



***“Deceased African American
Librarians,
Library Workers, and Library Trustees,***

June 2019—June 2021”

“We, today, stand on the shoulders of our predecessors who have gone before us. We, as their successors, must catch the torch of freedom and liberty passed on to us by our ancestors. We cannot lose in this battle.”

Source: Benjamin E. Mays, “I Knew Carter G. Woodson,”
Negro History Bulletin, March 1981.

INTRODUCTION

In the spirit of Benjamin E. Mays, the History Committee of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association introduced **the practice of remembering, memorializing, and honoring our colleagues of the race who have recently passed.** We compiled the first list of “Deceased Librarians, Library Workers, and Library Trustees,” covering 2002-2007, in time for the National Conference of African American Librarians, August 2-5, 2007 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Since that time, we have continuously documented the lives of our deceased colleagues, so we, as a professional organization, may **safeguard our legacy and provide a publication that will be useful for future research.** This compilation is a significant resource for all of us as we write and publish the detailed histories and chronologies of African American libraries, library services, and librarianship in various cities, states, regions... and even internationally (as many of us have served all over the world).

Compiled by
Sibyl E. Moses, Ph.D.
Chair, History Committee, The Black Caucus
of the American Library Association

and

Leroy Bell, Jr.
Member, History Committee, The Black Caucus
of the American Library Association

With contributions from BCALA Members and Friends:

**Darlita R. Ballard, Leroy Bell, Shauntee Burns,
Beverly Cook, Marcia Cross-Briscoe, Jerry Dear, Emily Guss,
Darren Jones, Sibyl E. Moses, Rachelle Nelson, Satia Orange, John S. Page,
Katherine Perry, Lorna Peterson, and Ray Pun.**

Barbara Jean Mayweather Belisle (September 21, 1936 - February 6, 2021) B.A. (English) Miles College, Birmingham, Alabama; M.A. (English) University of Montevallo, Montevallo, Alabama. Librarian, New Orleans Public Library, New Orleans, Louisiana; Librarian, Calera High School, Montevallo, Alabama. Night Manager of Circulation, Carmichael Library, University of Montevallo, Alabama.

Willie Mae Boulding-Dawkins (March 11, 1937 –August 2020) B.A. (English and Library Science) Grambling State University, Grambling, Louisiana; M.Ed., Prairie View University, Prairie View, Texas. Librarian, Booker T. Washington High School, Shreveport, Louisiana; Reference and Media Librarian, Woodlawn High School, Shreveport, Louisiana. Community activities: Order of the Eastern Star; Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Brenda Joyce Rye Brock (December 22, 1948-September 8, 2020)
M.S. (Library Science) University of Washington, Seattle, Washington,
1973. Librarian, St. Therese Catholic School, Seattle, Washington;
Head Librarian, Lakeside Upper School, Seattle, Washington; Head
Librarian, The Episcopal School of Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Violette Y. Brooks (July 20, 1945 - January 8, 2021) B.A. Illinois State University, i, Illinois, 1971; M.A. (Communications) Governors State University, Chicago, Illinois, 1974. Librarian, Freshman-Sophomore Library, Bloom Township High School, Chicago Heights, Illinois, 1971; Media Specialist, Leo High School, Chicago, Illinois, 1973-1980; Reference Librarian, Chicago Transit Authority, 1980-2001; Reference Librarian, Kennedy King College, Chicago, Illinois, 2002-2010. Member, Social Responsibilities Roundtable (SRRT) and the Ethnic Materials and Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT) of ALA; Chairperson, Coretta Scott King Task Force Annual Breakfast, 1985 – 1995; Committee member in the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), 1985 – 2000; and, (4) 1988-1989 served on the Executive Committee of the Reference and Adult Services Division's Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS) and the BRASS Business Reference Source Committee (RASD/BRASS/BRS).

Charles Brown (d. February 15, 2020) M.S. (Library Science) Columbia University, New York, New York. Director, Solano County Library, Fairfield, California, 1983-1986; Director, Arlington County Library, Arlington, Virginia, 1986-1994; Director, Hennepin County Library, Hennepin, Minnesota, 1994-2004; Director, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Charlotte, North Carolina, 2004-2011; Director, New Orleans Public Library, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2011-2019. Member, American Library Association, Executive Board; Executive Board, Black Caucus of ALA; President, Public Library Association, 1990-1991.

