



SAN FRANCISCO
*African American
 Historical & Cultural Society*

SAN FRANCISCO
 AFRICAN AMERICAN
 HISTORICAL &
 CULTURAL SOCIETY

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Eldoris Cameron & Ginger
 Smyly, Co-editors

G. Smyly S. Roberts &
 others, photos

Al Williams, President
 William Hoskins, Executive
 Director

- Al Williams,
 President



"In the Archives"

Thanks to the commitment and resourcefulness of Society members like Addie Lewis, Ginger Smyly, Kiwan Gore and Thor Koslafsky, support from our sponsors and partners, the Mayor's Office, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission and SFGOV-TV, the Society's series of 2022 Black History Month, **Black Health and Wellness**, programs were successful.

[View the Annual Black History Month Kick-off program](#)

Our next major event will be the Society's **Annual Membership Meeting** to be held on **April 3, 2022, 2 pm**. Society members will perform one of their most important duties: electing members of the Society's Board of Directors. This year we will be filling at least 5 seats on the Board. A Nominating Committee has been appointed to identify and recommend a slate of candidates. Society members who would like to be considered should submit a brief letter of interest to the Nominating Committee at info@sfaahcs.org.

We hope to hold the Annual Meeting in the Society's library/gallery. Only time will tell if that will be possible. If not, we will have to hold it via zoom.

While we are still unable to work out of the African American Art and Culture Complex, we continue to find creative ways to do the important work of educating African Americans and the general public about contributions African Americans have made to San Francisco, California the United States and the world. As members of the Society, it is our responsibility to ensure that African Americans and others never forget who we are, what we have accomplished and what we have contributed to San Francisco.

We hope you will be interested in serving on the Board and look forward to seeing you in-person or via Zoom at the Annual Meeting.

Also in this *Praisesinger*:

- ✓ In the Archives: "Lost and Found" by Seth Roberts, USF Graduate
- ✓ "Homage to Black Doctors and Healthcare Summary, Chapt. 15, [The 1619 Project](#)
- ✓ "Obama, the Cornerstone" (Obamacare)
- ✓ More on the 2022 Black History Month Kick-Off
- ✓ Upcoming Events, including Annual Membership Meeting
- ✓ What's NEW on the Website, your Inbox and Facebook
- ✓ Membership Application /Renewal
- ✓ Photo Album – Extras for Black History Month and Black Lives Matter

“HEALTHCARE”
Chapter 15 Summary
THE 1619 PROJECT

- Eldoris Cupp
Cameron

The historic *New York Times*, “The 1619 Project”, created by Nikole Hannah-Jones, is now available as a book of the same name, with additional articles.

Chapter 15 captures, **BLACK HEALTH and WELLNESS**, the **Black History Month** theme. Here are some highlights:

- Obamacare, (**ACA**), faced repeated repeals and replacements during and after President Obama’s administration. Age, income, employment status and geographic regions marginalized African Americans, Latino Americans, Indian Americans and others. These groups constituted the highest medically uninsured and suffered disproportionate rates of chronic disease and death.
- Twelve states, mostly red states refused to participate in **ACA** which provided health coverage to low-income Americans.
- Reconstruction following the Civil War was short lived that, in part, addressed healthcare for former slaves. Under Reconstruction, the Freedmen’s Bureau erected approximately 40 hospitals to provide healthcare for former slaves, but restrictions and racist laws were passed to prevent and deny needed care.
- Rebecca Lee Crumpler, the nation’s first Black female doctor, trained and worked in Boston, joined the Freedmen’s Bureau and was a strong advocate for healthcare for former slaves. The National Medical Association (**NMA**) was founded by Black doctors in 1895, the year of Dr. Crumpler’s death. **NMA** was a leading voice for health and medical treatment for Blacks and disadvantaged groups.
- During the 1930’s, Blacks were excluded from the **New Deal** and the **Social Security Act**, as well as **The Wagner Act** which ensured collective bargaining for workers as well as **The Labor Standards Act** (minimum wage and 8-hour workday.)
- The **Hill-Burton Act** that provided federal grants for hospital construction in communities in need was controlled by state leaders that neglected Black Americans in rural communities.
- During World War II, the **American Medical Association (AMA)** allowed the exclusion of Black doctors and Black medical students from admission to medical schools. They were left to train and practice in only segregated hospitals and health clinics. [*My late friend’s training ground, **Homer G. Phillips Hospital & Medical School (1937-1979)** in St. Louis, Missouri, was a segregated facility that produced many qualified Black medical doctors, nurses, dentists and staff. It provided healthcare for thousands of the colored population, as did other such institutions.*]
- From the 1895 to date, the **National Medical Association** of Black doctors has promoted healthcare as a basic human right. Together, Medicare and Medicaid helped bring hospital segregation to an end.

