

# United Methodist News Service

Appeals for healing racial divisions won the day in three United Methodist assemblies when delegates vowed to lobby for removal of the Confederate flag from state buildings and other "places of authority."

In separate actions in June, delegates to the denomination's North Georgia, South Georgia and South Carolina annual conferences agreed that, for many, the flag symbolizes deep racial divisions dating back to the U.S. Civil War.

They agreed to petition state legislators to remove the flag from contemporary government emblems. South Carolinians added that the Confederate flag can be included appropriately in museums and other historical displays.

In both states, the actions were not without impassioned debate. Those opposing the move cited historical reasons, tradition and pride in their Southern heritage. Others, favoring change, insisted that any actions toward reconciliation among racial groups must begin with putting such symbols where they belong--with other relics of the past.

Georgia United Methodists asked that the state flag, adopted in 1956 and bearing the Confederate flag in one corner, be replaced by an earlier state

flag--either the 1799 or 1905 version--without the Confederate symbol. South Carolina's state flag does not include the symbol, but a separate Confederate flag flies over the state house in Columbia.

Both south Carolina and Georgia hoisted Confederate flags in the 1950s to defy federal enforcement of racial desegregation laws. The move for change is especially significant for South Carolina United Methodists, who did not desegregate their regional church agencies until 1972, four years after the denomination agreed to abolish the formerly segregated jurisdictional system.

Addressing the South Carolina conference, the Rev. Joseph W. Alley of Columbia amended a conference resolution on racial cooperation by asking that the Confederate flag be "taken from a place of authority" over the state house and placed with other "South Carolina archives."

Alley, pastor of College Place United Methodist Church, claimed pride in "Southern heritage," but called continued display of the Confederate flag an "in-your-face" symbol of opposition to a racially inclusive society.

"The best way to affirm one's heritage is to learn from it and grow beyond it," said Alley.

## Roger Hamilton Confirmed By Senate As New PUC Member



Roger Hamilton, appointed to a four-year term on the Oregon Public Utility Commission, today was confirmed as the newest commission member by the Oregon State Senate.

Hamilton, of Bonanza, is a rancher and former Klamath County Commissioner (1983-91). Hamilton, 52, also serves on the State Parks and Recreation Commission and is an economic analyst and community development specialist with the Oregon Rivers Council. From 1975 to 1982, Hamilton was assistant professor in communications

and general studies at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls. He also was a comparative literature instructor at San Francisco State University.

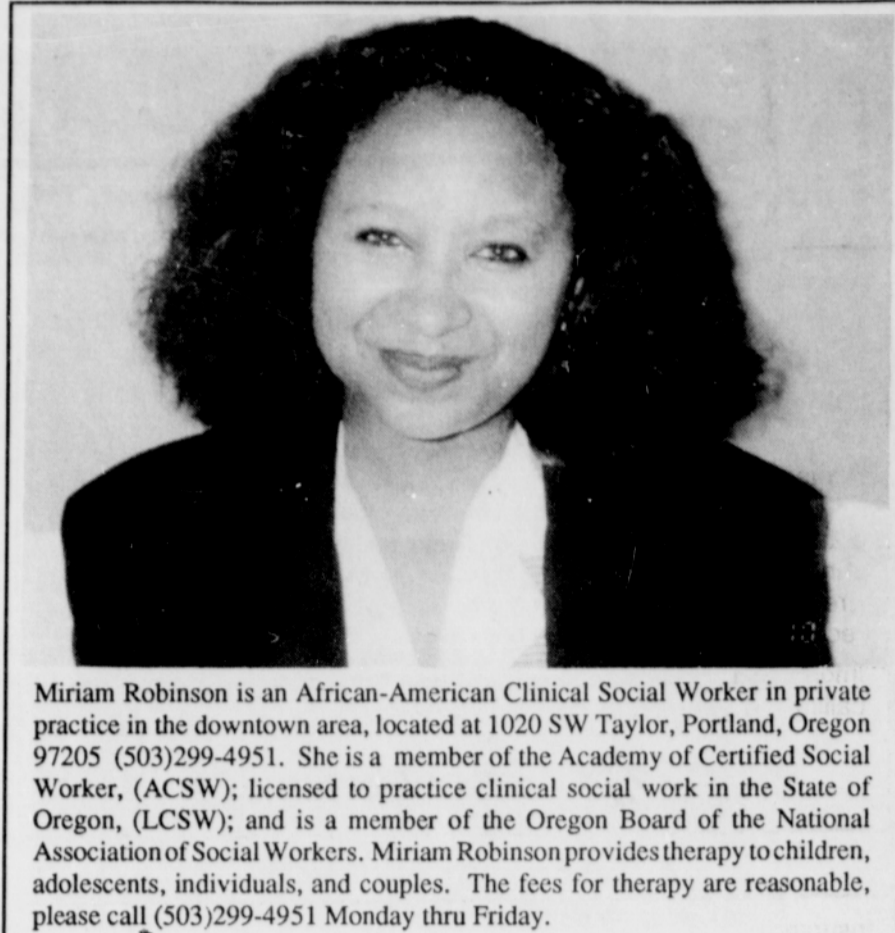
Hamilton has served on the Klamath County Budget Committee, a local consultation group to the Bonneville Power Administration, the Klamath County Business Revolving Loan Fund, the Winema National Forest Timber Advisory Board and Board and on the Board of Directors for the Council for Economic Development in Oregon.

