



# The Connection

## The Charmettes, Incorporated Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 4, May 2018

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# The President's Message



Greetings Charmette Sisters:

I am thrilled that our time to come together at our 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention in Tampa, Florida is growing nearer each day. An outstanding convention has been planned that will bring together our wonderful and beautiful ladies of Charmettes from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and Washington, DC.

We will join together during these three days at the convention with the purpose of “Building Bridges with Love: Strengthening Our Connections through Service.” We are thrilled to welcome a new chapter in Tampa, expanding our circle of women dedicated to the mission and commitment of Charmettes. Our keynote speakers are dynamic and the workshop presenters knowledgeable and willing to share their experiences and insights. We look forward to your full participation and sharing in workshops and Chapter exhibits.

Our Annual Convention is a time when we increase our knowledge, skills and exposure to one another; It is a time to re-energize our commitment to building and strengthening our organization’s infrastructure, ensuring that Charmettes is a place where leaders emerge and motivate other members to become actively involved in committees and work together as an organization. That is the Power of We.

My lovely sisters, when you come to Tampa, take the time to renew your spirit, fellowship with your sisters, visit the vendors and take advantage of the lovey sunshine, enjoy the fantastic bridges and the beauty of the Tampa Bay area.

I look forward to seeing you in June.

Sisterly,

*Catherine D. Lewis*

National President

**COUNTDOWN TO THE 63rd ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
**Preliminary Schedule**  
**In Tampa, Florida!**

**Wednesday, June 20, 2018**

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Registration Booth

Tower Pool Windows

<b><u>Thursday, June 21, 2018</u></b>	<b><u>Friday, June 22, 2018</u></b>	<b><u>Saturday, June 23, 2018</u></b>
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Vendor Registration Tower Pool Windows	7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony and Prayer Breakfast Audubon A	7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Group Photo Hotel Staircase
10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Registration Booth Tower Pool Windows	9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Chapter Caucus (Rooms TBA)	8:35 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Second Plenary Session Audubon B & C
12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. Chapter Installation White Ibis	10:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon First Plenary Session Audubon B & C	11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Concurrent Workshops (Room TBA)
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting White Ibis	12:00 Noon – 1:30 p.m. Lunch on your own	12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Eunice W. Thompson Awards Luncheon Audubon A
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Chapter Exhibit Set-Up and Vendor Set-Up Audubon Foyer	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Committee Meetings (Room TBA)	3:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Closing Plenary Audubon B & C
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Sisterhood Activity Audubon B & C	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Committee Report Preparation (Room TBA)	8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. A Night In White on Tampa Bay Audubon Ballroom
7:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Welcome Reception Charmettes, Charmers and Guests Audubon A & Audubon Promenade	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Workshops (Rooms TBA)	
	5:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Excursions/Tours	

## Information from Atlanta Metropolitan



On Saturday, March 10, 2018, the Atlanta Metropolitan Chapter of the Charmettes enjoyed hosting our 2nd Annual Prayer Breakfast to the public. This year's theme was "A Concert of Prayer: Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication."



## Information from Hillsborough County



During the past seven months the Hillsborough County Chapter has been busy preparing for the organization's Annual National Convention, which will be held in their city, Tampa, Florida, June 20 - 23, 2018.

In addition to preparing for the convention, the chapter has been carrying out their agenda for this fiscal year, beginning with their annual retreat, which was held September 29 - October 1, 2017, in Lutz, Florida at the beautiful, and newly opened Hilton Garden Inn. The chapter enjoyed a weekend of bonding and setting up the chapter's Calendar Of Events for the new year. Charmette Janice London, the chapter's newly elected President presided over the weekend.



In November, in keeping with the spirit of Thanksgiving, the chapter distributed Thanksgiving food boxes to families in need of assistance.



In celebration of the Easter holidays, the chapter provided their adopted families with gift cards and Easter baskets.





In December the chapter adopted two families that they will be assisting with their needs throughout out this fiscal year. In celebration of the Christmas holidays, the chapter donated a gift card, toys, and a food box to each family for the Christmas holiday. The chapter held their 32nd Annual Christmas Holiday Ball, "Puttin On The Ritz", December 22, 2017. Approximately three hundred beautifully dressed guests enjoyed the evening. The ballroom was decorated in red, white, and black. Music was provided by DJ Kold, who kept the dance floor crowded with the guests. A good time was had by all in attendance.

## Information from Leon County



On Sunday, March 25, 2018, The Leon County Chapter of the Charmettes, Inc. celebrated Women's Emphasis Month and were recognized by the Rev. Dr. R. B. Holmes, Jr. at the historic Bethel M. B. Church in Tallahassee, Florida.



Leon County Chapter recently installed four (4) new members in March. They are Dana Green, Miriam Marlow, Trenice Seniors and Dr. Remelda Saunders-Jones.





