

# XUO Notes

Xi Upsilon Omega Chapter



## Greater Tasks to Begin...

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*Happy New Year* my dear Sorors. Back by popular demand, I am pleased to present our Chapter newsletter to you. Our newsletter is designed to provide timely information, enhance member communications and strengthen the Ivy vine.

Many thanks to all of you for your continued support and dedication to our beloved Sorority. We have embarked on a new era of sustained community service under new and dynamic leadership at the National and Regional levels. **Global Leadership Through Timeless Service** requires us to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

**January** came quickly with celebration of Founders Day in Little Rock, local Martin Luther King, Jr. service projects and Virginia Legislative Day. In each event, **Xi Upsilon Omega** Sorors rose to the task and handled Sorority and Community matters in a most excellent way.

**February** will prove no less exciting with sponsorship of the African American Read-In Chain and our Joint Founders Day with Omicron Chi Omega.

Sorors, please join me in this journey as we continue to make our Sorority "Supreme in Service to all Mankind." For truly, we are the change we wish to see.

*Sisterly Yours,*  
**Soror Tracey  
Basileus**

## Chapter Operations Workshop

### "WORKING SMART WITH STANDARDS"

With the theme, "**Chapter Operations - A Serious Matter**," the Standards Committee conducted an informative and interactive chapter operations workshop immediately following the January chapter meeting.

With new international leadership and global program initiatives, Sorors participated in a one hour learning session designed to prepare members for a successful year of chapter operations.

Special thanks to the 2010 Standards Committee for an outstanding workshop: Sorors Eleanor Braxton, Mildred Green, Karen Griffin, Sharon Hardy, Clintina Hankerson, & Cassandra Terrell

It's the SMART way to kick-off 2011.

**Soror Marian Harvey, Chair  
Standards Committee**



## Emerging Young Leaders (EYL)

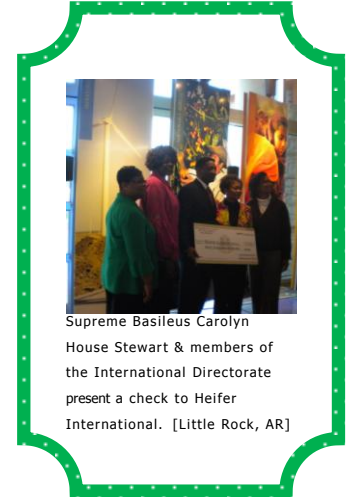


**The Emerging Young Leaders** program is the 2010-2014 signature program of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. for middle school girls. The EYL program is designed to extend the vision of the sorority by cultivating and encouraging high scholastic achievement through:

- 1) Leadership Development
- 2) Educational Enrichment
- 3) Civic Engagement
- 4) Character Building.

The "Emerging Young Leaders Program" will develop the skills and talents of middle school girls (grades 6 - 8) with potential of becoming leaders within their local communities, as well as in other venues. **Xi Upsilon Omega** will target 30 students from our service area and meet on Saturdays throughout the year. Stay tuned for more information on this Chapter endeavor.

**Sorors Mia Valentine & Nichelle Wright, Co-Chairpersons**



Supreme Basileus Carolyn House Stewart & members of the International Directorate present a check to Heifer International. [Little Rock, AR]

## "Getting to Know You"



Our Spotlight is on **Soror Karen Griffin, Anti-Basileus.**

**Place of Birth:** High Point, NC

**Alma Mater(s):** N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University (B.S.) & George Mason University (M.A.)

**Initiation:** Beta Iota Omega  
**Occupation:** Economist

**My typical day is:** Waking up at 5:00 AM arriving to work 8:00 am, busy during the day with a variety of analytical

projects, and home by 7:00pm

**Prized Possession:** My Lithograph Painting by Leroy Campbell entitled "The Right Spot"

**Favorite Food:** Creole & French

**Favorite Musician:** Mary J. Blige

**Favorite Movie/Book:** *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neal Hurston

## Pearl of the Month

**How I relax:** Spa treatment with a therapeutic massage

**I am most inspired by:** My parents

**I love AKA because:** it allows me to have a special connection with sister Sorors and provides me with an opportunity to give back to the local and international communities.

## Joint Founders Day

**Xi Upsilon Omega** Chapter will host 2011 Joint Founders' Day celebration, "**Celebrating a Legacy of Leadership**" on **February 27, 2011** at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House & Conference Center with Omicron Chi Omega Chapter from Woodbridge, Virginia.

Sorors are encouraged to support this event where we will worship together, enjoy a beautiful luncheon and celebrate

our legacy. Sorors will meet at 9:15am at Mt. Hope Baptist Church 6823 Harrison Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22407. The Luncheon will begin at 1:30pm.

For registration, contact Soror Rhonda Still at [xuopecuniousgrammateus@gmail.com](mailto:xuopecuniousgrammateus@gmail.com) or via mail at P.O. Box 681, Garrisonville, VA, 22463. *Registration is open to all inactive and financial Sorors.*

**Registration fee is \$60.00. Deadline: Feb. 16, 2011**

**Soror Debra Graham, Chairperson**



## Membership

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's greatest asset is her membership. The Xi Upsilon Omega Membership Committee goals for 2011 are to **"Reclaim, Rekindle and Renew"** inactive sorors in the local area.

A quarterly newsletter has been created entitled **"Sisterly Yours"** as a means to provide communication in alignment with our chapter SMART

goals. **"Sisterly Yours"** is designed to reclaim our inactive members, rekindle the sisterly relationship and renew their commitment of service to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

The Membership Intake Process continues with the goal of lifelong, active members. Sorors who desire to participate in the upcoming MIP for 2011 are required to attend the

Chapter Orientation Workshop when announced. We look forward to working with you in keeping the "sister" foremost in the Sisterhood.

