

The Pearl

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Gamma Rho Omega Chapter, Incorporated

Volume 4, Issue 2

February 2019

February 2019

President's Perspective

My Dear Sorors,

We are in the second month of 2019 and you continue to excel in demonstrating your love for our community and our great sisterhood with your active participation. Your support of our impromptu 11th Founders' Day Gathering/ Membership Reactivation invitation, and **International Community Impact Days** – MLK Day of Service and Pink Goes RED for Heart Health showcased our mission – **Service to all Mankind**.

I'd like to express a special **THANK YOU** to the following Sorors (Committee Chairmen and Team Leaders) for their guidance in making these activities/events a **HUGE** success:

2019 Founders' Day Informal Gathering

Soror Danette McQueen and the Sisterly Relations Committee

2019 MLK Day of Service

Sorors Monica Jones Brown and Antionette Jenkins

2019 Pink Goes RED for Heart Health

Sorors Pat Gill, Vanessa Givens, Sakenia Broadnax, and LeQuista Smith

During our meeting this month we will recognize our 2018 Chapter Award Recipients and 2019 International Membership Awardees.

Soror, if you plan to attend the 66th South Atlantic Regional Conference in Atlanta, Georgia and wish to serve as a delegate, please complete and sign the delegate nomination form included in this newsletter. **The completed form should be given to Soror Ayana Wysinger (Chapter Grammateus) prior to the meeting.** There are six delegate slots available for this conference. The requirements to serve as a delegate are captured inside.

We encourage you to read our newsletter, **The Pearl** in its entirety. You will find details that will keep you informed of activities and events in our chapter and the community.

I am excited to know that we continue to make Gamma Rho Omega Chapter a beacon of light in the Jacksonville community by **Exemplifying EXCELLENCE Through Sustainable Service**. I am also proud to serve with each of you and I hope we remain ever mindful that **Greatness Relies On Attitude Knowledge Action!**

Sisterly yours,

Soror Willetta

- 2nd: Pink Goes Red for Heart Health
- 9th: NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
- 11th: #CAP Signature Program Kickoff
- 16th: Chapter Meeting
- 23rd: GRO Founders' Day Luncheon
- 25th: #CAP Workshops (Signature Program)
- 28th: 2019 Debutante Coterie Applications are Due

March 2019

- 2nd: Leadership Training Committee Workshop
- 9th & 23rd: NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
- 11th & 25th: #CAP Workshops (Signature Program)
- 12th – AKA Connections - AKA
- 13th: AKA Day at the Capital (Tallahassee)
- 15th: GRO Scholarship – High School Applications Due
- 16th: Chapter Meeting

April 2019

- 10th – South Atlantic Regional
- 14th: Conference
- 8th & 22nd: #CAP Workshops (Signature Program)
- TBD: Global Impact Day
- 13th & NSW Leadership
- 27th: Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
- 16th: Chapter Meeting

OUR PROGRAMS OF SERVICE



MLK Day of Service:

Over 80 Sorors participated in the MLK Day of Service at the Sorority house on Monday January 21st. Sorors donated and packed toiletry items for the homeless members of our community. Over 500 toiletry kits were completed. The 7 agencies that received the items are as follows: City Rescue Mission, Downtown Ecumenical, Emergency Service and Homeless Coalition, Family Promise, United Community Outreach Ministry, Women's Shelter and The Well. **Thank you to Sorors Monica Brown and Antoinette Jenkins for leading this service project.**



Scholarship:

The Gamma Rho Omega Chapter Scholarship applications are now available. The due date is March 15th. In addition, The Gamma Rho Omega EAF Scholarship applications are now available. Please see the flyers in your February newsletter for more information. **Soror Dale Bell serves as Chairman of the Scholarship Committee and Soror Sakenia Broadnax now serves as Co-chairman.**



Pink Goes Red for Heart Health:

Over 200 Sorors and friends participated in the Pink Goes Red event at the YMCA on Riverside Avenue on Saturday February 2nd. Everyone enjoyed Zumba classes, indoor walking, glucose and blood pressure checks and information from survivors and medical professionals. Thank you to the Women's Health and Wellness Committee for planning a successful service project. **Soror Pat Gill serves as Chairman and Sorors Rose Jefferson and Chasity Reed serve as Co-chairmen.**



