



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED®
Beta Delta Omega Chapter – Jackson, MS

THE **IVY**
Chronicle



ISSUE 1: VOL: 1
JANUARY 2023



What's in this Issue:

- Gavel Presentation - 3
- Basileus Message - 4
- AKA Day of Service - 5
- Youth Leadership Institute - 8
- Enhance our Environment Activities - 9
- Prayer Breakfast - 11
- Leadership Development Committee - 13
- Kudos Korner - 14
- Meet the Leadership Team - 16
- Sorors' Goals - 18
- Soror Birthdays - 19

PASSING THE GAVEL

The Presidents' Council of Beta Delta Omega Chapter conducted the Gavel Presentation on January 21, 2023, for Madam Basileus Sharron U. Williams, 46th Basileus of Beta Delta Omega.



Soror Sharron U. Williams
46th Basileus, Beta Delta Omega Chapter

MESSAGE FROM THE BASILEUS

Sorors, what exciting times await us!

I am so elated to start this new year, new administration, and a new international program as the 46th Basileus of Beta Delta Omega Chapter. Leading a premier chapter with over 350 members is no small task, but I'm extremely honored and grateful to have this opportunity. I believe wholeheartedly that we will "Soar to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood" as we execute the "Power of Us". Beta Delta Omega Chapter, as always, will rise to the occasion triumphally. I can't wait!

Immediately, we started 2023 off quite 'PEARLfectly'. We hit the ground running implementing several community service activities, including "We Are One" MLK Day of Service and a water drive with Comedian Mike Epps. We also held our first in-person Founders Day since 2020. I must say that this public event was not only a grand occasion that celebrated 115 years of service to our beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha but one that inspired and stimulated our hearts to continue the vision of our founders; I simply could not be prouder. This program was precluded by several community service activities, including Pamper Me Pink, Dine Around, and a collaborative collection of donations for the homeless.

Acknowledging that many are still facing uncertain times around the world, it is clear that Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, and Beta Delta Omega Chapter remain strong and resilient. There is much work to be done. Moreover, as we continue through the year in the spirit of Service and Sisterhood, I encourage each of you to personally reach out to sorors you do not know and invite them to committee meetings and events so we can get to know each other even more. I also encourage you to contact a senior soror and get to know her. These sorors have given so much of their time and effort to make the Beta Delta Omega Chapter successful. There will be numerous opportunities through our AKA Soror Squad, Strengthen our Sisterhood, and partnerships with other committees to engage with one another. There is strength in unity and collaboration.

Let's go onward and upward Sorors. Let's 'Soar to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood'!

Yours in service and sisterhood,

Soror Sharron U. Williams
Basileus



“WE ARE ONE”

AKA SERVICE DAY

MLK We Are One Day of Service aids seniors, community and youth

Beta Delta Omega participated in the MLK Intergenerational “We Are One” Service Day held from 1-3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, at City Plaza, 2460 Terry Road in Jackson. More than 9,300 items were collected for those in need.

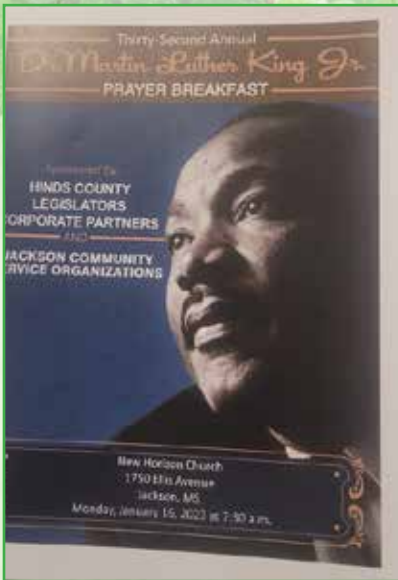
The event was a remarkable success and open to the community. It was held in partnership with the Metro Jackson Pan-Hellenic Council, the JSD (Dr. Juanita Sims Doty) Foundation, the Erik Dampier Foundation and the Jack and Jill of America – Jackson, Mississippi chapter.

On this Day of Service, meant to honor and celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., more than 400 individuals, including at least 33 BDO members, participated by collecting, sorting and/or delivering critically needed items to Stewpot Community Services, Billy Brumfield Men’s Shelter, Matt’s House Shelter for Women and Children, and various senior living facilities in Jackson.