The **1964 Civil Rights Act** outlawed segregation for any entity receiving federal funds that helped low income and the elderly. *I say, this law must be protected and guarded.*

Healthcare for profit is a major stumbling block which, *I say*, must be watched and regulated.

**OBAMA:
THE CORNER STONE**

- *William Hoskins,
Curator / Executive
Director*

Dr. Carter G. Woodson initiated Negro History Week in February 1926. 2022 marks the 96th observation of what has become Black History Month. The 2022 theme is Black Health and Wellness. The theme is designed to cast light on the healthcare and the associated social and economic determinants impacting the African American community.

Good health, a condition of the body and the degree to which it is free from illness is intimately linked to wellness, a state of being healthy achieved by the personal efforts of an individual. A lack of awareness of the importance of good health and wellness not only impacts the individual but also the family and the greater community. A major hurdle for all members of the minority community is the inability to obtain health insurance to ensure access to healthcare, a cornerstone to good health and wellness.

In July 2009, an effort to overhaul the healthcare system, following the efforts of past presidents, HR3962, the Affordable Health Care for Americans Act, was introduced. This was signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 23, 2010. It is more commonly known as the affordable Care Act (ACA) or “Obamacare”. This changed the healthcare system in the U.S. by reducing the amount that individuals and families paid in uncompensated care. The Act required every American to have healthcare insurance and provided assistance to those who could not afford a plan. It also covered individuals with pre-existing conditions. The ACA was modified in 2017 when congress repealed the rule that everyone in the country was required to have healthcare.

Today, despite efforts by many politicians to eliminate affordable healthcare, Obamacare is still available, representing one of the greatest overhauls of the U.S. healthcare systems providing coverage for over 94% of Americans. Obamacare has become the cornerstone for good health.

The current exhibit, **Obama, the Legend** at the Society gallery celebrates President Obama, the first African American president, not just for Obamacare but showcases highlights of his 8 years in office. We invite you to visit the gallery to enjoy the exhibit as soon as the AAACC facilities are open.

Stay well, be safe and enjoy the day.

WWW.SFAAHCS.ORG
& BEYOND

Visit the Society [website](#)! It is undergoing a gradual make-over. Mickey Lee, Volunteer webmaster, reports that the [Welcome](#) and [Event](#) pages are the most frequently visited. The “look” and content of those has changed, with more to come. Visit the [Black History](#) page, which cites useful links and resources for Black History. Check your in-box. The

Society regularly sends emails to you with updates. Missing those emails? Check your *junk* or *spam* and make the Society (info@sfaahcs.org) a trusted contact. **FACEBOOK** much? Our revived Facebook page is up-to-date! Thanks, Mickey and Addie!

HOMAGE TO SAN FRANCISCO DOCTORS, PAST & PRESENT

Eldoris Cameron, long-time Society member, scrolled through her Society archives and prepared this list of San Francisco African American doctors, psychologists, dentists, pharmacists and optometrists from the past to present. (Not a comprehensive list.) *compiled by Eldoris Cupp Cameron*

David Ausberry, DDS
 Carolyn Block, Psy.
 Nathaniel Burbridge, MD
 Nadine Burke, MD
 Richard Caesar, DDS
 Patricia Canson, Psy.
 Brazell Carter, MD
 Caesar Churchwell, DDS
 Price Cobb, Psy.
 Michael Cole, DDS
 Arthur H. Coleman, MD, Psy.
 Daniel A. Collins, MD
 Anthony Daniels, DDS
 Oscar L. Daniels, MD
 Charles Darke, DDS
 George W. Davis, MD
 Stuart T. Davison, MD ++
 Harry Denson, DDS
 Joseph F. DeShiell, Chiro.DSC
 David Dent, DDS
 Harold Dent, Psy.
 Lionel Dickey, DDS
 Lloyd Dickey, DDS
 Harold Fields, DDS

