

THE B-MORE ZETA TIMES

A product by and for the Sorors of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc-Tau Eta Zeta Chapter
<http://www.zphib-thz.org>

Volume 3, Issue 5

January 13, 2006

**Happy 86th
Birthday,
Zeta Phi
Beta!
May God
bless our
beloved
sorority.**

January 16, 1920



Pearlettes Taela Jones, Kayla Clark and Beautiful Lawson smile for the camera during the Youth Christmas party, which was held Dec. 17 at the South Baltimore Family Health Center, located at 631 Cherry Hill Road.

THZ begins its first scholarship drive

January 1 marked the beginning of Tau Eta Zeta's first scholarship drive in honor of Triumphant Soror Sharon K. Harvey.

The chapter will award two graduating high school seniors with \$1,000 scholarships.

Sorors are encouraged to disseminate the applications to qualified students. Please encourage all applicants to return the application and all supporting documentation by March

1, 2006.

Scholarship applications have been mailed out to all eligible schools, as well as some churches located in the eligible zip codes. They may also be downloaded from the chapter's Web site at www.zphib-thz.org.

The scholarship award recipients will be announced at the chapter's annual Finer Womanhood Luncheon on Saturday, March 25, 2006 at the Pikesville Hilton Hotel in

Pikesville, Maryland.

For more information on the Sharon K. Harvey Memorial Scholarship, contact Soror Rhonda Lawson at rlawson@zphib-thz.org, or call 410-760-5390.



Finer Womanhood 2006 activities set

The Tau Eta Zeta Finer Womanhood committee is moving forward with plans to celebrate its Third Annual Finer Womanhood Observance.

The 2006 Observance, will kick-off on February 26, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. with the chapter worship service at New Birth Ministries, where Soror Tiffani Smith is the impending First Lady.

This year the Luncheon will be open to the public and is scheduled to take place March 25 at the Pikesville Hilton Hotel. Tickets are



\$35, and may be purchased from any members of the Finer Womanhood Committee. The theme for the event is Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. - Tau Eta Zeta Chapter Changing Lives, Creating Opportunity and Cultivating Alliances.

This year, the committee plans to present the Zeta of the Year, as well as the Baltimore City Community Leader awards

If you would like to nominate someone, please

contact Soror Clark.

The event will also include a tribute to Triumphant Soror Sharon K. Harvey, announcement of scholarship recipients and other surprises.

We will also participate in a nutrition forum with the chapter's Community Service committee in March. Additionally, we will participate in the chapter's Adopt-A-Highway program on March 26.

For more information on Finer Womanhood programs or to participate on the committee, please contact Soror Clark at cclark@zphib-thz.org.

MLK celebrations set for Monday

Monday, January 16 is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Please take time to remember this great civil rights leader and all he helped accomplish for African-Americans.

For those who would like to attend an MLK celebration, the following celebrations have been scheduled:

The 2006 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade is set for Monday, Jan. 16 at noon. This year's theme "Celebrating Yesterday's Victories, Facing Today's Challenges" pays tribute to Baltimore's civil rights movement with honorary grand marshals Rev. Douglas Sands, Sr., Victoria Jackson Gray Adams, Rev. Dr. William C. Calhoun, Sr., Marvin "Doc" Cheatham, Raymond Haysbert, J. Howard Henderson, and James Griffin. The event starts at the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and Eutaw Street, proceeds south on Martin Luther King Blvd. and disbands at Baltimore Street. The reviewing stand is located at the intersection of MLK and Franklin.

The African-American Civil War Memorial and Museum, located at 1200 U Street, NW in Washington D.C., will hold a wreath-laying ceremony at 1 p.m., Jan. 16, followed by a reception and documentary from 2-4 p.m. The wreath laying will take

place at the Civil War memorial, located at 1000 U St., N.W., and the reception will be at the museum. For more information, call 202-667-2667, or visit www.afroamcivilwar.org.

