

AKA

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated® Beta Delta Omega Chapter -Jackson, MS



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### Message From The Basileus

Sorors,

As 2023 comes to a close, I want to reflect on the wonderful deeds that Beta Delta Omega was able to do for our community. Thank you to all the committee chairs, co-chairs, members and friends who assisted Beta Delta Omega in making a GRAND impact.

During the Fall of 2023, our chapter continued to implement the Soaring initiatives, with Empower Our Families by providing CHIPP bags and services to the Youth Leadership Initiative. Our young leaders demonstrated their leadership skills during each session, and we are proud to see them work together.

With the Uplift Our Local Community, Beta Delta Omega Chapter held the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Bethlehem Center. We fed over 75 individuals from the community. This event has been implemented by our chapter for over 50 years and the community looks forward to it each year. This committee also participated in the Home Dedication for the family whose home we assisted in building during the summer's Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build. It was just a joyous occasion to see the family being blessed with this home.

The Social Justice and Connections committees collaborated with each other to hold a Voter Education Seminar and Gubernatorial Watch Party. The seminar was empowering and encouraged every woman to exercise her right to vote.

I hope everyone is taking time to rest during this holiday season and gearing up for a Fantastic, Fun, and Fulfilling 2024. We have so many things planned for the members and community. I will not spoil the surprises, but just say, "Stay Tuned." I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy New Year.

Sisterly in Service, Soror Sharron Williams Basileus



### Disaster Preparedness Month September 2023

September is Disaster Preparedness Month, an annual campaign held since 2004 by FEMA to raise awareness about the importance of being prepared for disasters and emergencies. This year, Disaster Preparedness Month hit home with Beta Delta Omega as several sorors were directly impacted by the deadly tornado that hit Rolling Fork, Mississippi in March 2023. The tornado destroyed 85% of the town, and there were 13 fatalities. The Disaster Relief Committee coordinated a donation drive, and sorors were asked to donate various items from water, personal hygiene, cleaning and sanitizing products, clothing, non-perishable foods, baby items, and totes. The donated items were distributed to members of the Rolling Fork Community. President Joe Biden visited Rolling Fork on March 31, 2023.

This year, Beta Delta Omega introduced a digital campaign to educate sorors, family members, and their communities on simple steps to prepare and respond to disasters and emergencies. In Mississippi, we are most likely to experience hurricanes and tornadoes. Sorors were asked to complete 3 tasks:

1. Get informed about the disasters and emergencies that could occur in Mississippi and appropriate responses.

- 2. Prepare an emergency supply kit tailored to your family needs.
- 3. Develop a family emergency plan.

Sorors took pictures to document themselves getting prepared for disasters. Handouts from FEMA were distributed to help sorors create an emergency supply kit and family emergency plan. Youth coloring and activity books were distributed to help sorors educate their children on disaster preparedness.

#### Fameika Thomas Disaster Relief Committee Chair





# Leadership AKAdemy

The Basilei Council conducted the Fall Leadership AKAdemy on September 12. The purpose of this event was to enhance members' knowledge of how to effectively impact chapter operations. Topics included roles and responsibilities of officers, committee chairmen, and members. Special thank you to the following presenters: Sorors Mitzi Dease Paige, Terryce Walker, Toni Moore and Armerita Tell. Soror Glenda Haynes, the Nominating Chair, gave information on the upcoming November nominations to elect chapter officers. She challenged sorors to contemplate and broaden their leadership by serving as chapter officers.



