

# VISIONS SOUTHERN REGION

WWW.NBCFAE.SO.ORG



## 2011 National Convention

We just completed the 35th National NBCFAE Training conference in Baltimore, Maryland

The training received was phenomenal. In addition to the training, we had an appearance was made by Mr. Rick Duscharme, Deputy Director of the ATO and US Congressman Elijah E. Cummings.

The Southern Region was recognized as

Atlanta chapter was again recognized as the chapter of the year

**Southern Region... REGION OF THE YEAR**

**Atlanta Chapter... CHAPTER OF THE YEAR**

**Mr. Willie Gripper... C. ALFRED ANDERSON Award**

**MR. Tommy White... RON McNAIR Award**

**Mr. Andre Gaines.... ELLIOTT A. REID Award**

In addition, The Eleanor Williams Bronze Eagle Award went to Ms. Debra Scott Thomas, president and CEO of Data Solutions & Technology, Inc.

The Manager's Award for Special Achievement in EEO went to Mr. David A. Price.

Our hard work within this region continues to set the standard for the organization.

**SOUTHERN REGION** be proud of a job well

### VOLUME 2011

#### DID YOU KNOW:

The Southern Region Training conference is scheduled for May 2nd - 4th, 2012, at the B. Ocean Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

The National Training conference is scheduled to be held in Las Vegas, NV, July 31 - August 3, 2012. It will be held at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel

*We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Sir Winston Churchill*

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## REMEMBERING THE PAST

The FAA was established by the federal aviation act of 1958. The NBCFAE was established in 1976 by 6 black air traffic controllers who felt it necessary to unite and resolve problems that were not being effectively

addressed by the labor organizations within the FAA. Subsequently, the Organization of Black Controllers was created to improve communications between the FAA and minority employees. In 1976 the

name was changed to "National Controllers Coalition" and members organized nationally with regional structuring and local chapters. In 1977 by-laws were ratified and name changed again to National Black Coalition of Federal

## FLY GIRL : BESSIE COLEMAN 1892-1926

Bessie Coleman the first African American female pilot, grew up in a cruel world of poverty and discrimination. Bessie was born in Atlanta, Texas, in a time where lynching's were endemic throughout the south. When young Bessie first went to school at the age of 6, it was to a one room wooden shack after a 4 mile walk from her home.

When Coleman turned 23, she moved to Chicago to live with her two brothers, and where she saw her first air show. But the Windy City offered little more to an African American woman than did Texas.

Coleman decided she wanted to fly, but the double stigma of her race and

gender meant that she would have to travel to France to realize her dream.

Coleman learned French at a Berlitz school in the Chicago loop, and with the help of Robert Abbott, owner of the Chicago Defender, and other entrepreneurs, she set off for Paris in 1920.

It took Coleman 7 months to learn to fly. The only non-Caucasians student in her class, she was taught in a 27 foot bi-plane. In June 1921, the Federation Aeronautique Internationale awarded her an international pilot's license.

Over the next five years Coleman performed at countless air shows. She used her position of prominence to



encourage other African Americans to fly. Coleman took her tragic last flight in 1926 in Jacksonville, FL, while preparing for an air show. A wrench somehow got caught in the control gears and her plane plummeted toward the Earth. Coleman who wasn't

## 2011 DELTA DREAM FLIGHT

Delta Airlines and the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (formerly known as the Organization of Black Airline Pilots (OBAP)) flew more than 150 aspiring aviation students and professionals to the 12th annual Dream Flight, on July 20, 2011.

The flight is a highlight of the Flight Line and Aviation Career Education (ACE) academies, two week long

summer programs co-sponsored by Delta and OBAP for teenagers with an interest in aviation careers.

Students involved in these academies participate in trips to aviation related facilities, and receive tours of areas the general public normally never see. ACE academies normally offer students the opportunity to experience actual flights in general aviation aircraft. Traditionally, these flights are easily the highlight of the students experience, because some have

never flown and most have never been up in a propeller driven general aviation aircraft.

Atlanta chapter's 9th annual ACE academy has had the privilege to be a part of Delta's Dream flight for the past 9 years, and this year was no exception. Greg Baker, coordinator of NBCFAE Atlanta chapter's ACE academy, took 12 of his best and brightest students to join OBAP, and other groups, on its 12th annual 2011 Dream Flight to the US Naval Air Station/Naval

## WHAT IS YOUR MISSION? WHAT IS YOUR GOAL?

Do you know NBCFAE's mission statement? Do you know NBCFAE's goal? Each and every member should without hesitation be able to recite the organizations mission statement and goal. Our

mission statement is the foundation of the organization and we can't successfully recruit or be taken seriously by others, if we don't know with true conviction what we stand for. So, take some time and learn NBCFAE's mission statement, and we will work together to reach a unified goal.



