



# Sisters-to-Sisters Newsletter

December 2022

San Gabriel Valley Section National Council of Negro Women, Inc.  
P.O. Box 413 Walnut, CA 91788 Phone (909) 598-5539 Website [www.sgvcnw.com](http://www.sgvcnw.com)



May your home be filled with togetherness, your heart be filled with love, and your soul be filled with song.  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS from all of us at SGV-NCNW

## FROM PRESIDENT MARIE PAULA THERMIDOR



It is hard to believe another year is coming to an end, and most of you are preparing to celebrate the holiday season with family and loved ones.

During this very special time of year, it gives people the opportunity to be reflective, thankful, and mindful of the true meaning of the season. It provides many a break from work and the everyday hustle and bustle, to instead take time to enjoy family, friends and most importantly, spread joy and love to others that may not be as fortunate.

While keeping with the spirit of this joyous time, it is equally important to take a few moments to remember those who are no longer with us and keep them in our thoughts and our prayers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Executive Board for everything we have accomplished together and for their tremendous dedication, hard work and all the efforts put in, day in and day out, to support SGV-NCNW and our mission. They commit endless hours of volunteer time, making sure our section is on the path to success, continuing to build on the legacy of Mary McCleod Bethune of service and community.

As 2022 comes to an end, I hope you will join me in celebrating our successes as I highlight just a few of the accomplishments this year.

- Maintained and grew stronger in membership
- Policies & Procedures Committee: Development of SGV-NCNW Policies & Procedures Manual
- Established, maintained, and cultivated new community partnerships
- Young Legends Caltech Tutoring
- Historian Committee: Spearheaded Programming & Membership Engagement: (History of Bethune Height Recognition, Kwanza, MLK, Black History Month, Women in History, Juneteenth)
- Successful 2022 Membership Luncheon
- Overachieved goal of +\$10K in Fundraising Events & Campaign (Silent Auction, Giving Tuesday and 2022 SGV-NCNW Raffle Fundraiser)
- Flip-cause 10K Services Grant

All this success is due to your deliberate and intentional contributions to our mission, and your willingness to serve others. Over the last three years, despite the challenges of a world pandemic, social unrest, and inflation, SGV-NCNW has prevailed, due to your resilience, generous contributions, and hard work, for which I am truly thankful.

Your impressive dedication, commitment to service and SGV-NCNW has allowed us to achieve our goals and mission. Special thanks to our Executive Board and all members who have done an outstanding job in supporting SGV-NCNW!

I wish you a joyful holiday season, and great success in all your endeavors in the new year. As your President, it is an honor and privilege to serve SGV-NCNW.

Happy Holidays and warm wishes for a bright 2023!

With Gratitude,

*Marie Paula Thermidor*

## Remarkable Women – SGV-NCNW’s Queen Court



Highlighting SGV’s 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Celebration event was the inauguration of the Queen’s Court honoring 8 active charter members for 32 years of exemplary service and dedication to NCNW and the communities. Event chair, Cheri L. King said these members “have provided guidance, wisdom, and support. It is our responsibility to assume the mantle and move forward on their unwavering shoulders.”



**Dr. Dorothy Shepherd**  
Section Organizer



**Caroline Hill**



**Everlean Jackson**



**Lula Jenkins**



**Joann Koeller**



**Minnie Lathrop**



**Louise Shaw**



**Betty Taylor**

### Remarkable Women by DeBorrah Carter



From the moment, she enters into the room, it is known she is a **Remarkable Woman!** Head held high, shoulders back; her eyes peruse the room, a smile graces her face – aah yes, what a **Remarkable Woman!** Following in her stead, another

woman appears and another, another and yet another. Each as elegant as the first....

Confident, Relentless in their pursuits, Cultural pride they walk in with the spirit of Mary McLeod Bethune, Shirley Chisolm, Dorothy Height, Marian Anderson and other notable women; the spirit of their ancestors who TRAVERSED before them

#### Who are these women, the observers ask?

Eh, one answers, I know the first woman who came in – she is Dr. Dorothy Shepherd – the organizer of the SGV Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. And the others are members of that Section – Illustrious Women, Educators, Artists, Entrepreneurs, Political Advocates, Health Advocates, Attorneys, Singers, Authors, Poets, Preachers, Homemakers, Doctors, Students, Leaders, Youth Development Advocates, Seekers of Truth, Pursuers of Justice.

Gifted by God, they walk in power, they are mighty, yet gentle in spirit.

Their countenances glow with love, compassion and determination to fulfill their assignments.

Today they are celebrating their 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Excellence.

These women have seen the Vision of their strengths and talents that they possess.

