

"African American Golfers Hall of Fame" "African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame"

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Informational Press Release

For Immediate Use

"Albert 'A.B.' Peter Hill - Formally Inducted

Into the African American Golfers Hall of Fame In A Special Ceremony"

West Palm Beach, Fla. (August 6, 2012) - The "8th Annual African American Golfer's Hall of Fame (AAGHOF) Conference, Tournaments, Reception, Dinner, Auction & Awards Celebration" & "2nd Annual African American Collegiate & Youth Golfer Hall of Fame (AAC&YGHOF) was held at The President Country Club, West Palm Beach, FL during the period May 24-28, 2012. The Annual AAGHOF Black Tie Optional Reception & Awards Dinner Celebration" was held on May 27, 2012. "We were excited and very pleased to partner with and have the support of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission & Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame this year", said Malachi Knowles, Founder. "This is a great opportunity to support our premier international organization dedicated to the history of African Americans in the sport of golf" said George Linley, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Sports Commission.

Albert 'A.B." Peter Hill was formally inducted into the AAGHOF on August 4, 2012 during the "43rd Autocrat Golf Club's Annual Golf Tournament" at the Joe Bartholomew (inducted 2007) Municipal Golf Club, New Orleans with more than 100 golfers, students and friends bearing witness. Stated Founder Knowles, "It was an honor for me to personally perform the ceremony for a man who has contributed so very much to the game of golf for many years in the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan Area."

Mr. Hill, born September 22, 1923 in New Orleans, Louisiana, Albert (AB) Hill, now 88 years young is a graduate of McDonough 35 High School and is a honorably discharged Army veteran of World War II. Albert was a self-employed contractor for over 20 years. He retired from the State of Louisiana Charity Hospital System as Director of Engineering, Bio-Meds, and Maintenance Department.

Mr. Hill has actively participated in baseball, football, bowling, and the game of golf which became his passion. As a member of the Autocrat Social and Pleasure Club, A.B. was instrumental in organizing the 'Autocrat Golf Club'. He was Chairmen of the golf club for 15 years, and has served as Chairman of the Rules Committee, Secretary, and Sergeant At Arms. He is a self-taught golfer, with a "5" handicap. As a life-time member in the Autocrat Golf Club, he continues to attend the Annual Autocrat Golf Club Tournaments, held the first weekend of August each year, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, Mr. Hill was actively involved in creating an umbrella organization – New Orleans Metro Golf Association - a collaboration of 5 Golf Clubs. Each Golf Club sponsored and promoted 'Junior Golf Programs' for children/youths. As President of Metro Golf Association, Mr. Hill was instrumental in securing financial support through USGA and Tiger Woods Foundation. Since Hurricane Katrina, Mr. Hill has been instrumental in forming 'Friends of Joe Bartholomew Golf Club' established to advocate for and support the game of golf and to mediate between the City of New Orleans, Joe Bartholomew Golf Course, and the community. Mr. Hill's life goal has been to introduce the game of golf to minority children/youths and their families.

Albert thanked Founder Knowles and Autocrat Golf Club President, Smitty Crocken for his selection and shared his happiness with everyone. He also said: "I will be there May 23-27, 2013." Mr. Crocken stated that "A.B. has always been a great ambassador for growing the game of golf, especially among our youth."

Coincidentally, his former student, Norman Blanco, now enrolled as a Freshman in the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's Professional Golf Management Degree Program, a PGA of America program, won the 43rd Annual Aristocrat Golf Tournament. Norman also was inducted into the African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall Of Fame and received the "2012 Youth Golfer of the Year Award" on May 27, 2012.

"2012 African American Golfers Hall of Fame, Inc."

<u>AAGHOF 2012 Members</u>: Erellon Benjamin Davis, Detroit, Mich. (100 years old); Richard "Jelly" Hansberry, Washington, D.C.

2012 Pioneer of the Year: Jesse James Parker, Bethesda, MD

<u>2012 Inaugural Corporate Award</u>: Paul G. Alexander, Boston, Mass. (Liberty Mutual) & Don Butler, Detroit, Mich. (Cadillac)



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2012 Leadership Award: Mitchell J. Landrieu, Mayor, New Orleans, LA

2012 Legacy Awardee: Herbert Dixon, Bartow, FL & Albert "A. B." Hill, New Orleans, LA

2012 College Golf Coach of the Year: Marvin E. Green, Jr., FAMU, Tallahassee, FL

2012 Founders Awardees: Dorothy Johnson, Cantonment, FL; Rushern L. Baker, III, Upper Marlboro, MD; Frank Reese, West Palm Beach, FL; Arthur "Art" Shell, Monroe, GA

2012 Inaugural Path Finders: Stanley Alexander Wilson, Lake Worth, FL; Horace Brown, San Diego, CA

"2012 AAGHOF Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame, Inc."

