



September, 2019

The Ivy Vine



White Pearl Extravaganza 2019

The annual White Pearl Extravaganza was held on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at the World Golf Village, Renaissance, St. Augustine. The event, was historically held at the Halifax Plantation Golf Club in Ormond Beach. With each year the number of guest increased. Co-Chair, Jill Jinks promoted the idea of a new and larger venue to the Ivy Community Foundation. This years event was bigger than ever with guests eagerly buying tickets to experience the World Golf Village and all it has to offer. We were thrilled with the outcome! Everyone was delighted to host approximately twice as many guests as in previous years, with nearly 400 in attendance from Palm Coast, Palatka, Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Daytona Beach and surrounding areas. Music was provided by the 7th Street Band from Jacksonville. What a treat! They kept all partying nonstop with dancing and enjoying its great soulful sounds.

And what about the sorors? Chapter members worked hard in every capacity. The event, Co-

chaired by Soror Jill Jinks and Soror Marva Jones, brought out the best talent in the chapter. The room was beautifully decorated with a sea of white tables topped with fragrant fresh white floral arrangements and white covered chairs. Sorors and Honey Do's worked the night before (and even a little the evening of the event) to iron chair covers, move furniture, decorate tables and do all they could to provide wonderful ambiance for guests. Soror Hostesses and those who worked the Door were full of personality and welcoming smiles. Guests were delighted with their purchases from the Silent Auction, which featured themed baskets, art and designer items donated by chapter members and community friends.

The extravaganza, also known as The White Party is the signature event under the sponsorship of the Ivy Community Foundation (ICF), the fundraising arm of Chi Delta Omega Chapter. This year's event did not disappoint. The Ways and Means Chairs, Soror

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HEART TO HEART

Notes to Sorors

Basileus Hazel



Greetings my dear Sorors.

Let's talk Leadership Seminar and the benefits to be gained from taking advantage of that experience.

Most sorors can tell you about Regional Conferences and Boules because we attend these events in much greater numbers. We like the crowds, the excitement and the feeling of being members of a significant organization that is making a difference in our neighborhoods and our world. But Leadership Seminars are very much like the proverbial jilted bride left broken-hearted at the altar. Both it and she are left to suffer severe neglect, to say the least.

At 2015's Chicago Leadership Seminar four Chi Delta Omega sorors attended. At 2017's Las Vegas stop once again four of us were in attendance. This year's Nashville Seminar your Basileus and Anti-Basileus attended.

Let's face it. Nashville, Tennessee was not on my bucket list of must see, must do places. Indeed, "WLAC, Nashville, Tennessee!" heard fading in and out on late night radio in my teen years was the only connection I could relate to this far away place in time and space. But my recent Nashville experience has left me with new insight into Leadership Seminars in general.

First, you get a much bigger bang for your conference buck. I was able to take advantage of up to six workshops in addition to the galas, receptions, and social events. Considering the maximum two workshops at Regionals, that triples the value of your registration dollars. In addition, the insights shared are much deeper and therefore more useful in the application to chapter needs.

Secondly, although more and more sorors are beginning to register for Leadership, these gatherings are less crowded and more relaxed. The sessions are more tailored to the specific interests and needs of sorors because they are more comprehensive in content.

The third reason to attend is the leadership specific training that is afforded. More and more Alpha Kappa Alpha has determined that leadership throughout the organization should be consistent in responsibility. Doing things the way you want in your chapter is racing toward obsolescence. Leadership training is fast becoming a requirement.

The bottom line is this. I urge you as future leaders of Chi Delta Omega and Alpha Kappa Alpha to consider taking advantage of the excellent training available at Leadership Seminars.

Sharing with Appreciative Sisterly Love,
Soror Hazel

Sorors Hazel Lockett and Kowanna Johnson with AKA Mobil Mammography Unit in rear.



