

P.H.O.E.B.E. NEWSLETTER

Volume II, August, 2014



People Helping Others Excel By Example ~ The Beauty of Our Legacy

Mission Statement: Through the preservation and understanding of African American heritage and cultural resources documented by our youth and senior adults create economic and community development in Hot Springs National Park (Garland County) Arkansas.

We are told that a picture is worth a 1,000 words, so we take this time to share with you to date what we have been accomplishing ... Take a pictorial journey with us this year ...



Above is the new front page of our website:
www.theuzuriproject.org

The site, pictured below now features a wonderful video page of our honored Seniors, visit often as we will do updates.



The project was supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the Department of Arkansas Heritage.



Kearney, McGraw & Batts in St. Louis with the National Baptist National Laymen Auxiliary sharing and selling the John L. Webb book.



Judge Thomas Anderson, the first to buy his book at Gtr. St. Paul Baptist Church and Woodie Davies.



Mr. & Mrs. Richard Moore School/College of the Ozarks Reunion of The Afro-American Society.



Our *Special Thanks* to Haven United Methodist Church for the use of the facilities for the 2014 Class of The Uzuri Project Youth Institute.

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Catch us on Facebook, watch for info on Your On Line Community News 305, Resort Cable and the local newspaper for Upcoming Events.



Class of 2014 The Uzuri Project Youth Institute with (L) Instructor Annette Everett & Guest Speakers (R) Rev. Harold & Christina Eichelberger.



Batts (not pictured) and Woodie Lee Davis, Treasurer both attended the *Arkansas Writers' Conference*.



Batts with Donte' Davis, Sr. Photographer with Underground Media and Woodie Davis, Volunteer Coordinator.

Graduation Day Finally Arrived!



L Shauniece, Lottie, Mary, Raven, Tiana and Donte, Jr. The 2014 Class of The Uzuri Project Youth Institute.



Minnie Lenox, Human Resource Director with the City of Hot Springs Volunteering her time to help with The Uzuri Project Youth Institute.



(L) Batts, Janis Kearney, Guest, Barbara Lewis, Commencement Speaker, Graduates, Lydia Kearney and Annette Everett Instructors.

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Thanks to Regions Bank, Simmons 1st, Bank of the Ozarks and the Friends of P.H.O.E.B.E. for helping support our programs and projects.

Our Time Together!

We are accepting donations now for all programs and projects. P.H.O.E.B.E./The Uzuri Project is a 501 (c) 3 Not For Profit Corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue.



**The best Field Trip ever! Loco Bonita Horse Ranch...
Hope Rides Again
John & Sonja McCaleb, Owner**

**Contact: info@theUzuriProject.org
Visit www.theuzuriproject.org
Call: (501) 624-9400**

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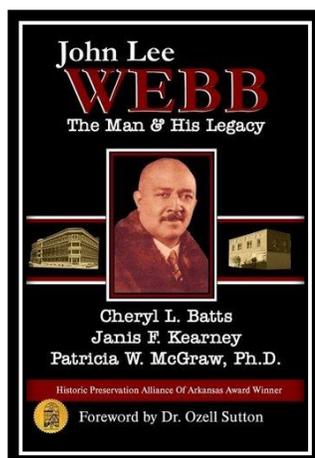
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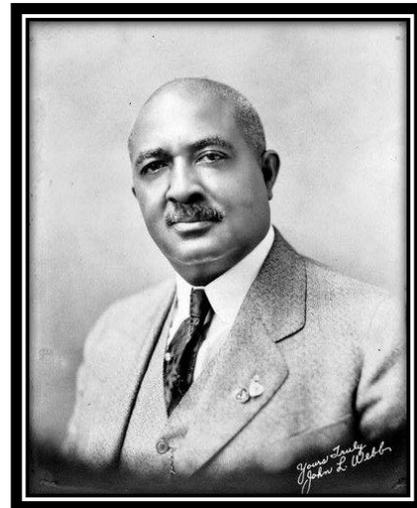
(P.H.O.E.B.E.) has been serving the community for 18 years by teaching our youth leadership skills and filming the oral histories of our senior adults. What started out as project has become a nonprofit entity with accomplishments as documentarians, authors, and preservationist.

Admittedly our small group of people, 18 years ago would not have seen the hidden advantages of community and economic development through historic preservation. We gathered assets, pictures and clothing from our senior adults that documented their stories, which showed Black Hot Springs from a different perspective. Many opportunities for growth came our way, such as professionals willing to share their life experiences with our youth, tours for high school reunions, family reunions, lectures, exhibits and traveling.

It took a lot of encouraging from Friends of P.H.O.E.B.E., but writing a book became number one on our agenda. After much ado, Phoebe Publishers began and the book was submitted and received the 2014 Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas Ned Shank Award for Historic Publications.



Please visit our website www.theuzurproject.org and click on the tab "Store" and order your copy today!



John Lee Webb, above, Founder of the National Laymen's' Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention gave us more encouragement than the first time we found his initial biography in the home of one Ernie Adams, R.I.P. The award opened the door for our entrance, on another level into the world of preservation.

People Helping Others Excel By Example believes that it is our responsibility to be involved with the preservation, protection and promoting of the culture, history, events and architectural resources for posterity and for our young people. If we as a people don't care about our history and culture, the past has already shown us ... no one else is going to do it.

What happened next was even more of a surprise ... as a nonprofit, in the South, we do not have a lot of support, but those who have supported us are so appreciated and prayed for.

We looked at the home of the Honorable John Lee Webb every day would pray that we would get the donations or someone with heart would buy the home! Our prayers paid off



Home of John Lee Webb, Hot Springs, Arkansas

We found the name of the owner of the house and sent a letter of request to submit Mr. Webb's house to the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas' Most Endangered Places. Patricia Perrin and her finance was absolutely thrilled to be a part of the undertaking. They had purchased the home, without looking inside at the work that needed to be done and without knowing all the of the background. Once they received our letter and read the book, their hearts were tied to ours about the preservation of the house and its history.

After several weeks of gathering information for the 2014 Arkansas Most Endangered Places List and submission, we got the word ... ***The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas highlights places significant to the architectural and cultural heritage of Arkansas and their communitis which are in danger of being lost.... What may be impossible to maintain individually can often be saved cooperatively.***

How can it not be said that the Honorable John Lee Webb, d August 30, 1946 is not still giving and bringing *the winds of change* to the City of Hot Springs, the National Laymen's Auxiliary, his beloved community and its children.

People Helping Others Excel By Example, its friends and family are so grateful to God and His way of bringing people together for the good. We are grateful to be a part of this preservation move to protect and promote the legacy of John Lee Webb and his home.

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On May 22nd, the authors, board members of P.H.O.E.B.E and the owners of the John Lee Webb House showed up to receive yet another prestigious award.



Left-Right: Dr. Patricia McGraw, Cheryl L. Batts, Authors, Woodie Lee Davis, Treasurer/Secretary for P.H.O.E.B.E & Phoebe Publishers and Patricia Perrin, owner of the John Lee Webb House and her finance Darryl Green.

Patricia is Director of Community Revitalization Group, LLC, a nonprofit working with P.H.O.E.B.E. toward one goal; that the house will stand as it was designed and become a bed and breakfast with a pictorial exhibit downstairs honoring the illustrious Mr. Webb. ###

Coming Soon: A Readers' Play based on the book, John Lee Webb, The Man & His Legacy performed by The Uzuri Project Youth Institute, Saturday, September 27th.