

# The Ly & Pearls Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated ®

Gamma Delta Omega Chapter

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## Spring Has Arrived!!

MARC Regional Conference April 26-30, 2017

Hostesses

Ethel Boykins Connie Paris Debra Jones Sharon Waters Cynthia Morrison Tanya Smith



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#### **Greetings Sorors!**

Spring is in the air! April provides us with beautiful plants, flowers and longer days. We also celebrate Christ's resurrection. His resurrection is a symbol of His love for us and how he truly wants us to love each other. The sisterly love we shared during our activities in March, as well as helping our Sorors or loved ones who were ill or have transitioned, hopefully has Him smiling down on us.

Twenty Pearls, Incorporated's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Cotillion, *A Pink and Green Fantasy*, was simply beautiful. Congratulations Pearl Eartha Garrett and Pearl Gracie Bowers for your exemplary leadership during the Cotillion. The Cotillion committee's hard work throughout the past eight months was reflected in the lovely presentation on March 18, 2017.

As we move into April, our *Service to All Mankind* continues. We will gather with family and friends at the Museum of Contemporary Arts (MOCA) in Virginia Beach on Friday, April 7, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. to recognize our third of six Community Impact Days, National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI) Awareness. We also will travel to Raleigh, NC on April 27, 2017 to participate in our 64<sup>th</sup> Mid Atlantic Regional Conference.

Have a Blessed Resurrection Day, Sorors!

Sisterly,

LaEunice O. Brown



## Sovon Spotlight



#### Submitted by Soror Karen Settles, Chairman

Soror Kim Crump, J.D., was born and raised in Portsmouth, Virginia. She was initiated into the Theta Kappa chapter at the University of Virginia in 1979. Soror Rita Roberts was her "Big Sister". Soror Kim joined Gamma Delta Omega in the mid-eighties and is excited to be a Reclaimed Pearl.

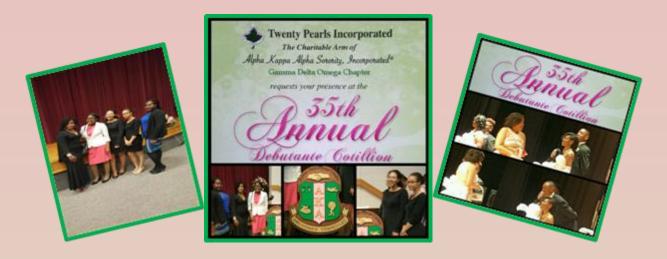
Soror Kim received a Bachelor of science degree in Psychology from UVA in 1980. During undergraduate school, she was active in Christian bible study and the singing group The Lambs of God. She further studied law at North Carolina Central State University in Durham, NC and graduated in 1985. In law school, she was the Note Editor for the law journal. Soror Kim also received her Doctor of Nursing degree in 2002 from Old Dominion University.

Soror Kim practiced law for 7 years in the United States Navy as a JAG Officer. Since 1993, she has been in private practice representing family and criminal law. She has also worked as an emergency room nurse at the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters for 3 ½ years while also keeping up her private law practice. She was featured in an article by the Virginian Pilot entitled "Attorney by Day, Nurse at Night".

Soror Kim resides in Portsmouth, Virginia. Her daughter, Mary Mimms, one of our 2016 Debutantes, is a freshman communications major at James Madison University.

## ASCEND CULTURAL ACTIVITY THE 2017 GDO DEBUTANTE COTILLION

Submitted by Soror Julia Avery Muse, Chairman Soror Jasmine Watson, Co-Chairman



On Saturday, March 18, 2017, the ASCEND Educational Enrichment students and parents attended the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Debutante Cotillion sponsored by Twenty Pearls, Incorporated at I.C. Norcom High School in Portsmouth, Virginia. Nine beautiful, lovely and charming young ladies were introduced to the Hampton Roads community.

The Cotillion, a formal event, served as the second cultured activity for the ASCEND program this year. The ASCEND students and parents were recognized at the Cotillion as "special guests". Although the overall emphasis of the program is academic enrichment, it is just as important to expand the students' cultural experiences and developmental growth as it is to explore, cultivate and acquire new educational concepts.

