

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4

Southern gazette



Centennial Torch Tour

SISTERHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE



Elected and Appointed Regional Officers and Positions

Cheryl W. Turner

23rd Southern Regional Director

Manica Pierrette

22nd Southern Regional Representative

Sandra K. Horton

Member,
National Scholarship and Standards Committee

Vernandi R. Greene

Member, National Nominating Committee

Deidre K. Perry

Chair, Regional Nominating Committee

Katryna Lowery Ellis

Member, Regional Nominating Committee

Terri M. Hall, Ed.S.

Member, Regional Nominating Committee

Deborah Robinson Herring

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The **Southern Gazette** is the publication of the Southern Region of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. For submission guidelines please refer to page 41.

Southern Regional Council of Chaplains Prayer Call

Wednesdays 12:30 p.m. EST/11:30 a.m. CST
Call in: (760) 984-1000
Passcode: 152747#

Submit prayer requests in advance to
chaplain@dstsouthernregion.com.



Southern Regional Chaplain's Meditation & Inspiration Line

24 hours - 7 days
Call in: (760) 984-1099
Passcode: 152747#

Message from the Regional Director and Regional Representative



Sorors, 100 years of Delta is here and with it comes so much pride – pride that has lifted us to a new dimension within our sisterhood.

Here we are in 2013, an organization made up of predominately African-American women; women who, for years, fought to be called by their proper first names; fought to be given the same rights that those born of other races received simply because of their birth; fought to be and to remain alive – a daily struggle. And baby, look at us now-- a group of the proudest women in the world!

We can only image that in 1913, the day after they arrived back safely on the campus of Howard University, that the 22 collegiate participants in the Women's Suffrage March felt a deep sense of pride. We can only imagine that emotions ran high through their minds and bodies, and that the strong emotions filled the room the day following the march. Our Founders could not have thought that 100 years into the future, their action would birth a nation of Deltas.

Whether they strategically planned the first 100 years or not, we are just glad that they did. We are so proud they took that first step. That first step toward a movement in Delta was likely filled with fear, anxiety, a sense of pride. That first step marked the beginning of what is now the sisterhood that we love so much.

Because of those women, our precious 22 Founders, we are celebrating 100 years of *"Transforming Lives and Impacting Communities."* Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. continues to exist because our Founders made the decision to:

- head out early that March day morning,
- participate in a 'white only' rally; enduring marching at the back of the line,
- be confronted by white men who were already angry at the white women for marching, so you know they weren't feeling the sisters.

Sorors, our Founders were inconvenienced – even to the point of possible death! That is our legacy, our awesome heritage and because of it – we're so proud!

As we celebrate 100 years of changing a culture of thought and action, let us not rest on our laurels, but continue to hold onto our pride and continue to help strengthen Delta, one soror, one chapter, and one Region, at a time. There is no more significant place to keep the momentum going than the birthplace of our sorority, Washington D.C. As members of the Southern Region, we will remain steadfast as we **"Reclaim, Retrain, Retain, our most precious resource – our members"**! We are and will remain proud!

Cheryl W. Turner

Cheryl W. Turner
Southern Regional Director

Manica Pierrette

Manica Pierrette
Southern Regional Representative

Message from the Regional Protocol and Traditions Committee

Although we didn't have many state gatherings this past sorority year, the Protocol and Traditions Committee was still quite busy. We are so pleased that chapters and individual sorors contacted the chairs and the state chairs for assistance with chapter activities. We were able to assist with chapter anniversaries, chapter Founders Day celebrations, membership intake ceremonies, DDAC, and other instances when Delta dignitaries came to the Southern Region.

Members of the Protocol and Traditions Committee were on hand to assist the National Headquarters staff with the set up and execution of the Omega Omega service for our beloved 19th National President, Dr. Yvonne Kennedy. Each of us was moved by her life and saddened by her death, but we made sure everything was done with perfection. The participants in the ceremony complemented our efforts.

Did you get to attend one of the torch celebrations in the Southern Region? Members of the Protocol and Traditions Committee worked with each celebration to make sure that everything was done according to proper protocol. Sorors are still talking about the great celebrations that occurred throughout the Southern Region!

The Protocol and Traditions Committee members, with the help of state protocol team members and sorors who have volunteered to help, are on duty for this convention. It is our desire that everything runs smoothly from a protocol standpoint. A special thanks to each of you for your cooperation at this convention. Thank you to all of the sorors who have worked throughout the year to make sure proper protocol is followed. Continue to contact us as you have protocol questions at protocol@dstsouthernregion.com.

Carolyn F. Jackson, Chair
Violet G. Lowery, Co-Chair

Message from the Regional Arts and Letters Committee

Did You Know?

The Southern Region has so many things to be proud of . . . some of which are being the largest region in the sorority and being the "Delta Birthplace" of several of our past National Presidents. Something else that makes us beam with pride is the great number of beautiful sorors who have graced this world with their tremendous talents in music, dance, literature, visual arts and the spoken word. The Southern Region's Arts and Letters Committee has compiled an abbreviated list of sorors who were either initiated in the Southern Region or who call one of these Deep South states home. As we celebrate this Centennial year, take a few moments to learn about and reflect on every facet that makes this sisterhood so great!



Soror Sharon Warren played the mother of R&B great Ray Charles in the movie "Ray." She was born in Opelika, AL and attended Stillman College.



15th National President Lillian P. Benbow was a native of Vicksburg, MS and was initiated into the Alpha Upsilon Chapter at LeMoyne Owen College in Memphis, TN. It was during her administration that the National Arts and Letters Commission was established.



Soror Leontyne Price, a famed opera singer from Laurel, MS, rose to fame as one of the New York City Metropolitan Opera's leading sopranos.



An alumna of Spelman College and Eta Kappa Chapter initiate, **Soror Adrienne-Joi Johnson** is best known as an actress, fitness instructor and dancer and was featured in cultural classics "House Party" and "Baby Boy."

Soror T'Keyah Crystal Keymáh joined Delta through the Beta Alpha Chapter at Florida A&M. She is an actress, writer, director and producer.



Did you miss an issue?

Previous issues of the Southern Gazette are available online 24/7



Scan code to view previous issues



Mobile, Alabama . . . Southern Region's First Centennial Torch Stop!

From its inception, the Centennial Torch Tour was slated a huge success. The Centennial Torch had traveled to many other cities across the country before reaching Mobile, Alabama the weekend of April 19-21. Mobile was one of 22 cities selected because of the work and dedication of Dr. Yvonne Kennedy, 19th National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

The Mobile downtown skyline was illuminated in red to honor the magnitude of the Centennial Torch Tour Celebration. Mobile Alumnae, Baldwin Alumnae and Iota Nu City-wide chapters collaborated to host an amazing weekend of activities.