On Monday, Jan. 16, in honor of Dr. King's legacy join hundreds of volunteers in Baltimore as they participate in facilities improvement projects for two Baltimore area schools and the Malcolm X Center in northwest Baltimore. Lunch will be provided. Honor the Dream! Give Baltimore school children a safe and attractive learning environment!

Register Online at <http://www.volunteersolutions.org/bvumaryland/volunteer/news/mlk-day>, or call Stacey at 410-366-6030 ext. 115.

The Lincoln Theatre in D.C. presents The Martin Luther King Day Celebration. This annual celebration performance with local and national artists honors the man, his accomplishments and his legacy.



Famed actress and author NeAnni Y. Ife will present an original dramatic monologue honoring Rosa Parks during this celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration. The performance will take place at the Ames United Methodist Church, located at 112 Baltimore Pike in Bel Air. For more information, call 410-838-0161.

Notable Notes

- Jan. 15
Chapter meeting
- Jan. 16
Founders' Day
- Jan. 21
State Joint Founders Day luncheon
- Jan. 29
A Heart for the Homeless
Clothing Drive
- Feb. 1
Community Service meeting
- Feb. 19
Membership Invitational
Chapter meeting
- Feb. 26
Worship Service at New Birth Ministries
- March 1
Community Service meeting
- March 6
Undergraduate Interviews
- March 10-11
Maryland State Leadership Conference
- March 19
Chapter meeting
- March 25
Finer Womanhood Luncheon
- March 26
Adopt-A-Highway

Membership committee activities continue

The Membership and Undergraduate Committees continue to move forward with the plans to bring in new members for Spring MIP line.



Currently, there are eight women interested in membership.

The ladies are extremely excited and enthusiastic about the MIP process.

The 2006 Invitational has been scheduled for Sunday, February 19 immediately

following chapter meeting. All Sorors are asked to attend. Please be mindful that all participants must be MIP certified..

For more information on Membership and Undergraduate activities, please contact Soror Tamara Harris or Kim Whitaker.

Founders Day 2006 joint luncheon tickets still available

There's still time to get your tickets for the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. 2006 State-wide Founders Day and Finer Womanhood luncheon.

This year's event will take place at the Pikesville Hilton Saturday, Jan. 21 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sales will stop Saturday, Jan. 14, so don't delay. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased from Soror Nixon State Tamias Grammateus.

This event is open to everyone, whether they're Zeta members or not. However, sorority members are encouraged to wear royal blue and white.

Each chapter in the State of Maryland is asked to donate 10 gifts, which will be given away as door prizes. Tau Eta Zeta members can

bring their gifts to Sunday's chapter meeting.

During the luncheon, Tau Eta Zeta will present the Arizona Cleaver Stemons Humanitarian Service Award to five sorors whose loyalty to the sorority was expressed through unselfish service and outstanding voluntary contributions to the activities of the sorority. These sorors were nominated during December's chapter meeting and will be announced during the luncheon.

Everyone is encouraged to come out to this great event and celebrate the anniversary of this great sorority.

For more information, contact Soror Lisa Nixon at lnixon@zphib-thz.org, or Soror Yolanda Jackson at wjackson@zphib-thz.org.

Don't Forget!

Sorors are encouraged to begin paying their dues in January for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. By paying \$32.50 per month, you will be fully financial by October 2006. Please do not wait until the last minute to pay it all at once. You must be financial on the national, regional, state and local levels to be active in the Sorority. For more information, contact Soror Yolanda Jackson at wjackson@netzero.net.



Founders Day 2006 tickets are now on sale. To reserve your seat, see Soror Yolanda Jackson or e-mail her at wjackson@netzero.net.

Anyone who has chapter photos is encouraged to e-mail a copy to Soror Rhonda Lawson at rlawson@zphib-thz.org so they can be placed in the scrapbook.

Sorors are reminded to check the Web site for updated directories. Please note that the directory is updated on a weekly basis. If you have any changes to your information or emergency contacts, please contact Soror Lisa Nixon at lnixon@zphib-thz.org.