# Leadership AKAdemy





ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED® Beta Delta Omega Chapter BASILEI COUNCIL FALL LEADERSHIP AKADEMY Beta Delta Ornega Center Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Soaring to Greater Heights of Leadership within Beta Delta Omega AGENDA Call to Order Soror Rose J. Franklin 43<sup>rd</sup> Basileus, Basilei Council Chairman Soror Glenda R. Haynes 35° Basileus, Basilei Council Co-Chairman Madination Growtings. Soror Sharron U. Williams Basileus Leadership Development Sessions Effectively Soaring as Members Soror Terryce Walker 32<sup>nd</sup> Basileus Effectively Soaring as Committee Leaders . Soror Mitzi Dease Paige 33<sup>rd</sup> Basileus and 26<sup>th</sup> South Eastern Regional Director Effectively Soaring as Officers Soror Armerita D. Tell 41" Basil Are you Ready to Scar? \_\_\_\_ 35<sup>th</sup> Basileus and Nominating Committee Chain Closing Remarks . Seror Sharron U. Williams Basileus 2023 BASILEI COUNCIL MEMBERS Carolyn E. Hacket (1983) 26<sup>th</sup> Mitsi Desse Paige (1997-2998) 33rd Toni Moore (2007-2008) 38th Armerita D. Tell (2013-2014) 41st Candle L. Simmons (2023-2022) 45th Juanita Sims Doty (1991-2993) 30th Glenda R. Haynes (2001-2002) 30th Tonya L. Farker (2009-2010) 39th Rose J. Franklin (2017-2018) 43rd Mildred B. Kelley (1974-1975) 22nd 989 8. Asimp (1296-1293) 2010 yoe N. Walker (2965-1296) 321d enise Weight (2005-2006) 37th vda B. Glover (2011-2012) 40th retrice Williams Wells (2009-2020) 44th



# **CLUSTER 2023**

"Powered Up and Soaring" Cluster VI was held on September 23, in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Mu Xi Omega Chapter was the host chapter. This was a day full of sisterly fun and learning. There were 26,362 personal care items collected for women and girls. These items were donated to Haven House Family Shelter, which is a facility that serves families impacted by domestic violence. Congratulations to the Juanita Sims Doty Foundation for receiving a special donation to assist Rolling Fork.









# CULTURED PEARL BRUNCH 2023



The Sisterly Relations Committee did an astounding job with the annual Cultured Pearl Brunch held September 30. This brunch was a time to celebrate and show our beautiful and wise sorors how much they mean to our chapter.



### **CULTURED PEARL BRUNCH 2023**







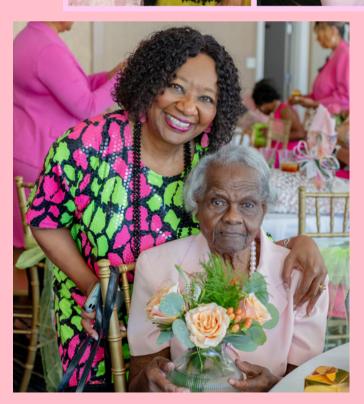














### **CULTURED PEARL BRUNCH 2023**













#### Beta Delta Omega Chapter's Breast Cancer Survivors



#### **The Basilei Council**



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# **Homecoming Reactivation**

The Membership and the Sisterly Relations committees hosted a Homecoming: A Reclamation & Reactivation event September 29. The purpose of the event was to fellowship and reclaim our pearls.

Below is the list of Active Transfers and Reactivations for 2023:

- Patricia S Daniels
- Jorri Davis
- Stephanie Holt
- Shanderia Minor
- Ena Scott
- Foslesshia Winston
- Tameka Winston
- Arnita Ford Norwood
- Terrica Gray
- ReJohnna Brown Mitchell
- Damasia Jordan
- Alexandria Morgan
- Xhana Thompson
- Zuri WIlliams

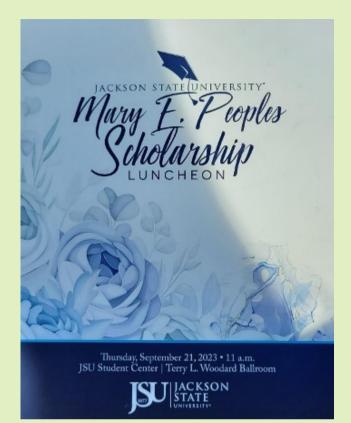






# Scholarship Luncheon

The 5th Mary E. Peoples Scholarship Luncheon was held September 21. Beta Delta Omega Chapter represented for our very own Mary E. Peoples. It was an amazing event and over \$260K was raised for scholarships.





