

R. KELLY BRYANT, Jr.

This is a resume of Robert Kelly Bryant, Jr. Please select and use only the desired information that is needed and appropriate.

Education: Was graduated from the Booker T. Washington High School, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Class of 1935; Hampton University, Hampton Virginia, B.S. Degree in business administration, majoring in accounting, 1940; special courses in auditing and radio communications at North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina, 1941 - 1942; courses in Fundamentals of Life Insurance (Examinations 1 through 7) Life Office Management Association, New York.

Married: Mrs. Artelia Melba Tennessee Bryant, wife. Home address is 618 Bernice Street, Durham, North Carolina 27703-5012. Telephone (919) 596-7100, e-mail: rkbryantjr@aol.com.

Son, Robert Kelly Bryant, III (Waste Water Department, City of Durham) (landscaping and home maintenance); daughter, Sandra Artelia Bryant Yubwannie, graduate of Hampton University and Ohio State University (speech clinician formerly in Education Department, North Carolina Central University) now a resident of Durham and working in Roxboro, NC. We have 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Experience: Bookkeeping, Peoples Building and Loan Association, Hampton, Virginia, 1940; accountant, Mutual Savings and Loan Association (later Mutual Community Savings Bank), Durham, North Carolina, 1941-1944; chief clerk, Ordinary Department, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company (Home Office), 1944-1956; manager, Ordinary Department March 12, 1956-1965; assistant secretary, July 28, 1965 until retirement in charge of Conservation Department in North Carolina Mutual new home office building, November 30, 1981.

I was raised as a Master Mason in Doric Lodge No. 28 Free and Accepted Masons (Prince Hall Affiliation), Durham, North Carolina in December 1950 and served as secretary of the lodge 1951-1961 (10 years), demitted in 1961 to and became the first Worshipful Master of Alexander Sterling Hunter Lodge No. 825 F&AM, Durham and later served as secretary of the lodge from 1963-1981(18 years). Was a member of the Executive Committee, of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Jurisdiction 1976-1998. Was member of Audit and Finance Committee, MWPHGLF&AMNCJ 1965-1981 and was chairman from 1976-1981.

As a Grand Lodge Officer, I served eighteen years as the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, Worshipful Grand Benevolent Secretary, Worshipful Grand Committee of Foreign Correspondence, and chairman of several Grand Lodge committees from October 1981 to October 1998 at which time I retired. I was appointed Honorary Past Grand Master by Grand Master Milton F. Fitch, Jr. on October 1, 2010.

Since: I am doing research and writing on historical events in Hayti Durham, civil rights, business organizations, family histories, family reunions, tours cemetery records, genealogy, etc.

I am chairman of Friends of Geer Cemetery, an unkept cemetery in Durham established in 1877 and used until about 1944. There are some 2,000 blacks buried there and remained un-managed until 1985 when a group secured funds to clean it up. It is being cleared of underbrush, etc. annually and we are trying to establish some means of perpetual maintenance.

Affiliations and Services: Joined White Rock Baptist Church on August 30, 1925, and was baptised by Rev. S. L. McDowell. I was in watchcare at First Baptist Mount Zion Church in Rocky Mount, NC while in high school and college. I served as Trustee of WRBC from 1945 - 2000; chairman of the Church Nominating Committee for the election of church officers and members of church committees. I am a great-grandson of Margaret (Maggie) Ruffin Faucette, founder of White Rock in 1866.

Board member of Durham Business and Professional Chain, served as secretary of the organization from 1943 - 1992 and I am now Secretary Emeritus.

Life member, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) 1987.

Member, National Hampton Alumni Association, Inc., Hampton University. Member North Carolina Region, NHAA, Inc. since 1941 and have served as treasurer of the Region since 1961; have served as treasurer of the Durham/Chapel Hill Chapter since 1970.

Championed the request for a North Carolina Historical Marker for the "Royal Seven" sit-in participants at the Royal Ice Cream Parlor corner North Roxboro and Dowd Streets, Durham occurring on June 23, 1957. Marker was authorized by the North Carolina Department of Resources and Archives on December 17, 2007.

One of the organizers and financial secretary of the Durham Outboard Boating Club since April 21, 1966.

Past president of the Durham Urban Trails and Greenway Commission before it merged with the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission. I am a member of DOST commission and also the chairman of the Trails Committee.

Executive Committee, Durham Inventory and Cultural Review Committee.

Member, Triangle Land Conservancy, RTP, NC.

Member, ENO River Association, Durham.

Chief Judge, Burton School Voting Precinct No. 13 of Durham County Board of Elections since 1952. Originally worked as ballot counter in Brady Store Pre///// Precinct. In 1950. I was appointed registrar of Hillside Voting Precinct No. 11 (Umstead Street). In 2006 I was presented a gold watch for 50+ continuous years as a precinct official at Burton School Precinct No. 13.

Member, Durham Historical Preservation Commission.

Duke Park Neighborhood Association (Geer Cemetery)
 Parrish Street Advocacy Group - (Durham's "Black Wall Street") - History
 Committee (2004 -)

Former Affiliations: Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop 187, Burton School - 1951-1988 (37 years some 450+ scouts passed through the troop during his service). Served as District Advancement chairman 1943-1951; chairman, Durham Divisional Committee, Occonechee Council, Boy Scouts of America (1951-1956) and was active in the desegregation of Region 6 Boy Scouts of America (1943-1964).