Lillian J. Brule (February 12, 1925-April 7, 2020) B.A. Southern University A&M College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; M.S. (Library Science) Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia. Librarian, New Orleans Public School System, New Orleans, Louisiana. Community activities: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., New Orleans Alumnae Chapter and Baton Rouge Alumnae Chapter; The Girl Friends Inc.

Lillian Dabney Bryant (d. August 8, 2017) B.S. Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia, 1952; M.S. (Library Science) Pratt Institute, New York, New York. Medical librarian, Hahnemann Hospital, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Head Librarian, University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine Library, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Community activity: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Yvonne J. Chandler, Ph.D. (ca. 1960- August 8, 2020) B.A. Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia; M.S. (Library Science) Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia; Ph.D. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Professor, Department of Information Science, College of Information, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas. Mariam Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award, awarded by the American Association of Law Librarians. President, Texas Library Association, 2014. Author: Yvonne J. Chandler. *Neal-Schuman Guide To Finding Legal and Regulatory Information on the Internet*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1998. Community Service: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Elizabeth Lockett Clarke-Rich (d. July 19, 2020) B.A. (Social Studies) Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia; M.S. (Library Science) The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Head librarian, Friendly Senior High School, Ft. Washington, Maryland. Author: Elizabeth L. Clarke. *The Big Mistake*. (Nashville, Tenn.: Scythe Publications, 1995).

Amos Goeffrey Clay, Jr. (July 4, 1955 - September 26, 2019) Past
President for the Board of Trustees, Toledo Lucas County Public Library,
Toledo, Ohio.

Either B. Covington (June 8, 1927 - January 29, 2021) B.S.
(Business Education) North Carolina Central University (NCCU),
Durham, North Carolina. M.S. (Library Science) NCCU and East
Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina. Librarian, Dobbs
Farm State School for Girls, Kinston, North Carolina.

Delesta G. Cross (October 15, 1924 — May 25, 2021) B.A. (Education), Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, 1945. M.A.T. (Master of Arts in Teaching), Trinity University, Washington, D.C. Elementary school librarian, District of Columbia Public Schools, 1965-1987, including Seaton Elementary School, Northwest, Washington, D.C.

James Arthur Curle (September 19, 1952-August 25, 2020) Member,
LaRue County Public Library Board, Hodgenville, Kentucky.

Doris Scipio Dees (1930-2021) Chairperson, Columbus County Public Library System Board, Whiteville, North Carolina.

Reginald Joseph Downs (October 13, 1954 – November 16, 2020) B.S., M.S. (Library Science), University of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.; M.S. (Library Science) The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Reference Librarian, National Reference Service, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.; Reference Librarian, Local History and Genealogy Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Reference Librarian (part-time), District of Columbia Public Library, Washington, D.C.

Sadie Louise Fisher (d. March 8, 2020) School
librarian, Schumacher Elementary School, Akron, Ohio.

Emma R. Fonville (1924-April 2020) B.A., Alabama State College, Montgomery, Alabama; M.S. (Library Services), Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia, 1962. Inducted into Beta Phi Mu, Zeta Chapter, 1962. Librarian, Bessemer City Schools, Bessemer, Alabama. Contributing writer, *Birmingham News*. Fonville's "A History of Public Library Service to Negroes in Bessemer, Alabama." (Master's Thesis, School of Library Service, Atlanta University, 1962) is one of the earliest studies of library segregation in Alabama.

Cheryle Lynette Franklin (July 13, 1948 - April 29, 2020)
B.Ed. Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas; M.L.S.
Prairie View A&M, Prairie View, Texas. Librarian, Buchtel High
School, Akron Public Schools, Akron, Ohio; Librarian, Houston
Independent School District, Houston, Texas. Community
activities: Member, Delta Sigma Theta Inc., Beta Zeta Chapter;
Phi Delta Kappa Sorority; Beta Iota Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta,
Inc.; NAACP, Akron Chapter; National Council of Negro
Women.

