



# The Mid-Atlantic Gazette

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONTINENTAL SOCIETIES, INC. ®  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION

'OUR CHILDREN, OUR COMMITMENT, OUR CONCERN'

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Volume V, Issue 4

## Upcoming Events

**February 1st-29th: African American Read-In Month!**  
Please implement this project! Nationally, all chapters are asked to reach at least 1,000 children! That's no less than 12,000 children in the Mid-Atlantic Region! All numbers will assist the region in reaching national's goal!

**February 15th:**  
HEER Plus Arts and Humanities Reports due via email to: Cindy Smalls  
[asmalls1027@att.net](mailto:asmalls1027@att.net)

Camp Reports due via email to: Cindy Smalls  
[asmalls1027@att.net](mailto:asmalls1027@att.net)

Mabs Kemp Essays due via email to: Cindy Smalls  
[asmalls1027@att.net](mailto:asmalls1027@att.net)

**February 15th:**  
Distinctive Years of Service Awards,  
Unsung Sisterhood Awards  
Due via email to:  
Dr. Nieta Scott Dunmore  
[njscotdmore@yahoo.com](mailto:njscotdmore@yahoo.com)

**March 2nd: Read Across America Day/Dr. Seuss' Birthday.** This is a National Initiative but does not require a report card; however, chapters should track their data and report on the National Summary Report Form.

**March 5th: African American Read-In Report Cards** due to 1st Vice Regional Director

**March 13th-14th: 36th MAR Meeting.**  
Newport News, VA  
Mathews Chapter, co-host.  
Due: *A Basketful of Books*



## From the Desk of the Regional Director

Mid-Atlantic Sisters!

Love is in the air—not only because it's February but it's NATIONAL SISTERHOOD MONTH! Share the Love! Show the Love! Let love permeate from and to every sister in the Continental house, from Charleston to Durham to Goldsboro to Mathews to New Bern to Newport News-Hampton to Norfolk-Virginia Beach to Northern Virginia to Richmond to Roanoke to Tri-Cities to Wilmington—across the Mid-Atlantic—let Sisterhood

be a guiding force BUT don't stop there! It's **NATIONAL SISTERHOOD MONTH!** Share Your Love with every sister you know within every region! Send an email or a card to a sister, a chapter, celebrate sisterhood in any way that you can! Show every sister across the nation that sisterhood is alive and well and thrives within the Mid-Atlantic Region! So, let us unite in a mighty concentrated, sisterly effort to show that our Ethics, our Continental Virtues, our dedication is limitless and knows no bounds—we are linked together in one mighty

chain, an unstoppable bond of sincere sisterhood! Now, if you have not seen sisterhood in action, then you need to be at the 2020 Regional Meeting which promises to be a memorable occasion. Please join your Regional Executive Board, the Mathews Chapter and Continentals near and far in Newport News, VA! Let me personally assure you that you won't want to miss this first Regional Meeting within the 2020 decade. Let's make history together! Meet us there! Greet us there! Be There!

Sisterly & Sincerely,  
*Myra*

## Service

Which chapter will take home the honor of 2020 Chapter of the Year? Will it be your chapter? Well, we certainly hope so! At this time all should be knee deep in report writing because we know that all have the potential to be winners, but you can't win if you don't play! All reports are due no later than February 15th. In keeping pace with the 21st century, this is the first year that our reports will be submitted via email in a pdf format, saving chapters and the region mailing expenses and nail-biting stresses of wondering if our reports and judges' responses will be timely. Please plan to participate in the African-American Read-In during the entire month of February as well as Read Across America on March 2nd. Also, February is National Dental Month. If you have not participated in this initiative, please have the Colgate Dental Van or a dental education project to satisfy this requirement. Calling all 1st Vice Presidents! We need help at the Regional Meeting to count points to determine who will be the Outstanding Chapter, the CAMP winner and to assist in awarding honors at the Awards Luncheon. Your committee needs you!!!

## Scholarship

Thank you to those chapters who submitted scholarship applications for the 2019-2020 regional cycle. We are yet to get a final count but we certainly want to surpass last year's 67% of our chapters participating. Thank you again for participating and we will continue to strive until we reach the top at 100%, with each chapter submitting an application. Please keep in mind that there is a child out there that can benefit from and appreciate our effects! And with that being said. . . Our first time online distribution was successful in that we had inquiries from two individual scholarships—one in South Carolina and one in North Carolina. These inquiries were two-fold in that 1) we know that this method of distribution is feasible and 2) we know that our regional webpage is garnering traffic outside of our organization and this is good publicity for our region. Our next step is at the Regional Meeting where our national and regional scholarship winners will be announced! Two of our judges has already RSVP with attendance! If you are the Scholarship Chair from your chapter, we need you there, we want you there. We want you to reap the fruits of your labor!

