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CEO
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President
California State Conference

MODESTO/STANISLAUS—CHAPTER 1048

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○ Iss 1

○ Vol 1

○ Spring

NAACP

Civil Rights Advocate



"Our Mission is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic quality of rights of all persons and to eliminate social hatred and racial discrimination" ~ www.naacp.org

Chapter 1048

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Economic Development
Labor & Industry
Women In NAACP (WIN)
Religious Affairs
Prison Industry
College Chapter

President's Message



Wendy Byrd
President

What tumultuous times we are privileged to be a part of. We are entering a new era in our struggle.

Five years ago, who would have thought that we would have an African American man and a woman running for our highest office. Or, that an African American woman would be elected as Speaker of the House for the California State Legislature.

Now is the time and the time is now. There is urgency in discovering your purpose and accepting your responsibility to humanity. Freedom ain't free. The privileges and liberties enjoyed today were bought and paid for by the blood, sweat, tears and fears of others.

The NAACP has seventeen (17) working committees. At the present time, several important committees are vacant. We are seeking qualified applicants to serve as Chairs of the

Economic Development, Labor & Industry, Women In NAACP (WIN), Religious Affairs, Prison Industry, and the College Chapter. The NAACP currently has a vibrant Youth Council of teens 18 years and below who are in need of mentors and support.

We invite you to join a host of wonderful volunteers of all nationalities and backgrounds throughout the county who serve in various capacities to ensure that your civil rights are protected.

We are a dedicated team of advocates working tirelessly on your behalf. There is much work to be done. If everyone just gave a little, we all would have a lot.

Please contact us at (209) 882-1480 or you may submit an interest form at

www.myspace.com/naacpstanislaus

Coming to Modesto—Thursday, May 15 from 9:00 am—11:00 am

Bring a list of your medications!

(See page 2 for details)

The "Help Is Here Express" is making stops all across America to help uninsured patients access their medicines.



Karen Bass Makes History



Karen Bass

“She possesses both power and poise and her leadership has made her the first African American woman in U.S. History to ever be elected head of a State Legislative Body.”

-Los Angeles Sentinel

First Black Women Assembly Speaker

As the 47th district assembly-woman, Karen Bass took care of her constituents, helping them through anything from the foreclosure crisis to navigating their way through the public healthcare system. Her new distinction as the first ever African American and woman to hold the position of assembly speaker won't change that, she said.

Bass grew up in the Venice- Fairfax area of Los Angeles, where she learned compassion for others at an early age. She graduated from the University of Southern California, School of Medicine—PA Program,

where she was a faculty member for more than ten years. Bass worked as a Physician Assistant in Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center's trauma center.

Before Bass began her political career, she founded and ran Community Coalition. As executive director, she built a community based social justice organization in South Los Angeles to empower residents to get involved in making a difference. Today, the organization is considered a model to engage the community throughout the country.

With her coalition, Bass prevented

the rebuilding of over 150 liquor stores, simultaneously working with business owners to transition over 40 of them into viable establishments, beneficial to the community. She spearheaded efforts for South L.A. schools to secure \$153 million for repairs and involved herself in fixing the poor shopping conditions on the area's stores.

(excerpts from the Los Angeles Sentinel and Inglewood Today)

You can keep up with her issues at

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/A47/>

The Modesto/Stanislaus NAACP salutes Karen Bass



Partnership for Prescription Assistance

“Help Is Here Express” for Prescription Assistance in Modesto

Hosted by NAACP, King Kennedy Board of Directors, & Stanislaus Multicultural Community Health Coalition

WHEN:

Thursday, May 15, 2008

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

WHERE:

King Kennedy Memorial Center
601 No. Martin Luther King Blvd.

Modesto

WHO:

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

Do you make choices on what to pay or buy—rent, food, utilities, or your medication. The Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) is coming to Modesto.

