

THE DELTA CONNECTION

Hinesville Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Volume 3 Δ Issue 2

January 2017

The President's Corner



Greetings and Happy New Year Sorors!

In respect for our National President, Dr. Walker and her theme song "This girl is on Fire" by Alicia Keys. Sorors, Hinesville Alumnae Chapter is "On Fire". We are blazing through this sorority year impacting the community one program, one project and one event after another. We

have accomplished so much in the 1st half of the year. The partnership being developed with collaborative partners, makes my heart warm. For example, the relationship between Regency Housing Development was not foreseeable until Soror Simmons and the newly created Economic Development Committee worked its magic with the Sugar Plum-Winter Warm Up event. The relationship developed with Mrs. Kemp by Soror Moss and our newly developed International Awareness and Involvement Committee with "Socks for Courtney" are just a few examples of the good work. Of course, Hinesville Alumnae Chapter continues to impact the community through signature programs and events, such as the Delta GEMS, Voter Education Forum and Voter Registration Drive and the Christmas Social.

Another collaborative project that was newly developed through the brain of Soror Caesar was the Teen Summit with over 50 children from middle to high school participated in a full day of workshops was a huge success and was featured in the Coastal Courier.

I am so excited to be starting the second half of our 2016-2017 sorority year. We started it off with a BANG! with our 2017 Rush; boy was I surprised to see so many people and was thankful for our Minerva Circle led by our very own Vice President Soror Stevens to have put together such a beautiful program. Thank you all who served as hostesses, prepared the refreshments and to our Historian, Soror Martin, for a beautiful display and a excellent job with telling our history. I feel like the first full week of January 2017 was Delta Week because we had the Rush then we moved onto a beautiful dinner for Founders Day at the Mansion on Forsyth to celebrate our 104th year of Sister, Service and Scholarship. The evening was beautiful and Thank you to our P.A.S.S. Committee for a wonderful job. Then we ended that week with the

hosting our first ever "Delta Red Carpet Movie Screening of Hidden Figures", Once again the Ladies of the Arts and Letters Committee worked tirelessly to bring us a SOLD OUT Event.

Also, in this half of the year, Hinesville Alumnae Chapter will be turning 30 years old and I am honored to be serving as the Chapter President during this milestone for the Chapter. I look forward to the planned event coordinated by our Arts and Letters Committee. Recently, I've been using the motto that "Hinesville Alumnae Chapter is the best kept secret on the Coast" and I truly believe we are that hidden gem but I do know this that people are taking notice locally, statewide and regionally, where we won't be the best kept secret but we will eventually be the best Small Chapter on the Coast. I believe in YOU my Sorors that we will get there together and we will do so harmoniously and sisterly!

With Love,

Soror Petula Y. Gomillion

Chapter President

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The Vice-President's Corner



Greetings Sorors!

As we continue on this "Journey of a Lifetime" in Delta, I encourage each of us to roll up our sleeves and continue with the work that is before us. In order to effectually impact the communities we serve, it will take all of us working together.

We recognize the following committees in appreciation of their dedicated services and support for the first half of this sorority year:

Sarah Stevens
Chapter Vice President



International Awareness and Involvement (Socks for Courtney)



Economic Development (Financial Workshop)



Educational Development (Teen Summit)



Fundraising Committee (Christmas Social)



Political Awareness and Involvement (Voters Education Forum)

The Vice-President's Corner Continued



P.A.S.S. Committee (Painting With a Twist)

November Sorors of the Month



Delta Dear Soror Yvonne Woods

October Sorors of the Month



Delta Dear Soror Betty Sapp



Delta Doll Soror Genese Lane

December Soror of the Month



Delta Diva Soror Beleta Lockwood



Delta Diva Soror Jacqueline Lett

HAC Regional Article**“Small but Mighty!”**

**Hinesville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Chapter President, Petula Y. Gomillion**



For almost 30 years, the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter has focused its efforts on impacting the chapter's service areas through Educational Development, Political Awareness, and Involvement as well as Physical and Mental Health. This year, however, the Chapter boarded U.S.S. Fortitude to travel the waterways on its mission to address all aspects of the Five-Point Programmatic Thrust using “Anchored in Delta- A Journey of a Lifetime” as the theme and backdrop for all of its activities.

