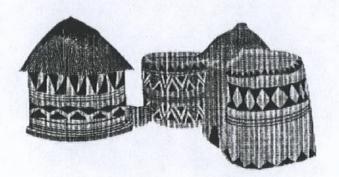
Linette P. Fox

Starr Reece King

Cora M. Maxwell

Juanita Miller

Gloria Richards



## Programme Starr Reece King, Mistress of Ceremonies

InvocationStarr Reece King
Lift Every Voice & Sing(see program for lyrics)
WelcomeStarr Reece King
GreetingsWyllisa Bennett
Director of Public Relations & Marketing
Museum of the New South
President
League of Women Voters'
Presentation of Inductees
Anna M. Hood, Nominee
Geraldine T. Powe, Nominee
Sarah M. Stevenson, Nominee
V. 1. C. Cl. Cl. wlatta Machlanhura Women's Hall of Fame
Induction Ceremony of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Women's Hall of Fame  Sandra Frazier
Presentation to the First Members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Women's
Hall of FameSandra Frazier
President
Charlotte Club NANBPW Inc.

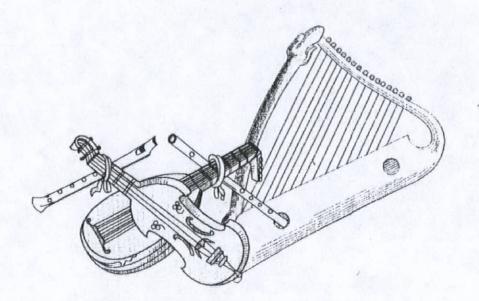
#### LIFT EVERY VOICE

Lift every voice and sing 'til earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us. Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on 'til victory is won.





Anna M. Hood

A woman described as a beacon of light, Anna Hood was the first person of color hired by the Social Security Administration in Mecklenburg County and surrounding areas in June 1963. Her efficiency and notable courage led to the hiring of additional persons of color by the Administration in 1965. Mrs. Hood advanced within the Administration and retired from the Agency in 1990. Since her retirement, she continues to assist persons in establishing claims and explains complex issues.

Mrs. Hood's achievements are recognized in the areas of Christian stewardship, educational leadership, government politics, and activism on behalf of women and children. Additional community service involvement includes Curriculum Chairperson, Piedmont Middle School (1981-82); Fundraising Chairperson, South Carolina State Alumni Association, Charlotte Chapter (1980-82); Board member of WTVI (1982-84); Membership Chairperson, Charlotte Branch NAACP (1983-84 and 1999-present). She is one of the first Co-Moderators of the constituting Presbytery of Charlotte (1989); Treasurer of the League of Women Voters (1989-90); Member, Citizens Blue Ribbon Bond Committee (1991); Chairman, Scholarship and Connection Committees of Alpha Lambda Omega Chapter, AKA Sorority; President, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Black Political Caucus (1994-96); and she was the first woman president to complete a term of office in the Caucus. She is an active member of Memorial Presbyterian Church as an elder, choir member, former president of Presbyterian Women, former personnel chairperson and was the first chairperson of the social action committee. She serves as Education Chairman of the Black Women's Caucus. The Oaklawn Park Community is a recipient of Anna's skills where she serves as political action chairman and public relations secretary.

In 1977, she Co-founded the Charlotte Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. This Club emphasizes greater service to mankind and awards yearly scholarships to worthy students. Because of the dedication and concern exemplified by Anna for worthy students, the scholarships bear her name.

Honors and Awards include: Avid Civic Award, NAACP Legal Defense Fund; Sojourner Truth Award, Charlotte Club, NANBPWC Inc., Knight of the Queen City Award, former Mayor Eddie Knox; Outstanding Membership Recruitment Award, Charlotte Branch, NAACP; Humanitarian Award, Iota Chapter, Chi Eta Phi Sorority Inc., Appreciation Award, YWCA; Service Award, Presbytery of Charlotte, Presbyterian Church, (U.S.A.) Exemplary Leadership Award, Black Political Caucus; Community Service Award, Alpha Lambda Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.' Citizen of the Year Award, Black Women's Caucus; Outstanding Alumnae Award, South Carolina State University Alumni Association, Charlotte Chapter; Community Service Award and Women's Equality Award, Women's Commission, Mecklenburg County; and the NAACP Hall of Fame Award.