

# The Delta Voice

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter | Chapter No. 163  
Post Office Box 74139 ~ Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4139

Volume 2 Issue 2

October 2015

Sorors,

We are well into our sorority year and plans are underway to make this a dynamic year for service. I cannot begin to explain to you how exciting it is to be a part of a sisterhood that is committed to serving and a chapter that devotes its' time to improving the outcomes throughout the Baton Rouge community. Our committee chairs have started this year off with an energy and passion that is unrivaled. It will take each and every member to sustain this energy. For this reason, I implore you to join a committee today.

October marks both Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I ask that we remain vigilant in our efforts to bring awareness to and work towards prevention of both of these issues within African-American women. Let us remain prayerful for those that have been impacted by either condition and continue to pray for their healing.

Lastly, please remember the important election that will be taking place this month as we choose the next leaders for our state. Reach out to your relatives, friends and neighbors. Get out and Vote!

Lots of Delta Love,

*Karmen*



*Volunteers at Pop Up  
Voter Information and Registration Sites*

## Agenda

Call to Order  
Ritualistic Opening  
Adoption of the Agenda  
Minutes  
Communications  
Reports  
    President  
    Budget and Finance  
    Executive Board  
    Committees  
Unfinished Business  
New Business  
Announcements  
Ritualistic Closing

Breakfast will be served from  
9:15am to 9:45am

## Member Updates

Please continue to lift our Sorors and their families in prayer.

### Illnesses

- Soror Joyce Louden
- Soror Anitha Zeno
- Mr. Walter Williams, nephew of Soror Anita Liggins

### Transitions

- Soror Elaine Decuir Smith

## October Birthdays

Syretta Anthony  
Doris Brown  
Monica Davis  
Kim Hausey  
Candace Lair  
Alexis Ray  
Linda Thomas  
Doris Thompson  
Erica Washington

## October Hostesses

Christine Anderson  
Patricia Baranco  
Makala Clark-Blake  
Bianca Brooks  
Geraldine Brown  
Bethany Fields  
Ruth Hall  
Courtney Hunt  
Gionne McLean  
Ashley Mitchell-Carter  
Joyce Price  
Alexis Ray  
DeShawn Starks-Robinson  
Mardrah Robinson  
Katie Smith  
D'Shawn Valery

# Lois' Light



## OPEN YOUR HEART

The year was 1780, and Robert Raikes had a burden for the poor, illiterate children in his London neighborhood. He noticed that nothing was being done to help these children, so he set out to make a difference.

He hired some women to set up schools for them on Sunday. Using the Bible as their textbook, the teachers taught the poorest children of London to read and introduced them to the wisdom of the Bible. Soon about 100 children were attending these classes and enjoying lunch in a safe, clean environment. These "Sunday schools," as they were soon called, eventually touched the lives of thousands of boys and girls. By 1831, Sunday schools in Great Britain reached more than a million children—all because one man understood this truth: "The righteous considers the cause of the poor" (Prov. 29:7 NKJV).

It's no secret that Jesus cares greatly for those who struggle. In Matthew 25, He suggests that followers of Christ show a readiness for the Lord's return by helping the hungry to get food, helping the thirsty to get a drink, helping the homeless to find a home, helping the naked to get clothes, and helping the sick or imprisoned to receive comfort (vv. 35-36).

As we bear witness that Christ is in our hearts, we honor our **compassionate** Savior by considering those on God's heart.

—Dave Branon

*Awaken our heart, Lord, to those You care about, including the poor and helpless, the hungry and homeless, the troubled and hopeless in our world.*

**Open your heart Soror to God to learn compassion, and open your hand to give help.**

## 2015-2016 Dues

Golden/Diamond Life	\$295.00
Regular Member	\$420.00
2nd Year Graduate	\$260.00
1st Year Graduate	\$185.00

Late Fee (Apr 1—June 30) \$5.00

Reinstatement Fee

- \$15.00 (If not currently financial or remitted after June 30)
- \$25 if not financial for two or more years)

## *Special Election/Call for Nominations*

**Nominations will be taken from the floor during the October, 2015 chapter meeting for sorors interested in the following positions (2) — member of the nominating committee for the un-expired term for 2014-2016.**

**The election will occur during the November, 2015 chapter meeting.**

Qualifications for the position are as follows:

1. Candidates must have attended a Regional Conference or a National Convention within the last three (3) years — Washington, DC (2013), Albuquerque (2014), or Houston (2015).
2. Candidates must be financial with Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter and Grand Chapter for the current sorority year.

