

# The Paine College Chronicle



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Trustee Dr. Anita Jackson and mother Louise Jackson



President George C. Bradley and guests at the "Purple on the Green"

## Purple on the Green

Paine College proved last week that Masters Week in Augusta, Georgia isn't only about having fun, but giving back. When guests arrived at the "Purple on the Green" reception held at the Paine House they had a unique opportunity to help out a very deserving organization.

Guests arrived with golf balls in tow to donate to The First Tee of Augusta. The First Tee of Augusta is an organization that impacts lives of young people by providing learning facilities and educational programs that promote character development and life-enhancing values through the game of golf.

Jill Brown, executive director of The First Tee of Augusta, was thrilled about the event. "It was a delightful event. We received 21 dozen golf balls to benefit our golf and life skills program," she said.

Officials at Paine College were equally excited to help out. "The reception was a wonderful way for us to reach out. We support golf, the Masters Tournament and the community," said Brandon Brown, vice president of institutional development.

Paine College plans to continue this effort throughout the community, teaming up with local organizations to show their commitment to "friend raising."

"It's important that we continue to reach out to the community as well as be a good partner in education. We want to shape and define who we are in the community by working with organizations like The First Tee of Augusta," Mr. Brown said.

Mrs. Brown agreed. "I think we could collaborate on many other efforts in the future. I believe there is willingness between both parties," she said.

Jill Brown enlightens a guest about The First Tee of Augusta





## Paine College Alumni Ball in Macon, GA

PC Middle Georgia Alumni Chapter

Host Annual Scholarship Endowment Ball

By Alice M. Simpkins '70

Paine College, Middle Georgia Alumni Club, Inc. held its annual Scholarship Endowment Ball earlier this month in Macon, GA.

Alumna Rozalin Jordan '61 presided over the ball that was attended by more than 100 alumni and friends who danced to the sounds of *The Harold Thomas Experience*.

The group was honored to receive greetings from the president of Paine College, Dr. George C. Bradley, who was presented with a clock to help him mark the wonderful times that he will experience at Paine. Two alumni, Rev. Lindsey Napier '76 and Mrs. Diann Dooling McMillan '73, were honored for their service to the community and the organization.

"It was a wonderful experience. Those who missed the event should plan to attend next year," said Mrs. Simpkins. The Middle Georgia Alumni Chapter was founded in 1976 with Marvin Reid serving as charter president. The purpose of the charter members of the club is to provide scholarships for students who live in the middle Georgia area who plan to attend Paine College, support the college, provide leadership to the community and to network with other alumni in the area.

The Middle Georgia Alumni Club has contributed more than \$250,000 to support the college fund and provide the campus with its first security car.

Starting from the left:  
Marvin '62 and Harriet Reid  
'63 with Roosevelt '62 and  
Alice M. Simpkins '70





## Meet the 2008 Commencement Speakers



Paine College's baccalaureate convocation speaker for the Class of 2008 is Bishop Othal Hawthorne Lakey.

Bishop Othal Hawthorne Lakey was elected the 44th bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in 1982. He is the Presiding Prelate of the Sixth Episcopal District of the CME Church, which consists of the State of Georgia. He is a graduate of Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. He earned the

Master of Divinity Degree from the Theological School of Drew University and the Master of Sacred Theology from Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. He has honorary doctoral degrees from the Phillips School of Theology of the Interdenominational Theological Center, Lane College, and Texas College.

He presently serves as the Chair of the Department of Christian Education and Chair of the Commission on History and Archives of the CME Church. Bishop Lakey is also Vice-chair of the Board of Trustees of

Paine College and Vice-chair of the Board of Trustees of Phillips School of Theology, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the ITC. He is the Secretary of the College of Bishops. He appears regularly on the nationally syndicated television program, The American Religious Town Hall.

Lakey is a nationally known preacher, lecturer and author. He is the author of *The Rise of "Colored" Methodist: A Study of the History and Background of the CME Church* (1972), *The History of the CME Church* (1985, Revised, 1995), and is co-author of *God in My Mama's House: A Study of the Women's Movement in the CME Church*.

Paine College is excited to announce that Robert L. Bell, Esquire will address the graduating class of 2008.

Mr. Bell is a *cum laude* graduate of Paine College.

While a student at Paine he served as the Student Representative to the Board of Trustees, which included Dr. Benjamin Mays, Dr. Charles G. Gomillion and Dr. Daniel Collins.

He is a product of the public schools of Augusta, Georgia, having attended Charles T. Walker Elementary, A.C. Griggs Elementary, Sand Bar Ferry Junior High, A.R. Johnson Junior High and Lucy C. Laney High School.

After graduating from Paine, he matriculated and graduated from Howard University School of Law. Mr. Bell is a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia, the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States and bars of other federal courts across the country. He has a national civil law practice and is the founding principal in Bell Law Firm, Washington, D.C. He is a frequent speaker to members of various local and national groups concerning trial and civil rights issues. Mr. Bell has been lead counsel in several landmark equal pay and Title IX cases, including winning the first jury verdict under Title IX in the country.

Attorney Bell is the current President of the Washington Bar Association (Washington, D.C.) and is Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Paine College (Augusta, Georgia).

## The Grand Opening of the Frank Garvin Yerby Home

The Frank G. Yerby House Grand Opening wowed visitors last month. The unveiling of the internationally known author's childhood home was more than a success. Guest arrived at the Gilbert-Lambuth Memorial Chapel where they were enlightened about Mr. Yerby's life and his work. After the program, guest gathered at the home to witness the ribbon cutting and soon after enjoyed home tours.

"The opening was educational. It was amazing to see history captured the way it was," said Shirley Bradley, administrative assistant Paine College.

College officials said it seemed as though the entire Augusta community came out to render support of the college.

"There was a great blend of community and college students from the three senior institutions in the area. It created interest in what role the home would play on the campus of Paine College," said Dr. Tina Marshall-Bradley, assistant to the Provost, Paine College.

The university plans to use the home to house the Office of Alumni Relations and for entertainment purposes.

### **About Frank G. Yerby:**

Frank Yerby a native of Augusta received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Paine College in 1937 and in 1938 he received a Master's of Arts degree from Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn. As a student at Paine College, Yerby wrote the *Paine College Hymn* also known as the Paine College Alma Mater. During his career as an author



Yerby published more than thirty novels. He was the first African American to write a best-selling novel and to have a book purchased by a Hollywood studio for a film adaptation.

Of those his thirty-three novels, three have been made into motion pictures. His first novel to make to the big screen was *Foxes of Harrow* in 1946; this book was also his first novel. Soon after came *The Golden Hawk* in 1948 and *The Saracen Blade* in 1952.

Frank G. Yerby has sold more than 55 million copies and his writings have been translated into 22 languages. Aside from being a phenomenal writer, Yerby was an English professor at Florida A&M, Southern University and University of Chicago. Yerby settled abroad for the majority of his life living in France and Madrid in a protest against racial discrimination.