

VOLUME THIRTEEN

Happy New Year: Moving Forward with The Delta Foundation in 2013

Dear Foundation supporter:

Welcome to a New Year that presents new opportunities for The Delta Foundation to advance its mission of providing charitable and educational programming to benefit African American women, youth and their families. We are excited to seize this opportunity, and are grateful to have your support! As the charitable entity for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., our reach is far and wide, impacting local communities throughout the nation and abroad. With your continuous support we have progressed, and as we continue to successfully “create possibilities and improve lives,” we are aiming to magnify our efforts in this New Year.

There is a need in our communities to do more—provide more scholarships, award more program grants to Delta chapters and local community based organizations, offer more disaster relief, and offer assistance to empower women and their families. An increase in resources and overall donations is needed to achieve major fund development to support The Foundation and the Sorority’s charitable and educational programming. In this New Year, we are presenting several new and exciting giving opportunities designed to increase our charitable donations. We hope that you consider supporting our new campaign, “*For Delta, Forever,*”

where we invite 1,000 Delta members to contribute \$100 and 100 Delta members to give \$1,000 during this very special centennial year. With your commitment and support, our possibilities and programs are endless! Read more about the giving opportunities and our program activities throughout this newsletter issue.



The Delta Foundation awarded a program grant to Stone-Mountain-Lithonia Alumnae Chapter to support its EMBODI program during the past fiscal year 2011-12.

The Delta Foundation realized a milestone year in 2012—our 45th anniversary. During the Sorority’s historic centennial year, we are motivated to reflect on the establishment of the Foundation as well. We salute the bold and daring leader-

ship of Dr. Geraldine P. Woods, 13th National President of DST, who issued the charge in 1967 to create a national foundation for our dynamic Sisterhood. Dr. Woods, in her infinite wisdom, understood that the Sorority could make a stronger impact on strengthening communities and helping individuals through charitable financial support. She was indeed right...45 years later we uphold her legacy and that of other women who have provided leadership to The Delta Foundation.

The best to you and yours in 2013 and always,

Alison J. Harmon, Ed.D.
President, The Delta Foundation

Calling All Deltas to Charlotte

The Delta Foundation and Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. are “Calling All Deltas” to Charlotte, NC on Friday, March 1, 2013 for a Centennial Champagne Brunch at the CIAA Tournament. If you are planning to travel to the Queen City for the annual basketball tournament being held February 25-March 2, 2013, add this Delta event to your weekend itinerary. The Delta Brunch is for Deltas only and promises to be an unforgettable gathering of food, fun, and fellowship at the Mint Museum, located in the heart of Charlotte’s center city. Space is limited to 300 guests, so don’t delay get your tickets today!

Pack your “Delta Gear,” dancing shoes, and proof of membership and answer the call to be in Charlotte on March 1st. For more information, please send inquiries to deltasatheciaa@deltafoundation.net or call 202-347-1337.

New Charitable Engagement Manual Published

The Delta Research and Educational Foundation (The Delta Foundation) published a new *Charitable and Engagement Manual (CEM) 2012-13* in July 2012. The updated manual, having had full legal review, is a revised version of the former manual and working procedures known as Charitable Giving Services. The CEM, which aims to improve compliance, efficiency, and consistency, is designed to help the Sorority, its regions and chapters secure funding to promote stellar charitable and educational programming.

(Continued on page 2)

Congratulations to 2012-13 Grant Awardees

DELTA CHAPTER GRANT AWARDEES

Bellevue Alumnae
Central Arkansas Alumnae
Chesapeake-Virginia Beach Alumnae
Columbia (MD) Alumnae
Columbus/Lowndes Alumnae
Contra Costa Alumnae
Decatur (GA) Alumnae
Douglas-Carroll Paulding County Alumnae
East Point-College Park Alumnae
Fairfax County Alumnae
Federal City Alumnae
Franklin Tri-County Alumnae
Frederick County Alumnae
Hayward Tri-City Alumnae
Jacksonville (FL) Alumnae
Johnston County Alumnae
Kappa Omicron
Lufkin Area Alumnae
Macon Alumnae
Montgomery County (MD) Alumnae
Nashville Metro Alumnae
New Haven Alumnae
North Harris Alumnae
North Jersey Alumnae
Orlando Alumnae



Contra Costa (CA) Alumnae Chapter presented a series of workshops for its Delta Academy participants entitled "Innocence of A Child" which focused on preventing sexual human trafficking of young girls. Pictured here are Delta Academy participants with two chapter members. The chapter was awarded a program grant from The Delta Foundation for this workshop series.