Sunday is chapter meeting. Please remember to bring items for the repast. For more information, refer to the Web site for the repast schedule.

Community Service continues with Heart for Homeless

Jan. 29 is quickly approaching.

If you haven't donated to the THZ Community Service committee's A Heart for the Homeless winter coat and warm garment drive, please bring your items to Sunday's chapter meeting.

The committee has been soliciting clothing items since Nov. 20, and will distribute the clothing to the homeless at 4 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 29 at the War Memorial Plaza in Downtown Baltimore. Please encourage your parents, brothers, cousins, uncles, grandparents, coworkers, church friends, and other male friends to donate warm garments. Items should be new or gently used. We are most in need of the following:

men's coats

gloves

scarves

sweat suits

athletic socks

women's and children's garments are also appreciated

Please keep in mind that these garments will be donated to the homeless, and not middle class families. Come support us as we work to help others in the Baltimore community.

If you can't attend Sunday's chapter meeting, please contact Soror Katrina Debnam to arrange a pickup time. She can be contacted at 410-362-3959, or kdebnam@hotmail.com

Happy Birthday!

Soror La Toya Tittle - Jan. 1

Soror Cheryl Harrison-Murray - Jan. 8

All submissions and announcements to the B-more Zeta Times should be e-mailed to Soror Rhonda Lawson at newsletter@zphib-thz.org.

Submissions can include photos, announcements, prayer requests or event happenings. We need your help to make this newsletter a success.

A Heritage of Excellence



Founder
Pearl Neal



Founder
Arizona Cleaver



Founder
Viola Tyler



Founder
Fannie Pettie



Founder
Myrtle Tyler

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority would be remiss not to pay homage to the first women who believed in the need for a new and different type of Greek-lettered organization and acted upon that need. To these women, Zeta was more than an organization-it was a movement, a belief system that reflected, at its core, the desire to provide true Service, to embrace Scholarship, to set a standard for Sisterly Love and to define the noble concept of Finer Womanhood. This belief has sustained and encouraged Zetas around the world to hold fast to the ideals initiated and developed by its earliest members.

The Founders of Zeta were strong, principled coeds who possessed a great deal of modesty, strength of character and pride in academic achievement. They are indeed a worthy foundation upon which to base our illustrious Sorority.

The year was 1920. It was the start of the decade, shortly after World War One, and a time of great prosperity for the country. Women were called dames, dolls, or the cat's meow. At the beginning of the decade, women still wore long skirts but the "Roaring 20s" brought a new look of short skirts and smartly coiffed shorter hair. Racial tensions were high and quotas set for immigrants coming into America. The Klan was very active during this period. The Harlem Renaissance was acknowledged as the first important movement of black artists and writers in the US. On January 16, 1920, the Volstead Act became effective, heralding the start of Prohibition and on August 18th of the same year, Tennessee delivered the crucial 36th ratification necessary for the final adoption of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote. The worst and longest economic recession to ever hit the United States would define the end of the decade-the Great Depression.

It was within this environment that Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was founded. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was founded on the simple belief that sorority elitism and socializing should not overshadow the real mission for progressive organizations - to address societal mores, ills, prejudices, poverty, and health concerns of the day. Founded January 16, 1920,

Zeta began as an idea conceived by five coeds at Howard University in Washington D.C.: Arizona Cleaver, Myrtle Tyler, Viola Tyler, Fannie Pettie and Pearl Neal. These five women, also known as our Five Pearls, dared to depart from the traditional coalitions for black women and sought to establish a new organization predicated on the precepts of Scholarship, Service, Sisterly Love and Finer Womanhood. It was the ideal of the Founders that the Sorority would reach college women in all parts of the country who were sorority minded and desired to follow the founding principles of the organization. Founder Viola Tyler was oft quoted to say "(In the ideal collegiate situation) there is a Zeta in a girl regardless of race, creed, or color, who has high standards and principles, a good scholarly average and an active interest in all things that she undertakes to accomplish."