In attendance at the torch tour were Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre, National President; the Rev. Gwendolyn E. Boyd, 22nd National President; Cheryl W. Turner, Southern Regional Director; Manica Pierrette, Southern Regional Representative; and Joy Foster, Alabama State Coordinator. Other elected officials who also attended were Merceria Ludgood, Mobile County Commissioner; Sam Jones, mayor of Mobile and Troy Ephriam, mayor of Prichard.

A Delta Centennial Torch Welcome Reception, a

Torch Lighting Ceremony, a Torch Walk, a Signature Red Carpet Gala, and a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Health Fair were among the activities hosted by the three chapters. Over \$4,000 dollars were raised from the weekend's events and donated to the USA Specialty Clinic, which supports HIV/AIDS education and awareness. In all, more than 500 people including sorors and community members attended Mobile's Centennial Torch Tour activities.

The weekend also included a tribute to the history of Delta. For several weeks, the History Museum of Mobile displayed a Delta Centennial Torch Exhibit which included sorority memorabilia; a video of Delta's history; displays of notable Deltas from South Alabama; and a display in memory of Dr. Kennedy. An ecumenical service was also held in honor of Dr. Kennedy. Dr. Hannah E. Hart, Mobile Alumnae Chapter President said, "We are very proud of the support and attendance we received from our executive and regional leaders and from our sisters across the Gulf Coast and the state of Alabama."

Ribbon cutting ceremony at the official Delta Centennial Torch Exhibit located in the History Museum of Mobile.



Centennial Torch Tour

SISTERHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE

*Atlanta, Georgia . . .
A Weekend of Sisterhood, Scholarship & Service!*



The weather was crisp and the sky had a grey overcast, but thousands of sorors and guests gathered on the green of Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta, Georgia, to attend the Centennial Torch Ceremony. Financial and non-financial sorors were present. Those who have been members of the sorority for 20 or more years, the millennium sorors, and the newest centennial initiates all gathered as sisters to celebrate Delta's one hundred years of existence. Dressed in red and white, wearing sorority t-shirts and jackets, and carrying umbrellas and totes, the sorors of Delta could be spotted from miles away—they were a sea of crimson and cream. Open to the public,



family members, friends, and members of other Greek-letter organizations honored the women of Delta with their presence at the Torch ceremony. Food and greek paraphernalia vendors were also present at the April 27th ceremony. It was a good day to be in the city of Atlanta and an even better day to celebrate sisterhood.

The Torch ceremony was kicked-off in grand fashion with a marching band/drumline which preceded the "Parade of Chapters." Sorors from the metro Atlanta alumnae and collegiate chapters paraded through the park, waving and smiling at onlookers. Dressed in unique uniforms, each chapter proudly carried a banner displaying its name. Forming the parade were sorors from the following chapters: Atlanta Alumnae, Atlanta Suburban Alumnae, Decatur Alumnae, Douglas-Carroll-Paulding Counties Alumnae, East Point/College Park Alumnae, Gwinnett County Alumnae, Henry County Alumnae, Stone Mountain-Lithonia

Alumnae, and the nine area collegiate chapters. Marietta Roswell Alumnae also marched in the parade and served as the host chapter. The parade was an opportunity for sorors to actually see many of Delta's Executive Board members such as National President Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre; National Secretary Beverly E. Smith; Southern Regional Director Cheryl W. Turner; Southern Regional Representative Manica Pierrette; and 23rd National President Dr. Louise A. Rice in an up close and personal way. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Centennial Torch, which was relayed through the park on foot by one representative from each of the nine metro-Atlanta chapters.

Hosted by Emmy-award winning journalist and soror, Shaunya Chavis Rucker, the Torch ceremony was inspirational in nature. The rousing prayer for our organization and nation, and inspirational songs delivered by the Metro Torch Ensemble set the ambience for the ceremony. Sorors were reminded that Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated has been sustained for 100 years because of faith in God, hard work and prayer. The National President, National Secretary, Southern Regional Director, and Southern Regional Representative each addressed the body of sorors in their own unique way. Also, Civil Rights icon, Congressman John Lewis and other elected officials from the city of Atlanta shared words of encouragement with sorors and encouraged them to continue their national and international service efforts. City and state



proclamations were read, and the organization was granted a key to the city of Atlanta for its numerous service endeavors.

At the ceremony, Delta's history from 1913-2013 was highlighted on large jumbotron screens. The video presentation reminded sorors how far the organization has come and how much further it has to go. Service is a part of Delta's mission. As such, from January through April 2013, the nine metro-wide chapters were involved in various service projects. Each chapter's contributions to the community were noted during the ceremony. The event would not have been a Delta event without stepping from the collegiate chapter sorors. Through stepping, the collegiate sorors honored one of the sorority's most cherished practices.

The Torch ceremony culminated with two of Atlanta's finest: spoken-word artist, Hank Stewart and violinist, Ken Ford who celebrated the women of Delta in their own unique ways. Closing remarks and prayer were given and as a grand finale tribute to the sisterhood, sorors united, hand in hand, to sing the timeless, moving, classic, the "Sweetheart Song." The Atlanta Torch

Ceremony was one to be remembered. It brought the women of the Southern Region and beyond together in large numbers. In addition to the Torch ceremony, the Sisterhood Celebration, which included a Delta Museum exhibit was held on April 26th at the Atlanta Gateway Marriot



Violinist Ken Ford entertains the crowd.

Hotel. The lively event was a way for sorors to kick-off the Torch ceremony and a weekend dedicated to one thing: sisterhood. Needless to say, both events honored the dynamic history of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and fueled the flame for scholarship, sisterhood, and service in the hearts of all sorors who attended.

Southern Region Supports Little Rock's Centennial Torch Ceremony



The Centennial Torch is lit by Frankie Muse Freeman, 14th National President.

Several members from the **Memphis Alumnae Chapter** traveled to Little Rock, Arkansas, for the weekend of March 16 to witness the lighting and passing of the Centennial Torch. Delta Dears, chapter presidents, and regional representatives stood in line and passed the torch from member to member. When the torch reached 14th National President Frankie Muse Freeman, she lit it for the Little Rock ceremony.



(l-r) Sorors Pat Moore, Elaine Baker, Annie Lewis and Thelma Harrington pass the Centennial Torch during the Little Rock Centennial Torch Celebration.

Following proclamations and songs, the members were inspired to rekindle the flame that burns within for the sorority. Memphis Alumnae Chapter president Charlotte Freeman brought greetings to the Little Rock audience on behalf of the Memphis Alumnae and Shelby County Alumnae chapters. More than 200 members from the Memphis Area attended the event. The torch headed to Chicago, Illinois after the Little Rock event.



