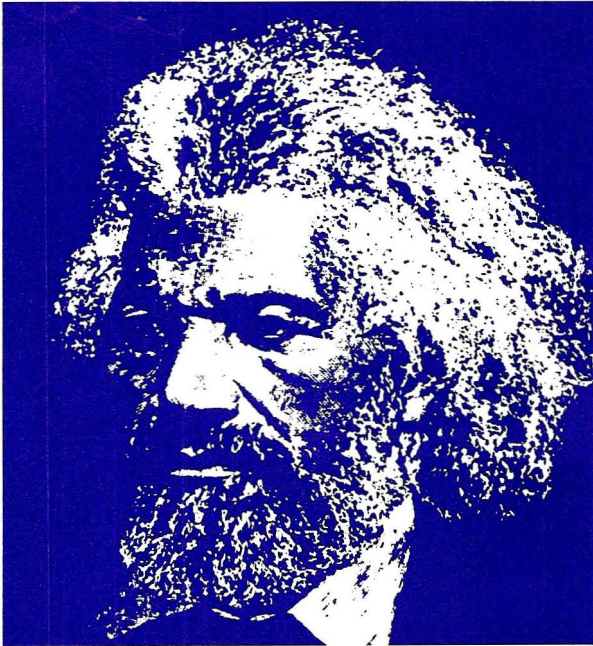


**A Catskill Mountain Salute
To
Black History Month**



**Creating and Defining the African-American
Community: Family, Church, Politics and Culture**

FEBRUARY 2008

— Presented By —

**THE SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK CHAPTER
OF
THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
AFRO-AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY**

The Negro National Anthem

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till Victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the
slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might, let us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the World, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, True to our Native Land.

THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BLACK HISTORY AWARDS

As the county observance of Black History Month has evolved since the first Frederick Douglass Breakfast was held in 1981, the Chapter has come to believe that an important service is rendered by honoring African-Americans from various walks of life who have led interesting and worthwhile lives. Each year we discover more and more people who have built on the foundations they received in the home, in church, and in the public schools to build lives valuable both to themselves and their families and to the community at large.

The Frederick Douglass Award was first given in 1983 and has been given each year since to a person who has made a significant contribution to the life of the county. Since Frederick Douglass was opposed to all distinctions based on color, we make none.

Since 1987, each year three graduates of Sullivan County high schools, who have embarked on useful careers and have made an impact on the community, have been singled out for special recognition. They can serve as valuable models for young people who themselves are now students.

Also, for most of our years, some of the money raised from Journal advertisements has been used to provide scholarships to high school graduates and students at Sullivan County Community College.

— MISSION STATEMENT —

The mission of The Association for the Study of African American Life and History is to promote, research, preserve, interpret and disseminate information about Black Life, History and Culture to the Global Community.

THE SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAPTER
OF THE
ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY
OF
AFRO-AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY

presents

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL
Frederick Douglass
Breakfast

— Presented By —

THE SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK CHAPTER
OF
THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
AFRO-AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY

Woodbourne Fire House

Woodbourne, New York

Sunday, February 10, 2008 — 8 a.m.

PROGRAM

Mistress of Ceremonies Dorothy McCoy

Negro National Anthem

(Please rise and join in the singing)

Greetings from the Sullivan County Chapter A.S.A.L.H.

Invocation Rev. Michael Williams

Musical Selection Rev. N. Graves

Presentation

2008 Community Recognition Awards

Jennifer Williams (Fallsburg)

Garrick Jackson (Liberty)

Anthony McKinney (Monticello)

Poetry Reading Judge Josephine Finn

Presentation Priscilla Basset

Twenty-Sixth Annual Frederick Douglass Award

to

DOROTHY FIELDS

South Fallsburg, New York

Closing Remarks Ms. Bernice Musgrave

President, A.S.A.L.H.

SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAPTER A.S.A.L.H.

The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History was founded in 1914 by University trained Black historians, such as Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who believed that the recovery and documentation of the role of Blacks in American History was important both to develop pride and a sense of "roots" among Blacks and to give all Americans a greater appreciation of the Black contribution to the common life.

