

The Cultured Pearl Connection

Edition 13, Volume 13

January 2017

From the desk of the Basileus...

My Dear Sorors,

Happy, Happy New Year! I trust that you have had a great Christmas and New Year, and are positioned to begin the sprint through 2017. I know you share my exuberance for the new year, and rightfully so, as much is on the horizon for Gamma Xi Omega Chapter in 2017.



Sorors, let me share some good news with you! First, we have submitted the requested papers to Wells Fargo Bank in preparation for our new loan application. Second, the Chapter's End of Year reports have been submitted. Thanks to all chairmen for submitting reports to me and Soror Gretchen in a timely manner. The Tamiochous and the financial officers are preparing the last two reports that require bank statements. These reports will be completed and submitted in mid-January, which will be well within Corporate's return window. Finally, the old windows on Side B are no longer in the building!! They were sold on December 29th.

On January 2nd, we participated in the Emancipation Proclamation Parade, as we have done in the past. This year, school was in session, so we had no student participation. Not a problem for us! Sorors LoElla Smalls and D'Jaris Whipper-Lewis gladly accepted the invitation, hopped aboard the float with me, and enjoyed the ride. Though we were the only Greek lettered organization to participate this year, we did so with great pride for the significance of the parade to the African-American community. We had a great time and we looked good, as we always do! (Smile)

*More good news! On January 7th, Sisterly Relations arranged a private viewing of the movie, **Hidden Figures**, at the Citadel Mall Theater. Youth Leadership young ladies and ASCEND students accompanied us. What a wonderful opportunity to showcase the diverse talents that have always existed among our membership! Our AKA Pride was showing!!*

I am also super excited to share with you these two important activities. At our first meeting in 2017, our Program Chairman, Soror Gretchen Morgan, will lead us in a celebratory second half Inauguration of Launching New Dimensions of Service. We will conclude the month with a grand reception in our building for Soror Victoria Simpson, Undergraduate Member-at-Large. Whew! What a month!

*Finally Sorors, let me take the time to thank each of you for the superb jobs you accomplished in 2016! I could not have asked for more, as your Basileus. You embraced my administration with excitement, love, creativity, a spirit of sisterliness, and a mind to **"Serve All Mankind"**! I look forward to a very spectacular 2017!*

*Thanks again for catching the Gamma Xi Omega fever as we continue to find **"greater laurels to win, greater tasks to begin"** for love of our great sisterhood!*

Sisterly,

Soror Marguerite S. Middleton

2017 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Marguerite S. Middleton
Basileus

Gretchen B. Morgan
Anti-Basileus

Kimberly Perrineau-Jackson
Grammateus

Patricia H. Green
Anti-Grammateus

Felicia Wright
Pecunious Grammateus

April Rivers Bowman
Epistoleus

D'Jaris Whipper-Lewis
Tamiouchos

Pearl Givens
Anti-Tamiouchos

Clarice Lemon
Hodegos

Rosa Bowens
Philacter

Deborah Smalls
Parliamentarian

Dronica DeBerry
Ivy Leaf Reporter

Ruth M. Buck
Historian

Margaret Thomas
Graduate Advisor

Noni Jenkins
Graduate Advisor

Carmelita Pryor
Pan Hellenic Representative

64TH South Atlantic Regional Conference

March 22-26, 2017

Atlanta, Georgia

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW.**



Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel
265 Peachtree Center Ave. NE
Atlanta, GA. 30303
(404) 521-0000

Group Rate: \$159.00 + taxes and state hotel fee
Deadline for Room Reservations: March 2, 2017
(Call hotel directly and make reservations.)

FYI: We will elect delegates for the Regional Conference at the January Chapter Meeting.

Reminders:

- Let's Register in Record Numbers!
- Let's Prepare Our Awards Entries to Bring Home the Gold!