Verlie Amelia Albright Gaither (ca. 1944 – April 18, 2021) B.A. North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina; M.A. Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Librarian, E.I Dupont, Wilmington, Delaware; Librarian, Delaware Technical Community College, Dover, Delaware. Past President, Delaware Library Association. Community activities: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Black Americana Collectors Club; Black Santa Collectors Club; North Carolina Central University Alumni; Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Wally E. Hightower (April 24, 1938-June 17, 2020)
Roosevelt College, Chicago, Illinois; Librarian, Chicago
Public Library, Chicago, Illinois.

Willie Blanche Baker Hill (November 30, 1920 - November 9, 2020)
B.A. Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina. M.S. (Library Science)
Atlanta University, 1947. Librarian, Shaw University, Raleigh, North
Carolina; Librarian, Hillside High School, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Cecil Hixon (ca.1954 - January 15, 2021) B.S., University of West Alabama, Livingston, Alabama. M.S.L.S., Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia. Librarian, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library, Atlanta, Georgia; Librarian and Adult Programming Specialist, The New York Public Library, New York, New York (July 14, 1986-July 21, 2007); includes tenure as a Branch Librarian in the Bronx in the following branches: Grand Concourse (1989-1991), Francis Martin (1986-1987), and Eastchester (1991-1992). Member, American Library Association; Member, Black Caucus of the American Library Association; Founder, The Literary Awards of The Black Caucus of The American Library Association; Chair, Stonewall Book Awards Committee.

Carl D. Hodges, Sr. (August 20, 1921 - August 27, 2020) B.S., North Carolina A and T University; Member, Durham County Library Trustee Board, Durham, North Carolina. Community activities: Sertoma Club; Hayti Development Corporation, Durham, North Carolina; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Tau Psi Chapter.

Marsha Edith White Horsley (March 21, 1950 - May 30, 2020) Library Assistant, Harvard University, School of Law, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Community activity: Massasoit Elks Lodge No. 129, Juanita Temple No. 31, I.B.P.O.E. of W.

Barbara Ann Hunt, Ph.D. (July 26, 1931 - July 29, 2020) B.A. (English and Library Science) Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina; M.S.L.S. Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York; C.A.S. (Library Science) University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois; M.A. (English) Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, Mississippi; Ph.D. (Radio/Television/Film) Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. Head Librarian, Bennett College for Women, Greensboro, North Carolina, 1967-1973; Assistant Professor, Alabama A & M University, Normal, Alabama, 1973-1977. Taught: Information Storage and Retrieval, and The History of Books and Libraries; Associate Professor of Mass Communications, Albany State College, Albany, Georgia, 1994-1998. Taught: News writing, Introduction to Communications. Research Director, 1988-1989, Assistant Professor and Co-Director of Afro-American Novel Project, 1990-1991.

Latanya N. Jenkins (January 9, 1976 - April 13, 2021) B.A. (Anthropology and English) Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; M.S. (Library Science & Information Science) Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Government Information and African American Studies Librarian, Steve Charles Library, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Reference and Government Documents Librarian, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland. Author: “Teaching with Library Guides.” In: *Government Information Essentials*, edited by Susanne Caro. Chicago: ALA American Library Association, 2018.

Rita Joyce Williams Jones (June 18, 1948 – January 12, 2020) B.A. University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, California, 1970; M.S. (Library Science) University of California-Berkeley, 1972. Reference Librarian, to Co-Coordinator of Public Services, Head of Acquisitions and Collections Department, Instructional Dean, and retired in 2010 from District Services as Dean, Library and Learning Resources Services, City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, California. BCALA activities: Member, BCALA NCAAL Awards and Honors Committee, 2007; BCALA Executive Board; BCALA Planning Committee for the 1st National Conference of African American Librarians in Columbus, Ohio.

Lenn Keller (Helen Lenora Keller) (September 29, 1951 - December 16, 2020) B.A. (Visual Communication) Mills College, Oakland, California, 1984. Founder and Curator/Archivist, Bay Area Lesbian Archives (BALA), Oakland, California. Photographer; Filmmaker.