The year began with the chapter hosting a Voter Education Forum and Registration Drive in Jesup, Georgia. Hinesville Alumnae partnered with the Wayne County Branch of the NAACP. The Guest Speaker, Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, Georgia State NAACP President spoke on issues related to Voter Education including Voter Suppression and Voter Disenfranchisement, as well as other critical tactics used to discourage minorities from exercising their right to vote. The chapter also hosted a Voter Registration Drive at Liberty High School for students ages 17 and a half to 18 years of age in preparation for the November election. The students were educated on their voting rights and received a “I Registered to Vote” button on behalf of the chapter.

In October, the Program Planning and Development Committee in conjunction with Webster University hosted the first ever Teen Summit. The Teen Summit which targeted teens between the ages of 13-19, and focused its efforts on topics designed to assist teens in rising above their situations and circumstances.

Facilitators for the event brought experience from an array of careers speaking on topics such as; “Healthy Body/Self-Esteem, Healthy Relationships, Digital Citizenship and most importantly, Interacting with the Police.” This particular topic raised several questions among the teens and their parents to the Facilitator, who serves as a Georgia State Trooper.

HAC Regional Article Continued

To overcome the numerous literacy barriers impacting the chapter's service area, members of the chapter took a page from Delta Sigma Theta's history and hosted a Book Drive. In conjunction with the Bryan County Family Connection, the chapter donated five boxes of new or gently used books. In exchange for books, the Bryan County News donated old newspaper boxes to the chapter. Shortly, the Old Newspaper Boxes will be strategically placed at locations in Bryan County (Pembroke & Richmond Hill) and include the numerous books donated by its members.

To promote a sound Mind, Body, and Spirit, members of the chapter, are participating in the "Journey to Wellness" which is a signature Physical and Mental Health "call to action" initiative. The Physical and Mental Health Committee has also participated in the Mental Health Across the Lifespan Initiative by hosting a Mental Health Forum each year during May Week. The forum draws attention to the Mental Health issues impacting our community.

To promote a healthy checkbook, the Economic Development Committee hosted the first ever Winter Warm-Up/ Sugar Plum Christmas party where children within the community received a Christmas party and the parents received a Financial Fortitude workshop. The workshop focused on providing the community members with the tools and resources needed to break the cycle of poverty and live debt-free.

Under the umbrella of International Awareness and Involvement, the chapter partnered with Socks for Courtney, which is a non-profit organization based in the chapter's service area (Richmond Hill, Georgia). Through Socks for Courtney, the chapter was able to reach over eight organizations, who provide socks to over 100,000 children and families around the world.

Finally, the Chapter completed its third year with the St. Jude's Children Research Hospital Virtual Run/Walk Drive. The chapter met and exceeded its goal for the past three years and raised over \$1700 for research to end childhood cancer. Also, chapter members collectively walked/ran over 100 miles during the actual day of the event.

Hinesville Alumnae Chapter is committed to *Advancing the Sisterhood* through the sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust! We are small but we are mighty in service to Delta!



Economic Development

Sugar Plum/Winter Warm-up!

Written by Petula Y. Gomillion

On December 20, 2016, Hinesville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. partnered with Regency Housing Authority to put on an Economic Development Financial Workshop for the residents.

The sorority was excited to host the Sugar Plum/Winter Warm-up! The parents in attendance enjoyed their Financial Seminar conducted by Mr. Karl Riles with Riles Tax Service while chapter members provided games, art and crafts, and a variety of sweet treats for the children.

The Economic Development Committee Chaired by Soror Marsha Simmons provided door prizes for the residents attending the Financial Workshop. In addition, they were also able to provide the residents coats and jackets.