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Special congratulations to sorors (pictured) who received event awards for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Geraldine Dillon and Soror Olivia Bereal, reported that the chapter more than reached its financial goals to fund scholarships and community services. On behalf of the Ivy Community Foundation, the Ways and Means Chairs, and the White Party Chairs, express sincere gratitude and thanks to Basileus Hazel Lockett and Anti Basileus, Kowanna Johnson, for their continued support and encouragement in this endeavor. Special thank you to all sub-committee chairs (Hostesses, Decorating, Tickets and Flyers, those working the door, Clean-up, Silent Auction) and all chapter members who helped in any capacity. The ICF Executive Director and Chairs also salute Honey Do's who helped and were on hand when needed the night before the event. Special THANKS to BJ Jones, Shahid Siddiqu, and Lannie Hairston. By all accounts, the 2019 White Pearl Extravaganza was a rousing success! The bar has been set high so let's get ready for June 2020!

Onward and upward we go!

2019 White Pearl Extravaganza

Article contributed by: Soror Marva Jones

CPR Training ~ We're Informed!

As a part of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's international initiative on Health and Wellness, the CDO Health Committee presented CPR training to chapter members during the June meeting. The Flagler County Fire and Rescue Department provides this training free to organizations and schedules certification classes in the community on a regular basis. Knowledge of CPR is not just for first responders or health care professionals but training that everyone can use in case of an immediate need. Your training could help to save a life. The chapter was delighted to have Mr. Eric Robinson lead the training.



The Arts Committee Summer Reading Assignment

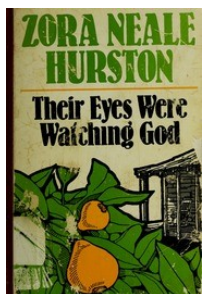
Read one of these books for discussion during our chapter retreat :

Author Zora Neale Hurston

Their Eyes Were Watching God

Dust Tracks on A Road

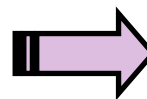
Barracoon, The Story of the Last Cargo



Proposed trip- January, 2020 - To *The Zora Neale Hurston Festival* in Eatonville, FL.



Little Dresses



These are the cutest dresses made by some very creative persons and I am sure they will be enjoyed by the little girls who receive them. Sorors gathered during the summer at the home of Soror Clarazina Graham, Project Chair, to start the project. Soror Jonita McCree enlisted the support of coworkers and friends who went to work on fashioning simple pillow cases into fabulous sun dresses, too. Shirts will also be made so that little boys don't get left out. All items will be collected at the CDO Chapter Retreat in late September to package and mail to the South Atlantic Region collection point for mailing. Over 50 dresses have been made at this time and more are in the works in hopes of breaking the CDO previous record of 108. Thanks to all who worked and are continuing with this project.

Market Street Memory Care Facility of Palm Coast hosted this year's Longest Day event in June to bring awareness to Alzheimer's and its effects on individuals and families. Sorors of CDO joined in the events of the day by attending an "indoor" cook-out with music and games for the facility's patients. Sorors greeted patients, raised their voices in song, enjoyed food and brought smiles to many faces. A donation on behalf of the chapter was presented to the Flagler County Alzheimer's Association by Basileus Hazel Lockett, as a part of the sorority's health initiative. Most of the Sorors know of or have had first-hand experience in their family with this disease. Early diagnosis is critical and family support imperative.

Alzheimer's Awareness Longest Day



Hot Fun in the Summertime

In keeping with the summer 2019 Sisterly Relations theme set forth by the International Office, CDO's Sisterly Relations and Membership Committees joined forces to host an afternoon of summer fun - Summer Set 2019. The event was held in St. Augustine on Saturday, July 20th in the Executive Conference Room at Best Western Plus. Soror Susan Crockett served as the hostess and distributed pre-printed name tags prepared by Soror Alma Dixon.

During the “**Getting to Know You, Getting to Know All About You**” game, sorors learned little known facts from individual sorors covering topics related to childhood memories, life choices, personal favorites, lifelong dreams and aspirations. Sorors were eager to choose their question and give their response. (A little summer birdie said the eagerness of sorors was due to the opportunity for each soror to select a prize as soon as they completed their response.) The second activity, **Pokeno**, served to highlight the competitive nature of some and the Show Me the Money spirit in many other sorors. The first two activities were facilitated by the Summer Set Co-Chairperson, Soror Shata McDuffie. All prizes were donated by Soror Emelda Kennerly.

