

ICDHR NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2009 thru October 31, 2009

REVEREND BROOKS RE-ELECTED ICDHR HEAD



During the recent Annual Meeting, delegates enthusiastically re-elected Rev. Dr. Clyde H. Brooks as President and Chief Executive Officer of the ICDHR. Reverend McGee, Mark Kosevich and Michero Washington were also re-elected as Directors. In accepting the gravel, Rev. Dr. Brooks applauded the out-going Directors for a job well done.

ICDHR AWARDS ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generosity of a number of corporations led by Dan Ryan, Midwest Director of Jones Lang LaSalle and Tony Robledo, Senior Vice-President of Harris Bank, a number of deserving high school seniors of the Chicago Public School System were awarded academic scholarships in leading colleges and universities throughout the United States. Companies supporting this initiative were:

*** IPA Charities ***

*** Hayes Mechanical ***

*** Transunion ***

*** Harris Bank ***

*** Jones Lang LaSalle ***

*** Comdesco Group, Inc. ***

*** Shefsky & Froelich ***

*** Chapman & Cutler ***

ICDHR SUPPORTS BROAD RANGE OF GREAT ORGANIZATIONS

During the quarter, ICDHR supported a number of great organizations involved with improving the quality of life for Americans across gender, racial and cultural lines.

Examples of this support included:

- *** Elgin Community Relations Commission: In support of the celebration of Dr. King.
- *** CARA: In support of adults seeking to secure and advance career opportunities.
- *** Sisters of the Living Word: In support of their community awards initiatives.
- *** Avon Breast Cancer Walk: To advance research to eliminate Breast Cancer.
- *** Village of Hoffman Estates: In support of diversity appreciation thru the celebration of Dr. King.
- *** ACLC: In support of the “Little Angles of Korea” cultural appreciation program.
- *** Hanover Youth and Family Services: In support of youth initiatives.

REV. LOWERY’S INAUGURATION BENEDICTION

(as released by the Associated Press and transcribed by CQ Transcriptions)



Based on a number of requests, the following text transcript listed below is the Benediction delivered by the Rev. Dr. Lowery at the inauguration of President Barack Obama held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at the United States Capitol Building in Washington D.C.

“God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou, who has brought us thus far along the way, thou, who has by thy might led 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 thee. Oh God, and true to our native land. We truly give thanks for the glorious experience we’ve shared this day.

We pray now, oh Lord, for your blessing upon thy servant Barack Obama, the 44th president of these United States, his family and his administration. He has come to this high office at a low moment in the nation, and indeed the global, fiscal climate. But because we know you got the whole world in your hands, we pray for not only our nation, but for the community of nations. Our faith does not shrink through pressed by the flood of mortal ills.

For we know that, Lord, you are able and you are willing to work through faithful leadership to restore stability, mend our brokenness, heal our wounds and deliver us from the exploitation of the poor, of the least of these, and from favoritism toward the rich, the elite of these.

We thank you for the empowering of thy servant, our 44th president, to inspire our nation to believe that yes we can work together to achieve a more perfect union. And while we have sown the seeds of greed---the wind of greed and corruption, and even as we reap the whirlwind of social and economic disruption, we seek forgiveness and we come in a spirit of unity and solidarity to commit our support to our president by our willingness to make sacrifices, to respect your creation, to turn to each other and not on each other.

And now, Lord, in the complex arena of human relations, help us to make choices on the side of love, not hate; on the side of inclusion, not exclusion; toleration, not intolerance. As we leave this mountain top, help us to hold on to the spirit of fellowship and the oneness of our family. Let us take that power back to our homes, our workplaces, our churches, our temples, our mosques, or wherever we seek your will.

Bless President Barack, First Lady Michelle. Look over our little angelic Sasha and Malia. We go now to walk together as children, pledging that we won't get weary in the difficult days ahead. We know you will not leave us alone. With your hands of power and your heart of love, help us then, now Lord, to work for that day when nations shall not lift up sword against nation, when tanks will be beaten into tractors, when every man and every woman shall sit under his or her own vine and fig tree and none shall be afraid, when justice will roll down like water and righteousness as a mighty stream.

Lord, in the memory of all the saints who from their labors rest, and in the joy of a new beginning, we ask you to help us work for that day when black will not be asked to get back, when brown can stick around, when yellow will be mellow, when the red man can get ahead man and when white will embrace what is right. That all those who do justice and love mercy. Say Amen.”

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