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President's Message: Spring is in the Air

Greetings Sorors!

It is with great pride and pleasure that I bring you the first message of CAAC's 2007-08 Sorority Year. CAAC's officers have been working hard to prepare for this year. We started by having an executive board retreat on August 11, 2007. Some of the agenda items that were covered included a look back at successes of 06-07 and a look forward to what can be improved for 07-08.

Sorors, please give yourselves a hand for last year's successes: 10 Year Anniversary Celebration, More Delta Academy/GEMS participants in CAAC's history, Larger Variety of Membership Activities, Increased Number of Chapter Members, State and Regional Leadership Representation, and a Delta Academy Participant represented CAAC at National Convention. These are just a few of the many accomplishments of CAAC in 2006-07.

With that being said, we have much work to do to make 2007-08 even more successful than last year. The reclamation race is on . . . We have been challenged by our National President to reclaim 2008 Sorors in 2008. For Sorors who have re-ignited your flame in Delta – Welcome Back! We have truly missed you. For Sorors who are joining the chapter after graduating college – Welcome to the alumnae experience! And, for Sorors who are continuing from last year, Welcome and thank you for your continued commitment!

I look forward to working with each of you as we move forward in 2007-08.

Sisterly,
Erica Jenkins, President

CAAC Reminders

- Δ New Members Orientation September 6 at the PCA Office 6:30pm
- Δ Chapter meeting September 8 at the PCA Office 11:00 am
- Δ Delta Academy/GEMS Sept. 15 at Dee Brown Library 10a – Noon
- Δ Volunteer for the LR Central High 50th Anniversary Celebration contact Sally Porter at 961-9791 or email centralhivolunteer@swbell.net
- Δ Health & Healing at the Step Up Center Oct. 2 at 5:30 pm
- Δ Delta Classic for Literacy Oct. 13, 2007 War Memorial Stadium
- Δ Arkansas Statewide Meeting Feb. 8-10, 2008



CAAC Round Up 2007

By: Angela Austin

On August 25, Central Arkansas Alumnae Chapter held its annual Round Up at the Cox Creative Center near the River Market in downtown Little Rock. Sorors present enjoyed a program packed with information and fun.

Soror Veronda McQuay Brown opened the event with a soul stirring prayer to help kick off the new year. Then, Soror Claudette Barber, First Vice President and Membership Chair, offered a warm welcome to all those in attendance.

The fun began when Soror Angela Austin facilitated an introductory ice breaker to help visiting and chapter Sorors get acquainted with each other. The object of the ice breaker was to have the Sorors identify other Sorors who matched the description in each square. Who is the Chapter Princess? Who was a Regional Initiate? Who is a current or past collegiate chapter advisor? And other questions of the like.

Soror Erica Jenkins, Chapter President, gave the president's message of looking forward to the 2007-2008 Sorority year; followed by Soror April Nichols explaining the financial obligations of members.

Soror Stephanie Walker Hynes spoke about the programs and activities scheduled for this fiscal year. Activities planned by the Program, Planning and Development Committee include Health and Healing at the Step Up Center, Ronald McDonald House, a Home Buyer Education seminar and a Thanksgiving brunch with Delta Academy and Delta G.E.M.S. participants.

To add more spice to the event, the Sorors of Mu Kappa Chapter graced us with a mini step show. The performance was great and Sorors enjoyed the entertainment. To keep the enthusiasm going, Soror Austin took volunteers from the audience to engage in a game of "Delta Taboo." The game was played by the rules of Taboo, only

with a Delta twist. There were five Sorors on each team. One team had to select a Soror to give the clues and the opposing team had to select a Soror to ensure the one giving clues would not mention one of the words listed on the card as she tried to get her team members to guess the word listed on top. Soror Shirley Tyson brought her team from behind to win the game. What fun?!!!

After all the excitement, Soror Claudette Barbee gave a membership overview and covered the activities planned for the members for the year. Soror Erica Jenkins gave closing remarks to the crowd of 47 attendees and then everyone ate and fellowshipped with one another.

The food spread was very appealing and the food was quite delicious. Thanks to Soror Claudette Barber and the Membership Committee for putting on a success event.

Delta Spotlight Allison Dulaney

By: Angela Austin

Soror Allison Dulaney was born December 7 in Forrest City, AR to Samuel and Carolyn Dulaney. She has an older sister, Adriene, who is her best friend and role model and a brother-in-law, Ken. She considers their dog, Sir Alfred, her nephew and she adores and spoils him.

She received her Bachelor of Art degree in Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Central Arkansas in May 2007. Allison is currently

pursuing a Master of Accountancy and anticipates a graduation date of May 2008. She will begin preparing for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam in Summer 2008.

Soror Dulaney is a graduate assistant for the Department of Accounting at the University of Central Arkansas, and she aspires to work in entertainment or sports accounting.

Soror Dulaney was initiated into the Lambda Upsilon Chapter on April 13, 2006 and was

named Arkansas' Collegiate of the Year during the 2007 Statewide Meeting. She has also recently been appointed as CAAC's Sergeant-at-Arms.

