



The Boggs Panther

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National Alumni Association, Inc.

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Boggs Academy Alumni and Social Media

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A social network is a social structure made up of individuals (or organizations) which are tied (connected) by one or more specific types of interdependency, such as friendship, kinship, common interest, financial exchange, etc. ([Wikipedia](#)) The Boggs Academy Alumni Association employs and encourage the use of various social network platforms so that we can stay connected and flourish!

Along with our Boggs Academy personality and character shaping, we have a connection to the rich history and the legacy of Boggs Academy. Being able to share our experiences, find commonality (no matter the era) is rewarding and entertaining! Join our various networks!

Facebook: Become a member of the [Boggs Academy Alumni Group](#) to connect with fellow BA alumni, faculty, and staff. Also, this is one of the platforms the BA National Alumni Association will use to keep you up-to-date on BA news and upcoming events!

Dear Old BA: [Click here](#) to join a network structured similarly to Facebook; however, we can claim it as being exclusively Boggs Academy (only classmates, schoolmates, faculty, staff, and friends are allowed to register).

Twitter: Tweet, Tweet! [Follow BANAAinc](#) and find out who's following BANAAinc!

James Costen

African-American Quotes

If we lose love and self-respect for each other, this is how we finally die.

Maya Angelou
Poet

An unforgettable quote from BA

"Knowledge is useless unless translated into action."

Do you remember it's origin?

"Words from the Good Book"¹

Though the Lord is on high, He looks upon the lowly, but the proud, He knows from afar.

Psalm 138:6

The New International Version

How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.

George Washington Carver

The BANAA Board at Work



Wonder what Barbara said to get their attention?

A Word About Our Fundraiser

It is that time of year again when we sponsor the annual fund raising initiative. Your participation is very important to our efforts. Raffle books are being distributed via the local chapters. For those who are not active in any chapter, please contact **Roberle Pratt at 877-270-4822 Fund Raising ext 4.**

Advertising is key in reaching out to others, and it is through these fund raising efforts that we are able to maintain our web presence, newsletters and other materials necessary to keep our organization strong. Please help us to keep the Boggs legacy strong support our Raffle.

Thank you.
The BANAA Board.

BANAA Board and Chapter News

ELEVEN YEAR OLDS STRUTTIN' THEIR STUFF!

Charles Lawson's ('67) granddaughter, **Pilar Jones**, is an 11 year old 5th grader at Harper Elementary in Thomasville, GA, who was selected based on excellent grades and positive behavior, to meet **President Obama** in Washington, DC this August. Pilar, a 6th grader this fall, has been selected to attend Thomasville Scholars Academy for gifted students. Charles is a former president of the Florida Alumni Chapter.

Oweta Johnson-Hegeman's ('57) granddaughter, **Nnennaya (Naya) Harris**, an 11 year old 6th grader at Paint Branch Elementary School* in College Park, MD, was one of fifteen students selected, based on grades, an interview and an essay, to go to Shanghai and Beijing, China last month. Nnennaya was accompanied by her mother **Sharon Harris**, Oweta's daughter .



**Paint Branch Elementary partners with the University of Maryland and its School of Education.*

The Northeast Chapter (former New York Chapter) Because of the summer months and schedules, weddings, graduations and vacations, the chapter will meet via teleconference in the month of July, and will return to an actual face to face meeting in September. Notices will be sent out when the actual dates have been decided. In the meantime, please stay tuned to our Newsletter and Websites for additional information.

The officers are Bobby Murph, President, Serita Davis, Treasurer, Hazel Williams-Rollins, Parliamentarian, John Franklin, Secretary. The representatives to the Board of Directors from the Northeast Chapter are: Bobby Murph and Ali Rahman.



Gwendolyn Stackhouse Allen ('69) is back at work although still recuperating from a recent automobile accident.

The Greater Atlanta Chapter of the **Boggs Academy National Alumni Association (BANAA)** met Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at our national headquarters. We had a very productive meeting that centered around rebuilding our chapter, adopting a community service project, and ideas for local fundraisers. We are presently planning a major membership drive to increase our membership and active participation. We invite all metro Atlanta alumni and associates to come to our next chapter meeting on June 14, 2011 at our national headquarters office: 3330 Cumberland Boulevard, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30339 (Gross Collins Building). We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you. For more information, please contact:
James Costen at jhc_jr@boggsacademy.com (770-795-0324),
Mary Jimerson at mejaka@bellsouth.net (404-761-4989), or
Jerita Hall at jeritahall@yahoo.com (678-770-2761)



Dr. Yenwith Whitney, former BA principal, passed on 4/12/11.

Jerita Rollins Hall's mother **Mrs. Jacquelyn Rollins** passed on 4/30/11.

John Fowler Williams, ('60) passed on 5/5/11.

Hazel Johnson Strong, wife of **Mack Strong**, (57) passed on 5/25/11.

Charles Lawson's brother, **Leroy McClendon**, ('67) passed on 5/28/11.

Some historically black colleges and universities in the USA: Alabama A&M University, Alabama State University, Albany State University, Alcorn State University, Allen University, American Baptist College, Arkansas Baptist College, and Atlanta Metropolitan College.