Phoenix Metropolitan Alumnae
Pomona Valley Alumnae
Portland Alumnae
Potomac Valley Alumnae
Quaker City Alumnae
Richmond Alumnae
Rockland Alumnae
Southfield Alumnae
Stone Mountain-Lithonia Alumnae
Suburban Houston Ft. Bend Alumnae
Wilmington (DE) Alumnae

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Apostolic Charities, Inc.
Ascensions Community Services, Inc.
Community Advocates for Family and Youth
Delta Fortitude Foundation
Deltas of Oak Ridge
Delta Outreach and Education Center
Delta San Francisco-Peninsula Foundation
Genesis Women's Shelter
National Center for Children and Families
National Coalition of 100 Black Women (Oakland/Bay Area)
Project Grad Akron
Sitao Corporation
The Young Leaders Academy of Baton Rouge
Westchester Deltas, Inc.

Thank You!!

We take this opportunity to say thank you for voting for The Delta Foundation during the online Chase Community Giving Program. Our participation this year was made possible by



Delta members of Alpha Chapter at Howard University assisted The Delta Foundation in securing votes from HU students for the online Chase Community Giving competition held last fall.

Charitable Engagement

(Continued from page 1)

The CEM manual was mailed July 1, 2012 to all chapters that have established donor funds at the Foundation, and the CEM is also available on the Foundation's website. The CEM contains all of the necessary forms needed to conduct business with The Delta Foundation; the forms are PDF fillable. If your chapter uses the services of

Chase customers and employees selecting us as one of their favorite charities. During the 14-day voting period from September 6 – September 19, your support generated 1,399 votes making it possible for the Foundation to be the winner of a **\$10,000 Grant!**

A very special thank you to our National President Cynthia Butler-McIntyre and Executive Director Roseline McKinney for their support and guidance. Our success can be attributed to sisters working together, "Chasing What Matters."

Everyone's vote of confidence strengthens our capacity to continue our commitment to support the charitable and educational programs of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The Delta Foundation, please be sure that you have completed the CEM form entitled, Fund Change Request Form which can be retrieved from the website. Chapters are reminded that all contributions remitted to its donor established fund, must be payable to The Delta Foundation and be used for charitable and educational purposes only.

The **FRONT PAGE** is published periodically by the Delta Research and Educational Foundation (The Delta Foundation) to report news and information about its programs, activities, and fundraising efforts. The newsletter is distributed nationally to donors, partners, and supporters of the Foundation; circulation totals approximately 9,000 per issue (hard copy and online presence). The Delta Foundation is located at 1703 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; 202-347-1337; www.deltafoundation.net.

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**Delta Research and
Educational Foundation:
Creating Possibilities...
Improving Lives**

FOR DELTA, FOREVER—CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Foundation is kicking off its giving campaign—**FOR DELTA, FOREVER**. We are asking Delta members to help strengthen our journey for the next 100 years by joining our Circle of Friends Club. Listed below are ways you can be a part of the historic journey:

100 Δ 1000 GIVING CIRCLE (100 sorors give \$1,000+)

The Foundation is asking 100 sorors to give or pledge \$1,000 for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

BENEFITS:

- ▲ Distinguished pin (for \$1,000+)
- ▲ Signed copy of *PHILLIS Journal*
- ▲ VIP reception held at the 51st National Convention

- ▲ VIP seating at Foundation sponsored events in FY2012-13 and 2013-14, including the Black Women's Heritage Tour
- ▲ Special recognition in Annual Report

1000 Δ 100 GIVING CLUB (1000 sorors give \$100)

The Foundation is asking 1,000 sorors to give or pledge \$100 for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

BENEFITS:

- ▲ Foundation pin or bookmark
- ▲ Copy of *PHILLIS Journal*
- ▲ Members recognized in the end of the fiscal year newsletter

MONTHLY COMMITMENT

Pledge a recurring charge of \$20 monthly to the Foundation for one calendar year. Ask your closest friends to participate with you!