Led group of North Carolina Mutual employees of the Ordinary Department to request and use the all-white Satterwhite Point of Kerr Reservoir (aka Buggs Island) on August 9, 1958 desegregating the recreation facilities around the entire lake.

Board member, Downtown Durham, Incorporated.

Member of the board of the Durham Central Park, 1999

NonPareille Chapter No.648, Order of Eastern Star 1991

Durham Consistory No. 218, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masons 1951
 Honorable John W. Delaney Class of 1992. United Supreme Council of the
 Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliated,
 Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

Created in Zafa Temple No. 176, Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of Nobles of the
 Mystic Shrine, Durham (1951). Was the adviser who organized Zafa Court
 No. 41, Daughters of Isis in 1952.

Elevated to the 33 Degree (Masonic) October 13, 1992, Memphis, TN.

Member Durham Branch NAACP, chairman of 1980 Annual Banquet Committee
 honoring William A. and Josephine Dobbs Clement.

Advisory Committee, Durham Parks and Recreation Department and worked with
 the T. A. Grady Park Recreation Committee.

Secretary-Treasurer, Black Solidarity Committee for Community Improvements-
 1968. (Durham's fight against limited downtown employment, public housing
 problems, educational needs, more representation on boards in ten or more area
 and conditions with some 88 concerns. This was done with a selective buying
 campaign (boycott) and a Black Christmas parade.

Secretary, DTOC (Development, Training and Opportunities Corporation, Durham
 (1972-1977). Planning the Hayti Shopping Center.

Downtown Durham Image--Building Committee.

Crew Leader, US Census 2000, of some 18-35 enumerators, Durham County.

Vice President, Burton Community Civic League (neighborhood association)
 1952.

Chairman School Improvement Committee, Burton School P-TA (1965-1982)

Charter member, Board of directors, Goodwill Industries of Durham County, Inc. (1968-1976) and (1980-1982).

Charter member, Board of Directors, Volunteer Services Bureau.

Charter member, Durham Human Relations Commission, chairman Education Committee (1968-1976).

Member, Education Committee, Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People.

Member, SCOPE (Study Commission on Public Education) Durham City and County Schools.

Member, Advisory Committee to the Durham City Board of Education.

Member, Advisory Board, Emergency School Assistance Program, Operation Breakthrough (1972-1977).

Member, Research Committee, North Carolina Association for Emotionally Disturbed Children (1972).

Member, City and County Schools Consolidation Committee's Committee on Population and Growth (1969).

Member, Durham School Redistricting Committee (1980).

Treasurer, Durham School Boy Safety Patrol (1958-1968).

Member, Lincoln Medical Center Building Fund Raising Committee (1980).

Member Board of Director of RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) - 1979-1980.

Honors:

North Carolina House of Representatives - *Certificate of Acknowledgment and Congratulations* for my many involvements and participations. October 17, 2007

White Rock Baptist Church's 2007 "Men On A Mission:" *"Growing As A Mature Christian"* award presented on August 19, 2007.

Recipient of the "Silver Beaver Award" presented by the Boy Scouts of America for "Distinguished Service to Boyhood" (1953).

NAACP "Freedom Fund Dinner Award" recipient and honoree September 19, 1987, Durham Branch, NAACP.

Selected "North Carolina Hamptonian of the Year," N. C. Region NHAA, Inc. (1967).

Recipient of "Alumni Merit Award." National Hampton Alumni Association, Incorporated Hampton University, Hampton, VA (1969).

"Appreciation for Service Award," presented by the National Hampton Alumni Association, Incorporated at the annual North Carolina Regional meeting held in Wilmington, NC March 1979).

Presented a plaque for 38 years of service as secretary at annual banquet of the Durham Business and Professional Chain 1943-1981. February 1981.
Elected "Secretary Emeritus" Durham Business and Professional Chain, August 1992

and

"Appreciation for Service Award" Alexander Sterling Hunter Lodge No. 825 Free Accepted Masons, Durham, May 1974.

"Most Outstanding Secretary," A. S. Hunter Lodge No. 825 F&AM, May 1976.

Recipient of a "Special Certificate" presented by Durham City Council for eight years service on Durham Human Relations Commission, February 21, 1977.
The only person to serve eight consecutive years.

"Man of the Year" Durham Outboard Boating Club, December 1978. Yeoman.

Special recognition and certificate from, Durham Parks and Recreation Department (1994).

Presented Preservation Durham's Award - *Bartlett Durham Award* (2006).

Cert of Acknowledgment and Congratulations from NC House of Representatives on October 18, 2007.

NC 147 Bike and Predestrian Bridge nominated "*R. Kelly Bryant, Jr., Bridge*" by Durham City Council on August 17, 2009.

Hobbies:

Work is my hobby.

Ellington,

Collecting autographs: Frederick Douglas, Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, James Weldon Johnson, W. E. B. DuBois, Mary McCloud Bethune, Jackie Robinson, Mordecai W. Johnson, George Washington Carver, Matthew Henson, Rosa Parks, Jesse Owens, C. C. Spaulding, Al Sharpton, Duke

Louis Armstrong, Ray Charles, President Barack O'Bama, Joe Biden and some 250+ other notable blacks in music, sports, education, entertainment, politics, business, religion, etc.

Collection of pictures: some of families, groups, events, scenes, etc. (over 2,000 pictures dating back to 1888 and collections of files, tapes, videos, etc., of outstanding events, plays, historical occasions, etc.)

Published:

"Manual for Administration of Masonic Blue Lodges," Prince Hall Affiliation of North Carolina (June 1984).

January 1, 2012