

The Mole O Gram

“Navigating our path...bolstering our bonds”

Mole Jodi Gallman, 19th National President



THE MOLES 68TH NATIONAL CONCLAVE

“A Star Spangled Fanfare”

Hosted By : The Baltimore Chapter of THE MOLES

June 14 ~ 17, 2018 ~ Baltimore, Maryland

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Enjoy yourself; it's later than you think!



From My Heart To Yours



Mole Jodi Gallman, 19th National President

*W*arm greetings and welcome to the Fourth Edition of the *Mole-O-Gram*. (*MOG*) This *Pre-Conclave* issue concludes the fabulous 2018 series produced by **National Courtesy Chair Mole Lillian "Bunny" Jones** and her fantastic team! This *MOG* edition is dedicated to the *Baltimore Moles, our Conclave Host Chapter!* It is a reminder that, in just a few days, we will gather to meet and greet, mix and mingle, and share memorable moments. To my **Baltimore Moles Sisters**, you are *"Simply the Best!"*



Many thanks to **President Mole Doretha C. Beckham** and **Conclave Co-Chairs, Moles Mildred S. Harris and Harriet B. Lee** for their leadership. Baltimore is the first to host during my tenure as President. A heartfelt thank you for the courtesies extended to me during my site visit. Sharing your fabulous plans for the weekend was exhilarating. You made our *Conclave* planning progress with ease. Thank you, also, for all of the accommodations made to National Officers, Past Presidents and Committee Chairs as you addressed their needs. Your attention to detail will make for a wonderful weekend! This past year has been filled with accomplishments...from the wonderful chapter events and history documented in our *MOG*, to the new endeavors undertaken by our Executive team, to my having the privilege of joining our **Mule, Columbia, SC Mayor, the Honorable Steve Benjamin** (pictured left), for his inauguration as *President of the United States Conference of Mayors!* We will keep the accolades coming as we start a new year!

To all of you, my **Mole Sisters**, when we converge on the "Charm City" for the 68th Annual Meeting, I invite you to seize the moment to have a good time and embrace our motto: *Enjoy Yourself: It's Later Than You Think.* Don't forget, highlights from the weekend will be featured in the *Post-Conclave Edition* of the *MOG*. See you on the dance floor!

Last, but never least, I thank our outgoing officers in the *Kudos Korner* for their diligent work this year. Your time, talent and tenacity has made a difference!

Always,

Mole Jodi

Kudos Korner

Mole Janis Wright
National Vice President

Mole Angela Gibson
National Financial Secretary

Mole Cynthia Clear Booker
National Publicity Chair

Mole Rita Roberts
National Registered Agent

Mole Carolyn Patterson
National Recording Secretary

Our Baltimore Chapter

"A STAR SPANGLED FANFARE!"



ARE YOU READY FOR THE 2018 MOLES CONCLAVE: "A STAR SPANGLED FANFARE" TO BE HELD IN OUR CITY JUNE 14 – 17, 2018? WELL, WE'RE READY FOR YOU!!

The **Baltimore Chapter** has been working tirelessly to ensure your **2018 Conclave** experience is one to be remembered. In addition to **Conclave** meetings and parties, your fun may include: a night cruise, **"Sailing Under the Stars"**; a city tour, **"Civil Sights, Civil Rights"**; golf at one of our best loved golf courses; and, after party socializing at the penthouse level **"Pisces" Lounge** with the very best harbor view available.

Of course some of you may take a leisurely walk around the Inner Harbor, or enjoy some of the other things that make us also known as **"Charm City"**. **Baltimore** is renowned for its many A- class restaurants. Or you might want to go casual over some famous Maryland steamed crabs. If shopping is your thing, you will find premier choices at three shopping centers, all within an easy 30 minute drive. We invite you to check out the nearby Horseshoe Casino where your luck just might turn to good fortune!

In any case, there is no doubt we have something in mind for you. As our invitational presentation last year in Detroit said, "Don't believe us? Just come!" **The Baltimore Chapter of THE MOLES is READY for you!**



Our Charleston Chapter

PRECIOUS MEMORIES



Moles DeAnna Cheek & Bettye Purvis

Mole Bettye Shields Purvis entered Moledom in 1969. Born in Waco, Texas, in 1938, **Mole Bettye's** extraordinary journey ended on April 23, 2018. We were blessed to have her presence for 49 years. She also enjoyed membership in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., The Links, and The Girlfriends. We will miss her smile and wonderful sense of humor.