Today, there are over 100 chapters throughout the country; and the Association carries on many activities. One of the highlights is the annual five-day convention in which a variety of historical topics are discussed by historians of different backgrounds.

In 1979, a Sullivan County Chapter was formed with the goal of sponsoring educational programs during Black History Month and, indeed, throughout the year. The first Frederick Douglass Breakfast was held in 1981, and has continued to be held ever since.

**OFFICERS OF THE
SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAPTER
ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY**

of

AFRO-AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY

President	Bernice Musgrave
Vice-President	Priscilla Bassett
Secretary	Myrtle McKinney
Treasurer	Mattie Anderson

ASALH MEMBERS

Bernice Musgrave, Chairperson

Mary L. Adamson	Atty. Cliff Gordon
Rev. Mary Alli	Joseph Kenny
Mattie Anderson	Les Kristt
Emmett Bassett	Dorothy Larry
Priscilla Bassett	Myrtle McKinney
Rev. Anthony Black	Bernice Musgrave
Alan Dampman	Gladys Walker
Ida Crawford Douglas	A.J. Williams-Myers
Arlene Gordon	Bertha Williams

THE 2008 FREDERICK
DOUGLASS HONOREE:
DOROTHY FIELDS



Dorothy grew up in Uniontown, Perry County, Alabama. She is the daughter of Joseph Melvin Hudson and Lena Jones Hudson. Dorothy was the fifteenth child of this union. Her mother died when she was a baby. Her oldest sister died a month later and her father brought home her sisters four children. Dorothy was reared by her father, sisters and brothers.

As a child, Dorothy, her brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews were taught that they were very special to the family, but they were just another person to the world and would have to produce to earn the world's respect and the good things of life.

Her father was a a Steward in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, a disciplinary sacrifice for his family and always consistent. He was a man of great talent, always helping his neighbors and a very good cook. He made the best barbecue in Perry County known as the Black Belt.

After completing her schooling, in 1956 Dorothy married her high school sweetheart Landell. In 1957, Landell decided to seek their fortune in the North and came to South Fallsburg, NY. About a month later, Dorothy joined him. She can now look back with pride on a busy life of work and service.

Dorothy, one of the founding members of the First Baptist Church, South Fallsburg, and served on the Trustee Board for many years. She was the former president of the Senior Choir. Dorothy is an active member of the Senior Choir and assistant superintendent of the Sunday School program at her church. Dorothy is an example of God's grace and goodness. She learned early in life that there are some disappointments, but do not waste your time hating and carrying anger around for it will only defeat you. Walk in love, love never fails. This lesson came from her father. It was also reinforced by the Methodist tradition of her youth and her present association with First Baptist Church, South Fallsburg.

She was the first black person in the county to be employed by the

Community Action Commission to Help the Economy (CACHE). While employed for CACHE, she took advantage of the new community college and in 1970 was among the first graduates from the Mental Health Assistance Program at Sullivan County Community College.

However, like many people she finally chose a different line of work. Having entered the United States Postal Service in 1969, Dorothy was the first black postal clerk in South Fallsburg. Dorothy decided to remain there for a time and was promoted to Postmaster of the Greenfield Park office in 1984. Later, she became the first black Postmaster in Sullivan County when she took over the Ferndale office. Dorothy retired from the Postal Service in 1993.

Despite a full-time job and home responsibilities, she has taken on a number of commitments in the county. Past years, she was chairman of the Black History Chapter, the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History; chairperson of the February activities; member of Community General Hospital Auxiliary (Men Who Cook); Community Action Commission to Help the Economy (CACHE); Secretary Senior Legislative Action Committee (SLAC); Fallsburg and Loch Sheldrake Senior Citizens; Election Officer, Fallsburg Central School; Fallsburg Reading Center; Town of Fallsburg Election; Fallsburg Fire District; board member of the Center for Fallsburg Youth Inc.; record pledges for the South Fallsburg Synagogue Yom Kippur holiday; Office for the Aging; Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP); and a life member of New York Statewide Senior Action Council, Inc.

