

The RHOya! Legacy

FALL | WINTER 2010

ARE YOU ON FIRE?

Highlights from the 53rd International Biennial Boule in Palm Springs, CA
by Richelle N. Jones

"On Fire to Serve! Expanding Local Mobilization for Global Impact," was the theme for the 53rd International Biennial Boule in Palm Springs, CA, as Sorors, Philo and Rhoer affiliates, and guests across the country gathered at the largest attended national conference of Sigma Gamma Rho SorORITY, Incorporated.

Held at the luxurious Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa on July 14-22, 2010, attendees had the opportunity to attend an array of activities. The International Boule was hosted by the Sigma Sigma Chapter in Los Angeles, CA.

From the public meeting, where Sorors were greeted by Dr. Bertice Berry, International Presidents, and other representatives from the National Pan-Hellenic Council to the Prayer and Praise Breakfast featuring Gospel duo Mary Mary—all in attendance were guaranteed to have a wonderful Boule experience. During the Boule 2010 Concert, the attendees were made to laugh by Comedian Akintunde Warnock, entertained by world renowned hip-hop violinists Nuttin' But Stringz, and serenaded by our very own Soror, Kelly Price, who surprised the audience with special guest Shirley Murdock.

This year's Boule focused not only on advancing the overall functions

of the SorORITY, but on personal, professional, and leadership development as well. Workshops on various topics from SorORITY marketing and branding to membership were conducted.

The plenary/business sessions were hosted by the Southwestern Region's own, International Sergeant-At-Arms, Soror Karen Y. Williams. Soror Williams, along with the Boule Assistants made the Boule experience memorable. Additionally, several new recommendations and by-law changes were voted on. Further, two of our very own Southwestern Region Sorors successfully campaigned for international office. Soror Chantay P. Canty was elected International Grand Grammateus and Soror Barbara L. Eikner was chosen as International Grand Tamiochus.

Holding true to the SorORITY's renewed commitment to service, the International body of Sigma Gamma Rho hosted a baby shower for nearly 50 deserving military families stationed at Twenty Nine Palms Military Base. The event, entitled Operation B.A.M. (Babies and Mommies) was poised to provide gifts for expectant mothers in an effort to assist the families of our country's servicemen and women.

The 53rd International Biennial Boule adjourned with an Invitation to the



On Fire to SERVE!
Expanding Local Mobilization for Global Impact

54th International Biennial Boule in 2012 by the Gamma Sigma Chapter of the Super Southwestern Region. The conference festivities were concluded with an awards and achievement banquet featuring actress and playwright Vickilyn Reynolds, who performed a self-authored play entitled "Hattie: What I Need to Know."

View photos from Boule on Page 8 of this publication.

*Information extracted from the 53rd International Biennial Boule Official Press Release.



Message...

FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION SYNTAKTES



Greetings Sorors, Philos, Rhoers, and Friends of the Southwestern Region:

As we begin our new sorority year with high expectations and renewed energy from an exciting Boule, let's stay focused and keep our regional and chapter goals before us.

The regional theme for the next biennium is: "Weaving A Legacy of Leaders: Empowering Women and Youth to D.A.R.E." We must continue to meticulously interlace leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills in developing high performing chapters and rendering successful service projects. Through workshops, seminars, publications, and media, we will empower the sisterhood, women, and youth in the community to develop to their full potential, accomplish individual and group goals, render service at home and abroad, and embrace higher education.

Therefore, with our regional theme before us and the call to serve having been made, our 2010-2011 regional goals are:

- Retain our present membership by September 30, 2010
- Reactivate and Recruit 300 plus Sorors by March 31, 2011
- Work toward a complete revision of the Regional Bylaws for adoption at the 2011 Regional Conference
- Increase the Region's financial stability through several regionally sponsored fundraisers with a goal of \$20,000.00
- Restructuring of the Regional Awards Program
- Empowering the sisterhood, women, and youth through:
 - Service projects – Project Reassurance
 - Scholarship – Increased promotion of
 - Leadership Development – Workshops, seminars, webinars

In the coming months, please attend your respective Area Meetings and visit the Regional website often for information, announcements, forms, deadlines, and opportunities to serve our communities and our great Sorority.

