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P.O. Box 241968
 Milwaukee, WI 53224
 or (800) NA4-BWMT
 Email: nabwmt@nabwmt.org
 Website: www.nabwmt.org

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Editor

Cornelius Mabin, Editor; nealix101@comcast.net

Editorial Staff

Kirk Reid
 Rick Creque

Newsletter Design

www.zebradesigns.net; Dan: dolds@zebradesigns.net

NABWMT Board Officers

Co-Chairs

Ken Baron, California; kbaron@nabwmt.org
 Mack Scott, California; mscott@nabwmt.org

Treasurer

D.A. Leonard, Wisconsin; da.leonard@att.net

Recording Secretary

Kirk Gile, California, kirkgile@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary

Mark Behar, Wisconsin; mpbehar@wisc.edu

Directors

Patrick Carron, Florida; pjccarron@aol.com
 Darryl Fore, Ohio; darrylfore@gmail.com
 Kirk Gile, California, kirkgile@yahoo.com
 Cornelius Mabin, Arkansas; nealix101@comcast.net
 Bruce Menapace, Ohio; bmenapace@aol.com
 Soda Nobuhle, Pennsylvania; soda_nobuhle@yahoo.com
 Wendell Reid, Washington DC; wg Reid@yahoo.com
 Al Santeler, Illinois; aesanteler@earthlink.net
 Ollie L. Taylor, Florida; infantmystics@yahoo.com



On the Cover:
Snowscape 2011

■ Editor's Q

This is the 5th edition of Q-Visions that I have helmed as Editor and produced on behalf of NABWMT, Inc.. Amazing how time flies when you put forth the energy on a labor of love project that will continue the legacy set in motion by founder Michael Smith's The Quarterly. I believe that he would be proud of our embracing the latest technology to keep echoing our statement of purpose concerning racial and cultural barriers and the goal of human equality to be realized.

As I revisited past issues, I have realized that with each edition we've continued to evolve our focus and direction meanwhile, always trying to keep the needs of our audience front and center. Despite fluid deadlines, it's been my personal goal to get the latest update, breaking news, chapter events or personal stories included that will help enrich or offer a teachable moment to our readers. It's widely known that our pages are an open source to chapters, at-large members, affiliates or allies whom want to share their observations or visions. I've encouraged such opportunities from the beginning of my tenure and hopefully all those whom wanted to contribute have felt that welcoming spirit as I prepare to conclude my stint as Editor later this year.

The Winter 2011 edition finds us selecting from a variety of submissions, organizational news and pertinent topics that add to our "media trinity" including our blog site QVExpress and the NA flagship website. By design, the Publications Committee in conjunction with the PR Committee has been working diligently to offer our network an interactive and dynamic communication stream from numerous platforms both in-house and externally on the Internet. Even though we may make it seem effortless, it takes a concentrated commitment to keep content popping on our blogsite and the creative juices necessary to birth each issue of Q-Visions itself. Therefore, as another deadline closes and another copy of QV comes to fruition, I'm always thrilled with the end result that continues to allow me to work with great collaborators, contributors and supporters in the NABWMT family and beyond. I hope that we do not just meet your expectations but exceed them with all of our outlets that outreach to all of you across the nation. Please enjoy this edition and as always, feel free to share your thoughts and opinions. ■

■ Co-Chairs Corner Pocket



Ken Baron, Co-Chair



Mack Scott, Co-Chair

State of the Association from the Co Chairs

As we kick off 2011, we wish you all success in this year and many years to come.

When we took office 5 months ago, we pledged three things. First to revitalize the Bush Mallon Institute (BMI), secondly, to expand our membership, and thirdly to use our Association's financial and human assets wisely.

We are happy to report progress in all three areas, which was guided by our new Convention 2011 theme "Breaking Molds and Healing Hearts in NABWMT".

Over the last few years, the BMI, an important part of our educational and leadership history has languished but we have assembled a star team (former Co Chairs Scott Duty and Wendell Reid, along with the experienced hands of Bruce Menapace and Soda Nobuhle). The team has decided to "break the mold" of traditional workshops and develop "enlightenment sessions" with multimedia to capture attention and invite discussions. In addition, we revamped the BMI web page with videos that chapters can use for their meetings, or make available to organizations for a donation. Stay tuned for a launch of these exciting offerings.

In our membership committee they have been busy developing new chapter start up manuals, surveys, and strategies to find out what works for current chapters to be applied to all chapters new and established. We are trying to use our theme of "healing hearts" and reach out to chapters and members to come back and enjoy our family again.