There have been many accomplishments, both personal and professional. She has certificates and plaques of recognition. Landell and Dorothy received the State of New York Legislative Resolution, adopted in the New York State Senate on May 9, 2006, congratulating Landell and Dorothy upon the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, recommended by Senator Bonacic.

Now, with more time on hand—every three days, Landell distributes bread donated by Stewart's Store in Fallsburg to many people in the South Fallsburg area. Dorothy enjoys bible study. Her main priority is writing and studying the word. She takes great pleasure in traveling to Canada, excursions to the western Caribbean - visiting 7 ports and to Israel, her favorite destination.

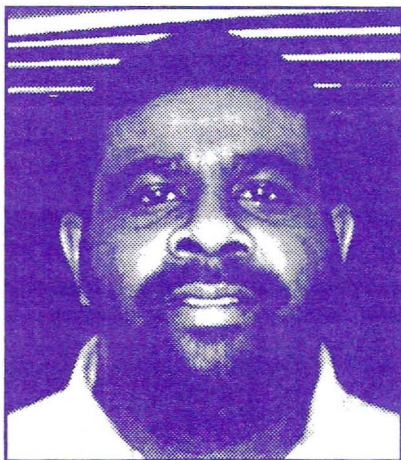
PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS BLACK HISTORY MONTH AWARD

- 1983 ERSKINE HAWKINS' career as a musician parallels a part of the rich history of American jazz itself. He was part of the permanent musical staff of the Concord Hotel and continued after half a century, to delight audiences.
- 1984 THE REV. MARTHA FINN, Pastor of the Bethlehem Temple Church in Monticello, died in 1988. She was called to the ministry in 1930 and came to Sullivan County in 1932. "Mother Finn" exuded an air of easy humor, kindness and peace, a beacon of light and hope to all.
- 1985 SAMUEL, RUTH and CLIFFORD HARDEN were the surviving children of WILLIAM and FANNIE HARDEN, and the story of this family goes back almost to the Civil War. William came to Stevensville in 1879, eventually married Fannie Glover from Virginia, and around 1900 was deeded a 64-acre farm in Bethel, on which they built and operated Forestview Lodge, a summer resort, until 1955.
- 1986 RICHARD PERRY was born in the Bronx in 1944 but spent his formative years through High School in Monticello and graduated from City College of NY. He is a nationally prominent writer.
- 1987 CARL BERRY, SR. graduated from Cardinal Hayes High School and later from City College of New York. Early in life, he realized that he enjoyed working with people and did just that all of his working life.
- 1988 MARY BRYANT DUPREE was born in Newbern, Alabama and attended Stillman College and Alabama A&M. Early in life she decided she wanted to be a teacher and taught for 34 years.
- 1989 JOSEPHINE VICTORIA FINN, a grand-daughter of the late Rev. Martha Finn who received the Frederick Douglass Award in 1984, graduated from Monticello High School, SUNY Oneonta, and the University of Buffalo Law School. She is the first Black lawyer to practice in the county.
- 1990 PROFESSOR JOSEPH SHAMBLEY was born in Colerain, North Carolina and earned degrees from Elizabeth City State College and Teachers College, Columbia University. He joined the Business Faculty of Sullivan County Community College in 1964, and in 1989 he became the Chairperson of that Division.
- 1991 GEORGE BILLUPS, JR. was born in Yorktown, Virginia and attended Virginia State College in Petersburg. He has served as principal at the Beacon High School.
- 1992 BERTHA WILLIAMS, born in Alabama, earned degrees from SCCC and SUNY New Paltz. She is the Director of the Sullivan County Head Start Program which has three centers and serves over two hundred children.