#CAP:

Please join the #CAP committee as we host our #CAP Meet and Greet on Monday February 11th at 6pm at the Johnson Family YMCA, 5700 Cleveland Road. This will be an informative session for students and their parents to learn more about the program, curriculum, requirements and registration. **Soror JoAnn Walker serves as Chairman and Sorors Dawna Thornton-Taylor and Betty Jones serve as Co-Chairmen.**

OUR PROGRAMS OF SERVICE



Leadership Training:

The Leadership Training Committee will conduct a workshop on Saturday March 2nd from 10:00am to 12noon at the Sorority house. This informative workshop is for any Soror who wishes to run for office or serve as a committee Chairman or Co-chairman. **Soror Norma Solomon White serves as Committee Chairperson.**



Debutante Coterie:

The Debutante Coterie Committee is planning a wonderful 2019 Coterie event. The planning is well on its way. The theme is 20 for 20, signifying the 20th year GRO has held a Debutante Coterie. Therefore, we would like to have 20 young ladies participate as Debutantes. Please contact Soror Jewel Johnson if you would like an application packet. Applications are due on Tuesday February 26th. **Soror Jewel Johnson serves as Chairman and Sorors Shawanda Mack and LaTasha Frison serve as Co-chairmen.**



Building Your Economic Legacy:

In the spirit of supporting Black Owned Businesses, The Building Your Economic Legacy Committee invites you to complete the Black Business Directory form in this month's newsletter. If you know of a Black Owned Business you would like to recommend to others, Please submit your completed form before chapter meeting or email the completed form to grobuidingeconomiclegacy@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting your form is February 23rd.

Soror Cynthia Nixon serves as Chairman and Soror Michelle Sanders serves as Co-chairman.



Nomination Card to Serve as
Gamma Rho Omega Alternate Delegate at the
68th South Atlantic Regional Conference
Greenville, South Carolina
April 10 - 14, 2019

I, (Print your name)

affirm that I am a financial member of Gamma Rho Omega and have met the following requirements for serving as a delegate or alternate delegate at the 66th South Atlantic Regional Conference, Greenville, SC, April 10-14, 2019.

Requirement 1: I have attended a minimum of **six (6)** regular chapter meetings during the previous year. In the table below, I have checked all the months I attended a Gamma Rho Omega chapter meeting.

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> January 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> February 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> March 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> April 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> May 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> June 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> September 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> October 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> November 2018 | <input type="checkbox"/> December 2018 | | |

Requirement 2: I have actively served on at least two committees in Gamma Rho Omega during the past year. The committees I have served on are listed below.

Name of GRO Committee

Name of GRO Committee

Signature of Delegate Applicant



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.
GAMMA RHO OMEGA CHAPTER

2019-2022 BLACK BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The Building Your Economic Legacy Committee is preparing a Black Business Directory that will be published and available for the Jacksonville Community. We are soliciting support to provide the names of local businesses you patronize and would recommend be used by others.

Business Name: _____

Type of Business: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Hours of operation: _____

Soror submitting the business: _____

Business Owner's Name: _____

Soror Cynthia Nixon – Committee Chairman
Soror Michelle Sanders – Committee Co-Chairman
grobuidingeconomiclegacy@gmail.com

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
Gamma Rho Omega Chapter
2019 Approved Calendar of Activities

January

✓ 12 th & 26 th	NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
✓ 15 th	111 th International Founders' Day Commemoration (GRO Gathering)
✓ 19 th	Chapter Meeting
✓ 21 st	MLK Day of Service (Community Impact Day)

February

✓ 2 nd	Pink Goes Red for Heart Health (Community Impact Day)
11 th	#CAP Signature Program Kickoff
16 th	Chapter Meeting and 2018 Chapter and 2019 International Awards Presentation
23 rd	GRO Founders' Day Luncheon – 11:30 a.m. Hyatt Riverfront Hotel
9 th	NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
25 th	#CAP Workshops (Signature Program)
28 th	2019 Debutante Coterie Applications are due