**Soror Penny Hairston**  
Chairperson



It's A Serious Matter

## 2011 Debutante Cotillion

**"Pearl Essence"** has been selected as theme of Xi Upsilon Omega's Debutante Cotillion to be held **November 19, 2011** at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House. The Committee mailed information to over 74 Debutante/Junior Debutante candidates. An Information Meeting will be on February 12 after the Chapter Meeting at 2:00pm.

The Tri-Chairs are working hard on various tasks to include the Sub-Committees roster and Deb Calendar and encourage Sorors to actively

participate in the Chapter's Signature Event.

**Sorors Karen Albert-Bradby, Rhonda Cunningham-Still & Sharon Hardy**

### African-American Read-in Chain

**Xi Upsilon Omega** is again hosting the African American Read-In Chain for the 19th consecutive year in partnership with the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and the Black Caucus of NCTE. The

goal of the African American Read-In Chain is to make the celebration of African American Literacy a major traditional part of Black History Month activities.

This Chapter activity is coordinated by **Sorors Lessie Carter, Shirley Cordell-Robinson and Yvonne Parker**. A letter was distributed via e-mail that Sorors are encouraged to share with your churches, schools, youth groups and other organizations outlining how to successfully participate in this event. Please circulate and support this worthwhile endeavor.

"Working together, working **SMART**, will enhance our resources, our collaborations, and our operational excellence, leading to a deeper and more positive impact within our communities"

**Soror Linda H. Gilliam**  
Mid-Atlantic Regional Director



## International & Regional News

- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's, 2011 National Founders' Day celebration, **"Reflections & Remembrance of Timeless Service"** was held on January 13-16, 2011 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Sorors honored our Founders and the "Little Rock Nine" by completing nine service projects related to the new program initiatives of Global Leadership Through Timeless Service. **Sorors Arnetta Lawrence, Debra Graham, Pam Gardner, Penny Hairston, Rhonda Cunningham-Still and Tracey Watkins** flew to Little Rock and participated in awe-inspiring Founders' Day activities including feeding programs, domestic shelter work and cleaning the Daisy Bates Museum. Sorors toured Central High School and met our Little Rock Nine Sorors. XUO Sorors also greatly assisted Little Rocks Sorors during the Roundtable session and personally coordinated the Directorate departure from the event.
- XUO provided maximum support to the AKA Legislative Day held Jan. 17, 2011. Much of the Day's success is owed to the critical planning and execution of our Chapter's Sorors for coordination of Logistics, transportation, decorations and so much more. **Thank you Sorors Gayle Terry, Joy Garner, Karen Griffin, Marian Harvey, Yvonne Spencer, Normine Allen-Brown and others.**

**XI UPSILON OMEGA**

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**Xi Upsilon Omega Chapter** is a member of the **Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.** The Chapter was chartered September 10, 1983 with twenty-two members from the city of Fredericksburg and the surrounding counties of Caroline, King George, Richmond, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Westmoreland. **Xi Upsilon Omega** operates in Fredericksburg, Virginia.



## Announcements

- Xi Upsilon Omega Chapter will host **2011 "Get on the Bus" College Tour** on April 19-20, 2011 to Bennett College, North Carolina A & T University, St. Augustine's College, and North Carolina Central University. Registration is open to young ladies in the 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Registration is \$130.00 per student. Parental chaperone fee: \$100.00. For registration contact: Soror Rhonda Still at [xuopecuniousgrammateus@gmail.com](mailto:xuopecuniousgrammateus@gmail.com) or P.O. Box 681, Garrisonville, VA, 22463.  
Trip Interest Meetings & Registration opportunities will be held at Porter Library: 2001 Parkway Boulevard, Stafford, VA 22554 on the following dates & times:  
February 19 @ 3:00pm – 5:00pm  
March 19 @ 1:00pm – 2:00pm  
April 16 @ 1:00pm – 3:00pm
- The Global Poverty Program Committee will conduct a **Canned Food Drive** during the February Chapter meeting. Sorors are asked to please drop-off donations (**Peanut Butter, Tuna Fish, and Canned Beans**) in labeled boxes located near the Philacter's table.
- Early Bird Registration is underway for the **58<sup>th</sup> Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference**, to be held April 20-24, 2011 in Richmond. Consult [www.midatlanticaka.org](http://www.midatlanticaka.org) for information.

## ~ February Calendar ~

### Black History Month

<b>February 4, 2011</b>	American Heart Month "AKA Goes Red for a Day"
<b>February 7, 2011</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> 7:00pm Central Rappahannock Regional Library
<b>February 12, 2011</b>	<b>Chapter Monthly Meeting</b> 10:00am Germanna Community College
<b>February 12, 2011</b>	Debutante Information Meeting 2:00pm
<b>February 27, 2011</b>	Metro Founders Day Celebration



### What is a Soror?

*A Soror is someone who is more special than words.  
She is someone with whom you have a common bond-through the sisterhood.  
She is love mixed with friendship-the best things in life.  
She is one of the most precious individuals in the world.  
And you'll always find her whether you're near or apart, for she is in every city, town, and nation.  
She might be referred to as a "Sands" or "Line Sister."  
How special!  
Together you have shared moments in your lives.  
A Soror is a confidante and a counselor.  
She's a wonderful friend. She's there when you need her-during the good times or the bad.  
She represents honesty and trust enfolded in love.  
And she may even be your mother, sister, daughter, aunt, grandmother, cousin, or friend.*

**HOW WONDERFUL!**

Unknown

