

2007- 2008 Chapter Annual Summary

Chapter: Atlanta
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Chapter Happenings:The Atlanta Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc. kicked off its 2007-2008 year with its Annual Planning Retreat held on Sat., August 4, 2007 at the Timberidge Conference Center in Mableton, GA. The retreat theme, "From Good to Great: Providing a New Level of Service to Children," serves as the guide for the chapter's work throughout the year. The retreat included a review of the activities of the previous year, plans for the upcoming year, an outline of committee structures and a recommitment to service to children. Co-chairs Judith J. Pickens & M. Jean Cooper coordinated an excellent program for moving the chapter to GREATNESS.

The second Sunday in September marked Founders Day for the Atlanta Chapter. Continental sisters and family members worshipped together at the Christian Fellowship Baptist Church where one of its members, Rev. Dr. Darlene Ruffin-Alexander serves as Assistant Pastor. The chapter presented a \$600 donation to the church's youth ministry. After the service, the members enjoyed a fellowship dinner served in the church's dining hall.

The Annual Coat Drive, chaired by Continentals Nancy Hope and Haroldine Crowder, was held on Friday, December 7th at Carter G. Woodson Elementary School. The chapter was well received by the school administration, teachers, students and parents. During an initial needs assessment, the school had requested 112 coats. Due to the generosity of Atlanta chapter members and supporters, a total of 122 coats were collected and distributed to needy children. The chapter partnered with AARP # 3414, the Progressive Club of the Metropolitan AME Zion Churches, and the Therell High School Key Club and S.T.O.P. Program to ensure the overwhelming success of this initiative.

The Recreation Committee, chaired by Continental Ethel White coordinated five weeks of Chess clinics, culminating in a Chess Tournament on Dec. 14, 2008 at the Woolfolk Boys & Girls Club. Sixteen elementary & middle school youth participated in the tournament. Trophies were presented to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. All participants received Chess lapel pins, certificates of participation, milk shake & sandwich gift cards from Chic-Fil-A. This effort was supported by Associate Member Jeanne Byrd, Continental Guy Curtis Tucker, local chess professionals, parents, Boys & Girls Club staff, and Continental members.

Relax...Refresh...Restore... A Continental Spa Day was coordinated by Atlanta Chapter 2nd Vice President & Membership Chair LaShanda Dawkins. Members were invited to come join their Continental Sisters for a "Continental Rest Stop" in preparation to be "GREAT in 2008." The relaxing afternoon of light refreshments, massages, mini mani/pedi services, and more took place at the home of Chalanda Tucker on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2008. It was a wonderful time of sisterly bonding.

The Employment project was a two-part program chaired by Continental Sanguinetta Dover. Part 1 consisted of a workshop for older youth between the ages of 13 and 18. This session was interactive and focused on how to interview. Instruction utilized lecture, role play, and games. Topics included how to complete a job application, how to construct a resume and how to communicate. Part 2 of the program was implemented for youth of all ages and featured a panel discussion led by Continental women representing a variety of professions. The youth were encouraged to become actively involved with the panelists by asking questions. The effectiveness of the program was assessed by using a pre-test and post-test instrument.

The Atlanta Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc. hosted its annual Scholarship Luncheon on March 29, 2008 at the Doubletree Hotel Atlanta Buckhead. Chaired by Continental Toni'a Alexander, the Scholarship Committee led a fantastic effort to locate and award deserving High School Seniors scholarship assistance. The Atlanta Chapter provided \$4,500 in scholarships to three students on their way to college. The Honorable Linda T. Walker, Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, gave an inspiring and uplifting speech directed at the youth. Continentals, parents, judges and guests were all motivated by her words.

Continentals M. Jean Cooper & Crystal Grimes co-chaired the Umbrella Project – a Cultural Fair held at the Mall West End on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The fair combined a focus on Arts & Humanities, featuring artwork from local elementary & middle school students; Health, featuring a visit from the Colgate "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures" mobile van; Employment featuring a visit from a local Fire Truck and Fire Safety House, highlighting this important occupation; Recreation, featuring several cheerleading teams; and Education featuring Mama Koku, a storyteller who is gifted in the art of bringing stories to life. In addition, the chapter distributed books to the children in attendance. It was an enjoyable day for all.

Other News:Continental Lashanda R. Dawkins gave birth to a beautiful baby girl - Gisele Elise Dawkins - on September 17, 2007. Big brother Jonathan Alan Dawkins, age 5, and dad Michael Dawkins welcomed the new addition to their family with open arms and loving hearts.

Atlanta Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc.
2007-2008

Officers:

President	Terry B. Woods
1 st Vice President	Chalanda Tucker
2 nd Vice President	LaShanda Dawkins, Esq.
Recording Secretary	Crystal Grimes
Corresponding Secretary	Nicole Adams
Treasurer	M. Jean Cooper*
Financial Secretary	Beverly Ward
Chaplain	Debra Dozier
Historian	Gladys H. Camp, Ph.D.
Sergeant-At-Arms	Sanquinetta Dover
Parliamentarian	Peggy Crawford
Public Relations Officer	Margaret Robinson

Members:

Toni'a Alexander
Helen Bellamy*
Beulah Brown
Clara D. Craig
Haroldine Crowder
Essie Dozier
Marian Gardner*
Jeannie Gibson
Darlynn Glover
Crystal Grimes
Nancy Hope*
Lena C. Jones*
Yvonne Mitchell
Judith J. Pickens
Darlene Ruffin-Alexander, Ph.D.
Faye Wimbish
Ethel White

*Charter Members



Left to right:
Standing – Haroldine Crowder, Nicole Adams, Toni'a Alexander, Clara Craig, Ethel White,
Essie Dozier, Nancy Hope
Sitting – Sanquinetta Dover, Chalanda Tucker, Terry Woods, Jean Cooper, Crystal
Grimes, Debra Dozier



Atlanta Chapter members & Coat Drive Partners at Carter G. Woodson Elementary School on Dec. 7, 2007



Continental Sisters Sanquinetta Dover, Debbie Dozier, Margaret Robinson & Essie Dozier lead an Employment Readiness Session at the Woolfolk Boys & Girls Club on March 31, 2008



Chess Tournament on Dec. 14, 2007 at the Woolfolk Boys & Girls Club. Continentals Ethel White - Chair, LaShanda Dawkins & Faye Wimbish monitor the activities.

Gisele Elise Dawkins, born 9-17-07 to Continental LaShanda Dawkins



Annual Scholarship Luncheon – March 29, 2008 Doubletree Hotel Buckhead



2nd V. President Chalanda Tucker, Scholarship Chair Toni'a Alexander, Scholarship Recipients, President Terry Woods



Cultural Arts Fair – April 5, 2008 with committee members Faye Wimbish, Jean Cooper & Crystal Grimes (co-chairs), & Patricia Miller.