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2015-2017

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# The Torch



The Monthly Newsletter for Princess Anne Alumnae Chapter of  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

**August 4th -7th:** DST Eastern Regional Conference  
**August 13th:** Bright Minds, Bright Future Bookbag Giveaway  
**October 1st:** Wicomico Branch NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet  
**October 13th—16th:** Rehoboth Jazz Festival

## PAAC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE—IN REVIEW

The **PAAC Membership Committee** has been working hard to ensure the fun in our sisterhood this year! We have finished out the year with Paint Night at Tickled Paint Art Studios, Game Day at the Wicomico County Pubic Library and our annual year end BBQ at Rowan's Mill Clubhouse.



*Sorors display "The Lady in the Red Hat"*

We made our presence known when **we painted "The Lady in the Red Hat."** It was quite competitive yet full of laughter. What artistic sorors we have in our chapter!

**The Diva and D.E.A.R. game day** was a great success with lots of entertainment and laughter. We played one game and learned two strolls. It was a great opportunity to learn new things about our chapter sorors and create funny memories. We were able to showcase one of the strolls at the Spring Soiree'.

The **PAAC End of the Year BBQ** was exciting with lots of food, fellowship, and of course, selfies!! The rain was not able to stop our good times.

We are looking forward to embracing our sisterhood with more enjoyable activities again next year



*Fun and fellowship at the year end BBQ*

## Sonya's Section - The President's Words

My beautiful sorors, 2015 – 2016 has been an absolutely wonderful year – continuing to expand upon the work of our charter members and all the years before. We will be discussing the details of the year and how we can further our continuous improvement during our chapter retreat, but I did want to re-cap the year below.

I love that we held our last chapter meeting at UMES, the first time in my tenure. Aside from us holding it in another part of our service area, and it being more convenient for several of our chapter members, it was nostalgic due to all of our history with the chartering and activities at the institution.

Enjoy the newsletter (special shout out to our Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Kimberly Whitehead for continuing to put this together). Thank you again for an awesome year – see below to see all that we accomplished!

All of my love,  
Sonya

## PRINCESS ANNE ALUMNAE ANNUAL REPORT: 2015-16

### SUMMARY

- AWESOME START to the Sorority Year with first ever Regional Award for Most Creative Community Service with Somerset County Garden Club at National Convention
- Arts and Letters included in our fundraising and community service activities.
- Wonderful Collaborations and support with other organizations was a major key. Our work with ELOG, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Somerset County Board of Health lead to some of our successes.

### SOCIAL ACTION

- Attended Delta Days in Nation's Capitol and in Annapolis.
- Brought back information on new voter registration machines and social action agendas.
- Brought Back recommendations that will be implemented the upcoming chapter year and in the future.

### EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Another wonderful year with GEMS – great meeting topics and panels, with the community service and the college tour.
- A great planning year for EMBODI – the African American Male Summit was our kickoff to see the planning come to fruition.
- Somerset County Scholarships – three - \$750 merit based awards. The incorporation of the interview was a great addition to the year.

### MENTAL HEALTH ALONG THE LIFESPAN – A NATIONAL INITIATIVE

- PAAC works with children through the GEMS and EMBODI program
- Our work with the aging population is reflected the Deers Head Program – bi-annual Bingo sessions, Christmas Carolling, projectHEART).

### PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

- A successful Journey to *Wellness* – completing four walks and two Zumbathons, fitness and fundraising for a great cause.
- Participant as a quad member with the theme of "Sisters Supporting Wellness" for Somerset Field Day was great for presenting physical Zumba and Personal Training) as well as information for local availability of mental health needs

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS and INVOLVEMENT

The awareness of our chapter in the community continues to grow through collaborations and impactful activities. Some of these collaborations that we hope to continue to grow include:

- Somerset County Board of Health and Somerset County residents - Started with the community garden last year and continued with Field Day
- Greenwood Elementary School (Somerset County) – our work with their Sports Day
- Extraordinary League of Gentleman (a great local organization that has demographics to help with EMBODI) – through their activities such as "Bright Minds, Bright Futures" Bookbag Drive and Operation BellyFull)
- Worcester County NAACP – meeting the chapter president at the Suicide Prevention Walk and sharing their activities via FB page
- Salvation Army / Toys for Tots organizations – GEMS community service at Christmastime
- Successful fundraisers that continue community awareness and can be used to further promote our programs and events

**SISTERHOOD** Activities were stellar as usual. These are highlighted in this newsletter.

# PROGRAMMING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT EMBODI



On June 4, 2016 the Princess Anne Alumnae Chapter EMBODI committee hosted its annual Impact Day with an African American Male Youth Summit on the campus of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The summit began with greetings and remarks by Chapter President, Soror Sonya Whited. The half day event featured presenters Jamila Johnson, Marshall Cropper and Clifton Harcum, Sr. Young men ages 13-18 participated in sessions to enhance their skills in Golf and learned valuable lifelong lessons in the session entitled, "Welcome to the Locke Room: Game Time. Community partners from Extraordinary League of Gentlemen also shared important growth information with the young men. The Summit signals the official launch of PAAC's EMBODI program for the upcoming 16-17 year. Special thanks to Sorors Annette Noble and Terra Taylor for their participation with the Summit.



## PAAC IN THE COMMUNITY : OPERATION BELLY-FULL



PAAC with co-founders of ELOG



PAAC with Mayor of Salisbury MD

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, sorors from the chapter worked with other members of the community to work at **Operation Belly-full** by Extraordinary League of Gentleman (ELOG). Held at HALO Ministries in Salisbury, we served food and give a little cheer to local residents who are homeless or in need. It was a great opportunity to give back to our community and to further collaborate with a wonderful local organization.

