



New Kemet Harambe Chapter

“New land of the black skinned people pulling together.”

Quarterly Report – July 1, 2006 to September 30, 2006

Chapter Organization:

President	Deena M. Sheppard	sheppard.deena@epa.gov
1 st Vice President	Stephanie A. Kimble	kimble.stephanie@epa.gov
2 nd Vice President	Donna Coleman	coleman.donna@epa.gov
Corresponding Secretary	Yvette Coleman	coleman.yvette@epa.gov
Secretary	Adrienne Callahan	callahan.adrienne@epa.gov
Acting Treasurer	Oliver Warnsley	warnsley.oliver@epa.gov
Immediate Past President	Brian C. Bell	bell.brianc@epa.gov
Parliamentarian	Tawanda Thomas	tawanda.thomas@gsa.gov
Chaplain	Marion Cleveland	marion.cleveland@gsa.gov
Assistant Chaplain	Gwendolyn Massenburg	massenburg.gwendolyn@epa.gov

Programs & Activities:

National Information Superhighway Student Competition (ISSC)



On June 10, 2006, Jarvis Reid, an honor roll student at King College Preparatory High School and New Kemet Harambe Chapter's ISSC winner, presented his website at the Regional ISSC, representing the 11th and 12th grade category, in Cleveland Ohio. Jarvis met all the criteria and advanced to the National ISSC in New York City. On August 25, 2006, Jarvis proudly represented Region V at the Marriott Marquis Hotel. Even though Jarvis did not place, he did an excellent job and we were very proud of him.

Great Chicago Food Depository (GCFD)

On July 15, 2006, NKHC BIG members volunteered at the Great Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) on behalf of the Matthew House. The Matthew House is a local homeless shelter for men, women, and children that service the Bronzeville area of greater Chicago. At the GCFD, we repackaged perishable foods that were sent to the various shelters throughout Chicago and surrounding areas. Each person that volunteered was paid \$5.00 an hour and all wages were donated to benefit the Matthew House. Both the GCFD and Matthew House benefited from our members' time and work performance in this BIG community outreach event. Kudos to everyone for their outstanding participation in this endeavor. Special thanks to Gwen Massenburg, our Assistant Chaplain, for spearheading this event. Great Job Gwen!

Ravinia Fundraiser

Since 1904, Ravinia has been Chicago's "sound of summer," a place where you can meet up with your friends, have a wonderful time and hear some of the greatest music in the world. Ravinia's expansive lawn offers an informal and comfortable place to picnic while enjoying Pavilion and Martin Theatre concerts, broadcast to the lawn audience through their state-of-the-art sound system.

NKHC was donated 65 tickets to attend two spectacular Ravinia Concerts on their outdoor lawn. Patti LaBelle performed on July 26th and Take Six and Lela Hathaway performed on Aug 23rd. NKHC members and their guests have an absolutely marvelous time on both concert nights!

National Blacks In Government Award Recipient

The New Kemet Harambe Chapter was the recipient of the national organization's "2006 Distinguished Service Award" presented at the 28th Annual National Training Conference in New York City, New York by the National BIG President, Ms. Darlene Young and the National Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Farrell Chiles. The BIG National Prestige Awards Program is designed to give recognition to those members, chapters, and regions of Blacks In Government whose deeds and contribution in furtherance of the goals and objectives of the organization have been so exemplary and/or significant that they are deserving of special honor and praise. Our Chapter really appreciated receiving this award knowing that all of our hard work did not go unnoticed.



Back-to-School Community Outreach Cookout



The NKHC partnered with the Chicago Family Foundation, Black Youth in Action and the Englewood Black Chamber of Commerce in a community back to school cookout. The cookout site was located at Lindblom Park, 6054 South Damen, in Chicago. The back to school event was held on Saturday, August 26th from 10 am to 3 pm. The event consisted of various community-based organizations partnering to provide free food for the community, games for the youth, various resources for the community, music and live entertainment and plenty of "Back to School Supplies". Volunteers helped facilitate the event, i.e. distributing the supplies, working on the event set-up and helping with youth activities.