BENEFITS for this Level:

- ▲ Foundation pin and bookmark
- ▲ Copy of *PHILLIS Journal*
- ▲ Members recognized in the end of the fiscal year newsletter

Donation and Pledge Forms can be found on the Foundation website at www.deltafoundation.net/donation or to request a form, call 202-347-1337.

Workplace Giving: Deltas don't leave money on the table

Giving Made Easy

You may be eligible to benefit from **Workplace Giving** with your employer. Workplace Giving makes it easy and simple to support our national Foundation. Check with your employer's human resources office to find out if you can make an automatic payroll deduction to benefit The Delta Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity. The beauty of it all is that your giving through payroll deduction is automatic: a predetermined bi-weekly or monthly contribution that will be donated regularly without requiring you to take the time to send a regular contribution.

Your Workplace Giving donation can be a **general, unrestricted gift to The Delta Foundation**, or you may restrict it for a specific charitable and educational program. With the Sorority's centennial year occurring, you may even designate your workplace contribution to the **Centennial Fund** for charitable and educational programming.

Once you have set up your donation through your employer, visit The Delta Foundation's website at <http://www.deltafoundation.net/donation> to complete and submit the Workplace Giving Form to finish the process.

Workplace Giving Campaign

A Match that Matters

Did you know that there is a way to donate to The Delta Foundation and have the amount you give matched, making your gift worth twice or even three times the amount you originally donated? Well, there is! Many employers match gifts contributed by their employees and their spouses, even if they are retired. Some employers will also contribute funds to charitable organizations in honor of your volunteer hours benefitting community service. Check with your human resources representative to find out more.

Combined Federal Campaign



11213

A payroll promise that gives

Each year federal, postal, military and civilian donors can pledge to support The Delta Foundation during the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and State Annual Campaign open season that occurs annually between September 1 and December 15. The most convenient part? It is an automatic payroll deduction. Just remember to designate CFC #11213 to donate to The Delta Foundation.

United Way

The power of caring, community-based pledging



The United Way's mission to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities for the common good goes hand-in-hand with The Delta Foundation's focus of "creating possibilities...improving lives." Your donation to The Delta Foundation, through the United Way/State Campaign, is a great way to help fund the charitable and educational programs in the communities we serve. Your employer may even match your contribution.

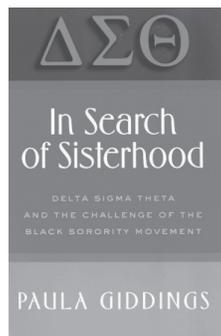
Ran so Nice, we're doing it twice

That's right, after coming off the success of our inaugural Kellogg ONLINE GIVING CHALLENGE we've decided to straighten the kinks, smooth out the wrinkles and in March 2013 we will be kicking off our second "ONLINE GIVING CHALLENGE." So get ready Regions and Chapters. The competition will be on again and now that we are experienced—a lot more fun!! The upcoming challenge will feature competitions from total dollar amount raised per region

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Keeping Connected with The Center for Research on African American Women

National Commission on Arts and Letters and Delta Foundation announce New Book for National Reading Circle: *In Search of Sisterhood*



In honor of the Sorority's centennial year, the classic book on its heritage: *In Search of Sisterhood: Delta Sigma Theta and the Challenge of the Black Sorority Movement* by Paula J. Giddings has been selected as the 2012-13 book selection of the National Reading Circle. The National Reading Circle is a collaboration between the National Commission on Arts and Letters and The Delta Foundation's Center for Research on African American Women. If you have not read *In Search of Sisterhood*, or you want to re-read it, now is the time. Be "centennial ready" and know your history inside and out!

