



ALONG THE BYLINE

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. 1908 Epsilon Omega Chapter 1921



October 2009

Volume 42, Number 8

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Next Chapter Meeting

October 10, 2009

9:30 a.m.
Continental Breakfast

10 a.m.
Meeting



Message from the Basileus



Dear Sorors,

Calling all Epsilon Omega Sorors! Are you ready for our fine fall line-up of *Exciting Sisterly Productions*?

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Walk with us on Sunday, October 18, in Hunt Valley, Maryland, for "AKAs for the Cure."

Sorors are excited about the Cluster I Leadership Conference on Saturday, October 24, 2009. Registration forms are due by October 16, 2009. Let's get on the Epsilon Omega bus leaving from the Ivy Center at 6:30 a.m. The cost is \$22.

You will not want to miss our Biennial Chapter Retreat on Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7, 2009 with our theme "Who's Your Sistah." Calling all Sorors to register now.

After you are energized by the retreat, on Sunday, November 8 2009, the Cultural Arts Committee will present the opening of the NAACP exhibit at the Ivy Center, as well as unveil our ceremonial street naming sign. Please bring your family and friends to view this wonderful exhibit and celebration.

Pink roses to Sorors who participated in the Day of Service activity. Everyone experienced pride and satisfaction about the contributions made at the two schools. We are continuing our service with our can good donations for the Maryland Food Bank. Please bring your canned goods to the October Chapter meeting.

Congratulations to the Connection Committee on an exceptional viewing and discussion of "Unnatural Causes" on Tuesday, September 22, 2009.

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Vision & Mission

Epsilon Omega Chapter will be recognized as a viable, dynamic, positive force in Baltimore that impacts the community educationally, politically and culturally. We will have an informed, committed, dedicated and spirited membership.

It is the mission of the Epsilon Omega Chapter to provide consistent and effective services to its members, civic organizations and local, national and international communities to improve the quality of life for all whom we serve.

Epsilon Omega Executive Committee

Basileus

Soror Angela C. Gibson

Anti-Basileus (Program)

Soror Audrey M. Bennett

Anti-Basileus (Operations)

Soror Joann R. Barber

Grammateus

Soror Sheila E. Tidline

Anti-Grammateus

Soror Francina C. Spencer

Tamiouchos

Soror Sylvia Burke

Anti-Tamiouchos

Soror Virginia B. Vauls

Pecunious Grammateus

Soror Jan W. Carter

Anti-Pecunious Grammateus

Soror Geraldine S. Curry

Epistoleus

Soror Ruby M. Bass-Coleman

Philacter

Soror Emma J. Hamlin

Anti-Philacter

Soror Rita Johnson

Hodegos

Soror Shirley S. Briscoe

Ivy Leaf Reporter

Soror Shaletta D. Espie

Parliamentarian

Soror E. Francine Stokes-McElveen

Anti-Parliamentarian

Soror Edmonia T. Yates

Historian

Soror Cardrienne P. Griffin

Standards

Soror Barbara A. Burgess

Graduate Advisors

Alpha Delta (Morgan)- Soror

Adrienne Stokes-Orange

Epsilon Kappa (Coppin)- Soror Karen

P. Foster

Xi Tau (Johns Hopkins) - Soror Lois

D. Knight-Harrison

Members-at-Large

Soror Isabella Branch-Brown

Soror Joanne C. Carpenter

Soror Reather F. Green

Soror Edna Y. Rich

Foundation President

Soror Evelyn C. McLeod

Immediate Former Basileus

Soror Cheryl L. Frazier

Foundation News

The Epsilon Omega Foundation Raffle has been extended to Saturday, October 10, 2009. The drawing will be held at the Chapter meeting. The cost of one ticket is \$1.00 and 6 tickets are \$5.00. The first prize is \$100, second is \$50 and third is \$25. The proceeds will support the up-

keep of the Ivy Family Support Center. Please contact Sorors Isabella Branch-Brown, Sylvia Johnson or Barbara C. Robinson.

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2009 Card Party. The fundraiser generated \$7,082.61.