- 1993 JOHN WALTER, an Easterner with a doctorate in Math from N.Y.U., who, as president of Sullivan County Community College, greatly influenced its expanded growth.
- 1994 HORACE O. McKENNY, religious, civic and educational leader for many years.
- 1995 BAZELEY PERRY, founder of local Masonic Lodge, prominent musician and teacher, and local civic leader.
- 1996 GLADYS FARRELL SEALS, musician, community builder, living example.
- 1997 GENETHA ARMSTRONG is a native of New York City. She attended City College and Marist College. She is a talented poet, spiritual motivator and entrepreneur.
- 1998 GLADYS FINN WALKER, distinguished in Sullivan County as a social welfare administrator.
- 1999 MYRA B. YOUNG ARMSTEAD, historian, educator, writer.
- 2000 IDA MAE MITCHELL, civic leader, school board pioneer, community activist.
- 2001 REV. JAMES MATTHEWS, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Monticello and Founder and President of the Matthews Bible Institute.
- 2002 MABEL WRENN, Past President of the Missionary Board of the Kings Chapel Church and over 50 years of service to the church and community.
- 2003 PASTOR MERVIN ARMSTEAD, Pastor of Bethlehem Temple, Monticello, and District Elder in the New York, New England and Pennsylvania States Council.
- 2004 REV. ANTHONY BLACK, Pastor of First Baptist Church, South Fallsburg, and president of Mt. Zion Congress of Christian Education.
- 2005 REV. RUTH H. MCCALLISTER SELLERS WARD, Pastor of Mission Church of God, Liberty, and Spiritual Life Coordinator for the Eastern New York WCG and national representative for women in ministry.
- 2006 ALICE FREDRICKA ALFRED, former Residential Advisor at Delaware Valley Job Corps Center in Callicoon and Group Counselor at Abbott House, is now a world traveller and resides in Hurleyville.
- 2007 DOROTHY McCOY, Nutrition Services Coordinator in the Sullivan County Office for the Aging, Commissioner on the Monticello Housing Authority Board, member of United Way, Sullivan County BPW and Cares Coalition board member.

ANTHONY McKINNEY

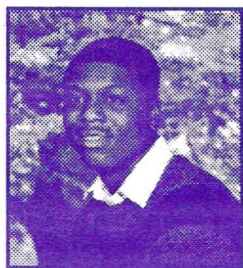
Anthony McKinney was born March 17, 1972 to Myrtle (Cookie) McKinney and the late George R. Ellison. He has one sister, Patricia McKinney, who he has a very special bond with. His niece Ashley DeJesus and cousin Kindra Larry are also very close to his heart. His little brother Earl Allen looks to him as his hero and best friend. He is also the proud father of two beautiful daughters, Renee (13) and Najee (11) McKinney who are both honor students at the Minisink Valley Jr. High School.



Anthony attended and graduated from the Monticello School District and as a student was a member of the track and basketball team and also participated in other school activities.

After graduating high school, Anthony entered the workforce and became employed at Robert Green Chevy-Olds dealership. While there, he became a Certified General Motors auto body technician, a certification he still holds, and overseer of the truck division's daily operations. Currently, Anthony is supervising the Environmental Services Department, one of the essential support divisions at the Center for Discovery where he has been employed for the last eight years.

Anthony has always felt the need to make a difference and give back to his local community through the influence of his mother Cookie and stepfather Buddy Allen. Their strong devotion to the family unit has encouraged Anthony to become a New York State Registered foster parent and also a member of the Foster Parent Association taking in less fortunate children.



GARRICK JACKSON

Garrick Jackson was born in Liberty, NY on October 11, 1970. His parents names are Mildred and Andrew Jackson. He has two younger brothers, Charles and Elijah Jackson. He also has six nieces. Their names are Makayla, Alanna, Caya, Jayden, Victoria and Olivia. He recently was married to his long-time girlfriend, Jennifer.

Garrick graduated from Liberty High School in 1988. He went on to receive his Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts from Sullivan County Community College in 1990. While working at Community General Hospital, he then earned his R.N. degree from Sullivan County Community College. He is currently pursuing a combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree from SUNY New Paltz.

Some questions answered by Garrick:

Q: Was there something in your childhood that shaped your personality? Yes, my parents showed me what hard work and dedication meant in providing for your family. I also was exposed to a broad variety of people and cultures growing up. This helped to shape my personality and views of the world.

Q: What were some turning points in your life? The first turning point that I can recall is when I was 9 years old. Margaret Brown, someone I consider to be a second mother to me, died unexpectedly. This was the first time I lost someone close to me in my life. I was challenged at a young age to learn how to deal with this loss without forgetting her.