### **SOROR SPOTLIGHT**

Pretty Exclusive Designs, LLC. was established on December 1, 2019 by Tekita L. Williams. God planted a seed in her to create customized and personalized items that would allow her to utilize her gifts and talents He had instilled in her. Pretty Exclusive Designs, LLC. lives by her motto, "Custom Designs with YOU in Mind!" All items are created and handmade by Tekita with love. Some items she specializes in are: T-shirts, tumblers, mugs, coasters, ornaments, tote bags, wine glasses, etc.

If you're interested in learning more about Pretty Exclusive Designs, LLC., you can visit her social media pages (Facebook and Instagram) or contact Tekita by phone at (601) 573-5911 or by email at PrettyExclusiveDesigns@gmail.com.



### **October Chapter Meeting**

Beta Delta Omega's October meeting was led by our beautiful undergraduates of Gamma Rho Chapter at Jackson State University. These young ladies did an awesome job facilitating the meeting.







### Let Go and Grow

On October 10, sorors met at the BDO center, stated their affirmation, and participated in a balloon release. The balloon release symbolized the intentional release of elements that may hinder personal and sorority growth, as they strive toward becoming more authentic and truer to themselves.

#### Affirmation

"For my peace, I'm allowing myself to evaluate my relationships with people and things that leave me feeling drained. I cannot abandon my peace of mind for the comfort of others. When people have unhealthy behaviors, I can end my relationship with them or change the way I interact with them. I am not responsible for how people respond to my boundaries. I can listen to people without assuming that my help is needed. When asked to help, I will help in a way that does not take anything away from me, caring for myself. I am no longer committed to changing the minds of people who are committed to misunderstanding me. I am not forcing unhealthy relationships with people because we have known each other for years, used to be close, know the same people, or are related. I can say no without feeling guilty. I do not have to do more than I can handle. I value my peace of mind over the appearance of having certain people in my life. I can be amazing, and still not for everyone."



### Let Go and Grow



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### Enhance Our Environment committee volunteers at garden

On October 24, the Enhance Our Environment committee volunteered at True Vine Missionary Baptist Church community garden in a partnership with the Veterans and Community Growth Association. The mission of the Veterans and Community Growth is to alleviate food insecurities among Mississippi's veterans and to provide awareness to the veterans and also provide their communities with life-sustaining produce and fresh vegetables. Fighting food insecurities on every front, Enhance Our Environment is also making a \$500 dollar donation and partnering with the Veterans and Community Growth Association to plant fruit trees at some of these community gardens.



### **Political Watch Party/ Voter Education**

The Social Justice and the Connections Committee hosted a Voter Education Forum and Gubernational Debate Watch Party on November 1, at the BDO Center. This event was open to the public.





# **Youth Leadership Institute**

The Youth Leadership Institute Team hosted its fall activity at the Escape Room. The children had a great time. This was an awesome opportunity to encourage our youth to use their thinking skills and to demonstrate the importance of teamwork.





### Fall fun at the escape room with YLI!











### Generation Next

Generation Next hosted a Paint Party on November 11 at Studio AMN Designs. Sorors had the opportunity to express and challenge themselves artistically while connecting with like-minded ladies.







### **Book Club**

BDO hosted the Circle of Sisters Book Club, which included Beta Delta Omega, Rho Lambda Omega, Upsilon Upsilon Omega, and Omega Beta Omega Chapters. This event was held at the BDO center on November 10.





# **Gratitude Month**

BDO celebrated Gratitude Month on November 12 at New Hope Baptist Church. Sorors spent their Sunday morning together for praise and worship service. After church sorors had lunch at Zea Rotisserie.





# Thanksgiving

Each year BDO celebrates Thanksgiving with the Bethlehem Center and community members. The annual Thanksgiving dinner was held on November 19, at Bethlehem Center. Sorors prepared a delicious feast and served dinner to the community.











# **Soror Spotlight**

Dr. Channing Wells is the owner of Wells Vision, LLC located in Hazlehurst, Mississippi. Dr. Wells enjoys getting to know all of her patients and takes pride in providing full scope optometric services. Her goal is to provide friendly and professional eye care services to communities in the Copiah, Hinds, and Lincoln county areas.