March

2 nd	Leadership Training Committee Workshop – Running for GRO Office
11 th & 25 th	#CAP Workshops (Signature program)
12 th – 13 th	AKA Connections – AKA Day at the Capitol (Tallahassee, FL)
16 th	Chapter Meeting
9 th & 23 rd	NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
TBD	The ARTS!
15 th	GRO Scholarships – High School applications due

April

10 th – 14 th	South Atlantic Regional Conference (Greenville, South Carolina)
8 th & 22 nd	#CAP Workshop (Signature Program)
TBD	Global Impact Day
13 th & 27 th	NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
20 th	Chapter Meeting

May

18 th	Chapter Meeting
11 th & 25 th	NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I'm A Star
13 th & 27 th	#CAP Workshop (Signature Program)

June

1 st	2019 Solomon White Debutante and Scholarship Awards Luncheon
15 th	Chapter Meeting
27 th – 30 th	Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Leadership Conference (Nashville, TN)

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
Gamma Rho Omega Chapter
2019 *Approved* Calendar of Activities

August

24th **GRO - Chapter Leadership Training Retreat**
 25th **International Day of Prayer**

September

21st **Chapter Meeting**
 TBD **Alpha Kappa Alpha HBCU Day**
 TBD **National HBCU Week**
 TBD **#CAP Workshop (Signature Program)**
 TBD **NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I’m A Star**

October

19th **Chapter Meeting**
 TBD **The ARTS!**
 TBD **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk**
 TBD **#CAP Workshop (Signature Program)**
 TBD **NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I’m A Star**
 TBD **GRO Beyond High School Symposium**

November

TBD **Chapter Meeting**
 TBD **Caregiver’s Day Observance (Women’s Health)**
 TBD **Thanksgiving Baskets (partnership Lutheran Social Services)**
 TBD **#CAP Workshop**
 TBD **NSW Leadership Training AKAdemy – I’m A Star**

December

14th **Chapter Meeting (End of Year Gathering and Celebration)**
 TBD **Holiday Soiree (Sorors, Honey Dos & Significant Others)**
 21st **20th Silver Rose Debutante Coterie Presentation**
 TBD **Holiday Health Snacks project – delivery**
 TBD **#CAP Workshop**
 TBD **NE Florida Pan Hellenic Council – December to Remember**



Please consider sending a thinking of you card to the following Sorors who are homebound and unable to regularly attend our chapter meetings:

Soror Betty Howard 2230 College Circle South Jacksonville, FL 32209	Soror Joyce Holzendorf 12433 V. C. Johnson Road Jacksonville, FL 32218	Soror Janie Madry 1437 W. 11 th Street Jacksonville, FL 32209
Soror Tanya Davis 1820 Daytona Lane N Jacksonville, FL 32218	Soror Novella Williams 2341 Weaver Road Jacksonville, FL 32209	Soror Jimmie Pearl Harper 9628 Priory Avenue Jacksonville, FL 32208
Soror Hannah Jones 12498 Dewhurst Circle Jacksonville FL 32218	Soror Christine Robinson 7426 Simms Drive Jacksonville, FL 32209	Soror Theresa Hodge 9551 Gisborne Drive Jacksonville, FL 32208

If there are Gamma Rho Omega Sorors who should be included, please contact Soror Gloria Reid-Chapter Hodegos.

Membership Matters - Welcome HOME

The following Sorors who have transferred or reactivated with our Sisterhood and Gamma Rho Omega Chapter:

Soror Andrea Anderson-Bacon
 Soror Sherelle Barber
 Soror Shechinanh Butler
 Soror Sabrina Carter
 Soror Barbara Chapman-Glenn
 Soror Jazline Clark
 Soror Tracie Davis
 Soror JNeen Evans Blackshear
 Soror Norma Gainers
 Soror Dean'na Gillison
 Soror Constance Holmes
 Soror Shamonya Hopson
 Soror Barbara L. Jones
 Soror Michelin Joplin-Beale
 Soror Brashell Keys
 Soror Novik Lee
 Soror India Mays
 Soror Lavonda Richardson
 Soror Taneisha Ross
 Soror Nicole Thomas
 Soror Kiara Washington
 Soror LaSonja Williams
 Soror Cheryl Williams



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Gamma Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will be awarding scholarships in varying amounts for the 2019 academic year.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Be a current resident of Duval County
2. Be a graduating female senior
3. Have a grade point average of 3.0+
4. Have an ACT score of 19+ or SAT score of 1200+
5. Provide a letter of college acceptance
6. Include an official transcript and 1st semester grades
7. Indicate financial need
8. Provide a typewritten personal essay

Applications for consideration must be received by Friday, March 15th.

