

NATIONAL UNITED CHURCH USHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

www.nationalchurchushers.org

Theme "Ushers Fully Committed, Moving Forward for the Work of the Lord"

Psalm 37:5 and Psalm 111: 2-4

Harold E. Hester, Jr.

President

Christy Justice

Young Adult President



Betty R. Butler

Chairman, Board of Directors

Destinee' Merida

Junior & Young People President

National Board of Directors - Update March 2014 - Version

- **Ralph W. Armstrong IV, Vice Chairman (Washington) Western Region**
- **Ann Halson, Secretary (Texas) Southern Region**
- **Shirley McWilliams, Assistant Secretary (Louisiana) Southern Region**
- **Willis Warren, Chaplain (Nevada) Western Region**
- **Ken Lester, (Ohio) Central Region**
- **Patricia A. Holmes, (California) Western Region**
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- **Beverly Wilson, (Wisconsin) Central Region**
- **David A. Fuller, (Maryland) Eastern Region**
- **Angela Allgood, Financial Secretary (Wisconsin) Central Region**
- **Sonja Merida, Assistant Financial Secretary (Texas) Southern Region**
- **Melinda H. Wilkins, Treasurer (District of Columbia) Eastern Region**
- **Loretta B. Curtis, PRP, Parliamentarian (Ohio) Central Region**

Greetings Officers and Members of NUCUAA, Inc.!

We hope that you will have a joyous Easter.

The Board of Directors held their Mid-year Meeting at the JW Marriott, Indianapolis, IN on February 26 – 28, 2014. Our meeting was a great success. We were housed at JW Marriott, where we met with the hotel staff and had a lengthy tour of the facility. We were highly pleased with the hotel and believe that you will be comfortable during your stay in July. Please be mindful that there is some walking required from sleeping rooms to meeting rooms, so please plan to wear comfortable shoes or consider renting a motorized scooter for the week.

We also met with our convention Host Pastor, Rev. Dr. David A. Hampton and other pastors along with some of their church members at the Board of Directors Meet and Greet Pastors Reception on Friday evening.

As you continue to make your reservations for the **95th National Convention**, we ask that you please go through the convention hotel which has been selected and visited by the **National Board of Directors**. We fully realize that you can reserve sleeping rooms at a lower rate outside of the convention hotel; however, in addition to sleeping rooms **The National Board of Directors** must secure all meeting rooms, offices, and the ballroom to accommodate the convention attendees. The advantage of staying at the convention hotel keeps **NUCUAA** from paying large attrition fees to the hotel when the sleeping room block that has been contracted by, **The National Board of Directors** is not met. This process seriously jeopardizes the financial status of **NUCUAA**, and is passed down to each member of the **National United Church Ushers Association of America, Inc.**

2014 – National Convention Hotel
JW Marriott Indianapolis

10 South West Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone 866-704-6162 – Reference Code: **NUCUAA**

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ushers>

*Room rate: Single, Double, Triple, Quad. - \$129.00
plus tax currently 17%*

Deadline for reservations, Monday, June 16, 2014



Early Departure Fee: An early departure fee of **\$75.00** may apply if an attendee checks out prior to the confirmed checkout date.

- Internet charge in sleeping rooms is **\$7.95** per day
- Ice machines are located on the second floor **only**
- King rooms have walk in showers **only**, the queen / double rooms have tubs
- After the second floor, guest(s) room key must be use to travel between floors

Check- in time – 3:00 P.M. ♦ Check-out time – 11:00 A.M.

If you encounter any problems during the reservation process, please contact Housing Chairman Ralph W. Armstrong IV, Email: ralphiv4@comcast.net phone number (206) 755-1763.

Registration

- Seniors & Young Adults - \$50.00; Junior & Young People - \$45.00
- On-site Registration – Seniors & Young Adults - \$60.00; Junior & Young People - \$55.00
- The “*Call to Convention Booklet*” will be available at the Regional Conferences
- The Pre-Registration Packet has been sent to the State Presidents. Please adhere to the deadline for submission. **Registration Packets not received by June 13, 2014 will be accepted as on-site registration and the on-site registration fees will apply.**

Each delegate who pre-registers by **June 13, 2014**, name will be entered into the “*American Express Gift Card Giveaway Drawing*” Drawing will be held on Monday, July 21, 2014.

