

Entrepreneur Sorors Prevailing

Platform I – The Non-Traditional Entrepreneur

Submitted by: Sorors Sheila Rolack & Sherry Armstead, Platform I Co-Coordinators

Women are seizing the reins of entrepreneurship because they realize that it is the key to economic survival, especially in times like these. As they become a larger part of the business landscape and as their enterprises grow, women entrepreneurs are constantly dealing with the challenges of managing new ventures and expanding their businesses.

Platform I – The Non-Traditional Entrepreneur, was a newly created program under the Centennial Supreme Basileus Barbara A. McKinzie just over two years ago. While often misunderstood, this platform provides the foundation for entrepreneurial spirited sorors. **Platform I's vision is "To build a strong foundation for women in business, Alpha Kappa Alpha will create economic expertise, success in business and power networking opportunities for the non-traditional entrepreneur".**



Platform I's benefits to Sorors are:

- Establish networking opportunities
- Access to non-traditional entrepreneurs
- Serve as a voice for addressing challenges for women entrepreneurs
- Share business information, successes and failures
- Gain the tools necessary to become successful entrepreneurs
- Create avenues for success; i.e. turn hobbies, skills, strengths into businesses
- Develop alternative revenue streams

In light of these benefits, our programs tend to revolve around activities that foster entrepreneurship and networking opportunities.

Our platform, originally led by Sorors Robin Ott and Donna Stevenson-Robinson, created programs such as the Pink and Green pages and the Akatude for Business – Creating a Road Map to Wealth workshop and the Sorors Networking for Endurance, Sustainability, and Prosperity: In the New Economy workshop.

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Message from the Basileus

Greetings Sorors,

As expected, 78th North Atlantic Regional Conference in the Big Apple was packed with plenty of events, meetings, information and fun. The final numbers have not been confirmed; however, we believe there were more than 6,500 members in attendance. Thank you **Soror Juanita Tynes-Tillery** for going above and beyond your responsibilities to coordinate transportation and resolve “soror” hotel issues.

Supreme Basileus, Soror Barbara A. McKinzie, attended most of the NARC plenary sessions as well as several institutes and leadership meetings. Fortunately, sorors were able to address questions and concerns directly to her. Soror Evelyn Sample-Oates, the North Atlantic Regional Director, remained true to her word and wore silver everyday! Congratulations and thank you to **Rho Xi Omega’s Runway Silver Stars – Sorors Robin Ott, Carol Foreman, Sheila Rolack, Tina Dixon, Janeen Jackson, and Lydia McCargo-Redd**. Conference highlights will be presented at the April Chapter meeting. At the May meeting, a more detailed NARC report will be compiled by the delegates for chapter review and discussion.

Since improved soror participation is **my goal** for Rho Xi Omega, I know that **every soror** has made a commitment to serve in some capacity during the Step Show. Sorors should contact committee chairmen for additional information. Loch Raven High school will be filled to capacity and our guests can expect a fun-filled, family-oriented event.

As I close this message on Good Friday, the Seven Last Words from the Cross will be prevalent today. They are powerful reminders of the ultimate sacrifice made for us. The sixth word, “It is finished!” (John 9:30) comes to mind.

We should all be thankful that Jesus finished the work which he came to do for us and for our salvation. My prayer is that by the power of his Spirit, he will help and strengthen each soror to begin, to continue and to complete the work (service) he has given each of us to do.