## Sisterhood

Our current memberships stands at 197 with an anticipated three more chapters planning inductions under special permission. We have ten Associate Members within the region. February is National Sisterhood Month. Please plan to engage in something special with the sisters within your individual chapters. Please also track this event and all of your sisterly activities as data for regional and national records. We want pictures!!!! Please send photos to the 2nd Vice Regional Director with captions of the activity as well as identifying all sisters in the picture. Please track and send your membership populations to the Regional Membership Chair as soon as possible: number of sisters within your chapter in June 2019; the number of sisters who paid their dues and are active this year; the number of sisters who were active last year but did not pay their dues for this year and are now inactive; the number of sisters recruited through membership intake; the number of sisters transferred into your chapter; number of sisters who were inactive last year but paid dues and are active now. All of the above will give us data for our PROJECT 3R3 program. If you are an Unsung Sisterhood Award recipient or receiving your Distinctive Years of Service pin, we would love to award you in person at the 2020 Regional Meeting!

## Chapter Celebrations

- ◆ The Newport News-Hampton Chapter and the entire Mid-Atlantic Region Welcomes Sister Althea Harris to the fold!!!

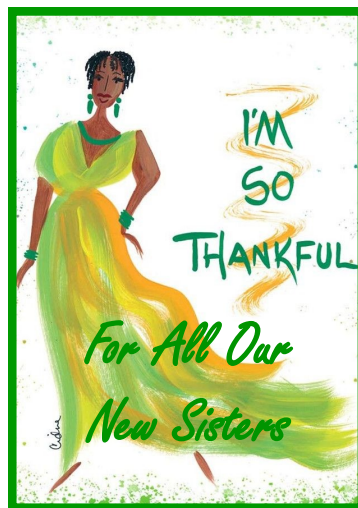
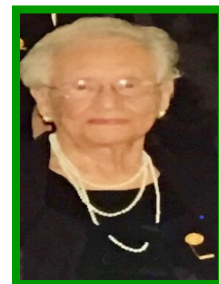


Seated (left to right): Membership Chair and 2nd Vice President Evelyn Holmes, Continental Althea Harris, Chapter President Sharon Shaw  
 Standing (left to right) Continental Sister Ethel Windley, Past National President Florence Blount-Davis, Continental Lucretia Clayton, Continental Pia Holmes, Immediate Past Regional Director Jean Roach, Continental Mary Hunter, and Continental Elnora Marshall

- ◆ Please keep in your thoughts and prayers, the following chapters who memorialized sisters within the last two months: **Mathews Chapter** assisted by **Newport News-Hampton Chapter** (Sister Aretha Thomas: Chapter Chaplain, Parliamentarian, Immediate Past Chapter President and Chair, Regional Meeting's Co-Host Chapter); **Norfolk-Virginia Beach Chapter** (Sister Julia Varner, Associate Member) and **New Bern Chapter** (Dr. Helen Adams, Charter Member)
- ◆ Please keep the **Wilmington Chapter** in your thoughts and prayers. Several life challenges has befallen this chapter recently—the passing of the mother and mother-in-law of Continental Jacalyn Rhodes, Continental Betty Rhodes and Continental Guy Henry Rhodes. Sister Karen Cherry, Chapter President underwent surgery on January 27th; Sister Jacalyn Rhodes, Chapter Recording Secretary is scheduled for surgery on February 11th and the brother of Sister Angelia Rhodes, Chapter 2nd Vice President is hospitalized and very seriously ill.



- ◆ A Final Recognition to those who have transitioned to the Light of Eternal Life: **Continental Sister Aretha Thomas, Continental Sister Julia Varner** and **Continental Sister Helen Adams**. Rest in Peace, My Sisters!
- ◆ Kudos to **Continental Hiawatha Jones** of the Goldsboro Chapter who was recently appointed to the Wayne County Public Board of Advisors.
- ◆ WE HAVE A WINNER!!! Congratulations to **Continental Honor Benson** of the **Richmond Chapter** who correctly responded to our **Historical Hallmarks** Trivia question : **“Who is Marquina Spencer and what is her significance within the Mid-Atlantic Region? Which chapter did she hold membership in?”** Sister Benson will have recognition on our regional website, a mention in the remaining issues of the MAR Gazetti and special seating during the Regional Awards Luncheon. Thank you, Continental Benson!!!
- ◆ **Continental Minnie Crawley** recently celebrated a milestone plus birthday. A member of the Goldsboro Chapter, Sister Crawley is believed to be not only the oldest member of the Mid-Atlantic Region but in the entire Continental Societies, Inc. @ Continental Crawley is still an active chapter member and is pictured on the right wearing her Continental Pin. Thank You, Continental Crawley and the **Goldsboro Chapter** for allowing us to share your Blessing!
- ◆ **Continental Sharon Shaw** secured judges for our Outstanding Chapter Awards and for our CAMP Awards. Thank you so much!!!
- ◆ Giving Recognition to our dedicated **Regional Officers** and **Chapter Presidents** who continually perform their duties for the ‘greater good’. You are appreciated!
- ◆ Congratulates to all our **new sisters as of February 1, 2020!** We look forward to meeting you in person at the 2020 Regional Meeting! Come out and meet our National President, other National and Regional Officers but most of all, we want to meet you!