Since its inception, the Sorority has chronicled a number of firsts. Zeta Phi Beta was the first Greek-letter organization to charter a chapter in Africa (1948); to form adult and youth auxiliary groups; to centralize its operations in a national headquarters; and to be constitutionally bound to a fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated.

Zeta's national and local programs include endowment of its National Edu-

cational Foundation, community outreach services and support of multiple affiliate organizations. Zeta chapters and auxiliary groups have given untold hours of voluntary service to educate the public, assist youth, provide scholarships, support organized charities and promote legislation for social and civic change.

A nonprofit organization, Zeta Phi Beta is incorporated in Washington, D.C. and in the state of Illinois. The dues and gifts of its members support the Sorority.

Over the years since the sorority's inception, Zeta Phi Beta has chartered hundreds of chapters and initiated thousands of women around the world. Zeta has continued to thrive and flourish while adapting to the ever-changing needs of a new century. Despite the Great Depression, discrimination and segregation and a host of other challenges, Zeta has continued to hold true to its ideals and purpose, for, as stated by one of the Sorority's founding members: "...I believe that no [other] organization could have been founded upon principles that were so near and dear to all of our hearts." (Founder Myrtle Tyler)

--Taken from the Zeta Phi Beta International Web site.

Announcements

Best wishes to Soror Shaquetta Nottage, who brought a new life to this world. Trinity Marcia Nottage was born on January 11, 2006 @ 5:11 pm. at St. Agnes Hospital. Mom and baby are doing quite well.

Congratulations to Soror Cheryl Harrison-Murray, who just moved into her new home. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Soror Rhonda Lawson would like to announce that her daughter Beautiful was baptized Sunday, Jan. 8 at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Please pray for her that she grows up to be a strong woman of God.

The principal at Dr. Carter G. Woodson Elementary Middle School in Cherry Hill is seeking assistance to provide

mentorship and tutoring to students. For more information, contact Patrick F. Harris at (410) 440-9762.

The 2006 Black Greek Cruise is set to sail to the Caribbean Aug. 13. This seven-day cruise will feature ports of call in Miami, Half-Moon Cay, Bahamas, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos. For more information, contact www.blackgreekcruise.com.

Soror Janice Kissner, Past Grand Basileus has returned home for recuperation from her stroke. Please pray for her speedy recovery. Cards and other tokens of love can be sent to:

**6817 S. Dante Apt. 2
Chicago, IL 60637
773-288-4517**

The Kappa Alpha Psi Vegas Night is scheduled for Friday,

March 3 from 8 p.m.-2 a.m. at Martin's West in Woodlawn. Tickets are \$80 per person. If anyone is interested, please see Soror Camelia Clark.

The Producers and Choreographers of the new Sony Pictures Release, StepShow, will be hosting open calls in various cities. They are seeking Greek and non-Greek step teams and Step Masters to appear in the film. Interested teams in the below and surrounding cities should send an e-mail with name, contact info and organization to stepinfo@rainforestfilms.com. Dates are as follows:

- Jan. 18 - Tallahassee, FL**
- Jan. 19 - Baton Rouge, LA**
- Jan. 20 - Miami, FL**
- Jan. 26 - Charlotte, NC**
- Jan. 27 - Washington DC**
- Feb. 1-3 - Atlanta, GA (open call for Step Teams and male Dancers ages 15 - 25)**

Chapter Web site is going public!

The Tau Eta Zeta Website will launch January 16, 2006. To view the site, visit www.zphib-thz.org.

The new site, designed by Soror LaToya Tittle, will contain information on sorority and chapter events



and programs. Photos of past events and chapter members will also be available. The Sorors Only page will remain for ready access to chapter business. For more information, contact Soror Tittle at webmistress@zphib-thz.org.

Prayer Closet

If anyone needs to talk or needs prayer, contact Tau Eta Zeta's chaplain, Soror Tiffani Smith, at (410) 750-6828 at home or on her cell at (410) 258-3304.

She is available for prayer 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Soror Smith has also started a Sister Prayer Circle, which will take place about one hour before each chapter meeting.

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Hebrews 4:16