HONORS AND ACCOLADES!!

Charleston Chapter's 2018 Civic Award of will go to Burke High School Band & Booster Club. Under the direction of Linard McCloud, the band is an award-winning band that also travels to Canada as part of an exchange program.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- **Jarred Cochran** on his promotion to a Managing Director at Wells Fargo Bank in Charlotte, NC. He is the son of **Mole Harriet** and **Mole Rudolph "Rudy" Cochran**, and a graduate of Davidson College.
- **Houston Rhodes** on being selected to serve on the Alumni Recruiting Boards of Duke University and Georgia Tech. She is the daughter of **Mole Sshune** and **Mole (Dr.) Harold Rhodes**, attending Emory University working on a Master's Degree.
- **Alexandra Levis**, **Mole Kartika Gibson's** stepdaughter, on graduating from Frosthore College in Alexandria, VA, and her niece **Erianna**, on winning *Miss Western Branch High School* in Norfolk, VA.
- **Ileana Carr** on her freshman year at Clemson University. She is the granddaughter of **Mole Rosemary Carr** (Charter Member), and the niece of **Mole Tomette Carr Richards**, National Treasurer.
- **Dominic Alexander Williams**, on his upcoming graduation from high school and his plans to attend Indiana State University. "Alex" is the grandson of **Mole Linda** and **Mole Alan Rousseau**.



Good Job *Miracle Bruce* (pictured left)! The granddaughter of **Mole Linda** and **Mole Alan Rousseau** had an extraordinary year on the track team and trampoline & tumbling team, in Omaha, NE. At Lewis and Clark Middle School where she is an A/B Honor Roll student, she competed in the Omaha Middle School Championship Track Meet. She got a third place medal for the 4x400 City meet relay, in May. Miracle is a member of Premier Gymnastics Trampoline & Tumbling Team and they participated in the Big Red and Sunflower Winter Invitationals, and the Flip Shop Classic in Missouri. Of her many successes, she is the Nebraska State Champion for 13/14 year-old girls Level 7 tumbling. A very talented young lady!

- **Mole DeAnna Cheek, M.D.**, received the *Sister Summit Legacy Award* for "hard work, unselfish acts, and unwavering commitment of women to the community."
- The **Charleston Chapter** has two **Sister Moles** who are adding lots of **RED** to their wardrobes! Now they are sisters in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. **Mole DeAnna Cheek, M.D.**, was initiated into the *Charleston Alumnae Chapter*, and **Mole Kartika Gibson** into the *Summerville Chapter*.

Our Charlotte Chapter

HONORING A MOLE LEGEND AND INDUCTING NEW OFFICERS

The **Charlotte Chapter** recently honored the memory of our Eleventh National President **Mole Pennie Perry** and inducted new officers at our May event hosted by **Mole Elaine Hardy** at *Highland Creek Golf Club*. The following **Moles** are our newly elected officers - **President ~ Wanda Reeves; President Elect ~ Alfreda Belton; Financial Secretary ~ Beverly Spainhour; Treasurer ~ Nancy Webber; Corresponding Secretary ~ Constance Walker; Recording Secretary ~ Bettye Monroe, and Parliamentarian ~ Doris Asbury.**



HONORING MOLE PENNIE E. PERRY

Our Chicago Chapter

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN CHICAGO

We have been busy since the last **MOG** with various activities including dinners, plays etc. But nothing.... and we mean nothing...tops celebrating **Alumna Mole Clarabelle Claiborne's 100th BIRTHDAY!** **Mole Clarabelle** was born on April 26, 1918 and

is still going strong!!!! The celebration *Tea Party* aptly named "Upside Down Tea Party" was held at the Commons Club in the Virgin Hotel. **Mole Clarabelle's** son, Daniel and daughter-in-law, Stephanie, traveled from Washington, D.C. to participate in the birthday celebration.



Everyone enjoyed boozy tea, creative tea bites, cake and champagne. **Mole Sisters** were so excited to celebrate Clarabelle and tell her how much she meant to the **Chicago Moles**. **Mole Sisters** gave tributes and acknowledged her warmth, kindness, creativity, energy and sparkle. **Mole Sisters** laughed as they told stories of **Mole Clarabelle's** boundless energy, sense of humor, cooking and skillful craftsmanship. We all agreed that we want to be like **Mole Clarabelle**.