Sure, you can purchase copies online or in your local bookstore, but let's make this a winning combination by getting your copy of *In Search of Sisterhood* from The Delta Foundation. For a tax-deductible gift of \$50 to The Delta Foundation, you can receive a copy of the book. Join sorors across the nation as we read Delta's history together. In addition, a reader's guide will be available for readers participating in the national reading circle. For questions and comments, please contact info@deltafoundation.net.

Kidogo Kennedy Selected as 2012-13 Vivian Ware Research Fellow

Kidogo Kennedy Selected as 2012-13 Vivian Ware Research Fellow

Dr. Kidogo Kennedy of Southern California has been selected as the 2012-13 Vivian A. Ware Research Fellow. As the current Ware Research Fellow, Dr. Kennedy will conduct a research project during this fiscal year examining the impact that the charitable and educational programming

conducted by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has had on the lives of African American youth from 1987-2012. As a part of the project, Dr. Kennedy will investigate how Delta's programming has affected the educational development and overall quality of life for youth participants.



Dr. Kidogo Kennedy

During the one-year research period, Dr. Kennedy, a member of Compton (CA) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, will reach out to Delta's national leaders, chapter leaders, individual members, and youth participants to conduct interviews and gather data.



Dr. Kennedy conducted the first focus groups for Impact Study on Delta's educational programs in Atlanta in November 2012.

Her work will involve coordinating one-on-one interviews and focus group discussions as well as the dissemination of survey questionnaires. When she contacts Delta members, please be responsive. The research findings will be used to advance the Foundation and the Sorority's mission to improve the lives of African American women and their families during Delta Sigma Theta's next century of service.

Dr. Kennedy is a faculty member at the University of Southern California's

Rossier School of Education, where she teaches in the master's degree teaching program and for the educational doctorate program. She earned a doctorate degree in educational psychology from the University of Southern California in 2008 and holds an M.A. degree in communication studies and a B.A. degree in speech communication, both from California State University. As the immediate past president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Association of Black Women in Higher Education (ABWHE), she serves as a member of its executive board. She also serves on the research committee for the national body of ABWHE.

The Ware Fellowship is made possible by a generous endowment from the family of the late Vivian A. Ware, a former member of The Delta Foundation's Board of Directors and the former member of Montgomery County (MD) Alumnae Chapter. The Ware Fellowship Program is offered as an educational program of the Foundation's Center for Research on African American Women.

Black Women's Heritage Tour in the Nation's Capital

Washington, D.C. is rich with history, presence and the contributions of African American women. In an effort to honor the part African American women have played in building the nation, the Foundation's Center for Research on African American Women (The Center) is developing a Black Women's Heritage Tour (BWHT) of Washington, D.C.

The BWHT's debut will coincide with the centennial year celebration of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in March 2013. The development of the tour is being led by The Center's distinguished Sister Scholars Advisory Council, a collective of African American women scholars. Leading the development of the Black Women's Heritage Tour are distinguished historians Dr. Elizabeth Clark-Lewis, professor at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and Dr. Cynthia Neverdon-Morton, professor at Coppin State University in Baltimore. Both are members of the Sister Scholars Advisory Council.

Sister Scholars Prepare Next Edition of *PHILLIS* Journal

The Delta Foundation's Sister Scholars Advisory Council is currently in production with the 2013 edition of *PHILLIS: The Journal for Research on African American Women* published by The Center for Research on African American Women. Sister Scholar members Dr. Darlene Clark Hine of Northwestern University and Paula J. Giddings of Smith College are guest editors for this upcoming publication; they both served as guest editors for the inaugural edition of *PHILLIS* 2011. This year's theme is the "Genius of Black Women" and will include scholarly essays and personal narratives which chronicle how African American women have moved beyond tragedy to triumph in the last 100 years (1913-2013).

The special section of the *Journal* entitled "VOICES" will feature personal narratives about how African American women have used their "genius" or "Mother-Wit" to make invaluable contributions to their families, communities, and humankind.