Nathan Hare, Psy.
 Washington E. Garner, MD
 Jerome Matthews, DDS
 Alma Maxwell, Psy.
 Leonard Meyers, MD
 Carlton B. Goodlett, MD, PhD
 Eric Goosby, MD
 Zuretti L. Goosby, DDS
 William Grier, Psy.
 Michelle Guy, MD
 Edward Hambrick, MD
 Russell Harrison, MD *
 David E. Haskell, Chiro.DSC *
 Herbert B. Henderson, MD
 William E. Hoskins, DDS
 Edwin Johnson, MD
 Ezra Johnson, MD, late 1800's
 Wesley S. Johnson, Jr., Pharm.D *
 John Jones, Pharm.D
 Leo S. Kimbrough, MD
 Emmett Kirksey, DDS
 Diane Hambrick LeBlanc, MD
 Asa Hilliard, Psy.
 Thomas Hilliard, Psy.

Cerella Lucas, MD
 Henry Lucas, DDS
 Monroe Majors, MD, late 1800's
 Rudolph H. Miller, MD *
 Ronald D. Mitchell, Chiro.DSC *
 Walter H. Morris, MD *
 Lawrence R. Neblett, MD *
 Marquenta R. Neblett, MD *
 Glenda F. Newell, MD
 Waldense Nixon, MD
 Harrison Parker, DDS *
 John H. Phillips, MD *
 William Pierce, Psy.
 Marvin R. Poston, OD
 Doris Purcell, MD *
 Catherine Sanders, MD *
 Ella Mae Simmons, MD
 Phyllis Stubbs, MD
 William A. Thomas, Psy.
 William McKinley Thomas, MD
 Dale L. Tipton, MD
 C. Joseph Wellington, MD *
 Gerald West, Psy.
 L. H. Williams, MD
 Robert Underwood, Psy.

NOTES and REFERENCES:

++ Stuart T. Davison, 1896-1975, first Black to graduate from UCSF Med School, San Francisco, 1918

* Dr. Coleman's network



2022 Black History Month Logo

DDS: Dr. of Dentistry
 Chiro.DSC: Dr. of Chiropractic

Psy.: Psychologist
 Pharm.D: Dr. of Pharmacy

Sun Reporter, SFAAHCS records, SF-NAACP records, "How Black Doctors Shaped California's History" by John William Templeton, 1942 Negro Professional Directory, online documents, Delta sisters, William E. Hoskins DDS, William A. Thomas, Psy., Arthur H. Coleman Community Foundation, 2006

**IN THE ARCHIVE:
LOST AND FOUND**

- Seth Roberts,
2021
USF graduate

Hello! I worked as a Society intern for 6 months in 2021. Alongside other volunteers, I have helped organize and record many artifacts. I'm proud of the progress we made in ordering valuable pieces of writing, art, photographs, and other artifacts. While there is still work to be done, I believe that the Society has a deep and interesting collection that one day should be put on display for all to see.

I came across a photo that held my interest. The photo shows 9 men dressed in military-like garb. They appear to be young, 18-25 years old. In addition to the uniforms, the swords laying across the laps of the seated men indicate they might have been a loosely affiliated military organization. Regard their insignia and other furnishings.



Seth Roberts, recent USF graduate, Society intern



Item # 1020, framed photograph depicting 9 uniformed men

Does "Prescott, 1914", bottom left-hand corner, give a hint to this photo? I thought of various origins: California Cadet Corps? Preparatory School? But I could find no joy in my investigation into California's past. Another hint was the label at the back of the frame, "A.H. Grape & CO. 204 Clay St., Baltimore". These men may have been from Maryland. My senior colleague conducted a quick Internet search and could find no relevant reference to "Prescott" connected to Maryland. A deep dive on Baltimore businesses and Maryland schools, para-military organizations, and the like will help unveil the origin and meaning of the photo. BUT....

Dear Reader, do you have information about this photo, where it took place, who is featured, and who donated it? PLEASE LET US KNOW. Contact us at info@sfaahcs.org. Until then, the picture shall simply remain an enigma, an unknown among the many unknowns of the Society archives.