Screening of Unnatural Causes

The Connections Committee welcomed more than 50 individuals for the viewing and discussion of *Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?* Special guests included Delegate Shawn Tarrant and Renee Cohen from Senator Benjamin Cardin's office.



Join AKAs for a Cure



Join the "AKAs for a Cure" on Sunday, October 18, 2009, so you can be among the anticipated 30,000 people who will participate in the 2009 Komen Maryland Race for the Cure held in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Your participation will help support the Komen promise of saving lives and ending breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality for all and energizing science to find the cure.

Please consider walking with the team and/or making a contribution to show your support. Our team's goal is to raise \$1,000 this year! To register as a member of "AKAs for a Cure" and/or make a donation toward the team's goal, please contact Soror Michelle Byers.

Directory Update

Janis L. Wiggins
614 South 6th Street
Wilmington NC 28401-5212
910-763-6310 (Home)
202-906-9408 (Cell)
jwigginsAKA@gmail.com (E-mail)

Please send your contact information (address, e-mail and telephone) updates to Soror Virginia Vauls at virvauls@msn.com or 8004 Township Drive, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117.

On the Platform - Health

The Facts about the H1N1 Virus

H1N1 virus is not much more threatening than regular seasonal flu. During the few months of this new flu's existence, hospitalizations and deaths from it seem to be lower than the average seen for seasonal flu, and the virus has not dramatically mutated. That's what health officials have observed in the Southern Hemisphere where flu season is now winding down. Still, more people are susceptible to swine flu, and U.S. health officials are worried because the H1N1 virus survived the summer—a time of year when the flu usually goes away.

The H1N1 Virus is more of a threat to certain groups, ages 6 months—24. Ordinary, seasonal flu hits older people the hardest but not the H1N1 flu. Scientists think older people may have some immunity from exposure years earlier to viruses similar to H1N1 virus.

Millions of flu shots should be available by October. If you are in one of the priority groups, try to get your shot as early as possible. Check with your doctor or local or state health department about where to do this. Many children should be able to get vaccinated at school.

Even those who get the flu shot early will not have immunity until around Thanksgiving. That's because it's likely to take two shots, given three weeks apart, to provide protection. And, it takes a week or two after the last shot for the vaccine to take full effect. The regular seasonal flu shot

should be widely available in September. People over 50 are urged to be among the first to get that shot.

Like seasonal flu, the H1N1 Virus spreads through the coughs and sneezes of people who are sick. Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based disposable hand wipes or gel sanitizers may be used. When you wash your hands, do so with soap and warm water for at 15 to 20 seconds. If using an alcohol gel, rub your hands until the gel is dry. The gel does not need water to work; the alcohol in it kills the germs on your hands. Other precautions which will help to prevent infection include, not rubbing your eyes, nose, and mouth, sneezing and coughing into a tissue and disposing of the tissue immediately and do not share food and drinks with others.

If you get sick – be prepared to stay home for two weeks. Have a supply of food, water, over-the-counter medicines, the medications you normally take, tissues and alcohol-based hand rubs. Staying at home means that you should not leave your home except to seek medical care. You should stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone, except to get medical care. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine). Avoiding normal activities, including work, school, travel, shopping, social events and public gatherings can help to limit others exposure to the virus.

Scoop Sheet Deadline

To ensure the timely distribution of *Along the Byline*, no scoop sheets will be accepted later than **Monday, October 12, 2009**. Please return your scoop sheet to Soror Shaletta D. Espie at shaletta76@hotmail.com or 5717 Willowton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21239. Scoop Sheets are available at the sign-in table at Chapter meetings.

Chapter Song



(Tune: "Moonlight and Roses," by Lemare, Black, Moret)

I

Epsilon Omega,
The chapter that we
all love.

Epsilon Omega,
The chapter we're
proudest of.

Alpha Kappa Alpha,
A sisterhood noble
and true.

Alpha Kappa Alpha,
Our hopes are in you.

II

We pledge devotion,
In all that we try to do.

From ocean to ocean,
We seek to honor you.

One thought, one purpose,
United in spirit we stand.