The Southern Region honored **Founder Winona Cargile Alexander** during the 1982 Southern Regional Conference in Chattanooga, TN. Soror Luvenia Harrison Butler (on stage), who was the Regional Historian at the time, presented Soror Alexander a specially made scrapbook of her life from the Southern Region. It included a sculpture of her in bronze mounted on the top by nationally known artist Greg Ridley, former Director of Art at Fisk University.



Augusta, Georgia . . . Celebrates 23rd National President!

In honor of 23rd National President, Dr. Louise A. Rice, the Centennial Torch made its third stop in the Southern Region in Augusta, Georgia. The weekend celebration started with a gala Friday evening at the Savannah Rapids Pavilion and ended with a parade where Soror Rice was the Grand Marshall.

During the gala, centennial awards were presented in the areas of the Five Programmatic Thrust. Centennial award recipients included Christians in Unity Association in the area of Economic Development, Dr. Mac Andrew Bowman in the area of Physical and Mental Awareness, Soror Barbara Pulliam-Davis in the area of Educational Development, Soror Sasha Hall in the area of International Awareness and Involvement, and Soror Georgia Cummings Hobbs in the area of Political Awareness and Involvement.

Rain was in the forecast Saturday as beautiful and intricate floats lined up for the parade at Lucy C. Laney

practice football field. Parade participants included Aiken Alumnae, Augusta Alumnae, Lake Oconee Alumnae, Mu Xi, Thomson Alumnae, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., 100 Black Women of Augusta and the Lucy Laney High School Band.

Eventually the rain did come, luckily toward the end of the parade. Sorors hurriedly took refuge inside Lucy Craft Laney High School where Soror Rice passed the torch to Southern Regional Director, Cheryl W. Turner, who accepted on behalf of Tampa, the next stop for the Centennial Torch.

Among the Delta dignitaries on hand for the weekend were National Secretary Beverly E. Smith and past Regional Director Lois Gilder.



*Tampa, Florida . . .
Celebrates 100 Years Of Public Service*



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Centennial Torch made its only Florida stop in Tampa the weekend of May 17-19, 2013. The Tampa Alumnae Chapter, with the support of sorors from the Tampa Metropolitan Alumnae, Kappa Iota, and Tau Iota chapters, painted the city RED in honor of Delta's 100 years of public service.

A three-day Centennial Torch weekend began Friday night with a reception honoring Dr. Paulette C. Walker, National First Vice President. Special guests at the reception were Cynthia

from the Tampa Bay community and bus loads of sorors attended the "Lighting the Torch to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics" (STEM) event. The morning included a voyage of snap circuits, math robotics, video game creating and rocket launching. Community partners for the event included The Dream Center, NASA, Delta Academy, EMBODI, Young Magnet Middle School and Sligh Middle School.

Before the students began their journey, the Centennial Torch was presented by Tampa Alumnae's

Soror Janette Spencer-Davis, Tampa Alumnae's president.

After the welcome program and the re-lighting of the Torch, 350 guests boarded the Yacht Starship, Florida's largest dining yacht, for the "Crimson Yacht Soiree." Guests on the exclusive dinner cruise walked the red carpet, enjoyed live music on one level, soft jazz on another, and a D.J. and dancing on the top level of the yacht. Attendees took a three-hour journey through the historic Ybor Channel, into the Hillsborough Bay, and through the Garrison Channel as red and white



M.A. Butler-McIntyre, National President; Cheryl W. Turner, Southern Regional Director; Manica Pierrette, Southern Regional Representative, and a host of national and regional Delta dignitaries and sorors from as far away as California. Hundreds of sorors fellowshiped and greeted Soror Walker. Attendees also responded to the public service call by donating handbags/purses to "Dress for Success," a program that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women.

Saturday morning kicked off with an educational quest at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI). Hundreds of students

Torch chairperson, Soror Brenna Taylor, and lit by Torch Custodian, Soror Sandra Fletcher, during a community celebration.

On Saturday evening, more than 600 sorors and community members attended the second lighting of the Torch at the Tampa Convention Center. Tampa's mayor, Bob Buckhorn, welcomed Delta Sigma Theta, shared congratulatory remarks, and named May 18, 2013, in the sorority's honor. Greetings and a resolution from Florida's Governor were presented by Tampa Alumnae's own, Florida Senator Arthenia Joyner. Words were also brought from Soror Butler-McIntyre, Soror Walker, Soror Turner, Soror Pierrette and

Delta flags waved atop the yacht.

The Centennial Tour weekend ended on Sunday morning where sorors and guests worshipped at Soror Walker's home church, Mt. Olive A.M.E. After a wonderful weekend of celebration, there was much to thank God for.



Delta Sigma Theta Opens Elementary School in Haiti



Scholarship, service and sisterhood are three vital components of the mission of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Founded in 1913 by 22 college-educated women, the sorority is comprised of over 200,000 female college graduates who excel in various professions throughout the world. Thus, it was befitting for the sorority, in its centennial year, to carry out its mission of promoting scholarship and service by opening the Delta Sigma Theta Elementary School, Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre Campus in Cherette, Haiti. It is located 96 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince, the capital. The sorority collaborated with the Delta Research & Educational Foundation and Water in Education International (WEI) to establish

the elementary school. Designed by students from Solange Community College (CA), the 3,530 square-foot school is able to accommodate its 300 member elementary student body population. The school's academic courses will be taught by two female and five male instructors.

Held on June 15, the elementary school's inauguration was attended by several members of the sorority's National Executive Board including National President Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre and Southern Regional Representative Manica Pierrette. For Pierrette, returning to Haiti was personal, as her mother and father are natives of the country. Of the elementary school opening experience Pierrette said, "I have not been to Haiti since I was 5 years-old. Returning 17 years later with my

sorority was an amazing feeling. I will be forever grateful for the experience of being able to interact with the hundreds of youth who will attend the Delta Sigma Theta Elementary School, Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre Campus. At the inauguration ceremony, the elementary children performed a song, "You Lift Me Up" in English and Creole languages. Hearing them sing was a very special moment which ignited many emotions within those of us in attendance."

The opening of the elementary school was equally special for the sorority. The school honors the rich legacy of Delta. Designated areas of the school are also named in honor of the seven living past National Presidents of the sorority. They are Frankie Muse Freeman, Esq., 14th National President; Dr. Thelma T. Daley, 16th National President; Mona Humphries Bailey, 17th National President; Dr. Bertha M. Roddey, 20th National President; Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge, 21st National President; the Rev. Gwendolyn E. Boyd, 22nd National President; and Dr. Louise A. Rice, 23rd National President. Of the school opening President Butler-McIntyre said, "We believe that by impacting the lives of young people, we will have a lasting impact for years to come. As a former elementary school teacher, it has been my experience that providing the proper educational tools and creating a positive learning environment is essential to school instruction and enables students to excel in and outside the classroom."