The *PHILLIS Journal* is named in honor of Phillis Wheatley, the first African American to publish a book in America in 1773. The 2012-13 edition of the *Journal* will be published in conjunction with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Centennial presentation of Delta Days in the Nation's Capital (March 1, 2013).

Foundation Supports Hortense G. Canady International Women's Conference

The Delta Foundation was a proud Gold Sponsor of the Hortense G. Canady International Women's Conference presented by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in April 2012 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The conference theme was "Secrets: Breaking the Culture of Silence" and was attended by more than 1,000 women. The conference participants attended sessions that concentrated on three areas: race and gender, physical health and wellness, and fiscal health.

The conference was named in honor of Delta's 18th national president, Hortense G. Canady, who led the Sorority in presenting its first international conference in 1987 in Nassau, Bahamas with the topic being: "Woman to Woman:

Single Parenting from a Global Perspective." Canady, who died in 2010, was also a former president of The Delta Foundation and was extremely instrumental in positioning the Foundation for its growth and development.

In addition to the \$25,000 sponsorship of the conference, the Foundation's Center for Research on African American Women presented a session on "Trauma and the African American Woman," focusing on the issues raised in the articles published in the inaugural edition of *PHILLIS: The Journal for Research on African American Women* (2011). Presenters for part-one of the session included college professors Paula J. Giddings (Smith College) and Dr. Ramla Bandele (Indiana University-Purdue) of the Sister Scholars Advisory Council; Dr. Ardenia Jones Terry, a leader of women's organizations in Ohio; and Brittany Grimes Zaehring, then director of operations at The Delta Foundation. Presenters for part-two of The Center's session included Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, former college president and current director of the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of African Art; Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, professor at Spelman College; and the initial presenters.

During the session's overview, Deborah Peaks Coleman, director of programs at The Delta Foundation, shared the premise for the session on "Trauma and the African American Woman." She noted that throughout history, African American women have experienced trauma—from the wounds of slavery to the degradation of Jim Crow, from sexual violence to institutional racism. "Black women have been overwhelmed by the burden of poverty and racism, violence and inequality, making trauma too often a never ending reality for us," said Peaks Coleman.

Stephanie Tubbs Jones Institute for Social Justice: Brown University Student Completes First STJ Internship

The first internship of the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Internship Program was completed in the summer of 2012 by Melissa Chinn, a student at Rhode Island's

Brown University. The STJ Internship was presented by the Foundation in collaboration with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's annual summer internship program. Named in honor of the late congresswoman from Ohio, the internship is a program of the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Social Justice Institute which is coordinated by The Delta Foundation's Center for Research on African American Women.

The STJ Internship was created to provide an educational experience for minority women who are aspiring to develop careers in public service or public policy. Melissa was selected from a highly competitive pool of national applicants and was the only intern who received placement in the office of a United States senator. During her eight-week internship



STJ Intern Melissa Chinn was invited to the U.S. State Department by Secretary Hillary R. Clinton last summer.

assignment on Capitol Hill, the Mount Vernon, NY resident worked in the office of Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY). Upon returning to college this academic year, she continues her studies in international relations. She is scheduled to graduate in May 2013 and is currently exploring the options of attending law school, working overseas with a non-profit agency, or conducting research in a fellowship program. During her summer stay in the nation's capital, she had an opportunity to interact with The Delta Foundation staff and national leaders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

She also had the coveted pleasure of meeting The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State. The Clinton Family Foundation and the Hagan Foundation are major supporters of the STJ Social Justice Institute.

Meet Our New Staff Members

Aiming to strengthen its capacity for major fundraising, The Delta Foundation hired **Muriel A. Evans-Buck** as its first director of development.

Muriel came on board April 17, 2012, bringing with her extensive experience in professional fundraising. Her career has included senior positions in development with several national organizations. She

has worked with the National Association of Black Accountants, Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, and the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. She has also worked in the political arena on state, regional, and national levels, and is former member of the Electoral College representing the state of Rhode Island.