Another turning point in my life was at the age of 17. I was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease, Glomerulonephritis. This was the first time in my life that I realized I wasn't invincible. I suffered physically and psychologically from this illness. I no longer could play sports and do the things I used to do. Additionally, the medication I was on changed my physical appearance.

After several years of being angry about my illness, I finally realized that this illness didn't have to define who I am; it's just a part of who I am. I have received two kidney transplants as a result of this illness. My first was in 1991, which I received from my mother. The second was in 2002, which I received from someone I never met.

Q: Many people act out of a "code" or a set of beliefs which dictate choices. It may be religion or politics or a personal philosophy. To what extent do you feel that you act by a code or act independently of any set of beliefs? I believe that my choices in life have been dictated by my personal philosophy more than religious or political beliefs. A good portion of this personal code came from the beliefs of my parents. In addition, my interactions and experiences in life have helped to shape this code.

Q: Were there times when the code was challenged and impossible to follow? Yes. During times when it seems that "tough love" is the right answer, I sometimes find this difficult to follow. I've had close family members who I want to continue to help and guide, but I know what they need may not be seen as "helping". Sometimes there's only so much you can do to help others before it becomes enabling.

Q: What do you think it means to be a hero? I believe a hero is a person who puts others before themselves.

Q: Who would you consider to be a hero and why? Someone I would consider to be a hero is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The reason I believe he is one of the few true heroes of our time is because he sacrificed himself for the good of others. He lived at a time when a hero was desperately needed to make a change in our country. He knew exactly what he was doing and knew that his work meant he would not be around to see his children grow up.

Q: What would you say you have been some of your greatest achievements? One of my greatest personal achievements has been buying my first house two years ago. I've spent many years in and out of the hospital due to my illness, and at times I thought home ownership would be impossible. Another personal achievement was being the first person in my family to graduate college, earning my RN license.

Q: What goals do you currently have set for yourself? There are two goals I currently have for my short term. My wife and I would like to start a family in the near future and I would like to finish my combined Bachelors/Masters program. Longer term, I would like to open a business and buy my next house.

Q: What advice would you give a younger person at this time? Always strive to achieve your personal best. Don't worry about living up to the standards others have set for you, but for the ones you set for yourself. Help others as much as you can, but be careful to avoid making those people you help dependent on you.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS

Jennifer Lynn Williams, daughter of William and Doris Young, hails from Woodbourne, New York. She has spent all of her adolescence and adulthood training and teaching Tae Kwon Do. Jennifer has achieved the rank of 3rd degree black belt.



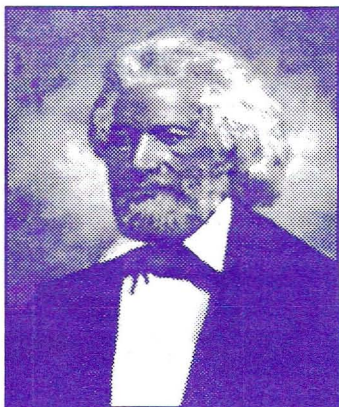
Jennifer graduated from St. John's University in Jamaica, Queens, New York, in 2003, with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in Spanish. While at St. John's University, Jennifer was awarded Student of the Year through the Teacher Opportunity Corp.

It was the fall of 2003 that Jennifer received a first grade general education position at Ellenville Elementary School. While teaching full time, Jennifer achieved her Master's Degree from American-Intercontinental University, as well as her permanent New York State teaching certification. Jennifer is currently attending the College of St. Rose's CITE Program to achieve her School Building Leader Certificate and School District Leader Certificate. Jennifer aspires to one day be an administrator of a school and encourage our youth to excel.

Today, Jennifer is married to Fallsburg Police Department's Lieutenant Simmie Williams III and has one son, Shane Williams. Jennifer and Simmie look forward to raising their son here in Sullivan County, and for him to be embraced by all that the County has to offer, just as they were.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS

(1817 - 1895)



Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey was born in Maryland, to Harriet Bailey, an African captive lady owned by Aaron Anthony who is thought to be his father. Betsy Bailey, his grandmother, raised him until he was six then took him back to the plantation. He, along with other children, were fed cornmeal mush in a trough. Aaron Anthony was a cruel captor and often beat Frederick. In 1826, Frederick was sent to new captors, Hugh and Sophia Auld, in Baltimore. Sophia began to teach him how to read. This angered Hugh, who told her that teaching a "slave" to read was unlawful and would spoil him as a "slave" which motivated Frederick to teach himself.

