

The Orchid



Welcome from the President

Greetings:

As we embrace the new norm, please be mindful of keeping your six feet distance and staying safe. We must now get use to meeting by Zoom, Webex, and facebook.



There is power in prayers. I am asking you that everyday at 12:00 noon stop what you are doing and pray. You can't tell me that God hearing thousands of prayers at one time is not powerful. Pray for family, church, friends, organizations, work, peers, yours neighbors, and those that are faced with this virus everyday for God to show his mercy and grace. I do not know what the future holds but I do know God holds the future.

In this newsletter are blessings of the teens, ladies, and literacy activities. I wish each of you peace, prosperity, love, and a heart full of happiness as we move forward.

Yours in service,

Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson, President
Guilford County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.



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Guilford County Members



**The Late Lady Rebecca
Graves, Organizer**

Current Members

Lady Dahlia Ashford
Lady Katetia Bennett
Lady Pearlie Bryan
Lady Malinda Carmon
Lady Lisa Hickey
Lady Vickie Hughes
Lady Gloria Jackson
Lady Faye McRavion
Lady Sharon Mitchell
Lady A. Rawiya Nash
Lady Melanie Palmer
Lady Gwendolyn V. Parker
Lady Jacqueline Pettiford
Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson
Lady Ijeoma Uzokwe
Lady Jacqueline White
Lady Tammy P, Williams

Teen Lauyrn



Teen Lauryn Butler won the first Area IV Top Teens of America Book of Authors 2020, The Guilford County Top Teens of America Chapter. Teen Lauryn was selected as one of the authors of the first book of authors. Her poem was entitled: “Pulling the Trigger”. Ten Lauryn is a junior and honor student at Bennett Middle College. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steven and LeRonda Butler. Teen Lauryn was honored at the March chapter meeting by the President Sukianna.



Teen Brandon



Teen Brandon Ray won first place in the poster contest. Teen Brandon has been drawing since he could pick up a pencil. He is often seen with a pencil in his hand drawing his favorite characters. His win on the chapter level enabled him to compete on the area level. Teen Brandon is in the 8th grade and attends Southeast Middle School. His desire is to go to college and major in Graphic Design. He is the son of Lady Sherri Ray. Teen Brandon was honored at the March meeting by President Sukianna.



Lady Melanie



Lady Melanie Thompson Palmer has a new position as an Exceptional Children Program Specialist in Alamance Burlington School System.



Chapter Officers

Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson, President

Lady Vickie Hughes, 1st Vice President

Lady Sharon Mitchell, 2nd Vice President

Lady Gloria Jackson, Treasurer

Lady Jacqueline White, Financial Secretary

Lady Melanie Thompson, Recording Secretary

Lady Ijeoma Uzkowe, Assistant Recording Secretary

Lady Katetia Hargrove, Corresponding Secretary

Lady Jacqueline Pettiford, Parliamentarian

Lady Theldora Williams, Sergeant-at-Arms

Lady A. Rawiya Nash, Chaplain

Lady Lisa Hickey, Top Teens Advisor

Lady Faye McRavion, Assist Top Teens Advisor

LEADING LADIES IN THE CHAPTER



LOCAL

Big Brothers Big Sisters' Thompson 'decided to be beacon in children's lives'

During Women's History Month, the Greensboro News & Record will present an occasional Q&A with interesting women in our community.

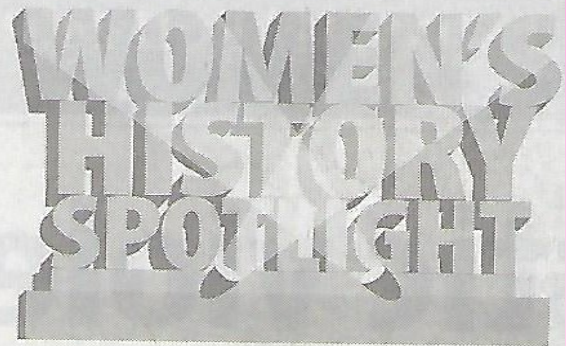
Name: Cynthia Carlton Thompson

What I do: Board chairwoman of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Piedmont; president of Ivy Hands Foundation; graduate advisor of Sigma Mu, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, High Point University; financial secretary of Coliseum Outreach Ministries; advisor of Christian Ladies Educated About Rightousness;



Thompson webmaster and technology chairwoman of Eta Omicron Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and president of Guilford County Top Ladies of Distinction.

Why I do what I do: I believe in the Vision of Big Brothers Big Sisters that "all children achieve success in life." It is my desire to assist in giving children the emotional support and mentoring that can motivate him or her to be the best citizen possible by instilling respect, dignity and pride. Why I do what I do? By investing in the future, which is the children. Children need loving, caring individuals who will support and encourage them to be all they can be. I decided to be that beacon in children's lives. I have spent my career as a public servant in higher education by exposing children to a world of possibilities. We must provide children with the tools



to be successful for the next generation and generations to come. One way of accomplishing this goal is by giving your time, skills and talents to organizations that support the vision that all children deserve to be successful in life.

My proudest achievement: I was the first African American female to serve as the president of International Graphic Arts Education Association and brought the conference to N.C. A&T State University. I was selected as outstanding faculty and advisor of the year in the School of Technology at A&T. I was instrumental in starting Sigma Mu Chapter on High Point University. My student nominated me as outstanding teacher of the year for National Association of Print Leadership, and I won the honor.