Educational Development

Committed to Serving

Hinesville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc.,

Dr. Jeanne L. Noble Delta GEMS Program

On January 16, 2017, the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter Dr. Jeanne L. Noble Delta GEMS participated in Liberty County's Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Day Program. The event which is held every year on the day that the world celebrates and recognizes the life and legacy of Dr. King, is a commemorative event. The event which brings together citizens of the Hinesville and surrounding communities. an opportunity to reflect and renew commitments to living a life dedicated to service and action; much like Dr. King himself.

For the last five years, the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter Dr. Jeanne L. Noble Delta GEMS have participated in the event. This year there were eight GEMS who participated and served as escorts for the many dignitaries that speak and serve at the event each year. Many of the dignitaries are Pastors, Elected Officials and Military Leaders. By having the opportunity to meet and greet these distinguished individuals, the GEMS are able to use some of the many skills they learn during GEMS workshops. One important skill employed during the MLK Day event is communication.

In addition to serving as escorts, one GEMS Imani Jessamy, has participated in the MLK Day Parade for the past two years as reigning queen. Imani Jessamy, Hinesville Alumnae Delta GEMS, and the 2015 National Arts and Letters Commission Youth Poetry Winner also serves as Miss Hi-Fidelity Club Queen.

All in all, these types of opportunities allow the GEMS to meet and greet community leaders, gain some valuable community service experience and most importantly, they learn some important information about the life of the man who believed in non-violence and Social Action which is at the bedrock of what we do as a sorority.



International Awareness and Involvement

“Socks for Courtney” was a HUGE SUCCESS!

Written by: Cassandra V. Moss

The Socks for Courtney Drive took off October 1st and ended November 30th 2016. The International Awareness and Involvement Committee set a goal to collect two bins of socks. Well, needless to say, the dedicated ladies of the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority pulled together and exceeded the goal!

Five Hundred and fourteen (514) pairs of socks were collected in memory of Courtney Adavia Kemp. These socks will be shipped to other countries “To heal broken hearts and to provide warm feet to many others” said Mrs. Alneata Kemp.

Socks of all colors, sizes and styles were presented to Mrs. Kemp, the mother of Courtney Kemp and founder of “Socks for Courtney Inc.” on December 6, 2016. As she shared her heart felt story of her beloved daughter, our eyes were full with tears and our hearts were touched by the strength and faith of this mother. Because of Courtney’s love for socks, many children, women and men all over the world will be blessed with warm socks for their feet. Ms. Kemp was also given a monetary donation to assist with the shipping and mailing of the items .



Fundraising

“Anchored in Delta” Christmas Social”

Written by Myra Caesar

The Hinesville Alumnae Chapter held its second Annual Christmas Social on December 10th at the Econo Lodge in Hinesville, Georgia. The theme for this year’s Christmas Social was aligned with the Chapter President’s Theme for the chapter’s sorority year – “Anchored in Delta- A Journey of a Lifetime.” There were over 100 tickets sold for the event, and everyone who attended truly enjoyed the evening.

The evening started with a Welcome from the Chapter President, Petula Y. Gomillion and the Chapter Vice-President, Sarah C. Stevens. During the evening, with the accompany of the song, Fantastic Voyage, the guests were treated to an opening dance number performed by members of the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter who welcomed guest aboard the U.S.S. Fortitude; a Fantastic Voyage. Guest who attended the event also donated an unwrapped toy for a girl or boy. The toys were donated to the Bryan County Family Connection Center located in Pembroke, Georgia. The donations will benefit the homeless children and families of Bryan County (Richmond Hill and Pembroke).

This year’s Christmas Party was a huge success, and it would not have been possible without the hard work and support of several sorors in the chapter. A big thank you goes out to the Fundraising Committee members - Sorors Gomillion, Stevens, Flora, Lett, Moss, Lane, Covington, John, Nelson, Williams, Barrett, Frazier and Walton. A special THANK YOU goes out to Soror Linda Flora, who did a fabulous job on the decorations, and Soror Jacqueline Lett, who served as the primary point of contact for the event. This year’s social will go down in Hinesville Alumnae History as an extraordinary evening with some extraordinary guests! We look forward to next year!



