

Fall 2011

Volume 1 issue 1

SISTER CIRCLE

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ADVISOR



MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE SISTERHOOD



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we end this year, 2011, with an exciting new leadership team, let's provide them with the support and assurance that is typical of our sisterhood and remember my theme-"MAKING A

DIFFERENCE IN THE SISTERHOOD BY TURNING OBSTACLES INTO OPPORTUNITIES." By being steadfast and unwavering in our determination we will enrich our lives and those of others.

This year has been a brutal one, but we must remember to be thankful for our many blessings and accomplishments. We must celebrate and be appreciative of our unrelenting support and commitment to our

communities and the less fortunate. We held and maintained our tradition of hosting our annual Conclave, it was well attended. The hard work of our host chapter and region should not go unrecognized. The organization continues to be a significant part of the community as we accomplished a variety of service events in 2011 such as,

... held our Annual National Executive Board Meeting

....presented our first LANBF scholarships

....hosted fundraising pageants and anniversaries

....regional meetings held

....hosted activities for our younger and seasoned generations

....greeted new sisters

....hosted seminars to enhance and bring to the fore front human rights, civic rights and economics issues and all of this makes Las Amigas, Incorporated a sisterhood to content with.

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**REGIONAL
DIRECTORS**

**EVELYN PATTERSON
MID ATLANTIC
REGION**

**FRANCES
WASHINGTON
NORTHEAST REGION**

**AGATHA GRIMES
SOUTHEAST REGION**

**BARBARA GARRETT
SOUTHWEST
REGION**

President's Message Continued

We have always believed in the significance of cooperation and unity and as we partner with other organizations, we must remember that this too strengthen our resolve. Checks and money are needed items and are important to non-profits, but let's continue to roll up our sleeves and do the work and be involved. We must continue to be our sister's keeper in keeping this sisterhood a sound and viable organization. We must keep the sisters we have, reclaim those

that have moved on and appeal and claim new sisters.

Sadly, the demise and passing of five sisters this year have caused our sister circle to be broken, continue to pray and lift them. Remember those sisters and their families and the illnesses of other sisters, blessings to them all.

Thanks to each of you that attended my very first Executive Board meeting and hope that the meeting met your needs. Your

sacrifice is appreciated. May I encourage each of you to register now for Conclave 2012 and to make your hotel reservations? Do remember the deadlines.

As we observe this most sacred holiday that is celebrated worldwide, with many traditions and customs do remember the reason for the season. I wish you and your family's peace, happiness and prosperity.

With much sister Love,
Frances S. Robinson
18th National President

Las Amigas: Strengthening Relationships with Partners



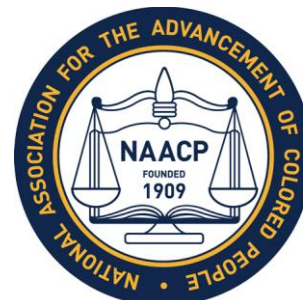
Children's Defense Fund

Today, 16.4 million children in the United States live in poverty. Nearly one in four children under the age of five is poor. Together we can and must do better.



NCNW

needs our support. Please renew your memberships as a chapter an individual membership.



Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization.



The National Kidney Foundation, a major voluntary nonprofit health organization, is dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by kidney disease and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR, BARBARA GARRETT

I am excited to serve as Regional director in the S.W. Region with Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Gastonia, Greenville, Mooresville and Morven Chapters. I'm very sorry that the Kannapolis Chapter disbanded this year but I have five strong chapters with good members who work very well with me. We had a productive fall regional meeting hosted by the Gastonia Chapter with Margaret Smith serving as President. We look forward to the spring meeting which will be held in Greenville, SC with

Pearl Owens serving as President. My plans for the spring regional meeting will include workshops with Las Amigas members serving as the coordinators. I along with the S.W region encourage my members to attend the meetings so you will always have firsthand information. I do believe in keeping my chapter Presidents informed with any information that I receive from National.



Mid-Atlantic Hard at Work



Lucy Cogdell, Portsmouth Chapter President

The **Portsmouth Chapter** is hard at work preparing to host the 54th Annual Conclave, June 27 – July 1, 2012 at the Westin Hotel Towne Center, Virginia Beach Virginia. The theme for this event is "Together We Achieve the Extraordinary." The members recently participated in a rededication ceremony and immediately started planning its community service events.

Although the members of the Portsmouth Chapter have been extremely busy with conclave preparations, they have not forgotten their commitment to the community. The members provided Comfort of Love Blankets to the Oasis Shelter located in Portsmouth, Virginia and provided a fifty dollar Farm Fresh gift card to a needy family for Thanksgiving. Jean Eason, a member of the Portsmouth chapter serves as our National Queen, participated in the 64th Annual Fishbowl Parade hosted by Arabia Temple #12. The **Newport News/Hampton Chapter** jump started their year with helping the less fortunate for the Thanksgiving season.

The ladies of this chapter along with the Young Orchids and Gents packed and delivered food baskets to Transition Family Violence Services and the chapter's adopted family on November 21st. As a part of the national "Comfort of Love Project," the members delivered blankets to the Pensilua Resue Mission. Diane Jackson, Project chairperson, will continue to lead her members in community service with their upcoming shopping spree for the Angel Tree recipients accompanied by the Orchids and Gents and bowling with the young groups and completing the wish list of their adopted family. This chapter is definintely on the righ track.