There is only one phrase to express the 2017 Debutante Cotillion and that is: "Simply Beautiful---Elegance in Motion." As the theme of the Cotillion implies, it was truly, "A Pink and Green Fantasy." It was an exciting, exhilarating and motivational experience for the ASCEND young ladies. These ninth graders cannot wait until they become high school seniors so they can become Debutantes! In the meantime, they know what the requirements to be a Debutante are based upon: academic performance, leadership ability and community service involvement. And, they now know, the ASCEND program is a wonderful way to start "putting that portfolio together." Comments from the students and parents were all constructive. Everyone immensely enjoyed the entire program. The ASCEND young ladies thought this was a great way to say, "Thank You" to their parents. The parents thought the Cotillion was a great way to say, "Thank You" to their daughters for not only being a good student in school, but for being a good person. What a lesson learned.

Special thanks to our ASCEND Co-Chairman, Jasmine Watson, who sat with the students and parents at the Cotillion for the entire program. And, as always, a big "Thank You" to our hard working ASCEND Committee and Coaches who keep the ASCEND program progressively moving forward! Everyone enjoyed the entire program.

### Health Promotion

Submitted by Soror Tanya Weaver, Chairman



In Recognition of National Alliance on Mental Illness Day

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

Gamma Delta Omega Chapter And Lambda Gamma Omega Chapter Present:

Mindful: Exploring Mental Health Through Art Exhibit

Friday, April 7, 2017

Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art 200 Park Avenue Virginia Beach, VA 5:30-8:30 PM

- . Explore the exhibi
- · Take part in a virtual mind-altering simulator
- Experience a virtual hallucination-"Mindstorm'
- Hear stories from those impacted by mental illness
- Help bring awareness to Mental Illness







#### **Family Strengthening Committee**

**Respectfully Submitted by Soror Veronica Webster** 

On Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, the Family Strengthening Committee met in the I.C. Norcom Room at the Kroger Marketplace on Frederick Blvd. During this meeting, the committee prepared 80 snack bags that will be donated to Portsmouth Social Services.









#### GDO SOROR'S, LET'S MAKE A GLOBAL IMPACT (Target V)



- The Facts are...
- Worldwide, more than 700 million women alive today were married before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. More than 1 in 3 or approximately 250 million women alive today were married before the age of 15.
- Girls and young women 15-24 years old in sub-Saharan Africa are twice as likely as young men to be living with HIV, and yet in the same region, only 28% of girls and young women have knowledge about how to protect themselves from HIV.
- Maternal mortality is the second leading cause of death of girls aged 15-19. Nearly 14 million adolescent girls aged 15-19 give birth each year.

Girls are more than twice as likely as boys to travel far distances to fetch drinking water. Globally, girls and women spend an estimated 200 million hours every single day collecting water.



#### "DOLLARS FOR CHANGE CAMPAIGN"

During the months of April, May and June, The Global Impact Committee will circulate a basket for you to donate a dollar to improve health services for adolescent girls in Liberia. (HIV prevention, maternal mortality, and psychosocial support and counseling)



GLOBAL IMPACT AND HEALTH PROMOTIONS PARTNERSHIP!
Global Impact Chair: Soror Janice Davis
Global Impact Committee: Soror Fannie Bullock and Soror Rosalynn Sanderlin





#### Submitted by Soror Ruth McLeod, Chairman

The Environmental Ownership committee is gearing up for a busy spring season. Sorors are invited to participate in the following activities:

#### Keep Portsmouth Beautiful (KPB) Recycling Event

April 15, 2017 – Lowes Parking Lot -Victory Crossing - 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

- ❖ Requesting at least eight Soror volunteers Sign-up sheets in Chapter meeting
- ❖ Sorors are asked to arrive by 8:30 am
- ❖ Duties include passing out bags/information, counting cars, directing participants to the correct recycle line, and collecting names/addresses of participants donating hazardous materials.
- May recycle electronics, household hazardous waste, recyclables, clothing/household items (Goodwill)
- Canned Food Donations will be collected Will partner with Family Strengthening

#### **Great America Clean-Up (Earth Day)**

April 22, 2017 - Adopt-A-Spot Site- 8:30 am - 10:00 am

#### **Playground Mobilization Impact Day**

May 20, 2017

❖ Target school is Douglas Park Elementary 8:30 am − 11:00 am

#### Adopt-A-Spot

May 27, 2017 – Spring Cleaning/Planting – 9:00 am – 11:00 am



### Sisterly Yours

Submitted by Soror Gracie Bowers, Chairman

#### **Jewels Recognition**

Showers of love were shown to our jewel Sorors who have perpetuated the ideals of our organization for 50 or 25 years. Golden and Silver Sorors were recognized at the March chapter meeting for their years of service.