Peace and Blessings,

Soror Sheryl



Chapter Officers

Sheryl Nelson
Basileus

Tracey Barbour, 1st Anti-Basileus

Juanita Tynes Tillery, 2nd Anti-Basileus

Rose Monroe, Ph.D., Grammateus

Nina McFadden, Anti-Grammateus

Deanna McCray-James, Epistoleus

Marjorie Edmonds, Tamiouchos

Shanika Solomon, Pecunious Grammateus

Joanna Langston, Philacter

L’oreal Edmondson, Hodegos

Cecile Matthews, Historian

Vanessa Ray, Ivy Leaf Reporter

Helen G. Anderson, Parliamentarian

Jan Desper, Chaplain

Members At Large:

Autumn Anderson Chandra D. Campbell

Martina Washington LaShawn Williams

Rho Xi Omega Charities’ Officers

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Gina McKnight Smith, Pharm. D, Secretary

Pam King-Smith, Treasurer

Shirlene Snowden, Assistant Treasurer

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Marjorie Edmonds C. Yvonne Holt Stone

Anita Turks Hunter Sheryl Nelson

Elizabeth A. Williams

North Atlantic Regional News - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. rang the closing bell at NASDAQ during the 2009 Regional Conference held in New York City, April 1 – 5.



For the 2009/2010 year,

Platform I will focus on activities in the following three areas:

- 1) Networking: To make a connection will include activities such as a power networking luncheon, speed networking, and networking opportunities before a chapter meeting.
- 2) Entrepreneurship: Highlight entrepreneurial activities and partnerships will conduct the second AKAtude workshop and collaborate with projects/organizations; i.e. Associated Black Charities: More in the Middle. The AKAtude workshop, our signature event for 2009/2010, is targeted for October 2009 - Women's Small Business Month. This event will bring to the chapter a workshop that is intended to be a resource for non-traditional and aspiring entrepreneurs. It will provide the opportunity to receive advice and counseling, develop an action plan for success, and network with other entrepreneurs.
- 3) Marketing: Market business & Platform I activities will expand the Pink and Green pages to include Cluster 1 Sorors, conduct a chapter survey and conduct 30 second commercials at the chapter meetings. Last month, Platform I initiated the Entrepreneur Sorors Prevailing – RXO Soror Spotlight Series, a monthly feature in our *Pearls of Wisdom* newsletter which highlights the accomplishments of our chapter's entrepreneurs.

Platform I also collaborated with other RXO Platforms for Money Power Day. Soror Donna Stevenson-Robinson was a panelist for the “*Starting a Small Business*” workshop where she provided good information regarding starting and operating a business.

Stay tuned for Platform I's activities in the coming months. Also, take a moment to say hello and offer encouragement to our featured Rho Xi Omega Entrepreneur Sorors. If you have a business or have entrepreneurial interests, then Platform I would love to have you. Feel free to contact Sorors Sheila Rolack and Sherry Armstead, the Co-Chairmen.



Economics, Service and Partnerships - Year 3

Soror Tracey Barbour, 1st Anti-Basileus

Yes We Can...Support ESP Programs!

I returned from the North Atlantic Regional Conference feeling Energized, Surprised, and Positive. I am energized from the plenary sessions and workshops, and the information I received there, and from reconnecting with sorors from around the region and learning about all of the great things they are doing. Rho Xi Omega was pleased to learn that our chapter won two acknowledgements for exemplary programs: **Platform I** – More in the Middle Briefing/partnership with Associated Black Charities; and **Platform II** – Securing the Economic Keys to Success homeownership expo with Iota Lambda Omega chapter. We are very proud of Rho Xi Omega's 2009 programs and our committees and once again invite you to join us in this exciting year of Economics, Service and Partnerships!

Sorors, can we:

...Raise the bar on the quality and depth of our partnerships with other organizations? *Yes We Can!*

...Step up to the plate, and volunteer to co-chair Platform II – Economic Keys to Success? *Yes We Can!!*

...Resolve to actively participate in program events/service projects/activities at least one time per quarter? *Yes We Can!!*

...Drop in on program activities such as the After school AKAdemy and Camp Font-Tastic? They need our support.
Yes We Can!