He has a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and two master's degrees, including one in economics, from the University of California at Berkeley.

Hamilton, a Democrat, will earn approximately \$70,000 annually as a member of the three-person commission.

Hamilton was appointed by Gov. Barbara Roberts to replace former Commissioner Myron Katz, who retired.

The Commission is charged with ensuring that customers of the state's regulated utility and transportation industries receive safe, reliable service at reasonable rates, while also allowing the regulated companies to earn a fair return on their investments.



Miriam Robinson is an African-American Clinical Social Worker in private practice in the downtown area, located at 1020 SW Taylor, Portland, Oregon 97205 (503)299-4951. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Worker, (ACSW); licensed to practice clinical social work in the State of Oregon, (LCSW); and is a member of the Oregon Board of the National Association of Social Workers. Miriam Robinson provides therapy to children, adolescents, individuals, and couples. The fees for therapy are reasonable, please call (503)299-4951 Monday thru Friday.

## Tektronix Foundation Awards Scholarships to American Indian Students

For the second year the Tektronix Foundation is awarding scholarships to students of American Indian descent. These students who will major in math, science or engineering, were chosen from schools in the Portland metropolitan area and will receive scholarships of \$2,500 each for the 1992-93 school year. Funding for the program is provided by the Howard Vollum Endowment which is administered by the Tektronix Foundation.

"These scholarships are a demonstration of the Foundation's ongoing commitment to higher education of minority students," said Jill Kirk, Executive Director of the Tektronix Foundation. "The Foundation is pleased to honor these students."

Recipients attending schools in Oregon are:

- Joseph (Joe) Bushman will be a senior at Willamette university majoring in biology. He graduated from Benson High School and plans to become a biology teacher.

- Theresa Oscar attends Portland Community College. She is a junior and is studying for a veterinarian degree.

- Andrew Sarvinski graduated from Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, Washington and will attend Portland Community College majoring in architecture.

- Amanda Siestrem will be a sophomore at Linfield College. She is majoring in chemistry (Pre-Med).

- Shane Strangfield plans to attend

Portland State University and study electrical engineering. He is a graduate of Oregon City High School.

- Violet Strong graduated from Wilson High school and plans to major in physical therapy at Portland State University.

- Craig Stryker will study computer engineering at Oregon State University. He is a graduate of Hillsboro High School.

- Chadwick Stryker, a junior at is Oregon State University, is majoring in electrical engineering.

Students attending schools outside of Oregon are:

- Kathryn (Kathy) Garcia will be a sophomore at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She is majoring in electrical engineering.

- Lisa Garcia graduated from Wilson High School and plans to attend the University of Colorado, Boulder, studying geology

The selection committee was comprised of the following members: Nick Barnett, Director, Ethnic Minority Student Recruitment, Portland Community College; Robey Clark, Title V-C Director, Portland Public Schools; Catherine Collier, Director, Diversity and Multi-Cultural Affairs, Portland State University; Dave Hatch, engineer, City of Portland, Portland AISES member (American Indian Science & Engineering Society); Norrine Smokey-Smith, Indian Education Parent Committee, Portland Public Schools.

Presents a "PARENT-CHILD READING HOUR"

Saturday July 11, 1992  
North Portland Branch Library  
512 North Killingsworth  
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

- Check out books
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