Epsilon Omega,
The best in the land.



Chapter News

Sorors Participate in the National Day of Service on September 11, 2009

Sorors braved the weather to observe President Obama's National Day of Service on Friday, September 11, 2009. They visited Grove Park Elementary and Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle Schools where they performed various tasks—from assisting the principal to assuring the efficiency of school operations. The Brent School has approximately 280 students. The principal is Dr. Jacqueline Waters-Scoffed. She is the daughter of the late Soror Marjorie Woolridge-Waters and the niece of Soror Janet Woolridge. Our Epsilon Omega Soror Linette Horsey-Fitten teaches math at the Brent School.



Sorors Shaletta Espie and Barbara C. Robinson work together to prepare textbooks for distribution to the students at Margaret Brent School.



Sorors Annamaria Joyner and Veris Lee team-up to pack boxes of textbooks.



(l to r) Sorors Linette Horsey-Fitten, Barbara C. Robinson, Joann Barber, Annamaria Joyner, Shaletta Espie and Odessa Dunston pose with Margaret Brent School Principal Dr. Jacqueline Waters-Scoffed.



Sorors with students at Grove Park Elementary School (l to r) Verna Jones, Mignon Moore, Marion Patterson, Shirley Johnson, Helen Dupree, Ellen Gonzales and Cecilia Wright-Brown.

Announcements and Tidbits

Nominations for Election Due Soon!

Election Day 2009 will be here soon. In this odd number year, we will elect the following positions:

- Anti-Basileus for Program
- Grammateus
- Tamiouchos
- Epistoleus
- Hodegos
- Anti-Pecunious Grammateus
- Anti-Philacter
- Executive Committee (2)
- Nominating Committee (4)

Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee to avail yourself or suggest someone to run. Members of the Nominating Committee are Sorors:

- Isabella Branch-Brown (Chair)
- Patricia Sparrow (Co-chair)
- Barbara Burgess
- Crystal Cotton-Faison
- Ramona Greene
- Roselyn Hammond
- Barbara Harding
- Lillian Jackson
- Vivian Jackson

Please make your recommendations ASAP so the candidates' profiles can appear in the newsletter.

Documents at Meetings!

Please remember to bring your documents to Chapter and committee meetings, as well as conferences.

The primary documents are the latest edition of the Sorority's Constitution and Manual of Standard Procedures, the Chapter By-Laws, and any official sorority reference

document for the committee which you are a member.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Soror Barbara Burgess at 410-655-3058.

Save-the-Date: Sunday, November 8, 2009

On Sunday, November 8, 2009, the Baltimore City Branch of the NAACP will display a historical exhibit of photographs, posters, documents, newspaper clippings and memorabilia showcasing their 97 years of service.

The naming of *Ivy Center Way* will also take place.

More details are forthcoming.

Shop, Shop and Shop!

The Epsilon Omega Foundation Fall Flea Market will hold special sales for Sorors after the October Chapter meeting. An invitation is extended to Sorors to visit "The Boutique Room."

Take a Stand Against Global Poverty!

On Saturday, October 17, 2009, the International Program Committee is encouraging Sorors to join with CARE and stand in solidarity with poor and marginalized women around the world. Make plans to do one or all of the following:

- **Read, learn and act!** Encourage the members of your local chapter to read a book about issues affecting women and girls around the world. Visit www.care.org/bookclubs for CARE's books recommendations, discussion guides and creative ideas to help you take action.

- **Watch, discuss, and act!** Order a copy of the documentary "A Powerful Noise," a film about women changing the world. Then, hold a viewing party at your home or at your next meeting to discuss the issues presented in the film and take action together! The DVD, available at www.care.org/apowerfulnoise, includes a discussion guide and action ideas.

- **Participate!** Attend one of the CARE events being held in October in Atlanta, Miami, and other key cities. Visit www.care.org/stand for more information.

- **Speak out!** Learn more about CARE's work to provide access to economic opportunity for women across Africa (www.care.org/accessafrica) and then take action in support of the GROWTH Act. The act promotes microfinance tools like CARE's village savings and loan programs, enhanced land and property rights and business training for women living in poverty around the world. Visit www.care.org/growth to take action now!