For 32 years they have run with their vision to enrich their community, their families, the lives of others

You see – these are not ordinary Women – **These are Remarkable Women ...**

- R** Resilient
- E** Extraordinary
- M** Magnificent
- A** Amazing
- R** Righteous
- K** Knowledgeable
- A** Abounding Attributes
- B** Bountiful
- L** Loving
- E** Exquisite and Excellence Personified

**Remarkable! That is who they are.  
Remarkable Women!**

## SGV-NCNW 2022 – 2024 Executive Board



**Marie Paula Thermidor**  
**PRESIDENT**

**Cherri L King**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**Suze Moss**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**Denise McPheeters**  
**TREASURER**

**Our MISSION is to educate, empower, and advocate for women of African descent, their families, and the communities we serve.**



**Pamela Walker**  
**RECORDING SECRETARY**

**Linda Gibbs**  
**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

**Betty Smith**  
**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

**Valerie Tawiah**  
**CHAPLAIN**



**Annice Jackson**  
**PR DIRECTOR**

**Sandra Lee**  
**COMMUNITY SVC CHAIR**

**Cheryl Robinson**  
**COMMUNITY SVC CO CHAIR**

**Joann Koeller**  
**HOSPITALITY**

**SGV-NCNW is committed to sustaining a volunteer program that maximizes our members capacity to be loving, caring, creative, morally, and spiritually sensitive to all persons.**

# Holiday Season of Giving - SGV spreads love in the community; collaborates with partners



Packaging food at St. Stephens food kitchen.



Delivering homeless hygiene kits to East San Gabriel Valley Coalition



Assisting at Pasadena's Hon. John J. Kennedy Annual Community Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway. Hosted by Mayor Victor Gordo and Councilmember Tyron Hampton



Providing food, COVID kits, children's Colgate kits & other supplies at Back2School Giveaway. We also represented SGV-NCNW & provided toy donations at LOV Olive community holiday event.



Assisting Caramel Connections Foundation in wrapping presents for children of low income families.



Assisting 100 Black Men of Inland Empire (BMIE) in delivering holiday meals to needy families.

Knock Knock Angels outreach: Providing Christmas home make over for single mom and son.

LOV Olive Branches want to **thank you** for coming out and supporting the community on yesterday and to those that donated toys 🧸 and gifts cards, with your resources and businesses it was a success!! The needs of the families were met for this holiday season 🎄 I look forward to 2023 community events. Thanks again, Valerie LOV ❤️

## 60<sup>th</sup> National Convention By Beverley Morgan-Sandoz



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to SGV for providing the opportunity for me to attend the Convention while I was staying in the DC area. Thank you to the National Office for their efforts to provide a “safe” conference by requiring participants to upload proof of vaccination and to wear masks. Finally, thank you to the National Office for a convention that was

stimulating and inspiring.

Two aspects of the conference stood out for me; the leadership institute and the opportunity to engage with Dr. Cole.

### THE DOROTHY HEIGHT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

In her introductory comments, National President Dr. Dailey shared that Dr. Height started the Institute in 1992 for the purpose of identifying behaviors that would build a strong organization. This full day session was filled with experts who shared their knowledge and experience on leadership in its many forms: ethical leadership, financial leadership, supportive leadership, visionary, courageous leadership. The Institute was also interactive as some participants received key words that were asked to respond to and some shared leadership challenges they were facing.

### Some takeaways

Participants were encouraged to:

- Lead from a position of selflessness: while maintaining a strong belief in self yet empowering, inspiring and appreciating others. Staying connected to others and leading with your heart as you show respect for each other.
- Show respect for others by “staying in your lane”. Know your role and support others in theirs.
- Lead by bringing out the best in others.
- Embrace change, take risks and be persistent
- Build and nurture a good reputation
- Share resources and collaborate with others
- Listen, say less, do more
- Recognize that one can lead from the front and from the back
- Be lifelong learners
- Be an ethical leader, demonstrating conduct for the common good

- Know that part of a leader’s job is to prepare the next generation
- Accept that leadership is not always easy
- Know and understand parliamentary procedure, the organizational written procedures and other document
- Foster and encourage members to develop behaviors that follow the organization’s rules, policies and procedures
- Be financially literate. Learn financial language: assets, liabilities, net assets, revenue, bank reconciliations, depreciation, receivables, journal entries etc.
- Become familiar with state and federal reporting requirements as relates to non-profits
- Recognize and prepare to overcome the challenges to our leadership that we face as Black women.
- For Black Women know that education and training may not be enough to help us achieve our goals, therefore seek out both mentors and coaches. Mentors are those who have demonstrated the success you want to achieve. Coaches are those who can help you be accountable to do what you say you’re going to do.