The **Youth Leadership** Luncheon/Talent Show will be held on February 4, 2017, at the Tanger Crowne Plaza, at 11 am. The cost for sorors is \$25. Sponsors are asked to purchase a gift for their prospective debutantes to be presented at the luncheon. The final collection date will be January 14, 2017, before the chapter meeting.

Public Relations – Soror Dronica DeBerry, Chairman

If any committee would like publicity coverage for events, please complete the Public Relations Coverage Request form and send it to Soror Dronica DeBerry at ddeberry@gmail.com. Please submit all requests at least two weeks prior to the event.

SICK & SHUT-IN, BEREAVEMENT –
Our thoughts and prayers are with you...

Soror Thomasine Grant Soror Cecila Rogers
Soror Marguerite Mosley

Akilah Warley, death of her grandmother
All other Sorors experiencing illness or bereavement

It's Almost Time!

Founders' Day 2017

Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority, Inc.

109 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE!



Friendly Reminder:

By Chapter action, our lot is rented each week from 6:15 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. Monday-Friday. We have been asked not to block cars, as the tenant can call for cars in violation to be towed.

January - Eta Group Barbara Wilson, Captain

Katesha Breland	Ruth M. Buck
Phoenicia B. Flowers	Roberta M. Frasier
Ruby N. Martin	Gretchen B. Morgan
Jacqueline Ormond	Michelle Govan-Seymour
Emily L. Smith	Miriam D. Smith
Avis Arnette Umstead	Delores Cruse Kemp
Geneva Bennett	Karen Harvey
Tazekqua McIntyre	Rose McQueen
Linette Nesbitt	

~Happy Birthday~



January 2017

Latarsha	Ashby	2
Lottie	Otto	3
Patricia H.	Brown	6
Stephanie	Fludd-Small	6
Edwina	Gadsden	9
Jacqueline	Ormond	9
Michelle	Govan-Seymore	14
Katherine	Whitaker	19
Andrea	Stanley	23
Patricia H.	Green	24
Esther	Black	28
Dollie	Brown	30

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

64th South Atlantic Regional Conference

Conference Deadlines Checklist ✓

<u>Item/Form</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>
Conference Registration–Early (Graduate)	\$185.00 and Event Prices	January 31
Conference Registration–Early (Undergraduate)	\$95.00 and Event Prices	January 31
Conference Registration–Late (Graduate)	\$260.00 and Event Prices	February 22
Conference Registration–Late (Undergraduate)	\$145.00 and Event Prices	February 22
Reinstatement Workshop	Soror Patricia Watkins	January 9
Graduate Advisor Certification	Soror Elaine Singh	February 1
Financial Officer Certification	Space Limited 65	Until Filled
Delegate Certification	Soror Sharon Brown Harriott Registration Committee	February 20
Resolutions	Soror Sharon Brown Harriott Soror Clemontine Washington	February 22
Recommendations	Soror Sharon Brown Harriott Soror Trudie Carmichael	February 22
Regional Awards and Exhibits Applications Chapter Participation Fee/Form	Soror Iva Walters	January 31
Scrapbook entries mailed	Soror Dianne Williams-Cox	February 10-18
Chapter Basilei Chat	Soror Devetta Williams Hughes	February 22
First Time Attendees Orientation Form	Soror Shevawn Broxton Young	February 22
Mary Shy Scott Leadership Breakfast	Soror Charlette Chambers	February 22
Solomon-White Legacy Luncheon Form/Photos/Fee	Soror Britney Llantini	February 22
Undergraduate Awards Luncheon Form/Fee/CD/Photos	Soror Claire Gelin	February 22
Workshop Convener/Recorder Form	Soror Doretha H. Glymph	February 22
2017 Diamond/Golden/Silver Stars and Chapter Anniversaries	Soror Anita Favors-Thompson	February 22
Undergraduate Step/Stroll-Off Show Form and Fee/Participants Form/CD	Soror Melisande Nestor	March 3
Ivy Beyond the Wall Form	Soror Patricia Coleman	February 22
Refund Requests (in writing)	Soror Sharon Brown Harriott	February 22