Elva Franklin Key (September 4, 1935 – May 15, 2021)
Trustee, Fluvanna County Public Library Board, Palmyra,
Virginia. Community activity: NAACP, Fluvanna County
Branch, Virginia.

Frances Arneize Knox (ca. 1928 - November 30, 2020) President,
and Vice-President, Long Branch Free Public Library Board of
Trustees, Long Branch, New Jersey.

Rita J. Long (October 17, 1950- April 1, 2020)
Librarian, Lorain City School System, Lorain, Ohio.

Sylvia Yvonne Coakley Matthew (January 14, 1931- April 2020) Bahamas Teacher's College, Nassau, Bahamas; B.A. (Humanities), Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee; M.S. (Library Science). School librarian, Junior High Schools 35 and 57, Brooklyn, New York; Senior librarian, John Dewey High School, Brooklyn, New York. Community activities: Founder, Friday Night Book Club; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Mildred Ethelyn McClenny (June 3, 1922 - January 24, 2020) School librarian, Ivor Elementary School. Ivor (Southampton County), Virginia. Community activities: member, Order of the Eastern Star; Southampton County Historical Society; National Educators Association.

Pellom McDaniels III, Ph.D. (February 21, 1968 - April 19, 2020)

M.A. and Ph.D. (American Studies) Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. Curator, African American collections, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia.

Professional football player; defensive lineman in the National Football League (NFL): Kansas City Chiefs (1993–1998), Atlanta Falcons (1999–2000).

Author/Editor: Pellom McDaniels III, ed. *Roy's Trip to the Battlefields of Europe. Porter, Steward, Citizen: An African American's Memoir of World War I*, by Royal A. Christian. (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, [2017]) and *The Prince of Jockeys: The Life of Isaac Burns Murphy*. (Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, [2013]).

Sallye Cornelia Lovelace Morrow (November 15, 1926 – 2020)
B.A., Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina. M.S.
(Library Science) North Carolina Central University, Durham, North
Carolina. Educator/Librarian, Alamance Burlington School System,
Burlington, North Carolina.

Patricia Price Mosley (February 6, 1932 – March 23, 2020)

B.A. (Education, Chicago Teachers College, Chicago, Illinois. Librarian, Orr Academy High School, Chicago Illinois and Gurdon S. Hubbard High School, Chicago, Illinois.

Dorothy Nelson (June 29, 1926-May 10, 2021) B.A. and M.A., Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Librarian (first) for the first Black public library in Pointe Coupee Parish, New Roads, Louisiana (next to the Rosenwald School); Librarian, St. Augustine Catholic School, New Roads, Louisiana; Reading Specialist, Pointe Coupee Parish School System, New Roads, Louisiana.

Josephus Nelson (May 28, 1942-April 11, 2020) B.A.
(English) Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan; M.S.
Michigan; (Library Science) University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,
M.A. (English History) Oxford University, Oxford, England.
Librarian-Researcher, Library of Congress, Washington, DC
(retired September 2016). Author: Josephus Nelson and Judith
Farley. *Full Circle: Ninety Years of Service in the Main Reading
.Room*. Washington: Library of Congress, 1991

Peggy Nelson (d. September 18, 2020) Financial Management Specialist, Accounting Operations Division, Financial Services Directorate, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Employed by Library of Congress for 28 years.

Ida Rose Oliver (February 11, 1927 - January 7, 2021) B.S. (Education), Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Georgia; pursued Library Education, Atlanta University School of Library Service. Elementary school librarian, Cordele, Georgia, for 35 years. Trustee, Crisp County Carnegie Library Board, Cordele, Georgia; Community activities: Golden Life Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Macon Alumnae Chapter; NAACP, Crisp County Branch; Georgia Retired Educators Association; Crisp County Retired Teachers Association.