**Nominations will be taken from the floor during the October, 2015 chapter meeting.**

**The election will occur during the November, 2015 chapter meeting.**

## *Information Request from Membership Service Committee*

### **Founders Day 2016**

Any soror who will be celebrating 25 or 50 years of service is asked to complete and return the **2016 Founders Day Honoree Data Form** to Soror Alexis C. Ray. Soror Ray's email is [alexiscray@gmail.com](mailto:alexiscray@gmail.com).

**Please contact Soror Alexis Ray with the following information.**

- Date of birth (we don't need the year unless you just want to share)
- Chapter and year of initiation

**WANTED:** Photographs of Baton Rouge Delta members — individual or group, lines and activities from the past. Photos that you are fond of from your time in another chapter are also welcomed, even collegiate. If you need to have them scanned and returned that can be arranged.

# Save The Date



## **Southwest Region Leadership Retreat**

**November 13-15, 2015—Hot Springs, AR**

The Southwest Region Leadership Retreat will be held in Hot Springs, Arkansas at the Arlington Hotel and Spa on November 13-15, 2015. On Friday, November 13th, there will be Advisors Training and Investigators Training.



## **Louisiana State Meeting**

**February 19-21, 2016 Lake Charles, LA**



## **Delta Days in Nation's Capital 2016**

**February 27-March 1, 2016**

The 27th Annual “Delta Days in the Nation’s Capital will be held at the Washington Hilton Hotel, 1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Collegiate Day: Saturday, February 27, 2016

Legislative Conference: Saturday, February 27 – March 1, 2016

Online registration for the 27th Annual “Delta Days in the Nation’s Capital” will open Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 12:00 noon EST and close on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 12:00 noon EST, or once capacity is reached.

Legislative Conference is \$225.00

In order to register for DDNC, Sorors must be financial for the 2015-2016 fiscal year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016), through a local chapter or as a member-at-large.

**NOTE: THERE IS NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION. For more information check the national website.**

# A Protocol Moment

## **BUSINESS ATTIRE!!!**

Business attire is appropriate for most Delta occasions except as specifically noted. Business attire is traditionally a business suit or other clothing that reflects a professional style. A Delta's business attire must satisfy the Sorority's accepted business, social and aesthetic standards.

When preparing to attend a chapter meeting or other Delta event, check your mirror to make certain you have met the requirements to be appropriately attired for the occasion.

# Sparkles

**Congratulations to Soror Cynthia Dunlap** on being selected to participate in The Teacher Efficacy Academy (TEA) II .

Soror Dunlap is among 120 teachers located in four geographic areas selected as a participant. The TEA II course includes weekly modules organized into five categories: 1) Student Engagement 2) Instructional Strategies 3) Classroom Management 4) Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices and 5) Literacy/Math Content.

Soror Dunlap will attend the DTEC Pre-Institute and Post-Institute scheduled for November 6-8, 2015 and March 18-20, 2016 in Orlando, Florida.

## **Baton Rouge Delta Welcomes New and Reclaimed Members**

NaTashia Carter

Sandra Harris

Evelyn Jarrell

Kim Jones

Alyson McCord

Mardrah Starks-Robinson

Shontel Stewart

Kamille Joubert Watson



# Physical and Mental Health

The month of **October** has several causes that are observed and **National Breast Cancer Awareness** and **Domestic Abuse Awareness** are the most celebrated.

**National Breast Cancer Awareness (pink ribbons)** – Next to skin cancer, the American Cancer Society states that breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States. Survival rates are increasing due to early detection and improved treatment regimens. Take the time to manage your annual screening and encourage others to do the same.