"Greater Service, Greater Progress,"

Soror Brenda J. Canty

Southwestern Region Syntaktes
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

The UCC's Corner



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM SOUTHWESTERN REGION UCC HENRY ETTA O'NEAL

Undergraduate Chapters and Advisors, please ensure the following:

- Submission of the 990 and EOY (End-of-Year) reports to ICHQ is completed (7/15/10)
- All chapter officers are financial for the 2010 – 2011 sorority year
- The graduate chapter and advisor are financial for the current sorority year
- Submit a financial roster of chapter members to Syntaktes, UCC, and Regional financial officers
- Submit application for Undergraduate Service Grant to Syntaktes and UCC by November 1st
- Submit application for Undergraduate Development Grant to Syntaktes and UCC by November 1st
- Submit application for Southwestern Region Undergraduate Chapter Aid Grant to Syntaktes and UCC by September 15th
- Check the national and regional websites for all updates
- Advisors should provide contact information to each undergraduate and have a calendar of approved events. (Please include your upcoming area meeting and regional conference on your calendar.)

Our Focus:

- Retaining our current members
- Reactivating any sorors on campus that are inactive
- Recruiting new members. This is a MUST for the survival of Sigma Gamma Rho. When looking at young ladies to increase membership, look for ladies that will be an asset to Sigma Gamma Rho; ladies that will diligently work hard and will represent the Sorority positively.

The UCC wants to hear from you!

Any ideas regarding recruitment that have worked/will work on your campus to assist in chapter growth are welcomed!

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM... *Southwestern Region YSC Kische M. Nelson*

Dear Sorors of the Southwestern Region:



I would like to introduce myself to you. I am Soror Kische M. Nelson, your new Youth Services Co-ordinator (YSC). My job is not only to assist the UCC with whatever duties she assigns to me, but also to serve as your "voice" on the Regional and National Boards. I would like to hear your concerns, so that I can bring them to the attention of the Regional and Grand Bodies. An issue cannot be addressed, if not we are not aware that there is one. I would like to make this a great year for the undergraduates, so that we are recognized on all levels.

I would like to help build that bridge of communication between our graduates and undergraduates. With their continued support, we will continue to grow and keep Sigma Gamma Rho alive. Graduate members can teach the undergraduates the proper way to complete paperwork, prepare for meetings and conferences, be positively competitive with other organizations, as well as answer our own calls for step shows, the Annie Neville Talent Show, and community service projects. Sorors, this year, we are "On Fire to Serve," not only on our campuses and communities, but in our Region as a whole.

For this Sorority year, our Syntaktes' goal is to increase our membership by 34%, (300) members. This includes new members and reactivation and retention of members. SORORS, I know we can do it! We must con-

tinue to recruit young ladies that have that "positive" drive and energy to reach all different levels of Sigma. Please do not hesitate to contact me. I will make it my responsibility to serve as one your best YSC's. If you send me a question, I will answer it or find the answer for you.

Thanks a lot Sorors! Let's have a good year!

Sisterly,

Soror Kische M. Nelson
Southwestern Region YSC
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



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Southwestern Region

Are you ready for Area?

AREA I

Date: September 25, 2010
Time: 8am-4:30pm
Location: Pine Bluff, AR
Registration Deadline: September 17, 2010
Ramonica Scott, Area I Coordinator
817-980-7883 [Phone]
sgrhopoodle2001@yahoo.com

AREA II

Date: October 2, 2010
Time: 8am-4:30pm
Location: Norman, OK
Registration Deadline: September 25, 2010
Lanitra Berry, Area II Coordinator
405-274-6286 [Phone]
lanitra_berry@yahoo.com

AREA III

Date: September 11, 2010
Time: 8am-4:30pm
Location: Round Rock, TX
Registration Deadline: September 7, 2010
Daryl A. Lott, Area III Coordinator
832-368-7978 [Phone]
dlott83827@sbcglobal.net

AREA IV

Date: October 30, 2010
Time: 8am-4:30pm
Location: Irving, TX
Registration Deadline: October 26, 2010
Shirley Roland, Area IV Coordinator
214-697-0021 [Phone]
rhorho47@sbcglobal.net

AREA V

Date: October 16, 2010
Time: 8am-4:30pm
Location: Gretna, LA
Registration Deadline: October 11, 2010
Daphne M. De Beau, Area V Coordinator
337-945-0864 [Phone]
daphdeb@aol.com

For more information on Area Meetings,
visit www.sigmaswregion.com!





**70TH SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
MU SIGMA, HOST CHAPTER**

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2



**MARK
YOUR
CALENDARS!**

**MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2011
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
BATON ROUGE, LA**

WEAVING A LEGACY OF LEADERS...