The new elementary school will certainly be an added benefit to the city of Cherette and the country of Haiti itself. Over the

past three years, the residents of Haiti have suffered tremendous losses because of a 2010 cholera outbreak and because Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy hit the country in 2010 and 2012, respectively. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports that more than 320,000 Haitians are still internally displaced and living in 385 camps that are at risk of being demolished by flooding and landslides. In addition to opening the school, the sorority made its second \$15,000 contribution to WEI. The first \$15,000 contribution was made to WEI in 2012.

By opening the elementary school in Cherette, Haiti, the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated carried out the sorority's International Awareness and Involvement initiative, which is a component of its Five Point Programmatic Thrust. Without a doubt, the women of Delta are on the move in the United States and abroad. The opening of the school in Cherette, Haiti makes the 2013 centennial year more exciting and definitely filled with a much larger purpose.





“The older I get, the more I appreciate being a legacy. It is more than a label or a word. Sustaining a legacy means that I accept responsibility to uphold the traditions, purpose and the goals of my grandmother, Founder Murphy, my family and our sisterhood.”



Women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated often sing a playful chant called “What is a Delta?” Soror Rachael Murphy Humphrey knows exactly what being a Delta means. Born into a family of Delta women, she is a Delta legacy in the truest sense. Soror Humphrey is the youngest granddaughter of Vashti Turley Murphy, one of the illustrious 22 college women who founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated on the campus of Howard University in 1913. The Murphy legacy is the largest of all the Founders’ legacies as four daughters, six granddaughters and seven great-granddaughters are women of Delta.

A member of Delta for nearly 40 years and a second generation member of the National Heritage and Archives Committee, Soror Humphrey understands that

preserving Delta’s history is tantamount to preserving the Murphy name and its legacy. As such, Soror Humphrey’s mother Soror Elizabeth Murphy Moss wrote a book entitled *Be Strong: The Life and Times of Vashti Turley Murphy, Co-Founder of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.* When asked about the importance of preserving the Murphy legacy, Soror Humphrey said, “The older I get, the more I appreciate being a legacy. It is more than a label or a word. Sustaining a legacy means that I accept responsibility to uphold the traditions, purpose and the goals of my grandmother, Founder Murphy, my family and our sisterhood. I am willingly obligated to do the same with my Delta daughter as well.”

Soror Humphrey explained that her grandmother’s legacy is not just preserved through photos and memorabilia that have been passed down through the years; it is also preserved in name. “Keeping *Murphy* as a part of the girls’ name is important to my family. My grandparents believed that names are important. They represent who you are. Most of our first names are from the bible or from an elder family member. Each year, before the family Memorial Day cookout, we would visit our family’s Baltimore gravesite and read an original piece from my grandfather entitled “Those Buried Here.” My grandparents, Vashti and Carl Murphy had five girls; there were no males to carry the *Murphy* name. As such, all 16 grandchildren have Murphy as middle names. Many of my cousins have continued the tradition with their children, both male and female.”

Honoring
the
Murphy Legacy
within Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Murphy Legacy portrait unveiled during the 1996 National Convention: Top row: Founder Vashti Turley Murphy; Middle row l to r (daughters): Frances Murphy, Carlita Murphy Jones, Ida Murphy Peters, Elizabeth Murphy Moss; Bottom row l to r (grand daughters): Frances Toni Murphy, Susan Murphy Barnes, Carlita Candice Murphy Perkins, Vashti Murphy McKenzie, Marie Murphy Braxton, Rachael Murphy Humphrey.

Reflecting on her grandmother's legacy, Soror Humphrey said, "Because I am the youngest granddaughter, I learned about my grandmother through the reflections and stories of others. My sister reminds me that my grandmother was a very proper and respected woman who declared she would never let anyone of her generation be called by their first name. My grandmother was always referred to as "Miss Vash." From my mother's book and stories, I learned that she was educated and enjoyed

hosting others. Her heart was open to all; she never tired of sharing her time and service with God's "least of these." My grandmother lived a full, blessed and beautiful life. She was a true example of a strong, dynamic woman. I endeavor to follow in her footsteps in life and in our beloved sisterhood. She was truly a blessing to me. There are so many moments that I wish my grandmother could have witnessed. Some of those memories include the unveiling of the "Murphy Legacy" at the 1996 National Convention; my mother

pinning me at Virginia State in 1975; and me pinning my daughter in 2005, at Spelman College...30 years later. I wish my grandmother could see how her powerful legacy still extends to the lives of Deltas within her family and the lives of Delta women across the world."

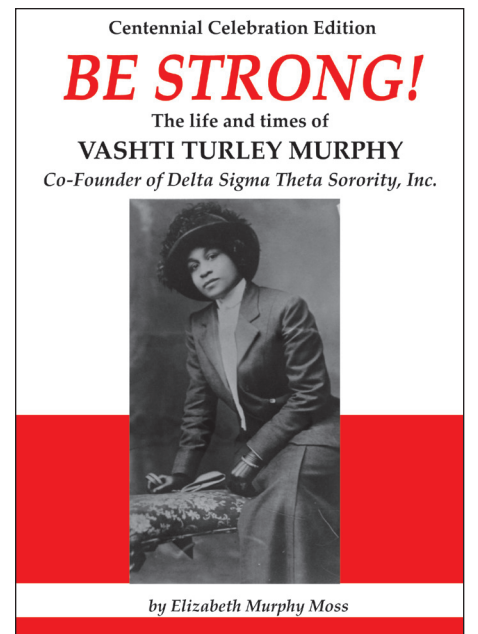
Finally, speaking on the most important lesson she has learned as a Delta, Soror Humphrey said, "I have learned that together, we are a powerful movement that can make a difference in our community and beyond. Delta is personal to me.

From the day I said, 'I do not wish to withdraw,' until today, I have been surrounded and blessed with a sisterhood of women who work and who serve the community and our nation. My Delta sorors have become my sisters when I needed a shoulder to cry on through grief or during life's varied celebrations. My sorors have influenced my and my family's life in a truly significant way."

She continued, "Being a Delta is priceless. I have been truly blessed by the sisterhood and take full advantage of the 'rights and

privileges thereto.' Those rights and privileges have directly impacted my life and the service I render through the sisterhood. Proudly, I thank my grandmother, Founder Vashti Turley Murphy for her direct part in that."

