

SUMMER 2002

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

# Ivy Leaf

IVY TREE OF HONOR



ALPHA

ON OMEGA

A SUPREME LEGACY...BLAZING A FINAL TRAIL  
THE FIRST LEGACY SUPREME BASILEUS  
NORMA SOLOMON WHITE  
WITH SUPREME MOTHER RUTH SOLOMON



# vines of legacy

By Wendy Woods Jackson  
Omicron Mu Omega

It was clear at the Dallas Boule' that the banner of "Legacy" of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority was strong and resilient.

The Dallas Boule' gave us the freedom and the signal to go and tell our stories. In my particular case the root of the vine was Great Aunt Pearl Brown Thompson who was made at Kentucky State many years ago.

To see Diamond and Golden Sorors escorted to the Boule' by their legacy families struck a cord in my heart that sang a verse of one of my favorite church hymns, "It is well, it is well, with my soul." The stories that walked through the corridors at the Dallas Convention Center were historic in nature because each represented a vine of legacy. When the story in their family is told, the new sorors will be called "roots" and their daughters will become the vines and their granddaughters will continue the legacy. Every soror there, old and new, had a story of legacy, some just beginning the first chapter and others moving on to the next volume.

The very first Legacy Supreme Basileus Norma White introduced a heartwarming "legacy pledge" at a banquet honoring the legacy tradition. One could not mistake what soror belonged to which vine of legacy, and though many were dressed in matching attire and accessories, the most compelling expression of legacy that made it clear were the proud smiles, the tears of remembering and stories brought to life by those could not contain theirs any longer.

My own daughter Jennifer Ruth Jackson (named after her aunt and grandmother who are also sorors) has become my inspiration to tell the stories of legacy and to serve within my local chapter as diligently as possible. I know that my contribution to the ideals of the sorority will be the patterns and practices that she will see and grow to love as I do. Nurturing the vine of legacy is up to each soror. One day my daughter will become a soror and pledge someone else's daughter. She'll be taught through action that legacy is a prideful tradition that has allowed her to walk in the footsteps of her ancestors and to serve honorably. We must nurture the vines to be strong enough to serve Alpha Kappa Alpha, as well as endure the "troubles of the world."



First Legacy Supreme Basileus Norma Solomon White and mother Ruth Solomon serve as Grand Marshalls of the Legacy Parade



Supreme Parliamentarian Lucille Piggott, sister and nieces in Parade



Fifteenth Supreme Basileus Marjorie Parker and 17th Supreme Basileus, Larzette Hale, her daughter and granddaughter



Soror Cheryl Young Cole and her mother, a Golden Soror



## FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

Tuesday Afternoon, July 11, 2000

Soror Norma Solomon White, Presiding

**Call to Order:** Supreme Basileus Norma White called the Fourth Plenary of the 59th Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Boulé to order at 3:10 p.m.

**Reactivation Award Winners:** Soror White announced the Reactivation Award winners as had been promised during the Third Plenary. The winning sorors were:

Chapter Reactivation Leadership Award Winners

- 1st Place Soror Gwendolyn Shorter  
Phi Lambda Omega Chapter, South Eastern Region  
44 Sorors
- 2nd Place Soror Aloma D. Johnson  
Gamma Phi Omega Chapter, Great Lakes Region
- 3rd Place Soror Jo Celeste Pettway, South Eastern Regional Director

American Airlines Ticket Winners

Sorors Gwendolyn Shorter, Aloma D. Johnson, Jo Celeste Pettway, Patricia Bolden and Lillian Lynn

Chapters Reactivating 30 or more sorors (Certificate Recipients)

Great Lakes Region: Alpha Rho Omega, Alpha Omega and Pi Tau Omega

North Atlantic Region: Xi Omega, Beta Alpha Omega, Xi Zeta Omega, Omega Omega and Iota Gamma Omega

South Eastern Region: Phi Lambda Omega

South Atlantic Region: Eta Xi

South Central Region: Alpha Kappa Omega the chapter with the largest number of reactivated sorors, 103, and Beta Pi Omega

Central: Gamma Omega and Theta Omega.