This project gave us an opportunity to provide some much needed help to the community and to build a relationship with at-risk youth and families within the Englewood community; while bringing awareness of Blacks In Government to the community and other community service providers. We really enjoyed helping our youth and it was so much fun seeing the smiles on the children's faces when they received the school supplies. These are the times that we are proud to say "HAVE NO FEAR, BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT IS HERE!" Special thanks to William Burch, NKHC member, for coordinating this event...way to go Will!

Budget Retreat at President's Residence

The September monthly membership meeting was held at President Deena Sheppard's residence in Crete, Illinois on Saturday, September 16th. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, members viewed a video on environmental justice while enjoying a delicious meal prepared by the President. In

addition, Mr. Revin Fellows, an experienced facilitator, conducted a team building exercise to help members prepare for the discussion on the 2007 budget and proposed Chapter events and activities, to identify communication barriers, to build up leadership skills and to become a more supportive and teamwork Chapter by working well with others and encouraging one another. The Chapter was successful in craving out the budget and activities for 2007. The meeting was well attended, very productive and was suggested to be held on an annual basis at the President's home.

BIG's Participation in Community Outreach Cleanup

Coastal Cleanup is part of an international campaign that takes place annually on the third Saturday of September. The purpose of the event is to help reduce the amount of litter, also known as "marine debris", on the beaches. The types and quantities of debris are recorded, removed, recycled as much as possible, and reported to the sponsoring organizations. This information will become part of an international study that looks at the problems posed by the debris and will track any changes in the situation.



Jacqueline Dillard and Vince Saunders, NKHC members, volunteered to clean up the Calumet Park beach located on 98th Street and Lake Michigan in Chicago. This was no small task and NKHC commends Jackie and Vince for their participation in this event and for their diligence and commitment in protecting our environment!!

AVON 2-Day Breast Cancer Walk

NKHC Members participated in the Avon 2-day walk for breast cancer. Chapter members provided support in the form of personal funds and prayers for our walkers. Congratulations to Adrienne Callahan, our Chapter Secretary, who did the entire 2-day walk!!!

UPCOMING CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Helping Chicago Area Youth To Keep Warm in the Winter

The Chapter's goal is to collect over 500 new and used coats to be distributed to less fortunate families in the Chicago metropolitan communities for the winter. Coats are needed for youth ages 1 year to 18 years old and they should be clean with buttons, snaps or zippers working properly.

Donations can be brought to the Metcalfe Federal Building, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, 3rd Floor, Chicago, Illinois on one of the following days: October 23, October 24, or October 25, 2006 between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All donations will benefit the Chicago Family Foundation & the I CAN Youth Foundation!



Congratulations, You Got The Job!” Mastering The Interview

The Chapter will be hosting a training seminar that has been designed to provide participants with additional skills needed to enhance their ability to project more competitively during an interview process. Discussions will cover:

- ✚ Key Elements of an Interview**
- ✚ Preparing for the Interview**
- ✚ Mistakes Interviewees Make**
- ✚ Communication Techniques and**
- ✚ Things To Avoid**

Please join us for this 1-hour educational and complimentary session from 12 Noon to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2006 or Wednesday, November 29, 2006 at the Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, 3rd Floor, Conference Room 330, in Chicago, IL. . Bring your lunch and enjoy the seminar!

BIG Unity Christmas Dinner Dance

The Chicago Midwest, West Chicago United and the New Kemet Harambe Chapters are teaming together to host a Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 9, 2006 at the Beverly Woods Restaurant and Banquet Rooms, located at 11532 South Western Avenue in Chicago.

This holiday event will include dinner, open bar, entertainment, dancing, motivational speaker, socializing and lots and lots of fun! There will be exciting raffle prizes too donated by each Chapter. Tickets will be available for sale shortly. New Kemet Harambe Chapter looks forward to working with their sister Chapters in planning an outstanding, fun, and memorable holiday event for all.



Submitted by

Deena M. Sheppard

Deena M. Sheppard
President, New Kemet Harambe Chapter