BLACK HEALTH AND WELLNESS – 2022 BHM THEME

The 2022 Black History Month Theme is **Black Health and Wellness**. According to ASALH, the national organization established by Carter G. Woodson,

This theme acknowledges the legacy of... Black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine, ... (and) birthworkers, doulas, midwives, naturopaths, herbalists, etc., throughout the African Diaspora. The 2022 theme considers activities, rituals and initiatives that Black communities have done to be well.

Thus, our Kick-Off speaker, Dr. Johnathan Butler of UCSF, cited our African roots, focused on mental health, and broadly defined health and wellness to include inordinate stress, food insecurity, low or no pay, lack of decent and affordable shelter, etc. These, combined, influence our physical and mental health. The COVID epidemic has further challenged our heightened susceptibility to early morbidity and long-term illness. We must strive to address these inequities.

[View the Annual Black History Month Kick-off program](#)

San Francisco City Assessor Joaquin Torres honors Society. (See photo album, pg. 8)

MORE FROM THE ARCHIVE

I: Film roll of KQED's "Take This Hammer"

r: "Club Flamingo" ad from Anderson scrapbook



SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS & OTHER INFO

Visit us at www.sfaahcs.org The Society's first virtual exhibit, "The Black Family Through Artists Eyes" is still available to view at <https://sfaahcs-vs.org>.

- ✓ Society Library & Gallery Reopening Time will tell Details to follow
- ✓ Annual Membership Meeting Sunday, April 3, 2 pm Details to follow
- ✓ Treasures of the Society Archive March/April Details to follow
- ✓ Research Techniques for Archive March/April Details to follow
- ✓ Documentation

Look for May SFJAZZ events, featuring work reflecting San Francisco's ethnic and cultural diversity. Lewis Watts will discuss the Harlem West jazz era.

2021 THANKS

Save Mart
 First Republic Bank
 Network For Good
 Rainbow Grocery
 Golden State Warriors
 Swinerton Foundation
 Seven Hills
 McCarthy Center, University of San Francisco
 Alfred Williams Consultancy
 Virginia Smyly
 Dr. Fannie Preston
 Carol Block
 Roger's Family

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Jerman Bracch
 John Briscoe
 Barbara Wilson
 Our many renewing and returning members

The Society could not do its work without the help of the community. Thanks to our 2021 and 2022 Black History Month sponsors and donors, our loyal members who give beyond their membership dues, and all of our faithful membership.

(Not a comprehensive list.)

LATE BREAKING SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Long-time member, Dr. Veronica Hunnicutt, just alerted the *Praisesinger* about the Bayview Hunters Point Legacy Foundation's 2022 scholarship program: \$1000-\$5000 for academic support and \$500-\$ 1000 for living stipends may be available those who qualify. Application dates are February 24 – April 28. Go to their [website](#) for more information. Or contact:

legacy-foundation@scholarshipamerica.org

This is a first come, first served basis, so let your college bound loved ones know ASAP!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

(Your annual membership term is January 1 through December 31.)

LIFE members, your donation is appreciated

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please sign me up as a:

_____ Student	\$15	_____ Organizations	\$2
			50
_____ Senior	\$25	_____ Small Business	\$3
			50
_____ Adult	\$50	_____ Large Business	\$7
			00
_____ Family	\$100	_____ Donor	

**If you do not plan to be an active member, please make a donation

Donation: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible

Make Your Check Payable/Mail To:

San Francisco African American Historical & Cultural Society

762 Fulton Street, 2nd Floor
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 415.292.6172

I am interested in serving on the committee(s):

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| _____ Development | _____ Library/archives |
| _____ Membership | _____ Programs |
| _____ Black History Month | _____ Communications |
| _____ Volunteer/Reception | _____ Other |

EXTRAS PHOTO ALBUM EXTRAS PHOTO ALBUM EXTRAS PHOTO ALBUM EXTRAS PHOTO ALBUM EXTRAS
The Bay Area Recognizes Black Lives Matter and Black Health & Wellness...



Top, l: Certificate of Honor from Assessor Joaquin Torres; middle: "Black Lives Matter", Half Moon Bay; r: "We Can't Breathe", Grace Tabernacle

Middle, l: Society Board Members Thor Kaslovsky and Al Williams receive certificate from Assessor Torres; r: "Lift Every Voice", Concourse, Golden Gate Park

Bottom, l: Rainbow Grocery Observes Black History Month

BLACK LIVES MATTER! STOP ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HATE!