Arts and Letters

“Hidden Figures Red Carpet Event”**Written by Yvonne Woods**

Hinesville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. held a Red Carpet Affair on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at the Liberty Cinema 9 in Hinesville, GA. The purpose of the event was to promote the film *Hidden Figures* which showcased three renowned African American actresses in the Arts. The women portrayed three defining women of color immersed in STEM related careers advocating for the advancement of African American women.

The film tells the story of Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn, and Mary Jackson, three black female mathematicians who began working for NASA in the 50's and chartered the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit during the Space Race from NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia during segregation.

Before computers, laptops, or desktops were in existence, these women who did the math by hand were known as "human computers".

The Arts and Letters Committee is so happy that Hinesville Alumnae Chapter supported this project. We had a sold out crowd of 224. It is our honor to support Black Artist in the movie industry.



P.A.S.S.**"PAINTING WITH A TWIST EVENT"**

Written by Beleta Lockwood and Shelia Nelson

The Painting with a twist event was a paint party set up for our Sorority by the P.A.S.S. Committee. Owner/Instructor Brandy Carter of Paint Noir shared basic paint techniques and strokes that enabled Sorors to complete a finished painting of an elephant. Finger foods were provided and a gift was presented to the Instructor by our President Petula Gomillion. The event was held Saturday November 5, 2016 at the La Quinta Inn and Suites, 1740 E. Oglethorpe Highway, Hinesville, Georgia 31313. The event was so much fun, it should be repeated in the near future. Pictures were uploaded to Facebook

"FOUNDERS DAY DINNER"

The P.A.S.S. Committee was responsible for the sorority's Founders Day Dinner. It was held at the "Mansion on Forsyth" 700 Drayton Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401, Friday January 13, 2017 at 6:30 pm. The attire was dressy casual. Sorors were beautifully dressed, and the room was beautifully decorated as jazz music was played that gave the room such a beautiful ambiance. There were over twenty five (25) Sorors in attendance. Dinner was served with many menu options, many compliments to the chef(s). A good time was had by all.



Community Service

“A Season of Giving”

Hinesville Alumnae Chapter Toy Drive

The Hinesville Alumnae Chapter’s Second Annual Christmas Social produced a plethora of unwrapped toys. Annually the members and guest are asked to donate a new unwrapped toy for a boy or girl to benefit the Bryan County Children Fund. The fund is sponsored through the Bryan County Family Connection program. The Chapter President, Petula Gomillion and Vice President, Sarah Stevens, were able to present two boxes full of toys for the children of Richmond Hill and Pembroke. The toys were presented to the Executive Director of Bryan County Family Connections, Ms. Wendy Sims.



Soror in the Spotlight**Soror in the Spotlight- Daisy Jones****Hinesville Alumnae Chapter****Chapter President: Petula Y. Gomillion**

Service is at the bedrock of everything we do in the sorority. At the heart of the community service mission are members of the sorority who ensure that conditions are set for a successful community both now and in the future. One such soror who stands at the helm of this movement within the Southern Region is Soror Daisy Jones.

Soror Daisy Jones is a member of the Hinesville Alumnae Chapter. She accepted the appointment of Georgia State Representative Al Williams in 2014 to lead the startup of a re-entry coalition and subsequent re-entry program in Liberty County. Soror Jones serves as the Executive Director of the Liberty County Prison Re-Entry Coalition, Inc. The Georgia Department of Community Supervision also selected her to serve as the Community Coordinator for the Atlantic Judicial Circuit in August 2016.

Liberty County, which is the county seat for Hinesville, Fort Stewart, Midway, Riceboro, Walthourville, and Fleming has a population of over 60,000 people with over 41% of those people being African-American. In Liberty County alone, the number of African-Americans incarcerated from 1970 until now has grown exponentially with most of the incarcerations being African-American men.