Charleston Sisters

Continental Shelia Grier  
Continental Crystal Rouse

Newport News-Hampton Sister

Continental Althea Harris

New Bern Sisters

Continental Jennifer Adams  
Continental Paula Thompson  
Continental Jacqueline Windley

Northern Virginia Sisters

Continental Mercedes Cook  
Continental Shelby Cook  
Continental Felicia Davis Hipkins  
Continental Valerie Trent

Goldsboro Sisters

Continental Christina Allen  
Continental Thelma Black  
Continental Jeannette Dixon  
Continental Tonya Sampson  
Continental Amber Sutton

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE MAR

### Our Children



The Red, White and Green Stay at Home Ball is a regional fundraiser for our scholarships and HEER programs. Please donate and/or solicit funds.

Categories are as follows:

Red: \$25.00 - \$50.00

White: \$51.00 - \$75.00

Green: \$76.00 or more

CS Comatha Johnson, Chairperson

### Our Commitment



#### 20 for 2020

Fifteen members representing nine (9) chapters in the region paid the \$20.00 at 2019 Conclave. Please participate in this national fundraiser. A portion of the funds comes back into the chapters. Coordinator, CS Michelle Holston.

### Our Concern



This is a regional project that raises funds for underprivileged youth in Third World countries. A little goes a long way. Please donate. The devastation in island countries like The Bahamas, the lack of clean drinking water in African villages, etc. Think about how you can help benefit a child's life.

Donated funds should be channeled and receipted through local chapters, then forwarded to MAR for additional tracking. Further directives are forthcoming.

We appreciate your participation. All donors will be recognized at Regional Meeting.

## Particularly Protocol

### GENERAL PROTOCOL FOR THE REGIONAL MEETING

There are Continental traditions and observations, which every Continental is expected to honor. These include respect for our National President, Past National Presidents, present and past National and Regional officers. PLEASE FOLLOW THESE PROTOCOLS AT OUR UPCOMING REGIONAL MEETING.

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT:** When the National President is formally introduced during the Regional Meeting, the membership stands.

**PAST OFFICERS:** Past National Presidents and Past Regional Directors represent the history of the Continental Societies, Inc.®. We honor them for their contributions to the organization. When present at the Regional Meeting, Past National Presidents and Past Regional Directors should and will be introduced by year of seniority, the most recent one first.

**OTHER CONTINENTAL OFFICERS:** All National and Regional Officers present are and will be introduced/recognized at the Regional Meeting.

Associate Members and members from our sister regions are welcome to attend the Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting upon payment of registration fees. It is not proper etiquette nor is it appropriate for visiting Continentals to address the assembly if not invited or sanctioned to do so.

## Historical Hallmarks

Recreation is one of the components in our Five-Point Programmatic Thrust. . . Soooo. . . Let's Play! Here's how it works! The first Continental Sister who sends in the correct answer to the following trivia question will get special recognition in each 2019-2020 issue of *The Mid-Atlantic Gazette*, recognition on our regional website, special seating/recognition at our 36th Regional Program & Awards Luncheon. Send your response, cited reference, with your name and your chapter's name to marcontinentals1984@gmail.com. Ready? Here we go. . .

**Each year, Mid-Atlantic members are required to pay a 'Sisterhood Sacrifice'. What is the 'Sisterhood Sacrifice'? What is it used for? How much is it?**

Good Luck!!!

## Sisterhood



Don't forget to implement the *Continental Virtues* into your monthly chapter meetings! February's featured virtues are below:

**Integrity** is being true with ourselves. Integrity is doing what is morally right.

We treat our sisters impartially and fairly. We follow the Constitution and By-Laws and all other regulations imposed by our organization.

**"Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching." C.S. Lewis**

**Nobleness** is always taking the high road. To be noble is to complete a task not for personal reward or gain but to help someone else. Nobleness is an unselfish act. We work for the betterment of our organization. Our reward is knowing that we've helped to make Continental Societies, Inc. a better organization.

**"It is nobler to declare oneself wrong than to insist on being right—especially when one is right." Friedrich Nietzsche**