Marcus Byrd, Waldorf, MD; Pearlissa Harris, Harvey, LA; Norman Fidel Blanco, New Orleans, LA; Anthony Long, University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Matthew McKnight & Kimberly Wong, Bethune Cookman University, Daytona Beach, FL

This celebratory event has institutionalized the historic involvement of African Americans in "the growth of the game of golf" since the 1800's. The African-American golfing community is at no loss for stories documenting its struggles, tragedies and ultimate triumphs. Little has been done however to recognize the accomplishments of those who really paved the way for today's "Black Golfers." It feels strongly that golf's future cannot

be passed from its "Legends" to our "Youth" unless they are included and honored annually during this event. Inner City Youth Golfers', Inc. established the AAGHOF annual event in order to give the African-American Legends of Golf an opportunity to be recognized for their contributions to the sport, to continue being role models to our youth, to network with their peers, to interact and share their own stories about golf "then and now." The ultimate purpose of the AAGHOF is to honor the legacy and achievements of African Americans in the game of golf and build a permanent place for the world to see their collective contributions.

The AAGHOF believes in its youth! It feels strongly that golf's future cannot be passed from its "Legends" to the "Youth" unless they are included and honored annually during this event. ICYG therefore established the African American Collegiate & Youth Golfers Hall of Fame.

2012 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The "2012 Highlights" follow: May 25, 2012, 12:15PM, AAGHOF/ICYG & Palm Beach County Sports Commission (PalmBeachSports.Com) Scholarship Golf Tournament, Auction & "Skins Game", The President Country Club followed by an awards dinner w/music by "DJ Lady D". The two person team winners were: Charles Anderson & Frank Reese (1st); Nathaniel Clark & Charles Johnson (2nd) and Kena Wright & Clewis Wright, Jr. (3rd).

The conference/educational portion at the Holiday Inn on May 26, 2012 included an 8:30AM, Roundtable - 1: "Golf Then, Now & In The Future" led by James Garvin, Chair, AAC&YGHOF, Washington, DC and 10:30AM, Roundtable - 2: "How To Prepare For College; College Golf Scholarships; Careers" led by Dr. Ernest P. Boger, University of Maryland Eastern Shore & AAC&YGHOF Vice Chair and 1:30PM, Legends "Say NO To Drugs – Say YES To Education, Culture & Golf" Youth/Parent Golf Orientation, Fun Festival & Clinic featuring Clewis Wright, Jr., ICYG Golf Director & all of our youth golf awardees - hosted by PalmBeachSports.Com/ICYG @ Palm Beach Gardens Municipal Golf Course (PBGMGC), Palm Beach Gardens, FL. More than 100 youth and parents participated in the roundtables and clinics. Special thanks to all of the participants in the clinic, especially Paula Pearson-Tucker, Founder, Fore Life, Inc., Miami, FL.

The "Legends Celebrity Invitational Golf Tournament" was held at the PBGMGC Sunday, May 27, 2012. The winners follow: Men's Division - Deo Rampersad (1st), Deon Riley (2nd) & Rayon Angell (3rd); Women's Division: Kimberly Wong (1st), Paula Tucker (2nd) & Kayla Williams (3rd); Boys Division: Marcus Byrd (1st), Adrian Stewart (2nd) & Rajiv Rampersad (3rd); Girls Division: Jada Mozie (1st), Halia Braynon (2nd) & Taylor Robinson (3rd).

The AAGHOF Reception, Auction, Awards Dinner & Induction Celebration was held on Sunday evening with Scott Walker, Golf Channel serving as Master of Ceremony. Dr. Tyrinda I. Dixon blessed the occasion. Executive Director, George Linley, Palm Beach County Sports Commission was the guest speaker. His subject was "Golf in Palm Beach County." Mr. Linley was excellent. Coach Joe Ceravolo, President, Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame told Founder Knowles, "it was a great event."

Founder Knowles formerly congratulated and inducted all of the awardees and they received their official pins. Several gave their own testimonies. Of course, 92 year old Herbert Dixon beat everyone on the golf course, then he stole the show when the dancing started. Netta Finley "brought the house to their feet" with the singing of "His Eyes Are on the Sparrow" to her grand daddy, Frank Reese. INDEED, "the spirit was truly in the house!!"

<u>ALL</u> activities were open to the <u>PUBLIC!!!</u> Don't forget to visit www_africanamericangolfershalloffame_com to view some of the photos and the entire schedule from May 24-28, 2012 Celebrations.

Make Your Arrangements NOW for May 23-27, 2013- NOW!! Please Join Us!!!