

Tracy African American Association Newsletter



TAAA E Gallery Mixer

This forum brought together over 100 people representing merchants, service providers, entertainers, and public offices from the area cities. At this meet and greet there was exchanges of information pertaining to business interests that is the fuel of entrepreneurial spirit.



Howard Baker, TAAA President, addresses mixer guest.

Mary Kennedy-Bracken, CEO/President of the Lathrop District Chamber of Commerce, gives a greeting. She has been recently nominated for "Woman of the Year by the California Legislation Woman Caucus"



This mixer was also used to raise funds for the Wayne Nelson Scholarship. High School seniors going to college are eligible for this award to help with college expenses. TAAA also donates funds to community organizations such as the BSUs in the TUSD and the African American Educators Association. (AAEA)

We acknowledge the generosity of our guest for their donation of time and gifts towards the TAAA and Wayne Nelson Scholarship Fund. A special thank you to Jack Elliott the proprietor of the E Gallery Performance Annex.

A Spring Mixer will also be held at The E Gallery and Performance Annex adjacent to the Grand theater. April 29, 2011.

Black History Bowl

This is one of those moments when the youth of the triangle city of Tracy, California gets to shine. Coming together to test their knowledge on Black History.



Two teams were assembled to answer some tough questions. Education and memories shined when the questions were correctly answered. An odyssey continues for all who could not answer the questions correctly.

This odyssey will send all on the path to learn more Black history and to try to relate the people and the events of the past to our current times and the citizenship that we want all our youth to embody.

This year the Black History Bowl was held at the Merrill West High School Cafeteria. The other stars of this event are the students who read their poetry and prose. TUSD, has to be proud have these young people who are being primed to be the future assets of this city and country.

Subjects and biographical information of Black History can be explored at <http://www.biography.com/blackhistory/> and <http://www.blackhistory.com/>. These are just 2 places to start your research. There are many more exciting web sites!

For more information on the Black History Bowl see <http://www.taaa.net/>

Visit www.taaa.net

Use the internet to connect to the Tracy Unified School District. Your child's future is at your finger tips. You can verify the your child's requirements on line from home, work, or on the road. <http://www.tracy.k12.ca.us/Pages/MainHomePage.aspx>



Black History Bowl continued.

African Americans are making history every day. We must all continue to inspire all our children to be the history makers of tomorrow.

Our thanks to Paul Hall for the assembly of this program. Paul is the current Education Chair of TAAA and Director of Student Services Curriculum for the Tracy Unified School District.



Tuskegee Airmen

Tracy Library hosted the Tuskegee Airmen, in the Wadsworth Room. March 9, 2011

The speakers Walter Suggs (above right) and George Porter (above, left), were from the Sacramento Chapter. These members of the Tuskegee Airmen had a much to tell.

To become an airmen at the Tuskegee, Alabama experiment all of the same requirements had to be met as it would be for the white airmen candidates.

The training facility was a segregated. White officers were not allowed to sleep at the Tuskegee base over night. Those officers had to go a nearby hotel or another base. Today all bases and training facilities are integrated.

Eventfully it was realized that all the support personal that was required to keep a pilot in the air also had to be trained. Flight mechanics, cooks, radio, doctors and other support personal were also trained in the Tuskegee experiment. Black units of the Army Air force was being created. With that, history was made.

When these units became active in Europe protecting the bomber formations, the pilots of those bomber formations did not know the men in the fighter planes were African Americans. They only knew the planes with the red tails were protecting the formations.

Upcoming Events

- April 29– Spring Mixer at the E Gallery 6-8PM
- June 4-Juneteenth Festival At Dr. Powers Park 10AM to 7PM
- July 22 Delicato Wine Tasting Affair 15.00 6-8PM See our web site: www.taaa.net
- Monthly Meetings 1st Saturday of each month George Kelly Elementary School 8:30 -10:30AM

Tuskegee Airmen are on record for losing the fewest bombers during escort missions. They worked hard to keep their planes flying. Sometimes resorting to modifying parts made for one type airplane to fit a different model of plane. Being flexible and working hard was a cornerstone for every mission to have a successful outcome. Taking pride is essential.

During the presentations it was stressed that as parents who want the best from our children we must start by giving the our children the best at home. We should be sitting with them at least one meal a day. Share your thoughts with their daily experiences. Young people need to be guided away from situations that can harm their future.

Young people are our most prized assets.

For more information about the chapter please got the web site <http://taisac.org/> .

YOU'RE INVITED!

**TAAA Hosts
"A SPRING FLING" NETWORKING MIXER**

Friday, April 29th | 6-8pm

**E Gallery and Performance Annex
729 Central Avenue, Tracy, CA**
(Next to Grand Theatre Center for the Arts)

Free and Open to All!

Mix & Mingle while enjoying
Good Company, Live Entertainment
Delectable Appetizers, Refreshing Libations
And Several Exciting Raffle Items, including ...
Special donated striking pair of original color photos
Taken in Haiti immediately following the Jan. 2010 earthquake

Contact: Valerie Robinson | 209.423.1302 | robinson.valerie@gmail.com

Raffle proceeds benefit the TAAA Wayne Nelson Academic Scholarship Program

Visit www.taaa.net

Education is a strong thread in the fabric of success.