On December 3, members of NPHC Metro Jackson Chapter spent the day decorating the Hope House of Hospitability with festive door wreathes and beautiful Christmas decorations throughout the home. Hope House of Hospitality is a non-profit organization that serves as a temporary home for Mississippi's seriously ill patients who travel to Jackson for service treatments.





#### Congratulations Soror Latonya Moore on being elected Vice President of NPHC Jackson Chapter



Congratulations!

#### LATONYA MOORE 2024 VICE PRESIDENT ELECT





The Generation Next committee hosted a PRETTY Christmas Sweater Game Night on December 14. Sorors played Phase 10, Black Card Revoked, Kulture Karoke, and had a demonstration of how to play spades.



### Strengthen Our Sisterhood Christmas Party

The Sisterly Relations committee hosted the 2023 Christmas Party on December 17 at the BDO Center. A time was had as sorors danced, enjoyed good food, and fellowshipped with one another. BDO collected feminine products to donate to local middle school students.













# **Uplift Our Community**

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity for Uplift Our Local Community Committee to serve and bless the Thomas Family this Christmas. It is a privilege to be able to make a positive impact in someone's life during the holiday season, especially when they may be facing challenges or hardships. Through our collaboration with the Thomas Family, we were able to provide them with much-needed support and resources that brought so much joy and assisted with alleviating some of the mother's burdens. Being part of this program allows me to not only demonstrate my gratitude for the blessings in my own life by witnessing memorable moments like this but also gives me a sense of purpose and fulfillment knowing that we as a committee were able to make a difference in someone else's life.

Uplift Our Local Community program strives to uplift families by meeting an unmet need. This initiative aligns perfectly with our sorority's commitment to provide service to all mankind. By extending our support to the Thomas Family specifically, we are able to create a more personalized connection and address their unique needs directly. The ability to collaborate with other members of my sorority in order to bring joy and hope into someone's life is an incredible experience that fills my heart with gratitude. Thank you all for being committed to being part of making a life-altering impact in other's lives.

> Sisterly, Soror Keneshia Lee Uplift Our Local Community Chair



# **Adopt A Family**

I want to give God all the glory and praise. My name is Natasha Thomas. I'm a single mother of two Jayden and Janiya. Janiya is 17 and Jayden is 12. Janiya is a cheerleader for Forest Hill. Jayden is still finding his way but he loves video games, talking on the phone with friends, and he is very crafty with arts.

First off I would like to thank our Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. family. You all have truly been God's Earth angels for my family. This was the first year we were not your adopted family. We understand the program had to come to the end. This year was trying and also this week was one of the most horrible weeks of my life. I've cried that entire week because of the challenges I was facing. All I could do was stand on God's Word Psalms 91. I keep repeating it to myself until my atmosphere changes. Who knew God will be working it out behind-thescenes on our behalf.

I received a call on Saturday, December 23, from Keneshia Lee that turned my sorrow into praise and joy. She shared that my AKA family had some money in the Adopt-a-Family budget and wanted to bless me and my family. My eyes instantly filled with tears because I knew at the moment God hadn't forget about us. I am forever grateful and with tears rolling down my face as I write.

I wholeheartedly thank you all for everything you did and do for me and my family. Your acts of kindness - words can not express how much they mean to us. Know that our hearts smile because of you all. My prayer is that God continues to bless my AKA family mind, body, soul, and organization. May He continue to use you all to be a blessing to me, my family and so many other people. We love you all and are very appreciative for all you have done.



# Soror Spotlight

Shout out to our very own Soror Jennifer Riley Collins for being appointed by President Joe Biden as the new Regional Administrator for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Region IV covers Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands. She was sworn in on December 4 in D.C.



### Childhood Hunger Initiative Power Packs

On December 20, sorors packed CHIPP bags filled with breakfast, lunch and dinner meals. They delivered these meals to the Bethlehem Center, Lester Elementary, and Wilkins Elementary School. A total of 133 students received food bags for the holiday break.