Finally, we are employing many strategies to use our assets wisely. In the last few months we have established our secure "virtual office" on the web and deployed our NA documents using "cloud computing" technology. Our overall expenditures have ben reduced and withdrawals from our foundation have been minimized. The total effect of this has been to build capital for the future.

An example of our approach is shown in the photo below which shows Mack, National Co Chair, handing a check to the Director of the Aids Food Store in Long Beach. This was a donation to cover the cost of using their community rooms for our Winter Board Meeting. Traditionally, our meetings have been at a hotel where our directors met. At this meeting the local chapter members made hosted housing available. This sharply reduced our meeting expenses and demonstrated the NA board's commitment to our statement of purpose. ■



■ BMWT Chapter and Affiliates News

NA Committee Reports

The Awards and Scholarship Committee's of NABWMT have announced upcoming deadlines for the 2011 award cycle. Committee Chair, B. Menapace and D. Fore stated that the awards will be also be monitored by Co-Chairs, Mack S. and Ken B. The Michael J. Smith fund, named in honor of the founder of NABWMT, directly helps HIV/AIDS affected individuals whom demonstrate financial need. Meanwhile The Wendell Roberson Fund, named in memory for the late Wendell Robinson of Chicago serves to assist those whom need key expenses covered such as meals, lodging or transportation when attending the national convention. **Deadline for request will be June 8, 2011.** The Student Scholarship award created to assist an enrolled individual to an accredited institution. Each candidate will have to submit an application as well as an essay to be considered. If selected, the recipient will also receive an award recognition and complimentary registration to the convention. **Deadline is June 1, 2011.**

Nominee suggestions for NA Awards presented during convention are being sought for consideration. **The deadline for all award nominees to be submitted will be June 15.** All submissions or additional inquires can be made to www.nabwmt@nabwmt.org Application and additional information will be uploaded to the national website. ■



CPC 2011 Updates

The CPC of the 31st Annual NABWMT convention, themed "Breaking Molds and Healing Hearts in NABWMT," July 25-31 in Las Vegas has updated convention development with the addition of two transportation partnerships. American Airlines as the official air carrier and AVIS as a our car rental partner which will offer a discount to those attending. You can make your reservations via their www.aa.com/group web portal with the code: 6471BI. For AVIS, call 1.800.331.1600 using the Avis Worldwide Discount code: D005280 On the web you can link to their cars online by using the following link. https://www.avis.com/AvisWeb/reservation/ReservationsInitializer?&AWD_NUMBER=D005280 ■

■ Membership



Annual Moses Award to be presented in Little Rock

Midland Regional Secretary, D. Fore, has announced that nomination ballots for the Don R. Moses Special Achievement Award, will be circulated to the regional chapters during the first week of April 2011. Fore also stated that all nomination ballots should be returned to the Midland Secretary by the deadline of June 1, 2011 for consideration.

This year's award will be presented during the Midland Regional Fall meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, October 14-16, 2011. The award was created in 1997 in recognition of NABWMT-Youngstown, Ohio originator, Don Moses whom was a devoted and committed supporter of the evolving chapter in 1983 as well as, involved with a subsequent emerging sister chapter in Cleveland. According to a Midland Bio, Mr. Moses held numerous offices during his tenure, plus spearheaded chapter activity to picket local bars during the then NA Bar Discrimination initiative which spotlighted excessive carding practices of gay establishments.

Known for his hospitality, Mr. Moses embraced the organizations mission statement of "fostering supportive environments" by opening his home as a meeting space for rap sessions, discussions groups and many social occasions which eventually took the guise of an annual anniversary celebration. Throughout his involvement with NABWMT, he worked tirelessly to empower the Youngstown chapter, while seeing the promise of a regional arm of the group resulting in the creation of the Midland Regional.

Moses had aspirations that Youngstown would host a national convention, however due to the chapter's size he believed that Cleveland would be more capable to facilitate the task which culminated in 1996, prior to Mr. Moses untimely death, May 4th 1997. Today, his beloved chapter is now known as People of All Colors Together- Youngstown and continues to be an affiliate of NABWMT.

If you are interested, please email NABWMT Board member Wendell at D4fore@roadrunner.com. Thank you for your support! ■

Share Your Stories!

Sharing your stories, accomplishments and triumphs is vital to the NA and our network of chapters and affiliates. Its important that you foward pictures, creative content and descriptions of your activities to Q-Visions at nealix101@comcast.net. Having a major fundraiser or charity event? Why not promote it to the world on our flagship website by sending it to our webmaster at dark-boy1973@hotmail.com The NA is prepared to offer technical assistance to help grow your chapter! Contact us at 1.800.NA4.BWMT

Publicize Your Events!

