

BANKING & FINANCE:

Helen Godfrey Smith

Shreveport Federal Credit Union
Shreveport, Louisiana

Helen Godfrey Smith grew up in the small east Texas town of Jefferson. She was educated in the public schools of Marion County and went on to college at Huston Tillotson College in Austin, TX. She has since continued her education at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and LSU in Shreveport where she received the highest designation for a professional in her field – the Certified Credit Union Executive designation.

Helen is President/CEO of the Shreveport Federal Credit Union where she has served since 1983. She has grown that institution from less than \$2 million in assets to approximately \$70 million today. She has opened four full service branches across North Louisiana, including a corporate office in the Shreveport “Auto Mall” area.

Local Involvement - In 2007, Helen was chosen by the Shreveport Times as one of the top ten leaders in the region. She was co-chair of Shreveport Mayor Cedric Glover’s Transition Team. She is a board member on the Black & Gold Foundation of Grambling State University, Fiest-Weiller Cancer Center and the Committee of 100. She is a member of Women In Ministry International, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated-Delta Lambda Omega Chapter-Chair of the Economic Development Committee, Shreveport Chamber of Commerce and Links Incorporated.

State involvement – In 2008, Helen was appointed to the State Land and Mineral Board by Louisiana’s Governor Bobby Jindal. She is a member of the Louisiana Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC), Chairperson



of the Louisiana Credit Union League’s Audit Committee, Board member of Louisiana Credit Union Co-operative Branching (CUCB), member of the Louisiana Credit Union Executive Association and Member of the Louisiana Center for Women & Government.

National involvement –Helen Smith researched, planned and designed an exhibit titled “African-Americans in Credit Movement...First 100 Years” and presented it to America’s Credit Union Museum in October 2008 in Manchester, New Hampshire. She is a founding member and Board Member of the African American Credit Union Coalition and was chairperson for two years. She currently holds the title of Chairwoman of the AACUC Mentorship committee (the committee that spearheaded efforts to help credit unions in the gulf coast area that were affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita). She is a member of the board for the National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions (NFCDCU).

Helen Smith is the wife of entrepreneur Bobby Joe Smith, mother of one son, DeUndre and two wonderful, beautiful granddaughters, Kierstal and DeAndrea Monique and two grandsons, Julian Patrick and Kalep DeUndre.