Furthermore, there were special acknowledgments from the city by Commissioner Stanley Moore's Office and Clerk of the Circuit Court, Dorothy Brown. Each agency representative read a beautiful resolution recognizing **Mole Clarabelle** for her longevity of life and lifetime of achievements. She was also recognized for her faithful service at her church, family and amazing craft-making skills. There was even a lovely proclamation from Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, proclaiming "Clarabelle Claiborne Day". Everyone was in tears during the reading. **Mole Clarabelle** exhibits all of the tenets of **THE MOLES** and we love her!



Our Precious Mole Clarabelle



Moles Kim, Mildred, Lesley, Patricia, Joan and Clarabelle

Happy 100th Birthday - Mole Clarabelle Claiborne

Our Cincinnati Chapter

NEW LEADERSHIP, GOOD TIMES, AND GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS...OUR LEGACY CONTINUES!

2018 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President:	Marcia Irving-Ray
Vice-President:	Lula Graham
Treasurer:	Nicole Dowdell
Recording Secretary:	Johnnie Davis
Corresponding Secretary:	Pat Brown

APRIL 2018 MOLES AND MULES EVENING



Moles Pictured above right to left: Nedra Scott, Betty Hinton, Carol Davis, Doris Jackson, 2nd row Cherlynn Smith, Phyllis McCallum, Blanche Kabengele, Nicole Dowdell, Back row, Hazel Kanu, Helen O'Neal, Johnnie Davis and Lana Hackworth



Mules pictured above right to left: Gary Dowdell, Dwight Smith, Milton Hinton, Peter Kabengele, 2nd row, Steve Jemison, Ken Davis, Paul Davis, Back row, Wendell O'Neal and Joe Hackworth



Moles Pat Brown and Nicole Dowdell frolicking during the Valentine's Moles & Mules Social Evening. Our Hosts were Moles Blanche Kabengele



Mole Pat Brown's granddaughter Sonya Moomaw age 7, won a cello competition in Cleveland, Ohio.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS!

Mule (Dr.) Alvin Crawford, husband of **Mole Alva Jean Crawford** received an honorary doctorate from the University Of Cincinnati College Of Medicine

Ngozi N.Eze, M.B.A., Atlanta, GA., son of **Mole Dr. Blanche Kabengele** promoted to ADP Vice President & Chief Business Security Officer.

Our Columbia Chapter

IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR!



Dressed in **Black and Bling**, the **Columbia Moles** held its final meeting of the 2017-2018 chapter year on Friday, May 4, 2018. First time hosts, **Mole Lavita and Mule Ward Harriford**, created a delightful atmosphere that was enjoyed by all! **Moles, Mules** and guests dined, danced and celebrated *each other* during the elegant year- end soiree. Pictured above seated from left are: **Moles Jean Pinkston (National Protocol Chair); Loretta Hammond, Vivian Washington, Doris Johnson; Alice Hurley (Charter); Cynthia Bennett (Chapter President); National President Jodi Gallman; Cheri Stevenson; Janice Marshall; Tammy Ruth-erford; and, Vicki Young.** Standing from right are: **Moles Alison Summey; Linda Bell; DeAndrea Benjamin; Annie Weir; Michelle Johnson; Kimberly Jones; Martha Smith; Celeste Duckett; Sheila Adger; Jeanne Felder; Tonya Green; Jennifer Reed; Michelle Childs; Tamara Stockton; Lavita Harriford (Host); Edna Langley; and Sandy Taylor.**

THE HONORABLE

STEVE BENJAMIN

ELECTED PRESIDENT

U.S.CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

Columbia **Mayor (Mule) Steve Benjamin** became the 76th President of the **U.S. Conference of Mayors** at a ceremony on May 7th. Pictured right with his lovely daughters Jordan Grace, Bethany, and Columbia's **First Lady, S.C. Circuit Court Judge, Mole (The Honorable) DeAndrea Gist** Benjamin.

Mule Benjamin is only the second mayor from our state to be elected to the esteemed national office. His keynote speech at his inauguration listed three top priorities for the Conference during his year long tenure. They are: Infrastructure, Innovation, and Inclusion.

Hearty congratulations are extended to Mr. Mayor from his **Columbia Mole Sisters and Mule Brothers!**



OFF TO HARVARD!

Sydney Alexis Reed, (pictured left) daughter of **Mole (Dr.) Jennifer and Mule Walter Reed**, has had an eventful junior year at Mississippi State University Honors College. She became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and was elected the 2018-2019 President of the Nu Beta Chapter.