The Extraordinary League of Gentlemen, Inc. is a non-profit organization that focuses on the enhancement of mankind through social and civic contributions. The program was created to improve the lives of people living on the Lower Eastern Shore of MD.

# PROGRAMMING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DELTA GEMS



The GEMS were in for a real treat in April! The session was a career panel of local African American females that are a "boss" in their field! We had Detective Jennifer Hall (law enforcement), Margie Johnson (child care), Animata Gore (physical therapist), Maxine Whitelock (CPA), Merasha Bailey (RN), Latonya Bell (lawyer) and Alyssa Banks (graphic design) on the panel. The session began with a set of standard questions moderated by Soror Buffington followed by a Q&A session with the girls asking questions specifically to the panelist of their choice. It was an eye opening experience to get a glimpse of what it takes in that career. This session was best summed up by Soror Purvis when she said "This is amazing. So often our students are told they can be whatever they want to be but they never can see anyone that looks like them doing it. So thanks for showing them someone that looks like them."

## GEMS College Bound 2016



The GEMS went on the annual college tour of Morgan State University and University of Maryland College Park. We were able to get a guided tour at Morgan State University and we conducted a self-guided tour at UM College Park. The girls were able to get a feel of what college life is like, what a dorm room looks like, what majors are offered, and really begin to think about their post-graduation plans. It was a great experience and a fun day. New Dimensions Ministries were gracious enough to transport fourteen GEMS (of which two were on crutches/wheelchairs), four sorors, and one volunteer.

# PROGRAMMING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH



**PAAC at Somerset Community Field Day :** We had such a successful activity at the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Somerset Community Field Day on April 23 in Westover. Sorors and volunteers helped make the day go smoothly. We gave away numerous items funded by the \$2,000 grant. Our "Sisters Supporting Wellness" theme was a great way to show the community our dedication to a Journey to Wellness. Our wheel of Tobacco Facts was a hit also. We gave away 2 gift certificates to two lucky winners. Thanks sorors for helping the chapter continue to promote wellness on the lower shore.



## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Princess Anne Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 scholarship. Three students from Somerset County Maryland on the Lower Eastern Shore each received a scholarship in the amount of \$750.00. Students completed a written application and participated in an interview. Recipients were selected based on scholastic achievement, standardized testing results, professional references and an essay. A brief summary of each recipient is provided below.

**Jocelyn Elmore.** Jocelyn is a student at Washington High School in Princess Anne, MD. She is president of the SGA and the senior class. She participated in a host of activities including cheerleading, marching band, Spanish club, and Upward Bound. Jocelyn will be attending Washington College on a full scholarship and plans to double major in Business and Spanish with hopes of owning a restaurant featuring international cuisine.

**Glenwood Hayward, IV.** Glenwood is a student at Washington High School in Princess Anne, MD. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. Glenwood spends most of his time repairing computers as he plans to major in Computer Engineering at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

**Tamyra Jones.** Tamyra is a student at Crisfield High School in Crisfield, MD. She has been captain of the cheerleading squad for two years. She credits her personal and academic growth to the Upward Bound program at UMES. Tamyra noted that academic assistance from Dr. Nicole' Gale, program director, was paramount in college becoming a reality for her. She will be attending the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and pursuing a health related major with the ultimate dream of becoming a physical therapist.

## Happy Birthday to Sorors born in May, June and July !

May 17 - Cheryl Thompson  
June 15 - Allison Matthews  
June 18 - Kairlyn Miles-Smith

July 8 - Annette Noble  
July 8 - Sylvia Quinton  
July 14 - Undrea Blake  
July 15 - Nicole Buffington  
July 25 - Gayle Mason-Jenkins

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOROR TAKES COURAGEOUS STEP TO MANIFEST DREAMS

Beginning in September 2014, using the structure of the DST Women-Owned Business Tool Kit, the Princess Anne Chapter Economic Development Committee offered business development technical assistance for chapter members to manifest their goal of starting a business. Soror Audrey Spence took the courageous step to manifest her dream of opening a home-based childcare business. The Economic Development Committee gave Soror Spence pro bono technical assistance for business start-up including securing her 501(c)(3) tax exemption status. The PAAC Economic Development Committee continues to provide ongoing business development services to Soror Spence.

Soror Spence states "what started out as a dream a long time ago became a reality in April of 2015 when I became the Founder and Owner-Operator of Lilies Of The Valley Childcare Incorporated." The Economic Development Committee provided the business support Soror Spence needed to prosper. She recently celebrated her one year anniversary by having an open house celebration. Sorors, family members, friends, and a numerous amount of potential childcare clients stopped by to chat, eat, and enjoy the comfort of a home away from home.

Her journey over the last year has been an amazing discovery of her inner strength and commitment. Soror Spence states "her challenges and obstacles contributed to her appreciation for everything she worked so hard to become." Because of the challenges and obstacles she says her success is much more sweeter. Soror Spence is the only home-based childcare in Somerset county to be a licensed non-profit [501(C)(3)] tax exemption organization because of the business development support received from the PAAC Economic Development Committee.

Soror Spence continues to have business dreams. She now dreams of expanding her home-based childcare business to have multiple childcare facilities in the tri-county area. As she continues to grow and accomplish new goals and dreams, she states she will forever be grateful for the enormous amount of continual support given to her from her sorority sisters of PAAC of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated.



The submission deadline for the Torch is the last day of the month. If you have announcements, articles or information that you want to appear in the January edition of the newsletter, please send your submission to PAACCorrespond@gmail.com by



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