*22nd International Grand Basileus to Speak
in the Southwestern Region*

by Deborah Daniels* and Richelle N. Jones



With the commencement of a new sorority year, Southwestern Region Syntaktes, Brenda J. Canty recently announced the region's 2010-2012 motto, "Weaving a Legacy of Leaders: Empowering Women and Youth to D.A.R.E. (develop potential, accomplish goals, render service and embrace education)." The motto is extremely fitting as the Sorority's 22nd International Grand Basileus, Joann G. Loveless is set to speak to a learning academy in the Southwestern Region.

On September 21, 2010, International Grand Basileus Loveless, who is known for her powerful words of inspiration, will be the motivational speaker at the grand opening celebration and reception of the Motivating Excellence Learning Academy.

This special event will be held at the HB Williams Tower of Strength Outreach Center at 7:00 p.m., located at 690 Kelly Street, in Baton Rouge, LA.

Other named guest speakers include Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover and Attorney Dwayne M. Murray (National President of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.).

Because we are "On Fire to Serve," you are cordially invited to have your flame ignited and feel the warmth of sisterhood by supporting our Sorority and International Grand Basileus Loveless with your presence.

Sorors, affiliates, and friends of Sigma Gamma Rho wishing to attend the event on Tuesday, September 21 may purchase tickets from the Mu Sigma Chapter (Baton Rouge, LA). Ticket prices are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for college students. Please contact Soror Deborah Daniels via phone at (225) 603-6344 or e-mail at: missfoxy@cox.net.

Pictured: 22nd International Grand Basileus Joann G. Loveless.

*Soror Deborah Daniels is the Basileus of the Mu Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. in Baton Rouge, LA.

A Legacy of...
PARTNERSHIPS

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Our National Partnership Focus for the New Biennium:

Healthy Choices

- National Campaign to Prevent Teen & Unplanned Pregnancy (Survey)
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT (Distracted Driving Prevention)
- National Education Association (Priority Schools Campaign)
- National Urban League (I AM Empowered Campaign)
- NAACP (Become a member)

Healthy Living

- Center for Disease Control & Prevention (Get tested, host workshops)
- Michelle Obama's Move Campaign (Maintain good health)
- American Psychological (Mental Health)

Healthy Generations

- March of Dimes (Education & Fundraising)



The primary programmatic focus is still Project Reassurance – H³: It's All About Me!

Healthy Choices, Healthy Living, Healthy Generations.

- Is your chapter "On Fire To Serve?"
- Did your chapter participate in a great community service project?
- Did a Southwestern Region Soror, Philo, or Rhoer do something spectacular?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

GET IT PUBLISHED IN... "THE RHOYAL LEGACY!"

For more information on submissions, please send an e-mail to:
Southwestern Region Epistoleus
Richelle N. Jones
sgrhosw.epi@gmail.com.



Photos from Boule
Pictured above (Left to Right): Southwestern Region Grammateus Letrice Chanel Dickerson at the 53rd International Biennial Boule Registration entry; International Sergeant-At-Arms Karen Y. Williams (center front) and the Boule Assistants; Soror Kelly Price at the Awards & Achievement Banquet; Southwestern Region Syntaktes Canty and UCC O'Neal at the Operation BAM service project; and Past Grand Basilei Drs. Cleo S. Higgins and Mynora J. Bryant at the Awards & Achievement Banquet.

SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC. Southwestern Region

Brenda J. Canty
Southwestern Region Syntaktes

Richelle N. Jones
Southwestern Region Epistoleus

The RHOyal Legacy is the official publication of the Southwestern Region of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. *The RHOyal Legacy* is published two times a year. All materials for the publication should be sent electronically to sgrhosw.epi@gmail.com. In all submissions, the contact name, chapter name, location, school (if applicable), city, state and headline should be included. All submissions are subject to editing and potential exclusion based on timeliness of content.

About the Editor...

Southwestern Region Epistoleus Richelle N. Jones is a member of the Gamma Phi Sigma Chapter in Houston, TX, where Dr. Faith Foreman-Williams is Basileus. She became a member of Sigma Gamma Rho by way of the Audacious Alpha Lambda Chapter at Texas Southern University in 2005. Soror Jones holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, a Master of Public Administration degree, and is currently a 2nd year law student at Thurgood Marshall School of Law. She enjoys spending time with family, shopping, traveling, and doing graphic design.