...Bring ideas to program committee chairs and be willing to take the lead to bring these ideas to life? *Yes We Can!!*

...Support the development and attainment of measurable goals and outcomes for our programmatic activities? *Yes We Can!!*

...Make Rho Xi Omega's ESP Programs the best in the North Atlantic Region? *Yes We Can!!*

Please support the following activities:

April 25 -- Bowl for Kids' Sake - Sign up to bowl or donate to support Rho Xi Omega bowlers online:

<http://bfksmd2009.kintera.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=298845&lis=1&kntae298845=FF25DCECEBDD430E9FCC29F6378EAE2F&team=3375679&tteam=0>

Contact Event Chairman, Soror Cynthia Bruce for pledge sheets. Please forward the donation link to your friends and family. You can bring your friends and family on April 25, and they can join in the fun!

April 25 – Platform III will kickoff their work with Middle School Boys from Winston Middle School. Contact Sorors Dana Davison and Linda Jones for more information.

April 25 -- Tininia Cade Foundation Fertility Information Session, 10 am - Noon. Hyatt Place, 4730 Painters Mill Road, Owings Mills, MD. Rho Xi Omega/Platform V is a co-sponsor, along with the Baltimore County Jack and Jill Chapter. Register at: Maryland@CadeFoundation.org.

May 2 – Step Show – resolve to raise *beyond* your assessment to help support our 2010 programs of service!

May 16 – She Matters Conference. New Town High School. Support Platform III, who will deliver the workshop “The Best Me I Can Be” twice at this year’s conference. Bring your daughters, nieces, younger sisters, cousins, god daughters, granddaughters and their friends to this empowering conference. Contact Soror Tonee Lawson for more information.

May 30 – Ebenezer A.M.E. Health Summit, 8:30 am – 1 pm. Contact Soror Gina McKnight-Smith for more information.

June 5 – Join Platform V for a great workout at **Chizel It – Owings Mills** location. Look for more details soon!

July 6-31 – Camp Font-Tastic

The planning for this year’s camp is underway! Contact Soror Vanessa Sims to join the planning committee or to learn more about how to enroll your middle school students.

Program Committee Updates

Platform V - Platform V has partnered with the Tinina Q. Cade Foundation, Inc. (www.CadeFoundation.org) to promote women’s health. To raise awareness and provide outreach, Platform V Sorors will attend the foundation’s seminar, which will be held at Hyatt Place Baltimore, 4370 Painters Mill Road Owings Mills, MD on Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. - Noon. Sorors are encouraged to support this partnership by participating in the outreach seminar.

The Tinina Q. Cade Foundation, Inc. was founded by Soror Camille Hammond, M.D. following her struggle with infertility. The foundation is a “national non profit organization committed to informing communities about infertility and related issues as well as

financially helping affected families seeking to bring children into their homes with the help of fertility treatment or adoption". Copies of the Cade Foundation's Family Building Grant application, providing up to \$10,000 per grantee to assist with costs of adoption or fertility treatment, will be available at the activity. Applications will not be available otherwise until July at the www.cadefoundation.org website. The Cade Foundation is the only independent national non profit that offers such a grant.

The seminar, co-sponsored by Rho Xi Omega Chapter and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Baltimore County Chapter, is still in need of volunteers for the activity which promises to be both informative and empowering for families overcoming infertility. All sorors who plan to volunteer should plan to arrive at the Hyatt by no later than 9:30 AM for set up and the meeting should conclude by noon. Sorors, we need your support!!! Please share the information about this activity (see attached flyer) with your friends, families, co-workers, colleagues and anyone else that may benefit from the information or the grant. To volunteer or for additional information contact Soror Tanisha Adams-Dixon or Debra Shannon.

Connection - On March 12th, 13 sorors participated in AKA Night in Annapolis at the State Capitol. We heard some inspiring and informative messages, and we had the opportunity to hear from other Sorors who attended hearings previously that morning. We learned about many bills, such as the High School Reform Bill, which will raise the dropout age to 17 and will call for monitoring high school students in the 9th grade to ensure successful completion of high school. A wonderful time was had by all.