Items collected included 1,810 warm coats, gloves, hats, socks, scarves, blankets, throws, and men’s thermal underwear; 323 toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, hand sanitizer, combs, Lysol wipes, toothbrushes, and toothpaste; 3,050 paper goods such as toilet tissue, paper towels, paper plates, paper cups, knives, forks, and garbage bags; and 4,150 canned goods and numerous additional food items.

The Intergenerational Community Day of Service was designed to support seniors, serve others and mentor youth. MLK Day of Service is an Area of Focus under Soaring to Greater Heights of Service & Sisterhood initiative in which all members join together to volunteer and serve the community side-by-side.





Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Beta Delta Omega Chapter

"We Are One" AKA Day of Service

MLK DAY

INTERGENERATIONAL
COMMUNITY
DAY OF SERVICE



We invite you to bring your family and Honor Dr. King with a Day of Service by donating critically needed items in support of Stawpoot, Billy Brunfield Men's Shelter and various Senior Living Facilities in Jackson:

- Warm Coats & Accessories (hats, gloves, scarves)
- Canned Goods
- Paper Goods

#BDOMLKDAY2023

Save our seniors Support others Mentor our youth

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HETERO JACKSON NAACP BRANCH, VAN HELLING COUNCIL, JSD FOUNDATION AND SUZANNA WALKER BOY & THE BIRD DAMIAN FOUNDATION

Monday,
January 16, 2023
1:00pm - 3:00pm
CITY PLAZA
2640 Terry Rd
Jackson, MS
39204



YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Beta Delta Omega, in collaboration with Gamma Omicron and Gamma Rho chapters, has hosted three sessions of the sorority's Youth Leadership Institute Program. The first session was held Oct. 23, 2022, with 13 youths ages 11-13 who became actively involved in the inaugural meet and greet/orientation gathering. The students quickly bonded and jumped right in to discover their leadership styles and choose their program activities.

With lots of collaboration, students led subsequent sessions while creating vision boards and conducting personality quizzes. In the third session, students were challenged and their critical thinking skills were put to the ultimate test. Using the theme "Imagining the Future and Its Possibilities," participants visited a local escape room where they executed team building, goal-setting, and problem-solving proficiencies. Using clues, the youth escaped successfully and were rewarded with certificates to celebrate the mid-year progress. YLI, a youth-led and highly interactive leadership development program designed to empower and engage youth, is an Area of Focus under the International Program's Empower Our Families Initiative.

YLI students eagerly displayed their leadership in service by assisting during the MLK Day of Service event. What a wonderful way to spend the MLK holiday by giving back to others!



Enhance Our Environment

Committee activities include planting tulips, recycling, and providing energy savings tips



The Enhance Our Environment Committee and CAP, Inc.'s Beautification Committee met on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023, to plant tulips at the Beta Delta Omega Center. The Enhance Our Environment Committee's focus under the Soaring to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood administration is to promote and share knowledge about the community and home gardening, planting trees, waste reduction, and recycling that will help sorors and communities understand how to improve their environmental stewardship and reduce their environmental footprint.

The Enhance Our Environment Committee's purpose for supporting tulip planting was not just for their beauty but also for their ability to connect sorors to the Earth. As humans, we have a significant impact on the Earth. Gardeners, in particular, are individuals

who are more aware of their impact on the Earth and who also think about ways they can give to the Earth and not take from it so we have an environment to sustain us into the future.

The benefits of planting flowers:

- Flowers protect the environment by helping to create fresh air by absorbing carbon dioxide from the air.
- Flowers promote natural aeration of the soil and help reduce erosion and flooding by holding soil in its place.
- Flowers provide nutrients to the surrounding soil.
- Flowers provide natural pollination, which keeps the

ecosystem thriving.

- Flowers provide food and shelter for insects.
- Flowering plants sustain so many organisms, including humans.
- Flowers add beauty!

The committee's mission is to promote and participate in efforts to help engage individuals and communities in eco-friendly practices to reduce waste, recycle and protect the environment. Protecting the environment is much more than recycling and picking up litter.

Conservation is a huge component of protecting the environment, including water conservation, utility reduction, and being mindful of purchasing non-degradable packaging items. The committee's goal is to bring awareness to personal stewardship so we all can do our part in protecting the environment and reducing the burdens on landfills and the natural environment.

