



The Delta Voice

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter
Post Office Box 74139-Baton Rouge, La. 70874

Volume 3 Issue 10

September 2017

President's Message

Welcome back, sorors!

Our chapter retreat was held in August, and I am excited about the upcoming year. Thanks to everyone that was able to attend and participate during the retreat. The committees have great ideas in store for Baton Rouge Delta as well as the community this year. Our emphasis will be on outward giving and community involvement. Look for more information each month during our meetings and in the newsletter about Baton Rouge Delta's increased community involvement.

- *Karmen*



Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter Retreat 2017



2017-2018 Dues

Golden/Diamond Life: \$295.00
Regular Member: \$485.00
2nd Year Graduate: \$325.00
1st Year Graduate: \$250.00

Late Fee: (April 1-June 30) \$5.00
Reinstatement Fee:
\$15.00 (if not currently financial or remitted after June 30)
\$25.00 (if not financial for two or more years)



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

Sorority Meeting will begin at 10:00 am

Breakfast will be served at 9:15 am

September Hostesses

Alma Cherry-Chair

- Theda Augustus
- Lela Butler
- Terrie Butler
- Avery Cook
- Betty Cook
- Christina Davis
- Crystal Davis
- Nequoia Elsey
- Tome Frazier
- Lois Holloway
- Felecia Jones
- Anita Liggins
- Barbara Morgan
- Marjorie Person
- Barbara Williams

Member Updates

Illnesses

- Soror Katie Smith

Surgery

- Soror Alma Cherry

Transitions

- Mr. Nathaniel Brown - Husband of Soror Pearlie Brown
- Rev. Johnny Milton - 1st Cousin of Soror Pat Sterling
- Ms. Martha J. Stallion - Aunt of Bettye Jackson
- Mr. Jessie Chase - Father of Soror Mechaune Butler

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

Congratulations to Soror Denise Clark on her appointment as the Cluster 4 Chair. Soror Clark has served as president of Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae, President of Baton Rouge Delta Development Corporation, MIT Trainer and on the state leadership team for special projects.

September Birthdays

- Bertha Arrington
- Malana Bessix
- Terrie Butler
- Nequoia Elsey
- Veronica Jones-Bailey
- Jacqueline Mims
- Miranda Mitchell
- Yolunda Taylor





Upcoming Events



- ▲ Southwest Region Leadership Retreat
October 13-15, 2017
Kenner, Louisiana
- ▲ January 21, 2018 - Cluster 4 Founders Day (Baton Rouge)
- ▲ March 2018 - Louisiana State Meeting (Baton Rouge)
- ▲ July 2018 - Southwest Regional Conference (Dallas, TX)
- ▲ Summer 2019 - National Convention (New Orleans)

Chapter News

Hey sorors, check out our new chapter logo!

BRDAC shirts will soon be available for purchase. Ordering information is coming soon!





Lois' Light

How to Pray For Others



Pray for each other. James 5:16

Prayer is a conversation with God, not a formula. Yet sometimes we might need to use a “method” to freshen up our prayer time. We can pray the Psalms or other Scriptures (such as The Lord’s Prayer), or use the ACTS method (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication). I recently came across this “Five-Finger Prayer” to use as a guide when praying for others:

When you fold your hands, the thumb is nearest you. So begin by praying for those closest to you—your loved ones (Phil. 1:3–5)

- The index finger is the pointer. Pray for those who teach—Bible teachers and preachers, and those who teach children (1 Thess. 5:25).
- The next finger is the tallest. It reminds you to pray for those in authority over you—national and local leaders, and your supervisor at work (1 Tim. 2:1–2).
- The fourth finger is usually the weakest. Pray for those who are in trouble or who are suffering (James 5:13–16).
- Then comes your little finger. It reminds you of your smallness in relation to God’s greatness. Ask Him to supply your needs (Phil. 4:6, 19).

Whatever method you use, just talk with your Father. He wants to hear what’s on your heart.

~Anne Cetas

It’s not the words we pray that matter; it’s the condition of our heart.




Hurricane Harvey Relief

Harvey Relief Volunteering

We have partnered with the Charles R. Kelly Community Center, Councilwoman Erika Green, and community partners to host a Harvey Relief Drive. Volunteers are needed to assist with sorting supplies in the evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Donations are being accepted for all items except clothing at this time. A special request has been made for African American hair care products. Please contact Soror Bethany Fields (bfields@gmail.com) for additional information or to sign up to volunteer.

Councilwoman Erika L. Green and the
Charles R. Kelly Community Center


 **Harvey Relief Drive**
A Community Initiative


Donations Accepted
Monday through Friday
9AM to 7PM

3535 Riley Street
Baton Rouge, LA
Phase 1 Building

Community Partners:
State Representative Ted James
Councilman Lamont Cole
Baton Rouge Panhellenic Council
National Pan-Hellenic Council of Houston
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Omicron Beta Sigma Chapter
Harvest Time Church-Houston, Texas
Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter of
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Faith Memorial Nursing Home
National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Officers
Southern University Law Center -Pro Bono Group
Reaching Our Dreams, Inc.