The “Help is Here Express” bus tour will be in Modesto on Thursday, May 15, stopping at the King Kennedy Memorial Center to help uninsured and financially struggling Californians access information on programs that provide prescription medicines for free or nearly free. The bus tour is part of the Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) – a nationwide effort sponsored by

America’s pharmaceutical research companies – raising awareness of patient assistance programs and the need to effectively address the rising and alarming rates of chronic disease in the United States. Patients can also learn about new medicines in development to fight chronic diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and asthma.

To date, the PPA has helped nearly 5 million patients, including nearly 280,000 Californians. Since its launch in April 2005, the PPA bus tour has visited all 50 states and more than 1,500 cities to raise awareness about patient assistance

programs. The “Help is Here Express” is staffed by trained specialists able to quickly help uninsured patients access information on more than 475 patient assistance programs, including nearly 200 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies. When the “Help is Here Express” moves on, patients can visit PPA’s easy-to-use Web site (www.pparx.org) or call the toll-free phone number 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669) where trained operators field calls in 150 languages.

Join Now!

Chapter 1048 Meets the 3rd Thursday every month at 7:00 pm

King Kennedy Memorial Center
601 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Modesto, CA

Annual Membership Dues

Adults = \$30.00
Youth = \$10.00

NAACP High School and 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony

WHEN: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Graceada Park, Modesto

WHO: All High School and 8th grade graduates are welcome

CONTACT: John Ervin at (209) 204-7521



NAACP Legislative Day – May 19th

The primary organizers are the NAACP, and California Black Woman Organized for Political Action – BWOPA. We are anticipating an exciting lobby day this year as we congratulate the first African American woman to ever be selected as the Speaker of the California State Assembly. In addition, we will address the 2007-08 California budget and specific policy issues affecting the African American community.

NAACP Legislative Day At the Capitol is a unique experience to learn how to lobby on Capitol Hill. The all expense paid day (except for travel) will begin with breakfast at the Sheraton Hotel in Sacramento. Alice Huffman and morning speakers will discuss civil rights issues of interest to the NAACP. You will be taught how to advocate and talk to legislators

on behalf of the NAACP. Lunch will be provided and you will attend afternoon meetings with various legislative staff to talk about NAACP concerns. This is advocacy work at its best! Members from all 72 branches in California are expected to attend. You will learn about the issues and receive free hands-on training. This is an incredibly powerful

experience. Last year, Branches came by the bus loads and Capitol Hill was transformed into a sea of black advocates. "You do not have to be a member to attend, however, I believe that once you experience the NAACP in action at the State Capitol, you will be inspired to join", said Wendy Byrd, President.

NAACP, ACLU and CSU Criminal Justice Club Forum Police Harassment or Civilian Review?

In the wake of several tragic police shootings and increased complaints of police misconduct, the Stanislaus County chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California (ACLU/NC) and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) plan their first joint forum on Tuesday, May 20, 2008.

Both ACLU and NAACP chapters favor civilian police review boards to oversee charges of undue force, harassment and excess secrecy in dealing with complaints against law enforcement personnel.

In a joint statement, Wendy Byrd, NAACP chapter president, and Fred Herman, ACLU chapter chairman, pledged that this meeting will not end, but begin a united effort to create such boards as now operate in many California cities.

"An oversight committee, if set up properly, would improve policing and strengthen the relationship between community and law enforcement," Byrd commented.

"More than half the nation's 50 largest cities now have such boards," Herman added. "They

involve citizens, act independently, have investigatory powers, and bring police work into the open and often reducing tension."

Co-sponsored by the Cal State Stanislaus Criminal Justice Club, the free, public gathering will feature attorney Mark Schlosberg, ACLU/NC police practices policy director, discuss "Police Harassment or Civilian Review?" at 7 p.m. in Room C102 of Bizzini Hall (the classroom building) on the Turlock campus.

Schlosberg has worked on issues including racial profiling, accountability systems, surveillance, crowd management and use of force. He managed a successful 2003 ballot campaign to strengthen San Francisco's civilian oversight system and worked on state and local legislative efforts to improve public access to police records.