### Summary

Per recommendations from participants, the National Office promised that they would provide training on parliamentary procedure and financial management to affiliates. Participants were encouraged to:

1. Use the Institute to learn and reflect on your leadership
2. Share what you learn with your sections
3. Lead an affiliate round table to establish community partnership
4. Develop a community impact event to give back to the community and to exemplify leadership, collectively

### DR. JOHNETTA BETSCH COLE:

Dr. Cole spoke during the Leadership Institute. In a three way conversation that was initiated by Brenda Anderson I had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Cole following the Institute and to acknowledge her for her role in the 2020 Rose parade which celebrated the right of women to vote. She responded that the ride on the float was a highlight for her. In our conversation, we discussed the role SGV played and I gave credit to the work Annette Spence did. Brenda mentioned my role and Dr. Cole hugged me. This was a highlight for me. Dr. Cole is a legend.

# 60<sup>th</sup> National Convention Pictures



SGV President Thermidor & National President Dr. Thelma Daley



Dr. Johnnetta Cole & SGV past President Brenda Anderson



SGV member Beverley Morgan-Sandoz (left) & Dr. Cole (right)



Pres. Thermidor, SGV member Suze Moss with Pres. Daley



NCNW'S 60TH NATIONAL CONVENTION  
December 1-4, 2022

Washington Hilton Hotel,  
Washington DC

*"A Noble Past Shaping a Powerful Future"*

# Spotlight on Young Legends



### She's #1

Congratulations to Maya Melvin. She finished #1 in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class at her Chino school. Maya participates in our Math tutoring program and finished 7<sup>th</sup> grade math with an A+. This year she is taking 8th grade Honors Math and would you know, she is making As. By the way she is still enrolled in SGV's Math tutoring program. Her mom, Margie Melvin, gives thanks and accolades to SGV-NCNW and Caltech for the tutoring help provided to Maya. Keep up the great work, Maya! We're proud of you!!

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



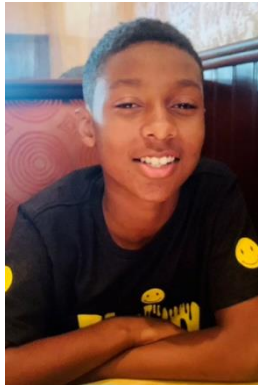
**Marquis Ferrette**

10th grade - likes to play video games and cooking.



**Braylynn Ferrette**

6th grade - likes to do karate and play with younger brother.



**Josiah Thermidor**

7<sup>th</sup> grade – Enjoys hanging out with friends, video games, music, NBA videos, fun with family.



**Bowie Ingels-Moss**

8<sup>th</sup> grade – Likes to draw & write fictional stories; loves acting, horror (in films), and the idea of different apocalypses. Most of all she enjoys playtime with her 3 year old brother.

### SGV Participates in Caltech's Community Service Advocacy Fair

The Caltech Y Community Service and Advocacy Fair was held November 18, 2022 on the campus of California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. SGV-NCNW was invited to attend to share the great work our organization does and especially our Young Legends Math Tutoring program. Annice Jackson represented SGV. Many student attendees visited our booth and volunteered/showed interest in becoming math tutors. SGV-NCNW looks forward to continuing our relationship and this program with Caltech. **If you have students (grades 1-12) that need additional math help, please contact SGV-NCNW.**



Young Legends is open to middle and high school students. Contact Annice Jackson [annicehj@gmail.com](mailto:annicehj@gmail.com) to join.

# Welcome to our Associate New Members



**WILLIE W. WILLIAMS**  
I joined SGV-NCNW because of its long history of empowering our community through voter education. My grandmother, who was a member of NCNW, introduced me to politics by taking me to NCNW voter education events when I was a child.



**PETER MORTENSEN**  
Joined SGV-NCNW because he believes in the mission of the organization and to support his wife (Suze Moss).

## Networking



San Diego Section 54th Annual Community Service Luncheon (Sep 16-17, 2022)



Memorable night with SGV-NCNW sisters supporting 100 Black Men of Inland Empire (BMIE) at their 6th Annual Gala



# In Loving Memory



## A VERY HUMBLE AND LOVING PERSON

That is how we will remember our friend and member **Hanna P. Starr**. She was a long standing member of SGV-NCNW where she served on many committees. She was especially gifted in arts and crafts as evident by the tablecloth that she embroidered for our section, the first scarves that she made for Young Legends, and many other items. We loved the many hats that she brought to the organization.

In 2016, Hanna Starr was named Woman of the Year at her church, St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in La Puente, CA. The award was given based on service and a vote by the members for the most deserving woman.