#### "SMILE"

As part of Membership makes me "SMILE", Sisterly Yours completed a workshop with a focus on Sisterhood. Sorors were reminded of Sisterly behavior that will continually "nurture our ivy."



#### **Visiting Soror**

Sisterly Yours welcomed visiting Soror Keira D. Knight to the March chapter meeting. Soror Keira was initiated in Delta Epsilon on the campus of Norfolk State University. She is the daughter of Soror Margaret D.

Knight.





Submitted by Soror Cynthia Morrison Connection Chairman

Congratulations to Soror Rita Claire Roberts on her appointment to the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board! Soror Rita's appointment will last until August 2017.

The Connection Committee encourages other Sorors to seek appointments to boards and commission that might interest you.

Check out the city government website for your locality and look for boards and commissions to determine what boards have vacancies. Apply and become involved in your locality.



## "Spirit of Sisterhood"

#### **Greetings Sorors!**

As we continue to "Nurture the Ivy" let us do so in the "Spirit of Sisterhood." Our Soror Code of Ethics reminds us to always model behavior and present ourselves in a way that reflects the high moral and ethical character of Alpha Kappa Alpha women. As Sorors, always demonstrate high regard for one another. Always remember, "I am my sister's keeper and Sisterhood begins with me!"

Soror Gracie Bowers





Sorors recognized St. Patrick's Day and looked "Ivyish" in their



GDO recognized and celebrated Sorors born in March.

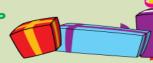


## April Birthdays

- 02 Julia Avery-Muse
- 04 Joyce Williams
- 07 Evelyn Jean Jones
- 12 Regina T. Sykes
- 16 Mary McDuffie

- 18 Jacqueline Dowdy
- 20 Syreeta Hill
- 22 Arminta Richardson Harris
- 30 Rosharia Lane







- Business Attire
- Conference badge (Delegate ID)
- Respect designated seating areas
- Stand when Former Supreme Basilei & the Supreme Basileus enter the room and are introduced
- Stand for Regional Director at any event in her region
- **Do Not** hold seats
- Silence all electronic devices
- Remain seated during meditation & Supreme Basileus or Regional Director's address
- Speak once recognized
- Address delegation by stating your name, chapter, chapter location, and indicating delegate status
- **Do Not** take the centerpieces or decorations

#### **Attire**

Business	<b>Business Casual</b>
Hosiery	Hosiery Optional
Short or long sleeve Blouse or jacket	Sleeveless Optional
Skirt at knee length to mid-calf	Skirt or Pants
Pant suits	Khakis/Polo shirts/Trousers/Skirts
Closed Toe Shoes Preferred	Open Toe Shoes or Sandals
Heeled Sandals are acceptable	_

#### White Attire and Shoes for Rituals

Conservative, solid, seasonal white dress or skirted suit with sleeves (without adornment, embellishment, color trim on edges), flesh-tone or white hosiery, and seasonal white shoes are mandatory for the following:

- Chapter Chartering
- Membership Intake Process
- Ivy Beyond the Wall Memorial Ceremony
- Induction of Honorary Members
- Jewelry: White pearls are recommended



White Attire Exceptions: Head wraps (seasonal white only) may be worn for health and/or religious reasons. Orthopedic shoes may be worn for health reasons (no color restrictions)