The 426th Session began January 14, 2009 and adjourned April 13, 2009. The Governor has scheduled three bill signing ceremonies to begin at 10:00 am in the Governor's Reception Room at the Maryland State House. The signings will take place on Tuesday, April 14, Thursday, May 7 and Thursday, May 21. These signings are open to the public, you will be directed to the signing upon entering the state house. Please call (410) 946-5400 for additional information on which bills will be signed on a particular day.



Several bills passed in the State Senate and/or House, some of which are now under consideration by the Governor, which may be of particular interest to Rho Xi Omega Sorors.

- 1) *Education: Financial Literacy (SB 140 /HB 120)* – Adds members to the Task Force to Study How to Improve Financial Literacy in the State, extend the task force to June 2010 and include a December 1, 2009 reporting requirement.
- 2) *Education: Teacher Identification Number and Standardized course Number Systems (HB 587 & 588)* – Calls for the creation of unique identification numbers for each public school educator in the State. HB 588 authorizes the Maryland State Department of Education to create a statewide standardized course numbering system that local school systems can opt to use. Combined, these bills could produce a statewide longitudinal education data system that will allow comparisons among local school systems.
- 3) *Gaming, Racing, and Sports* – (HB 1578/SB 1072) – Authorizes the State to acquire by purchase or condemnation, for public use and with just compensation, private property relating to the Pimlico and Laurel Park Racetracks, Bowie Race Course Training Center and the Preakness Stakes, as well as other tangible and intangible property related to the preakness States and the Woodlawn Vase, including the race and the trademark. The Maryland Economic Development Council may issue bonds or borrow money to finance the cost of acquiring the properties.
- 4) *Health Care and Health Insurance* – (HB 20) – Also known as Rosa's Law. Change all references to the term "mental retardation" in the Maryland Annotated Code to the term "intellectual disability." The change in terminology also renames any State facilities that include the terms "mentally retarded" or "mental retardation."
- 5) *Transportation: Texting While Driving* - (SB 98) – Prohibits a driver from using a text messaging device to write, send or read a text message while operating a motor vehicle. The House passed their version of the bill (HB 72) with the amendment – "text message while operating a motor vehicle in motion or in the travel portion of the roadway; specifying exceptions for use of a global positioning system, or text messaging to contact a 9-1-1 system; etc."

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Rho Xi Omega Sister Circles

Sorors Connected by Ivy

On March 28, 2009 the “*Tre’ Chic*” sister circle met at Soror Gina McKnight-Smith’s home for a “Night of Conversations.” The purpose of this fellowship was to discuss topics that women encounter in their everyday lives. These topics include: relationships, love, men, and managing work and life. The circle also discussed Steve Harvey’s new book “*Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man.*” The dialogue was great and many Sorors where able to learn management techniques to implement to aid in balancing their lives. There were seven Sorors in attendance: Tanisha Adams-Dixon, Cylia Lowe, Deanna McCray-James, Gina McKnight-Smith, Nicole Ndzibah, Monica White, and Nicole Williams.

~~Submitted by Soror Tanisha Adams-Dixon, *Tre’ Chic* Co-Coordinator



Rho Xi Omega Sister Circle Coordinators

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Twenty Pearls (20's sorors)

Soror LaToia Walker

Fabulous 40's (40's sorors)

1) Soror Debra Shannon

2) Soror Helena Davis

Tre Chic (30's sorors)

1) Soror Tanisha Adams-Dixon

2) Soror Martina Washington

Aged to Perfection: Retired and Loving It!

Soror Geraldine Barbour

2) Soror Monica White

Pink & Green Divas (Sorors 50 +)

1) Soror Avonnee E. Brown

Platform I – *Entrepreneur Sorors Prevailing*

Soror Spotlight



Soror Cassandra Burnett, DDS is the owner of a family oriented dental practice in Baltimore, Maryland that welcomes children and adults. She is dedicated to giving her patients a comfortable, professional, and personalized dental experience. Dr. Burnett enjoys helping patients enjoy the smile they always wanted by creating beautiful healthy smiles through comprehensive dentistry. Oral health is her focus for all treatments as well as educating patients of all walks of life about their dental needs.