Mid Atlantic: Upsilon Omega.

Top three Directorate members:

Soror Jo Celeste Pettway, South Eastern Regional Director

Soror Norma White, Supreme Basileus

Soror Clara Hines, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director

**Meditation:** 20th Supreme Basileus Barbara K. Phillips presented a spiritually inspiring meditation (Appendix G - Exhibit C).

**Legacy Parade:** Soror Norma White, the first Supreme

Basileus legacy, and her mother, Golden Soror Ruth Solomon, were joined by 18th and 23rd Supreme Basilei Mattella Grays and Mary Shy Scott, and their daughters, as leaders of a parade in which over 700 members of Alpha Kappa Alpha family legacies participated.

**International Finance Committee:** Supreme Tam-iouchos Barbara McKinzie presented the committee report, which was prepared as a direct result of directives from delegates to the 1998 Chicago Boulé. Soror McKinzie presented the revised guide to chapter financial procedures called "Fiscal Fitness - Guide to Chapter Financial Procedures." Her announcement that the handbook also included a diskette holding templates for all forms submitted annually was met with applause.

A video presentation provided a summary of the committee's activities as outlined in their printed Committee Report (Appendix C). Soror McKinzie then presented the Long Range Financial Plan (Appendix B - Exhibit H) authorized by the 1998 Boulé.

Soror Barbara McKinzie's explanation of the newly implemented investment strategies elicited enthusiastic responses. Some sorors were prompted to make unsolicited donations to these investment portfolios. The donors included:

U.S. Ambassador to Micronesia Soror Dianne Watson, a 3rd Generation Legacy, pledged \$500 in honor of Far Western Regional Director Grace Strauther.

Soror Marty Pruner Hamiter, Alpha Gamma Omega Chapter, Los Angeles, California donated \$500 on behalf of her mother, Ella Pruner Jackson.

Soror Ellen D. Shaveman, Alpha Gamma Omega Chapter, Far Western Region, spoke on behalf of six additional sorors who pledged to match the original \$500 contribution to the Investment Fund.

Soror Yvonne Barnett spoke on behalf of the charter members of Sigma Zeta Omega Chapter, North Atlantic Region who also pledged \$500 toward the investment portfolio.

A member of Soror Barbara McKinzie's chapter also made a donation of \$500.

Soror Alfreda Lewis spoke on behalf of three members from Theta Theta Omega Chapter in Las Vegas, Nevada who pledged \$500.

**Long Range Strategic Plan:** Supreme Tam-iouchos Barbara McKinzie explained the relationship between the Long Range Financial Plan (Appendix B - Exhibit H) and the proposed Long Range Strategic Plan. Soror McKinzie requested a motion supporting approval of the proposed

Long Range Strategic Plan as described. Former Far Western Regional Director Cornelia Harris Banks, Beta Phi Omega Chapter, Galveston, Texas moved adoption of the Long Range Strategic Plan. Soror Blanche Stevens, Alpha Delta Omega Chapter, Nashville, Tennessee seconded the motion. **The motion was carried by voice vote.**

**Diamond Soror Tribute:** Regional Directors Rachel Mallory (Great Lakes), Grace Strauther (Far Western) and Polly Sparks Turner (South Central) paid tribute to the 75-year members of Alpha Kappa Alpha residing in their respective regions. The Diamond Sorors recognized during this tribute were:

- Soror Mattie Powell, Alpha Rho Omega, Detroit, Michigan, Great Lakes Region (mother of two Golden Sorors)
- Soror Eleanor Lee, Alpha Mu Omega, Oakland, California, Far Western Region
- Soror Hazel Ainsworth Young, (1922 Alpha Chapter initiate), South Central Region

**Golden Soror Tribute:** Supreme Basileus Norma White paid tribute to all 50-year members in attendance. They were saluted by the sorors in attendance for their decades of service to Alpha Kappa Alpha.

**Announcements:** Conference Hodegos Sherry Curry read the announcements.

**Recess:** The fourth plenary session was recessed at 5:30 after the announcements were completed. The "Legacy Dinner" and the "Boulé 2000 Gala" were held during this recess.