The *Be Strong* book signing will be held on Monday, July 15, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at St. Gregory Luxury Hotel and Suites, 2033 M Street N.W., Washington DC (shuttle stop). Ted Ellis, VIP guest artist, will be in attendance. For more information, please visit, www.bestronglegacy.com. Book cost: \$25.00



Southern Region Home To Great-Granddaughter Of Founder Jimmie Bugg Middleton



(l-r) Sorors Amanda Williams, Lori Brazil Chennault and Margaret Williams

Soror Lori Brazil Chennault was not yet born when her great-grandmother Founder Jimmie Bugg Middleton died, but Chennault learned a lot about Founder Middleton from her grandmother (Middleton's daughter) Amanda Williams also a soror.

Founder Middleton was noted for being well-organized and doing pottery (Lori owns many of her great grandmother's creations). Soror Middleton, wanting to ensure that the Founders stayed in touch after college, often hosted the Founders at Delta gatherings. For example, at conventions Soror Middleton would provide a hospitality suite for the Founders.

Soror Chennault, who makes her home in Atlanta, GA, is a member of the East Point/College Park Alumnae Chapter. Vice-President of Information Technology for the consumer products group at Georgia Pacific,

Soror Chennault, 44, was initiated into the Gamma Iota Chapter at Hampton University in the spring of 1988. Since her initiation, Soror Chennault has been active in Richmond Alumnae and Charlotte Alumnae where she served as chapter treasurer.

As much as she loved Delta, "Jimmie thought family was a precious gift," says Chennault. That legacy continues with her descendants. Chennault, who grew up in Richmond, Virginia, remembers spending many summers with her grandmother, whom she describes as a Christian woman with a warm spirit. When Chennault's mother pledged Delta at Hampton University in 1962, Soror Middleton visited the campus many times. Years later, Chennault's grandmother pinned her when she was initiated into the same chapter.

To Chennault, Delta is a "sisterhood dedicated to improving and positively impacting the lives of others." She believes that her great grandmother would be "amazed by the growth [of the sorority] and the legacy of the Founders [and would] urge us to focus on service and the principles of the organization."

Soror Chennault and her mother, Margaret Williams Brazil are the only living decedents of Soror Middleton who are Deltas, though Chennault hopes her daughter, Anaya, now 11 will continue the legacy.



Tennessee



Mississippi



Florida



Georgia

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the American Cancer Society, both founded in 1913, are celebrating a century of service. For 100 years, the American Cancer Society has been leading the way to transform cancer from deadly to preventable. In honor of this milestone the organizations have forged a partnership.

More than 140 sorors attended the DST/ACS statewide training sessions that began in February and concluded in June. These sorors are now Cancer Study Prevention 3 (CPS3) champions, Relay for Lifers, Road to Recovery Drivers, Unit Operating Board Members and ACS Advocates. The American Cancer Society is grateful for the partnership, leadership and service of the Deltas of the Southern Region.

Each state in the Southern Region has a DST/ACS Coordinator who is ready to assist chapters in implementing all components of the regional partnership agreement. The regional website (www.dstsouthernregion.com) has a page dedicated to the ACS partnership, where Powerpoint presentations from the training sessions are posted.

During the month of October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the region will collectively participate in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer (MSABC) walks. Through the MSABC events, teams will raise funds, create awareness and walk to show support in the fight against breast cancer. Through this event, donations are designated to life-saving research, education, patient support and advocacy programs for breast cancer.

When signing up teams for MSABC, please list “Delta Sigma Theta” first and then add the *chapter/team name*. It is very important to spell the sorority’s name and not use the “DST” abbreviation. The American Cancer Society’s computer system is programmed to read “Delta Sigma Theta” not “DST”.

To get started today, visit makingstrides.acsevents.org. Click on the link for your state and register for a local event. You can also fundraise online.

Georgia Prepares To Continue The Fight Against Breast Cancer

On June 1, Georgia’s Delta Sigma Theta/American Cancer Society (DST/ACS) statewide training was held on the campus of Clark Atlanta University. Informative and educational, the training helped individual chapters determine how they could be most effective in the fight against cancer.

Over 60 sorors representing 20 chapters attended the training. They

had the opportunity to participate in workshops, which were facilitated by American Cancer Society staff. The workshops focused on three of the American Cancer Society’s key initiatives: Relay for Life, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, and Road to Recovery.

Following the educational workshops, Soror Donna Bowman, Regional Social Action

Coordinator, provided an overview of the partnership agreement. After Soror Bowman’s overview, sorors divided into small groups where they exchanged ideas around cancer prevention and effectuated plans of action to be implemented within their chapters and their communities.

DST & ACS A CENTURY of SERVICE

Legacy of Past President Dr. Jeanne L. Noble Honored During Albany (GA) Alumnae’s Centennial Founders Day Weekend



On March 22-24, 2013, the **Albany (GA) Alumnae** and **Delta Rho** chapters celebrated Founders Day during a weekend themed, *Deltas Reconnecting, Reuniting and Recommitting to Service in 2013*. Sorors from throughout Georgia kicked off the weekend with a Sister Sip where Dr. Paulette C. Walker, National First Vice President and Dr. Lillie D. Ward, South Georgia State Coordinator were among the special guests. Founders Day Co-Chairperson, Soror Dianne Boges presided over the Sister Sip activities which included a Delta Top Models fashion show highlighting casual, travel, opening

ceremony, gala, and workshop attire. Members from both chapters participated in Delta Best Games, Delta Feud, red carpet photo shoots, and a step show.

On Saturday, Soror Walker served as speaker for the Founders Day program held at Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church. In her speech, Soror Walker admonished sorors in attendance to keep focused on world events, legislative issues that affect the local area and the country, and the services of the Five Point Programmatic Thrust of the sorority. Soror Walker reminded sorors of the call to serve, to transform lives and to impact communities. During the program, attended by sorors, members of other sororities and fraternities and community members, the sorority was presented a proclamation from the city of Albany by Mayor Dorothy Hubbard.

The weekend culminated with the Ecumenical Service at Mt. Zion Baptist. Following worship, several sorors, adorned in black attire with a violet corsage, trekked to the gravesite of Delta’s 12th National President, Dr. Jeanne L. Noble. A wreath was placed on the grave of Soror Noble, an Albany native. Sorors ended the weekend celebration with the Sisterhood Luncheon.



Jacksonville Alumnae Honors Founder Winona Cargile Alexander



Jacksonville Alumnae has the great honor of being located in a city where one of the illustrious Founders made her home. Founder Winona Cargile Alexander lived and worked as a social worker in Jacksonville for many years. Very active in the Jacksonville community, Soror Alexander was buried there in 1984. During the Centennial Founders Day celebration, sorors of Jacksonville Alumnae visited Alexander’s gravesite,

honoring the Founder and Jacksonville Alumnae charter member in song, prayers and by laying flowers.

