

NAACP

San Luis Obispo County Branch

Family Newsletter • July 2022

naacpslocty.org • naacpslocty@gmail.com

President's Message: Changing The World By Changing Ourselves?

Most people look at the world through the lens of problems, good versus evil and evil is winning. The problems become too large to do anything about them...for example war, starvation, poverty, gas pricing, climate change, pollution, natural disasters, death and inflation, just to name some. The problems are so overwhelming that it is hard to know where to start and what to do; so most people do nothing but complain, blame and attack, "The Pathology of Dysfunctionality." Our socialization to be dysfunctional began before we were born, with no choice on our part. No one brings a survey, into the womb, inquiring about which: gender, class, religion, sexual orientation, cultural group, ability status, or the time period we were born in. These identities are ascribed to us at birth through no effort or decision or choice of our own. So therefore there is no reason to blame each other or hold each other responsible for the identities we have. The socialization process is outside our control. In addition to having no choice, we also have no initial consciousness about who we are; we don't question our identities at this point. We just are who we are.

Then we are born into a world where all of the mechanics, assumptions, rules, roles, and structures of oppression are already in place and functioning, we have had nothing to do with constructing them. There is no reason for any of us to feel guilty or responsible for the world into which we are born. We are innocent and already in an established system.

The Movement of human liberation is about letting go of our negative emotional patterns, so we can be free to Love and Communicate with Peace, Joy and Forgiveness, as we live our lives on this earth. Our Juneteenth theme was: Emotional Competency the Next Frontier in Human Development. We are all doing the best we can at this time, given the obstacles placed before us as we entered into this world, which was here, before we arrived. The real battle is on the inside of each and every one of us, we need to become more loving, peaceful, joyful and forgiving. The world we must transform, is inside of us!

SLO COUNTY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

We shall transform the world by transforming ourselves and by serving our communities.

Learn to Master Civil engagement: by getting evolved. Learn to take Direct and Political Action: learn to master non-violence protest, how to become a master policy change agent, a justice warrior and a world class community organizer.

Slo County Social Justice Coordinating Council

It is about Human Liberation so we can Liberate Nature.

It is bigger than us, One World, One Life, One Earth, One Movement

An, idea who time has come!

Rev. Stephen Vines President

Our Juneteenth Celebration Was a Success!

Two Days of Great Activities!

Saturday, June 18th

Where: Mission Plaza, 980 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA

Keynote Speaker: Deborah Newmark, Executive Director of The Children's Project.



Musical Performances: Gospel music by the legendary House of Prayer Choir, Nipomo, CA and Mo Better Jazz, Featuring Deborah Gilmore on Vocal. Photos courtesy of Sara Ford



Health and Wellness Fair that will feature vendors with local products and/or services (mental health employment opportunities), art, merchandise. Photos courtesy of Sara Ford



NAACP SLO Branch Photos courtesy of Sara Ford



Information Booth



T-shirt Booth



Soul Food Booth



President, Stephen Vines



Master of Ceramones, Tobin Johnson



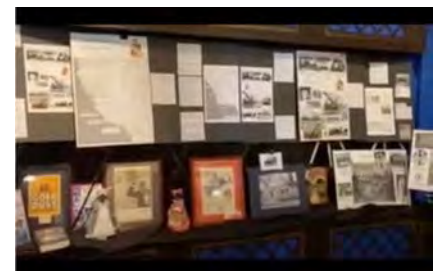
Juneteenth Banner Downtown SLO

Silent auction featured Works of Art, African Queen quilt, wine tastings and much more!



Freedom Lounge hosted by The History Center of SLO County, 696 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo. (across from Mission Plaza) The display provided entertainment, education and Black history information for the San Luis Obispo County community.

[Click Here for a short video of the display](#)



A Good time was had by all! Photos courtesy of Sara Ford



Juneteenth Celebration

Sunday, June 19th

What: Private screening and panel discussion of an exciting 2021 film “Passing.” In 1920s New York City, a black woman finds her world up-ended when her life becomes intertwined with a former childhood friend who’s passing as white; hosted by SLO Public Market Place.

Where: San Luis Obispo Public Market 3845 S. Higuera St, San Luis Obispo

Meals provided by Jay Bird’s and Vege on the Edge’s
Dessert was provided by the NAACP SLO County Branch to celebrate our Fifth Anniversary!!