The Enhance Our Environment Committee sowed sisterly seeds by giving away tulips and daffodils at the chapter meeting on Jan. 21, 2023. Keep Mississippi Beautiful donated the tulips to help in the joint effort to improve communities by preventing litter and promoting recycling and beautification.

To reduce the chapter's carbon footprint, bring awareness, and encourage recycling, the committee implemented a bottle recycling station and helped a Soror recycle by taking the plastic bottles she collected



for recycling to a local plastic bottle drop-off center. With the growing water crisis in Jackson, Mississippi, people are bringing thousands of water bottles to the Metro Jackson area. The committee plans to provide chapter members and the community with more information on the location of bottle recycling drop-off centers. Plastic bottles take 450 to 1,000 years to decompose and contribute to a large amount of waste in landfills.

The committee is also committed to providing monthly environmental tips. For January, Sorors were offered energy savings tips via a QR code that allowed them to register for a free energy savings box, retailed for \$60, from Entergy. Reducing energy usage reduces fossil fuel demand and lowers the atmosphere's carbon dioxide. Increased efficiency can lower greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants, decrease water pollution, conserve natural resources, and create a healthier environment for communities.



Look to the LORD and His strength;
seek His face always. I Chronicles 16:11

Prayer for State, City, and Community

By Soror Denise D. Drake

Heavenly Father,

We come to you in your omnipotent presence in the name of Jesus and on behalf of our State of Mississippi, our metropolitan City of Jackson, and our Communities. Please heal our land.

Triumphant Father, in obedience to Your work, we make intercession on behalf of those who are in positions of authority in our State, our City, and our Communities “so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by Godliness and dignity” (1 Timothy 2:2).

We pray for the positive influence of God’s people for the good of our legislative bodies, our City Council, and our community neighborhood associations.

At a minimum, we pray that each and every leader follow the simple instructions you have provided for us all in the greatest prayer ... The Lord’s Prayer.

God our Father, giver of life, we entrust our State, City, and Communities to your loving care. You are the rock upon which our nation was founded.

As we --women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®, Beta Delta Omega Chapter-- continue to support through our good works under the leadership of our new Basileus, Soror Sharron Williams and her administration, as we work through our committees to CONTINUE to provide collaborative service to Community, City, State, and to ALL mankind, Lord help us to remember that sacrifice attracts blessings and that in Christian giving, we give honor to God.

For our State,

We pray for integrity, truth, and compassion throughout government, and, we pray for the positive influence of God’s people as decisions are made at the Capitol.

We pray for our leaders --- our Governor, our Congressmen, Senators, Representatives, our Mayor,

City Council, all elected officials, our community leaders and neighborhood association presidents, and, our ministers. Give us leaders who understand the times and know what we SHOULD do. We pray that these visionaries work collectively and collaboratively to accomplish good things for the citizens of Mississippi.

For our City,

We pray that sustainable partnerships be formed to foster simple and basic necessities -- like clean drinking water, respect for human life, and elimination of food deserts. We pray for unity between our pastors and churches. We pray for families. And, we pray for racial reconciliation.

For our Communities,

If we want to see our communities transformed, it doesn’t start with compelling sermons, elaborate protests, or perfectly constructed arguments. It starts with prayer. As noted in Acts 1:14, “join together CONSTANTLY in prayer.” And Lord, let us not forget “OUR Sisterly Community of Sorors” who now reside with YOU in Heaven. Sorors Bell, Buckley, Rigsby, Rhodes, Holloway, Gray, Washington, Fowlkes, Perkins, Gates, Carr, Hardin, Cole --- and all the other dear sorors who paved the way for us to follow in THEIR “Footsteps of Collaboration” in education, government, Christian AND community involvement. Our Ivies Beyond the Wall are true examples from which we now have the influence of how to bring State, City, and Community in unison.

These things we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

TIME TO PRAY

Beta Delta Omega's first chapter meeting in 2023 was preceded with a prayer breakfast. Sorors enjoyed tasty breakfast items, heartfelt music and fellowship. Sorors then collectively prayed for the nation, state, and local communities, as well as for elected officers and all members of Beta Delta Omega Chapter and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® worldwide.