Cassandra has eight years of dental experience and has had the opportunity to work in a Pediatric practice as well as volunteer dental services on several occasions. She is also an active member of organized dental associations.

Why did you decide to start your own business?

I have always been interested in the health field. After college, I worked as a health educator and felt what I was doing wasn't making a great enough impact on my community.

After much meditation, I decided to follow in my father's footsteps and become a Dentist. I was blessed with the opportunity to inherit a dental practice from my father, Dr. Sidney O. Burnett, and soon found that Dentistry allowed me to help a person in need of dental care and see results right away. It is a great feeling when you are able to see the pride a person feels when they can smile and not be embarrassed about showing their teeth or to relieve the pain felt from a bad tooth. I also enjoy educating my patients about poor oral health and how it contributes to other diseases in the body such as heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, strokes and much more.

What were some of your challenges or obstacles, and how did you overcome them?

As a young Dentist, I find myself frequently having to prove to my father's previous patients, mostly older patients, as well as new patients, that I am competent. The atmosphere that I create when a patient enters my practice is one of being humble. Allowing the patient to know that I am there to make them comfortable and help them and not place judgment on them. After realizing that visiting the Dentist isn't as bad as they imagined, then and only then am I able to perform full mouth rehabilitation and make the sick patient into a healthy one. Dentistry is not an easy profession but it is rewarding.

What advice would you give to other aspiring entrepreneurs?

- Work hard at whatever you want your business to be.
- Research every aspect of that field and get advice from others who are business owners in that particular field.
- Be sure to join organizations that help promote your business as well as give updated information that will keep your business current.
- Hire staff members that are experienced in your field and are on board with the mission of your business.
- Take courses that will keep you and your business current.
- Never give up.

Calendar of Events

April 2009

1st – 5th – North Atlantic Regional Conference



1st – Connection Committee⁵

1st - Fundraising Committee³
Step Show packets available

7th - Finance Committee⁴

13th - Platforms III & V Meetings⁴

14th - Executive Committee Meeting¹
Step Show packets available

15th - Scholarship Committee²

16th – Step Show Meeting^{3 & 5}

22nd - Publicity Committee Meeting⁵

23rd - Membership Committee Meeting²

25th – Tinina Q. Cade Foundation Outreach Seminar⁶

25th - Bowl for Kids Sake – Timonium Lanes

26th - Courtesy Committee⁵

27th - Chapter Meeting*

29th - Platform I Meeting

May 2009

2nd – Rho Xi Omega & Rho Xi Omega Charities Step Show⁷

5th - Finance Committee⁴

6th – Connection Committee⁵

6th – Fundraising Committee⁵

7th - Membership Committee Meeting²

11th - Platforms III & V Meetings⁴

12th - Executive Committee Meeting¹

16th – Rho Xi Omega Charities Retreat⁸

16th – “She Matters” Conference⁹

18th - Chapter Meeting*

20th - Scholarship Committee²

20th – Platform I Meeting¹

30th – Ebenezer A.M.E. Health Summit

Sisterhood



Exhibiting Superior Participation...