Sydney has accepted a 2018 summer research internship at Harvard University to further the study of Sickle Cell Anemia and has accomplished all this while maintaining a 4.0 GPA! The **Columbia Moles** join Sydney's family in saluting her for her exceptional achievements!



COLUMBIA MOLES ARE OFF TO BALTIMORE!

Pictured above with our **National President, Jodi Gallman** (seated center), are **Columbia Moles** who will attend (and work at) our **68th National Conclave**: **Moles** seated L – R: **Vivian Washington; Jean Pinkston (National Protocol Chair); Cynthia Bennett (Chapter President- National Board Member); Jodi Gallman, Cheri Stevenson (Past National Courtesy Chair); and, Vicki Young.** **Moles** Seated L-R: **Linda Bell; Kimberly Jones (Member – National Protocol Committee); Jeanne Felder; Jennifer Reed (Conclave Delegate); and, Sandy Taylor.** Not pictured: **Moles Bunny Jones (National Courtesy Chair) and Sharon Earle.**

Our Greenville Moles

HONORS GALORE FOR THE GREENVILLE MOLES



Mole (Dr.) Jannie C. Hill and
Mule (Dr.) Willie Joe Hill, Jr.

The Greenville Benedict Alumni Club will honor **Dr. Willie Joe Hill, Jr.** for his leadership and service as president of the Benedict College National Alumni Association. **Mule Hill** has served as the President of Benedict College National Alumni Association (BCNAA) for the past three years and will complete his term (4 years) in December 2018. During his tenure, contributions by Alumni and Friends of Benedict College, have reached and exceeded \$1,000,000 for the past three years; and is on track to do the same this year (2018). Under **Mule Hill's** leadership, the BCNAA has worked closely with the College President and the Board of Trustees to make Benedict College the best it can be. He is married to **Mole (Dr.) Jannie C. Hill** and they are the parents of three adult children and three grandchildren.



Delaney Alicia Toomer
2018 Miss Richland County Teen

Delaney Alicia Toomer, was crowned *Miss Richland County Teen* and will compete for *Miss South Carolina Teen* during the last week of June in Columbia, SC. Delaney is the daughter of Dane and Tania Toomer of Columbia, SC and the granddaughter of **Mole Clemmie Jones**. Delaney is 17 years old and a junior at Spring Valley High School. She was also crowned Miss Junior at Spring Valley, January 2018.



Delaney Alicia Toomer
2018 Miss Richland County Teen



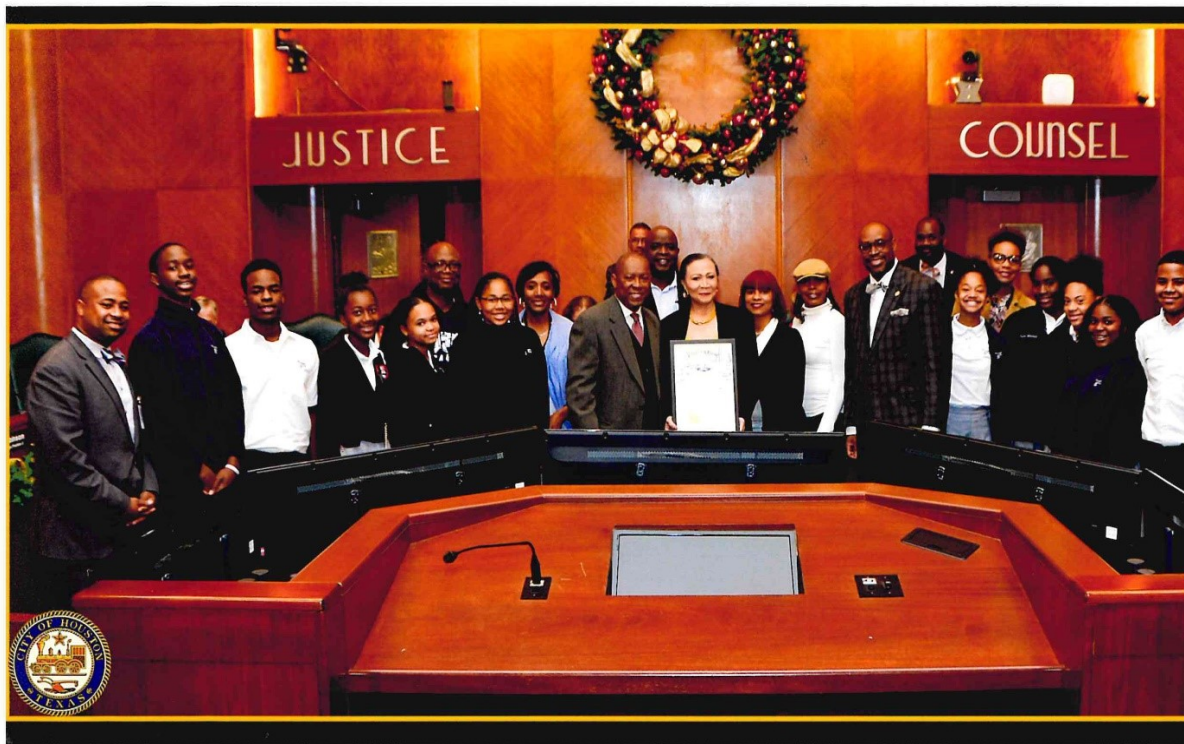
Mule Alex Kinlaw, Jr. and Mole Yvette Kinlaw

