

Ida Bell Wells-Barnett

July 16, 1862 –
March 25, 1931



She as an African-American journalist, newspaper editor, suffragist, sociologist, and an early leader in the civil rights movement. She documented lynching in the United States, showing that it was often used as a way to control or punish blacks who competed with whites, rather than being based in criminal acts by blacks, as was usually claimed by white mobs. She was active in women's rights and the women's suffrage movement, establishing several notable women's organizations. Wells was a skilled and persuasive rhetorician, and traveled internationally on lecture tours



Kenneth Henry

1932-2010

He was born in Palestine, Texas, to Ophelia G. and Reverend Enoch W. Henry, Sr., on December 27, 1932.

He graduated from Lincoln High School in Palestine and received degrees from Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas (BA); and Yale University, School of Divinity, New Haven, Connecticut (B. Div. and S.T.M.). He was married to Dr. Pearl L. Henry (Smith). Rev. Henry was Associate Professor of Church History at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), Atlanta, Georgia, where he taught for more than 30 years, retiring in 2003 (awarded Professor Emeritus 2010).

He co-authored (along with Mark Ellingsen), a history of the ITC, in a publication titled, *Making Black Ecumenism Happen: The History of the Interdenominational Theological Center as a Paradigm for Christian Unity*. Atlanta, Georgia: ITC Press, 2008. He was a founding member of the Ray of Hope Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Decatur, Georgia. Reverend Henry was a guest lecturer and speaker at colleges, universities, churches and church conferences nationally and internationally.

Rev. Henry's accomplishments and honors include: ordained as a minister in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ (1956), first African American to serve as First Vice Moderator of the Christian Church and was an active board member for several general level church organizations.

A Partial List of African American Inventors

Compiled by C. Butler and Charles Isbell



A.P. Ashbourne	Biscuit cutter	November 30, 1875
L.C. Bailey	Folding bed	July 18, 1899
A.J. Beard	Rotary Engine	July 5, 1892
A.J. Beard	Car-coupler	November 23, 1897
G.E. Becket	Letter Box	October 4, 1892
L. Bell	Locomotive smoke stack	May 23, 1871
M.E. Benjamin	Gong and signal chairs for hotels	July 17, 1888
M.W. Binga	Street sprinkling apparatus	July 22, 1879
A.B. Blackburn	Railway signal	January 10, 1888
Henry Blair	Corn planter	October 14, 1834
Henry Blair	Cotton planter	August 31, 1836
Sarah Boone	Ironing board	April 26, 1892
C.B. Brooks	Street-sweepers	March 17, 1896
O.E. Brown	Horseshoe	August 23, 1892
J.A. Burr	Lawn mower	May 9, 1899
J.W. Butts	Luggage carrier	October 10, 1899
W.C. Carter	Umbrella stand	August 4, 1885
T.S. Church	Carpet beating machine	July 29, 1884
G. Cook	Automatic fishing device	May 10, 1899
J. Cooper	Elevator device	April 2, 1895
P.W. Cornwall	Draft Regulator	February 7, 1893
A.L. Cralle	Ice-cream mold	February 2, 1897
W.R. Davis, Jr.	Library table	September 24, 1878
C.J. Dorticus	Machine for embossing photo	April 16, 1895
Clarence L. Elder	Occustat	1976
T. Elkins	Refrigerating apparatus	November 4, 1879
F. Flemings, Jr.	Guitar (variation)	March 3, 1886
G.F. Grant	Golf tee	December 12, 1899
J. Gregory	Motor	April 26, 1887
M. Headen	Foot power hammer	October 5, 1886
B.F. Jackson	Gas burner	April 4, 1899
Fredrick M. Jones	Automatic refrigeration system	
J.L. Love	pencil sharpener	1897
Latimer & Nichols	Electric lamp	September 13, 1881
T.J. Marshall	Fire extinguisher (variation)	May 26, 1872
Elijah McCoy	Lubricator for steam engines	July 2, 1872
Garrett A. Morgan	Gas mask	
Garrett A. Morgan	Traffic signal	1923
J.F. Pickering	an airship	1900
W.B. Purvis	fountain pen	1890
Norbert Rillieux	Sugar refining process	1846
H. Spears	Portable shield for infantry	December 27, 1870
Rufus Stokes	Air-purification device	1968
E.H. Sutton	Cotton cultivator	April 7, 1878
Granville T. Woods	Electromechanical brake	August 16, 1887
Granville T. Woods	Railway telegraphy	November 15, 1887
Granville T. Woods	Induction telegraph system	November 29, 1887
Granville T. Woods	Overhead conducting system for electric railway	May 29, 1888
Granville T. Woods	Electromotive railway system for long-haul trucks	June 26, 1888

2015

African America History Month



**A Century of Black Life,
History and Culture**

"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history." Carter G. Woodson



Dr. Carter G. Woodson is known as the "Father of Black History" was the son of former slaves and knew the power of gaining an education. He recognized the lack of information on the accomplishments of blacks and in September 1915, he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, now called the Association of African American Life and History. As we celebrate this important Centennial, we honor the legacy of sharing African American, life, history and culture to the global community. We also celebrate the lives of African American Disciples who have dedicated their lives and talents for the entire church.

