

Arthur Winston to Speak at AAEA's Juneteenth Celebration

By TIM GODFREY

(June 20, 2002) The MTA's most senior employee, Arthur Winston, is the scheduled inspirational speaker for the MTA African American Employees Association (AAEA) Juneteenth Celebration.

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Juneteenth
celebration at
Gateway
Division.

The event is scheduled from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., Saturday, June 22, at Ladera Park in Los Angeles (one block west of La Brea Avenue on Slauson Avenue).

In addition to Winston's talk, the celebration will include a wide range of foods and activities synonymous with Juneteenth celebrations. These will include a special oration, drumming, music, barbecue, watermelon and red soda. There will also be Bid Whist and Domino Tournaments.

Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$8 for Children under 15. For information, contact: Nery Watson, Kathleen Johnson, Tim Godfrey, Kathy Powell-Drayton, Fifi Burns, DonCosta Seawell or any AAEA member to purchase tickets. The AAEA invites all to come and be a part of the celebration.

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. It was on June 19, 1865 that Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were now free.

Even though the slaves were officially freed by President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, it took more than two-and-a-half years for most slaves to experience freedom.

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