The Honorable Alex Kinlaw, Jr. was the first African American Circuit Court Judge elected to the 13th Judicial Circuit on February 7, 2018. The South Carolina General Assembly elevated Judge Kinlaw from the Family Court of South Carolina to this history making position. **Mule Kinlaw** was elected to the Family Court bench in February 2009. He is married to **Immediate Past Greenville Chapter President, Mole Yvette Kinlaw**, and they are the parents of two adult sons and one granddaughter.

Our Houston Chapter

CELEBRATING, HONORING, REMEMBERING!!

The Houston City Council and Mayor Sylvester Turner recognized **Mole Patricia Hogan Williams** with a proclamation declaring the day as *Patricia Hogan Williams Day* in Houston, Texas (pictured below). **Mole Patricia** is the founder and head of what has become the largest private independent predominately African American school in the nation. She was recognized for her tireless personal service and leadership to improve the lives of others and as a passionate educator. **Mole Patricia** was also the recipient of the 23rd Annual Pinnacle Award from the Greater Houston Black Chamber of Commerce. The *Pinnacle Award* is regarded as the most prestigious award bestowed upon African American entrepreneurs who have not only succeeded in business; but, have positively impacted the communities they serve in the Greater Houston metropolitan area.



Afternoon Delight! Mole Diana Ramsey made sure that Mother's Day was truly delightful! **Moles** and close friends were wined and dined in style! No detail was overlooked in making the weekend one to remember.

Pictured at right are **Mole Carolyn** and **Mole James Smith**.



Our Memphis Chapter

SHOWCASING HIGH FASHION AND ACHIEVEMENT



Moles Jamie Flowers and Jeane Chapman, (mother and daughter, pictured above right and left) rock the runway during a fashion show held at Chico's. Of course, this dynamic duo modeled several fabulous outfits and went home with most of them. **Mole Jamie** received cupcakes as it was her birthday. This just so happens to be one of their regular hang-outs.



Mule Terrel and Mole Jeane Chapman are pleased to announce that their daughter, Terren J. Chapman, RN, CCRN (pictured far left), will complete graduate studies on May 12, 2018. **Mole Jeane** says they are so proud and so blessed. Congratulations to the **PROUD** parents and to Terrel!



Mule Hugh and Mole Eloise Strong are the proud grand parents of Sydnee Young, who recently received her wings to be a Delta Flight Attendant. This young ambitious lady is 26 and lives in Atlanta, GA.

What fantastic news.....we will be looking for you Sydnee each time we travel Delta.

Our Newport News Chapter



AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER!

Hats off to **Mole Arlene Blount** (above) as she hosted a spectacular April meeting. The “Black Hat Affair” featured fine dining, a dessert bar, **THE MOLES** ice sculpture with a “signature drink” the **Mole-tini**. The event also included a live performer and a Dee-Jay that kept the **Moles** (pictured above right) and **Mules** dancing the night away.



DR. RENEE ESCOFFERY-TORRES

Presents Research on Black Women Worldwide

As part of her birthday celebration, **Mole (Dr.) Renee Escoffery-Torres** (left) presented her dissertation research on Communications and Black Female Presidents of HBCUs at the University of the West Indies in Barbados in May. **Mole Renee** was excited to present her research on the island where her mother, **Petersburg Chapter Charter Mole, the late Mavis E. Cupid**, was raised.



Congratulations!

