

AZ Monthly

Alpha Zeta Flight 2023 – June 1, 2023

Soror Dorothy White – National President
Soror Barbara Sharp – Chapter President



Soror Cheryl Watts - Editor

Founder's Day

Lola Mercedes Parker
Founder
Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.
June 1, 1929



Dorothy L. White
23rd National President

Sorors of Alpha Zeta Chapter,

You started your travel plans to *Destination Greatness* by Saving the Date.



You prepared yourselves for AZ Flight 2023 on IPL Airlines to *Destination Greatness* –

Sorors of the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc:

On June 1st, *Destination Greatness* awaits our arrival.

Please note, this is not your average *US Air* or *American Airlines*. There is no need for baggage...it weighs us down.

Simply bring your sisterly *Spirit* to become more *United*.

We will head *Southwest* towards a new *Frontier* that *JetBlue* hasn't even reached. We are asking every Soror to remain *Allegiant* as we move across the *Continental* terrain into *Alaska*.

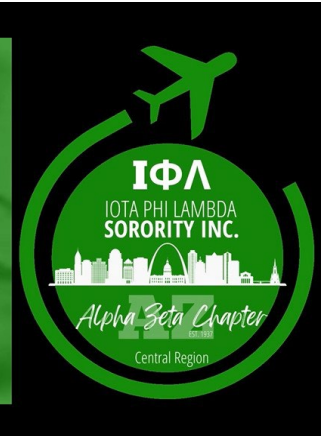
This is the first (i.e. *Virgin*) trip of its kind, so please book your seat, encourage others to join you, and arrive early.



Please purchase your ticket to reserve your seat.

- IPL Airlines accepts the following forms of payment:
- \$50 via **Cash/Check** - must be received by 11:59 pm CDT on Friday, May 19th
 - \$50 via **Zelle** - must be received by 11:59 pm CDT on Friday, May 26th (note: Founders Day)
 - Email: president@iota-stlouis.org
 - Phone: 618-581-3908
 - \$51.40 via **PayPal** (@AZiota) - must be received by 11:59 pm CDT on Friday, May 26th (note: Founders Day)
 - \$55.45 via **EventBrite** - closes 11:59 pm CDT on Friday, May 26th

Your flight crew has been hard at work preparing an experience for us to soar to an amazing new altitude together; greatness is what we're on the brink of!



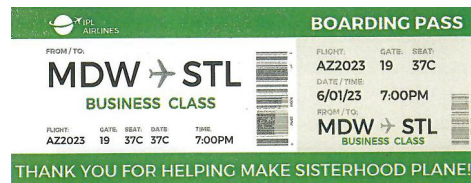
You checked in at the gate – on time! – to a beautiful candlelight ceremony led by our Founder’s Day Chair, Soror Ada Johnson and Co-Chair, Soror Indigo Sams.

And *then* you were inspired to take the flight to *Destination Greatness* by the Chapter Charge delivered by our Chapter President, Soror Barbara Sharp.



From the private ceremony you received your Passport and Boarding Pass, and took flight to *Destination Greatness* during our annual Recognition and Awards Dinner.

PASSPORT



Founder's Day '23

From our Welcome through the Closing Remarks, all Sorors and guests in attendance were treated to an amazing celebration of all that Founder’s Day 2023 could – and *should* - be. The Celebration Walk of our newest line of Sorors, the Elite Emeralds, was made even more notable by the hand-crafted staff and the green jackets with gold epaulets worn by the members of the line. We were treated to the soulful yet jazzy alto saxophone sounds of Mr. Kelvin Evans.



And let us not forget the fun of taking pictures with a fabulous flight background! Speaking of flights: did you know that Soror Jacqueline Ploudre is a former flight attendant? She even wore her real wings for us!

After dinner, the annual awards and recognitions of Sorors’ service to Alpha Zeta Chapter were presented, and our Soror of the Year, Soror Paula Carey-Moore, took another celebratory walk around the room. This year, a very special guest was present: Mr. Jeremy Avan, who will be a Freshman at Morehouse University for the Fall Semester of 2023. Soror Paula Sams – a Spellman graduate, by the way – made the presentation of a \$5,000 Odessa M. Jacobs Scholarship to Jeremy. Jeremy has conquered a number of hardships in his life, and had made known that his goal was to extend his educational growth by attending an HBCU – Morehouse University. In most years, Alpha Zeta chapter would present \$1,000 scholarships to young women entering college as business majors, however the pandemic and lack of essay entries waylaid the best of plans, including some of the presentations of \$1,000 scholarships to the five school districts that have strongly supported our annual “Apple for the Teacher” luncheon over the years.