Sandra Payne (d. July 3, 2021) B.F.A. Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, 1974; M.F.A. University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, 1976; M.L.S. Long Island University-Palmer Graduate School of Library Science, Greenvale, New York, 1978; Independent Study Program, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York, 1978. Coordinator of Young Adult Services, The New York Public Library, New York, New York, 2004-2021; Assistant Coordinator of Young Adult Services, The New York Public Library, New York, New York, 1999-2004; Supervising Young Adult Librarian, The New York Public Library, Staten Island, New York, 1986-1999; Senior Young Adult Librarian, The New York Public Library, Chatham Square Regional Library, New York, New York, 1983-1984; Young Adult Librarian, The New York Public Library, Yorkville Branch Library, New York, New York, 1983-1983; Young Adult Librarian, Nathan Straus Young Adult Library Center-Donnell Library Center, New York, New York, 1982-1984; Young Adult Librarian, Wakefield Branch Library, Bronx, New York, 1981-1982. Artist. Solo and group exhibitions available: <http://sandrapaynenyc.com/about-resume/>

Maud Houston Pinkney (July 12, 1928-February 26, 2020)
B.A. (Education) Bowie State Teachers' College, Bowie,
Maryland; M.S. (Library Science), University of Maryland.
Librarian and teacher, various schools in Southern Maryland.

Sylvia Linton Piggott (March 21, 1939 – June 7, 2021) B.A. (Anthropology) McGill University, Toronto, Canada, 1977 and M.L.S., 1979. Assistant Director, School of Library and Information Science, McGill University, Toronto, Canada; Senior Manager, Information Resource Centre, Bank of Montreal, Canada; Deputy Division Chief, Information Services, Joint World Bank / IMF Library, Washington, D.C. President (1996-1997), Special Libraries Association (SLA). Co-Chair, Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section, IFLA. Community activities: President, Montreal Association of Black Business Persons and Professionals (MABBP); President, Black Academic Scholarship Fund (BASF).

Lelia Gaston Rhodes, Ph.D. (1925 - December 7, 2020) B.A. Jackson College, Jackson, Mississippi (name changed when placed under State control to Mississippi Negro Training School), May 1944. MSLS Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia. Ph.D. Florida State University (FSU), School of Library Science, Tallahassee, Florida. Associate Head Librarian, Assistant Librarian, Dean of Libraries, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi, (1944-1953; 1957-1988 - 40 years). Author: *Jackson State University: First One Hundred Years (1877-1977)*. Centennial Edition. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1979. Hinds Community College Board of Trustees (25 years of service) (Dr. Clyde Muse, President); Mississippi Historical Preservation Board; Hinds County Election Commissioner, Elected Six Terms (1993-2016), Jackson, Mississippi. Member, American Library Association (more than 30 years). Community activities: President, Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Inc., 1988-1992; President, Mississippi Library Association (1980); Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; The Links, Inc.

Sara Eunice Johnson Scarbrough (January 8, 1933-April 6, 2020)
Librarian/Archivist. Head Librarian, Pershing Middle School,
Houston Independent School District, Houston, Texas.

Abdul Karriem Shabazz (December 5, 1945 – March 31, 2019)
Attended Howard University, Washington, D.C. (Spanish and
French). Library Clerk, Main Reading Room, Library of
Congress, Washington, D.C.

Elinor DesVerney Sinnette, Ph.D. (October 8, 1925 - January 3, 2020)
B.A. Hunter College, New York, New York; M.S. (Library Science) Pratt
Institute, New York, New York; Ph.D. Columbia University, New York,
New York. Librarian and educator Nigeria (University of Ibadan), Kenya;
Librarian and oral historian in Washington DC (Howard University's
Moorland Spingarn Research Center). Published the first full biography of
the pioneering collector, Arthur Schomburg: *Arthur Alfonso Schomburg:
Black Bibliophile & Collector*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press,
1989.

Jessie Cottman Smith (November 15, 1928 - December 10, 2020)
B.A. Maryland State College, Princess Anne, Maryland. M.S.
(Library Science), Columbia University, New York, New
York. Reference Librarian, later Director and Dean of the Library,
University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). ACRL Mellon
Intern, Stanford University, Stanford, California. Member, Task
Force to Study the History and Legacy of Slavery in Maryland.