#### **Portsmouth Pan Hellenic Council Meeting**

Submitted by Soror Clivel Banks and EJ Powell

Portsmouth Pan Hellenic Council met on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. A special "Thank You" to Sorors Benita Davis, Rosharia Lane and Sharon Waters for answering the call to come and ensure we had our numbers. A special "Thank You" is extended to Soror EJ Powell for being our Lead Representative for the meeting.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- -Saturday, April 15, 2017 Oasis Feeding Project: All Sorors are welcome to volunteer from 11am to 1pm as we serve the hungry in Hampton Roads. At 11am we will start preparing meals and food serving will be from Noon -1pm. Each organization has been tasked with a donation: Gamma Delta Omega will donated 5-24 count packs of dinner rolls. Approximately 80-90 persons are expected to be served.
- -Saturday, May 20, 2017 Greek Honors Banquet: Tickets are \$40. The banquet will take place at JT Fisher Banquet Hall, 6pm. Each organization is allotted 21 tickets with 1 ticket for the honoree. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Chapter Meeting. This year Gamma Delta Omega will honor our immediate former Basileus, Soror Aurelia Williams.
- **-Friday, June 2, 2017 Relay 4 Life**: Chesapeake City Park –Each organization has a \$250 goal. Sorors are encouraged to register online for \$10 and each registration will go towards the organization \$250 and thereby reducing the amount from the organizational budget. You may also select a "Luminaria" for \$10 where you light the bag in home of those with cancer. At the April's PAN meeting there will be a 50/50 raffle and in May collection of Can Donation (loose change). It should be noted that it is no longer just the PPHC, now the HR-PHC, to include all the PHC in the HR area.

#### **Around the Greek Community:**

#### Alpha Phi Alpha

-April 1, 2017 cutoff for Summer Reading Program at the Portsmouth Public Library. Donations are still being collected for 3-6 y/o. Books requested with chapters and subjects; no picture books or baby books. Donations may be dropped off at any PPL if you want to contribute.

#### **SIGMA GAMMA RHO**

-April 8, 2017 RHOMANIA Scholarship dinner- Chesapeake Conference Center, Chesapeake, VA \$55 starts at 5pm

#### Kappa Alpha Psi

-Saturday, June 10, 2017 Scholarship Banquet at the Edmonds Center, tickets are \$50

#### **ZETA PHI BETA**

- -Saturday, June 24, 2017 All White Party at Arabia Temple, Portsmouth, VA 9pm-1am Ticket prices forthcoming
- \*\*The Food Bank of Southeastern has a great need for plastic grocery/shopping bags. If you have any extra bags at home, please bring them to the Chapter meeting and they will be donated to the Foodbank. \*\*

Next Scheduled Pan Hellenic Council Meeting: April 10, 2017 at 7pm New Bethel Baptist Church. All are welcome to attend.



#### TWENTY PEARLS, INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 7187 Portsmouth, VA 23707 Twentypearlsinc.org



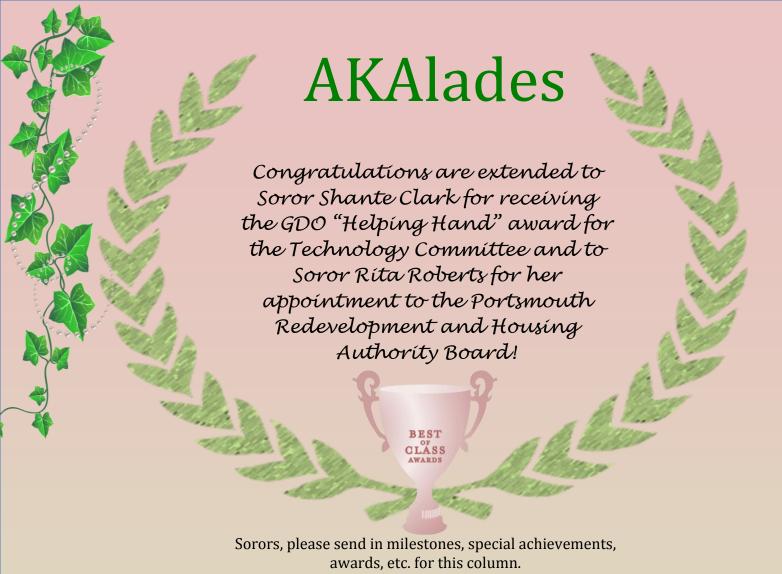
Twenty Pearls Incorporated (TPI) the charitable arm of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated ® Gamma Delta Omega Chapter Portsmouth, Virginia are pleased to offer four high school scholarships (3 traditional and the Dr. Saundra Copeland scholarship), two undergraduate scholarships (one traditional and the Dr. Tamara Jones scholarship), one graduate scholarship and one non-traditional scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic school year. Scholarship information on applying for each scholarship can be found on the TPI website. The application and all supporting documentation must be postmarked no later than April 29, 2017.