On Founders Day, Deltas and friends worshipped together at Woodlawn Presbyterian Church, the church Soror Alexander was a member and elder. The chapter contributed \$500 to support scholarships for the church’s youth in Soror Alexander’s honor.

Nashville Metropolitan Alumnae Crowns Miss Jabberwock

Members of the **Nashville Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter** (NMAC) and the Fortitude Foundation, Inc. presented their Miss Jabberwock Gala on April 6th at Christ Church-Watson Hall in Nashville, Tennessee. Ten beautiful young ladies vying for the title of Miss Jabberwock captivated the audience as they performed with grace and style to the Jabberwock theme “Debut of the Real Dream Girls.” The entire Jabberwock season was dedicated to a true Dream Girl, Soror Alice Outlaw. Soror Outlaw has been a Delta for more than 50 years and a member of the Nashville Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter since 1973.

The emcees for this grand occasion were community leaders Soror Sharon Hurt, CEO of JUMP and Adrian



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Lake Oconee Area Alumnae Welcomes Twenty-Six New Members



The **Lake Oconee Area Alumnae Chapter** welcomed the addition of 26 new members on April 20, 2013. The chapter was chartered on April 21, 2007 with 22 members. Later on April 23, 2009, 19 new members were added. The chapter now has over one hundred members to focus on community service and projects.

Jackson (TN) Alumnae Chapter Hosts Centennial Gala



Jackson (TN) Alumnae Chapter rolled out the red carpet for over 250 guests, honorees and sorors at its Centennial Gala on January 16, 2013 at the Carl Perkins Civic Center. Attendees were treated to dinner, a live band, a DJ., non-stop dancing, and a toast to the next 100 years of sisterhood, scholarship and service. As an added treat, the chapter's dance team presented a dance number to Alicia Keys' "Girl on Fire."

A highlight of the evening was the chapter's presentation of five awards in Oscar-style fashion. Recipients were chosen based on their exemplary service to the Jackson, Tennessee community.



The recipients were as follows:

- Δ Humanitarian Award - NAACP Branch of Jackson-Madison County
- Δ Delta Leadership Award - Soror Lois Jefferson Gilder
- Δ Educational Development Award - 100 Black Men of West Tennessee
- Δ Political Awareness - Soror Lois M. Deberry
- Δ Physical and Mental Health - Dr. Keith Taylor
- Δ Lifetime Achievement - Soror Anna Lee Cooke

Soror Sylvia Clark and the Centennial Gala committee worked tirelessly to ensure that the Gala was a stellar event.

Alumnae Chapter Commemorates Centennial With Service Project



The **Pensacola Alumnae Chapter** identified a goal years ago to commemorate Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's 100th Anniversary. The project was decided on in 2006, when Deltas faithfully participated in the construction of two Habitat for Humanity homes built by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in celebration of the fraternity's 100th Anniversary.

The Pensacola Alumnae Chapter Centennial Project was envisioned during the summer of 2011 when Chapter President Fernandra Ferguson and Sorors Sandra Hodges and Dorothy Ogletree met with Pensacola Habitat staffers Natalie Sherlock, the Director of Community Engagement, and Rebecca Kidd, the Director of Volunteer Services. A partnership was formed with Pensacola Habitat for Humanity to co-sponsor and supply the labor on three scheduled dates for the construction of a Habitat home. Pensacola Alumnae Chapter also pledged to volunteer 1,913 hours with the organization.

Sorors Hodges and Ogletree agreed to co-chair the 1913-2013 PAC-HABITAT Centennial Committee. Soror Hodges has a long history of volunteer service with Pensacola Habitat for Humanity. She has served on the Selection Committee and continues to conduct the monthly orientation for individuals seeking information and wishing to apply for home ownership through Habitat. Soror Hodges was named Habitat Volunteer of the Month in October of 2012. Her fundraising sub-committee would develop and implement plans to raise the \$5,000 pledged to co-sponsor the house with Habitat. Soror Hodges assembled the committee and planned the first



fundraising event for September, the beginning of the 2011-2012 sororal year.

Soror Ogletree was inspired during the 1980s when 20th National President, Bertha M. Roddey, supported Habitat as part of her national program for Delta. She became involved with Pensacola Habitat for Humanity from 2007-2009 as a member of AmeriCorp assigned as an assistant to the Family Service Coordinator. After two, one-year terms with AmeriCorp, she continued to volunteer with the organization on the Selection Committee, being named the 2009 Volunteer of the Year. The core committee consisted of Sorors Ruth Jenkins, Yvonne Bedgood-Scott, Helena Gulley, Jackie Gulley, and Effie Oates.



Birmingham Alumnae Prepares Members For Leadership Roles



Pictured from left to right: Sorors Rosalyn Childress, Cynthia Walton, Eunice Horton, Yvette Richardson, Marquita Davis, Dr. Deborah C. Thomas, Lajuana Bradford, Cynthia R. Boyd, Sarah Mitchell, Shirley Taylor, Bonita Chaney.

The **Birmingham Alumnae Chapter** culminated its Leadership Academy for the sororal year with Alabama State Coordinator Joy Foster as a featured speaker. She spoke to more than 45 participants on “Delta Women Preparing for the Challenge.” The focus was on Delta Leadership Competencies, Leadership Behaviors, Member Responsibilities and Sisterhood. Soror Foster stressed the significance of experienced Deltas mentoring new members.

Birmingham Alumnae has been busy since September with the kick-off panel discussion featuring distinguished Delta women in leadership positions. Soror Deborah C. Thomas, past Southern Regional Director and Co-chair of the National Program Planning and Development Committee, was the featured speaker. Soror Cynthia R. Boyd, past Southern Regional Director and member of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Soror Lajuana Bradford, Vice President of Regions Bank; Soror Marquita Davis, Director of Finance for the state of Alabama; and Soror Dr. Yvette Richardson, Alabama State Board Representative, served on the panel to discuss “Women in Leadership.”

Other Leadership Academy sessions for 2012-2013 focused on protocol, basic rules of parliamentary procedures, running for office, leadership self-assessment, governing documents and resources and chapter programs. Presenters included Soror Cynthia Walton, Chair Leadership Academy Committee; Soror

Rosalyn Childress, Co-chair Leadership Academy; Soror Marilyn Jones Woodson, Member, Leadership Academy; Soror Eunice Horton, Member, Leadership Academy; Soror Ponzella Fuller, Member, Leadership Academy; Soror Erika Edwards-Lankford; and Soror Valerie Cottingham. Participants were recognized with certificates for their involvement in the Leadership Academy during the year.