Please email groups@care.org if you need more ideas or tools to get started. Together, we have the power to help women around the world build a better future for all.

North Atlantic Regional Conference Hostess Fee

Epsilon Omega is one of the Hostess Chapters for the 2010 Regional Conference. All financial Sorors in 2009 will be assessed a hostess fee of \$75, due by December 31, 2009.

Happy Birthday!



October 2

- Soror Lois Waters
- Soror Maxine Wood

October 4

- Soror Yvonne Fletcher

October 5

- Soror Edith Gordon
- Soror Beulah Maxwell
- Soror Jan Williams

October 8

- Soror Francina Spencer

October 9

- Soror Helen Dupree

October 11

- Soror Odessa Dunston

October 13

- Soror Joanne Bryant Carpenter

October 14

- Soror Iris Jay

October 18

- Soror Karenthia Barber

October 20

- Soror Mary Ward

October 21

- Soror Sylvia Burke
- Soror F. Helen Crosby
- Soror Irene Gillis
- Soror Karen Robertson

October 22

- Soror Rita Crooms

October 23

- Soror Justyne Boyd
- Soror Ingrid Sampson

October 30

- Soror Maryellen Smackum

October 31

- Soror Isabella Branch-Brown
- Soror Geraldine Curry

Announcements and Tidbits

The Regional Conference will be held on March 25-28, 2010, at the Gaylord Conference Center in National Harbor, Maryland.

Cluster I Conference Bus

A bus to the Cluster Conference on Saturday, October 24, 2009 will be available. It will leave the Ivy Center at 6:30 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. The cost is \$22 per person. Please contact Soror Esther Bailey at 410-542-5731. Deadline is October 10, 2009. No refunds.

Love Your Sister Day

December 5 is "Love Your Sister Day." Sorors are asked to do something special with a Soror as a way of showing love for each other. More information will be available at the Cluster I Conference.



EO Cares

Please bring canned goods to the October and November Chapter meetings to support the Maryland Food Bank. Distribution to the Food Bank will be made prior to Thanksgiving.

Notes from Around the Region

Theta Omega Omega Chapter's 40th Anniversary Luncheon will be held on Sunday, November 22, 2009, at the Hilton Hotel in Rockville, Maryland. The tickets are \$75.

Metropolitan Founders' Day

The event will be held on Sunday, January 24, 2010, at the BWI Marriott. The guest speaker is Reverend Dr. Debyii Thomas. The tickets are \$60 and available at Chapter meetings

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
North Atlantic Region 2009 Cluster I Leadership Conference
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

Name _____ Financial Card# _____
 Street _____ Telephone# _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Chapter _____
 Location/Cluster _____ E-Mail Address _____

Membership Classification (Please Check All That Apply):

Graduate___ Undergraduate___ General___ Basileus___
 Diamond Soror___ Golden Soror___ Silver Star___ Int'l Officer___
 Regional Standing Committee Chair___

Any Special Needs: _____

Registration Fees:

Registration form with chapter check, certified check or money order must be post-marked on or before **Friday, October 16, 2009**. A \$30.00 fee will be assessed on all returned checks. **PERSONAL CHECKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION. Graduate and General Members - \$75.00 Undergraduate Members - \$60.00**

Make check payable to: **North Atlantic Region**. Please designate your **chapter affiliation** in the memo line of your check and mail your registration fee and form to: 2009 Cluster I Registration, c/o Soror Nicola Kennedy, PO Box 445, Laurel, Maryland 20725.

Along the Ivy Vine

Thank You from Soror Ruth Brown

Thank you for the many expressions of care and concern during this period of sadness at the homegoing of my brother and friend on August 12, 2009.

Andrew "Brother" Payne fought a good fight, finished the course, kept the faith and received his crown of righteousness given to him by the Lord, the righteous judge.

"Brother" was a loyal supporter of his AKA family – 3 sisters, 1 daughter and 5 nieces. After the 1996 Boule, he traveled to Egypt with our sister Soror Doris J. Payne and me and had an AWESOME AKA time.