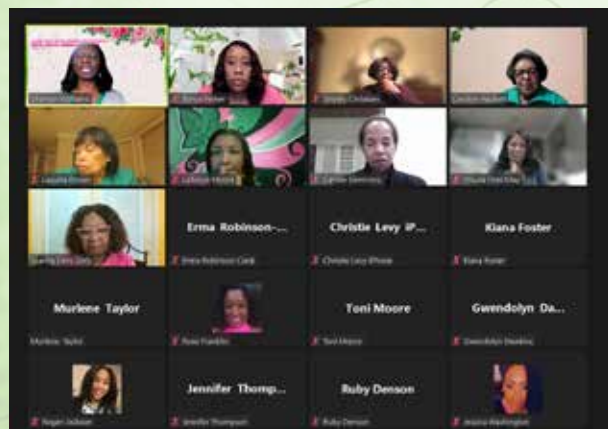
Leadership Development Committee hosts Becoming...Let Go and Grow Session

The Leadership Development Committee hosted the Becoming...Let Go and Grow session on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The virtual event was attended by 22 sorors continuing the Let Go and Grow journey.

This journey started during the Leadership AKAdemy sponsored by the Basilei Council in October 2022 with the second session held in November 2022. The third session was led by Leadership Development Chairman, Soror Juanita Sims Doty and it commenced with Basileus Soror Sharron Williams bringing greetings and offering her thoughts on growth and change.

Co-Chairman Soror Tonya Parker also welcomed all sorors and shared brief thoughts on dealing with disappointments and moving forward. Sorors Carolyn Hackett, Shirley Christian, Laquita Brown, Ruby Denson, and Murlene Terry Taylor shared some very transparent personal comments on how they have dealt with disappointment in their lives. These Cultured Pearls and Pearls of Culture offered very inspirational testaments.

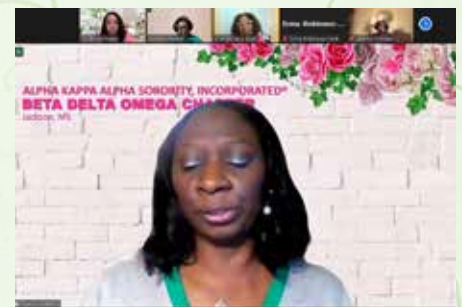
Key words and ideas from the session include the



following:

- Trust God and know he has your best interest at heart.
- Put God first.
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- Know when to accept that you may be the problem or a part of the problem.
- Be willing to admit that you may need to change.
- It is acceptable to remove yourself from situations, especially if they threaten your health and mental well-being.
- Be kind to others.
- Have good principles.
- Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Release offenses and forgive others who may have wronged you.
- Look for the positive in every situation.
- Learn from every situation.
- Attempt to meditate daily.

All participants have been asked to submit their personal legacy statements, leadership statements, and/or any other lessons learned statements to be included in a compilation of statements to be printed and made available during the culminating event.



The next check-in session is scheduled for March 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., and the culminating event will be held during the chapter meeting on April 15, 2023. All participants are encouraged to continue the Becoming...Let Go and Grow journey and to continue to record their progress in their personal journals provided during the very first session. The sessions are focused on a soror's total well-being, and sorors are encouraged to share their personal growth statements and goals with one another during each session.

KUDOS KORNER

Soaring To Greater Heights

SOROR FELICIA GAVIN



Soror Felicia Gavin has been appointed to serve as the Chief of Staff for the new Mississippi State Superintendent of Education. Prior to her promotion, she worked as the Chief of Operations for the State Department of Education where she was responsible for the agency's compliance, procurement, grants, and fiscal divisions. As Chief of Staff, she will work side by side with the State Superintendent to develop policy and to ensure that all students in MS have access to a high-quality education. She will provide leadership to all the staff at the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). In addition, she will continue the work to ensure that the agency maintains fidelity and integrity in its operations and finance.

Soror Gavin is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. She also graduated from Mississippi College with a Master's in Business Administration and Jackson State University with a Doctorate in Higher Education.



SOROR JASMINE CARTER

Soror Jasmine Carter, a Regional Vice President for Republic Finance, has been named the Diversity Equality and Inclusion Chair for the company. Republic Finance has over 300 branches located in 13 states. Soror Jasmine is a 2010 graduate of Ole Miss and was initiated in Theta Psi in 2010.





