



**PORTLAND CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED**

**ALTERNATE'S REPORT**

**44<sup>th</sup> WESTERN AREA CONFERENCE  
JUNE 5 – JUNE 9, 2019  
AUSTIN, TEXAS  
JW MARRIOTT HOTEL**

First of all, let me thank the Portland Chapter of the Links, Incorporated for allowing me to serve as your Alternate to the Western Area Conference. There were eight Portland Chapter Links in attendance: Serena Ashley (delegate), Rene DuBoise, Lekecia Gunter, Linda Harris, Carla Penn-Hopson (and Connecting Link Tony Hopson), Stephanie Montgomery, Yvonne Williams, and Barbara Ward (alternate). The conference was filled with lots of information about Western Area and National. Each day, during the Plenary Sessions, we were able to glean little nuggets of Linkdom of past years with the "Linkspirations" that were shared with us from our past Western Area Director and National Presidents. The "Linkspiration" at Plenary Session IV was more of a testimonial by one of our Link Sisters from the Hawaii Chapter, Link Robyn Sherrod. It was so moving and inspiring.

The theme of the conference, "Anchored in Friendship, Service, and Community Impact", was carried out in each of the sessions, at the Luncheons, and at the culminating "White Rose Banquet".

The first Plenary opened with all the "Pomp and Circumstance" of Western Area Director, Captain Roxann Chargois, and all the dignitaries marching in dressed in white jackets and caps signifying that the ship had come in at its final destination, Austin! It was Anchored!! Quite a show!!

**Plenary Session I:**

**Adoption of the 44<sup>th</sup> Western Area Conference Program**  
The minutes from the 43<sup>th</sup> Western Area Conference in 2017 were approved.  
The reports of the Western Area Director, Vice Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian were approved.

The other three Plenary Sessions were jammed packed with Programs and Committee Reports. It was truly inspiring to see how much work is done through the Links Programs!

During Plenary IV there was this amazing dance put on by Portland Chapter of The Links, Incorporated (and some of our Cluster members) inviting everyone to come to the "City of Roses" for the 2021 WA Conference. What a show!!

The Workshops were big on collaboration with other organizations rather than trying to do it all ourselves:

## **Nuggets!**

- 1) Portland was 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up for Legislative Affairs Awards. (Trinity (TX) Chapter won the award)
- 2) WA Secretary Award – Five chapters awarded. Portland, OR Chapter was one of the five.
- 3) All 60 Chapters received awards for Outstanding Treasurers.
- 4) STY/STEM - Lenova Corporation grant for STEM Chapters: Each NSBE Jr. Chapter received a \$1,000 check. 18 chapters established over the past four years.
- 5) Program Awards – HHS Portland Chapter won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place for A6 Program. (San Francisco won 1<sup>st</sup> place). Second place will receive \$750.00
- 6) 1010 attended the WA Conference (951 Links, 55 Connecting Links, 4 Heir-O-Links)
- 7) Exhibits won:  
Gulf Coast 1<sup>st</sup> Place (\$1,000); Missouri City 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (\$750); Dallas 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (\$500).
- 8) Linkspiration Quote: “Bloom Where You Are Planted”
- 9) ITS Raised over \$40,000 for Haiti Water Wells over the past four years

**WA Officers for 2019 – 2021:**

**WA Director – Link Lorna Hankins (Gulf Coast Apollo (TX) Chapter**

**WA Vice Director – Link Karen Cole (Beverly Hills West (CA) Chapter**

**WA Treasurer – Link Marcia Page (Mid-Cities, TX Chapter)**

**WA Secretary – Link Teresa Lyons (Fort Worth, TX Chapter) (nominated from the floor)**

**Foundation Representative could not run because she is from same chapter as Treasurer Marcia Page**

**Western Area – “State of the WA”**

**100% of Program Reports turned in on time**

**100% of Treasurer’s Reports turned in on time**

**100% of Secretary’s Reports turned in on time**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Link Barbara Ward**

**Alternate**