The group was divided into two teams for the third activity - **Guesstures**. This game required a volunteer from each team to give animated clues to describe a specific word from a selected card within a specified time frame. This game was facilitated by Soror Carol Coffie.

Sorors took a break for a **gourmet lunch** that consisted of fried turkey casserole, jambalaya, curry chicken, peas and rice, salad, cake, punch and lemonade. The two Cajun inspired dishes were prepared with sisterly love by Soror Emelda Kennerly. After finishing the meal, the consensus from sorors (as they packed their “To Go” boxes) was “*the food was so GOOOOOOD!!!*”

After lunch, CDO Sorors were ready to “**Set it Off on the Left and Set it Off on the Right.**” The group engaged in an interactive tutorial that included a walkthrough of each segment of the stroll. Moments later, it was on and poppin! When the music started, a line of CDO Sorors (including Pearl and Golden Sorors) strolled around the room with precision and pride. The Stroll Leaders were Soror Shata McDuffie, Soror Anita Jackson, Soror Gerri Dillon and Soror Kowanna Johnson. Soror Leila Jordan provided her professional observations and choreography tips to ensure the group was on one accord.

Once everyone calmed down from the rhythmic routine, it was time to sit down to create a souvenir item with guidance from Sisterly Relations Chairman, Soror Thea Hines during the **Paint with a Soror** session. Some sorors created artistic masterpieces based on sorority symbols, religious images, beach scenes and other “still” art..... This term still art was used to denote we are “still” trying to figure what some of the graphic renderings are.

An additional souvenir option was a personally designed memory bracelet that was made during the **Jewelry Making** session. Soror Linda Oliver provided materials and guidance so sorors would have a special keepsake. Rumor has it that some of the bracelets are so nice they may be on sale at Tiffany's in the very near future.

The last group activity was a guided discussion called “**Girrrrrl Talk**”. Topics of discussion included family meals, money magic, my family's TV, Dating Back in the Day, My Celebrity Man Crush and You Won't Believe What My Mama/ Grandma Said/Did.

Special prizes were given at the conclusion of the afternoon: 1st Soror to arrive - Soror Yolanda Pino, Soror Celebrating Birthday same day as Summer Set - Soror Jonita McCree, Most Seasoned Soror

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present: Soror Gwen Dunn-Carroll and a final prize to the Co-Chair Soror McDuffie for surviving her first leadership role with CDO.

Special thanks to sorors who advised us they could not be with us. You were missed but we hope you were able to reset your CDOMeter and most importantly we hope you enjoyed your time with family, friends and loved ones.

Submitted by: Soror Thea Jones, Soror Carol Coffie and Soror Robbie Johnson



Group painting



Soror Joyce and Soror Vivian



Soror Linda

Sorors having a fun day of activities



Soror Shata



Soror Thea



Sorors Olivia and Myra

A Summer of GOLDEN Celebrations

Golden Soror attends Wedding

Golden Soror Vivian lets no grass grow under her feet as she traveled to many families and friends' gatherings this summer. One of the highlights of her travels was attending, along with her daughter Sabrina, the wedding of Soror Kathryn McLaurin and her grandnephew, Adrian Clayton, on July 20, 2019 in Lake Charles, LA. There were more than 200 guests in attendance, arriving from New York, North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana. Soror Kathryn made sure to include Soror Vivian in the signing of the hymn at the fun-filled reception where the colors were black and gold. The bride and groom are NASA employees.



Golden Soror encounters SA Regional Director

Wow! What a surprise. While visiting the beautiful "Inkwell" beach at Martha's Vineyard, Golden Soror Carol Wilson Jones ran into our own South Atlantic Regional Director, Soror Carolyn Randolph. They all had a grand time on that August day.

Golden Soror Celebrates Golden Anniversary

On July 4, 2019, Golden Soror Sandy Stephenson and Honey-Do Lefty celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They were treated to a 7- night Caribbean Cruise on the Symphony of the Seas by their son and daughter-in-law. A friend of the family was married on the ship during this voyage. They enjoyed food, fun and great entertainment with family and friends!