Photos courtesy of Sara Ford



City Proclamations



TV interview with President, Stephen Vines



Cheryl Vines, Secretary and Event Chair



Upcoming Branch Activities

General Membership Meeting:

Second Tuesday of Every Month via ZOOM Time: 6:30PM-8:15PM
For a link, email us at naacpslocty@gmail.com



Executive Team Meetings:

Third Thursday of Every Month via ZOOM, 6:00 PM to 7:45. For a link, email us at naacpslocty@gmail.com

Peoples Team:

Activities, Communications/Press and Publicity, Community Coordinator, Freedom Fund and Membership Committees meet on the Second Thursday of Every Month at 6:00pm via ZOOM.

Activism Team:

Criminal Justice, Community Coordinator, Envi-ronmental Justice, Political Action, Legal Redress and Prison Branch Committees meet on the Fourth Wednesday of Every Month at 6:00pm via ZOOM. For a link, email us at naacpslocty@gmail.com

Outreach Team: Armed Services/Veterans Affairs, Economic Development, Housing, Labor/Industry Committees; meeting date and time TBD. For a link, email us at naacpslocty@gmail.com

Humanities Team:

Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technology And Scientific Olympic (ACT-SO) Academic, College/Youth Works, Education and Health meet on the First Wednesday of Every Month 7:00pm via ZOOM. For a link, email us at naacpslocty@gmail.com

Community Outreach Team:

If you are interested in getting involved in your community, become a part of our outreach team. Email us at naacpslocty@gmail.com

Healing Mondays

Every Monday via ZOOM, 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm

Facilitated by Rev. Stephen Vines and Karen Burish Wyke. Details on following page.

And Beyond . . .

Save the Date!

Rally for Peace not Violence

Thursday, July 28th.

See following page for details



Violence Has One Future Death And Destruction!

**Lets End: Hate, War, Murder, Child,
Spousal & Senior Abuse, Rape, Racism,
Militarism and Environmental Pollution !**

**Lets Give Peace, Love
& Joy A Chance Rally**



Save the Date July 28, 2022

5:45pm to 7:15 pm

SLO COUNTY COURTHOUSE 1050 MONTEREY ST

For more info www.naacpslocty.org or call 805-619-5354

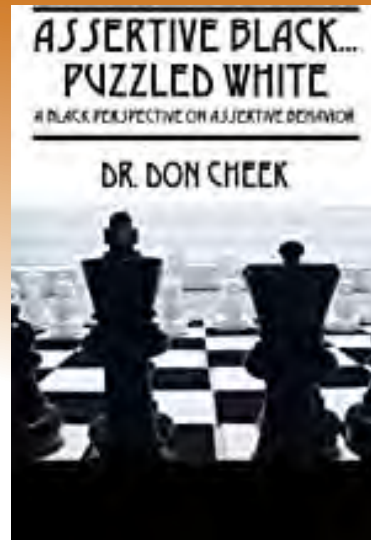
HEALING MONDAYS

The best investment you can make!

Every Monday via ZOOM, 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Facilitated by Rev. Stephen Vines and Karen Burish Wyke

Please RSVP to naacpslocty@gmail.com

Currently Studying:



Assertive Black...Puzzled White by Donald Cheek, Ph.D. is said to be before it's time as it presents informative, honest and dynamic ideas about black vs. white questions currently facing America. Dr. Cheek connects the traumatic history of the past to the complex issues of the present by dealing with the psycho-historical effects of Jim Crow in America along with the "cultural residue" of segregation, prejudice and discrimination. Dr. Cheek keeps it real by speaking untold truths.

As the media continues to address the cultural differences, Dr. Cheek offers up his years of research compiled into a much needed study guide in Assertive-Black...Puzzled White. Dr. Cheek examines the roots of differences between black and white styles, thoughts and attitude; and he compares the diversities seen in oral and written communication, as well as in child rearing, marriage, family, education, churches, peer groups, music, humor and various aspects of "surviving" or "making it". Dr. Cheek gives just the right insight for the race issue of today-especially prevalent with a black President and First Lady-as an assertive black community is facing a puzzled white population.

Join Us for this Important Work.

Please RSVP to naacpslocty@gmail.com

News About the GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Starting in August the General membership Meeting of NAACP SLO County will resume in person meetings.