# PROFILE IN PROFESSIONALISM

During her recent visit to an overflowing schoolhouse in Ghana, Willette Neal was struck by three words 'God bless you,' these are the words that every child told her as she handed out lanyards with miniature planes on them.

When she arrived at the academy for her visit, she found about 65 students in grades 6-8 seated inside the school. More than another 70 students who couldn't fit into the standing-room-only space watched her from outside through the windows, Neal said. She used her personal laptop to show the children photos of airplanes until her

battery power died. Because the village of Debiso is low-lying and a considerable distance from Ghana's capital, the students and many of the academy's teachers had never seen a plane flying overhead.

It was also a first for [the teachers] with the airplanes," Neal said. "They were just as eager as the children."

During the discussion, she described different parts of an aircraft and introduced the students to various aviation careers. She explained the value of safety procedures during flights around the world and her own role at the FAA, which includes the



analysis of safety risks. The lesson proceeded smoothly, other than a few

communication glitches as Neal talked to the students in English accented with her Southern "twang." At times, teachers assisted with helping students understand some of the aviation terms

## What's Happening??????

*Have you heard?.....Central Florida chapter's new president is Kenny Robinson.*

*Have you heard?.....Jacksonville chapter's new president is Maurice Wilson*

*Have you heard?.....NBCFAE Southern region is selling long sleeved oxfords in various colors are for \$35. If you haven't received*

*Did you know.... Andre' Gaines former Central Florida president, is the new Southern Region Vice President*

*yours contact your local chapter president or Angie Baker at angieb715@aol.com*

*Have you gotten your NBCFAE license plate frame to show your pride for the organization. Contact a Carolinas chapter member to get yours now!*

*Have you heard Moe Moore (front line manager) of Atlanta chapter is retired. Thank Moe for everything he's done for the organization. ENJOY!!!!!!!!!!!!*

## 2012 SOUTHERN REGION and NATIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCES

The Southern Region Training Conference is scheduled for May 2 thru 4, 2012. at the B Ocean Hotel, 999 North Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

The National Conference is scheduled to be held in Las Vegas, NV, July 31 thru August 3, 2012 at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel. This

conference will be in conjunction with IBAC (International Black Aerospace Council).

For both conferences NBCFAE is attempting to secure official time from the agency for attendance.

Thank you for you continued support of the agency.



**N.B.C.F.A.E**  
**National Black Coalition of**  
**Federal Aviation Employees**

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**NBCFAE**  
**SOUTHERN**  
**REGION**

*LET EACH BECOME ALL THEY  
ARE CAPABLE OF BEING*



*The National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees purpose is:*

- *To educate it's members concerning rights, personnel, and promotional qualifications.*
- *Assist in recruiting African American, female, and minority individuals for FAA positions.*
- *To promote equal employment opportunities for members through all lawful means.*

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *We the members of the NBCFAE will promote equal opportunity for African Americans, other minorities, and female FAA employees, improve employee-management relations, and provide an effective liaison among the FAA employees, management, and the community at large.*

**LITTLE KNOWN BLACK HISTORY FACT.....**

**JACOB LAWRENCE**

(born Sept. 7, 1917, Atlantic City, N.J., U.S. — died June 9, 2000, Seattle, Wash.) U.S. painter. He moved with his family at 13 to New York City's Harlem. Art classes sponsored by the [Works Progress Administration](#) in 1932 developed his talent. His works portray scenes of African American life and history with vivid, stylized realism. Gouache and tempera were Lawrence's characteristic media. His use of somber browns and black for shadows and outlines in an otherwise vibrant palette lent his work a distinctive overtone. His best-known works are his series on historical and social themes, such as *Life in Harlem* (1942) and *War* (1947).



His later works include a powerful series on the struggles of desegregation.

**Profile in Professionalism.....** used, but other than that students were learning and they were excited.

With the support of the NBCFAE, Neal arranged to have an aviation camp day at the academy as part of the FAA's Aviation Career Education program. During her discussions she described different parts of an aircraft, and the various careers in the FAA.

Willette was as excited as the students and plans on returning next summer. We are all proud of you, Willette. Keep up the good work.