Mule (Dr.) Richard Mason II (right) husband of **Mole (Dr.) Kellie Poole Mason** on being elected as a member of the Hampton City School Board.

Our Petersburg Chapter

CELEBRATING OUR FABULOUS FOUNDERS!

On Sunday, March 18, 2018, the **Petersburg Chapter** celebrated its **58th Year in Moledom** by worshipping together at the famous Gilfield Baptist Church and having a wonderful brunch and celebration at the Gateway Dining & Event Center at Virginia State University. **Moles and Mules** honored the vision of our **two co-organizers, Mole Grace Brown Beasley and the late Mole Jean Rogers**, who invited 18 other ladies to join them in forming the Chapter on February 20, 1960. A visual presentation was shared to highlight the outstanding achievements of all these ladies. Special thanks to **Moles Cecelia Johnson, Elenora Edlow, Gerri Gaines, Pamela Branch, and Sharon Vincent** for making it a memorable event for the chapter.



Mole Grace Brown Beasley



Mole Jean Rogers



Congratulations to **Mole Janet Crawley**, whose daughter, Keisha Bryant, an honors graduate of Hampton University, was recently promoted to Director at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO). Mrs. Bryant will serve as a Director in Technology Center 3700, and has served in many high profile capacities since joining the Office in 2001 as a Patent Examiner, working as a Primary Examiner in the Semiconductor area. Congratulations, Keisha!



Our Philadelphia Chapter

50 YEARS OF PHILADELPHIA MOLEDOM!

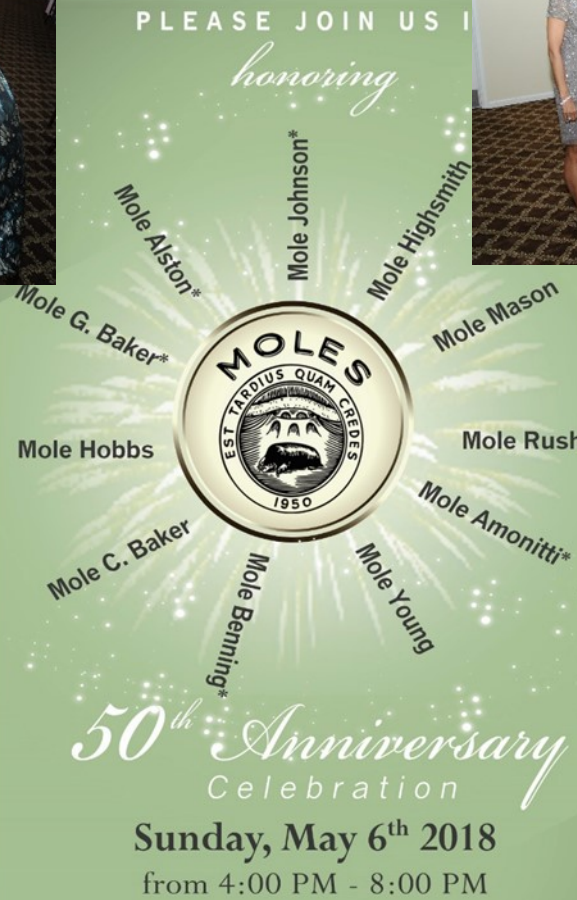
MARCH 1968 – MARCH 2018



**Adorning of our organizer
Ruth (96)
By Mole Kim**



Baltimore Chapter Joins Philly!



Fun was had by all!!



Honorees in their regalia!

Our Portsmouth Chapter

THE PORTSMOUTH MOLES RECOGNIZE FAMILY HONORS



Frankie Sultana Moore, daughter of **Mole Markiella Andrews Moore** (pictured right and left above, respectively) and granddaughter of the late **Mole Sultana Dawkins Andrews** was recently promoted to Captain, U.S. Army. Captain Moore's military awards and decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal and the NATO medal. Prior to being stationed at Ft. Lee in Petersburg, Virginia, she was stationed at Ft. Jackson in Columbia, SC. While stationed at Ft. Jackson, she had the pleasure of spending quality time with her cousins **Mule Dwayne and Mole Celeste Duckett** of the **Columbia Chapter**. We truly thank Captain Moore for her service to our country and wish her Godspeed!

ALSO IN THE FAMILY...

Mole Markiella Andrews Moore was appointed by Mayor Richard W. West to the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Comprehensive Plan Strategies (MACCPS) for the City of Chesapeake. The mission of MACCPS is to review the implementation strategies contained in the Comprehensive Plan and to provide the Mayor with recommendations for changes.