Date: August 9, 2022

Time: 6:30pm

**Place: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2201 Lawton Ave (corner of Broad/Lawton)
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401**

Message from National NAACP on Gun Violence

This Independence Day, just as the nation was processing our horror of the vicious murder of Jayland Walker by Akron police, our hearts were dealt more devastating news as those in Highland Park were terrorized, shot, and killed while celebrating our nation's liberty.

We are heartbroken, we are furious, and we WILL NOT remain silent as gun violence, whether at the hands of police or a mass shooter, threatens precious lives.

Friend: the NAACP is taking IMMEDIATE steps to address the roots of gun violence and STOP this devastating war on the safety of our communities.

In statehouses, courtrooms, and Congress, we're taking action NOW to defend ALL Americans from the horrors of gun violence. But we need your support to make our voices heard! Add your name NOW to stand with the NAACP and implement change to END gun violence for good.

In 2022, gun violence is the leading cause of death among America's youth, eviscerating entire communities, disproportionately Black communities, while destroying families and futures.

Friend, this reign of terror by bullets CANNOT continue.

That's why the NAACP is acting NOW to lead efforts to stop the intolerable epidemic of gun violence. As we speak, our teams are working at the state and federal levels to:

- **END** qualified immunity for police officers
- **BAN** military-style semi-automatic assault guns and high-capacity ammunition clips
- **REQUIRE** universal background checks for gun sales and transfers nationwide
- And **REPEAL** state "stand your ground" laws, restoring the use of deadly force as a last resort across the U.S.

While these steps do nothing to bring back the friends, parents, siblings, and children our communities have lost to the horrors of gun violence, they are essential to making sure this vicious cycle of unnecessary pain and suffering is truly ended once and for all.

This is a crisis, friend. We MUST do everything in our power to END the horrific slaughtering of our communities and save lives. Will you add your name NOW to stand with the NAACP and help stamp out gun violence once and for all?

[ADD MY NAME](#)

Together,
NAACP Digital Team

NAACP National



NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Our collective voice is power. Our community is power. And when we gather? Powerful.

The 113th NAACP National Convention is the perfect setting to strengthen civil rights and every form of socio-economic equality.

Join us in Atlantic City from July 14-20 as we convene to progress policies that impact Black America.

Please note: Registration link is open to Observers (non-compliant branch members, members-at-large, and non-members) only. All delegates and alternates should contact their unit secretary or state conference. All National Convention attendees must be fully vaccinated and registered.

[Click here to register](#)

America celebrated her birthday, known as Independence Day. But to many Black and brown people in this country today, we feel anything but free.

What is Independence Day to a Black man denied his right to vote? What is Independence Day to a woman denied the right to her own body? What is Independence Day to the child shot dead by

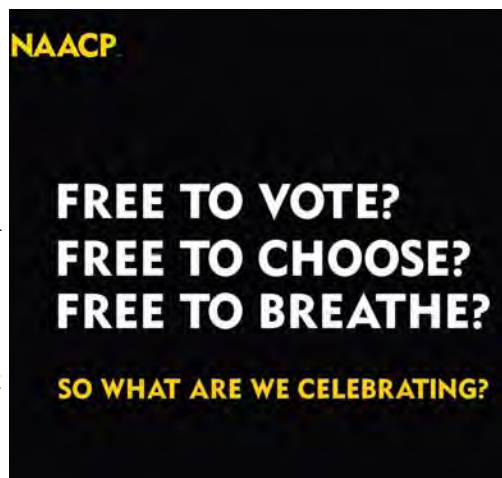
police? What is Independence Day to a poor household with no access to wealth but a mountain of debt? What is Independence Day to a country with a democracy in flames and limited freedoms for a limited few?

It's tough for us to celebrate the Fourth of July because our Fourth of July is still one of oppression. We're not free to vote, breathe, or choose. Our rights are being slashed.

If our nation managed to free itself from the British, surely we can free the poor from their student debt, Black families from voter suppression, and every woman from draconian rulings.

Democracy is on the ballot this November. Your rights and freedoms cannot afford to sit this one out. It's not just about the person in the White House. It's about those on the Supreme Court, those running our cities, and those occupying our state houses.

Chris, we are not free - not even close. But with the power of our vote, we can strike down the forces that hold us back.



[Get Involved](#)

In Power,
Derrick Johnson
President and CEO, NAACP