Mail to: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Gamma Rho Omega Chapter

Attn: Scholarship Committee

1011 West 8th Street Jacksonville, FL 32209



**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA
SORORITY INCORPORATED**

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Gamma Rho Omega
Chapter, Incorporated



Undergraduate News

Nu Iota News

Edward Waters College

Soror Sandra Brown – Graduate Advisor

Nu Iota Chapter kicked-off the spring semester with the revitalization of the plot in preparation for their Chapter's Sisterly Relations Lunch on the Plot along their Founders Day celebration. During their *Soles 4 Souls* event, they collected over 30 pairs of shoes. The Chapter continued with the celebration of MLK Day of Service as they partnered with Newtown Visionaries in the beautification homes. Additionally, the Sorors joined GRO and participated in the assembly of care packages for those in need. The Sorors continued to shine as they supported the President Speaker Series *Stay Woke* with guest speaker Dr. Curry. During the Greek Night basketball game halftime show, the Sorors of Nu Iota Chapter hosted *Kupcakes and Konversation* in celebration of the Sorority's Incorporation Day. To close out the month of January and leap in to February, the Nu Iota Chapter participated in the kickoff of Black History Month with an open mic assembly, and provided information and healthy snacks in recognition of Pink Goes Red for Heart Health.



Martin Luther King Day of Service

Mu Theta News

University of North Florida

Soror Thelma Jack – Graduate Advisor

Mu Theta celebrated sisterhood during the month of January. On January 15th, at the invitation of Mu Theta, approximately 40 Sorors gathered at Bahama Breeze in the Town Center to catch up, reconnect, and celebrate the Sorority's legacy. After the gathering, Mu Theta and their guests withdrew to UNF's Student Union Plaza for a Founder's Day Program where the Founder's were honored in a candle lighting ceremony and singing of the National Hymn..

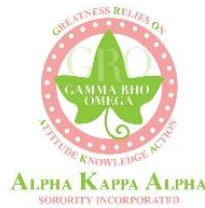


During the month of February, Mu Theta is focusing on Women's Heart Health. On February 1st, the Chapter hosted an Instagram Live event where members provided instructions for creating a heart healthy snack. Mu Theta is co-hosting a Zumba event on Tuesday, 2/12/2019, at 6:30 PM, UNF Fountains' Aerobics Room. The Chapter will

also co-host a charity fundraiser, the Blakk Wall Street, on Saturday, 2/16/2019 at 7:00 PM. Tickets to the event are \$2 and can be purchased on EventBright.

Proceeds will be given to a children's charity.





Sisters with a Divine Connection

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
Gamma Rho Omega General Chapter Meeting
UF/Health 10th Floor Banquet Room
Saturday, February 16, 2019
1:00 p.m.**

Agenda

Call to Order	Soror Willetta R. Richie
Safety Overview	Soror Gina Kyle
Welcome/Basileus Report	
Meditation	Soror Johnnie Mae Gibson
Pledge and Hymn	
Adoption of Agenda	Soror Willetta R. Richie
Approval of January 2019 meeting minutes	
Chapter Courtesies	Soror Gloria Reid
<u>2018 Chapter and 2019 International Awards Recognitions</u>	
Financial Secretary's Report	Soror Davina Parker
Treasurer's Report	Soror Pamela Henry
Operations Division Update	Soror Emily Gourdine
Program Division Update	Soror Joan Williams
Celebrations (Birthdays, AKAversaries, Promotions, & Anniversaries)	Sisterly Relations
Executive Recommendations	Soror Ayana Wysinger
Announcements	Soror Ayana Wysinger
Adjournment	



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA
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