**2018 Debutantes - Photo credit: Jarmon Photography**

The Leon County Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated continued its tradition by formally presenting 17 local high school students to the Tallahassee community on Saturday, March 31, 2018, at the FSU University Center Club.

“The Leon County Chapter has hosted this event for more than four decades in the Big Bend area. Our annual Debutante Ball and Presentation continues to be a rite of passage for young ladies,” said Victoria Ellis, Chapter president.

These local high school students have gone through a journey of philanthropic and community service projects, and are now ready to take their steps towards finer womanhood. They are leaders in academics, members of student government, honor societies, and sporting teams at their respective schools. These young women have also spent countless hours volunteering in the Big Bend area. Winners will receive scholarships to assist in their collegiate endeavors.



**Miss Debutante 2018 Carina Richardson**



**Debutante Committee l to r: Charmettes Taylore Maxey, Aurelia Alexander, Tammy Hamlet and Brenetta Lawrence**

February 14, 2018

## *Dr. Eva Curry Boseman Wanton*



Dr. Eva Curry Boseman Wanton, former Florida A & M University educator and administrator, was a trailblazing local, national and international African American icon in the areas of civic outreach and higher education.

Dr. Wanton was born in Thunderbolt, Georgia, on June 6, 1935, to the late Willie and Lillie Curry and was the youngest of six siblings. She was educated in the public schools of Savannah, Georgia, and New York City, where she graduated from Seward

The late Charmette Dr. Eva C. Wanton was honored by AT&T in their Black History Month Calendar as the Global Education Trailblazer! To read her write up, visit <http://engage.att.com/Florida/African-American-history-calendar>.



Charmette Taylore Maxey was recently promoted Florida Housing Finance Corporation's Press Secretary where she is the primary contact for media and the corporation's spokeswoman.

Newly created, Maxey is the first woman and African-American to hold this position.

Charmette Maxey has 15 years of experience in public and media relations, crisis communications and event planning. She has also been the Public Relations Chair for the annual LeMoyne Chain of Parks Art Festival for the past five years; which was voted the #1 fine arts festival in the nation, and co-chairs the Debutante Presentation and Ball.



## Information from Memphis Metropolitan



The Charmette's Memphis Metropolitan Chapter is to be congratulated for their teamwork in having held a prodigious **Prayer Breakfast** in March. Speaker Carolyn Whitney brought a powerful and profound message on, "The Fruit of the Spirit". Carolyn expounded upon her personal experience as a Cancer Survivor. We were spurred with enthusiasm to love ourselves and to have a compassionate thirst and zeal to reach out, encourage and help others.





## Information from North Carolina



On March 10, 2018 the North Carolina Charmettes had their annual Old School Dance. The North Carolina Charmettes chose the Mardi Gras theme complete with the green, purple and gold colors and masks!! A great time was had by all, from the presentation of door prizes (top left), to the performances (top right), to dancing (bottom left) and to the 50/50 raffle prize winner (bottom right)!!





On April 21, 2018, the North Carolina Charmettes participated in the Ribbon Walk and Run for Cancer in Fayetteville NC



## Information from St. Johns-Putnam-Flagler



The SJPF Chapter of the Charmettes Inc. recently held their Flossie W. Dixon "I Can Cope" luncheon on Sat. March 10, 2018. The guest speaker Mr. Rontel Batie, (top left) was Candidate for U.S. Congress, Florida's 5th District. Our theme was "Coping with Life's Challenges". The honorees from each county were: St. Johns County: Trista G. Smith (top right), Putnam County: Kaliah Edwards (Grandmother Mary J. Batts accepted award) (bottom left), Flagler County: Joe Clifford Lewis (bottom right).



## Information from South Carolina Midlands



The SC Midlands Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated held its 27<sup>th</sup> annual luncheon on Saturday, March 17, 2018. The Chapter programs focus on health, education and economic empowerment. The luncheon has become a celebration of the significant contributions of the Chapter in impacting the lives of women and youth in the community.



This year we honored our own Charmette Catherine Lewis, who was elected the 23<sup>rd</sup> National President of The Charmettes, Incorporated at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, June 17, 2017 in Kenner, LA. National President Catherine Lewis was presented the Key to the City of Columbia by City Councilman Edward H. McDowell, Jr. Additionally two distinguished leaders whose commitment to the community have been outstanding. The 2018 honorees were: Charmette Jean S. Hopkins and Kambrell H. Garvin.

**Note from the Reporter:** Thank you very much for reading this issue of The Connection. In the next issue, we will have more highlights from our Chapters. If you would like to submit information to be included in an issue, you can email me at [charmetteadrienne@gmail.com](mailto:charmetteadrienne@gmail.com) by the following deadlines: For the July Issue, June 25th; and for the October Issue, September 25th. Thank you again and have a wonderful day.