Got activities that are on the move and need to be publicize quickly? Your current membership also allows you access to our online blog, Q-V Express which updates weekly with the latest information, links, graphics and news to keep you and your chapters in the loop of what's really going on. Encourage your members to subscribe at www.qvexpress.wordpress.com It's all about keeping the convention connection alive all throughout the year.

The Nine Of Us Went On A Cruise Last December, We're Going On Another One, And You're Invited!

Date & Time: December 11th, 2011 @ 1pm to
December 18th, 2011 @ 8am

Location: Departing out of San Juan, Puerto Rico

Hosted By: Jim S. & Robert G. of BWMT Atlanta



It's a 7 Night Southern Caribbean Cruise on Royal Caribbean's "Adventure of the Seas" on December 11th 2011 to December 18th, 2011.

Like last time, it's NOT a gay cruise, but it will be lots of fun!

Plenty of time to save and plan for this trip! Deposit is \$250/pp based on double occupancy. The deposit is 100% refundable up to 75 days prior to sailing. We'll be cruising to St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Aruba, Curacao and back to Puerto Rico.

For full details and to be added to the official invite, please send us an email with your contact information to CruiseInvite@gmail.com and we'll add you to the invite list.

The more the merrier, so invite your friends! Any questions, don't hesitate to call Jim at 678-357-7683 or Robert at 678-994-3719



Meshell Suhaila Bashir-Shakur

The Devil's Halo of Me'Shell NdegeOcello

Raised in Washington, DC., Meshell Suhaila Bashir-Shakur (as she became known) adopted the surname Ndegeocello, which means "free like a bird", while still in her teens. She has been hailed in the music press as a redeemer of soul music. Her music incorporates funk, soul, hip-hop, reggae, rock and jazz. She has been nominated for 9 Grammys. In the late 90s she toured with Lilith Fair.

Ndegeocello honed her skills on the D.C. Go go circuit in the late 1980s before venturing out as a solo artist. She emerged as a recording artist in 1993 on Maverick Records/Sire Records with her debut, Plantation Lullabies. This recording presented a distinctly androgynous persona. Her music has been featured in a number of film soundtracks including How Stella Got Her Groove Back and Batman and Robin. She has also appeared on recordings by Basement Jazz, Indigo Girls and The Blind Boys of Alabama, among others.

Her biggest hit is a duet with John Cougar Mellecamp, a cover version of Van Morrison's "Wild Night", which reached #3 on the Billboard charts. She appeared on The Rolling Stones' 1997 album Bridges to Babylon, playing bass on the song "Saint Of Me."

Her only other Billboard Top 100 hit besides "Wild Night" has been "If That's Your Boyfriend (He Wasn't Last Night)", which peaked at #73 in 1994. She also had a Dance #1 in 1996 called "Who Is He (and What Is He To You?)" as well as Dance top 20's with "Earth", "Leviticus: Faggot", "Stay" and the aforementioned "...Boyfriend".

Discography

2007

The World Has Made Me The Man Of My Dreams

2006

The Artical 3 [EP]

2005

The Spirit Music Jamia: Dance Of The Infidel Shanachie

2003

Comfort Woman

2002

Cookie: The Anthropological Mixtape

1999

Bitter

1996

Peace Beyond Passion

1993

Plantation Lullabies

Although Me'Shell NdegeOcello scored a few hits early in her career, the singer/bassist has opted to concentrate subsequently on more challenging material by exploring the politics of race and sex, among other topics. Ndegeocello is bisexual, and was a former long time lover of writer Rebecca Walker, with whom she is raising a son, although the relationship has ended. She sang background vocals on the song "I'd Rather be Your Lover" by Madonna on her album Bedtime Stories.

Music Videos for the artist can be seen on YouTube. www.youtube.com ■

■ Membership Application

This application is also available as a fillable PDF file on the national web page at www.nabwmt.org and payment can be made there on-line.

Name:

Date:

Address:

City:

State: Zip: Country:

Phone: Fax:

Email:

Local Chapter Affiliation¹:

This Application is: New Renewal

Membership Amount²: \$30 annual renewal
 \$30 new member dues,
if joining between October 1 and March 31
 \$15 new member dues,
if joining between April 1 and September 30

Additional Gift Amount³:

Total Amount Enclosed:

1. If not affiliated with a local chapter, you will be identified as an "at-large" member.

2. Annual memberships are from October 1 to September 30 of the following year.

3. You can enclose an additional amount to support the NABWMT (tax deductible)

Mail forms with check or money order to: NABWMT, P.O. Bx 241968, Milwaukee, WI 53224-1968