



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH QUITE BUSY FOR ACCORD

This was certainly one of the busiest months for ACCORD. We participated in the Ft. Mose` Flight to Freedom Activities, The Hilltop Community Black History Program in Middleburg, FL, speaking engagements by our members at churches in St. Augustine and Jacksonville, attended the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators' Distinguished Speaker Series Black History Program, dedicated a Freedom Trail Marker, and so much more. Wow---



An onlooker commented, "He looks very distinguished", after seeing [Dr. Robert B. Hayling](#) step to the podium to deliver a heart wrenching testimony of his involvement as leader of the St. Augustine Civil Rights Movement.

All seats were taken at the House of Representatives Chamber at the Capitol in Tallahassee during the Florida Black Caucus 2011 *Distinguished Lecture Series Black History Program*. Some folks were standing while others sat on benches packing the Chamber to hear the "Father of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" share some of the most incredible stories of courage, faith, and perseverance during the non-violent struggle for human rights in the Nation's Oldest City. Many Freedom Fighters came from around the State of Florida and Georgia to pay homage to their leader and to share their stories with each other as well as reporters.

Dr. Hayling also took advantage of the opportunity to serve notice to the powers that be of the City of St. Augustine not to make the same mistakes as they did in 1964: not allowing Blacks to be involved in the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Founding of the City.

In 2015, St. Augustine will celebrate its 450<sup>th</sup> year of its founding and Dr. Hayling wants the City of St. Augustine to be more inclusive of its citizens and to allow Blacks to participate not only in the Celebratory Activities, but participate in the planning as well.

Among those in attendance were Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll, Florida State Senator Tony Hill, and over 16 members of the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators. For more information, please click this link: <http://riverrace.jacksonville.com/news/metro/2011-02-17/story/civil-rights-leader-urges-st-augustine-involve-blacks-citys-anniversary>

## Sheriff David Shoar Loans Artifact

### *To ACCORD for Historic Display at Capitol*

Not only did Sheriff David Shoar loan a valuable artifact: the arrest card of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with his signature and fingerprints to ACCORD for display at the Capitol, but sent Sgt. Monroe West and Deputy Napoleon Staggers along to accompany the 40<sup>th</sup> ACCORD to Tallahassee for the Florida Legislative Black Caucus Black History Program. Also accompanying ACCORD from the SJC Sheriff's office was Kelvin Kelshaw, photographer and videographer. A very special thank you to Sheriff Shoar for his kindness and generosity.



## Civil Rights Activists Speak at Orange Park Junior High



When [Mrs. Maude B. Jackson](#) and [Mrs. Lillian Twine Roberson](#) left Tallahassee on February 17th, they went to speak at Orange Park Junior High School: a prearranged speaking engagement by the 40<sup>th</sup> ACCORD, Inc. Mrs. Janice Tucker, Assistant

Principal and organizer said, "Speakers were excellent and emotions were shown by many of the adults, especially m principal".



## Palm Coast Resident Loans Artifact for Display at the Capitol

Del Berg of Palm Coast Florida placed on loan to ACCORD the very first pen used by President Lyndon B. Johnson to sign to Civil Rights Act of 1964.

<http://www.lyndonbjohnson.org/Historical.html>



To view a video clip of President Johnson signing the Civil Rights Act of 1964, please click the following link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK2GdOxz3s0>

To view the Artifact at the Capitol, please click this link: <http://accordfreedomtrail.org/press.release1.html>

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Del Berg for his generosity and to Sgt. West and Deputy Staggers for providing the security for this most precious artifact. God bless you all in Jesus Christ Name.

## More Photos of the Black History Program at the Capitol



## FREEDOM TRAIL MARKER DEDICATED

Over two dozen people gathered at the home of Mrs. Cora Tyson, 81 Bridge St. to unveil an ACCORD Freedom Trail Marker presented by the Northrop Grumman Corporation on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Tyson and her husband gave lodging and food to many civil rights activists during the 1964 Civil Rights Movement.



On hand for the festivities were Gwendolyn Duncan, President of ACCORD, Mrs. Tyson's Pastor, Rev. Ron Rawls who delivered a prayer, David Nolan, Co-Chair of the Freedom Trail Project and local historian, her grand and great grand children, Shirley Bryce, former SJC School Superintendent Otis A. Mason and wife Myrtis, Albert Syeles and his wife, who donated the Kelly Tourist Sign to ACCORD and presented it to Mr. Mason to be displayed at the Excelsior Museum & Cultural Center, Rae Carole Leland and mother Bobby LeLand, Dalonja Duncan, Mary Richard, Flagler College Librarian, Michael Gallen, Richard Duncan, Elizabeth Duncan, Gale Burnick, Daryl and Kathy Price, their daughter and grandson, George Williams, Shirley Williams-Galvin, Derik Hankerson, and many more. Not only did they witness the dedication but to also got to taste the special tea that Mrs. Tyson made for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



See More Photos by Shirley Williams-Galvin

Please visit:

<http://spotted.staugustine.com/galleries/index.php?id=332768>



Happy Birthday Greetings to All Born In

March & April