Gwinnett County Alumnae Celebrates 10 Years Of Dedicated Service



Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter celebrated the 10th anniversary of its chartering during a weekend of festivities March 8-10, 2013. The theme for the event was “Celebrating our Past, Our Present and Our Future.” The activities for the weekend included a reception at the Berkley Hills Country Club, a Re-dedication Ceremony, a Jazz Brunch, worship service and chapter luncheon. Dr. Paulette C. Walker, National First Vice President and Southern Regional Director at the time the chapter was chartered, was the special-invited guest for the weekend and keynote speaker for the Jazz Brunch.

Other sorors in attendance included Beverly E. Smith, National Secretary; Patsy Pattman, North Georgia State Coordinator; Sandra Horton, Member of National

Scholarship and Standards Committee; Carolyn Jackson, Southern Region Protocol and Traditions Chair; Shirley Williams, Protocol and Traditions Chair-Georgia; and Cynthia Williams and Rosa Paris, Protocol and Traditions Chairs-Tennessee.

The chapter received accolades from the Governor of Georgia, Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners and the Mayor of Lawrenceville, Georgia. During the Sunday morning worship at Friendship Baptist Church, the chapter presented Sunday School children with healthy snacks in support of Delta’s goal to reduce childhood obesity. Sorors Karren Grant and Angela Howard served as Co-chairs for the 10th anniversary event.

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“A.G.” Granderson, local radio host and co-owner of Jazz and Jokes in Nashville. The Hella Temple #105 served as ushers for this occasion.

Miss Melondria Osborne was crowned Miss Jabberwock 2013. The First Runner-up was Miss Victoria Hill, and the Second Runner-up was Miss Ke’Arra Allen. Miss Congeniality as voted by her peers went to Miss Jamila Ray, and Miss Scholastic went to Miss Melondria Osborne.

Other contestants were Miss Jerilyn Elizabeth Evans, Miss De’Ja Gooch, Miss Dallisa Kilcrease, Miss Elizabeth Kimbrough, Miss Cierra McLemore and Miss Stephanie Wade. Escorts for this occasion were Jarrett Knight, Darius Lindsey, Kylene Marshall, Josten McClain, Dedrick Earl Moulton II, Daniel C. Shelton, Jr., Emmanuel Wallace, Darian Williams and Jordan Wilson.

Chapter Impacts The Community Through Community Play Day



Move Your Body group dances during Community Play Day.

The **Tallahassee Alumnae Chapter** (TAC) presented its annual IMPACT (Inspiring and Motivating Public Service Advocates for Community Transformation) Day 2013 activities on March 9, 2013. TAC partnered with the City of Tallahassee's Department of Parks and Recreation to host Community Play Day 2013: Impacting Communities through Healthy Lifestyle Choices at the Jack McLean Community Center.

The Community Play Day provided information about physical fitness and overall wellness. Attendees participated in a variety of fitness activities including the "Community Play Day Amazing Race," and the Delta G.E.M.S. "mobbed" danced to Beyoncé's "Move Your Body," which has been featured as part of First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign.



Participants in the wheel barrel race during Community Play Day.

Community vendors included Bond Community Health Clinic, Big Bend AHEC, Destiny Center, Jazz Playhouse, Fit for Life and the talented Chef Ross. Additional community participants included the Tallahassee Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., the Chi Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Beta Lambda Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., the Beta Delta Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., RHOERS, Delta G.E.M.S., Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy, and the Tallahassee Teen Council. The chapter especially thanked Sorors Felicia Battle-Jones, Cynthia Coaxum and Shakira Crandol as well as the rest of the Program Planning and Development Committee.

To view photos and video from this event, visit TAC's facebook page: www.facebook.com/TallyDST.

Greenville (MS) Alumnae Hosts Community Breakfast



Citizens for a Better Greenville (CBG) partnered with **Greenville (MS) Alumnae** to host a community breakfast at the chapter's sorority house. CBG was founded in 2001 to focus on parent and student organizing and advocacy for quality education for all local public school students. Joyce Parker, a soror in the chapter, serves as its director.

The continuous flow of people feasted on sausage biscuits and orange juice and was given a voice on radio station WBAD which broadcasted the event. Attendees

were peppered with questions about how they could work to improve the community and schools. The recurring theme from the conversation was the need for God back in the schools and home, and the need for parents to take responsibility for their children. Parents also suggested support for themselves through GED classes, a neighborhood garden and reading materials. Community leaders, including the city's mayor, addressed the group and answered their questions.

Your story can appear right here in the Southern Gazette!

Did you reconnect with line sisters while in the Nation's Capitol?

Is this your first National Convention? What was your experience?

What does Delta mean to you?

Share your memories and photos with the entire Southern Region. For submission details see page 43. Deadline for submitting your National Convention memory/experience is August 16, 2013.

100 Years

Scholarship, sisterhood & service

Representative Warren Appointed to Tuskegee Board of Trustees



On May 2, 2013, Alabama Governor Robert Bentley appointed **Representative Pebblin W. Warren**, Tuskegee alumna to the Tuskegee University Board of Trustees.

Soror Warren replaces Dr. Cade Armstrong, also a Tuskegee alumna. Born in Burke County, Georgia, Representative Pebblin was first elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in March 2005 and has represented District 82 since that time.

Representative Warren is married to Sheriff David M. Warren, has four daughters, three grandsons and one brother. She is also actively involved with her local Tuskegee University Alumni Chapter as well as various community organizations such as Aid to Inmate Mothers and the Macon-Russell Community Action Group. Indeed, Representative Warren has paved the way for Delta women to continue to lead within the state of Alabama.

National Secretary Testifies Before Senate Hearing Committee

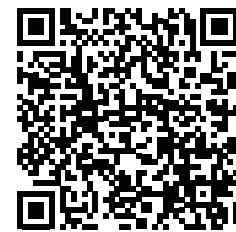
National Secretary Beverly E. Smith received an invitation from Senators Tom Harkin and Lamar Alexander to testify before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) on strengthening the U.S. workforce system through the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Soror Smith testified in Washington, D.C. as to why the



inclusion of adult education as equal partners in WIA reauthorization/funding is a critical component of

a state's comprehensive workforce systems.

The Senate hearing was broadcast on Thursday, June 20, 2013. View the broadcast by scanning the QR code.



Adobe Flash Player needed on mobile device in order to view. Video may not play on iPhones or iPads.

Soror Named Leader Of The Senate Democratic Caucus

Florida State **Senator Arthenia L. Joyner**, member of the **Tampa Alumnae Chapter**, was selected Leader of the Senate Democratic Caucus for the 2014-2016 term. This is the

first time in Florida's history that an African-American woman has led the Senate Democratic Caucus. Congratulations to The Honorable Arthenia L. Joyner.