Muriel A. Evans-Buck

Muriel is excited to create and implement the “For Delta, Forever” fundraising campaign. She indicated that her fundraising efforts at The Delta Foundation will concentrate on increasing the database of regular contributors, augmenting the Workplace Giving component (matching gifts, Combined Federal Campaign, other) and increasing support from the private sector.

The Delta Foundation director received a bachelor’s degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C., where she was initiated into the Alpha Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in 1979. She also earned a master’s degree from Nyack University in organizational leadership. Muriel is currently a member of Federal City Alumnae Chapter. She is an avid runner and enjoys reading and listening to classical music. She is the proud mom of Kennedy, a middle school student.

Joining the staff on October 9, 2012 was **Ashley Daniels** as the new office manager.

A native of Baltimore and graduate of Bowie State University, she is passionate about research and education. Ashley was a finalist for the 2012-13 Vivian A. Ware Research Fellowship sponsored by the Foundation.



Ashley Daniels

Prior to joining the Foundation staff, she worked for the federal government. Ashley is currently a doctoral student at Howard University. She was initiated into the Sorority at Zeta Delta Chapter at Bowie State University in 2008. She is a current member of Fort Washington Alumnae Chapter and resides in suburban Maryland.

CALL TO ACTION

“Prestigious Centennial Champion (PCC)”

The Delta Foundation is seeking regional volunteers to serve as the liaison between the Foundation and the chapters. These are exciting times for the Foundation and we want to make sure that all activities, information and daily communication is flowing from our office to your chapters. Your commitment to help will allow you to: serve as a key supporter of the Delta Foundation staff (must be recommended by your regional director), be able to share initiatives at events in your region, assist the Foundation with promotion of fundraising events, attend VIP annual events with other PCC’s and the opportunity to help grow and strengthen the Foundation. Other benefits include:

- ▲ Easily identified as PCC with distinguished memorabilia
- ▲ Held in high regard as endorsed by Regional Director
- ▲ VIP annual event only attended by PCC
- ▲ Recognition on materials/events of the Foundation where available

- ▲ The opportunity to help grow and strengthen the Foundation, making it a world class organization

The Delta Foundation’s CORPORATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Delta Foundation is seeking volunteers who are ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work on its behalf. Your corporate expertise and connections are needed to help move the Foundation onward and upward. Being a part of this distinguished council will not only make you feel like you are supporting something for the greater good, but you will play a key role in connecting the Foundation to key personnel within Fortune 500 companies, local businesses and other organizations within the community. These partnerships are needed to secure, maintain and continue our commitment—*Creating possibilities....Improving Lives.*

WANTED: Volunteers

The Delta Foundation is currently seeking volunteers who are committed to advancing

its mission of improving the lives of African American women and their families through philanthropy and charitable programming. The Foundation volunteer database totals approximately 50 individuals; we would like to double that number to 100 during this fiscal year. Duties and tasks for volunteers include assisting with administrative duties and/or special events, proofreading, conducting research, and coordinating fundraising activities. A volunteer’s schedule can be flexible, encompassing day or evening hours as well as working from the comfort of your home or coming to our office.

Currently, a special appeal for volunteers who are experienced in grantwriting is underway. If you have a track record in writing winning grant proposals, please consider sharing your expertise with The Delta Foundation. All persons interested in volunteering, may send an email to info@deltafoundation.net to request a volunteer application. Check out our website periodically to learn of upcoming volunteer meetings and activities. Meetings for volunteers are held quarterly.

Foundation Spotlight

A new feature of the FRONT PAGE newsletter includes a column entitled Foundation Spotlight where key stakeholders will be recognized, including the Foundation's leadership, donors, or volunteers. The feature launches in this edition with the spotlight on Alison J. Harmon, Ed.D., president of the Foundation Board, and Pearlie Thomas, volunteer extraordinaire.

Alison J. Harmon, Ed.D. President, Delta Foundation Board of Directors

Foundation President Alison J. Harmon is committed to advancing the Delta Research and Educational Foundation to become a premiere charitable organization. Since taking the helm in 2006, Dr. Harmon has led the Foundation in expanding its outreach to

support Delta chapters with its fundraising efforts. The Foundation currently provides assistance to nearly 200 Delta chapters, giving them support with fundraising and managing their donor restricted funds. Major emphasis over the past few years has also involved the Foundation in conducting workshops for Delta chapters and other non-profit women's organizations on how to raise funds for programs that create social change in their various communities.

