The 40th ACCORD, Inc. P.O. Box 697 St. Augustine, FL 32085

ACC©RDNewsletter



The 40th Anniversary to Commemorate the Civil Rights Demonstrations, Inc.

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CIVIL RIGHTS HEROES SPEAK AT LUNCHEON





United States Representative the Honorable Congressman John R. Lewis and Dr. Kathryn Fentress speak to a crowd of over 170 persons at the Casa Monica Hotel on the 46th Anniversary of the Signing of the Landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The 40th ACCORD 4th Annual Freedom Trail Luncheon can be referred to as a Mini-Reunion of sorts. Comrades of the Civil Rights Movement were reunited in the Nation's Oldest City. "It was Divine Intervention that brought forth this event in this time in history", says President Gwendolyn Duncan of the 40th ACCORD: a non-profit Civil Rights Commemorative Group.

Over 170 persons gathered to hear United States Representative, the Honorable Congressman John R. Lewis of Atlanta, GA. and Dr. Kathryn Fentress of Bellingham, Washington on July 2nd to commemorate the 46th Anniversary of the signing of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 as well as to honor the heroes of the St. Augustine Movement.

Dr. Kathryn Fentress, told of a time when she first heard United States Congressman John Lewis speak. "This was many years ago to a group of Christian volunteers," Fentress said. According to Fentress, it was that speech, over 50 years ago, that inspired her activism. Local historian David Nolan told of a time when he saw the Congressman with a bandaged head — shortly after he was beaten by segregationists in the march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Lewis was speaking to him and other college students in Virginia. The words spoken by John Lewis sparked his activism so much so that he left college to help with voter registration drives.

Dr. Robert B. Hayling's first encounter with Lewis was in Nashville, Tennessee in the early 1960's. Hayling, who completed his tour of duty in the Air Force as a First Lieutenant, was a student at Meharry Dental College. Segregationist bombed the home of his professor, Dr. Luby. Hayling said, "The blast was so powerful that it blew out the windows in the dormitory." During the same time, John Lewis, a student at Fisk University, organized sit-in demonstrations at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1961, Lewis volunteered to participate in the Freedom Rides, which challenged segregation at interstate bus terminals across the South. Lewis risked his life on those Rides many

"Civil Rights Heroes Speak At Luncheon" cont.

times by simply sitting in seats reserved for white patrons. He was also beaten severely by angry mobs and arrested by police for challenging the injustice of Jim Crow segregation in the South.

The sold-out crowd witnessed what Duncan described as "one of the most moving luncheons ever" as Dr. Fentress told of her experiences in St. Augustine, FL. "She not only came in 1964 when she was arrested with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the steps of the Monson Motor Lodge as he led his non-violent campaign against segregation," Duncan recalled, "but was also in the Nation's Oldest City in 1963 picketing outside of the Woolworth's store." Blacks were allowed to spend their money to buy goods, but as Fentress said, "...were served insults at the local lunch counter."

Equally moving, Duncan reported, was Congressman Lewis — as he told of being beaten and jailed in his fight for justice and equality. After all that happened to him, he still believes that non-violence is right. He said if one thinks that things have not changed, "just walk in my shoes". Lewis said, "We all came over on different ships, but we are all in the same boat now." Lewis encouraged everyone to strive together to bring about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream of the "Beloved Community".

Mr. Clyde Jenkins is the 2010 Recipient of the Second Annual Dr. Robert B. Hayling Award of Valor sponsored by Florida State Senator Tony Hill. His wife, of 60 years, Mrs. Hattie Hickson-Jenkins accepted the Award on behalf of her husband who is in the Samantha Wilson/Buckingham Smith living facility.

Jenkins, a local barber, was kidnapped by the Ku Klux Klan along with Dr. Hayling at a Klavern meeting where the Big Lots store now stands on US-1 South at SR-312. He and three others were stacked like cord wood, narrowly escaping certain death by fire. Undeterred, he continued his activism and was arrested on the steps of the Monson Motor Lodge in 1964 with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others.

Dr. Dee Israel, in an email to Duncan said, "Wanted you to know that you and the committee had the most fabulous event ever in St. Augustine; organized perfectly, food was great, camaraderie was terrific, Kathryn was awesome there were few dry eyes in the audience. You covered the past, present and future brilliantly and creatively — John was superb. Job more than well done. Don't know how you can top this event next year". She also referred to the luncheon as, "The Event of the Century".

Another guest who attended the luncheon, Robin Nadeau wrote, "...best ever ACCORD luncheon...an occasion not to be missed...Congressman Lewis sounded so caring and responsible to the welfare of his constituents and all of us ordinary citizens. If we only had more like him in Congress..."









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Out of the Mouth of Babes

A Student from St. Paul AME Church Summer Program Writes About Her Experience at Freedom Trail Luncheon

My Eassay TOT, her, Thon 1 that John D. Lewis He have the hours John & havis is the Best person was in Slavery. Also every one else. I cannot belie that Texperime that. I really Seen John & Hours. He is a good person. I would love to go also Errol D. Jones he is a and four other Stundents who gone a list of BOOKS, T very night and talk to God about It. I would let God know what I would think and Say about the lord. I would help leaple and pray Recause Without Dr. Martin futher bing, Jol Harriet, Tubmant, Oprator, Scot Fredrich douglass and I Love my life

Raven Landrum

Over twelve students were able to attend the Freedom Trail Luncheon through



Freedom Trail Luncheon Photos 2010



























TO ALL WHOSE BIRTHDAYS ARE IN

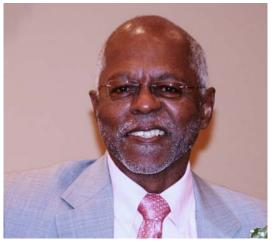
July, August, & September

GOD BLESS YOU TO HAVE MANY MORE

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MORE PHOTOGRAPHS

4TH ANNUAL ACCORD FREEDOM TRAIL LUNCHEON PRESENTED BY THE NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION





COSA Vice Mayor Errol Jones has been the Emcee for the Freedom Trail Luncheon since its inception in 2007. Alvin Brown of Jacksonville, FL, who introduced Congressman John R. Lewis.



Congressman Lewis embraces his friend Alvin Brown after a wonderful introduction











David Nolan, historian



Rick Matthews, VP NGC and Dr. Duncan





Maude Jackson



Soloist Carolyn Fisher



Dr. Fentress and Dr. Robert Hayling



Dr. Kathryn Fentrees & Dr. Hayling



Commissioner Jones & Dr. Fentress



Mayor Boles, Congressman Lewis and Vice-Mayor Errol Jones



Congressman Lewis



Dr. Hayling and Congressman Lewis



Joe Ann Anderson



Gwen Duncan, Cecil Bateman, and Dr. Duncan



Gale Burnick



Lorraine McLaughlin and Kathy Price



Kathy & Daryl Price



Nia, Gabrielle, and Elizabeth Duncan























ACCORD/Northrop Grumman Freedom Trail Marker Unveiling Ceremony

St. Johns County Jail Annex Sheriff David Shoar, Presiding





























































