

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.
THETA OMEGA CHAPTER
2016 – 2017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Memorial Services Committee

February 4, 2016

Committee Responsibility: The main responsibility of the Memorial Services Committee is to make all arrangements and plans for the “ **IVY BEYOND THE WALL**” Service for deceased Sorors and to maintain all necessary supplies for this ritual. Two sets of these supplies are currently maintained; one in **the Ruth Coleman Room** at the Service Center and one set at the home of the **Committee Chairman, Myrtle Burton-Sahara**. All requests for the Service must be made directly to the Basileus.

Upcoming Activities – The committee cannot predict the number of Ivy Ceremonies that will be requested but, where possible, try to maintain the materials required. It should be noted that Ivy Ceremonies can be requested for all deceased Sorors, active or inactive. Occasionally, these ceremonies are requested for members from other chapters. Sometimes, these requests come from our **Corporate Office**. Ten ceremonies were conducted by Theta Omega Chapter during 2015. One Ceremony was conducted for IBTW Soror Marva J. Lee on January 23, 2016.

The number of sorors who actively participate in a **ceremony impacts the expenses** incurred for any given ceremony. During **2015**, the number of Sorors participating in the ceremonies ranged from **14 to more than 125**.

Recommendation/Actions - Due to **changes** that were made in the materials that are required for the Ivy Ceremony (**P.68 –RITUALS 2014 ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED**); **D. Sprig or leaf of live ivy for each participant**; **I. Copies of the ceremony to be distributed to the sorors, then collected at the close of the ceremony**).

In the past, silk ivy leaves were used for the ceremonies and retained for use in the forthcoming ceremonies. Copies of the full ceremony were only issued to the Basileus (Leader) and the four Readers who participated in the Ceremony. Other Soror participants were only issued the (half-page) song sheets for use during the Ceremony.

Financial Report - For many years, the yearly allocation for the Memorial Services Committee has been **\$ 250.00**. This was to cover the cost of all materials, paper supplies and other items such as table cloth, candles, printing, etc. A live ivy plant is always purchased and presented to the family of the deceased. (SEE P. 3 OF THE MEMORIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 2015 YEAR-END REPORT). It is hereby requested that the Budget Line item for the Memorial Services Committee be increased to **\$ 500.00** per year.

Co-Chairmen- Soror Lillian W. Jordan and Soror Jerry L. Nichols –Scott

Chairman

Soror Myrtle K. Burton-Sahara

