

2009 – 2010 Program Year

OFFICERS

President

Leslie C. Williams

1st Vice President

Felicia Lewis-Williams

2nd Vice President

Walter Webb

Treasurer

Shirley Burke

Recording Secretary

Lois I. Banks

Corresponding Secretary

Eleanor W. Craig

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anthony Crutchfield

Rochelle Danquah

Lillian Holland

Bryant Jenkins

Maurice Saunders

Tonja Stallings

Constance Wall

Immediate Past President

Managing Editor

Peggy Sawyer-Williams

Contributing Editor

Leslie C. Williams

Felicia Lewis-Williams

Newsletter Committee

Lois Banks

Shirley Burke

Tonja Stallings

Felicia Lewis-Williams

Leslie C. Williams

Peggy Sawyer- Williams

Mailing Committee

Ruth Beverly, Shirley Burke

Eleanor Craig, Walter Webb

Photographs

Maurice Sanders, Constance Wall

Dear Members:

Over the past 30 years many organizations have come and gone, and yet FHWGS continues to thrive thanks to the many talented and dedicated members who believe in the Society's mission and goals. As we celebrate our 30th year, let us demonstrate our commitment to that premise by vowing to work at being our best and by supporting the *Margaret McCall Thomas Ward Genealogy Legacy Fund* established in memory of the Society's beloved founder. Annual gifts in honor or memory of a loved one will enable the Society to carry out its pledge to produce special programs, major projects and publications documenting African American family history, life and culture. A form is enclosed for your consideration during this season of giving.



This edition of the newsletter represents the last that Immediate Past President, Peggy Sawyer Williams will be serving as Managing Editor. Under her skilled oversight, the newsletter has remained a vital and first-rate archival resource. Her hard work and invaluable leadership will be missed but, she is ready to pass her pen to an interested member. We thank you Peggy for your generous support throughout your tenure.

On behalf of the membership, I'd like to welcome and thank Maurice Sanders for graciously agreeing to serve out the term of deceased board member Lester Johnson. We appreciate his support, expertise and talents. Finally, we thank everyone who has contributed to the enduring success and preservation of FHWGS.

Something to Think About:

Perhaps you could invite or bring a family member or friend to a meeting, or reclaim a former member in the New Year to share in the exciting journey of discovering, connecting or reconnecting with our ancestry. Think about it!

Final Thoughts:

In the spirit of unity, may we all enjoy a safe, peaceful and thankful holiday season and a hopeful, cooperative, and more prosperous New Year.

With warm regards,
Leslie C. Williams
President