We will truly miss him.

Congratulations Soror Ruthe Sheffey!

Dr. Ruthe T. Sheffey received the Morgan State University Professor of the Year award on Wednesday, August 12, 2009, at the opening of the Faculty Institute.

Prayers and Thoughts

Please take a moment and whisper a prayer for the following Sorors: Gloria Carpenter, Virginia Clark, Yvonne Fletcher, Jeanette Hairston, Cardrienne Griffin, Doris Levi, A. Bernice Hunley and Helen Thornton.

Our Condolences

Please send your condolences to Soror Ann Barnes-Mobley, who lost her father, Lloyd Barnes II, on August 16, 2009. Mr. Barnes was also the grandfather of Soror Tahira Rooks.

Thank You from Soror Gloria Carpenter

Thank you for your outpouring of love as I mourn the death of my mother Martha Elizabeth Rhodes, who was 100 at the time of her passing.

Congratulations to Soror Veris Lee!



At a recent Soror gathering at the Family Life Center in Baltimore, Maryland, Soror Veris Lee was awarded a proclamation for her accomplishments in politics, youth development and the empowerment of women by our Soror and Maryland State Senator, The Honorable Verna Jones-Rodwell.

Thank You from Soror Cardrienne Griffin

Thank you so very much for your concern, encouraging words and prayers. The beautiful flowers helped to brighten my day and lifted my spirit. I greatly appreciate your expressions of sisterly love.

Retirement Celebration for Soror Margaret Shibley

October 23, 2009, 7 p.m.—11 p.m.
The Forum; Tickets: \$60
Contact: Soror Maxine Wood at 410-367-5703

Message from the Basileus Cont'd

Epsilon Kappa (Coppin University) celebrated its 40th Anniversary on Sunday, September 27, 2009, and we wish them many more years of service.

We salute our Sorors Geraldine Waters and Veris Lee for their recognition of Service by the Neighborhood to Family Association.

CALLING ALL SORORS! Epsilon Omega committees are excited and ready for your participation in our activities.

Sisterly Love,
Soror Angela

2009 Chapter Retreat Registration Form

Friday, November 6, 2009 6 p.m.—9 p.m. • Saturday, November 7, 2009 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
\$30 by October 10, 2009
\$35 after October 10, 2009

Please complete the registration form by Saturday, October 10, 2009, and return it to Soror Maxine Wood or Soror Odessa Dunston.

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
E-mail:	

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Epsilon Omega Chapter
P.O. Box 67006
Baltimore, Maryland 21215-0005

Save-the-Date



- **Saturday, October 10, 2009**
Chapter Meeting, 9:30 a.m. (Continental Breakfast), 10 a.m. (Meeting), Ivy Family Support Center
- **Sunday, October 18, 2009**
“AKAs for a Cure”, Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, Hunt Valley, Maryland
- **Saturday, October 24, 2009**
Cluster I Conference Leadership Meeting, New Carrollton, Maryland
- **Monday, October 26, 2009**
Foundation Executive Committee Meeting, 6 p.m., Ivy Family Support Center
- **Monday, November 2, 2009**
Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Ivy Family Support Center
- **Friday, November 6-Saturday, November 7, 2009**
Epsilon Omega Chapter 2009 Retreat
- **Sunday, November 8, 2009**
NAACP Exhibit and Naming of Ivy Center Way, Ivy Family Support Center
- **Saturday, November 14, 2009**
Chapter Meeting, 9:30 a.m. (Continental Breakfast), 10 a.m. (Meeting), Ivy Family Support Center
- **Saturday, November 21, 2009**
Day of Hope Activity
- **Monday, November 23, 2009**
Foundation Executive Committee Meeting, 6 p.m., Ivy Family Support Center
- **Saturday, December 5, 2009**
“Love Your Sister” Day
- **Monday, December 7, 2009**
Chapter Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Ivy Family Support Center
- **Saturday, December 12, 2009**
Chapter Meeting, 9:30 a.m. (Continental Breakfast), 10 a.m. (Meeting), Ivy Family Support Center