His reports on policing in California include *The State of Surveillance: Government Monitoring of Political Activity in Northern and Central California* and *Under the Watchful Eye: The Proliferation of Video Surveillance Systems in California*.

Before ACLU service, he was a



Mark Schlosberg
Police Practices Director
Regional ACLU

deputy public defender in Contra Costa County and vice chair of the Berkeley Police Review Commission. His degree is from New York University School of Law.

A question-and-answer period will follow his presentation. Seating is limited. For more details see the ACLU chapter web site at

<http://StanACLU.org>

Bizzini Hall, the old Cal State classroom building, is exactly due north of the main campus entrance on Monte Vista (University) Avenue. Free parking for this event will be available in Lot 11, just right of the Monte Vista entrance.

COMMUNITY MARCH AGAINST GANG VIOLENCE

The NAACP will join law enforcement, city officials, community organizations, and others in a downtown march against violence.

Saturday, May 24, 11:00 am
in front of the
County Courthouse

Call Jeremiah Williams at
(209) 882-1480

ATTENTION



MINORITY CONTRACTORS & SUB- CONTRACTORS

The NAACP is developing a list of small business, minority, and female California licensed general building contractors and sub-contractors to refer for Housing & Urban Development (HUD) grants.

The current need is for expertise in housing rehabilitation and public improvement projects (streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, renovation of public park restrooms, etc.)

For more information,
please call
(209) 882-1480



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**MODESTO
 STANISLAUS
 BRANCH
 Chapter 1048**

NAACP

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Our Vision

The vision of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination.

Our Mission

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of right of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

Membership applications are available at the King Kennedy Memorial Center at 601 North Martin Luther King Blvd in Modesto. Types of membership are:

Regular Annual Membership

Adult	\$30.00
Youth w/Crisis	\$15.00
Youth w/o Crisis	\$10.00
Annual Corporate	\$5,000.00

Lifetime Membership

Junior Life (ages 13 & under)	\$100.00
Bronze Life (ages 14—21)	\$400.00
Silver Life	\$750.00
Gold Life	\$1,500.00
Diamond Life	\$2,500.00

Save These Dates:

- **Thursday, May 15**—
PPA Bus Tour
Modesto
- **Thursday, May 15**—
Chapter 1048 Meeting
- **Monday, May 19**—
Legislative Day
Sacramento
- **Tuesday, May 20**—
Police Harassment or
Civilian Review Forum
CSU Stanislaus, Turlock
- **Saturday, May 24**—
March Against Gang
Violence
Courthouse, Modesto
- **Wednesday, May 28**—
NAACP High School &
8th Grade Graduation
Graceada Park, Modesto
- **Saturday, May 31**—
2nd Annual Male Youth
Leadership Conference
MJC, Modesto

See inside for details

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Project Uplift—2nd Annual Male Youth Leadership Conference Addresses Epidemic Rates of Black on Black Youth Violence

This conference will be held at **Modesto Junior College (West Campus) in the Mary Stuart Rogers Student Learning Center from 9:00 am—3:00 pm on Saturday, May 31**. Workshops will provide information on conflict resolution, how to treat a woman, health and wellness, and incarceration. The conference is targeting black male youth ages 9 - 18, but we are encouraging male youth from other ethnic and racial groups to attend as well. The purpose is to provide a foundation for the positive development of our black male youth. The Keynote speaker will be Dr. Joe Marshall, co-founder of the Omega Boys Club in San Francisco. Also presenting will be Morris Kelly, producer/editor for the Tavis Smiley Show. This year's conference is dedicated to the memory of David Cingcon, the young man who was viciously beaten to death by a group of youth in March, in Modesto. His parents will provide opening remarks. Recruitment for Project UPLIFT mentors and youth participants for the Men's Group Leadership Academy will take place. For more information, contact John Ervin at (209) 204-7521.