Programs

Committees and Departments must submit their print ready programs to **IT Marketing & Strategies Committee** by **May 31, 2014** @ donna.a.w.hines@gmail.com with a copy to **Director Ann Halson** @ cannbhalson12@hotmail.com and **President Harold Hester** @ nucuaa2012@bellsouth.net.

Souvenir Journal

The **2014 Souvenir Journal** will be printed in black and white. Participants who purchase a full page ad in the journal will receive a complimentary copy. Deadline for submission is **June 13, 2014**. All ads should be emailed to **Souvenir Journal Chairman, Director Ann Halson**. If no access to email is available, please mail information to: Souvenir Journal Chairman, Ann Halson. 1810 Bluffwood Pl. Round Rock, TX. 78665-5610. Chairman Halson can also be reached at cannbhalson12@hotmail.com or call (512) 310 8997. **Full payment for all ads and pictures must be received prior to printing.** All funds designated for the Souvenir Journal must be mailed to Director Ann Halson. Checks payable to: **NUCUAA**. We thank you for your support.

For your convenience the souvenir journal contract is posted on the website.

Souvenir Journal prices for 2014 are as follows:

- Full page plus one photo - \$150.00, ♦ Half page plus one photo - \$110.00
- Quarter page no photo - \$100.00 ♦ Additional photo –\$10.00 each
- National Officers Photo (Seniors & Young Adults, Past & Present) - \$25.00
- National Officers Photo (Junior & Young People, Past & Present) - \$15.00

Food Function Tickets

The cost for food function tickets is as follows.

- Past National Officers' Prayer Breakfast - \$35.00
- James E. Anderson Unity Luncheon - \$55.00
- Closing Installation Banquet - \$65.00

Please note: Non-meat vegetarian meals are available upon request at each function. Special meals including fish are priced separately and will include service charge and F&B taxes. *The deadline for food function tickets is **June 13, 2014**.* Tickets will not be available on site for Food Functions.

Pre Ordered Event Tickets

State Presidents or their designated person can pick up tickets that were paid for through preregistration on Saturday, July 19th after 11:00 AM in the Finance Office. Please bring proper **ID**.

Medical Facilities in Indianapolis

There are two hospitals that are minutes away from **JW Marriott Hotel**:

- Indiana University Health Hospital - 550 North University Blvd. - Indianapolis, IN. 46204 (317)944-7613
- Eskenazi Health - 720 Eskenazi Ave - Indianapolis, IN. 46202 (317) 880-0000

White Usher Uniforms & White Gloves

We are more than delighted to inform you that our **IT Marketing Strategies Committee** has procured a vendor who will sell white uniforms directly to **NUCUAA**. During convention week the **School of Ushering** will have several styles of uniforms available for purchase. Samples of the uniforms and cost will be available at each upcoming Regional Conference and two of the Regions have requested to have an inventory of uniforms available at their conference. White gloves will also be on sale at the convention. This is the School of Ushering **Special Project**.

Motorized Scooters

The rental cost for motorized scooters is **\$182.00** for the entire week. A **\$100.00** deposit must be received by the National Financial Secretary by **May 1, 2014** and final payment must be made by **June 13, 2014**. No refunds after **June 30, 2014**. For further information contact, Convention Chairman, Ken Lester at 216-851-8465. Send payment to: Angela Allgood, National Financial Secretary, 4541 No. 67th, Milwaukee, WI 53218 ♦ 414-536-1160 - aallgood5@hotmail.com

Historical National Information

The Board of Directors is busy collecting and cataloging historical national documents, minutes, dated pictures, financial reports, journals etc. that can be archived. If you have "historical information/documentations, please forward them to your Regional Representative or bring it to your Regional Conference: **Director David Fuller**, Eastern Region, **Director, Ken Lester**, Central Region, **Director Ann Halson**, Southern Region and **Vice Chairman, Ralph Armstrong, IV**, Western Region. These documents will be archived in a secure storage location in Philadelphia, PA. We highly appreciate your efforts.

Exhibitors Information

Applications are currently being accepted until **June 30, 2014** from vendors who wish to display and sell their merchandise at the National Convention. For additional information please visit the website or email Director Willis Warren at: youthsbc@aol.com. Director Warren can also be reached at: (702) 340-8715. A deposit is due by **March 31, 2014** and balance due by **June 30, 2014**. No applications will be accepted after the deadline.