“Catch the Excitement of Our Operations Committees”



Soror Juanita Tynes Tillery, 2nd Anti-Basileus

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: Kudos and thanks to everyone, who contributed ideas, pictures and worked on the chapter display for NARC '09. Special thanks to *Soror Kerry McClellan and L'oreal Edmondson* for all their help. *Soror Cecile Matthews, Chairman.*

FINANCE COMMITTEE: At the next few committee meetings, Soror Marjorie will be sharing important information that she learned from the “Finance Workshop” at NARC '09. This committee meets on the 1st Tuesday monthly. *Contact Soror Marjorie Edmonds, Chairman, for more information.*

COURTESY COMMITTEE: The courtesy committee will be making guest baskets for the step teams for the annual step show. This will take place before the April chapter meeting. They also made snack bags for the 62 Sorors, who used the chapter transportation to NARC '09. The snacks were enjoyed and appreciated by all of us. Kudos to Soror L'Oreal and all members of this committee! Contact *Soror L'Oreal Edmondson, Chairman* to join this committee.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE: Every financial soror has now been issued a password for the Chapter website. Please contact *Soror LaKeisha Coleman, Chairman* or *Soror Shawn Mullin, Vice-Chairman* for help if you are having difficulty accessing the site.

Step Show Reminders:

- ★ Please plan to **sign up** for **committees** for ***the day of the show***. The tasks will be many and varied, so there is ample opportunity for ***Exhibiting Superior Participation***. Contact *Soror Monica White* or *Soror Kim Williams* to sign up **as soon as possible**.
- ★ Please advertise the “Step Show” and the “*Official After Party,*” as well.

The fliers for these two events are included at the end of the newsletter.



Membership will continue “The Biggest Loser” Contest in partnership with Platform V. We will hold weigh-ins for new entrants into 'The 'Biggest Loser' contest at this month's chapter meeting. Entrants who weighed in last month will be required to continue their weigh-ins through June. **All contest entrance fees are due at next month's meeting.**

Contact Soror Elizabeth A. Williams and Soror Michelle Davis-Adams, Co-Chairmen, for more information

Rho Xi Omega Charities

Submitted by Soror Alison Riddle-Fletcher, President, Rho Xi Omega Charities

Stationary Letterhead and Logo Contest

Rho Xi Omega Charities is sponsoring a Stationary Letterhead and Logo Contest for our non-profit organization. All financial members of Rho Xi Omega Chapter are eligible to enter the contest. All entrees will require an original design (no copy-written materials allowed). The Deadline for all entrees is June 30, 2009. The winner will be announced at the September Chapter meeting. **The Contest winner will have her 2010 Rho Xi Omega Charities assessment waived.**

Charities Retreat

Rho Xi Omega Charities Retreat is scheduled for May 16, 2009, from 9:00am to 12 noon. All officers and committee chairmen of Rho Xi Omega Charities and Chapter are urged to attend. The retreat, which will be led by Rho Xi Omega Charities Strategic Planning Committee, is at no cost to attendees and will include a continental breakfast.



Protocol Corner

Submitted by Soror Judith Britton, Protocol Chair



Rho Xi Omega Sister Circle Coordinators continued.

Book Club #1

Soror Phyllis Watkins

Call and Response (Loss, Illness and other family matters)

Soror Yvonne Davis Robinson

Book Club #2

Soror Keisha Thomas

Aging in Place (caring for elderly family members)

Soror Anna M. Williams

Scrap Booking

1) Soror Julia Cayette-Lawson

Spirituality

Soror Doris Terry

2) Soror Rose Monroe

Pamper Me Beautiful

Soror Deanna McCray James

5 .A.M. Walkers

Soror Carol Foreman

Pinochle, Card Games and Board Games

Soror Shawn Braxton

Sister Circle Coordinators, Consultants, Cheerleaders & Coaches

Soror Avonnee E. Brown

Soror Elizabeth P. Burkes

Soror Janet L. Cooper

An Invitation To All Sorors

Please contact Soror Avonnee if you are interested in creating a new Sister Circle. We welcome new ideas, suggestions, and input.

Note: Sorors are welcome to join more than one Sister Circle.

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You may read about the status of any bills that could affect you and/or your household by conducting a Bill Status search through the following link: <http://mlis.state.md.us/#bill>.