Our Roanoke Chapter

A WELL DESERVED SALUTE



The Roanoke Chapter salutes **Mole Carolyn K. Patterson** who has served as the National Recording Secretary of **THE MOLES** for the past four years. She will end that position as **THE MOLES National Recording Secretary** at the upcoming **2018 Moles Conclave** in Baltimore Md. **Mole Patterson** served her **Roanoke Chapter** as its president when it hosted the **2015 Moles Conclave**. She also served as the musician for **THE MOLES Choir 2015-2017** and has produced articles for the **Mole-O-Rama** and the **Mole-O-Gram** for her chapter for many years. One of **Mole Patterson's** favorite songs is "If I Can Help Somebody" and her life's journey is one of helping people. **Mole Patterson** currently serves her chapter as the Parliamentarian. She recently retired as the Music Director at the Williams Memorial Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.

MONUMENTAL GRADUATION

Braxton F. Eaddy, the grandson of **Mole Sandra and Mole Larry Butcher**, recently attended the 200+ Men's Breakfast for Honor Students. He is pictured far right with Senator Jerrauld "Jay" Jones. Braxton is an Honor Student at Tallwood High School, from which he will graduate on June 14, 2018. Braxton is the son of Clubsie Eaddy and Jarnell Jennens.



KARIS BOYD – SINKLER AWARDED NSF RESEARCH GRANT

Karis Boyd-Sinkler (pictured left) of Hampton, Va. received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship to support her Graduate work at Va. Tech, where she is a PH.D student in engineering education. The GRFP provides three years of support for the graduate education of individuals who have demonstrated their potential for significant research achievements in STEM or STEM education. In her application, she focused on the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). They are the founding organization. Karis is the granddaughter of **Mole Marzetta F. Sinkler** and the late **Mole William Sinkler**.

Our Washington, DC Chapter

THE ROYAL BLACK BEAUTIES



Pictured left to right at the Sheikh Zayed Mosque in Abu Dhabi are: Washington DC Moles Jacqui Daughtry-Miller, Kaye Hayes (President), Joan McKinley-Shelton (past President), Dr. Sandra Owens Lawson, and Glenda Owens.

We traveled to Dubai as eight women and named ourselves the *Royal Black Beauties (RBB)*. What A beautiful time we had on our journey to the “new capital” of the world, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. These emirates lie on a T-shaped island jutting into the Persian Gulf from the central western coast. Dhabi and Abu Dubai are the only two emirates to have veto power over critical matters of national importance in the country's legislature.

We learned so much about the United Arab Emirates and its beautiful people. We had great food, great comradery, new friends, old friends and most of all we learned a lot and hopefully taught a little. We stayed at the JW Marriott Marquis Dubai, the tallest hotel in the world. We visited The Sheikh Zayed Mosque, which is considered the key site of worship in the country; The Dubai Mall, the largest mall in the world with 1100 stores and one of the largest Aquariums (tanks)



Pictured above during a Desert Safari in Dubai are: Mole Sandra Owens Lawson, Kizzy McKay, Viola Leak, Mole Kaye Hayes, Mole Jacqui Daughtry-Miller, Mole Joan McKinley-Shelton, Duiona Baker, and Michelle Briddell

in the world; A Safari in Dubai which lies directly within the Arabian Desert; The Dubai Museum; Ski Dubai, the largest indoor snow park at Mall Emirates; Burj Khalifa, the tallest man-made structure in the world with 148 floors; The Gold Souk in the City of Gold that has 250 retail shops; Monorail in the Palm Jumeirah (subway with a Red and Green line; two additional lines planned); and the open markets.

The RBBs are appreciative for that experience and so thankful for **Mole Sandra**, Chief Camel of the RBBs, who with a labor of love put this trip together.

Our Winston-Salem Chapter

Our **Winston-Salem Chapter** has lots to be thankful for this month as we celebrate awards, graduations, retirements and more. **Moles Davida Martin, Lisa Caldwell, Carol Davis, Mule Harold Martin** and **Mule Michael Grace** were named among 50 of the *Most Influential in the Piedmont Triad* by Black Business Ink magazine for their legal, corporate, non-profit and educational excellence.

After providing 30 years of legal service as Forsyth County Attorney, **Mole Davida** announced that she will retire at the end of June. Davida will be enjoying herself, and she looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren.