**Domestic Abuse Awareness (Purple ribbons)** – Silence is not always golden. In silence, domestic violence can thrive and ruin, even end lives. Though domestic violence is not a new problem in our communities, it is seemingly becoming more prevalent. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, women between the ages of 18-24 are most commonly abused by an intimate partner; 1 in 3 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime; Domestic victimization is correlated with a higher rate of depression and suicidal behavior. If you are concerned about a friend or loved one, please reach out to them because they may be too afraid to reach out to you.



## ***Did you know?***

Eating an unhealthy diet may play a role in the development of mental health disorders such as ADHD, Alzheimer's disease, and schizophrenia, or in the increased suicide in young people. Eating more fruits and vegetables, cooking meals at home, and reducing your fat and sugar intake may help to improve mood and lower your risk for mental health problems. Your overall dietary pattern is key to how you feel, think, and act. Fuel your mind and body with healthier meal and snack options.

# Physical and Mental Health

## Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and African Americans

The time gap between the first MS symptom to getting an MS diagnosis is the same among Caucasians, African Americans, and Latinos.

### HOWEVER, Did You Know that African Americans:

- are more likely to experience Multiple Sclerosis-related depression than Caucasians.
- are more likely to experience more MS relapses.
- are more likely to experience greater disability.
- have a greater risk of progressing to require ambulatory assistance earlier.
- are more likely to develop involvement of the optic nerves and spinal cord (optic – spinal MS and inflammation of the spinal cord (transverse myelitis).

Multiple Sclerosis is an unpredictable, often disabling, disease of the central nervous system that interrupts the flow of information within the brain and between the brain and the body. Common symptoms of MS include: fatigue, numbness, difficulty walking or maintaining balance, vision problems, cognition and depression. Most people are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50. MS is at least two to three times more common in women than in men. Historically, it was believed that MS was less common in African Americans; however, recent research has revealed that African American women may be at a higher risk of developing MS than was generally believed. In fact, studies further suggest that African Americans experience more relapses and greater disability as a result of the disease.

At the historic 51st National Convention in Washington, DC, the [Multiple Sclerosis and African American Community Resolution](#) submitted by: Columbia Maryland Alumnae Chapter was passed. As stated: **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated supports the National Multiple Sclerosis Society chapters nationwide to raise the awareness of MS in the African American communities.

Raising awareness about MS and the resources from the National MS Society is critical. The National MS Society is committed to ensuring that African Americans affected by MS can live their best lives. For more information about MS visit, [www.nationalMSSociety.org](http://www.nationalMSSociety.org) or to speak with an MS Navigator, call 1-800-344-4867



# Arts and Letters

## Artsy Corner

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."

~Pablo Picasso~

The **Arts and Letters Committee** would like to help you relive your childhood when you colored outside of the lines and posted every "masterpiece" on the refrigerator! In every newsletter, we want to help you reconnect with your childhood by keeping you abreast of the events in the arts and letters community.



*Woman with Book*

*By Pablo Picasso*

1932

### Upcoming Community Events

#### **Dance Theater of Harlem**

When: November 21, 2015

Where: Mahalia Jackson Theater, New Orleans, LA

#### **Join the Baton Rouge Delta Book Club Today!**

Contact Soror Vaneshette Henderson at [vaneshette@gmail.com](mailto:vaneshette@gmail.com) or sign-up during chapter meeting. The 1<sup>st</sup> book will be "The Ex-Files" by Soror Victoria Christopher Murray, one of our Delta Authors on Tour participants.



**Save the Date**

*Delta Authors on Tour*

**April 16, 2016**

Stay connected to the Baton Rouge arts world by joining the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge Facebook page!

# Political Awareness/Social Action

**Millennial Citizen Outreach Program (MCOP)**

Our goal is to educate and increase millennial citizen participation in the political process. This effort is coordinated by the Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Louisiana State Representative Edward "Ted" James.