A Golden "Moment in Time"

It was dubbed, "A Moment in Time" as the theme of the Campbell Senior High School Class of 1969 celebrated its 50th class reunion, held July 12-14, 2019 in Daytona Beach, FL. Soror Myra Valentine was blessed to be among the class members celebrating this memorable occasion along with about 80 others. Soror Myra was a cheerleader, played alto sax in the band, editor of the yearbook, served as Miss CSH 1969 and graduated 4th in a class of 148. She was also honored to be a member of the AKA "Accent on Youth" Club in her junior and senior years. She describes the reunion as one of the most exciting times in her life. She feels blessed to have been able to attend and is looking forward to becoming a Golden Soror in 2021.



With the official ribbon cutting for AKA University at the Nashville Leadership Seminar, the leadership training in Alpha

Kappa Alpha took a gigantic leap toward the future of the sorority. The aim AKA University Officially Opens at Nashville Leadership Seminar appears to be a level of consistent capacity building among the leaders at all levels of the sorority, including the chapter level.

The mission of AKA University is to develop a cadre of committed, exceptional leaders at the chapter, regional and international levels of involvement. Designed as the umbrella under which the entire educational framework will operate, training will build capacity of participants

through webinars, continuous improvement courses, career development sessions and several other educational modules.

“Training provided through AKA University will include both in-person workshops and online portals. The core curriculum will

consist of workshops and classes related to (1) Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority operations, policies and procedures; and (2) members’ personal and professional development.” Stay tuned!



September 15 – 21, 2019 *National HBCU Week*

September 23 – 27, 2019 *National Hazing Prevention Week*

September 26, 2019 *Launch of 2019-2020 SMART/CAP AKAdemy*

October 18 – 19, 2019 *Cluster III Conference, Deltona, FL*

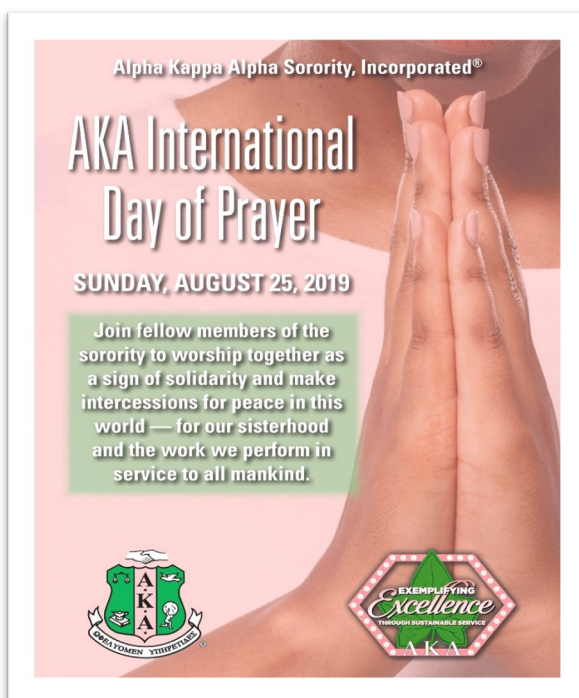


Next Edition of the Ivy Vine will be December 2019. Deadline for article submission is November 1, 2019. Please try to submit on time. Your efforts are appreciated.

Ivy Leaf Reporter / Newsletter Chairman: Myra Middleton Valentine, Chairman Editing/Proofreading: Cerrito King; Layout: Yolanda Pino

CDO OBSERVES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Members of CDO traveled to Jacksonville, Florida on Sunday, August 25, 2019 in observance of The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. International Day of Prayer. As women of strong faith and belief in a power greater than any human, sorors came together all over the world as a sign of solidarity and to make intercessions for peace and safety in a world in turmoil. CDO worshiped at the Greater Payne AME Church where Rev. Melvin Kennerly is Pastor and Soror Emelda Kennerly is First Lady. Soror Joyce McLeod led a powerful word of prayer on behalf of the chapter and the entire congregation. The Sisterhood Committee also arranged a lunch fellowship after service at River City Brewing Company Restaurant, downtown, on the St. Johns River. Sorors, let us continue to pray without ceasing. Our God hears all prayers and will provide for the needs of His people.



Father God