Loretta Inez Dates Smith (d. May 11, 2021)

B.A. Pembroke College, Providence, Rhode Island. M.A. Goucher College, Towson, Maryland. Librarian, Clifton Park Junior High School, Baltimore City Public Schools system, Baltimore, Maryland. Librarian, Mount Lebanon Library, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Community activities: Recording secretary, Black Association of South Hills; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Henrietta Mays Smith, Ph.D. (May 2, 1922 - April 21, 2021) B.A. (English and History) Hunter College, New York, New York; B.S. and M.S. (Library Science), New York, New York, 1946 and 1959. Cataloger, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida; Children's Librarian, Countee Cullen Branch, The New York Public Library, Harlem, New York; Professor, University of South Florida, School of Information, Tampa, Florida. Chair, Coretta Scott King Task Force, American Library Association. Author: Henrietta M. Smith. *The Coretta Scott King Awards Book: From Vision to Reality*. Chicago: American Library Association, 1994; Henrietta M. Smith. *The Coretta Scott King Awards Book, 1970-1999*. Chicago: American Library Association, 1999; Henrietta M. Smith. *The Coretta Scott King Awards, 1970-2004*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2004; Henrietta M. Smith. *The Coretta Scott King Awards, 1970-2009*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2009. Community activity: Founding member, first president, South Palm Beach County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Ola Mae Walker Spinks (1914– June 16, 2020) B.S. (Home Economics), Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1938; M.S. (Library Science), Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan. Middle school librarian, Pontiac, Michigan. Volunteer, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Spear-headed, with Phyllis G. Williams, the organization of the narratives of enslaved people housed by the Library of Congress; organized the narratives for the states of Alabama and Arkansas. Member, Phi Delta Kappa Sorority, Inc.; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; American Bridge Association; Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society.

Robert L. Todd (August 30, 1941-June 27, 2020) B.A.
Talladega College, 1963; M.S. (Library Service), Atlanta
University, School of Library Service; Head Librarian, Wiley
College, Marshall, Texas. Librarian, United States
Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, 1971.

Ira B. Washington (d. December 31, 2019) B.S. Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, Florida; M.S. (Library Science) Florida State University. Librarian, Duval County Public Schools (for 35 years). Community activity: Member, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Montrose Adrian Waters (d. September 13, 2020)
Library Technician, Library of Congress, Washington,
D.C. Employed by Library of Congress for 49 years.

Bettye Wright Webb (d. February 22, 2020) B.A., New Hampshire College, Manchester, New Hampshire. Circulation Desk Clerk, Assistant Librarian (Children's Room), and first African American Branch Library Supervisor (managed two branch libraries, and Bookmobile Service), Springfield Public Library, Springfield, Massachusetts. Community activities: Past president and archivist, Springfield Chapter of Girl Friends, Inc.; Charter member and past president, Greater Springfield Chapter, The Links Inc.

Juanita Diggs Wilks (September 8, 1937- May 8, 2020) B.A.
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical Institute in
Greensboro, North Carolina, 1959. M.S. (Library Science)
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
School librarian, Churchland High School, Portsmouth,
Virginia. Retired in 1991.

Regina Hebert Williams (d. April 12, 2020) Librarian,
St. John the Baptist Parish School Board, Reserve,
Louisiana.

Barbara Ann Smalls Williams (February 17, 1945 – February 20, 2020) B.S. Federal City Teachers College, Washington, D.C., 1977; M.S. (Library Science) University of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C. 1980. Store clerk, Naval Library, Naval Station in Arlington, Virginia; Library Assistant, National Clearinghouse for Bilingual Education, Washington, D.C., 1978-1979; Library Technician, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, D.C.; Systems librarian, Reference librarian, and Project manager,, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Library, Washington, D.C., 1980-1987. Program Manager, MAXIMA Corporation, 1987-1993 (entered corporate America as the Program Manager for the innovative black-owned MAXIMA Corporation); Library Consultant to the Executive Director, TransAfrica Forum, Washington, D.C. BCALA activities: BCALA NCAAL Awards and Honors Committee, 2007; BCALA Executive Board; Planning Committee, 1st National Conference of African American Librarians, Columbus, Ohio.



R.I.P.

***Deceased African American
Librarians,
Library Workers, and Library Trustees,
June 2019—June 2021***