**Important Election Information:**  
Early Voting: **October 10-17, 2015**  
Election Day: **October 24, 2015**

*"Don't forget to bring some form of identification when you go vote"*

For more information about your voting location, visit [Geauxvote.com](http://Geauxvote.com)

Graphics, Printing & CD Duplication by [www.ABUNCHOFCOPIES.com](http://www.ABUNCHOFCOPIES.com)

**REASONS MILLENNIALS SHOULD VOTE:**

1. America is a democracy.
2. Millennial voters are more diverse than any other constituency.
3. Within 4 years, you may want a job, own or rent a home, get married, start a family, pay for health care, or build a business.
4. Voting honors history.
5. Voting changes communities.
6. Voting gives you credibility.
7. Millennial votes are key in any and every election.

Graphics, Printing & CD Duplication by [www.ABUNCHOFCOPIES.com](http://www.ABUNCHOFCOPIES.com)

As a reminder, the Primary Election is here. This election cycle includes candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Legislature, Senate, and BESE Board.

Early voting starts October 10th, (CHAPTER MEETING DAY- Just go after chapter meeting and ends October 17th. You can cast your vote at any Clerk of Court's Office. Election Day is October 24th.

The Political Awareness and Involvement and Social Action Committees will be doing pop up voters information tables at schools on October 12, 13, 14th 11-1pm. Sorors are needed to work the tables. If you are available at these times or if you need more information contact Soror Erika Green (225-803-1333) [erika\\_green327@yahoo.com](mailto:erika_green327@yahoo.com), or Soror Kim Lamotte [khlamotte@gmail.com](mailto:khlamotte@gmail.com).

# Political Awareness/Social Action

## Things to know before you head to the polls:

**You are not required to have a photo ID to vote in Louisiana.** If you have a Drivers license, State ID card, or other government issued photo ID, bring it with you to the polls. If you do not have ID or cannot locate your ID, you can still vote. Go to the polling place assigned to you. **Let the commissioner know that you would like to complete a Voter Affidavit.** Once completed, you should be allowed to vote in a voting booth like all other voters. Do not accept a Provisional Ballot.

**Provisional Ballots are available for anyone whose name cannot be located on the voter roll.** If your name cannot be found at the precinct where you went to vote, ask the Commissioner in Charge to attempt to locate your name at all precincts in your parish. If your name cannot be found but you believe that you are registered to vote, you may request a Provisional Ballot. The Secretary of State will then research your registration status. If you are found to be registered, the Provisional Ballot will be counted. If you are found not to be registered, the Provisional Ballot will not be counted.

**If you do not know where you vote, find this information on your voter registration card or on the Secretary of State's website.** Occasionally, polling places change. To verify the address and location of your polling place, visit the [Louisiana Voter Portal here](https://voterportal.sos.la.gov). ( <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov>)

**To report any problem at the polls, contact your local Clerk of Court.** Each Parish's Clerk of Court has enforcement authority over the administration of elections.

**Here are some reasons to call your Parish's Clerk of Court.** If you observe these things, report them immediately: 1) You observe electioneering or campaigning within 600ft of a polling place, 2) Voter intimidation, 3) Voters being denied voter affidavits, 4) Voters being denied provisional ballots, and 5) Voters being told that they cannot vote without photo ID.

**Louisiana Secretary of State, Elections [www.geauxvote.com](http://www.geauxvote.com)**

**Louisiana Elections Hotline [1-800-883-2805](tel:1-800-883-2805)**



# Strategic Partnership/Project 13

## ST. JUDE WALK/RUN

to End Childhood Cancer

SEPTEMBER

26



The end of childhood cancer starts with us, and **Baton Rouge Delta** helped.

We signed up for the St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer, and exceeded our \$250 fund-raising goal. We raised \$485. Thanks Baton Rouge Delta.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is where doctors send their toughest cases, because it has world's best survival rates for the most aggressive childhood cancer. St. Jude won't give up the battle against cancer.

If you would like to help the kids of St. Jude win the fight against childhood cancer, you can still go to the website and give a donation.

### How your support helps:

Families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing, and food because all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

St. Jude freely shares the breakthroughs it makes, and every child saves at St. Jude means doctors and scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children.