The following are other important dates to remember now that the Session has adjourned: *May 3 – Final date to present bills to the Governor; June 3 – Last day Governor may sign or veto bills; June 1 – Earliest date bills may take effect; July 1 – Effective date of all budget, tax and revenue bills; October 1 – Effective date for all signed bills.*

* Early Registration for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's, Inc.'s 2009 Annual Legislative Conference opens on Monday, May 4. This year's conference will be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in the District of Columbia on September 23 – 26. Highlights will include more than 70 information sessions, a national town Hall Meeting, Prayer Breakfast, Annual Awards Dinner, job fair, networking opportunities, free health screenings, vendors, book signings and live performances. Additional information can be found at <http://cbcfinc.org/alc-09.html>.

Sorors interested in participating on the Connection Committee should contact Soror Katherine Carter, Chairman or Soror Deanna McCray-James, Co-Chairman.

Hodegos Report

Soror L'oreal Edmondson

April Birthdays

5th – Helena Davis
8th – Tanzania Tompkins
15th – Sheila Rolack
22nd – Alison Riddle-Fletcher

25th – Nicole Williams
26th – Sheryl Nelson
29th – JoAnn Jolivet

May Birthdays

11th – Sherry Armstead
22nd – Danielle Brown

22nd – Joanna Langston
30th – Debra Shannon

**If you haven't done so, please send your birthday to the Hodegos or stop by the Hodegos station at chapter meeting.



Condolences & Prayers

Soror Karen Barland on the passing of her mother, **Soror Etheline Barland**

Soror Jestine Brown on the passing of her son.

Sorors Julia Cayette and Kimberly S. Williams on the passing of loved ones.

Soror Charlene McCargo is recovering from knee surgery.

Soror Sandra Edmonds is recovering from surgery related to her ongoing battle against breast cancer.

Soror Cassandra Burnett is recovering from carpal tunnel surgery.



Please remember all these sorors in your prayers and reach out to them via phone, e-mail

Congratulations & Tea Roses to.....

Soror Shakera Adkins on the birth of her daughter. She was born on Monday, March 30 and weighed 8 lbs. Mother and baby are doing great and are home with their family.

Soror Jan Desper on the recent unveiling of a new bus for her company, Higher Ground Transportation.

Soror Kimberly S. Williams on her new job with CareFirst.

Soror Letitia Royal on her promotion in the Federal Government.

Soror Joanna Langston for being honored on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 as one of the Reginald F. Lewis's Outstanding Teachers for Baltimore City.

Sorors, please condolences or congratulations to the Hodegos.



Reminders & Notes.....

- 1) **Chapter dues**, including the chapter late fee **and** 10% late fee assessed by Corporate, should be forwarded to Soror Shanika Solomon.
- 2) **AKA License Plates** - Sorors interested in obtaining NAR-AKA Log License Tag for Maryland Send two checks one in the amount of \$25.00 made payable to MVA and one in the amount of \$20.00 made payable to Rho Xi Omega Chapter. Submit a copy of current vehicle registration card and a copy of current financial card. Please allow 45 days to receive tag. Please send documents and payment to Soror Mary E. Mason.
- 3) **Baltimore City Community College – Annual Scholarship Breakfast.** Rho Xi Omega Chapter's Endowment is now valued at \$17,000. Please contact Soror Sheryl Nelson if you are interested in purchasing a breakfast ticket (\$45) on Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 8:30 – 11 a.m. at Martins West.

Sorors please feel free to submit any of the following to the Newsletter Committee for upcoming editions at rxoakanews@gmail.com:

- Any original poems, short stories, artwork or photography you'd like to share.
- Committee meetings, conference calls, Sister Circles, deadlines or events
- Trivia Questions

Calling all writers and photographers, the Newsletter could use your talents. If you'd like to contribute to any the upcoming cover themes, please contact Soror Deanna at rxoakanews@gmail.com. The submission deadline for all issues is the 8th of each month.