She was community minded and always concerned about the well-being of others. She was always ready to serve in any capacity as needed.

Hanna's continued commitment to deliver focused, quality service demonstrated to our NCNW community and her church members that they were valued, respected and supported. She was inspiration to us all and will be truly missed.

**Hanna P Starr**

Aug 31, 1941 – Nov 24, 2022



## HE LIVED HIS LIFE IN SERVICE TO OTHERS

**Rev. Al Shepherd** was one of the first associate members and supporters of SGV-NCNW during the organization of the section by his wife, Dr. Dorothy Shepherd. Through the years he continued his faithful support of the organization and his wife.

He served in the US Air Force for 25 years and was Master Sargent at the end of his service. He was employed by LA County Probation Department at Camp Challenger Boys Detention Camp, where he trained and led many young boys to Christ.

Rev. Shepherd was a member of St. Stephen Baptist Church where he organized the Reconciliation Ministry, a men's Bible ministry where he taught Bible Study for many years.

SGV-NCNW was blessed by his support and will continue to cherish his memory.

**Rev. Alphonso "Al" Shepherd**

Oct 23, 1932 – Nov 7, 2022



# UPCOMING Events

**SGV-NCNW GENERAL MEETINGS: 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAYS @ 9:30 AM VIA ZOOM**



San Gabriel Valley Section  
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Raffle Fundraiser**

**GRAND PRIZE**  LA Clippers vs Lakers basketball game tickets (04-05-23 @ 7:00pm PDT @ Crypto Arena); valued at \$550+

**CASH PRIZES**

- \*1st Prize: \$500.00
- \*2nd Prize: \$300.00
- \*3rd Prize: \$200.00

**ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO WIN:**

3 special prize baskets for Spa or Theater or Restaurant

**DRAWING**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2023  
at SGV-NCNW General Body Meeting

*Tickets: \$10.00 each*  
\*\* Need not be present to win

**YOUR PAST SUPPORT HELPED US TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Back to School backpacks and supplies for students
- Math tutoring for students (K - 12 grades)
- Toiletries and warm blankets for homeless women, men, and children
- Baby/toddler clothing for infants
- Resources for families relocated to domestic violence shelters
- Disaster relief (water) to flood victims in MS
- Mental health and wellness resources and seminars for women
- Assistance to grief stricken families
- Food baskets for needy families during the holidays

Ticket sales payments via:




Contact: For information & tickets  
SGV-NCNW 909-598-5539  
sgvncnw@gmail.com

Return tickets stubs by Dec. 26

SGV-NCNW PO Box 413 Walnut, CA 91789

(909)598-5539

www.sgvncnw.com

sgvncnw@gmail.com



San Gabriel Valley Section  
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.  
*Invite you to join us for our Fundraiser*



**THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL**



*Saturday, June 24, 2023 2:00 PM*  
Hollywood Pantages Theatre  
6233 Hollywood Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90028

Seats:  
Mezz L Rows E & F Cost \$66.00 per seat (21 seats available)  
**(NO REFUNDS)**

**TICKET PURCHASES (ZELLE OR CHECKS ONLY)**  
Zelle to: [sgvncnw@gmail.com](mailto:sgvncnw@gmail.com) **OR**  
Mail check to:  
SGV-NCNW Attn: Tina Musical PO Box 413 Walnut, CA 91788  
**NOTE: Please do not combine order with other SGV payments.**

SGV-NCNW  
PO Box 413 Walnut, CA 91788  
(909)598-5539 sgvncnw@gmail.com  
Website www.sgvncnw.org

**No Transportation provided:** Metro suggested.  
Note: Private parking lots are in the area.  
**CONTACT:** Annette Spence Phone: 626-485-2342



**MATH HELP FOR GRADES 1-12**  
**2023 Tutoring Session**  
Online 1-on-1 tutoring

Tutoring provided by  
Caltech Students in partnership with  
San Gabriel Valley Section  
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

**FREE!**

To Register, please contact  
[annicehi@gmail.com](mailto:annicehi@gmail.com) or  
SGV-NCNW Young Legends: [sgvncnw@gmail.com](mailto:sgvncnw@gmail.com) - 909-598-5539

**SPONSORS**



San Gabriel Valley Section  
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.



Education focus on STEM



Financial literacy



Health & wellness



Civil engagement



Community Service: Food packaging, disaster relief, homeless hygiene kits, and more



**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

Keep your Membership Current. Pay your Membership Dues TODAY!

(909)598-5539

PO Box 413 Walnut, CA 91788

[www.sgvncnw.com](http://www.sgvncnw.com)

IG/Facebook/ @SGVNCNW

[sgvncnw@gmail.com](mailto:sgvncnw@gmail.com)