Therefore, to ensure that these citizens re-entering their communities are successful and educated on their rights and responsibilities, Soror Jones and her staff guide and empower returning citizens to maximize their potential and increase their opportunities for successful reintegration into society. Thereby decreasing recidivism and assisting clients to become productive citizens within their communities and most importantly stop the cycle of incarceration within the family.

Soror in the Spotlight Continued

According to National Statistics, there are over 1700 people a day who are released from state and federal prisons. From several perspectives, the issue of how people fare after they exit the prison gates is extremely important. As Michelle Alexander states in her book *“The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness”*, “We could choose to be a nation that extends care, compassion, and concern to those who are locked up and locked out or headed for prison before they are old enough to vote. We could seek for them the same opportunities we seek for our own children; we could treat them like one of “us.” We could do that. Or we can choose to be a nation that shames and blames its most vulnerable, affixes badges of dishonor upon them at young ages, and then relegates them to a permanent second-class status for life.”

Soror Daisy Jones is doing her part to ensure returning citizens within the Liberty County area are successful. Because of her dedication and commitment to service, we celebrate her as our Soror in the Spotlight! Congratulations Soror Daisy Jones!

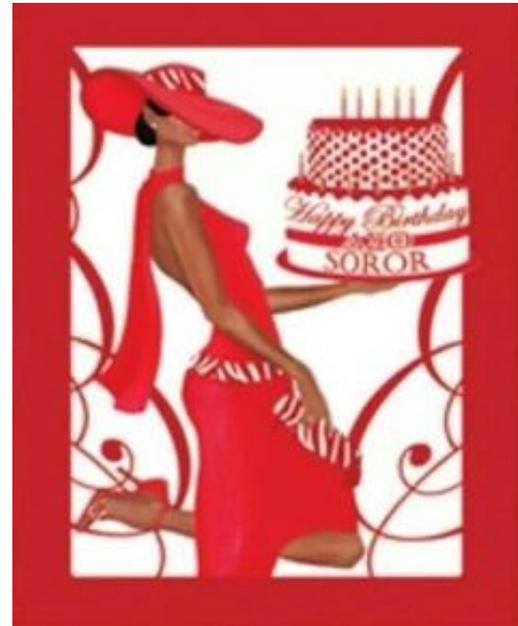


Hospitality

Birthdays and Blessings

We pray that everyone who celebrated a birthday during the months of December and January had a blessed day.

Linda Flora	Dec. 13
Petula Gomillion	Dec. 21
Jamika Johnson	Dec. 21
Carletha Davis	Dec. 27
Betty Sapp	Jan. 4
Lillie Kelly	Jan. 9
Beleta Lockwood	Jan. 16
Dalmyra Caesar	Jan. 20
Valarie Luckey-Merritt	Jan. 20
Sarah Baker	Jan. 22
Jameshia Patterson	Jan. 26



Dear Heavenly Father we come to you humbly on bending knees asking that you keep our beloved sisters who are sick and shut in or in a time of bereavement safe in your loving arms. Please keep their mind centered on you like your faithful servant Joseph. These and other blessing we pray.

Amen

2016-2017 Hinesville Alumnae Chapter Elected Officers

- President - Soror Petula Gomillion
- Vice President - Soror Sarah Stevens
- Recording Secretary - Soror Dalmyra Caesar
- Corresponding Secretary - Soror Genese Baker Lane
- Financial Secretary - Soror Genese Lane
- Treasurer - Soror Cynthia Smith
- Chaplain - Soror Debra Covington
- Parliamentarian - Soror Gwen Starr
- Sergeant-at-Arms - Soror Jameshia Patterson



The Delta Connection Staff
 Soror Christie Ferrell-Chair
 Soror Jamika Johnson-Co
 Chair

Refocus Δ Reaffirm Δ Reconnect

Hinesville Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
 P. O. Box 1981
 Hinesville, GA 31310

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