Pearls of Wisdom – Cover Stories & Themes

May - Rho Xi Omega Annual Step Show, Scholarships & North Atlantic Regional Conference
June/July – Celebrating the Black Male, Fathers & Platform III Spotlight



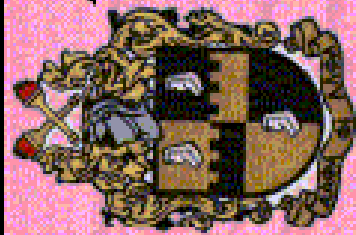
Did you know???

1. Soror Melody Barnes now holds this position in President Barack Obama's current administration. What is it?
2. A member delegation from the Congressional Black Caucus recently visited Cuba and met with President Raul Castro. Who is the current Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus?
3. Radio Personality Tom Joyner encouraged individuals to do something with family members on Tuesday, April 7th. What was this task?

Pearls of Wisdom is published ten times a year.

Contributed to this Issue: Sorors Michelle Davis-Adams, Sherry Armstead, Tracey Barbour, Judith Britton, Avonnee E. Brown, Katherine Carter, Tanisha Adams-Dixon, L'oreal Edmondson, Alison Riddle-Fletcher, Deanna McCray-James, Sheryl Nelson, Sheila Rolack, Debra Shannon, Juanita Tynes Tillery & Monica L. White

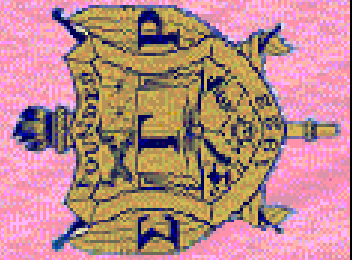
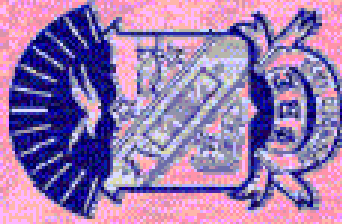
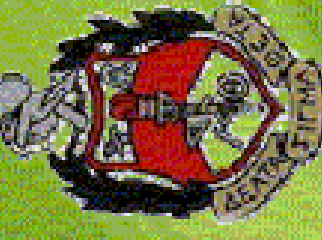
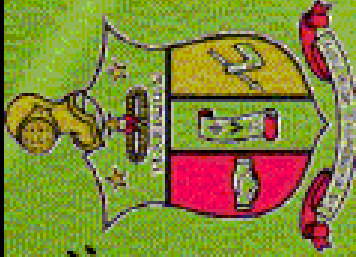
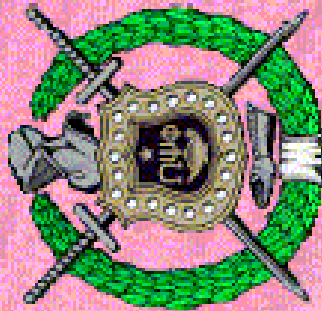
Thank You Sorors
Thank You Sorors



*Rho Xi Omega Chapter, Alpha Sorority, Inc.
presents its 19th Annual Step Show*

**SEEKING IN 20/20 PEARE VISION
since 1988... stepping into the**

D.I.G.I.T.A.L. A.G.E.



When: Saturday, May 2, 2009

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: Loch Raven High School

1212 Cowpens Ave. Baltimore, MD 21286

Cost: \$20.00 - Advance Sales only

Official After Party - \$10/advance - \$20/same-day

Tickets Contact: stepshow@rhoxiomega1988.org



*Rho Xi Omega Chapter &
RHO XI OMEGA CHARITIES*

present

The "Official" Step Show After Party

"20/20 PEARL VISION"

Club Phantom

2314 Boston Street Baltimore, MD 21224

Saturday, May 2nd

9pm - 2am

\$10.00/advance

\$15.00/step show & door

Music By:



For tickets contact:
stepshow@rhoxiomega.org

Partial proceeds will benefit Rho Xi Omega Charities, a 501 (c) 3