COUNCILWOMAN ERIKA L. GREEN
DISTRICT 5

 CHARLES R. KELLY
Community Center



Harvey Giving

Each Cluster in the state will adopt a chapter that has been impacted by Harvey. this is an ongoing project for the sorority year. In Phase 1, we are requesting gift cards (\$25.00 increments preferred) and cleaning supplies. Donations may be brought to the sorority house during all committee meetings. Please monitor This Week in Baton Rouge Delta for drop off times or contact Soror Karmen Davis for additional information.



Hurricane Preparedness

Are You Ready?

Before the Hurricane Season

- ✓ Determine safe evacuation routes inland.
- ✓ Learn locations of official shelters.
- ✓ Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and battery-powered equipment such as cell phones and your NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver.
- ✓ Buy food that will keep and store drinking water.
- ✓ Buy plywood or other material to protect your home if you don't already have it.
- ✓ Trim trees and shrubbery so branches don't fly into your home.
- ✓ Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- ✓ Decide where to move your boat.
- ✓ Review your insurance policy.
- ✓ Find pet-friendly hotels on your evacuation route.



FEMA

During the Storm

When in a Watch Area...

- ✓ Frequently listen to radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
- ✓ Fuel and service family vehicles.
- ✓ Inspect and secure mobile home tie downs.
- ✓ Ensure you have extra cash on hand.
- ✓ Prepare to cover all windows and doors with shutters or other shielding materials.
- ✓ Check batteries and stock up on canned food, first aid supplies, drinking water and medications.
- ✓ Bring in light-weight objects such as garbage cans, garden tools, toys and lawn furniture.

When in a Warning Area...

- ✓ Closely monitor radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards for official bulletins.
- ✓ Close storm shutters.
- ✓ Follow instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered!
- ✓ Stay with friends or relatives at a low-rise inland hotel or at a designated public shelter outside the flood zone.
- ✓ DO NOT stay in a mobile or manufactured home.
- ✓ Notify neighbors and a family member outside of the warned area of your evacuation plans.
- ✓ Take pets with you if possible, but remember, most public shelters do not allow pets other than those used by people with disabilities. Identify pet-friendly hotels along your evacuation route.

Plan to Leave if You...

- ✓ Live in a mobile home. They are unsafe in high winds no matter how well fastened to the ground.
- ✓ Live on the coastline, an offshore island or near a river or a flood plain.
- ✓ Live in a high rise building. Hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.



Hurricane Preparedness cont.

If Staying in a Home...

- ✓ Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and keep it closed.
- ✓ Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- ✓ Turn off propane tanks.
- ✓ Unplug small appliances.
- ✓ Fill bathtub and large containers with water in case clean tap water is unavailable. Use water in bathtubs for cleaning and flushing only. Do NOT drink it.

If Winds Become Strong...

- ✓ Stay away from windows and doors, even if they are covered. Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway.
- ✓ Close all interior doors. Secure and brace external doors.
- ✓ If you are in a two-story house, go to an interior first floor room.
- ✓ If you are in a multi-story building and away from water, go to the 1st or 2nd floor and stay in the halls or other interior rooms away from windows.
- ✓ Lie on the floor under a table or other sturdy object.

Be Alert For...

- ✓ Tornadoes—they are often spawned by hurricanes.
- ✓ The calm "eye" of the storm—it may seem like the storm is over, but after the eye passes, the winds will change direction and quickly return to hurricane force.



American Red Cross

What to Bring to a Shelter

What to Bring to a Shelter

- First-aid kit
- Medicine, prescriptions
- Baby food and diapers
- Games, books, music players with headphones
- Toiletries
- Battery-powered radio and cell phone
- Flashlights
- Extra batteries
- A blanket or sleeping bag for each person
- Identification
- Copies of key papers such as insurance policies
- Cash, credit card

REMINDER: If you are told to leave your home, do so immediately!

After the Storm

- ✓ Keep listening to radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.
- ✓ Wait until an area is declared safe before entering.
- ✓ Watch for closed roads. If you come upon a barricade or a flooded road, Turn Around Don't Drown!TM
- ✓ Stay on firm, dry ground. Moving water only 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Standing water may be electrically charged from power lines.
- ✓ Never use a generator indoors.
- ✓ Avoid weakened bridges and washed out roads.
- ✓ Once home, check gas, water and electrical and appliances for damage.
- ✓ Use a flashlight to inspect damage. Never use candles and other open flames indoors.
- ✓ Wear proper shoes to prevent cutting feet on sharp debris.
- ✓ Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until officials say it is safe.
- ✓ Avoid electrocution by not walking in areas with downed power lines.