My real-life hero: My parents, who saw that 11 children received a college degree.

If I could have one superpower, it would be: Eliminating the coronavirus (COVID-19) worldwide.

LADY RAWIYA AND LADY PEARLIE HONORED

Mrs. Artia Long-Galbreth, Counselor presented a "special" basket of books and treats to Lady Rawiya and Lady Pearlie for hosting the African American Read In at Foust Elementary Schools



LITERACY

Morehead Elementary School took part in the African American Read In today. Lady A. Rawiya Nash and Lady Pearlle Bryan are retired educators. They read literature written by and about African Americans to 400 students and teachers at Morehead Elementary School beginning at 8 :15 a.m. as part of the National African American Read In.

The National African American Read In is the nation's first and oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. It was established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. This reached more than 6 million participants around the world.



EACH ONE REACH ONE

10

The Top Ladies are starting a National TTA Membership Drive “5000 in ’21: Aiming High and Making It Happen”

Each Chapter Member is responsible for ONE New Member.

INCENTIVES

Level 1 – “Sponsor Certificate Award”: Teens that sponsor a new member anytime during the membership drive period will receive a certificate of Sponsorship signed by the Founder and National TTA President.

Level 2 – “Sponsor Two or More Teens Award”: Names will be entered into a drawing for \$50.00 in each Area, with two winners in each \$50.00 Area.

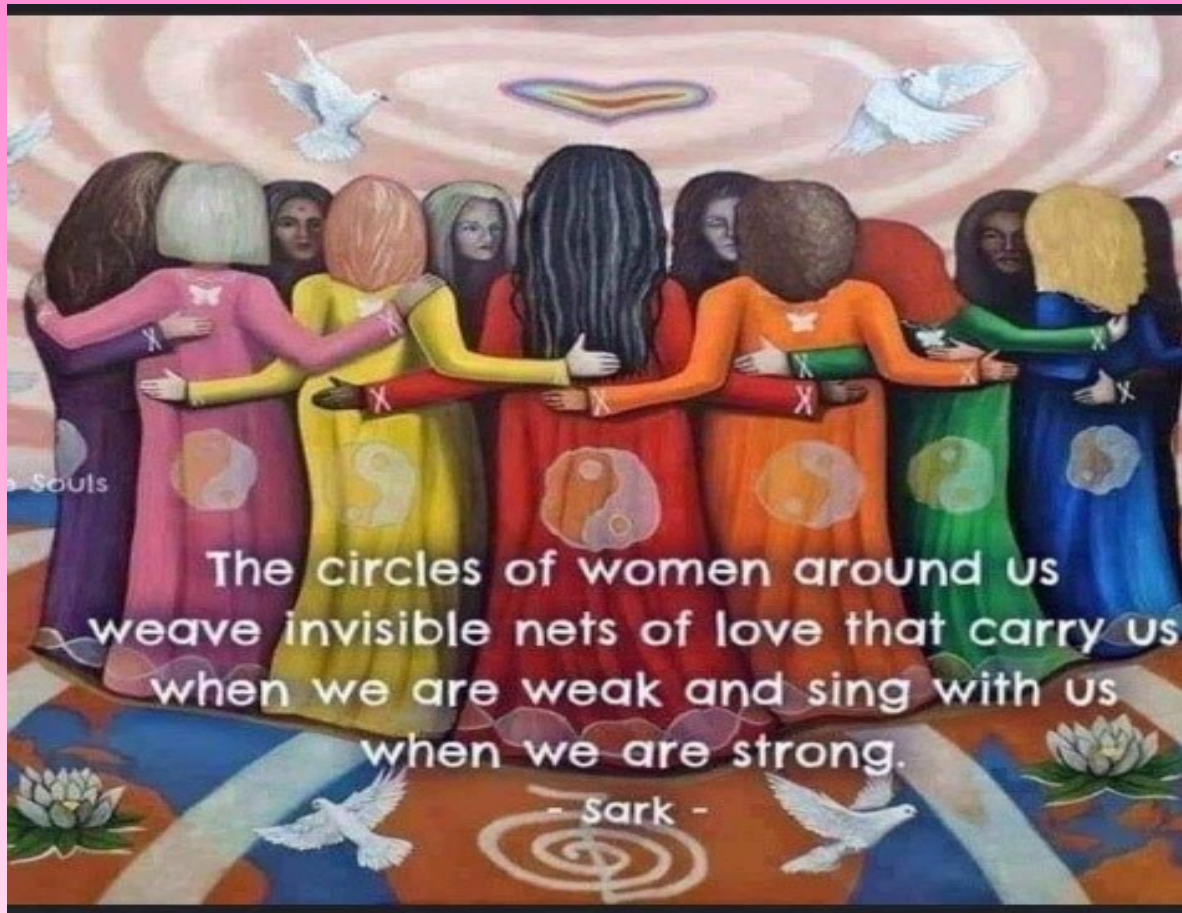
Level 3 – “Chapter Membership Engagement Award”: Picture of Chapters shown on Power Point scroll at various times and places during Syn-Lod based on National TTA membership survey results.

NATIONAL TTA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teen Amari Venzor, National TTA President Lady Kendra Gillespie, National TTA Director Lady Sharon Beard, National TLOD President



Circle of Sisters



Scripture

Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near." Do not be anxious about anything," but in everything, by prayers and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable---if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-- -think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me---put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.