When Allison is not busy with homework and job duties, she enjoys reading, watching HGTV, shopping, and spending time with friends and family.

Soror Dulaney's motto is: *"It's not the life you live but the sincerity and passion with which you live it."*



Executive Board Retreat

By: Angela Austin

The Executive Board retreat, held on August 11 at the Professional Counseling Association Springhill office, was filled with a deal of interaction and discussion.

The retreat started with a meditation by Soror Veronda McQuay Brown. Executive Board members present enjoyed an ice breaker, exercises and lunch. Members also discussed 2006-07 accomplishments, 2007-08 vision and goals, committee goals and needs and areas to improve.

Some of the accomplishments highlighted were the Ten Year Anniversary Celebration of the chapter, the variety of membership activities, the increase of Delta Academy and Delta G.E.M.S. participants, the improved punctuality of the meetings, increased visibility in the community, improved relationships with collegiate Sorors, completion of programs

outlined in the Five Point Thrust, all chapter debts paid in full, increased number of members holding state and regional positions and improved Internet Technology with the implementation of placing chapter information on CD-Rom.

Goal for the new year are: retention of membership, increased membership participation in all areas, development of a scholarship and/or signature event, work more in the chapter's other service areas, do more work with the chapter website, get more charter members involved, encourage non-participating members to select one committee on which to serve and focus on that committee, learn our Delta songs, Robert's Rules of Order and protocol and traditions, implement more programs in the community, identify the strengths of members and recruit them for committees, and maintain records of events and duties of committees to pass along to the succeeding chair.

Goals and needs of the Founders Day, Membership, Arts and Letters,

Social Action, Program, Planning & Development and Budget & Finance were discussed. The committees will collaborate with other chapters, focus on the National reclamation goal, partner with local schools to provide outlets for K-12 students, focus on education in legislation, voter registration drive, increase funding for programs, complete one new program during the calendar year, complete the Five Point Thrust, maintain 75% participation in fundraisers and commit to fundraisers voted on by the chapter.

Soror Jenkins gave a send off gift to each participating Soror, which was a CD. The Sorors traveled to the Texas Roadhouse Restaurant for food and fellowship.

Soror Jenkins did a marvelous job putting the retreat together. It was very informative and Sorors walked away motivated with a new enthusiasm and a desire to work to make the chapter even better.

Chapter Cookout

By: Angela Austin

Sorors gathered on June 16 to enjoy the annual chapter cookout. The cookout was held in Kensington Park in Little Rock.

Members of Delta Academy/G.E.M.S. also participated in the activities.

Sorors listened to music and played spades while the kids enjoyed face painting, jump rope, and playing with bubbles.

It was nice to give our families an opportunity to become acquainted with the women with whom they share their spouses,

mothers, and sisters.

Special thanks goes to Mr. Rowe for bbq-ing; R. Moseby for the baked beans, and to Danielle Haynes, Claudette Barbee, and Regina Howard for providing the food. The chapter contributed the meats.



Regional Conference 25K GEMS Institute

By: Angela Austin

This year, the Regional Leadership Team decided to implement a program equivalent to that of the Delta Presidential Academy held every biennium during the National Convention. The 25Karat G.E.M.S. Institute is a new program that will recognize 25 young ladies who are members of Delta G.E.M.S. in the various chapters throughout the region.

A natural outgrowth and expansion for the continuation of the highly successful "Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy, Delta G.E.M.S. was created to "catch the dreams" of African American at-risk adolescent girls aged 14-18. Delta G.E.M.S., Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully, provides the framework to actualize those dreams through the performance of specific tasks that develop a "CAN DO" attitude. The Delta G.E.M.S. program has been renamed the Jeanne L. Noble Delta G.E.M.S. to honor the Sorority's deceased past National President.

Miriam McFerguson was selected by the ladies of the Central Arkansas Alumnae Chapter as the Delta G.E.M.S. representative for the Regional 25Karat G.E.M.S. Institute, held during the Regional Conference in Shreveport, LA. Miriam is a sophomore at

Hall High School. She is a member of the school's volleyball team and the French Club.

While participating in the Institute, Miriam had an opportunity to introduce herself to 24 other young ladies from other areas around the region. The young ladies were split into groups to talk about peer pressure, self esteem, body image and school involvement.

She also had the opportunity to meet our National President, Dr. Louise A. Rice. The president encouraged the participants to stay motivated and humble about anything they chose to do.

Since participating in the 25K G.E.M.S., Miriam has become more focused and looks on the positive side of things. She is always looking for ways to make things better. Chapter members have noticed Miriam has become more outgoing. She is more open about things and has a clear understanding of self.

Each participant in the Institute attended the Collegiate Luncheon and received a Ruby (a real gem). "It is important to stay true to yourself and never give up," says Miriam.

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DST Mission

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is an organization of college educated women committed to constructive development of its members and to public service with a primary focus on the Black community.