Hurricane Preparedness cont.

Family Emergency Plan



Everyone needs to be prepared for the unexpected. You, as well as your family and friends, will most likely not be together when disaster strikes. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children or parents are safe? You may have to evacuate or be confined to your home. What will you do if water, gas, electricity or phone services are shut off?

Steps to Take

- I **Gather information about hazards.** Contact your local National Weather Service office, emergency management office and American Red Cross chapter. Find out what type of emergencies could occur and how you should respond. Learn your community's warning signals and evacuation plans. Assess your risks and identify ways to make your home and property more secure.
- II **Meet with your family to create an emergency plan.** Pick two places to meet: a spot outside your home for an emergency, such as fire, and a place away from your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Choose an out of state friend as your family's point of contact for everyone to call if the family gets separated. Discuss what you would do if advised to evacuate.
- III **Implement your plan.**
 1. Post emergency telephone numbers by the phone.
 2. Install safety features in your house, such as smoke alarms and fire extinguishers.
 3. Inspect your home for items that can move, fall, break or catch fire and correct them.
 4. Have your family learn basic safety measures, such as CPR and first aid, how to use a fire extinguisher, and how and when to turn off water, gas and electricity in your home.
 5. Teach children how and when to call 911 or your local emergency number.
 6. Keep enough supplies in your home for at least 3 days. Assemble an emergency supplies kit. Store these supplies in sturdy, easy-to-carry containers, such as backpacks or duffle bags. Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Keep a smaller emergency supplies kit in the trunk of your car.

An Emergency Supplies Kit Should Include:

- ✓ At least a 3-day supply of water (one gallon per person, per day)
- ✓ At least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food
- ✓ At least, one change of clothing and shoes per person
- ✓ One blanket or sleeping bag per person
- ✓ First-aid kit
- ✓ Battery-powered NWR and a portable radio
- ✓ Emergency tools
- ✓ Flashlight, extra batteries
- ✓ Extra set of car keys
- ✓ Credit card and cash
- ✓ Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members
- ✓ Prescription and non-prescription medicines

- IV **Practice and maintain your plan.** Ensure your family knows meeting places, phone numbers and safety rules. Conduct drills. Test your smoke detectors and NWR monthly and change the batteries at least once each year. Test and recharge your fire extinguisher(s) according to manufacturer's instructions. Replace stored water and food every 6 months.

Safety and preparedness material is online at:

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.ready.gov

American Red Cross: www.redcross.org

NOAA National Weather Service: www.weather.gov/safety.php

NOAA DS 2011153



Knock Knock Children's Museum



During the month of September and a few weeks in October, the Knock Knock Children's Museum will have EBR school field trips. ExxonMobil is asking and seeking African American men and women from the community to volunteer and have a presence with these elementary schools and the children. The opportunity to visit the museum is fantastic for the children but, your presence and involvement will be much more needed and appreciated!! Please email batonrougedelta@yahoo.com if you are interested in volunteering.

ExxonMobil Sponsored Field Trip Schedule

DATE	TIME	SCHOOL
9/1/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Glen Oaks Park
9/13/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Highland Elem
9/14/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Magnolia Woods
9/15/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	LaBelleAire
9/19/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Crestworth
9/20/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Mayfair Lab
9/21/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Park Elem
9/26/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	White Hills Elem
9/27/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	JK Haynes
9/28/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Capitol Elem
9/29/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Park Forest
10/5/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Ryan Elem
10/11/17	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Progress Elem





National Convention Highlights



Baton Rouge Delta was recognized for several initiatives this year at National Convention in Las Vegas, including Project 13 and Delta ERT. The chapter was also recognized for Arts and Letters and Program Planning and Development.

Baton Rouge Delta brought home the Second Place National Heritage and Archives Award for the Southwest Region and Soror Karmen Davis was featured in the Delta Anthology Sisterhood Story. Soror Doris Brown participated in the opening ceremony and Soror Ryan Waits served as the Regional Journalist.





National Officers



National President - Beverly Evans Smith

National 1st Vice President - Cheryl A. Hickmon

National 2nd Vice President - Jaria Martin

National Secretary - Elise L. Cooke-Holmes

National Treasurer - Deborah A. Jones-Buggs, CPA

Chair, National Finance Committee - Doreen A. Dixon

Chair, 2019 National Nominating Committee - Deborah Stapleton

Chair, National Internal Audit Committee - Soraya Farver

Collegiate Member, Scholarship & Standards Committee - Jaleah Rutledge

Collegiate Member, 2019 National Nominating Committee - Tanaja Kidd

Collegiate Member, National Finance Committee - Victoria I. Brown

Collegiate Member, National Internal Audit Committee - Tiara Brooks &
Kiersten Hargett



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 Thrust 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 the 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.

DATE:	PROGRAM/ACTIVITY*	5-POINT THRUST	HOURS
	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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