### Childhood Hunger Initiative Power Packs









### The Last 2023 Chapter Meeting





#### Welcome Dr. Glenda Glover

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated® Former International President from 2018 - 2022 Beta Delta Omega Chapter Member





### **The Last 2023 Chapter Meeting**





### **The Last 2023 Chapter Meeting**







### The Last 2023 Chapter Meeting Congratulations Sorors!

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Beta Delta Omega Chapter

#### 2023 Individual Spirit Award



Soror Stephanie Smith Jefferson

Dedication to the Rolling Fork, MS Tornado Victims
Provided Professional Counseling



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Beta Delta Omega Chapter

#### 2023 Individual Spirit Award



#### Soror Tonya Tate

- Dedication to the Rolling Fork, MS Tornado Victims
- Provided Professional Counseling

Jorri Davis

#### Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Beta Delta Omega Chapter





Lilly Adams, Co-Chair



Vikki Mumford, Chair



Towanda Sharkey, Co-Chair

Lakein McGee

Committee Members



Krishna Murriel



Alice Doss

Marlisa Scott

#### September

April Beckley 9/25 9/24 Demesia Brown 9/11 Tita Cheatham 9/11 Gwendolyn S. Dawkins Barbara C. Dease 9/16 9/14 Vondakay Hardin 9/18 Akilah Irvin 9/18 Lurlene Blakley Irvin Lori Hill Marshall 9/21 9/7 Sheree R. Melton 9/1 Tatyana Montgomery 9/25 Tamika Ross McBride 9/27 Adrienne Sizer Johnson 9/29 Lucille M. Spears Armerita D. Tell 9/4 9/10 LaVonda White



#### October

	▶ ■	
Tonya Adams	10/21	
Falanda Addison-Ross	10/14	
Monica Bates	10/26	
Tiffany Burks	10/30	
Areda Cockrell-Harris	10/25	
KaShonda Day	10/18	
Teresa Demeritte	10/8	
Sarah L. Foote	10/23	
Vevelyn Foster	10/29	
Crystal Gray Brown	10/23	
Frances Greer-Morris	10/12	
Jasmine Guy	10/23	
Tondra Hall	10/20	
Glenda Haynes	10/4	
Delores W. Hopkins	10/6	
Whitney Jackson	10/21	
Victoria Johnson	10/23	
Mildred B. Kelley	10/3	
Krishna Murriel	10/27	
Sylvia C. Owens	10/20	
Nia Robinson	10/12	
Brittany Sanders	10/18	
Lilly R. Silas	10/6	
Alice Smith	10/12	
Alicia Y. Smith-Washington 10/30		
Jessica Tucker	10/7	
Jessica Wilson	10/18	
Foslesshia Winston	10/22	
Tameka Winston	10/12	



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### November

11/24 Shirley R. Bacon 11/3 Shaquita Burke 11/10 Jennifer Collins 11/12 Alice A. Doss 11/23 Terrica Gray 11/26 LaTasha Hadley 11/13 Sandra Jenkins 11/23 Gloria B. Johnson 11/1 Evelyn J. Leggette 11/2 Ursula Debi May 11/12 Erica McKinley 11/16 Kandis Moore 11/23 LaTonya Moore 11/16 **Toni Carey Moore** Towanda Baker Sharkey 11/17 11/10 Fameika Thomas 11/2 Wendy White 11/4 **Tonitrice Wicks** 



### December

Jasmine Marie Barnes	12/28
Jacqueline Carter Houston	12/20
Amber Davis	12/18
Nakimuli Davis-Primer	12/7
Denise D. Drake	12/21
Alicia Duren	12/4
Jasmine Gibson	12/5
Vanessa Gordon Landing	12/6
Edna Byrd Harris	12/26
Deedra Hughes	12/15
Candice Jackson	12/23
Belivira Junior	12/22
Josie Latham	12/13
Kelli May	12/27
Mitzi Morris	12/27
Candra Nelson-Scott	12/7
Jasmine Thomas	12/25
Brenda Kaye Miller Thompson	12/9
Jessica Lynnette Washington	12/8
Channing Wells	12/31
Michelle Winn	12/23
Dolores M. Wright	12/25