Conclave 2011 Luncheon hosted by the Forestville Chapter



Northeast in the News

Seat Pleasant has been busy increasing the membership as it welcomes its newest member Denise White. Denise was installed during the November chapter meeting held at the home of Sister Thelma Murray-Fisher. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, the sisters donated several

Thanksgiving baskets to needy families and children of Glassmanor Elementary School in Oxon Hill, MD. The members have planned a fun filled bus trip to New York to see the smash hit, "Memphis" in April 2012. The one day trip will also include a sit down dinner in nearby Bordentown, NJ.

More information can be found on the chapter's website or by contacting any member.

Southwest on the Move

The **Morven Chapter** of Las Amigas, Incorporated continues to provide great services to its surrounding communities. In November the chapter participated in an auction held by the Hospice of Anson and Union County. The members donated a basket filled with

kitchen necessities worth \$125. The auction was held at First Baptist Church of Monroe. Proceeds from the auction were used to benefit the Hospice of Anson and Union County. The **Mooresville Chapter** began their year with an all-day planning session in Charlotte. Their planning session led to a Saturday

Night Live event at the Mooresville Soup Kitchen, and a donation of much needed supplies to Park View and South Elementary schools. The chapter also successfully held its annual Little Miss Las Amigas pageant which benefits the scholarship fund. Mooresville was well represented at the

"Those who apply themselves too closely to little things, often become incapable of accomplishing great things."



Southwest on the Move cont.

Breast Cancer Awareness Event, in uptown Mooresville. **Gastonia** reached out to the students in its community with a juice give away at the T. Jeffers Center for students in the after school program. They also provided canned goods and non-perishable items to the King Mountain Crisis Ministry. The members great efforts didn't stop there, they provided lunch at the Gastonia Habitat for Humanity Center to Habitat, participated in a Halloween party for senior citizen residents at the Kings Mountain Care Center Rest Home.

Gastonia was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Salvation Army Volunteers for participating in the "Ringing the Bell" campaign during the Christmas season. In September, Gastonia hosted the Southwest Regional meeting in Kings Mountain, N.C. **Greenville** has once again out done themselves with their continuous work in the community. In October the members held a clothes closet and were able to provide items for over sixty homeless citizens. The chapter celebrated the Thanksgiving season by hosting a dinner for

seventy-five senior citizens. The annual event was a success. **Charlotte Mecklenburg** began 2011 on an *Orchid High*. Lizzie Williams was elected National Treasurer at the 2011 Conclave. The chapter has been working with several Cancer organizations, spreading blessings through the senior communities, and is preparing to assist those in need throughout the holiday with a donation to the Second Harvest Food Bank. In April the members will be hosting an Evening of Jazz at the Marriot Executive Park, Charlotte, NC.



2011 National Executive Board Meeting

The 2011 National Executive Board meeting was held at the Wyndham Crossing Hotel and Conference Center in Glen Allen, VA. The hotel was adorned with southern charm, modern amenities, gracious service and an underground tunnel used by dignitaries to travel from one building to another. The members of Las Amigas, Incorporated were welcomed with a wonderful continental breakfast to start the day. Vice President, Deni Mazingo conducted an ice breaker which involved

groups working together to achieve a common goal. It was announced that the Cincinnati and Kannapolis chapters have disbanded and the Sunbelt region has dissolved. As the day went on, the members worked diligently reviewing reports from conclave 2011, making corrections and addressing organization business for 2012. After returning from lunch the hotel prepared a plentiful snack of cookies, candies, brownies and other energy boosting treats. During this session the National President

asked all chapters to adhere to upcoming deadlines. Each member should be on the lookout for a new profile sheet to update their information. It was advised that the NCNW needs our support. President Robinson has asked that we send in our chapter dues and if possible, each member register individually. The meeting was a great success. President Robinson thanked everyone for coming and turned the meeting over to the national chaplain, who closed out the session with a beautiful prayer.



Important Dates:**Conclave Registration**

November 2011- May 25, 2012

Submit Ads by April 16, 2012

Vendor's Registration
May 1, 2012

Room cut off May 28, 2012

December 30, 2011
Individual Dues**March 30, 2012**
Newsletter Articles**April 16, 2012**
Service Award Recipients
National Proposals**Regional Meetings:**Mid-Atlantic
Saturday, March 17, 2012Southeast
Saturday, March 17, 2012Southwest
Saturday, March 24, 2012Northeast
Saturday, March 17, 2012

*Las Amigas,
Incorporated is now the
proud owner of its trade
mark.*



**Please use on all information
being distributed**

ATTENDANCE AWARDS CONGRATULATIONS

Portsmouth Chapter
Betty McNeil Long Award

Baltimore Chapter
Lorraine Walker Award

**Our Father Which Art in Heaven
Distinguished members gone but not forgotten**



*Minnie Parsons,
Richmond Chapter*

*Dorothy Robinson,
Gastonia Chapter*

*Loretta Brown,
Newport News/Hampton*

*Virginia Doughty,
Suffolk Chapter*

*Ruth Perkins,
Greenville Chapter*

National Queen's Project

Greetings, Sisters of Las Amigas, Incorporated As your National Queen, I intend to devote my time and energy into using this organization as an instrument for community service, I would like to begin by helping our men and women serving this country to stay in touch with their families. My project for 2012 is called, "Celling the Land, Sea and Skies Cell Phone Project." Each chapter is being asked to collect old

cell phones. In partnership with the USO, the phones will be stripped and sent to service men and women overseas, disabled veterans here in the US and dependents. We will present the cell phones to a representative from the USO at the 2012 Conclave. I thank you in advance for all your support. **Yours truly,**

Jean Eason

