

# THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY

## OBSERVANCE OF "AX HANDLE SATURDAY"

Saturday, August 26, 2000  
10:00 a.m.

Historic Bethel Baptist Institutional Church  
Hemming Plaza  
Historic Snyder Memorial

### *Sponsored By*

The Jacksonville Historical Society

The Jacksonville Human Relations Commission

The Jacksonville Urban League

NAACP, Jacksonville Branch

The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)

**"Ax Handle Saturday"**  
**Observance of 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Saturday, August 26, 2000  
10:00 a.m.

**Commemorative Mass Meeting**  
**Historic Bethel Baptist Institutional Church**

Presiding **Rodney Hurst, Sr.**  
*President, Jacksonville Youth Council NAACP, 1960*

Opening Prayer **Reverend Rudolph McKissick, Sr.**  
*Senior Pastor, Historic Bethel Baptist Institutional Church*

Greetings from the City **The Honorable Matthew Carlucci**  
*Council Vice President, City of Jacksonville*

Presentation of Proclamation **The Honorable Pat Lockett-Felder**  
*Council Member District 7, City of Jacksonville*

Recognitions **Rodney Hurst, Sr.**

Statement of Occasion **Rodney Hurst, Sr.**

Interpretative Dance **Attitudes Performing Arts Studio**  
*"Revelation" (as performed by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre)*

**"Lift Every Voice and Sing"** **Choir & Assembly**  
*by James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)*

Benediction **Reverend Rudolph McKissick, Sr.**  
*Senior Pastor, Historic Bethel Baptist Institutional Church*

**Commemorative Walk**  
**Historic Bethel Baptist Institutional Church**  
**to Hemming Plaza**

**Continuation of the Commemorative Mass Meeting**  
**Hemming Plaza**

Presiding **Alton W. Yates**  
*Vice President, Jacksonville Youth Council NAACP, 1960*

Statement of Occasion **Alton W. Yates**

Laying of the Wreaths  
Honoring Rutledge Pearson **Mary Ann Pearson & Wendell Holmes Jr.**  
Honoring Earl Johnson **Janet Johnson & Dr. Arnett Girardeau**

Announcement of Historical Marker **William H. Jeter, Jr.**  
*Immediate Past President, The Jacksonville Historical Society*

**Continuation of the Commemorative Mass Meeting**  
**Historic Snyder Memorial**

Statement of Occasion **Alton W. Yates**

Greetings from NCCJ **Scott S. Cairns**  
*Board Chairman, The National Conference for Community & Justice (NCCJ)*

Roll Call, NAACP **Rodney Hurst, Sr. & Alton W. Yates**  
Youth Council Members, 1960

Introduction, Keynote Speaker **Honorable William H. Maness**  
*Judge (retired)*

Keynote Speaker **Honorable Leander J. Shaw, Jr.**  
*Justice, Florida Supreme Court*

Closing Comments **Isaiah Rumlin**  
*President, NAACP Jacksonville Branch*

**RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PROGRAM AT**  
**TRADITIONS RESTAURANT, 400 N. HOGAN ST.**  
**Buffet Lunch Available for Small Cost**  
**Everyone is Welcome**

*Grateful Acknowledgments to*

Dr. Chester A. Aikens

Ford, Jeter, Bowlus, Duss & Morgan, P.A.

Historic Bethel Baptist Institutional Church

The Jacksonville Historical Society

Wendell P. Holmes, Jr.

Willard Payne, Jr.

Gertrude H. Peele

Presentation Resource

The National Conference for Community and Justice  
(NCCJ) Jacksonville Region

St. Johns River City Band

Fred W. Schultz

Traditions Restaurant