#### High School Eligibility

- United States Citizen.
- Current high school seniors attending school in the United States (applicant must be anticipating completion of high school in the spring of 2017).
- Minimum high school grade point average of 3.00 (on a 4.00 grade scale, excluding home school studies) and Minimum SAT score of 900 (math and verbal only) or ACT score of 21.
- Applicants must have applied and been accepted into a College or University by April 29, 2017.
- Two letters of recommendation, no more than 1, page; one from a high school teacher and the other from a teacher, counselor, administrator or person who can objectively assess your abilities and character.
- 6. Essay Topic: Explain how you plan to prepare for your career in college over the next five years. The essay must be typed.

Questions should be directed via email to <a href="Scholarships@twentypearlsinc.org">Scholarships@twentypearlsinc.org</a>.





Prayer Corner

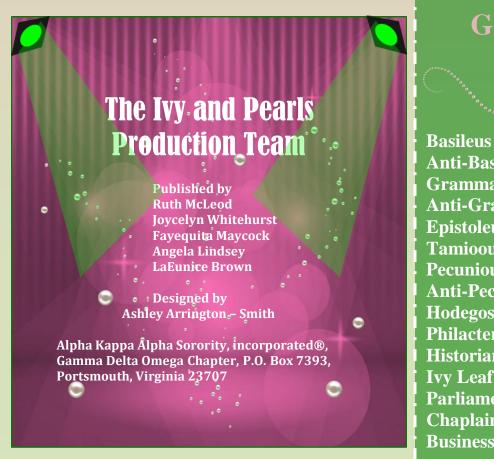
Through Christ our comfort overflows.
II Corinthians 1:5 NIV

Please pray for Soror Sylvia Freeman as she recovers from a medical procedure, Soror April Barber as she mourns the loss of two family members, and Soror Patsy Butler as she undergoes surgery.

## **Chapter Calendar of Events April 2017**

Date/Time		Event	Location
April 1	10:00 am	Chapter Meeting	First Baptist Church South Portsmouth
April 3	6:30 pm	<b>Environmental Ownership Meeting</b>	Teleconference
April 5	6:00 pm	Membership Meeting	Instructional Resource Center, Hartford St
April 7	5:00 pm	NAMI Impact Day	Museum of Contemporary Arts, Virginia Beach
April 8	2:00 pm	Cotillion Close Out	East Side Pizza
April 10	7:00 pm	PAN Hellenic Council	New Bethel Baptist Church
April 13	6:00 pm	Strategic Planning Meeting	Portsmouth Parent Resource Center, Hartford St
April 15	8:30 am	KPB Recycling Event	Lowes - Victory Crossing
April 15	10:30 am	ASCEND Model UN & Graduation	Churchland Library
April 15	11:00 am	PAN Hellenic Feeding Project	Oasis - Portsmouth
April 17	6:00 pm	Archives Meeting	Churchland Library
April 18	7:00 pm	Standards Meeting	Teleconference
April 20	6:00 pm	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>	First Baptist Church South Portsmouth
April 21	8:00 pm	GDO - The Wiz	Wells Theater, Norfolk
April 22	8:30 am	Great America Clean-Up / Earth Day	Adopt-A-Spot Site
April 23	2:00 pm	The Wiz (ASCEND)	Wells Theater, Norfolk
April 24	6:00 pm	TPI Meeting	TBD
April 26 - 30	7 3 36 7 43	Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference	Raleigh, North Carolina

The activity calendar is maintained in real - time via Google Calendar. To add the calendar, from your Android device using your Gmail account, visit your calendar from a desktop computer. Under your calendar, add a friend's calendar and enter gdoaka@gmail.com. That will generate an email for you to be added. Once approved, you will be able to see the live calendar. If you have an iPhone, send a text to 757.927.9789 and you will receive the link. All you will have to do is click the link and the calendar will populate to your smartphone.



## Gamma Delta Omega **Chapter Officers**

2017-18

**Anti-Basileus** Diertra Jones Grammateus Shirrell Smith **Anti-Grammateus** Krystal Moore **Epistoleus Tamioouchos Pecunious Grammateus Anti-Pecunious Grammateus** Joyce Williams Hodegos Gracie Bowers **Philacter** Historian/Archivist **Ivy Leaf Reporter** Parliamentarian Chaplain

**Business Manager** 

Ruth McLeod Rita Roberts Barbara Reynolds

LaEunice Brown

Janice Davis Bernadette Fraser Yolanda Brannen

Tanya Smith Beth Smith Fannie Bullock