**We walked. We gave. To help them live.**



# Delta Fellows Program



Delta Fellows Program

Application Period: Sept 1 - Dec 31

During the 52nd National Convention, the Leadership Academy launched The Delta Fellows Program.

The Delta Fellows Program, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, is a leadership development program providing sorors with in-depth experiences, training across a wide range of areas and ongoing mentorship. The participants will experience an opportunity to build their leadership potential and expand their horizons.

The one year program brings together sorors from Delta's seven regions to participate in creative, multi-disciplinary training aimed at developing leadership and strategic management. The fellows will engage in a combination of classroom work, discussion on a variety of topics, case studies and peer advice. They will have an opportunity to hone their strategic thinking ability in areas including negotiations, organization effectiveness, marketing, global issues, health/wellness, and community/civic engagement.

The application period runs October 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

All alumnae members are eligible to apply online at [http://www.deltasigmatheta.org/membersonly/home\\_members.asp](http://www.deltasigmatheta.org/membersonly/home_members.asp). If you have further questions about the Delta Fellows Program, feel free to contact the Leadership Academy at [leadershipacademy@deltasigmatheta.org](mailto:leadershipacademy@deltasigmatheta.org).

# Events

## October 2015 Baton Rouge Delta Calendar 2015-2016 Sorority Year

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Founders Day Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m.	2	3
4 Political Awareness/Social Action Pop Up Voter Education SU Student Union 5 P.M.  Physical & Mental Health Conference Call 8:30 p.m.	5 Budget & Finance Meeting 5 p.m.  Executive Board Meeting 6 p.m.	6 Political Awareness/Social Action- Political Forum –Council on Aging 9:30 a.m.- 1 p.m.  Delta GEMS Committee Meeting Conference Call 6 p.m.	7	8 Political Awareness/ Social Action- Political Forum- Scotlandville High School 11 a.m.	9	10 BR Delta Chapter Meeting 10:00 a.m.
11	12 Political Awareness/Social Action Pop-Up Voter Education Table-BRCC Mid-City Campus 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.	13 Political Awareness/Social Action Pop-Up Voter Education Table—BRCC Acadian Campus 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Virginia College- Cortana Campus 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  International Awareness 6:00p.m.  Physical & Mental Health 6 p.m. On The Border Restaurant	14 Political Awareness 6:00 p.m.  Delta GEMS Field Trip- Miss SU Coronation-7p.m. SU Mini-dome	15	16	17
18	19 Delta GEMS 6 p.m. Economic Development 6 p.m.	20 Delta Academy 6 p.m. Social Action Conference Call 6 p.m.	21	22 Arts and Letters Committee Meeting	23	24
25	26	27 Delta Dears 11 a.m. T.J. Ribs Acadian Thruway	28	29	30	31



# Volunteer Service Hours

## Volunteer Service Hours

This form is designed to compile data of volunteer service hours of a chapter and its individual members. The term “volunteer service hours” is defined as service hours that reflect a soror’s commitment to the 5 Point Programmatic Thrusts of the sorority (Economic Development, Educational Development, Physical and Mental Health, Political Awareness and Involvement and International Awareness and Involvement). Sorors may report and receive credit for time spent at chapter, executive committee/board and committee meetings, etc. Volunteer service hours should not be reported for time spent as part of your profession, i.e. a teacher performing after school tutorials or part of your employer’s Adopt-a-School program.

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>PROGRAM/ACTIVITY*</b>	<b>5-POINT THRUST</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
	Executive Board	ED	
	Sorority Meeting	ED	
	Budget and Finance	EC	
	Economic Development	EC	
	ED – Delta Academy	ED	
	ED - GEMS	ED	
	ED - DREAM	ED	
	ED - EMBODI	ED	
	Physical and Mental Health	PH	
	International Awareness and Involvement	IN	
	Political Awareness and Involvement	PO	
	Arts and Letters	ED	
	Social Action	EC	
	Delta DEARS	PH	
	Founders Day/May Week	PH	

I certify that the above information is a true record of my volunteer hours.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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*October 2015*



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