Mole Davida Martin and Mule Harold Martin Jr.



Mole Lisa Caldwell



Mole Carol Davis



Congratulations to **Mole Evelyn** and **Mule Fred Acree**! Their daughter Alexus graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing with honors from Howard University on May 12, 2018. She will start her new job as an Analyst with Bloomberg in New York, NY. Go Alexus! We're proud of you.

In other fantastic news, **Mole Candace Wooten Brown** and her **Mule Ivey** are growing their family with the arrival of their second son due in June 2018.

In April, **Mole Darnella Cook** and her **Mule Floyd** showcased their best dance moves to raise money for the Bethesda Center for the Homeless. Dance, Dance, Dance! They are dancing machines for a great cause.



Mole Moments, Milestones and Memo

BALTIMORE

Mole Doretha Beckham, president of the **Baltimore Chapter**, is still basking in the glow of the beautiful wedding of her youngest daughter, Lauren Taylor Beckham, to Norman Sheriff on April 21st, 2018, at the St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Washington, DC. Guests were awed by the black tie dinner and dancing reception which followed at the stunningly beautiful *Carnegie Institute for Science*, also in Washington. The couple traveled to Thailand, the Maldives, and Dubai for honeymoon. Both run their own IT contracting companies.

COLUMBIA

Mole Lavita and **Mule Ward Harriford** missed the **Columbia Chapter's** April meeting because they traveled to Memphis, TN where their daughter, Lauryn, competed in the Southern Region *Miss Black and Gold* (Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity) pageant. She won 2nd Runner-up! We are so proud of her!!

Mole Sandy and **Mule Robert "Butch" Taylor** took a much needed respite to Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico. They highly recommend Vidanta Resort Grand Luxxe. A lot of sun, dining and shopping!

RICHMOND

Mole Loren Glasper is welcoming her daughter, Erica, and family back to Richmond as her son-in-law, Jamal Brunt, becomes Assistant Basketball Coach of the Virginia Commonwealth University Rams. Of course there will always be lots of **Moles and Mules** at their games to cheer them on. Jamal comes to VCU with a splendid fifteen- year coaching record from both University of Miami and, prior to that, from the University of Richmond. He joins his former mentor from his college days at Randolph-Macon, Coach Rhoades, with this assignment.

Both **Mole Holly** and **Mule Thurmond Alford** are newsmakers. **Mole Holly** received the Distinguished Achievement in Service Award in the School of the Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University for 2017-18. **Mule Thurmond** was hooded on May 4th at Radford University as he received the Master of Fine Arts Degree. **Mole Branda** and **Mule James Price**, **Mole Holly's** parents, are all smiles.

Mole and Mule Jackie and Sherman Curl proudly announced that their daughter, Stephanie has been accepted at law school at Temple, University of Richmond's T.C. Williams Law

School and American University Washington College of Law. The last we heard was that she has decided to enroll this fall at American University. We are so proud of Stephanie. Last year she enjoyed her experience as a teacher in North Korea. We are glad to have her home.

It is with great pleasure that **Mole Carol** and **Mule Michael Williams** share their daughter Jordan's acceptance to Howard University's Medical School. It's hard to believe that she has completed her undergraduate years already. We wish her much success as she follows her Mom to Howard.

Mole Peggy and **Mule Ligar Brazil** have been very busy following their grandson's meets this year. He has made wonderful progress as he continues his outstanding record on Howard U's Swimming Team. We are keeping our eyes on him.

Next year we hope to enlighten our readers about the **Richmond Chapter's Alumna and Emeriti Moles**. Since we are one of the early chapters, there are among us a few members who do not join us on a regular basis. We stay in touch and have news of interest to share about them. We have also stayed in touch with our younger generations and will continue to report their accomplishments with much admiration.

SAVANNAH

Mule Robert L. Stevenson, PhD, spouse of **Mole Charlease Stevenson**, received an *Award of Excellence* at the Savannah State University (SSU) Spring GALA. He taught at SSU for 38 years in the Theater and English Departments. He Served as Chair of the Fine Arts department and retired with Professor Emeritus status. **Mule Stevenson** Co-edited a book of African policy documents of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and a book about J. Milton Turner, an African-American diplomat, who served in Liberia from 1871 through 1878.



The Mole O Gram

“Navigating our path...bolstering our bonds”

Mole Jodi Gallman, 19th National President



Enjoy yourself; it's later than you think!