Secretary's Office and Finance Office

Each Office will have set hours to be open during convention week. We ask you to please adhere to the hours. Hours will be announced daily. To save time in the secretary's office so that other can use the computers, please bring your draft report(s) to the convention on a "flash drive" or your *Phone*." One complimentary internet line will be available in this office.

Finances

- The Finance Team will be available to receive your funds beginning on **Friday, July 18th**. Thank you for your support.
- Funds received at the seat of the convention must be reported to the Finance Office on a daily basis
- All vouchers must be turned in to the Finance Office no later than **Wednesday, July 23rd**. No expenses will be paid until all monies from your Committee/Department has been received and accounted for. Original receipts must be submitted for all purchases

Fresh Flowers

If you need fresh flowers, corsages, or boutonnieres for your program, please contact Director Ken Lester at **(216) 851-8465** or kkpal@att.net for detail information.

Shipping Packages

If you plan to ship packages to **JW Marriott** please contact General Convention Chairman Ken Lester prior to shipping for instructions. Shipments should not arrive in Indianapolis prior to **Wednesday, July 16, 2014**.

Projectors

Those who need a projector for presentations, classes or in-house training can obtain one from the *Board Of Directors* after completing the release form. The projector(s) must be returned to the Board of Directors in good condition within **24 hours**. Please see Director David Fuller.

Sunday Night's Musical

The Central Region will present "**Voices of The Light Choir**" of Light of The World Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN at JW Marriott Hotel on Sunday, July 20, 2014 at 7:00 PM. Donation - \$10.00. Make all checks payable to: **NUCUAA-Central Region** and mail to:

- Ken Lester - 1083 Greyton Road, Cleveland, OH 44112
- Sandra Lyle – P.O. Box 2332 – Dayton, OH 45401

TICKETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON SITE PRIOR TO THE CONCERT

Indianapolis Transportation & Parking

Indianapolis International Airport (**IND**) is at least 15 miles from the hotel. Transportation is available at cost from the airport to JW Marriott Hotel. Several major Rental Car Companies are located at the airport. Other forms of transportation are listed below.

- **Go Green Airport Shuttle.** www.goexpresstravel.com/reservation. (800) 589-6004
This is not an express shuttle
- **Limousines** <http://www.limos.com>
- **IndyGo's Red Line** www.IndyGo.net (317) 635-3344 (*Local Transportation*)
- **Taxis Companies** (approximately cost from airport to JW Marriott \$35.00)

Note: JW Marriott is the 8th schedule stop on **Go Green Shuttle**, from the airport and the stop is on the street in front of the hotel. This appears to be the most economical form of transportation from the airport to hotel; you are primarily responsible for handling your own luggage. **Go Green Shuttle** hours of operation is **8:00 AM – 11:00 PM**. The pick-up point at the airport is **Zone 6 & 7**. If you have a large group arriving together please contact the carrier and request a larger shuttle, and the trip will be from airport to JW Marriott directly. Luggage carts are available at the airport to transport your luggage. **Cost \$4.00**

Coaches are not permitted to park on city streets without a parking permit from the Indianapolis Transportation Authority. If you need parking for coaches for the entire week please send your information to Board Chairman Betty Butler @butrenee228@yahoo.com

In and out parking at the JW Marriott Hotel for cars is **\$21.00** per day plus tax, valet parking fee is **\$36.00** daily. There are numerous parking garages throughout the city; however we believe JW Marriott offers the best deal on in and out parking.

Plan Ahead

2015 & 2016 Ushers National Convention



2015 – Sacramento, CA – Monday, July, 27– Friday, July 31, 2015
Hyatt Regency & Sheraton Hotels
Room rate \$139.00 plus tax (subject to change) currently 17%
Plus \$1.50 per room, per night tourism assessment fee
Plus \$.15 per room, per night, CA tourism assessment fee



2016 – Memphis TN – Monday, July 25 – Friday, July 29, 2016
Sheraton Memphis Downtown Hotel (formerly Marriott Memphis)
Room rate \$130.00 plus tax (subject to change) currently 15.95%



Submitted by: *The National Board of Directors*

Ann Halson, Secretary

Shirley McWilliams, Assistant Secretary

Betty R. Butler, Chairman

Harold E. Hester, Jr., President