IPL AIRLINES BAGGAGE CLAIM

50/50 RAFFLE

IL MO BUSINESS CLASS

\$1.00 FOR 1 TICKET
\$5.00 FOR 6 TICKETS

More fun ensued with drawings for many attendance prizes and a 50/50 “Baggage Claim” raffle that netted \$400 towards getting Jeremy Avan to college. Soror Indigo Sams is one *persuasive* Sister: the net contribution to the 50/50 raffle soared from a little more than \$100 to a bit more than \$400 in *no* time at all. The winner, Soror Robyn Greenlee, graciously gave half of her winnings to that cause.



And finally the moment arrived that all had been waiting for: the Dr. Fredda Witherspoon Distinguished Service Award, named after Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc.'s 10th National President from Alpha Zeta Chapter.

This year's honoree is our Chapter President, Soror Barbara L. Sharp, who joins the ranks of the 40 previous honorees starting in 1983 with Odessa Jacobs. This is Alpha Zeta's highest honor given annually to a Soror who displays all of the best qualities in her service and leadership to Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., in honor of Dr. Fredda Witherspoon, past National President (1977-1981).

Let us not forget our faithful Men Of Iota who came out to support our event in their sartorial best!



Many, many kudos to the Chair and Co-Chair of the event, Sorors Ada Johnson and Indigo Sams, as well as to the committee that worked hard to bring this special day to fruition. All of the "little things" like the green pill containers, the special "passport" cookies, the airline pins and white or green luggage tags made for an evening that will be memorable for years to come. Finally, please take a few moments to read and reflect upon the poem, "Take Flight, My Soror," written for this very special occasion by Soror Ada Renee Johnson:

Take Flight, My Soror

TAKE FLIGHT, MY SOROR, THE WORLD AWAITS,
WITH BOUNDLESS POSSIBILITIES AT THE GATES.
WITH COURAGE, PASSION, AND INNER FLAME,
YOU'LL SOAR BEYOND, LEAVING NO ROOM FOR SHAME.

LEAVE DOUBTS AND FEARS UPON THE GROUND,
WITH STEADFAST PURPOSE, YOU'LL BE UNBOUND.
EMBRACE THE WINDS OF CHANGE AND CHANCE,
WITH RESILIENCE, YOU'LL ADVANCE.

TAKE FLIGHT, MY SOROR, REACH FOR THE STARS,
AND LEAVE A LEGACY THAT TRULY MARS.
THE BOUNDARIES SET BY DOUBT AND FEAR,
FOR IN YOUR FLIGHT, GREATNESS DRAWS NEAR.

THE SKY'S THE CANVAS, YOURS TO PAINT,
WITH DREAMS AND HOPES, LET'S NOT BE FAINT.
YOU HAVE THE POWER, YOU HOLD THE KEY,
TO SOAR ABOVE AND BE SET FREE.

TAKE FLIGHT, MY SOROR, AND NEVER CEASE,
TO CHASE YOUR DREAMS, TO FIND YOUR PEACE.
FOR IN THE JOURNEY, YOU WILL SEE,
THE EXTRAORDINARY YOU WERE MEANT TO BE.

SO SPREAD YOUR WINGS, EMBRACE THE SKY,
LET YOUR SPIRIT SOAR, LET YOUR DREAMS FLY.
FOR IN THE JOURNEY, YOU WILL FIND,
THE STRENGTH WITHIN, YOUR HEART ENSHRINED.

TAKE FLIGHT MY SOROR

Besides the handful of pictures used in this issue, there is a video available on our Facebook page and website.

Celebrate our Sorors:

June Birthdays:

Soror Indigo Sams – June 9
Soror Denise Emerson – June 13
Soror Lois Ingrum – June 22

Soror Elizabeth Morrow – June 26

Soror Marilyn Green – June 11
Soror Ophelia Phillips – June 18
Soror Angela Bailey – June 25

Sorors,

We mentioned their names in the May edition, but please view their pictures in this edition:

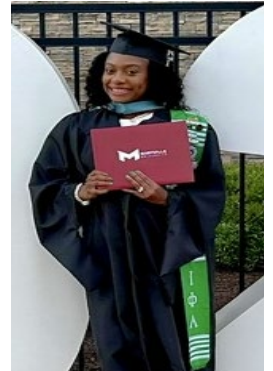


Soror **Dr.** Tjuannia Seals -Doctor of Education in Education Practice degree bestowed by the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

We are Alpha Zeta proud!

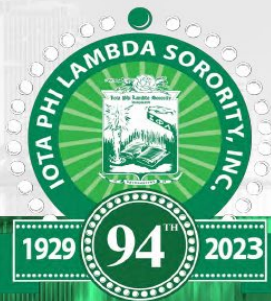


Soror **Dr.** Melissa Nash – Doctorate degree in Educational Administration – Principalship bestowed by Maryville University.



If you wish to attend the National Convention and have not yet registered, contact the National Financial Secretary, Soror Lana Samuel (iotanationalfinancialsecretary@gmail.com or 713-205-3585) as soon as possible!

C ALL TO CONVENTION



ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 11- 16, 2023
Motor City Hotel and Casino * Detroit, MI

"Honoring Our Past. As We Step into Our Future"