The San Antonio Chapter—Reunion 2011

The San Antonio Chapter is looking forward to welcoming all of our schoolmates to Texas. San Antonio is not just your run of the mill town. It's the second largest city in Texas. There's fantastic sights here such as The Alamo, The famous River Walk, lots of shopping, restaurants, parks, there are also five military bases here. The Witte Museum is displaying the JFK Lectern which President Kennedy spoke from the day before his assassination. Help make this reunion a success by going to the Boggs website and registering today. We'll be waiting for ya. Click on the link below for more information on San Antonio.

http://travel.yahoo.com/p-travelguide-191502017-san_antonio_vacations-i

Lennis Wyatt, Reporter

The nine historically college-based Black fraternities and sororities in the USA are:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity—December 4, 1906

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority—January 15, 1908

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity— January 5, 1911

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity— November 27, 1911

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority— January 13, 1913

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity—January 9, 1914

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority—January 16, 1920

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority—November 12, 1922

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity—September 19, 1963

Meeting the First Lady

Jerita Hall had the pleasure of meeting **First Lady, Michelle Obama** on May 15 at an Invitation Only Reception at the Peachtree Plaza's Westin Hotel in Atlanta. Mrs. Obama spoke about the real work that we all must do in the future to enable her husband to continue to fight for middle-class citizens. At the reception Jerita got to hug Mrs. Obama twice. Now that's what you call "getting up close and personal."



Naya and classmates in China

A Tuskegee Airman and A Boggs Academy Principal?

Yes, the late **Dr. Yenwith K. Whitney** was both. During his 86 years, Dr. Whitney led a long and fruitful life of service in a variety of venues. In 1943 "Yen" enlisted in the [Army](#) Air Corps at the age of 18 and became a member of the 301st fighter squadron. He served as a fighter pilot in Europe during [WWII](#) as a member of the elite Tuskegee Airmen. The Tuskegee Airmen were America's first black fighter pilot group in World War II. More than one thousand men earned their pilot 's wings in Tuskegee, AL at the African-American Army Air Base.



After the war he graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the GI Bill and worked as an aeronautical engineer. He met and married Muriel Johnson in 1951 and had two daughters. As members of NYC's Church of the Master he and Muriel joined the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church and began a life of service to the Church. He served in Cameroun, West Africa as a teacher of math and physics for ten years. Upon returning to the USA, Yen became a lay church executive for the Presbyterian Church. While serving as Associate for Educational Services he earned a Doctorate in Education from Columbia University. **Dr. Whitney served as principal of Boggs Academy in Keysville, GA from 1978-1981.** Muriel died in 1978 and a year and a half later he married Lorenza (Lori) Washington. Yen continued his church service as Liaison with Africa and later as Associate for Southern Africa. They moved to Louisville, Ky. in 1988 where the headquarters of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA had relocated. He retired in 1992 and moved to Sarasota, Fla. in 1998. While in Sarasota Yen became deeply involved in church work serving as an elder at the First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota. He also worked with the alumni association of MIT in their recruitment efforts and with the Tuskegee Airmen Association giving talks to many groups about his wartime experiences. He was a member of The Boule*

Dr. Whitney passed on April 12, 2011 in Sarasota, FL.

What a legacy! Dr. Whitney, we are glad you spent time at Boggs Academy. Thank you!



Left: Yen Whitney as an 18 year old **Right:** Yen Whitney, with fellow pilots, is the third from the right in the picture taken in early 1944 when he learned to fly the P-40 during WWII.



*For more information about **The Boule** look up **Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity** and/or **Steve Cokley**

Two Changing a Community

In 1994, **Mack Strong** ('57) and his late wife **Hazel Johnson Strong**, founded the "Inner City Music School" in Indianapolis, IN. Its primary objective was to provide music instruction for inner-city students who may not have had the financial capability of attending a music academy. Operating on a shoe string budget, both Hazel and Mack worked tirelessly to raise money to fund this program and utilized personal finances to keep their project economically viable. The program is still changing lives one youth at a time.

Those present at the 2002 BA Reunion in Atlanta were fortunate to hear Hazel's beautiful voice as she took us down memory lane singing songs that stirred something deep within us . Thanks Hazel and Mack for making a positive impact in your community.

The Editor's Corner

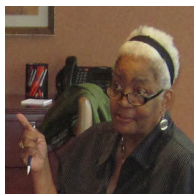
There are currently six BANAA chapters around the USA. Each chapter has been charged with providing information to pass on to you in the newsletter. I am sure that there are stories to be told, both about individuals and the chapter as a whole. Make sure you select a "Reporter" to tell what's going on in your chapter.

me so I can share with the BA family. *"The inquiring mind wants to know."*

Send your information to: newsletter@boggsacademy.com

Oweta Johnson Hegeman

Still trying to get the point!



What have you done that's extraordinary? Where have you been that's exciting? Tell

African-American Trivia

Did you know that

Allensworth is the only California community to be founded (1908), financed and governed by African-Americans?

Musician **Bo Diddley** reportedly got his name from the diddley bow, an African instrument with one string?

African-American fashion designer **Ann Lowe** designed the wedding dress of Jacqueline Bouvier, the bride of **John F. Kennedy**?

Paul Robeson, singer/activist, was conversant in more than 20 languages?.

John Baxter Taylor, the first African-American to win an Olympic Gold Medal, also held a degree from the University of Pennsylvania in veterinary medicine?

The "Dee" in actor **Billy Dee Williams'** name is short for his middle name, "December?"

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Any State

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Please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends and acquaintances.