SOROR SHANDERIA MINOR



Soror Shanderia Kern Minor was recently sworn in as a member of the Public Relations Association of Mississippi, Central Chapter board of directors as Vice President of Programs. Soror Shanderia also received the 2022 Emerging Practitioner of the Year Award. PRAM Central holds an Outstanding Professionals of the Year Award Ceremony to honor and recognize the exceptional work and professionalism of chapter members whose accomplishments have made major contributions to the profession. Soror Shanderia received a bachelor's degree in journalism/news editorial from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in Communication from Mississippi College. She is employed at the Mississippi Department of Education as the agency's Public Information Officer.



SOROR REGAN L. JACKSON

Soror Regan L. Jackson graduated from Jackson State University on December 9, 2022, with a Master of Music Education degree and served as Marshal for the College of Liberal Arts with a 4.0 GPA. She is presently completing her studies and will graduate from Belhaven University with a Specialist in Supervision and Leadership this year. Hours obtained from the Specialist Degree Program will also count towards hours to be used in completing the Doctor of Educational Leadership. Because of her outstanding achievements and contributions to society, Soror Regan will be featured in the Marquis Who's Who in America 2023 Edition.



Meet the 2023-2024 Leadership Team



BASILEUS
Soror Sharron U. Williams



Anti-Basileus
Soror Michelle Guy



Grammateus
Soror Kemisha Carter



Anti-Grammateus
Soror Andrea Burroughs



Tamiouchos
Soror Lori Hill Marshall



Anti-Tamiouchos
Soror Candice Beasley



Pecunious Grammateus
Soror Krystle Clay Love

Meet the 2023-2024 Leadership Team



Anti-Pecunious Grammateus
Soror Pamela Self



Epistoleus
Soror Jenice Tate



Hodegos
Anderia Jones



Philacter
Soror Latona Banks



Ivy Leaf Reporter
Soror Vickie Terrell Miller



Historian
Soror Jerrica Stimage Holder



Parliamentarian
Soror Armerita Tell



Chaplain
Soror Erma Robinson Cook



Immediate Past Basileus
Soror Candie Simmons



Graduate Advisor
Soror Audrey Hall



Graduate Advisor
Soror Miranda Freeman

got goals?

Hoping to spark positive change, many people make resolutions and set new goals and objectives. Several sorors have shared their individual goals.



“My 2023 goal is making intentional choices to reflect what’s important in my life. Achieving this goal will allow me to have a positive mindset, a commitment to being present in the moment, and consciously aware of my own happiness.”

Soror Jerrika Mabry



“I started the year off by obtaining my nursing license. My 2023 goal is to grow and develop as a new nurse.”

Soror Ivy Weaver



“Learning a new skill benefits your professional as well as your personal life. My 2023 goal is to challenge myself and learn a new skill that’s “out of the box” for me.”

18 Soror Brittany Sanders



“In 2023, I would like to focus on making healthier choices. I will meal prep in efforts to monitor my food choices and portion sizes.”

Soror Jillian Burt

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SORORS

JANUARY 2023

Soror Linda Mack	2-Jan
Soror Daphne Davis	3-Jan
Soror Tywanda Jones	4-Jan
Soror Mavis James	5-Jan
Soror Anna Jackson	8-Jan
Soror Kiara Walker-Seaton	9-Jan
Soror Tashika Stevens	9-Jan
Soror Kelli Sharpe	10-Jan
Soror Pamela Reed Simon	10-Jan
Soror Sharon Beasley	12-Jan
Soror Gala Goldsmith	13-Jan
Soror Kimberly L. Campbell	13-Jan
Soror Kristen Barnes-Clay	14-Jan
Soror Yesenia Davis	14-Jan
Soror Marion C. Jordon	15-Jan
Soror Wauline Carter	15-Jan
Soror Loraine Bishop	16-Jan
Soror Kerry Johnson	19-Jan
Soror Shandra Thompson	19-Jan
Soror Audrey B. Wiley	23-Jan
Soror Marlene Turner	24-Jan
Soror Rebecca Allen	25-Jan
Soror Glenda Glover	26-Jan
Soror Murlene Terry Taylor	26-Jan
Soror Jaleisha Cleveland	27-Jan
Soror Cheryl Williams Brown	30-Jan
Soror Whitney Wallace	30-Jan



Soror Vickie Terrell Miller, Ivy Leaf Reporter
Soror Shamira Ervin-Parker, Publicity Co-Chair
Soror Aliyah Atkins, Publicity Co-Chair
Soror Shanderia Minor, Publicity Committee Member
Soror Denise Drake, Publicity Committee Member
Soror Iely B. Mohamed, Publicity Committee Member