Omega Omega



On January 19, 2013, **Soror Jacqueline Mozelle Shorter** entered the Omega Omega Chapter. Born on July 25, 1960, in Vicksburg, Mississippi, Soror Shorter confessed Christ at an early age at Locust Grove M.B.

Church. A 1978 graduate of Warren Central High School, she earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Alcorn State University. Soror Shorter had a successful career as a fourth grade teacher at South Park Elementary School. She was initiated into the Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated in April 2005.

Soror Shorter's accomplishments and involvements were numerous as she was actively involved with The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Vicksburg Club, Inc., Loving Friendship #20 Order of Eastern Star, Girl Scout Troop #5119, Meal on Wheels, and the Vicksburg-Warren Chapter of Alcorn State University Alumni. Soror Shorter also took pleasure in being involved with Keystone Ministries, the United Way Community Pantry, and the Vicksburg Public Library Summer Reading program. Of all her involvements, Soror Shorter was proud to be an active member of her church and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Soror Shorter leaves a host of family, friends and sorors to cherish her sweet legacy.

Delta Dear **Theresa Prince Williams** entered the Omega Omega Chapter on July 1, 2012. Born in Vicksburg, MS on March 3, 1919, Soror Williams was a graduate of Magnolia Avenue High School and Southern University. After college, Soror Williams worked for 40 years as a mathematics educator in the Vicksburg Public School System.

Soror Williams joined the Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter on June 4, 1981 as one of the chapter's first initiates. She truly loved Delta Sigma Theta's ideals and worked to exemplify them in her everyday life. Highly respected by her chapter members, Soror Williams was regarded as a strong, devoted, service-oriented helper who always had warm conversation for people she met. She was a member of many organizations including the Camille Art and Literary Club, The Links, Incorporated—Vicksburg Chapter, the Retired Educators Personnel of Vicksburg, and the Warren County Teachers Association.

Soror Williams is survived by her loving husband, Mr. Euphytee Williams, Sr. She was a devoted member of Jackson Street Baptist Church and the proud mother of four children and an adopted son. Soror Williams lived a truly amazing life. She appreciated Earth's beauty, always looked for the best in others, and gave the best she had. Her life was an inspiration to others and her legacy in Delta will be forever cherished.





Advocacy In Action During Florida's Delta Days At The Capitol

Florida Deltas convened their 19th Annual Delta Days at the Capitol April 7th–9th. About 75 sorors gathered in Tallahassee to discuss key issues, meet with legislators, attend legislative committee meetings and speak with policy makers. This year's theme was "Advocacy in Action: A Century of Service."

Soror Yolanda Cash-Jackson kicked off the opening workshop with "DDAC 1-0-1" which provided an update of issues and bills on the committee calendars for the upcoming week; discussed where key legislators stood on bills; discussed bill history; and walked sorors through the week's legislative proceedings.

A video tribute during the Carrie P. Meek Servant Leadership Awards Breakfast paid homage to Sorors Yvonne Kennedy, Larcenia Bullard and Mercedese R. Clark. Southern Region Social Action Coordinator Donna Bowman gave the charge for advocacy, social action and involvement. Soror Dorothy Inman-Johnson, former mayor of Tallahassee, served as the keynote speaker.

The Lakeland Alumnae Chapter won the Get out the Vote (GOTV) Award, and St. Petersburg Alumnae won the award for the Most Innovative GOTV Initiative. Soror Arthenia L. Joyner received the Legislator of the Year Award. Senator Joyner is the current chair of the Legislative Black Caucus and was recently



elected Democratic Leader Designate of the Florida Senate. Soror Cash-Jackson received the Carrie P. Meek Servant Leadership Award. Soror Cash-Jackson is a successful lobbyist and a managing partner with Becker-Poliakoff, P.A.

Concurrent panel discussions on education disparity, accountability, and advocacy to stop violence, which focused on gun control and Florida's Stand Your Ground Law generated lively interactions and gave sorors an additional opportunity to frame their discussions with legislators.

Deltas painted the city red, representing in House and Senate committee meetings and speaking on issues, asking questions of legislators, meeting with their members and debriefing in the Senate. Deltas are proud advocates for the people of Florida!

Legislative Conversations With Tennessee Legislators



Tennessee sorors recently held Legislative Conversations with their Tennessee legislators on March 26, 2013 at the Tennessee State Capitol.

Thirty-nine sorors from Chattanooga, Knoxville, Jackson, Memphis, Murfreesboro and Nashville attended Legislative Conversations. On hand to help with the day of engagement were Tennessee State Coordinator, Sandra Cannon and Tennessee Social Action Coordinator Brenda Gilmore. Several of the Tennessee Social Action team members were also present and assisted with the program. Topics of discussion included:

- Domestic Abuse: Violence Against Women
- The Women's HIV/Aids Epidemic
- Focusing on Education and Mass Incarceration

The Tennessee Get Out The Vote (GOTV) in Excellence Award was presented to Shelby County Alumnae and Nashville Alumnae chapters for having outstanding GOTV programs that produced results in getting people to come out and vote and created awareness about the importance of being politically involved.

Sorors also celebrated Rosa Parks' 100th birthday and hosted the unveiling of the Rosa Parks and the Emancipation Proclamation U.S. stamps. Community partners included the United States Postal Service, the NAACP, the National Hook Up of Black Women and the Nashville Alumnae Chapter and the Nashville Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Approximately 100 people from the Nashville community were in attendance.

Sorors concluded Legislative Conversations by attending the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators meeting to create awareness about political involvement and eradicating injustice among the poor, among children and among women and those who cannot speak for themselves.

Sorors also made a donation to WOMEN, an organization that supports African-American women with HIV/AIDS.

See you in Tampa, Florida
for the Southern Regional Conference
June 26-29, 2014



Come help the Southern Region celebrate
88 years of service!

Host chapters:
Tampa Alumnae
Tampa Metropolitan Alumnae
Kappa Iota (University of South Florida)
Tau Iota (University of Tampa)



Guidelines for submitting articles to the newsletter

How To Submit Articles

- Submissions should be e-mailed to journalist@dstsouthernregion.com
- Articles should be attached as a Word document
- Do not send articles in PDF format
- Do not send url links from other media sources as article
- Word count in article should be between 250 - 500 words

How To Submit Photography

- Photos should be e-mailed as an attachment to journalist@dstsouthernregion.com in jpeg format
- Do not send photos embedded in a Word document
- When submitting a photo please include a caption, identifying everyone in the photo from left to right
- Photos need to be high resolution: 300 dpi or higher
- Do not send photos that are not in focus
- Consider action shots, not just posed photos

**DELTA
SIGMA
THETA
IS MOVEMENT
A NOT A
MONUMENT**



51st National Convention
Washington, D.C.