

**Meeting:**                **Town Hall** – The Journey from Shirley Bulah to Ruby Bridges

**Date:**                    Tuesday, October 8, 2019, 7:00-8:15 PM

**Location:**             Trinity Faith Christian Center, 15516 New Road, Lewes, DE 19958

**Chairperson:**        Charlotte King

**Moderator:**         Charlotte King

**Speakers:**            Sylvester Wolford – Historian and Genealogist  
                                  Specialist on Preservation & Restoration of Delaware’s DuPont Schools

**Recorder:**            Ann Loar Brooks

#### Introduction & Opening

Charlotte King opened the meeting and welcomed an audience of about approximately 60 community members.

#### Announcements

- February 1, 2020
  - CAMP Rehoboth and SDARJ are jointly sponsoring a bus trip to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture
  - Tickets will be available on Eventbrite as of Monday, October 14 @ 10:30AM
- October 10, 2019
  - The Milton Historical Society will be presenting a talk by David Garlock
  - Topic will be focused on Bryan Stevenson’s work in helping formerly incarcerated people re-enter society
- October 28, 2019 (Georgetown Library) and November 6, 2019 (Milton Library)
  - A talk about the Bryan Stevenson School of Excellence will be presented
  - Both programs will be held from 6:00-7:30
- October 21, 2019
  - Continued discussion about preservation of the Nassau School

#### Program

Mr. Woolford, who attended a DuPont school in Delaware, presented a pictorial and historical overview of education and schools provided for Delaware's black children. For background purposes, he outlined the effects of the Atlanta Compromise promoted by Booker T. Washington (Jim Crow), "separate but equal" (Plessy v. Ferguson), and Julius Rosenwald (leader of Sears, Roebuck) who funded over 5,000 schools for Southern black children. All three of these events critically impacted black children's education throughout the country. In the 1920's and 1930's, Pierre DuPont, Delaware's first Secretary of Education, committed \$300,000 to build and rehab uninhabitable black schools when the state said it would only rebuild schools for white children. Mr. Woolford's program highlighted the work of creating these schools, the educational life of the students who attended them, and the resulting impact to the students from the Brown v. Board of Education decision that led to the closing of the schools by 1967.

See [https://youtu.be/\\_7EaWi9EwaI](https://youtu.be/_7EaWi9EwaI) for a video of this excellent presentation.

#### Closing

The meeting ended at approximately 8:15PM.