Shortly after assuming the Foundation presidency, Dr. Harmon created a formal grantmaking program, giving Delta chapters and community-based organizations an opportunity to apply for program grant funds to conduct charitable and educational programming in their local community. Also, on Dr. Harmon's watch, the Foundation has acquired a fully professional staff, including the hiring of its first program officer (title recently changed to director of programs) and the first director of development. The Foundation president led the organization in establishing the Sister Scholars Advisory Council, which serves as an advisory group for The Center.

Professionally, Dr. Harmon is president and CEO of J&H Consulting, an education consulting firm. She has enjoyed a 35 year career in all levels of education: teacher, college professor and associate dean, and administrator. She has been an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, since she was a 19-year old college student at Bowling Green State University. She was one of the youngest members of the Sorority's National Executive Board when she served as Midwest Regional Director in the 1980s. She has been married to her high school sweetheart,



Dr. Harmon walked in Rose Bowl Parade representing Delta Founder Eliza P. Shippen. (PHOTO BY ERICA DONERSON)

Robert Harmon for 37 years. They are the parents of two young adult sons. Here's an up close and personal look at Foundation President Harmon:

- Her favorite pastime is reading; she is currently reading *Perfect Peace* by Daniel Black.
- What she would like for the Foundation to accomplish in the next two years? To raise \$1 million annually for its operating budget.
- Her favorite quote/scripture is Matthew 21:22: "You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it."
- Something exciting she enjoyed: Walked in the Tournament of Roses Parade on Jan. 1, 2013.
- If she could choose one person to have dinner with, it would be Mary McLeod Bethune!

Pearlie G. Thomas: One of the Foundation's Finest Volunteers

It's absolutely wonderful to have committed, enthusiastic volunteers who show up ready and willing to work and believe in your mission! That's exactly what The Delta Foundation has in Pearlie G. Thomas, an extraordinary volunteer who brings passionate dedication and tremendous energy in support of The Delta Foundation. Just as her name reflects, Pearlie is indeed a "pearl" for the Foundation; her

spirit is infectious and her contributions as a volunteer are valuable and precious like a valuable gem.

A charter member of Jefferson County (AL) Alumnae Chapter, she makes it a point to collect donations at her chapter's meeting prior to traveling to Delta conventions or



Pearlie G. Thomas

conferences. "I am happy to solicit donations for the Foundation because of the fine work it does and working with the staff is a true joy," said Thomas. Pearlie began volunteering at The Delta Foundation booth in 2008 at Delta's 49th National Convention in Orlando. Through her unselfish efforts, a substantial amount of money has been donated and many new donors have contributed to The Delta Foundation.

Delta Foundation Board Treasurer Larry P. Suarez, president and CEO of Fourteen-Karat Plus, Inc., stated: "The Delta Foundation is truly appreciative of Pearlie's dedication and effort on our behalf. The Foundation's growth will increase exponentially with the active participation of more volunteers like Pearlie. We need more precious gems like Pearlie in every Delta chapter."

Throughout her 50-plus years as a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, she has held numerous leadership positions. She served as the chartering president of Jefferson County Alumnae when the chapter was established in 1994. She is a past president of Birmingham Alumnae Chapter, having served from 1989-91. Pearlie was initiated in 1961 at Alpha Chi Chapter, Tennessee State University, her alma mater, in Nashville, TN.

She retired in 2005 after working for 42 years as an educator in the Birmingham City Schools. In typical Pearlie fashion, she proudly shares: "I have been married to the same man, Haze Thomas, Jr. for 50 years!"

Delta Research and Educational Foundation

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Ran so Nice

(Continued from page 3)

to chapters with the largest amount of on-line check-ins during an event as well as several other categories to win. So STAY TUNED for the announcement of the 10 day “Online Giving Challenge.” Details to follow shortly!