In 1833, he was sent south to Captain Thomas Auld, who sent him to Edward Covey, a "slave" breaker. Frederick fought Covey and the lashing stopped. Sent back to Baltimore in 1838 he plotted his escape. He escaped with his future bride, Anna Murray, to New York where they married in September. He changed his name to Frederick Douglass. Although a skilled ship caulker, he worked as a common laborer since "skilled" jobs were not open to Blacks. Moving to Bedford, Massachusetts, he began working with the abolitionist in 1841 as an orator with the American Anti-Slavery Society. Speaking opportunities were many because he was very articulate and could speak as a former captive.

He published his autobiography in 1845, *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave* putting his future in jeopardy because he was a runaway slave. He went to England and gained the money to buy his freedom. In December 1846, he was a free man and returned to his home in America.

In 1847, he published a newspaper, *The Liberator* and changed the name to *North Star* when he moved to Rochester, New York. Monies from mortgaging his house and speaking engagements sustained the newspaper. In 1859, implicated in the Harpers Ferry raid, he fled to Canada and then England. The death of his youngest child, Annie, caused him to return. Fortunately, all charges had been dropped.

Douglass backed Lincoln's presidential bid, and encouraged Blacks to join the Union Army during the Civil War serving as an adviser to President Lincoln. In 1877, Douglass was appointed to the post of United States Marshal for the District of Columbia.

Frederick Douglass, born a captive, completed three versions of his autobiography, was a great public speaker, championed human rights, published a newspaper, and served several government posts.

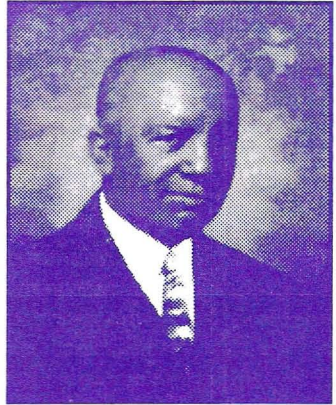
CARTER GODWIN WOODSON

(1875 - 1950)

"The achievements of the Negro, properly set forth will crown him as a factor in early human progress and a maker of modern civilization."

— Carter Godwin Woodson

With the establishment of "Negro History Week" in 1926, Carter Godwin Woodson earned the designation as "The Father of Negro History." Negro History Week later turned into nationally celebrated "Black History Month."



Woodson's life stands as a monument of steadfastness and unswerving devotion to a cause larger than himself. Against a background of lynching Blacks by the thousands, frequent urban mob attacks by white ruffians, and white polemicists publishing racist books, Dr. Woodson and his cause persevered. He fought against the national furor against Blacks created by the motion picture, *Birth of a Nation*. He fought against the apathy of Blacks and founded the "Association for the Study of Negro Life and History" in 1915. On January 1, 1916, his association began publishing *The Journal of Negro History* and has continued every three months without fail since that date.

Born of former African prisoners-of-war in Virginia, Dr. Woodson was denied a formal early education. He worked as a coal miner. At age twenty he enrolled in high school and graduated a year and a half later. For the next sixteen years, he worked and went to school graduating with a doctorate in history from Harvard University.

During the 1920s, Dr. Woodson's association nurtured the training of historians who were dedicated to telling the true story of a society which had at one time been omitted from communication. Among these historians was Dr. Charles Wesley. Dr. Wesley studied the abolitionist era and the evolution of Black labor. He wrote the definitive history of the first Black collegiate fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha.

Dr. Rayford Logan, another protégé, took on an international perspective in his book *Diplomatic Relations of the United States with Haiti*.

In 1947, Dr. John Hope Franklin, published *From Slavery to Freedom*. This work became so popular it finally replaced George Washington William's sixty-five-year-old *History of the Negro Race* as the standard reference.

Through his life work, Carter G. Woodson established Black history as a legitimate topic of study.