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Contributors: Trotter Review, Vol. 18, Issue 1

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Contributors

Ron E. Armstead has been executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust since it was created in 1988. He is an Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Garna L. Christian, professor of history in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Houston-Downtown, has written extensively on Texas history and culture. He is the author of *Black Soldiers in Jim Crow Texas* and *Stay a Little Longer: The First Generation of Houston Country Music*.

Kenneth J. Cooper, editor of *The Trotter Review*, is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who has worked at the *Washington Post* and *Boston Globe*. During nearly 30 years at newspapers, he covered state and national politics, Congress, education, and the Indian subcontinent.

Ron English, a New York-based artist, explores American symbology through the use of pop imagery as metaphor. His work has appeared on billboards and murals and in art galleries across the country.

Archibald H. Grimké, a member of the Niagara Movement, was a founding member of the NAACP, a member of its national board of directors, and, from 1914 to 1925, president of its chapter in Washington, D.C. In 1919, the NAACP awarded him the Spingarn Medal, the highest honor that the organization confers.

Debra Newman Ham is a professor of history and geography at Morgan State University. Her publications include *African American Odyssey* and *Black History: A Guide to Civilian Records in the National Archives*. She wrote the foreword to the 2005 edition of Mary Church Terrell's autobiography, *A Colored Woman in a White World*.

David Hammons is a New York–based artist whose work often deploys sarcasm to confront racial stereotypes about African Americans. Born in Springfield, Illinois, he has won a McArthur Fellowship, the “genius award.” His art is collected in the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C., the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University, and other institutions.

Betsy Klimasmith, an associate professor of English at the University of Massachusetts Boston, focuses her teaching on American literature and culture through the early twentieth century, including women writers. She is the author of *At Home in the City: Urban Domesticity and the Modern Subject in American Literature and Culture, 1850–1930*.

Dianne M. Pinderhughes is a Presidential Faculty Fellow in the Departments of Africana Studies and Political Science at the University of Notre Dame. Her teaching and research focus on racial and ethnic politics in the United States and the influence of civil society institutions on voting rights. She served as president of the American Political Science Association in 2007–08.

George Stevens, Jr., founding director of the American Film Institute, has written, produced, and directed more than ninety films. His work has won eight Emmy Awards, six Writers Guild of America Awards, and a nomination for an Academy Award.

Geoff K. Ward has been an assistant professor in the Department of Criminology, Law and Society at the University of California, Irvine, since April 2008. His specialties are the racial politics of social control, courts and sentencing, social movements, and justice-related labor.

Walter White joined the NAACP as assistant secretary in 1918 and became secretary in 1931, a position he held until his death in 1955. His Caucasian appearance allowed him to infiltrate white society in order to gain inside information on mob psychology, at the same time challenging the idea of race being immutable. He authored *Fire in the Flint and Flight: Voices of the South*, both novels; *Rope and Faggot: A Biography of Judge Lynch*, an analysis of the causes and extent of lynching; and an autobiography titled *A Man Called White*.

Upcoming in the Autumn 2009 Issue

Our next issue will feature articles by a consortium of researchers and scholars at UMass Boston who have been studying patterns of cooperation and coalition in immigrant-based community organizations in the Boston metropolitan area—Chelsea, Dorchester, Mattapan, New Bedford, and Revere/Lynn. Funded by seed money from the Sociological Initiatives Foundation, this research discusses how immigration law enforcement is prompting a reorientation from a centripetal or internal cultural focus to strategic interaction with other ethnic-based organizations, agencies, and individuals.

The shifting immigrant lens reflects the givens of separation from the homeland, reception by the host country, and degree of incorporation into the receiving society. As this research demonstrates, these contexts are experientially dynamic since the strategies and actions of these organizations are complex and multifaceted, with results that can be characterized neither as uncomplicated simple gains nor as unadulterated losses.

In the unfolding economic crisis, the social, political, and economic circumstances of immigrant communities cross-cut by national, class, and racial issues and differences can be expected to be more involved and multidirectional than any of us had heretofore anticipated. We look forward to witnessing and reporting emerging developments in these organizations as they ply the territory ahead.

Editor, *The Trotter Review*

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