The history of African Americans is weaved into the tapestry of America. African American History has impacted history of our church, community and world. We give special attention to the lives of African American Disciples who have committed their life and ministry to be a blessing to the entire Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). I encourage you to explore the resources for worship, study and education. Visit the websites listed that are full of resources and discovery.

Blessed to be a blessing to you,

Sheila P. Spencer

Sheila P. Spencer
Director of Christian Education/Faith Formation
Assistant to the President

 Disciples Home Missions
1099 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3645

sspencer@dhm.disciples.org
www.discipleshomemissions.org

Rosa Brown Bracy

She grew up in Port Gibson, Miss., the daughter of a pastor. At twelve, she entered the Southern Christian Institute in Edwards, Miss. In 1917, Rosa Brown became the first field secretary for Negro Work with the Christian Women's Board of Missions. After 1920, she worked as staff member for both the newly-formed United Christian Missionary Society (UCMS) and the National Christian Missionary Convention (NCMC). After marriage, Mrs. Bracy sometimes known as the "Sojourner Truth" of Black Disciples of Christ, worked until retirement in 1938. She continued her efforts as a missionary to the African American disciples until her death, at which time she was President of the NCMC's Christian Women's Fellowship.



Garrett Augustus Morgan, Sr

March 4, 1877 –
July 27, 1963



He was an African-American inventor and community leader. His most notable inventions included a type of protective respiratory hood (or gas mask), and a traffic signal. He is renowned for a heroic rescue in 1916 in which he and three others used the safety hood device he had developed to save workers trapped within a water intake tunnel, fifty feet beneath Lake Erie. He is also credited as the first African American in Cleveland, Ohio, to own an automobile.

African American Disciples Resources

ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) -- Established on September 9, 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, ASALH are the Founders of Black History Month and carry forth the work of the founder, the Father of Black History. ASALH's mission is to create and disseminate knowledge about Black History, to be, in short, the nexus between the Ivory Tower and the global public. We labor in the service of Blacks and all humanity. When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention has never been to dictate or limit the exploration of the Black experience, but to bring to the public's attention important developments that merit emphasis. The 2014 Theme is Civil Rights in America. The ASALH site has information on resources for teachers and oral history projects. Go to www.asalh.org

Wisdom of Women Volume 2 -- Shares the life of Melvia Anderson Fields. She was born and reared in Bourbon County, Kentucky, which is near historic Cane Ridge. She is an African American author, leader, historian and inspiration. She is the author of "Women on a Mission" – a book about African American women who were integral parts of the history of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This just scratches the surface of this remarkable woman It consists of 60 to 90 minutes of conversation and wisdom, edited into short six to ten-minute segments. A study guide with questions for reflection and conversation after each segment accompanies each DVD. The cost of is \$29.95. For information on the DVD Study Series and the book, "Women On A Mission", go to www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/wisdom-of-women/

Black Disciples Who Made A Difference Series -- This is a series of publications that highlights the life and achievements of African American Disciples who have made an impact in the life of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. These materials are available for free download at www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/african-american-resources/



The Cost of Unity: African American Agency and Education and the Christian Church 1865-1914 (Voices of the African Diaspora) -- Macon, GA: Lawrence Burnley Mercer University Press, 2008. This book examines the agency of African-Americans in the founding of educational institutions for blacks associated with the Christian Church. The philosophical discourse within the Christian Church concerning the purpose, type, and control of these schools is

examined as well as the prevailing racial assumptions and attitudes that informed each of these areas. For more info – go to www.mupress.org/productdetails.cfm

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., packet -- Available through DHM and includes a variety of resources that can be used for worship and education, including a litany, scripture references, quotes and reflections from Dr. King. It also has additional website and video resources that can be used with a variety of ages and groups. We encourage you to use and share these resources with your congregation and community as we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Go to: www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/martin-luther-king-jr/



The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society. Go to this site for information on exhibits, audio/video resources and educational options. Go to www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/index.html

For Loves Sake is a book by The Rev. John Foulkes. Published by the National Convocation and available for sale through GWD Ministries at norman.reed@att.net.

Lift Every Voice and Sing -- sometimes referred to as "Black National Anthem" is a song written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) in 1899 and set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954) in 1900.

1965 Selma to Montgomery March



50th Anniversary



The three Selma to Montgomery marches in 1965 were part of the Selma Voting Rights Movement and led to the passage that year of the Voting Rights Act, a landmark federal achievement of the 1960s American Civil Rights Movement. Activists publicized the three protest marches to walk the 54-mile highway from Selma to the Alabama state capital of Montgomery as showing the desire of African American citizens to exercise their constitutional right to vote, in defiance of segregationist repression.

Activities

Hands together:

Share with children how Dr. King believed in unity and harmony. Make the classic paper chains using black, white, red, yellow, and brown construction paper to represent the various skin tones found across our nation. Show kids the symbolism behind the craft: "Each link represents a hand, and our chain reminds us that Dr. King joined hands with people of all colors when he marched for freedom." A variation on this theme: Children can trace their own hands, then color them in using different skin-tone shaded crayons.